

The Journal of Washington Apple Pi, Ltd.

WASHINGTON APPLE PI

Volume 25, Number 1

wap.org webmail



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Garage Sale—a Wonderful
Success!—10

Toward Taxing Internet
Sales —11

Basic Webmail How-to—21

Unix on Mac OS X:
A Review—33

Creating Forms in Adobe
GoLive—39

How to Securely Set Up a
Home Wireless Access—53

DoubleClick—70

Home

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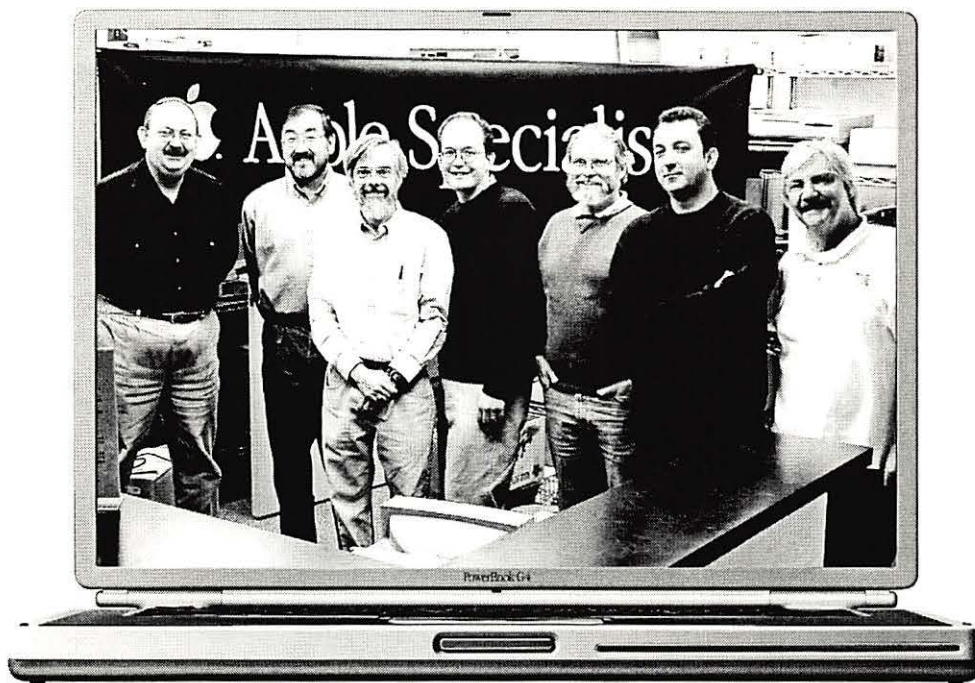
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January 25,
2003

February

February 22,
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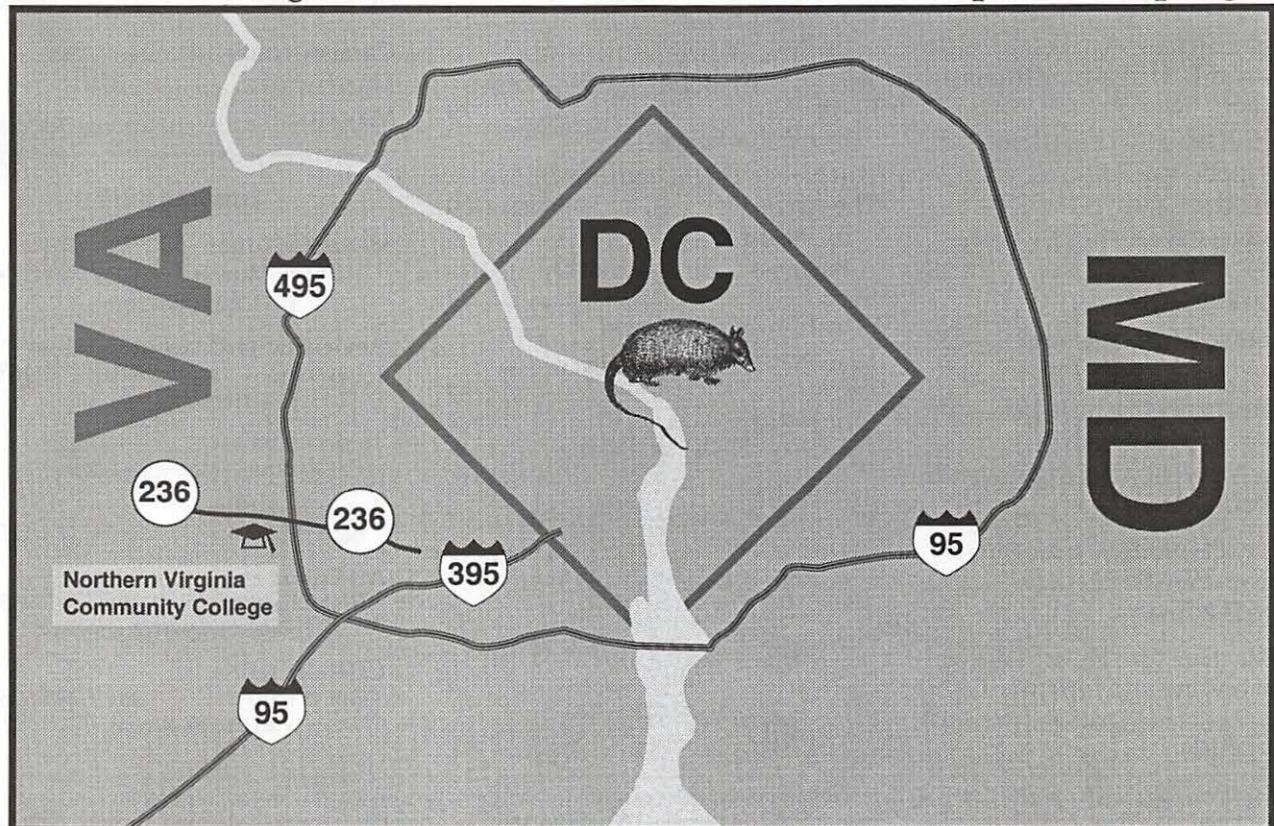


Table of Contents

Volume 25

January / February 2003

Number 1

Club News

WAP Hotline	47, 50
WAP Calendar	48, 49
Index to Advertisers	28
Tutorials	89
Tutorial Form	94
Classified Advertisements	95
WAP Membership Form	96

General Interest

Welcome to WAP	4
Good Communication—key to success	5
by Pat Fauquet	
BOD Meeting—October	6
by Craig Contardi	
Retired SIG Report for November ..	8
by John Barnes	
iMovie SIG Report for October	9
by Hal Cauthen	
Garage Sale—a Wonderful Success! 10	
Towards Taxing Internet Sales	11
by Lorin Evans	
How I Caught a Counterfeiter with a Little Help from my Friends	15
by Jason Eric Smith	
Basic Webmail How-to	21
by David L. Harris, illustrations .	
by Nancy Seferian	
How to Get the Most out of the Pi Computer Show & Sale	25
by David Ottalini	
The Firewire Target Disk Mode—Some GOTCHAS	28
by Pat Fauquet	
Unix on Mac OS X: A Review	33
by Lawrence I. Charters	
Where are the Instructions?	36
by Lawrence I. Charters	
Creating Forms in Adobe GoLive ..	39
by Sheri German	
Laying the Groundwork for Database Driven Web Sites	42
by Sheri German	
Doctor Maclove (or “How I learned to stop worrying and love Mac OS X”	45
by Guy Serle	

How to Securely Set Up a Home Wireless Access	53
by James Kelly	
What am I doing with a Computer, and Who Cares?	58
by Cheryl Parker	
AppleScript Explained	59
by Adam Goldstein	
Hemera Technologies, Big Box of Art and Photo-Objects—A Review ..	60
by Rich Lenoco	
Someone with a PC Sent me a File, How Do I Open it?	62
by Rich Lenoco	
ArcSoft Funhouse	64
by Sylvia Rego	
Multimedia MacBeth	65
by Barbara Gibson	
SketchUP™	67
by Dennis Wilson	
Digital Juice’s Editor’s Toolkit—a Review	69
by Paul Gerstenbluth	
DoubleClick	70, 73, 75, 77
by Dave Ottalini & Derek Rowa.	
Federal Penitentiaries Remove Hard Wooden Benches; Apple Sets Them Up in their Stores	78
by Phil Shapiro	
Author uses iBook, ViaVoice to pen Sports Bio	79
by Dennis Sellers	
You Never Forget Your First Love—The Apple ///	80
by Jeffrey Fritz	
A Business Case Study of Open Source Software	82
by Carolyn Kenwood	
New Pi Fillings X CD—list of contents	87

Icon Guide



Macintosh



General Interest



Apple II, IIe, & IIGS



Apple III (SARA)

Postal Information

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May/June	Mar. 25

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Mar./April	Jan. 25
May/June	Mar. 25

Camera-ready ad copy

Mar./April	Feb. 1
May/June	April 1

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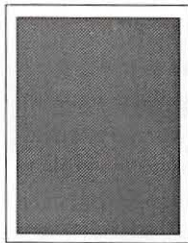
Washington Apple Pi

This issue of the Washington Apple Pi Journal was created on a PowerMac, with proofing and final output on an HP LaserJet 5000 N.

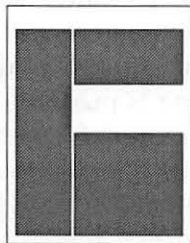
The page layout program used was PageMaker 6.5 the word processing program was Microsoft Word 5.1; the principal typeface is Palatino (10/12) for the articles; and Avant Garde Demi for headlines, subheads, and emphasis. Charlemagne Bold for drop caps.

Cover Design: The WAP Journal cover design was created by Ann Aiken in collaboration with Nancy Seferian. The Capital artwork was illustrated by Carol O'Connor for One Mile Up, which donated it for use on our cover.

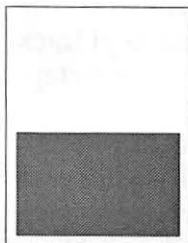
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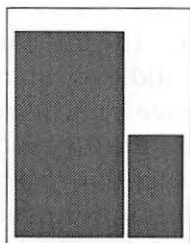
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Full Page	\$450	\$383	\$338	\$270
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Two-thirds Page	\$360	\$306	\$270	\$216
Half Page	\$300	\$255	\$225	\$180
Third Page	\$225	\$191	\$169	\$135
Sixth Page	\$125	\$106	\$93	\$75

Special guaranteed positions incur a 10% surcharge

Ad Deadlines

The Washington Apple Pi Journal is published bi-monthly. The ad copy deadlines and ad space reservations are listed below for your convenience.

Copy may be received as traditional mechanicals, rc-paper, velox prints, or film negatives. Negatives will incur an additional \$15.00 strip-in charge.

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Tues. 7-9 pm—Clinic Night Only—
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When weather is bad, call to check if office is open.

Welcome to WAP!

by Dave Ottalini

WELL ANOTHER WAP Computer Show and Sale has come and gone. This one in particular will be noted for the number of volunteers who came out and helped to make this such a great success. I honestly don't remember seeing so many new faces helping all over the place - from ticket sales and food, to the consignment table, clinic repairs, even making sure that the vendors got in and set up with as little hassle as possible.



A big part of the show's success goes to Ned Langston, who has now got two of these events under his belt. A military man top to bottom, he brought some well-honed coordination and direction to this show that we haven't always seen in the past. Thanks, Ned for all your effort and thanks to all the other volunteers who are too numerous to mention here.

It is an event like this that shows when we all pull together, anything is possible. It was a long day for everyone, but I came out of it feeling reinvigorated and had fun to boot. I think a lot of other folks did too. The down side to all this is that Ned says he won't be able to handle the June sale. So that means we need someone to take over so that we can make sure everything runs smoothly the next go-round. The good thing is Ned has kept track of everything he did from start to finish so anyone stepping in should have a much easier go of it.

Volunteers are the life blood of this club and I think our members are starting to realize that. This is your club and it's just so neat to see many new members - women and men - coming forward to take on the challenge. Make one of your new year's resolutions (along with getting in shape!) to volunteer for at least one WAP event. With our 25th anniversary coming, we'll really be in need of help, so get ready to roll up your sleeves!

And to all our new members - Welcome To WAP!

—Dave

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Good Communication— key to success

I AM HAVING a communication crisis! My trusty cell phone is on the blink. Of course, this problem developed on a holiday weekend and trying to get everything working to start a new week is simply not going to happen.

About 8 years ago, I got my first cell phone. I was happy to be able to call home or have someone call me when I was on the road working as an Apple Product Representative. Eventually that phone and several replacements died. Since that time my needs in personal communication have grown and changed as there have been new developments in the world of wireless communications.

About the time I got my first cell phone, I got my first PDA, a Newton Message Pad from Apple. Two years ago I sadly left the world of the Newton and plunged into the Palm world with a color PDA from Handspring. My cell phone and PDA were joined together with a Sprint Phone module for the Handspring PDA last spring. Even though it gave me some trouble, the death of the phone module has been the source of frustration and a sense of loss.

You see, if you called my PalmPhone and if I had your phone number in its phone book, I could in-

stantly tell it was you! If I added your number to my computer, your number was then in my phone the next time I synched the two. Of course right after I got my new phone, MacWorld took place in New York and Steve Jobs introduced the concept of Bluetooth networking. With the introduction iCal and iSync along with the OS X Address Book, a phone that would allow me to add things to its databases without even connecting any wires is really compelling—unless you have a new, expensive toy like a Sprint module for your old PDA. It took an hour in the Sprint store and then several hours on the phone but tomorrow I get my new Handspring Treo 300. It will be new and much nicer than my old PDA phone combination, but it will still not be the newest “toy” on the planet. It won't be a Bluetooth device. It will serve my needs, but . . .

Six months ago, I took over as president of Washington Apple Pi. We had to give up the old comfortable leadership model and find new ways to do things. Some things have worked well, some things have not gotten done, but we keep moving ahead. I sat down at the beginning of my term and made a list of objectives for my time as president. First was “board building.” For several years we had never had a full slate of officers and directors. If someone left the board, the position simply did not get filled because there was no one waiting in the wings ready to step up into a vacant post. We also had a number of board members who, for a variety of reasons, did



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Communications
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**Washington Apple Pi's
24-hour General Meeting**

<http://webtcs.wap.org>

Open to all Pi members

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not actively participate in the club beyond showing up for board meetings. Happily things have changed. We have a full slate of officers and there are people who are waiting in the wings for board positions to open. We have lots of new volunteers, and we are finding ways to utilize their many talents in the day to day operation of our club.

My other objective was to increase communication within the group. That means no membership renewal form or card goes out of the office without a note from me. Those notes tell about what is going on at the Pi and invite our members to become more active. It also means that we send out e-mail newsletters on a more regular basis to keep our members informed of activities. Through the hard work of the TCS crew and the Web Page committee, we have increased club mailing lists, instituted webmail accounts, and increased participation on the TCS itself.

We are now ready to begin the process of nominating and electing new club leadership. In fact, the March-April Journal will include a call for nominations. The May-June Journal will have the slate of candidates and the ballot for voting. Then my year as president will be up. Just like Lorin Evans, I will not disappear, but will be replaced by someone with new ideas and energy to continue running the Pi. Some of the present board members may continue in their jobs, but many may step aside to encourage members such as you to take a more active roll in running the Pi. Others will take on new positions or work on committees. But the net effect will be a change.

Please consider serving on our board of directors. Jobs come in various sizes and hours of commitment, but they are all vital in maintaining a healthy user group. There are plenty of opportunities for on-the-job training, and the old board promises to stick around and lend a hand. You have until about the end of March to make up your mind, so try on the idea and see if this new method of communication with your fellow Pi members would be to both your and our mutual benefit.

Tomorrow I will pick up that new Treo. Some things will be like the old PDA phone, but I will have to learn some new things if I want to communicate with family, friends and associates. It won't be state-of-the-art, but then again I am not the state-of-the-art . . . ■

—Pat Fauquet

Board of Directors October 9 Meeting

PRIOR TO THE start of the meeting at 7:45 pm, attendees pulled the hotline pages out of surplus WAP Journals for distribution to area stores and unsuspecting doctor and dentist waiting areas.

Pi President Pat Fauquet called the meeting to order at 7:47 pm. Others in attendance were:

Herb Block (Director)
Will Byrd (Member)
Craig Contardi (Secretary)
Lou Dunham (TCS Chairman)
David Harris (Director)
Needham Langston (Garage Sale Chairman)
Jack McCalman (VP/Programs)
David Ottalini (VP/Publicity)
Jim Ritz (VP/Membership)
Steve Roberson (Member)
Dick Sanderson (Treasurer)
Carole Weikert (Director)

The minutes were reviewed, several sections deleted, and approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: We are currently operating in the black financially.

Garage Sale Report: Ned Langston will need access to the Pi Office. He asked about giving SIGS and Slices tables to market themselves, and Pat recommended placing them where the food concessions were for the June show. Ned initially offered to contact the SIG chairmen and Slice officers, but it was mutually decided that the Pi Secretary should do that. They will be asked if they wish to staff a table, and to bring any P.R. materials such as posters/banners that they already have.

Office Staff: Herb Block could still use 1-2 standby volunteers, to achieve coverage from 10-3 monday/wednesday/friday.

TCS: Lou said 4d has donated webstar in exchange for sponsor page publicity. This saves the Pi \$299. Lou bought antivirus software for the mail server. (\$52.71) He asked to be reimbursed and the board agreed. Pat

gave a heads-up that backup system cost for mail server is coming down the pike. If less than \$1,000.00, Pat will approve unilaterally (bylaws allow this).

Dick Sanderson reported that the change to Communicate, which purged expired members, has resulted in a spate of renewals to regain access.

Volunteer: - Not present to report.

Publicity: Dave Ottalini reminded everyone that he needs to be notified directly of events that need publicity; by the time it appears on the website there is usually not enough lead time.

Store Representatives: Jack McCalman reported he supplied Micro Center (Fairfax) and three CompUSA Store Apple representatives with Pi Journals. Pat stated that we need a representative for the just-opened Towson, MD Apple Store.

Meetings: Pat said someone from Apple will definitely come to the January and July meetings to talk about the latest Macworld Expo.

The board briefly discussed alternate meeting locations, but Pat cut off deliberation after 5 minutes because the discussions were purely theoretical as we are already committed to NVCC for all of 2003.

On the topic of revamping the membership application, the board voted to remove the question about consent to sell a member's name to external businesses, as WaPi has not done so in years.

SIGs: The SIGs need to hold elections for chairmanships, and all contacted have responded favorably. The Power Users' SIG was nominated for permanent status, seconded, and approved.

"Come Back to the Pi" Banquet: Apple hinted that Phil Schiller might be able to attend in an official capacity. We may need to find the specific incorporation paperwork for the Pi to get the most accurate one day for the birth of WAPi. Pat thought that document was lost to history, but Carole Weikert said she would check her basement for any-

thing her husband Dave had saved from the early days.

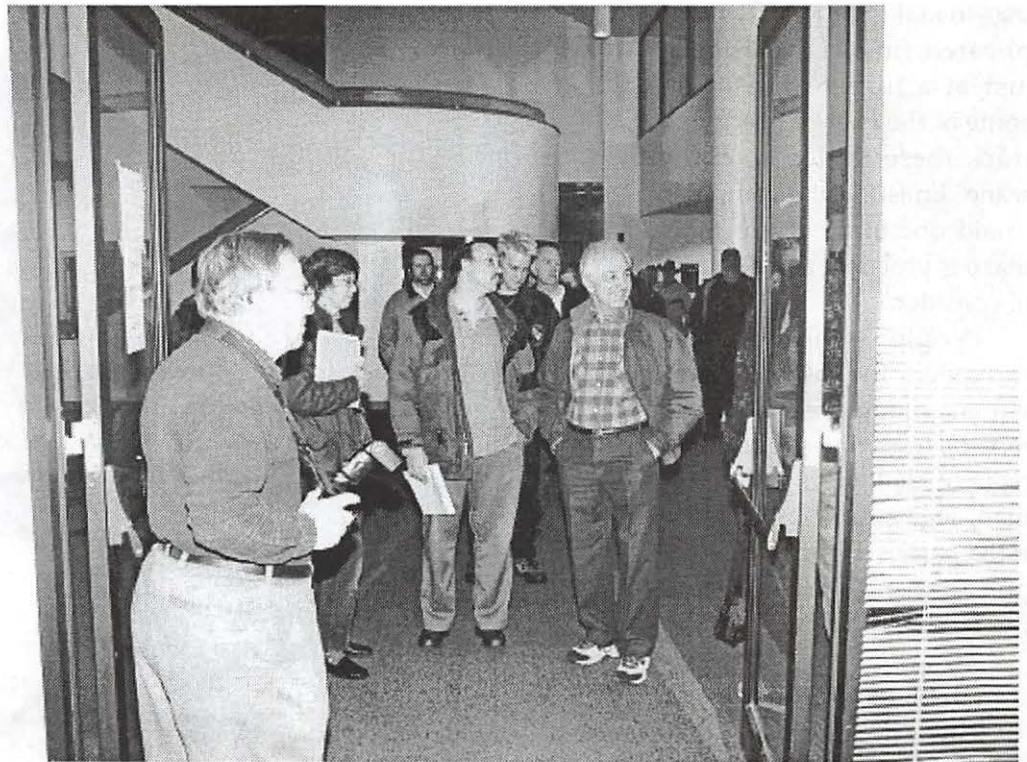
Membership: Treasurer Dick Sanderson said that we have 21 overseas "quid pro quo" copies of the Pi Journal, costing \$2.80 each. It is quite possible that many of them are no longer valid addresses, but undelivered overseas copies are not returned to sender. Dick offered to send letters to each address, asking for confirmation that the journal is reaching a willing, interested user group. Any non-responses will stop getting journals.

Two board members (Laura Leigh Palmer and Victor Nazarian) tendered their resignations to Pat. Dave Ottalini suggested we only accept them if there are other volunteers willing to replace them. Steve Roberson was appointed VP/Volunteers, and Will Byrd will be offered the at-large Director position if Lila Bednar does not want to be considered.

Dave Harris said he would examine the status of our Slices and make a report to the Board of Directors in November.

iMovie SIG: Hal and Phil are thinking about having a TV show and inviting David Laurence to participate. A motion was made to extend complimentary membership to Mr. Laurence; it was seconded and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. ■



Waiting for the doors to open. Dick Sanderson is the keeper of the gate.

Retired SIG Report November 27th meeting

by John Barnes, SIG leader

IN SPITE OF the looming Thanksgiving festivities, 6 members of the Retired SIG gathered on November 27th to learn about "Your Mac and Your Money." This was primarily a tour through Quicken 2002 presented by Art Boudreau. It was evident from the presentation that the variety of report formats that are available and the convenience of data entry make up for some of the considerable tedium involved in keying in checks and credit card charges.

Pension distributions, IRA distributions, investment portfolios and similar things add to checking accounts, credit cards and savings to make for a fairly complicated financial existence just at a time of life when some of the energy needed to track these things is on the wane. Enlisting the computer to aid one in navigating this maze is probably a good thing to consider.

People who act as caregivers for disabled individuals should maintain good records from day one to avoid risks of challenges by the tax man, legatees, or other interested parties. Having the computer on hand to help with this can be a big plus.

Future Meetings

The 4th Wednesday of each month is not an advantageous

day for SIG meetings. By the time you read this we should have settled on a new day, perhaps the third Friday. Please check our web page at <http://www.wap.org/retired> for the latest information on dates and topics for meetings and any other activities.

Joining the SIG

With its web page, a dedicated message board on the PI TCS, and an automated mailing list server, the retired SIG is a full-blown electronic community that also happens to have a physical presence. We encourage anyone who wants to share in our activities to become a registered member by sending an e-mail to RetiredSIG-on@robustus.wap.org.

Elections

An electronic election was held to comply with the requirement in the Pi's bylaws that SIG leaders be properly elected. 25 percent of the SIG membership cast ballots and unanimously elected John Barnes, whose name was the only one on the ballot. The members equally unanimously declined the opportunity to be serve as Journal Columnist/ SIG Secretary. ■



Show coordinator Ned Langston welcomes everyone before the doors were officially opened.

iMovie SIG October 17 Meeting

Hal Cauthen,
Leader, iMovie SIG

THE IMOVIE SIG met on October 17 at Fairfax Public Access (FPA), an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded to manage the public access channels and production facilities provided for Fairfax County residents.

After getting set up in the Conference Area, Phil and I reviewed the program, and when everyone got settled we welcomed the new members: Gloria Barltrop, Marie Wray, Mike Daven and Ed Hynes.

Gloria is the Director of Training at FPA, and as such does the orientations for new FPA members; she'd graciously consented to give us a brief version and a tour of the facilities — which she did with her usual grace and charm.

It's often said that FPA is Fairfax's 'best kept secret', meaning that many residents have no idea what capabilities they have such ready access to. For example, FPA has two fully equipped television studios offering multiple cameras, control rooms, lighting instruments, audio equipment and miscellaneous props and sets. The control rooms are equipped with character generators, audio boards and switchers - everything you need to create a professional television program.

FPA's radio studios are fully equipped production and transmission suites. WEBR is a digital studio equipped with a Logitech digital sound board, three digital CD players, two turntables plus a mixer, two cassettes decks and two DAT decks. There is also a phone hybrid so callers can be heard on the air. WRLD doubles as an audio production suite for radio and television. The suite has an Arrakis board, phone hybrid, two CD, two cassettes and one DAT player as well as Cool Edit Pro digital editing system.

FPA also has GL1 Digital Handicams and DVCPRO Digital cameras for shooting on location. The edit facilities include linear and non-linear editing that support 34" SP, DCVPro, VHS, Hi-8, DV-CAM and Mini



i Movie SIG

2nd Thursday/Month

Next Meeting: 17 Oct @ 7:30PM

**Fairfax Public Access (FPA)
2929 Eskridge Rd
Fairfax, Va 22031
703-573 1090**

Contact: Hal Cauthen

703-323 8934

chrgnhorse@aol.com

DV. Facilities and equipment are available to rent.

Gloria told us that the mission of Fairfax Public Access (FPA) is to generate and distribute content of interest by and for Fairfax County residents, and that while only qualified FPA producers may schedule and use FPA facilities and equipment, anyone who is interested in public access television and radio is encouraged to become a member of FPA and support the efforts of all who contribute their time and services to create programming for the community.

Something to consider: programming on FPA reaches a possible 900,000 people in Fairfax County via Cox Cable channels 10, 30, 37 and Comcast Cable in Reston.

After the tour of the station's facilities, we reconvened in the conference area, where Phil had set up his projector. Connected thru his iBook, we then proceeded with the rest of the program, using the wall as a screen.

In response to a question raised at the previous meeting, I did a short demo which illustrated how to do 'perfect cutaways' which retained audio sync, but added new video for visual interest. Other examples included J and L cuts, which — respectively — starts the sound either before or after the audio, to bridge the transition.

We then took a look at the process of exporting video to QuickTime format from iMovie. Phil Shapiro

explained how the new MPEG-4 codec (compression-decompression) method can create relatively small QuickTime files — especially if there is not a lot of movement between each frame of video. MPEG-4 can create QuickTime files as small as a one megabyte per minute of video. Phil pointed out that for talking-head videos, you can achieve even smaller file sizes using ventroliquism techniques.

A sample MPEG-4 video was shown from a public service announcement that Phil helped make. This QuickTime can be viewed on the web at <http://homepage.mac.com/pshapiro101/iMovieTheater2.html>

Phil also showed a simple multimedia story he created, "Mom and Dad Tribute," using QuickTime Pro, available from Apple for \$30. This QuickTime chip has single frame graphics along with an audio narration. Phil created the graphics for this QuickTime using some scanned photographs and the AppleWorks draw program. Even though the narration is 2.5 minutes, this QuickTime is small enough to fit on a single floppy disk. The "Mom and Dad Tribute" QuickTime can be viewed at <http://storymakers.net/thanks/>

Looking forward to see everyone at the next iMovie SIG, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the WAP offices. ■



The food was great again this year. Hotdogs, bar-b-que and ... apple pies.

Garage Sale—a Wonderful Success!

THE RECEIPTS HAVE not been counted. I do not know how many people paid to enter, I am not sure how many tables were sold, hot-dogs consumed or any other concrete numbers, but the December Garage Sale was great.

The chairman of the Garage Sale was Ned Langston. He did a great job of getting the Washington Apple Pi board members working together to share the load in the planning phase of our sale. He was also able to recruit lots of Pi members to help out in the many areas that make the sale happen

The sale really began back at the Pi office where Jim Ritz and Dick Sanderson helped identify what was needed at the Gym. They helped Ned load up his van with computers, printers, office supplies, and lots of electrical cords. Nancy and Jim Little had reception duties at the Pi on Friday and Nancy saved the day when she took one look at the single box of CD's that FedEx tried to deliver and demanded he find the rest of the boxes of the new Pi Fillings for OS X CD on his truck and deliver them. Thanks, Nancy for being so observant! Of course, we cannot forget Will Byrd who was the man in charge of the new CD. He had help from Lorin Evans and Dale Smith along with others to put together a great CD.

Table setup took place at the gym with the help of Ray Cook, Jim Ritz, David Harris, Nancy and Jim Little, Paige Counts, Josh Seeley and Hal Cauthen. Hal was also in charge of putting up the signs along the roads leading to the college and narrowly missed getting a ticket for putting up signs along the roadways. We now know that Hal is a smooth talker, both in making iMovies and in dealing with the law!

Ned and his able-bodied helpers were back at the gym to man the loading dock shortly after 6:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. The helpers included George Copley, Bing Inocenco, Bob Jarecke and Hal Cauthen. Grace Gallagher, Steve Fink and Jim Ritz were in charge of vendor table sales. It was great to see Grace at the table again. She has been a willing volunteer for early duty for many, many sales.

I was in charge of purchasing for the food concession. When I arrived shortly before 7 am, I was

greeted by an army of volunteers ready to help unload my van, put on the coffee and sell the donuts. Marylou Langston was in charge and she had many helpers including Jean Wade, Paige Counts, and Madeleine Yeh. Cheryl Parker brought some great Dutch Apple Pi for us to sell, Jonathan Blocksom and Tania Slaton brought brownies.

While the sellers began setting up before 7:00 am, the buyers had to wait until 9:00 a.m. to get into the sale. David Harris, Nancy Little, Ken Clare, and Vernice Christian manned the ticket sales table and sold tickets to over 300 buyers.

Other sale activities took place at the Pi office Table. Lila Bednar, Dick Sanderson, Dave Ottalini, Tom Witte and John Barnes sold the new Pi Fillings for OS X CD, sold memberships, and answered member questions. The Tuesday Night Clinic crew once again provided a computer checkup table where members could get minor problems fixed, batteries replaced and new computers checked out. Helpers there included Lorin Evans, Neil Laubenthal and George Veneble. Dan White, Cheryl Parker and Cheryl LaVoie were in charge of the consignment table where members could have a few items sold without having to buy and man their own table. Other Pi members were assigned a variety jobs on an as needed basis. Those people included Jim Little, Dick Nugent, Andrew Stevenson and David Essick. After the big event the cleanup crew took over. Many helpers from the various sale areas helped out. They were joined by Jeffrey Wilkes and Dan Groover. Events such as the Garage Sale are the most successful when lots of people lend a hand. That was certainly the case for the sale. Thank You to all who helped and please accept my apologies if I have missed your name in the list of helpers. After paying all the bills, the Pi treasury has over \$4000 in it and our members had a good time working together and getting to know each other. Our next sale is scheduled for June 14. Ned Langston is stepping down as the Event Coordinator, but will be available as a consultant. Please consider volunteering to head the committee and I know many of our volunteers will be ready to lend a hand!

Once again, thanks to everyone who helped to make our sale such a great success. The Pi's motto is "Members Helping Members," and the Garage Sale was an example of our motto in action. ■

—Pat Fauquet

Towards Taxing Internet Sales

by Lorin Evans

AS YOU READ this, the winter holiday shopping season is behind us. As I write, however, you are in the midst of the winter Madison Avenue follies. Three of the options you had as to where you made a purchase are of interest to this story. Did you shop at a local brick-and-mortar store, make a telephone call to a catalogue company, or hop on the Internet and buy? Two of those options made it possible for you to acquire something without paying a state or municipal sales tax, but you probably paid shipping. Where in your purchasing decisions was the absence of a sales tax?

If you bought an item at a local store, you paid the sales tax (if any) and carried your loot home. If you bought through a catalogue, the determiner as to whether or not you paid your state/municipal sales tax at the time of the sale was whether the company with whom you were about to purchase something had a business presence in your state. If yes, the sales tax was collected; if no, it wasn't. Even if you did not pay a sales tax from a catalogue purchase (no presence in your state), most states participate in a tax-free sales information exchange program. Your purchase is reported to the revenue department of your state and it is their call as to whether to send you a notice to pay any sales tax that might be owed.

But, none of that holds for the same transaction conducted via the Internet. For the last few years Congress has imposed a moratorium on the ability of states to collect a sales tax on a transaction conducted via the Internet. The current Congress moratorium, known as the Internet Tax Freedom Act, expires in November 2003. The on-line dotcom businesses and some state governors have championed such a moratorium arguing that the fledgling Internet sales business—typically a strong presence in the proponent governor's state—was too fragile to have such a burdensome task as the collection of an out-of-state sales tax imposed on it.

What Did He Say?

In summary, if you purchase a piece of furniture locally, you pay sales tax (if any); buy via the telephone to the factory in another state and you can avoid any sales tax until the transaction is reported to your state's department of revenue; buy the same item via the web and it is tax free.

In 32 of the states with a sales tax, it is a major source of funding for local government. Your community government is losing money and tax base which fund basic public services when you don't pay or get a Congressional sanctioned pass. We are supposed to pay the applicable sales tax voluntarily on mail-order purchases made out of state. But few of us are forthright about it. State officials have griped for years about what they view as billions of dollars a year in lost revenue.

The local brick and mortar shop is at a disadvantage in this story. It merely employs local people, provides personalized service, pays sales, property, and inventory taxes, and makes your community a vibrant place in which to live. It has none of the glamour or sex appeal of those ones and zeros that make up the Internet retail business.

The dotcom businesses have several advantages going for them: sheer size allows for a lower cost of acquisitions for the goods they sell you; a lower overhead cost—no presence on main street with its attendant expenses; and no sales tax to collect or report to others.

Sales Tax vs Shipping Fees

For reasons I do not understand, people will tell me that they shop on-line to save paying a sales tax but don't factor in the added cost of paying a shipping and handling fee. You may want to tell me that you were able to pick-up your Internet item at a local national chain and thus did not pay a shipping fee. Well, don't try to return that item to the same location. Most won't take it. You have to ship your purchase back to wherever because, while the national chain and the Internet site you used may be part of the same company, they are separate legal entities for taxing purposes. Thus, the Internet company claims not have a retail presence in your state.

All That Paperwork

In all fairness to those dotcom, or out-of-state companies, keeping track of the proper sales tax is seriously burdensome. Of the 50 states, 45 and the Dis-

trict of Columbia levy sales taxes. Rates varying from state to state and, within a state, from municipality to municipality. According to the National Governor Association (NGA) there are currently more than 7,000 different state and local tax jurisdictions nationwide. Now, add to that some 7500 different taxing treatments for the items you purchase and you begin to get a sense of the size of the problem.

Right now, there is no machinery in place to identify the tax treatment a state or municipality applies to the particular item you acquire, no interstate clearinghouse to which one could send any tax revenues collected, and no machinery in place to handle the refund of a sales tax on a returned item. Given the existing system, a whole new layer of bureaucracy would have to be created with its attendant costs of operation. Recognizing this morass, the Supreme Court ruled in 1992 (*Quill v North Dakota*) that vendors could not be forced to collect a sales tax if they did not have a physical presence in your home state. If there is to be some equitable way for a state to call you to account for your Internet purchases, it does not now exist.

What Kind Of Dollars

Well, to be honest with you, the real answer is just out of reach. All the numbers I could find are fungible. The number that states are getting from the NGA is something like \$13 billion in sales tax revenue that is not collected from on-line sales. For out-year projections, the governors turned to the Institute for State Studies, a nonprofit group based in Salt Lake City to grind the numbers. They conclude that states may lose \$45.2 billion in revenue in 2006 and \$54.8 billion in 2011. I can't tell you what the potential dollar revenue to your state might be, but numbers of this magnitude can sure turn heads in a state's capital.

Bottling Fog

Okay, you can see the problem. So how can your state gets its share of those big dream dollars? Given the problems enumerated above, a national clearinghouse is an administrative nightmare. Aspirin in one state is medicine and tax exempt, yet is taxable as food in another. Asking Congress to establish what amounts to a national sales tax is a hoot. Even if they tried, whatever number is chosen is higher than the current rate in my state and lower than the one in yours. No one is happy. There has got to be a way to do this. The brick-and-mortar people are suffering, the trea-

sure in your state ain't what it use to be, and the fantasy numbers are out there to whet the appetite of any fiscally responsible governor. What a recipe for creativity.

And The Answer Is

Those national governors put their best bureaucrats to work and came up with a neat solution to all the inequities I mentioned: ZIP codes! You got it. Postmaster General John Gronouski's solution to speed the delivery of mail. We don't even have one of those positions in the Cabinet any more. President Reagan could not close the Department of Education, but Nixon managed to close out that cabinet position. Go figure.

In general, ZIP codes and taxing jurisdictions aligned nicely — almost. As the researchers for the NGA worked their way through the nation's five digit postal zones, they had to sort through some unhelpful discoveries. The best example of a convoluted intersection of ZIP code and taxing jurisdictions is found just west of Denver, Colorado. There is a ZIP code out there that contains five different ones. Oops. Still, ZIP codes turned out to be one of the better tools to determine the tax you owe on that web purchase you just made.

Streamlined Sales Tax Project (SSTP)

In November, 2002, after years of painstaking work by state delegates, an interstate compact was approved by over 30 states that represents a major step toward undoing the issues identified by the Supreme Court back in 1992. Know as the Streamlined Sales Tax Project it could bring an end to the freebie world of dotcom shopping and some level of new revenues to your state. Better shop quickly.

Under the SSTP model legislation, your state is to develop uniform product codes and sourcing rules, uniform definitions of what is taxable, and simplify administrative policies. The agreement sets out unified definitions of products from apple juice to sunflower seeds that previously varied from area to area and created bureaucratic nightmares for businesses. It requires participating state and local governments to have only one statewide tax rate for each type of product beginning in 2006. Currently different cities within a states can set their own tax rate on products; for example, Virginia allows some cities to set the sales tax on cigarettes above that imposed by Richmond.

"But, none of that holds for the same transaction conducted via the Internet. For the last few years Congress has imposed a moratorium on the ability of states to collect a sales tax on a transaction conducted via the Internet."

Neither supporters nor opponents of the plan have a clear idea how much the whole collection and remittance package would cost the average Internet merchant, though the participating states plan to conduct a comprehensive study in the coming months. They also are planning to run some small tests of the type of software that would be used to operate the program.

Participating states will provide software to retailers that calculates, collects, and remits the taxes owed on remote sales. SSTP becomes effective if at least 10 state legislatures approve the provisions of the agreement. Court and congressional approval would then have to be obtained. The effort, if successful, would be the first overhaul of the nation's sales tax policy in 40 years, and the first time states had acted together to significantly restructure their individual tax codes.

Not So Fast

Well, not everyone is pleased at this turn of events. Everyone turns out to be two major groups: one driven by a political philosophy and the other by business imperatives. Like so many of the topics I follow, how you craft the issue has so much to do with how the players align. Let's take the boring one first.

Business

Small business sees this as a fairness issue. Over at the National Retail Federation, a trade group that represents nearly 1.4 million stores, spokesperson Maureen Riehl, said: "Our ultimate goal is that everybody will have to play by the same rules."

When the National Federation of Independent Business, surveyed its members last year, it found that as a "principle", Internet taxation was favored by 56% of small-business owners to 36% who opposed. You

read why a few paragraphs earlier. But, when the question was presented to their members as a "fairness" issue, the results flipped. The same NFIB survey that found general support for such a tax also detected broad resistance (53% to 39%) when it came to forcing businesses to collect taxes outside their home states. I have already addressed the reasons for this.

In the last debate which resulted in the present Congressional moratorium, a coalition of groups including the American Electronics Association, the Consumer Electronics Association, the Information Technology Association of America, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Software and Information Industry Association argued for the moratorium.

The sales tax effort may also pit small Internet sellers against larger operations. Larger Internet retailers that maintain offices or sales forces in the majority of the states stand the most to gain from the states' plan. Larger retailers also are more likely to already have in-house tax collection and remittance systems.

Ideology

The leader in the move to keep Internet sales out of the sales tax track was the former Republican governor of Virginia, James Gilmore, III. He was grooming the state to become the Blue Ridge equivalent of Silicone Valley. AOL and eToys were two the biggest eRetailers in Virginia along with dozens of start-ups. The current governor of Virginia, like many other state governors now find themselves seriously short of cash—a powerful incentive to support recovering lost revenues from Internet sales. However, not all feel that way. Republican Governor Bill Owens of Colorado sees the issue as taxation without representation and is firmly opposes to changing the moratorium.

Tired of the usual take on taxation issues? Enter Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform: "Whether I'm buying prescription drugs or sex toys on-line, someone is going to have to keep track of what I bought so they can figure out how to tax it. How do you do this without mas-

sive violations of privacy?"

To address Mr. Norquist's concerns, SSTP plans to certified software vendors and service providers who would calculate and report taxes without retaining the consumer's personally identifiable information. Under their plan, that information would be kept only for items that are deemed exempt from taxation, a qualification that varies from state to state.

Sooo

Don't get too depressed or excited just yet. The process will eat up two to three years depending on how the politics of it plays out. It is difficult right now to gauge how Congress will react. So much depends on maintenance of unanimity among the states [a function of the economy and the state's leader], the astuteness of governors in bringing on board their Congressional delegations, and the savvy of industry and naysayers to redirect the focus of the NGA effort.

If the states want this money, they must keep their eye on the prize. For them, staying on message (as we say inside the Beltway), is the way to tap that revenue stream. If by the end of next year at least 10 states have passed implementing legislation, governors will be in a position to begin to condition their Washington representatives to their initiative. Stay tuned. ■



There was quite a line-up to buy tickets.

Mac Addicts to the Rescue - or -

How I Caught a Counterfeiter with a Little Help from my Friends

a true story by Jason Eric Smith
<www.remmodern.com/caught.html>

I AM A college student (my second time around). Specifically, I'm studying to become a high school history teacher. I am a student with a lifelong habit though, Macintosh. I got my first Mac in 1986, a used Mac Plus with 1 megabyte of RAM a massive 40 megabyte external harddrive. Since then, I've always had to keep up, first it was the SE, then the IIsi, the Powerbook 140, and from there on, more Macs than you can shake a stick at (I missed the Mac TV). I usually keep my Mac for about 6 months, and then resell it and move up. I almost always buy used, so don't get any ideas about me being rich.

Since I went back to being a student again, I've been selling Macs more regularly, picking up good deals on used Macs locally and then reselling on eBay. I've been doing this for about two years now, its relatively easy, takes about an extra hour of my day, and usually pays the rent. In November when the new Powerbooks came out I decided I was going to buy one for myself, to keep, an early Christmas present that would come in handy for taking notes in class and finishing up a presentation I needed to do on the New Orleans school system. The day they were announced I ordered a nice new Powerbook G4 867 and found it on my doorstep only a few days later.

It was a beautiful machine, if you've never played with one in person, you won't believe it. I played with it for a couple of days, took it to school to take notes and do research on. The more I used it, the more I loved it. But, it was just too much to be

carrying around, \$2300 in my backpack had a tendency to make me a little nervous. I decided maybe I should turn it around and pick up an iBook. My girlfriend and I decided we would use the extra money to donate to some charities for Christmas. So on November 19th, up on eBay it went, along with an Airport Basestation and a bunch of other knick-knacks. I set a buy-it-now price on a whim for \$2950.

The next morning I checked my auction, a couple of bids placed, and so the buy-it-now option was gone. Checking my email I got a couple of questions about the computer and much to my surprise, an offer to buy it for \$2900 from Steve Matthews, a dad with a lucky son in college who was going to be getting a Powerbook for his birthday. Steve wanted to pay for it COD, no problem, its actually how I usually sell things. I called him on the phone number he gave me to ask a couple of questions and make sure everything was on the up and up.

He reiterated that he was buying it as a last minute present for his son and since it was already setup as a package, he thought it was a good deal. Not to mention the Chicago Apple stores were still out of stock. I got home from school, packed up my Powerbook and accessories, and off they went Fedex overnight to Chicago, never to be seen again.

At 10:21AM on November 21st, a man going by the name of Paul Smith signed for my two packages and gave the driver an official cashier's check from LaSalle Bank for \$3052.78 in return. The check made it back to my doorstep the next morning. I went to the bank, deposited the check and withdrew enough to go ahead and pay my rent and pick up a couple of household items. I sent an email to Steve to make sure he got everything ok and to check that nothing had been damaged in shipping. No reply. As the old saying goes, no news is good news, right?

My girlfriend and I went away for Thanksgiving, and when we got back on Friday, I had a message from my bank. The branch manager had called to let me know she had a returned item for \$3052.78 and that my account was now in the negative. Seriously in the negative. No problem I thought, I'll just call Steve and see what's up.

So I dialed the number I had. In the back of my mind I expected a "this number has been disconnected message". Instead I got an answer, the voice sounded identical to Steve, so I asked if Steve was there.

"Oh, Steve, yeah, that's my cousin, he's out of town for Thanksgiving you know. He'll be back Tuesday"

"Can I leave a message for him?"

So I left my information and asked that he give me a call. That little voice in the back of my mind let out a sigh and an uh-oh. The voices were the same right? Was I being scammed? Well, if I was, I certainly wasn't going to let the weekend go by without doing a little investigating.

I started off with the information I had. His AOL email address, his phone number, and the address I shipped the computer to. The AOL address didn't yield anything. Doing a reverse lookup on the address (thanks to Whitepages.com) I got three names and phone numbers, none of which matched anything I had. The phone number didn't give me anything. I finally found a way to lookup the exchange on the number to see if it was a cell phone or a landline (Fone Finder). It came back as Nextel and I wanted to scream.

There really isn't anything you can do with a cell phone number. There are no directory services. The cell phone companies won't give out any information. And that's that. I called Nextel and pleaded with them. The customer service rep I spoke with seemed more confused than anything. He kept asking me what my Nextel phone number was and why I suspected someone was fraudulently billing to my account. I calmly explained at least three times that I was not a Nextel customer, that I was just trying to get an address for another customer I suspect has defrauded me, etc, etc. I finally gave up on Chris from Nextel, I've had customer service reps who don't even speak English who were more helpful.

I was at a dead end. I'd just sent my \$2300 laptop, my Airport basestation, and a load of stuff to somebody I didn't know and all I had to show for it was a bill from Fedex for overnight shipping and a returned cashier's check. It's hard to sleep comfortably knowing some asshole has your Mac and is doing god knows what with it.

Sunday the first of December, I sprang into action full force. I called for help. I knew I wasn't going to get anywhere with this on my own, so I figured I might be able to get some help from some bulletin boards. I posted my tale of woe and call for assistance on every Mac bulletin board I could think of. I hoped that somebody who worked for Nextel,

some fellow Mac addict like myself, might be willing to bend the rules a little. I wanted this guy's address and I wanted it bad. I was already pricing flights to Chicago and putting my professors on notice that I might have to miss a little class. I may have made an error in trusting this person, but I'm not someone you want to have that happen to. I will get you. I will hunt you down, and I will bring a baseball bat with me.

I got more replies than I could keep up with. Everyone wanted to know what they could do to help or at least offer support. Well, everyone except one guy who just wanted to let me know how incredibly stupid he thought I was and that he would never have accepted a counterfeit anything. I think a 102:1 great person to asshole ratio is pretty good. Several people living in Chicago offered their assistance, be it in gathering information or even forming a tough guy squad if necessary.

The most important reply I got was a pointer to an online PI service that does reverse lookups on cell phones (Cell Phone Magic). I was already beyond broke, but I figured \$85.00 more wouldn't kill me. Twelve hours and \$85.00 later, I had a name, an address, and a landline phone number for this guy. The name and his AOL email were eerily close, actually with a last name like Christmas, it would be pretty weird if it didn't match up. I couldn't believe it. A Chicago resident named Melvin Christmas had just ruined my Christmas. I was expecting William Faulkner to come popping out of the pantry at any moment and laugh at me.

I was now ready to call the police. I called the Chicago police department and filed a report. I gave the operator all of my information, including the real name and address I had managed to get. "A detective will contact you within one to two weeks, thank you." One to two weeks?!? I had this guy, I'd done all the work already, all you had to do was go pick him up. I'd even gone ahead and called Fedex and spoken to the Chicago station manager and was assured that the driver would cooperate in identifying the guy if necessary. All they had to do was pick him up. In one to two weeks he could be gone. And all the while my precious Powerbook is sitting god knows where being used by somebody completely undeserving of a Mac. I know in my heart that Mr. Christmas is really a PC guy.

I was furious. Chicago PD weren't going to do

anything about this. If they were anything like the New Orleans PD, one to two weeks was likely to turn in to never. I figured I'd call Mr. Christmas myself. Let him know I was going to give him a chance to fix this, and I thought, maybe at least scare him. Let him know he was dealing with someone who would track him down no matter what, even if I had to make a deal with the Prince of Darkness to do it. Mr. Christmas said he didn't even know what email was. Obviously a PC user.

I kept checking the message boards. Maybe someone would have a better idea. I called the local FBI field office. Agent Jones was very understanding, but let me know that even though this crossed state lines, the field office didn't take anything involving less than \$5000. "Try the Chicago PD".

I kept everyone on the Mac boards updated as best I could. On Tuesday I got a useful reply, try the Secret Service, counterfeiting is their jurisdiction. I made my way to the under-renovation Federal Building here in New Orleans. After walking many a dark, scary hallway, found myself at the door of Agent Keith Lopola. Keith came out and heard my case. I had brought copies of all the emails between myself and Steve Matthews/Paul Smith/Mr. Christmas, a copy of the check, and the call journal I had started keeping. Agent Lopola told me the same thing the FBI did, "It falls under our jurisdiction, but we can't take the case." He wanted to let me know that he really felt for me. Thanks. I left the office determined to call and bother him and the Chicago PD everyday for the rest of my life or at least until Mr. Christmas was behind bars.

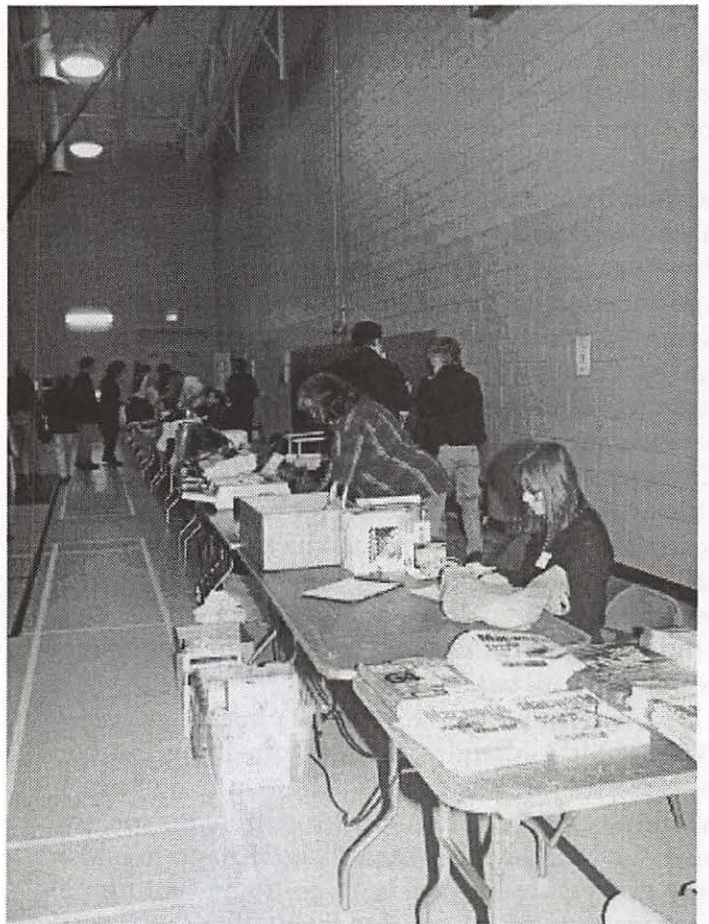
Finals were fast approaching. It's not very easy to concentrate on school when all you can think about all day is the fact that all of your student loans for the next semester are going to cover this counterfeit check. That and some grubby criminal has your Powerbook. It's enough to drive someone to the drink.

Tuesday night I got an email from someone who had seen my story posted on O'Grady's Powerpage, a Powerbook enthusiast site. George Dunbar had seen the story and thought it sounded eerily similar to his. I called him, we compared notes, and turns out it was the same guy. George forwarded me all of his emails. Everything was the same, word for word, it was like Mr. Christmas just copied and pasted and magically made money. George was in it worse than

I was though and had completely given up. He was out \$6000 and two computers. He also let me know that there were more victims. He'd talked to at least three other people who had been taken by the same guy, all of whom had just given up. I was not going to give up. That night I dreamed of Mr. Christmas and a baseball bat, some duct tape, and roofing nails.

Wednesday morning I decided I was going to Chicago. I set up another eBay auction under my girlfriend's account, this time for same computer, different city. Three hours later, lo and behold I received an email from eBay user videopro55 (the same one) asking me if I'd like to sell the computer right now for \$2500. Oh yes, I'd love to sell the computer, I'll even be there when it gets delivered to make sure it gets "setup properly".

He emailed me a new address and phone number, the phone number again traced back to the same address for Mr. Christmas. I called the Secret Ser-



These tables included consignments, sales, and at the far end, repairs.

vice and the Chicago PD, pleading, all they had to do was be there when Fedex dropped off the package. It was a guaranteed hit, he'd have another counterfeit cashier's check, all you'd have to do is arrest him. Like shooting fish in a barrel. "Sorry, Detective McDonough will be out until next Wednesday, can I take a message?" Fine, if the cops won't do it, I decided I'd just Priceline a ticket and be waiting next door when it got dropped off. So I'd know what kind of neighborhood I was looking at, I asked for help again in the Mac boards. Two Chicago residents replied, and the next morning, courtesy of Tim, I had 23 pictures of the house <<http://www.remmodern.com/chipictures.html>>, the cars in the driveway (with license plate numbers) and the neighborhood. I'd like to see a Dell user do something like that at 4:30 in the morning for a complete stranger a thousand miles away. I started planning my trip. I decided I'd leave on Saturday, have the package delivered on Monday, and make it back just in time to screw up on all my finals.

On Friday in preparation for flying up I mapped the new address from the one for Mr. Christmas to see how close it was. As I looked at the map, it hit me. The new address wasn't in Chicago. It was in a suburb, Markham. I googled for the Markham police and 5 minutes later was talking to a very enthusiastic Sargeant Knapp. I had hit the jackpot, the new drop was outside of Chicago jurisdiction and therefore outside of their inattentiveness as well. Sargeant Knapp informed me he loved this kind of thing, even had a UPS and Fedex uniform ready. He'd call Fedex and they would set it up for Tuesday. I was certain I was dreaming. After talking to two detectives in Chicago, an FBI field agent, an agent in the New Orleans field office of the Secret Service, an agent with the L.A. Secret Service and having a conference call with a large group of agents from the Chicago Secret Service, I finally was getting somewhere. And I didn't even have to stand on someone's doorstep with a baseball bat to do it.

I spent the entire weekend on pins and needles. What if Mr. Christmas figured something out between now and Tuesday? All would be lost. I wouldn't even get the chance to confront him on my own. On Monday I spoke with Sgt. Knapp to make sure everything was ready to go. I had sent him a package with all of my documentation (he didn't have email), and I tried to explain what all the email

stuff meant as best I could. He had worked everything out with Fedex and they were set for the delivery on Tuesday.

I called my brother in Nashville and had him send the package. I had set everything up to be coming from there so that Mr. Christmas wouldn't get suspicious. I could barely sleep Monday night. All I could think about was something going wrong and my only chance at getting this guy being missed. I wanted to update everyone on the Mac boards, but I had to keep it quiet until I knew something was going to happen.

Tuesday afternoon Sgt. Knapp called. They had tried the delivery but no one was home. I just wanted to scream. The board users kept posting how the suspense was driving them nuts. Well, it was going to give me an aneurism. A million possibilities went through my head. Maybe he had somebody working at Fedex who tipped him off, maybe I worded something in one of my email a little off. Sgt. Knapp called me back to let me know they would try the delivery again tomorrow. He also wanted to let me know that they had intercepted another package that was being sent to the same address. Looks like he'd already struck again, thankfully the lady from New York will get her computer back. He also told me that he was definitely going to keep pursuing this, and that oddly enough, the address I'd given him was also related to another fraud case, but this one much bigger (hundreds of thousands) involving a certain Chicago franchise I won't mention. So maybe I had led them to something bigger than just some asshole counterfeiting cashier's checks.

Today I had finals all day. I'm a 4.0 honors student. I've had a 4.0 all semester. I'm not sure if I'll keep that after today. I just couldn't sleep last night. All I could think about was Mr. Christmas and the delivery. I couldn't study either. So I winged it, I'll get my grades tomorrow. I called Sgt. Knapp at 2:45. He told me he was on his way back to the house. They'd already made the delivery and arrested the guy. He had more than \$10,000 in counterfeit cashier's checks waiting for deliveries.

***I* got him.**

I'm right now waiting on Sgt. Knapp to fax me a copy of his mug shot for posterity. Then I'm going to go celebrate. Sgt. Knapp said the guy was cooperating and he was going to try to recover my laptop.

I'm hopeful, but I don't expect it. I might not ever get my computer back, but at least there is one less asshole on the street. When will criminals learn? You just shouldn't mess with Mac people.

For everyone on all the boards who offered their help and encouragement, I thank you. This would have been a lot harder without you. If you're ever in New Orleans, look me up and I'll buy you a beer. I've still got to figure out how I'm paying for college next semester, but I'll keep some beer money set aside for ya'll.

Oh yeah, and if there are any lawyers in the Chicago area who can file a civil suit against this guy for damages (yeah I know I'm not going to collect) please contact me, caught a t remodern d o t com

This is to serve as a final update of sorts for all those Mac junkies who helped me out. Keep that audience in mind while you're reading this (ie, don't email me calling me a Mac bigot when I'm writing for an audience of Mac junkies).

the names of the innocent have been changed, the names of the guilty though...

The sites with great users that helped out (you can sign up for the forums and read all about this as it was going on):

MacRumors.com

MacNN

ThinkSecret

O'Grady's PowerPage

Update 12/16/02 21:46 CST: Reorganized the updates in reverse chronological order, makes more sense. Will eventually have a real site that works better up. New York Times is doing a story it looks like. All I'm waiting on now is a call from Ira Glass of PRI's This American Life and my life will be feature complete. Or at the very least I my feelings of being overwhelmed will be.

Update 12/16/02 17:40 CST: Just spoke w/ Sgt. Knapp looks like since this has hit the media everyone is interested all the sudden. Amazing what reporters bugging you will do. Secret Service, Chicago Police, and the IRS are all interested in Mr. X-Mas now. Thank you mass media :-)

Update 12/16/02 10:01 CST: The kindness of strangers continues to overwhelm. Over the weekend General Cybernetics, an Alabama based Apple

"The branch manager had called to let me know she had a returned item for \$3052.78 and that my account was now in the negative. Seriously in the negative. No problem I thought, I'll just call Steve and see what's up."

reseller, offered to donate a brand new iBook to me. Needless to say, when Chuck called me, I found it hard to locate appropriate words. Wow! My new favorite Apple Reseller. If anyone is deciding to make the switch or get a new Mac, check them out first. Humbled, Eric Smith.

Update 12/15/02 16:07 CST: More victims of Mr. Christmas coming in. Keep 'em rolling in. I've gotten two more inquiries/offers on the movie rights today, crazy. Coming soon to a theater/TV near you :-)

I expect to get the mug shot of Mr. Christmas on Monday or Tuesday, so check back, I'll put it up as soon as I get it. Thanks again for the support everyone.

Update 12/15/02 10:58 CST: List of victims has grown to at least twelve (those who have contacted me), please keep spreading the word, the more people willing to press charges the longer we can put this guy away.

Looks like there was a blurb about the case on NPR's Weekend Edition this morning (thanks thosed who emailed in). Very cool.

Added a new forum "Tell Your Story". I've gotten a lot of emails from victims of other crimes and I think it would be great if they posted their stories for everyone to see. It helps other victims to know they aren't alone, and maybe we can see where the shortcomings in the system are.

Update 12/14/02 15:32 CST: Removed the Paypal information. If you still feel compelled to send me money, please send it to a local charity of your choice or to Doctors Without Borders, Lambda Legal, or The Autism Research Insitute.

Update 12/13/02 12:17 CST: Chicago Tribune story. I also did actually get one call today from someone interested in the movie rights. I don't know if I'd go see a movie about me, I'm not the world's most

interesting guy. But hey, what do I know? Keep the offers coming :-)

Update 12/13/02 11:28 CST: Harlan Ellison just called me. I feel all warm and fuzzy inside. It looks like I'm going to be on CNET Radio tonight. Tune in.

Update 12/12/02 18:27 CST: Still barely surviving the influx of hits. Chicago Tribune and the Times-Pic have both called me. This thing is getting much bigger than I would have ever thought.

For those who asked, my finals: So far I'm 3 for 5 and have 2 A's and 1 B. I'm expecting A's in the other two classes, so it looks like I won't be a 4.0 student anymore, but close.

Also, it looks like the 102:1 ratio is holding up. Out of 108 emails I've received today, only 1 flame. I got several chastising me for Mac/PC bigotry, but I think I've already explained that. I don't care what kind of computer you use. I never expected this to get beyond the audience I was writing for. This was intended as a final thank you to all the Mac bulletin boarders who had helped me out. Next time I'll try to be more P.C. :-)

Update 12/12/02 16:39 CST: Survived Slashdotting, barely. To all those who now hate me so much, consider this, my anti-PC tone is for effect, I'm a firm believer that computers are tools, choose the best one for the job. Plus, I never expected this to get beyond the Mac bulletin boards anyway. Thanks again.

Update 12/12/02 15:31 CST: Wow! I haven't received this much email in a single day since my dog accidentally signed me up for all those spam lists :-) I even got one from a very wonderful fellow at Apple, and I don't know how many of you have suggested I send this to Hollywood. It was fun, but not that fun. But hey, you want to buy the movie rights, drop me a line :-) Thanks again to everyone for their support and encouragement.

Update 12/12/02 13:30 CST: For those of you wanting to donate to my cause, I urge you to choose a local charity. There are a lot of needy people and organizations out there this season, if you can't think of anything local, I'm a big fan of Doctors Without Borders, Lambda Legal, or The Autism Research Insitute. [removed] Thanks again.

Please do what ever you can to spread the word about this. I've already been contacted by one more victim since this morn-

ing and the more outlets this gets posted to, the more likely the other victims can find out about this. Thanks again.

Update 12/12/02 12:03 CST: I've added a forum where everyone can talk about this. Here it is.

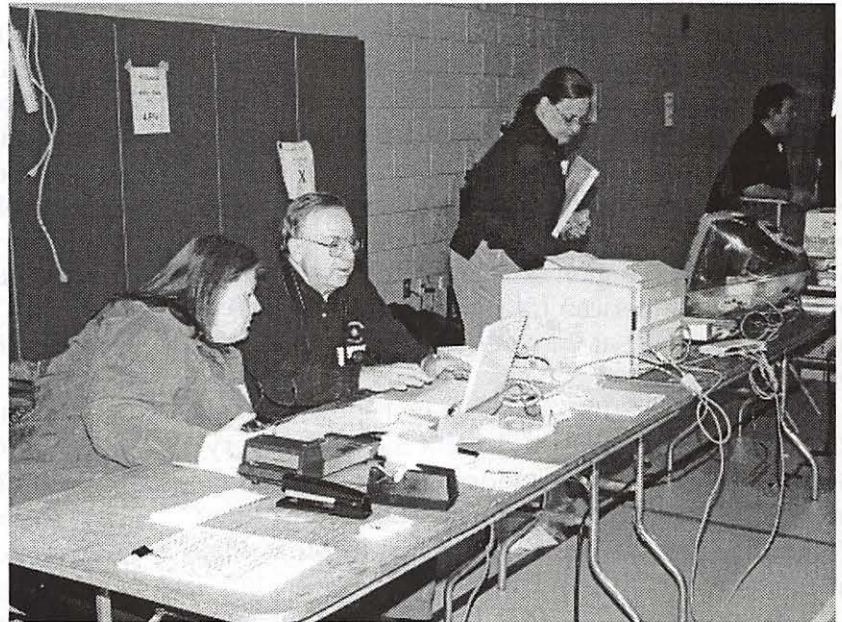
Update 12/12/02 10:36 CST: Ok, so how's this for small world: Apparently this thing is getting posted everywhere. I just got a call from Matt of the Real World Season 9 (the New Orleans Real World). So anyway, the cast of the New Orleans Real World used to all work at 735 Nightclub. I moved down here to actually take-over their market right after the show ended. So I never met Matt or any of them until speaking to him today. Small, weird world.

Update: 12/11/02 23:36 CST: I've gone back through and added links where appropriate. I'll try to reformat this tomorrow.

Update 12/11/02 21:39 CST: For those interested in getting in contact with me, my email address is caught a t remodern dot com, if you think you were also a victim, please call me at 504-894-1243 and I'll put you in touch with the appropriate people.

Update 12/11/02 18:58 CST: Sgt. Knapp is sending me a copy of Mr. Christmas's mug shot. I'll post it as soon as I get it. ■

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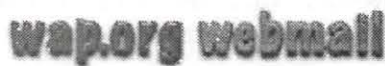
Dick Sanderson and other volunteers took care of all cash sales, including the X CD.

Basic Webmail How-to

by David L. Harris
illustrations by Nancy Seferian

FROM ANY place in the world, you can read and manage your WAP mail by using your Web browser. Go to

http://mail.wap.org/



Account name:

TCS Password:

Figure 1. Log into Webmail

password (e.g. 1234.abcd). (Figure 1)

If you have mail, you will see a list of messages. (Figure 2) For each message there will be a line show-



Figure 2. List of messages

click in the account name field, and enter, using your account name (e . g . jane.member) and then



Figure 3. Forwarding



Figure 4. Click to read a message

ing basic information about it. There is a set of icons at the bottom of the page which you can apply to any message. Click on the checkbox in front of a message to select it. Use the icons to set the status of that message to your liking—already read, unread, flag (just to mark a message for your own attention), delete.

You can forward or re-direct a message by putting in a new recipient address, either at the list or when reading a message. Look at both options to see the differences between redirection and forwarding. (Figure 3) To read a message, click on the sender's name. (Figure 4) Click the Next Unread icon to go to the next message. When reading a message (Figure 5) you have buttons at the bottom to Reply or Reply To All. The sec-

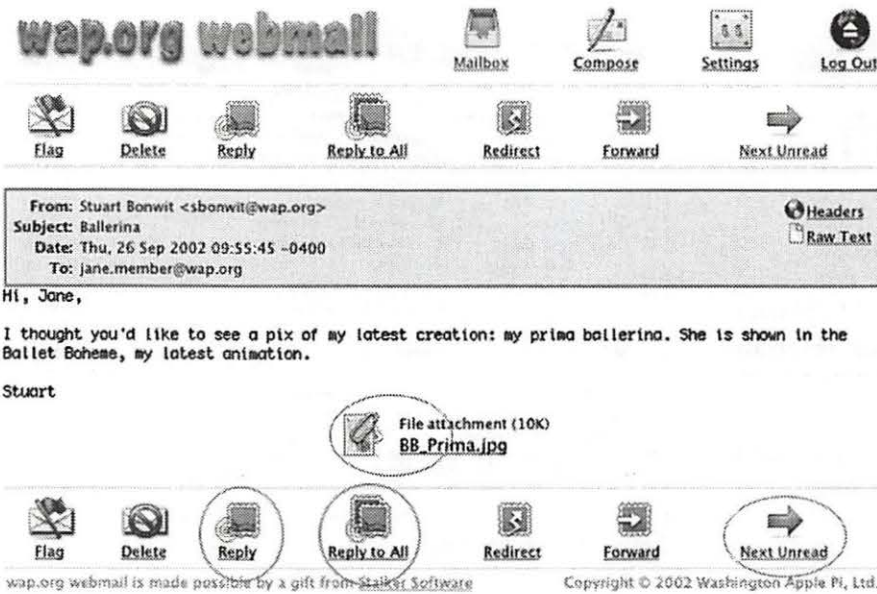


Figure 5. A message and its options

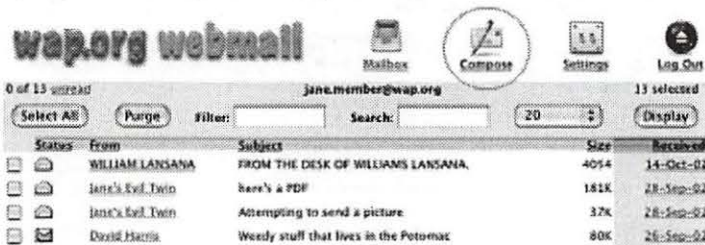


Figure 6. Click Compose to create a new message

ond option will send replies to all the people the message was directed to originally. If there is an attachment, click on its icon to view or download it.

Create a new message by clicking on the Compose icon in the top row. (Figure 6) You must enter a recipient's address and put in a Subject. (Figure 7) You can send multiple copies by putting e-mail addresses either into the Cc: or Bcc: fields. (Using Bcc: is a way of sending messages to people so that the others will not know you have sent copies to them.) You can ask for notification of delivery by checking the box. You can also attach files to your message. Use the fields at the bottom of the message-text window to enter paths to the attachments, or use the Browse button to locate a file to be attached.

Click the Mailbox icon to go back to the list.

You can delete messages in the list (if you are certain you don't want them) without reading them. (Figure 8) Deletion will not actually take place until you click the Purge button at the top. If you do not delete a message, it will stay on the Pi's mail server. You can then retrieve it again using your standard e-mail program, if you have one. Please do not let messages accumulate on the server. If you are not preserving them for later retrieval, delete and purge. You can delete all messages by using the Select All button, clicking the Delete icon at the bottom (to mark all messages for deletion), then Purge. (This may not work with all browsers.) After you do so, you will see the Empty Mailbox message.

The Settings icon (Figure 9) provides you with the ability to manage your Pi Web site (if you have one), and to change the layout or appearance of the message center. (This feature may not be working at the moment.) Settings also shows your "From" ad-

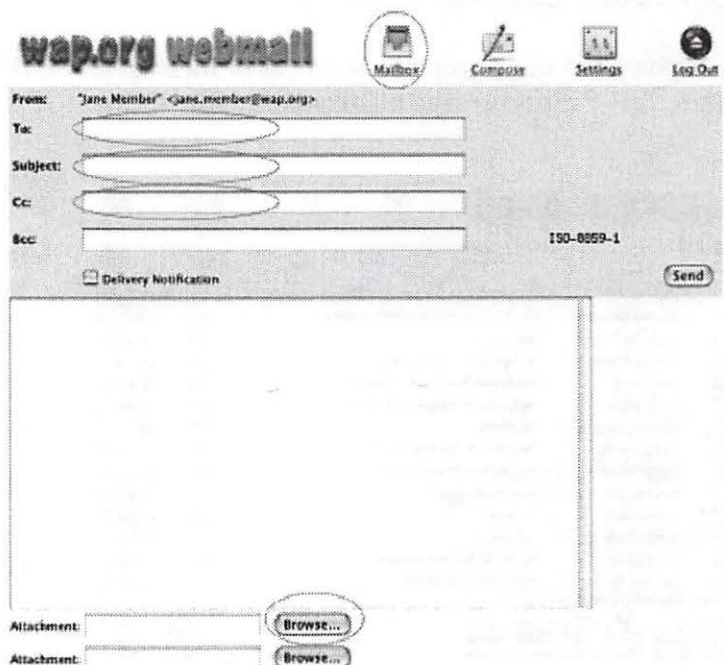


Figure 7. Writing a message

wap.org webmail

Mailbox Compose Settings Log Out

0 of 13 unread jane.member@wap.org 13 selected

Select All Purge Filter: Search: 20 Display

Status	From	Subject	Size	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAM LANSANA	FROM THE DESK OF WILLIAMS LANSANA.	4054	14-Oct-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jane's Evil Twin	here's a PDF	181K	28-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jane's Evil Twin	Attempting to send a picture	37K	28-Sep-02
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Harris	Weedy stuff that lives in the Potomac	80K	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apple eNews	Apple eNews: September 26, 2002	27K	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lawrence Charters	HELP!!!!!!!!	2198	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Schlosser	Fwd: [PDF-PP-L] What is "OPI"?	1905	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Schlosser	Fwd: We want to stay in touch	2301	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yee, Henry C.	dummy messages	155K	26-Sep-02
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stuart Bonwit	Ballerina	15K	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stuart Bonwit	Ballerina	15K	26-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Harris	Re: TCS C1 B31 New Messages	1984	26-Sep-02
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lawrence Charters	STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL	2829	25-Sep-02

For each checkmarked message...

Read Unread Flag Unflag Delete Undelete Address To... Redirect Forward

wap.org webmail is made possible by a gift from Stalker Software Copyright © 2002 Washington Apple Pi, Ltd.

Figure 8. Deleting 1, 2, 3

wap.org webmail

Mailbox Compose Settings Log Out

0 of 13 unread jane.member@wap.org 13 selected

Select All Purge Filter: Search: 20 Display

Status	From	Subject	Size	Received
<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAM LANSANA	FROM THE DESK OF WILLIAMS LANSANA.	4054	14-Oct-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jane's Evil Twin	here's a PDF	181K	28-Sep-02
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jane's Evil Twin	Attempting to send a picture	37K	28-Sep-02
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Harris	Weedy stuff that lives in the Potomac	80K	26-Sep-02

Figure 9. Click Settings

dress, and gives you the opportunity to add "Signature" text that will be included at the bottom of every message you send. (Figure 10)

Clicking on the word "manage" for your Web site will show the list of files you have on your site. You may look at your files, delete files, and upload new ones. (Figure 11)

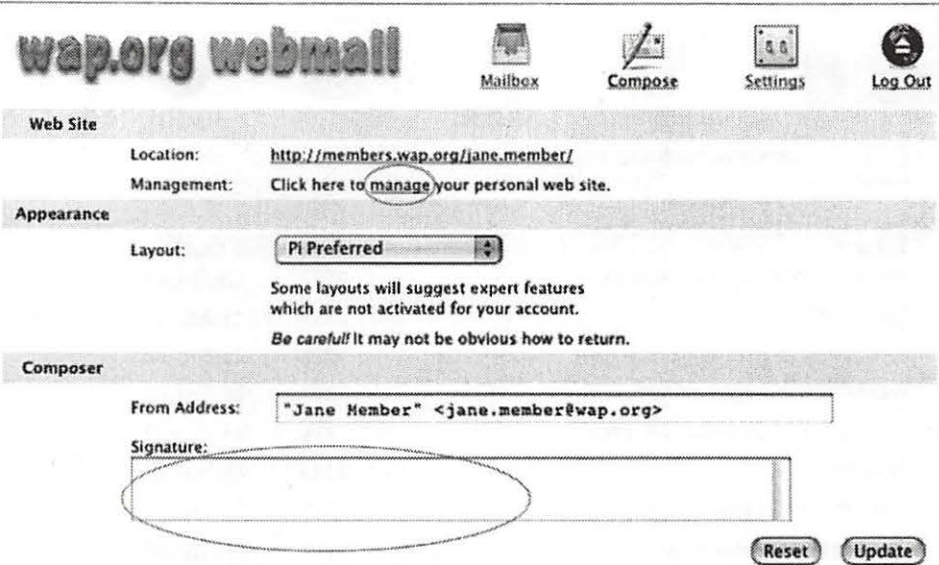


Figure 10. Manage your Web site; create a message signature

The button on the top right is named “Log Out.” Use it. If you have finished working with your mail or Web site, free up the server for use by others by doing so. (Figure 12)

This is a not a description of all the features of Webmail—just the basics. Also, Webmail is a work in progress, so you may find changes over time.■

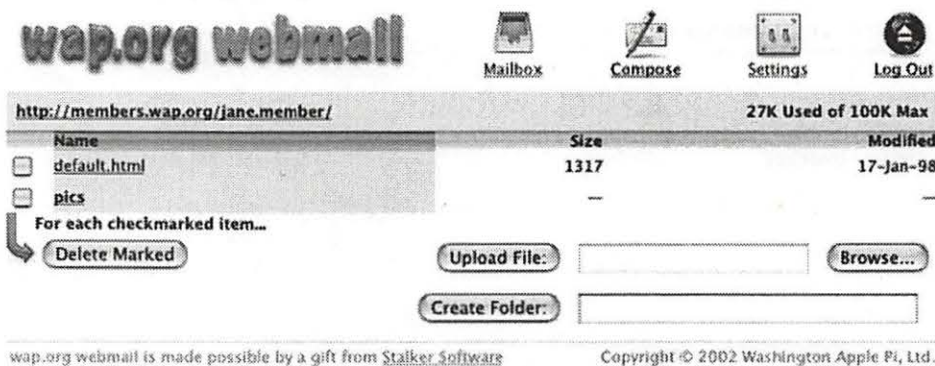


Figure 11. Your Web site

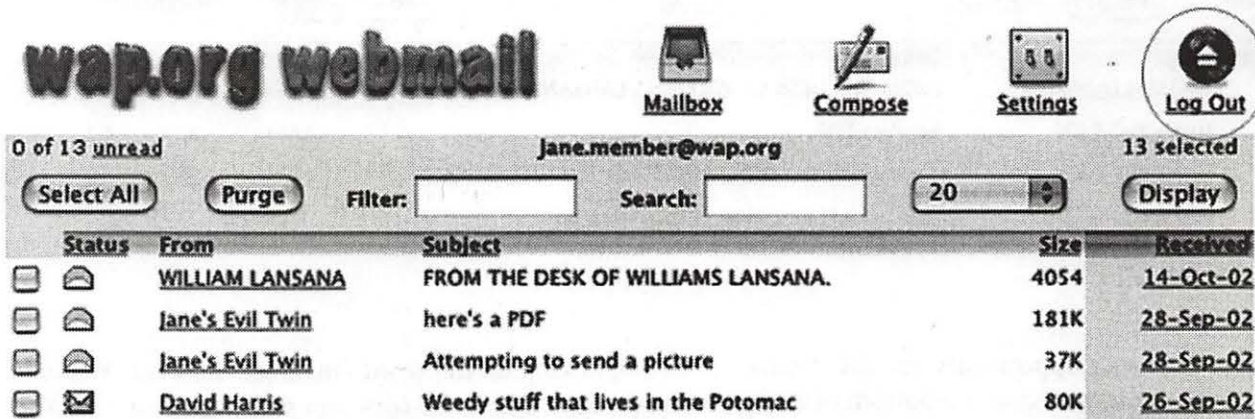


Figure 12. Log out

How to Get the Most Out of the Pi Computer Show & Sale

by Dave Ottalini
VP Publicity

WHETHER YOU'VE gone to the Washington Apple Pi Computer Show and Sale once or a dozen times, there's always something exciting about it. The reason is you never know what "must-have" item you are going to find. And while there are some great buys waiting for you, any good consumer needs to walk into these kinds of events having done a little homework ahead of time and a plan in mind.

What Is A Computer Show And Sale Anyway?

Washington Apple Pi has held flea-market style garage sales for years. Their primary purpose is to let people with great stuff sell it to people who are looking for great stuff. That could include a "new" used computer but it goes way beyond that. Look around and you'll see folks happily carting off monitors, games, business software, cables, inkjet cartridges, hard drives and more memory for their computers.

This is an event where you can find just about anything Macintosh you might want or need. But you have to come early to find the best stuff. And you have to be willing to negotiate—to "talk turkey" to get the best prices. Remember, this is a flea-market event—vendors bringing stuff to sell. They *don't* want to take it home. Your job is to offer a price that lets them go away happy with cash while you go away happy with a great piece of Mac hardware or software.

And did I mention the fun of seeing old friends and the opportunity to talk everything Mac with total strangers? It's not uncommon to see folks pipe up and add their own two cents worth during somebody else's conversations. Everyone has an opinion about the Mac and the stuff that makes it go. At the Computer Show and Sale,

you will have the wonderful opportunity to hear those opinions—sometimes whether you want to or not!

Once you've purchased your stuff you might need it checked out or need to have something installed. Washington Apple Pi's technical wizards are there to help you. They can take a look at that great computer buy to see if it really works, install memory in it or a new hard drive. They can even install software for you. You can also bring in your machine from home or work and get a "check up" to see if it is as healthy as you hope it is. They are also happy to give you their opinion about whether something is a good buy or not, or help you find something that you saw "somewhere on the floor." All these great services do come with a price—a donation to help the club keep doing good works for its members. You go away with a little piece of mind.

Finally, the Computer Show and Sale is a great place to renew your membership—or join the club. Memberships make great presents for Mac owners you know. You can also purchase a goodies-packed Pi Fillings CD-ROM or other treasures that might be on hand.

Enough Already, I Want To Buy Something!

Please remember that as with any flea-market style sale like this, you should have a good idea of what you want before you shop. What exactly is it that you are looking for? What does it need to do? If you want a computer to surf the Internet you'll need a Mac capable of doing that. Does it have an Ethernet port or a PCI slot for an Ethernet card so you can use a cable/DSL Internet connection? Read the Mac magazines, look at the catalogs, ask another Pi member and write things down. In fact, it's a good idea to bring a catalog or two with you to help do some comparison shopping—especially if you're looking for more memory or hard drives.

If it's software you're after, know what you need to do with it. Can that version of the software handle the projects you need to complete? Will the kids play with the game more than just a couple of times? Can the educational software be both challenging and fun?

Ask lots of questions when you are considering a purchase, and make sure that what you want to buy works. Take it for a test drive if possible. Vendors at the Computer Show and Sale may be individuals, businesses who make the rounds of these kinds of sales or local computer stores. For the vast majority, you are taking a chance buying equipment because you are not dealing with an "established" business you can go back

to. On bigger purchases, be sure to get the name, address and phone number of the vendor you are buying from and check to see if they will offer any warranty or be willing to switch out a defective piece of equipment with another one if necessary. I have found the vendors to be reputable, but always remember that most of the computer equipment is sold "as is" and all sales are usually final.

That said, these kinds of venues are great places to find inexpensive computer hardware, software and peripherals. I have shopped the Washington Apple Pi Show and Sale for many, many years and have found some terrific bargains. Remember too, that many vendors only deal in cash so come with enough to handle what you want to buy. And don't be afraid to dicker. That's part of the fun.

So What Should I Buy?

The key here for Mac users looking for a "new" used computer is to only buy a Power PC Mac. Even the original 6100's can do word processing and Internet by dial-up or cable/DSL (they do have an Ethernet port for high speed connections). The case for a newer model would be speed and the ability to handle more memory, as well as cheaper (and larger) IDE drives. We are starting to see more and more iMacs and other G3 Macs for sale. With some upgrades (usually memory is the focus here) they can even run Mac OS X. But be sure to ask! And remember that a Pi volunteer is almost always available to provide additional guidance and expertise. Volunteers have name tags or are wearing black Pi polo shirts.

If you need software, you should be able to find Claris/AppleWorks or an older version of Microsoft Word or Microsoft Office for word processing from many of the vendors on site. Note that you may need an older version of Netscape or Internet Explorer depending on which version of the Mac OS you are using (check out the Pi Fillings CD-ROM for that software). Pi provides volunteers, by the way, to check hardware and install software for you for a donation.

If you want to do email (and who doesn't these days!) there are many ways to go about it. One great way is with a Pi membership - which includes one email address as part of the package. You can buy more email addresses inexpensively. And best of all, members can now send and receive emails online from any Web browser and any machine anywhere on the Internet.

"Please remember that as with any flea-market style sale like this, you should have a good idea of what you want before you shop. What exactly is it that you are looking for? What does it need to do?"

Finally

The Pi Computer Show and Sale is held twice yearly. Highly anticipated, it is just plain fun. Where else can you go and see old friends, get great bargains, renew your membership and eat a hotdog all at the same event? All the information you need is online at <http://www.wap.org>. That includes a coupon worth \$1.00 off your general admission - member or not!

Here are the actual prices (check the web for any updates):

Admission:
Members \$6.00
Non-Members \$7.00

Table rentals:
Table without electricity - \$20
Table with electricity - \$30.00 (limited availability; get there early)

All vendors must bring their own extension cords and power strips

Finally, if you have any tips or suggestions about how to get the most out of a Computer Show and Sale like the semi-annual events sponsored by Washington Apple Pi, let me know at dave.ottalini@wap.org and I'll update this article as possible. ■

Dave Ottalini is a long-time Pi member and VP-Publicity for the club. He is a Senior Media Relations Associate at the University of Maryland.

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Leaders stand out.
Help lead the Pi into the next
quarter century. Nominations for
the 2003-2004 Board of Directors
are due by the February 22, 2003
General Meeting.

Positions available: President, Vice President Programs,
 Vice President Publicity, Vice President Membership,
 Vice President Volunteer Services, Secretary, Treasurer,
 Director (8 positions)

The FireWire Target Disk Mode—Some GOTCHAS

© Pat Fauquet

EVERY MAC owner eventually wants to do it—move some huge files from one computer to another. In the old days of modems, we could make two computers with modem talk directly to each other, and in those days when “big” files were a megabyte or less, it didn’t take too long. However, today we seem to be moving big files all the time. Try moving a big iMovie file, a CD’s worth of songs, a bunch of digital pictures. All of these files can be big—try huge. Sometimes we use file sharing over ethernet, but that can be relatively slow and there are lots of settings to configure and places to make errors.

The FireWire Target Disk Mode seem so easy. Turn off tone of the computers. Plug the end of a FireWire cable into each machine, hold down the T key while starting the machine that has been turned off. If all goes well and the gods are “with” you, the hard drive will appear on the desktop of the machine you “targeted.”

Well, it usually works—but sometimes, for some reason, it does not work. You may have been able to do it yesterday, but today...

I found a tip from Chris Breen of MacWorld magazine that mentioned several things I had not considered, so I posted the tip on the WAP TCS <<http://webtcs.wap.org/>>. It caused a few comments and further suggestions from Jon Thomason and so I decided to do a bit more research and pass on my information.

Probably the best source of information is Apple Computer. I went to the Apple Web page, clicked the Support tab at the top of the page, then entered “FireWire target” Knowledge Base in the search area of the page. A number of articles appeared in the results list.

The first one I clicked on was “How to Use

FireWire Target Disk Mode,” Article Number 58583. The descriptions part read:

FireWire target disk mode allows a Macintosh computer with a FireWire port (the target computer) to be used as an external hard disk connected to another computer (the host). Once a target computer is started up as a FireWire hard disk and is available to the host computer, you can copy files to or from that volume.

Important: The computer will not go into FireWire target disk mode if “Open Firmware Password” has been enabled.

While we were getting somewhere, the “Important” note causes a little concern in terms of GOTCHAS. For most of us, “Open Firmware Password” is a term we are probably not familiar with and will be of no concern. However, if you have a network administrator at work, this password may have been set in an effort to increase security. The other people who might be affected are those users who like to explore the inner workings of their operating system and try things out without fully understanding what they are doing. If you are in that group, you know it. In either of those cases, you know who you are and a trip back to the Apple Web site to read the Knowledge base articles 120095, Open Firmware Password 1.0.2: Information and Download; and 106482, Mac OS X 10.1: How to Set up Open Firmware Password Protection, may be necessary.

Now, lets go back to the definition. The terms in question are Host and Target and the requirements for the two computers are somewhat different.

Index to Advertisers

Bethesda Computers	C4
MacUpgrades	C2
TCS	5
Pi Fillings—The CD (X)	C3
WAP Election	27
WAP General Meeting	1
WAP MacWorld Trip	29

The host computer is the one that will have the other computer's hard drive show up on its desktop. The requirements for that computer are less stringent. They are:

Host computer requirements

Host computers must meet the following requirements:

Built-in FireWire port, or a FireWire port on a PC card

FireWire 2.3.3 or later

Mac OS 8.6 or later

So, here is a GOTCHA. If you have OS 8.6 installed, you may not necessarily have FireWire 2.2.3. Of course, 2.2.3 had been superseded by 2.5 for Mac OS 9.0, 9.0.2, 9.0.3, or 9.0.4 according to AppleCare Document 58624. If you are using OS 9.1 or above, this should not be a problem -- unless you have turned off some of the Mac OS extensions. Be sure to check that out. If you need to update your FireWire software, it is time for a trip back to the Apple Web site (or the older WAP Pi Fillings CDs). AppleCare Document 58624 contains a link to the version 2.5. If you need version 2.2.3, it is available at <http://>

download.info.apple.com/Apple_Support_Area/Apple_Software_Updates/English-North_American/Macintosh/FireWire/.

If you are using Mac OS X, FireWire 2.2.3 is not an issue and the firmware updates should not be an issue as they had to be in place to install OS X.

I wonder how many people who have been unsuccessful in using the FireWire Target Disk Mode, have made the mistake of using their less powerful and up-to-date as the Target computer instead of using it as the host. Let's review the terms in slightly different language. The "Host" computer is the one you leave on. The "Target" computer is the one you turn off. It needs to be the most up-to-date. This is certainly another potential Gotcha.

A trip back to article 58583 yields this next bit of text:

Target computers

The following models can be used as target computers:

PowerBook G3 (FireWire)

PowerBook G4 (All models)

iBook (FireWire and all iBook models introduced after 2000.09)

iBook SE (FireWire)



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MacWorld New York will be held July 15-18, 2003. Join Washington Apple Pi for this **Fifth Annual Bus Trip**; it will be on Thursday, July 17th. Start making plans now!

iBook (Dual USB)
 iBook (Late 2001)
 iBook (14.1 LCD)
 iBook (16 VRAM)
 iBook (14.1 LCD 16 VRAM)
 iBook (Opaque 16 VRAM)
 iBook (32 VRAM) and iBook (14.1 LCD 32 VRAM)
 Power Mac G4 (AGP Graphics) with ATA drive
 Power Mac G4 Cube
 Power Mac G4 (Gigabit Ethernet and all models introduced after 2000.07)
 Power Mac G4 (Digital Audio)
 Power Mac G4 (QuickSilver)
 Power Mac G4 (QuickSilver 2002)
 iMac (Slot Loading) with Firmware version 2.4 or later
 iMac (Summer 2000 and all models introduced after 2000.07)
 iMac (Early 2001)
 iMac (Summer 2001)
 iMac (Flat Panel)
 iMac (17-inch Flat Panel)
 eMac

FireWire software

You can download the latest Firmware and FireWire software from the Apple Software Updates Web site (<http://www.apple.com/swupdates/>).

That long list must mean that some FireWire computers are not supported. I have not been able to think of any that are not on the list, however there might be some, so if you have an older FireWire computer and it is not on the list, this could be a GOTCHA.

If you are an Slot Loading iMac owner, did you catch that GOTCHA? There is a Firmware update, Firmware version 2.4 or later, for some those models that must be in place before you can use the Target Disk Mode. Once again, make a trip to the older Pi Fillings CDs or go to http://download.info.apple.com/Apple_Support_Area/Apple_Software_Updates/English-North_American/Macintosh/iMac/ to get the proper Firmware update.

Now, back to 58583:

How to use FireWire target disk mode

Important: Unplug all other FireWire devices from both computers prior to using FireWire target

disk mode. Do not plug in any FireWire devices until after you have disconnected the two computers from each other, or have stopped using target disk mode.

There is another GOTCHA. Many computers have two FireWire ports. Remove all cables and then proceed with the instructions. To be safe, unplug the Firewire Cable that you plan to use on the host computer, turn off the Target computer, and then plug in the cable on the host computer.

Now, back to Article 58583 again:

1. Make sure that the target computer is turned off. If you are using a PowerBook computer or iBook computer as the target computer, you should also plug in its AC power adapter.

GOTCHA! You did plug in the AC adapter -- right? Sometimes things will work right if iBooks and PowerBooks are not plugged in, but sometimes they won't. Plug that AC adapter in!

2. Use a FireWire cable (6-pin to 6-pin) to connect the target computer to a host computer. The host computer does not need to be turned off.

3. Start up the target computer and immediately press and hold down the T key until the FireWire icon appears. The hard disk of the target computer should become available to the host computer and will likely appear on desktop.

GOTCHA! Keep that T key depressed! It did not say, click the T key, it said HOLD IT DOWN. Of course the second sentence contains the word "should." Occasionally I will think I have been unsuccessful and remove the cable from the computer, I will see a message that warns me that I removed a FireWire device without unmounting it properly. (Drag it to the Trash can.) So if it does not appear on the Desktop in OS X, where would it appear? Open a window by clicking on the Hard Drive icon. Now click on "Computer" in the Toolbar. You may then see the targeted drive in the window.

4. When you are finished copying files, drag the target computer's hard disk icon to the Trash or select Put Away from the File menu (Mac OS 9) or Eject from the File menu (Mac OS X).

This is important. There is a chance that you could corrupt the data on the Targeted hard drive if

you do not put the disk away. Don't forget!

5. Press the target computer's power button to turn it off.

6. Unplug the FireWire cable.

If the target computer's hard disk does not become available to the host computer, check the cable connections and restart the host computer.

That last sentence is important and it skips a few steps. Let's interpret it. Plug the cable back in. Keep the Targeted computer off. Restart the host computer, then hold down the T key and turn on the targeted computer.

If you have one of the early PowerBooks with FireWire (pre Titanium models), there is another GOTCHA. Article 86014, PowerBook (FireWire): Issue With Target Disk Mode may have the answer for you--update to at least 9.0.4. There is further information for you in Article 58615 PowerBook (FireWire) Late Breaking News.

An occasional problem occurs for Desktop G3 and G4 computers that have additional hard drives installed. The symptom listed in Article 42737, FireWire Target Disk Mode: Target Computer Shuts Down at Startup, is:

When you try to start up the target computer, it makes its startup sound, but then shuts down. No video appears on the screen, nor does the FireWire icon. The computer starts up normally without the T key held down.

The solution is:

Make sure the target computer has an ATA hard drive on ATA bus 0. It is normal for a target computer to shut down if it does not detect an ATA hard drive on ATA bus 0. All later Macintosh computers come with an ATA hard drive at ATA Bus 0 in their default configurations. However, it is possible to custom order (CTO) a Macintosh that does not.

I interpret that to mean if your computer does not have a hard drive at ATA Bus 0, the Target mode will not work un-

less you make changes inside your computer.

Users of OS X 10.2 may have an additional thing to try. Knowledge Base Article 75420, Mac OS X 10.2: FireWire Target Disk Mode Requires Hot Plugging for Some Computers . The article says:

Symptom

The computer in FireWire Target Disk Mode (the "target") does not appear on the host computer.

Products affected

Host computer with Mac OS X 10.2 or 10.2.1
Target computer with Mac OS Boot ROM version 4.2.1 or earlier

Solution

Connect the FireWire cable to the target computer after starting it up in FireWire Target Disk Mode. If the cable was already connected, unplugging it from either computer and plugging it back in should allow the target computer's hard disk to appear on the host. If the target computer is a Power Macintosh G4, a more current boot ROM may be available. First, determine what version of the boot ROM is on the target computer using Apple System Profiler.

Note: The boot ROM version is listed in the Hardware Overview section.



We always have to have a shot of our favorite computer lined up in rows and rows.

Next search the Knowledge Base to find the latest firmware updates to determine if a more recent version is available. If a more recent version is available, download and install the latest update.

Of course one of the reasons to belong to a user group is that we have a host of local experts. Jon Thomason, in message 162 on C3 B15 Mac Hardware on the WAP TCS <webtcs.wap.org> says "...some hard drives aren't formatted with Mac OS 9 drivers, and thus don't mount on Mac OS 9 systems." This might explain why you might not get a very new computer to show up on an older Mac running OS 9.

One possible source of problems is the FireWire Cable itself. Is it good? Can you mount an external firewire drive with it? If you do not have another device, you may want to purchase a new cable at the Apple Store or an Apple Dealer and have them check it before you leave the store.

Well, that should do it -- right? Well, we know these are computers and things don't always work as they should. So what next? For OS 8.6 to OS 9x desktop computer users, there is Article 75414, Macintosh: Computer Does Not Enter Into FireWire Target Disk Mode. It does not add any new information, but reiterates the steps above. If you repeat the steps and things still don't work, the next step is probably to reinstall your system software. Doing so will make sure that some piece of the operating system is not corrupted. If that does not solve the problem it may be that reformatting the hard drive and installing everything fresh should fix the problem. For OS X users, you can also reinstall your op-



Most of the vendors reported good sales—people came to buy this go-round.

erating system.

If things are still not working, then and only then is it time to consider that there is a hardware issue. If your computer is still under warranty, take it to your dealer or the Apple Store and they will give you a hand. If your computer is more than one year old, you bought AppleCare before the original warranty expired, didn't you? This sort of problem is the perfect example of why we purchase an extended warranty from Apple. When you bought your computer, you never even checked the FireWire port because you never thought you would use it. Now, FireWire is everywhere, and many of us are using it. If there was an undiscovered problem with your FireWire ports, AppleCare will fix it.

The FireWire Target Mode is a Macintosh feature I use almost every week. If you cannot get it to work, other possible methods of transferring large files are setting up an Ethernet network between the two machines, burning a CD of the files that need to be transferred, or even using a Zip Drive to copy the files. FireWire is the fastest and often the easiest, but it is certainly not the only way to transfer files. ■

Unix on Mac OS X: A Review

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MANY LONG time users of Apple computers do not think much of Mac OS X. They haven't tried it, but know it is "different," and even though Apple has said for years it wants people to "think different," many users want to think the same old way they've always thought – particularly when it comes to their computers.

On the other hand, huge numbers of people (hundreds of thousands? millions?) have become Apple users specifically because of Mac OS X. Many of the old Mac faithful look at Mac OS X and think, "Yech! Unix!" while the new wave thinks, "Yes! Unix!"

As it turns out, both the old faithful and the new wave find Mac OS X "different." It really is a Mac operating system first, and Unix second, as the newcomers discover. And it really is running on top of Unix, as old timers discover when they try to pretend they are still running Apple DOS or Mac System 7.

There are many resources for learning Mac OS X as a Mac operating system, but relatively few which explicitly addressed it as a Unix operating system. Peachpit Press, the best-known publisher of Mac books, only recently started looking at Mac OS X as a Unix operating system. On the other hand, O'Reilly and Associates, the legendary publishers of Unix books, has added several Mac specific titles to its large library of Unix resources. One unconfirmed report claims that O'Reilly's Mac titles have eclipsed sales of all their other titles, by a large margin.

Unix for Mac Users

One new title, *Learning Unix for Mac OS X*, by Dave Taylor and Jerry Peek, is clearly aimed at helping Mac users become Unix users. From the preface to the index at the back of the book, the authors assume you want to know how to do "Unix things" with Mac OS X. It starts from the premise that you are an experienced Mac user, and know how to use a mouse, move files around, configure peripherals, and all the other

"As it turns out, both the old faithful and the new wave find Mac OS X 'different.' It really is a Mac operating system first, and Unix second, as the newcomers discover."

usual essentials, so none of these tasks are covered. Instead, it talks about the Unix file system and directory structure (and how these differ from the traditional Mac way of handling files and directories), discusses how to edit files in Unix, how to customize the Terminal application, and similar topics, large and small.

Once you've mastered these basics, it ventures on to printing from Unix (and even suggests that you might want to skip this section), discusses remote login, and delves into various ways of transferring files via the command-line interface. (But it doesn't discuss curl, one of the more interesting Unix commands in Mac OS X.) Next, it discusses Lynx, a text-based Web browser that isn't included with Mac OS X but is easy to add, and various methods of approaching electronic mail in Unix, as well as interactive chat and Usenet news. An appendix walks the user through configuring sendmail – which is definitely not a trivial task.

The preface mentions that the book is similar to another O'Reilly title, *Learning the Unix Operating System*, but with an obvious Mac focus. Assuming you really do understand how a Mac works, and want to venture on into Unix, the book does an outstanding job of covering the subject. You won't learn anything about programming or Unix scripting, and basic Unix system administration and security are not addressed. And there are some odd choices and errors. At one point, for example, the simple, easy to use pico text editor is barely mentioned in favor of several pages devoted to vi, which is anything but simple and easy to use. Yet an alphabetical table of vi commands seems to have been arbitrarily cut off at the letter "o" because there was no more room at the bottom of the page. Still, the errors are minor and the quibbles are few; the book is excellent.

Mac OS X for Geeks

Another O'Reilly title takes an opposite approach: *Mac OS X for Unix Geeks*, by Brian Jepson and Ernest Rothman, is aimed at Unix power users who want to use a Mac as a Unix workstation. It starts off explaining that Terminal is not quite the same as xterm, the popular X Window terminal found on Unix workstations, and explains how to configure it, along with setting up startup tasks and cron tasks. One clever tip is this one-line command:

```
sudo periodic daily weekly monthly
```

When accompanied by an appropriate password, this command will run – all at once – the daily, weekly and monthly Unix maintenance tasks. This is quite handy, especially if you shut down your Mac and don't leave it running in the hours past midnight, when these scripts are normally executed.

Directory services are covered extensively, including both the use of the Mac OS X graphical tools as well as the Unix-style command-line tools. If you need help in making Mac OS X completely non-functional, a few hours misusing this section of the book should destroy almost any system.

Part II of the book is devoted to building applications, and discusses compilers, system libraries, headers, frameworks, packages, prebinding, and lots of other topics that allow you to reach out and grab Unix (or in some cases, Linux) source code and recompile it for use on your Mac. If you've installed the Mac OS X Developer Tools and have heard of Fink, and would like to know how to use the "make" command, this section of the book is invaluable.

Part III will probably have little appeal to most Mac users, even power users: it discusses how to build the Darwin kernel at the heart of Mac OS X, and talks about installing the X Window system using XDarwin. Since Mac OS X users don't need a graphical user interface – they have Aqua – and they don't need to compile the Darwin kernel – Mac OS X already has it – this material will be mostly of academic interest. On the other hand, if you need your Mac to talk to a remote Unix box via X Window, an entire chapter is devoted to the topic.

Rounding out the book are two appendices. The first gives an exhaustive, briefly annotated but enlightening listing of the Mac OS X file system. The second covers "missing man pages" for command line tools

included in Mac OS X. (O'Reilly could add a companion series to their "Missing Manual" series: "Missing man pages.")

As the title suggests, this book is definitely "geeky," yet well done. Recommended, especially if you have a prior Unix background, or if you are interested in compiling programs for Mac OS X.

Visual Unix

An older book that doesn't even mention Mac OS X is *Visual Quickstart Guide: Unix*, by Debora and Eric Ray. Previously reviewed by *Washington Apple Pi*, it is part of Peachpit's famed Visual Quickstart series, so virtually all Mac users should be quite comfortable with how the material is presented. Aside from the extensive coverage of many Unix commands, there are two chapters devoted to running and writing Unix scripts, complete with the usual highly visual examples for which this series is famous. These two chapters alone make the book worth seeking out.

Unix for the Literate

On his personal Web site, Jon Lasser calls *Think Unix* "an intro-to-Unix book for smart people." It certainly is one of the most literate and, in unexpected ways, humorous computer books yet written. Lasser is a Baltimore area "local," having graduated from Goucher College and served for several years as a Unix system administrator at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. None of this is particularly relevant except that many people confuse him with John Lasseter, one of the founders of Pixar Animation Studios, located 2,500 miles away in California. Lasseter probably is a Unix guru, but if you hear someone say he wrote *Think Unix* in between films – it isn't true. Lasseter works for Steve Jobs; Lasser is a self-employed Unix security consultant and a couple decades younger.

Biography aside, *Think Unix* is a delight. Rather than teach commands, Lasser teaches concepts and themes, starting with simple things like man pages, files, processes and the like, and moving on to shells and shell scripts, and ending with a large section on X Window. The last section is probably the least useful for Mac users, but the rest of the book is a delight, especially if you have a dry sense of humor. For example, in a discussion of files (Unix thinks almost everything is a file), he talks about an example file called tao.txt that consists of a list of names of Chinese philosophers. A microscopic, unobtrusive note at the bottom of the

page states that, "The file which can be named isn't the true file." (Well, I found it funny...)

Almost all of the concepts are presented with small snippets of code for the reader to try out, and there are practice problems to prod you into applying what you've learned. If you feel like cheating, one of the appendices has answers to all the problems.

The other appendix is "Glossary and References," and is anything but boring. What other Unix glossary, for example, has an entry for "beer?" The references include recommended books, and URLs to relevant Web sites, including this one: a text version of Neil Stephenson's history of Unix: *In the Beginning Was the Command Line*:

<http://cryptonomicon.com/beginning.html>

Even though it never mentions Mac OS X, *Think Unix* is highly recommended.

Unix for the Desperate

Finally, in the "authoritative but not necessarily approachable" realm is Arnold Robbins' *Unix in a Nutshell*, 3rd ed. Subtitled "A Desktop Quick Reference for System V Release 4 and Solaris 7," it quite obviously is not a Mac OS X reference. Instead, it is nearly 600 pages of Unix commands, with almost no narrative text and with almost no examples. In fact, if you aren't at least somewhat familiar with Unix, the book is remarkably opaque; you certainly can't use it to learn Unix.

On the other hand, despite the fact that Mac OS X is built on BSD Unix and not Solaris or AT&T System 7, *Unix in a Nutshell* is one of the best, if not the best, reference guide to Unix commands. Once you understand the organization of the book, and assuming you know enough about Unix to be dangerous, it presents virtually every Unix command imaginable in one place, with the options spelled out in short, terse descriptions. If you are in desperate need of a Unix reference, and you know enough to know what you are looking for (a kind of circular desperation), the book is invaluable.

Previous editions of *Unix in a Nutshell* were difficult to use if you weren't already familiar with exactly what you needed. For example, if you wanted to know how to copy a file, there was no index entry for "copy;" you had to know (in advance) that you wanted the cp command or, possibly, the ftp command. This edition has added some English language phrases to the index, making it easier for mere mortals to find what they

"There are many resources for learning Mac OS X as a Mac operating system, but relatively few which explicitly addressed it as a Unix operating system.

Peachpit Press, the best-known publisher of Mac books, only recently started looking at Mac OS X as a Unix operating system."

need. Recommended, though not until after you've developed some mastery of Unix.

One thing you won't find in any of these books: should Unix be written with just the first letter capitalized, or should it be written as UNIX, with every letter capitalized? Most of these books use the former, though AT&T (which invented Unix) seems to prefer the latter. This question, like many other Unix questions (System V vs. BSD, Linux vs. Unix, vi vs. Emacs), probably doesn't have a nice, neat answer. In other words, it is well worth arguing about. ■

Dave Taylor and Jerry Peck, *Learning Unix for Mac OS X*. O'Reilly, 2002. xiv, 139 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 0-596-00342-0
<http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/linixmacosx/>

Brian Jepson and Ernest E. Rothman, *Mac OS X for Unix Geeks*. O'Reilly, 2003. xvi, 198 pp. \$24.95. ISBN 0-596-00356-0
<http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/mosxgeeks/>

Deborah S. Ray and Eric J. Ray, *Visual Quickstart Guide: Unix*. Peachpit, 1998. xii, 354 pp. \$17.99. ISBN 0-201-35395-4
<http://www.peachpit.com/>

Jon Lasser, *Think Unix*. Que, 2000. viii, 290 pp. \$29.99. ISBN 0-7897-2376-X
<http://www.quepublishing.com/>

Arnold Robbins, *Unix in a Nutshell: A Desktop Quick Reference for System V Release 4 and Solaris 7*. O'Reilly, 1999. xvi, 599 pp. \$29.95. ISBN 1-56592-427-4
<http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/unixnut3/>

Where Are the Instructions?

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We begin with a little history

ONCE UPON a time, when you bought a computer, the computer came with documentation. Buying an IBM mainframe? Better install a library, complete with paid librarian. Buying an Osborne-1, the first true mass-market portable? The documentation weighed almost as much as the computer, and the computer weighed 20 pounds.

But as personal computers have become more powerful and more complex (and, oddly, more inexpensive), the documentation has become scarcer. A brand-new dual-processor Power Mac G4 comes with a printed guide that explains how to set up the machine and add memory and hard drives (tasks which are rarely performed), but has only a small, colorful, almost wordless booklet on Mac OS X. Since the user will spend far more time using Mac OS X than installing hard drives, what happened to the documentation?

There are two answers: first, Apple (and virtually every other manufacturer) discovered that most users don't read the documentation. Either they will stumble along in ignorance, guessing at how things work, or they will ask their local guru how to do things. The brighter ones will congregate in user groups and share their discoveries, including the discovery that nobody else read the documentation, either. (Washington Apple Pi has shrink-wrapped manuals for virtually every computer Apple ever made, all untouched by human hands.)

The second answer is: printed documentation is expensive. It is expensive to write. It is expensive to print. It is expensive to ship. Per machine, the expense may not seem that great, but when you

multiply that expense by millions of computers, the expenses add up.

As a result, while computers were getting more complex and worming their way into every corner of society, printed documentation all but vanished. Apple is not alone in this trend; printed documentation is almost an endangered species at most computer manufacturers. At least one Wintel company (there might be many, for all I know) includes exactly one printed document with their new computers: a license agreement stating that, if anything goes wrong, the user agrees that neither the manufacturer or Microsoft are to blame.

Pages and pages of stuff

As the printed documentation vanished, however, the amount of electronic documentation increased substantially. A staggering portion of the drive space consumed by Mac OS X is taken up with documentation: sample files, entire manuals in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, interactive documentation available through the Help menu, plus thousands of Web pages, QuickTime movie clips, sound files and graphic images. Additionally, for those who fire up Terminal and enter the character-based world of UNIX, Mac OS X includes thousands of pages of "man" files, telling you in great (and often obscure) detail how to use the great (and often obscure) UNIX commands.

How do you discover all this wonderful documentation?

Mac OS X Help menu

At the top of the Mac OS X screen is the menu bar, and at the rightmost end of the menu is the Help menu. Yes, it is obvious – so obvious that only a tiny fraction of Mac OS X users have ever tried it. The Help menu is available almost all the time; only a few games go so far as to take over the entire screen and block it.

One thing to note: if you have an active Internet connection, selecting the Help menu will often trigger a pause – sometimes a lengthy pause – as your Mac

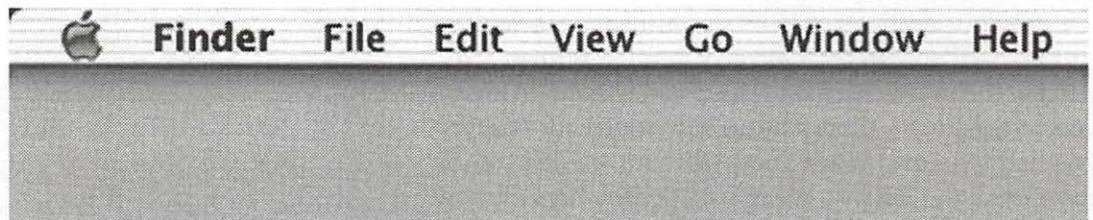


Figure 1. The Help menu is cleverly hidden in plain sight.

looks out across the Internet to see if any of the documentation needs to be updated. This is good: your documentation is self-updating. But it can be disconcerting if you are expecting an instant response.

Because the Help menu is available globally, Apple has encouraged developers to use the same mechanism for their own programs. This can quickly amount to a fairly large library: not only do you get the standard Mac OS X help files, you'll also see the Developer Help Center (if you've installed the optional Developer Tools), plus help libraries provided by various commercial, shareware and freeware authors. One noteworthy holdout: Microsoft does not use Apple's Help menu. Instead, their documentation – for Internet Explorer, Word X, PowerPoint X, etc., is handled according to Microsoft's guidelines, not Apple's. One major downside to this: you must actually be running one of the Microsoft programs to read the documentation. In

“...Apple (and virtually every other manufacturer) discovered that most users don't read the documentation.

Either they will stumble along in ignorance, guessing at how things work, or they will ask their local guru how to do things. The brighter ones will congregate in user groups and share their discoveries, including the discovery that nobody else read the documentation, either.”

contrast, you can read about AppleWorks, for example, without actually opening the program.

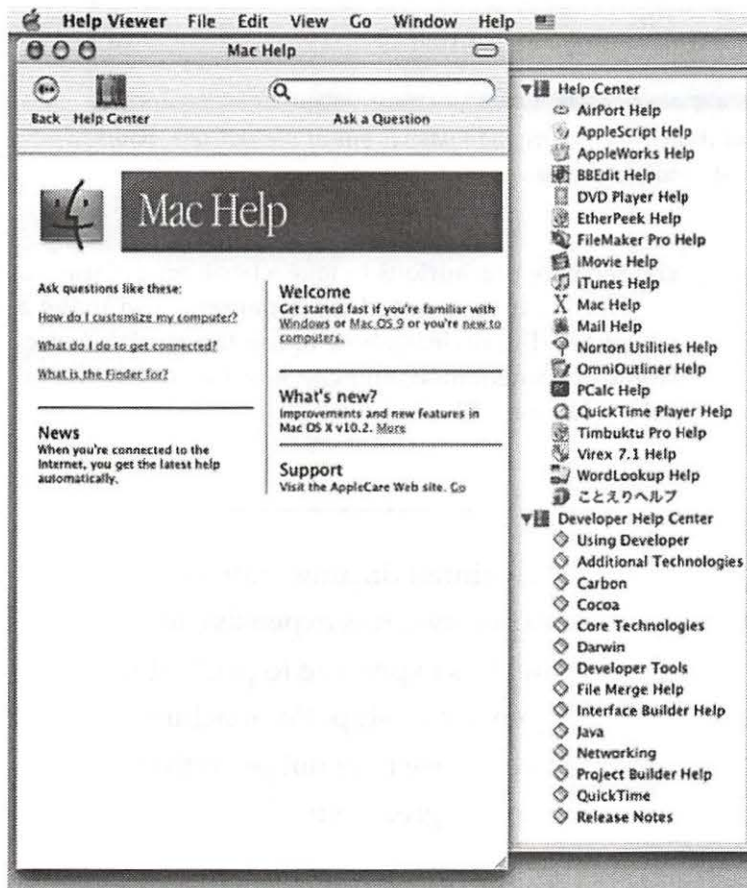


Figure 2. Depending on what you have installed, your Help menu might be limited to the Mac OS X basics, or include topics related to the optional Developer Tools CD-ROM, or have entries for various other software packages you've installed.

Unix help

Help in the Unix world is available through “man” pages. There is actually a program within Unix called “man” that searches through its own databases to find relevant documentation on various Unix commands. So, for example, if you wanted to learn how to use the command for listing the contents of a directory, you would type:

```
man ls
```

which would give you pages and pages of information on how to use this seemingly simple but very versatile command. (See Figure 3.)

Naturally, the man command itself has a man page, and it is well worth a look. As with all documentation, it is best to learn *how* to read the documentation before you find yourself armpit deep in a crisis.

And then there are books

There are a fair number of “alpha geeks” who claim that all computer books are, by definition, out of date: by the time a book makes its way to press, the technology has moved on. With this as their guiding principle, they never buy books, call-

```

Lawrence — tcsh (tty1)

clear(1)                                     clear(1)

NAME
  clear - clear the terminal screen

SYNOPSIS
  clear

DESCRIPTION
  clear clears your screen if this is possible.  It looks in
  the environment for the terminal type and then in the ter-
  minfo database to figure out how to clear the screen.

SEE ALSO
  tput(1), terminfo(5)

[xtreme:~] lawrence%
clear(1)

```

Figure 3. The “clear” command isn’t very exciting, but its accompanying man page is one of the shortest. Some commands have man pages that, if printed, would equal good-sized books.

ing them “dead trees.” Instead, they spend endless hours hunting down obscure Web sites, looking for information, and killing entire forests as they print out Web pages, man pages, PDF files and other forms of formerly electronic documentation. These pages are briefly skimmed, then trashed.

If you find utility more valuable than irony, give some thought to visiting a large bookstore, and checking out the computer books section. Almost any decent sized bookstore has a computer section today and, once you manage to wade through the Windows riff-raff, you’ll discover there are wonderful books available on almost any computer topic, from how to use iPhoto to how to write programs in Cocoa for Mac OS X. Unlike electronic documentation, you can stick bookmarkers in books, you can open up several books at once – with the computer turned off, even – and compare them, you can write your own notes in books, you can read them on a bus or a train, and you don’t have to go through spe-

cial security precautions to take a book on a plane.

Don’t expect printed documentation to make a comeback. But do learn how to use the available electronic documentation, and check out your favorite local bookstore. ■

“...printed documentation is expensive. It is expensive to write. It is expensive to print. It is expensive to ship. Per machine, the expense may not seem that great, but...”

Creating Forms in Adobe GoLive

Making a feedback form work is not beyond the scope of this article

by Sheri German

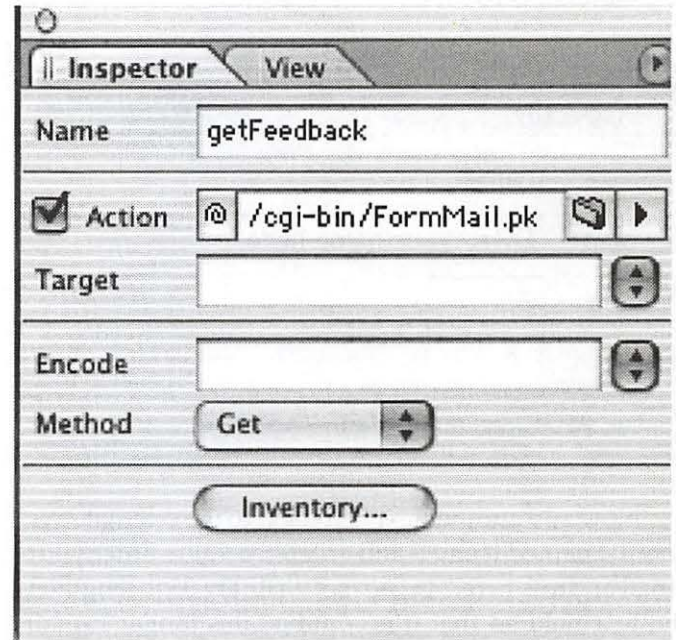
THE ABILITY TO interact with users is one of the great lures of the Internet for businesses and individuals. Most of you have filled out a form on the Internet, then hit the submit button to send your data off into cyberspace. How is it done? Most books give the old "setting up the cgi script is beyond the scope of this book" line, and this evasion has long been a frustration to many Web designers. I hope that this article helps you set up a feedback form that uses the wonderful free cgi script FormMail offered for download at Matt's Script Archive. Be sure to get the latest version, 1.91, as it addresses some security issues. Download the script from the following URL: <http://www.scriptarchive.com/formmail.html>.

This tutorial covers most of the different types of form objects you will use when creating interfaces for interacting with users. While Adobe GoLive is used for purposes of example, this lesson can easily be adapted to any other visual HTML authoring tool such as Dreamweaver or Claris Home Page. The spinach eaters among us can even go ahead and hand code the form objects. Whatever your tool, what we are going to do is create a simple user feedback form and connect it to a CGI (Common Gateway Interface) script that will return the data to your E-mail box.

Setting Up the Form and Form Objects

First we will set up the form before we configure the script. Have your forms icon selected in your GoLive Objects panel. Drag a form onto the page. Enter your settings as follows. Select POST as the method. Put down the path to your cgi script as the action. On your web server you will most likely save your cgi script to a cgi-bin folder. The path would look like this: /cgi-bin/FormMail.pl (the pl stands for Perl, which is

the most common scripting language used in CGI scripts.) You might also want to put the absolute (or full) path of your domain name. Mine is <http://www.swanilda.com/cgi-bin/FormMail.pl> Give your form a name.



If you like, add a table to your page within the opening and closing form tags in which you can neatly lay out your form objects. I created a 6 row, 2 column table with a pixel width of 400. The left column is 125 pixels, and is right aligned. I added the following labels to the rows: Name, Email, Comments, Did you like this tutorial? and Check here if you would like our newsletter. (See the completed form here.)

Name:	<input type="text" value="Enter your name here"/>
Email:	<input type="text" value="Enter your email here"/>
Comments:	<input type="text"/>
Did you like this tutorial?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Please check here for our newsletter:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="button" value="Send Now"/> <input type="button" value="Start Over"/>

Next to the cell that contains the label "Name" drag a text field form object to the cell on the right. I name it "name" because the cgi script will then return the data to me as "name = Person's Name." I can add a default value to appear in the field to make the form more accessible to people with disabilities. I made visible 35 so that there is room for longer names.



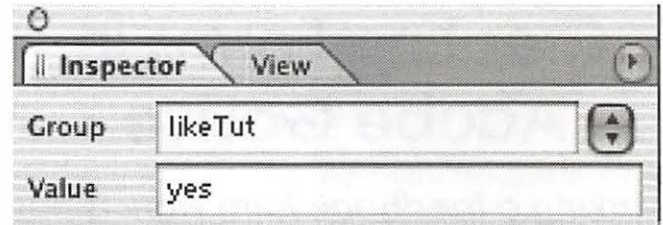
Now add another text field next to the cell that says email. I named it email and entered a value Enter your email address here." I again set visibility 35 to lengthen the text field so that it accommodates longer E-mail addresses.

Next to Comments, drag a text area form object. Give it a name. This is like a text field, except that you have more room available for longer areas of text. Rows and columns allow you to designate the amount of space you want to show on the page.

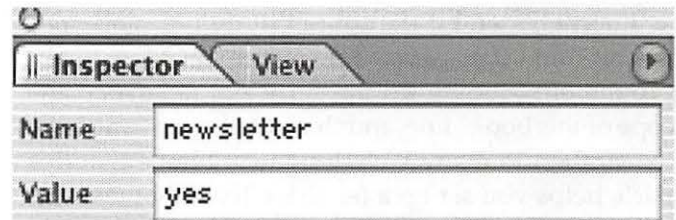


Now let's add some radio buttons for the question "Do you like this tutorial?" The key to radio buttons is to give all the radio buttons in the group the same name. That way, the user can select only one choice. I dragged two radio buttons next to the question. I named them both "likeTut" and gave one a value of yes, and the

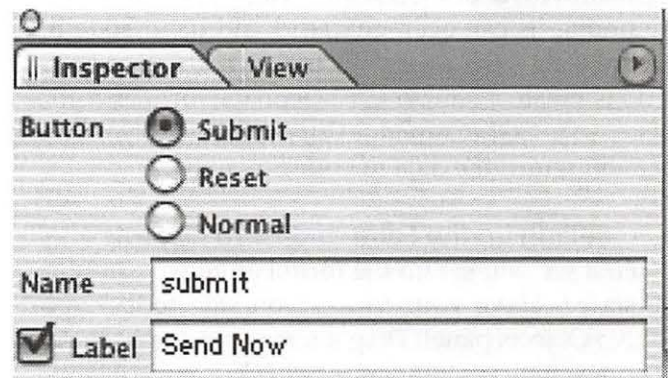
other a value of no.



The last form object we will use is the checkbox. Drag a checkbox object next to the newsletter request. Give it the name "newsletter" and a value of yes. You can also choose the "Select" box if you want the checkbox to have a check in it by default.



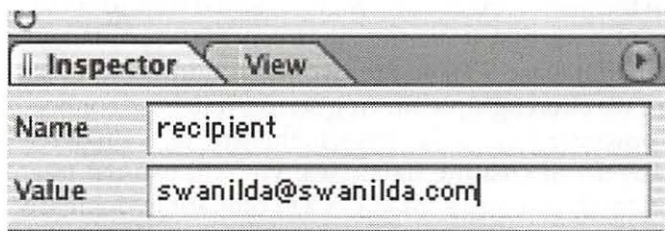
Drag a submit button (second form object in the form objects panel) to the page. If you select the label checkbox, you can change the default name "Submit" to something more meaningful. You can drag a reset button (third form object in the form object panel) to the page so that users can clear the form and start over if they like.



"I hope that this article helps you set up a feedback form that uses the wonderful free cgi script FormMail offered for download at Matt's Script Archive. Be sure to get the latest version..."

Adding Hidden Fields

We're not done yet, however. We need to add at least one hidden field, so drag a hidden form object somewhere on the page within the parent form object. We need to indicate where the form data gets sent! Usually this is done with a hidden field you name "recipient" whose value you'll set to your E-mail address. There are other hidden fields you might want to consider adding to your form. If you want the E-mail you receive with the form data to have a subject when it comes to your E-mail box (rather than an empty subject field), add a hidden field named "subject" and create a meaningful subject name. If you want to create a custom page to which the user is directed after he or she successfully submits the form data, you can use the hidden field named "redirect" and enter the URL for the page.



Configure the Script

Now that the form is all set up, it is time to make sure the script is configured for your server, and has

the proper permissions set. First make a backup copy of the script in case you don't quite get it right the first time. This is not to mean that it is complicated—it is extremely simple. Of course, it always is when you know how, right?

Open Matt's FormMail script in your favorite text editor. On the Mac the editor of choice is BBEdit Pro. It is nice because it color codes values and otherwise flags certain parts of the code for you. You can download BBEdit Lite for free, though, and it will do the job as well. If your editor does not color code, you'll just have to scrutinize the text a little bit to find what you are looking for. It is two lines close to the beginning of the script, so don't worry. At the top of the script you'll see text surrounded by a box created from # signs.

You want to find the part of the script that sets

```

#####
# Define Variables
# Detailed Information Found In README File.

# $mailprog defines the location of your sendmail program on your unix
# system. The flags -i and -t should be passed to sendmail in order to
# have it ignore single dots on a line and to read message for recipients
$mailprog = '/usr/lib/sendmail -i -t';

# @referers allows forms to be located only on servers which are defined
# in this field. This security fix from the last version which allowed
# anyone on any server to use your FormMail script on their web site.
Referers = ('scriptarchive.com', 'swanilda.com');

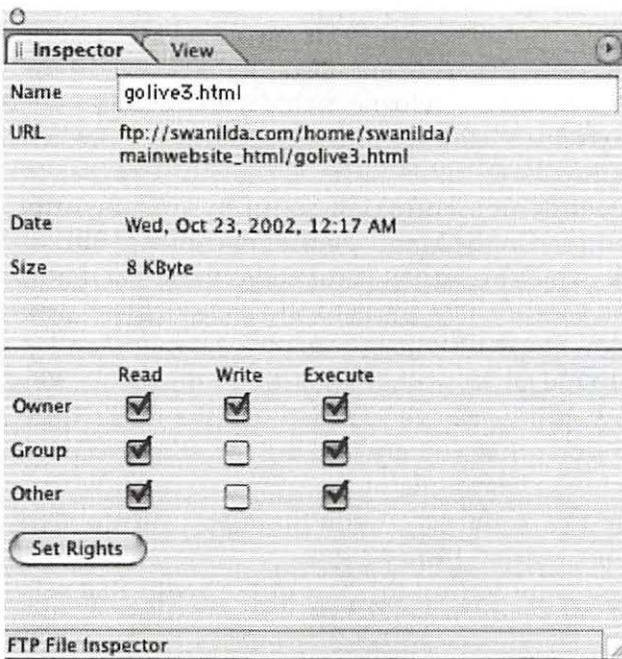
# @recipients defines the e-mail addresses or domain names that e-mail can
# be sent to. This must be filled in correctly to prevent SPAM and allow
# valid addresses to receive e-mail. Read the documentation to find out how
# this variable works!!! It is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.
Recipients = &fill_recipients(@referers, 'swanilda.com');

```

the referers and recipients allowed from your Web directory. You are looking for the following lines: @referers= () and @recipients= () Where you see my domain, swanilda.com, you want to enter your own values within the parentheses—your domain or IP address. Be sure to leave the single quotes.

Uploading the Components and Setting Permissions

Now all you have to do is save and upload the script to your cgi-bin. Next you need to set permissions for the script. The usual permissions for FormMail is chmod 755 to make it executable. Using the Golive ftp client, select your file while connected to the server, and check the boxes for Execute.



Now upload your html page to the proper directory, and the script to the cgi-bin. Test your form in the browser. Fill in some data and hit the submit button. The results should arrive in your E-mail! If you had problems, be sure to ask your ISP where the path to your cgi-bin is located...because that, uh, is beyond the scope of this article. ■



Just looking.

But First, a Database...

Laying the Groundwork for Database Driven Web Sites

by Sheri German

WHEN THE great choreographer George Balanchine first came to this country in the 1930's, his sponsors were eager for him to establish a great American ballet company. Being a wise man, he counseled, "But first, a school..." He knew that he needed a foundation for the company members who would represent the neoclassical style of his now famous New York City Ballet.

Now what can this possibly have to do with databases and dynamic Web sites? Probably not much more than the spinach and Eunuchs analogy of the last Journal article I wrote on PHP and MySQL, but at least there is more artistry involved here. If you can understand that creating a database driven Web site is not an "out-of-box" experience, that even WYSIWYG software tools such as Dreamweaver MX and GoLive need a foundation, then you're on your way to taking the journey towards creating your first dynamic Web page.

In the last Pi Journal article, we learned how to set up Mac OS X so that it can test and run PHP scripts and MySQL databases. There are two more hurdles to cross before we choreograph our first script/database connection, however. First, a database: in this article, we'll delve into the art of creating databases. We will use the free, UNIX (and, of course, Mac OS X) compatible database MySQL in conjunction with phpMyAdmin, a GUI tool.

The second hurdle is to understand HTML forms. Don't all arts involve creating form of some kind? So do our database driven Web sites benefit from pouring our content into forms. If you don't know how to create forms in a Web page, you should also read my other article in this Journal, which is about creating forms in Adobe GoLive. The knowledge here will be applicable to any editor you choose to use, however, so don't be deterred if you don't use GoLive, or are even a hand coding warrior.

Declaring our Intentions

Before designing a database, we should think about how it will be used. Let's pretend we are the administrators of a pet rescue facility. Every day, there are new arrivals at the center, and current residents (we hope) are adopted. Our newly constructed Web site offers a search page for visitors so that they can look for possible pets. There are dogs and cats of various breeds and ages. Each animal has its picture taken with a digital camera, and that picture is displayed as well.

We also need an administration section of the Web site where the records for the animals can be updated right in the browser. Adopted pets can be removed; new arrivals can be entered. This is done through a simple form with an "Update Record" submit button that will later be facilitated with PHP scripting.

But first, a database...in our case, specifically, we'll use a MySQL database. Our database will contain 8 fields: an ID number for each animal, its species, its breed, its name (if known), its age (if known), its personality, the date the animal entered the facility, and the file name of the picture of the animal.

Data Types

It's a good idea to understand a little about data types before we start. What *kind* of data are we going to store in our fields? There are three categories of data types in MySQL. Those are number, date and time, and string (for, in a word, words) data types. We are going to use the following types for our pet database.

String Types

We will use VARCHAR for species, breed, name, and image name. We will use TEXT for the personality description.

VARCHAR is any variable length string between 1 and 255 characters. You must define a length.

TEXT is a field for which the maximum number of characters is 65535. You do not need to define the length. We might have a lot to say about a particular animal's personality, so the TEXT data type will fit the bill here.

Number Types

We will use INT for the ID for each animal, and we'll use TINYINT for the age.

INT stands for integer. This is a normal sized number that can be signed or unsigned. A signed number can include negative numbers while an unsigned num-

ber includes only positive numbers. The maximum number, if signed, is -2147483648 to 2147483647. An unsigned number can max out at 4294967295.

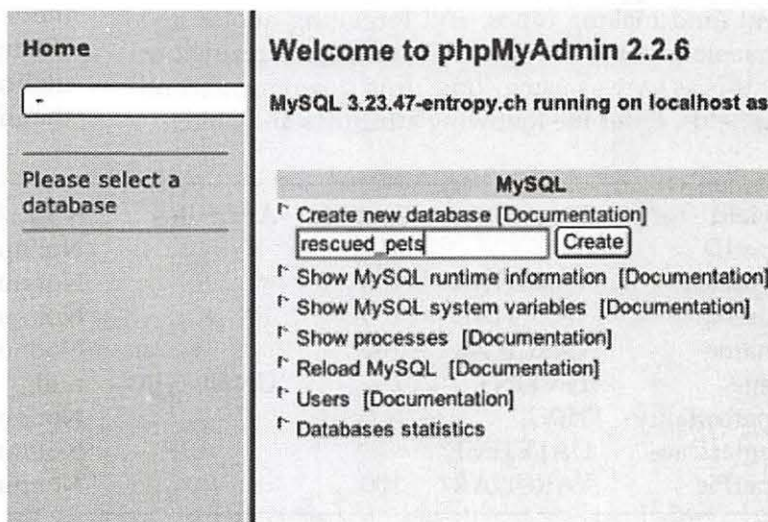
TINYINT is a very small integer that can range from -128 to 127, if signed. It can go to 255 if unsigned. Since most pets don't live past their 20's, the TINYINT will work well.

Date and Time

Another useful data type is the DATE, which is entered as yyyy-mm-dd and the DATETIME type which is entered the same, but with the addition of time entered as hh-mm-ss. Since it would be nice to know when the animals have arrived at the center, we have a field for DATETIME.

Using phpMyAdmin

Fire up phpMyAdmin in your browser. You should see the welcome screen and a text field where you can enter the name of a database. Let's enter in the name rescued_pets, then select the "create" button.



If all goes well, you should see a new page with the message "Database rescued_pets running on localhost." No tables are in the database yet, though. You can choose to run an SQL query in the text area field to create one and all of its fields. Alternatively, you can let phpMyAdmin make it easier by using the "Create new table on database rescued_pets:" text field. I vote for that, so let's do it. Enter in the name "adoption_list" (without the quotes) and enter 8 as the number of fields. Click the "Go" button.

Database rescued_pets running on localhost

Database rescued_pets has been created.

No tables found in database.

- Run SQL query/queries on database rescued_pets [Documentation] :

Show this query here again

Or Location of the textfile :

- Create new table on database rescued_pets :

Name :

Fields :

- Drop database rescued_pets [Documentation]

Database rescued_pets - table adoption_list running on localhost

Field	Type	Length/Values?	Attributes	Null	Default	Extra	Primary
petID	INT	11		not null		auto_increment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
species	VARCHAR	100		not null			<input type="radio"/>
breed	VARCHAR	100		not null			<input type="radio"/>
name	VARCHAR	100		not null			<input type="radio"/>
age	TINYINT	2	UNSIGNED	null			<input type="radio"/>
personality	TEXT			not null			<input type="radio"/>
enterDate	DATETIME			not null			<input type="radio"/>
petPic	VARCHAR	100		not null			<input type="radio"/>

Table comments :
 List of current animals available for adoption
 Table type : MyISAM

If you want, you can add a description in the "Table Comments" field. Set the "Table Type" to MyISAM. Now click the "Save" button and let phpMyAdmin do all of the work. The next screen you see displays the raw SQL statement *you* would have had to type, and below that, a list of your fields and attributes in a more readable format. You'll notice also that you can select the checkbox for each field and drop (delete) it or change it. (See Figure page 45.)

We're most interested in adding some actual data to our table, though. Right now, it is an empty structure. Click on the "Insert" link. Go ahead and play with the actual data. I entered the data "cat," "Himalayan," "Sherpa," "6," "sweet disposition," enter date as automatically added (just like the ID), and "sherpa.jpg" for the image name. Enter a few records, and then click

the browse link to view what you've got.

The next screen is a thing of beauty. Rather than type in data types and other attributes in the SQL statement (and making typos, and forgetting quotes and semicolons at the end of statements), customizing our fields is as easy as using some drop down menus and text fields. Enter the following attributes and fields:

Field	Type	Length	Attributes	Null	Extras	Radio
petID	INT	11		Not null	Auto_increment	primary
species	VARCHAR	100		Not null		
breed	VARCHAR	100		Not null		
name	VARCHAR	100		Not null		
age	TINYINT	2	UNSIGNED	null		
personality	TEXT			Not null		
enterDate	DATETIME			Not null		
petPic	VARCHAR	100		Not null		

Remember that an unsigned number is only positive. Know any negative number ages for pets? Also note that we allow the age field to be null in case the age of the animal cannot be determined. The first field, the ID, will be the primary key that identifies each animal. We will allow MySQL to auto increment, or automatically assign this ID each time we make a new entry.

Let the Dance Begin

You now have your database, all dressed up and ready to use PHP scripts in a database driven Web page. MySQL is a deep database program, and the SQL language upon which it is based is full of features. You'll want to go beyond the basics as you get more involved with database design. Check out the wonderful and free resource at <http://www.sqlcourse.com>. Here you'll encounter a logical series of lessons, each with exercises you can practice right in your browser, with

Database rescued_pets - table adoption_list running on localhost

table adoption_list has been created.

```
SQL-query: [Edit]
CREATE TABLE `adoption_list` (
  `petID` INT(11) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
  `species` VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  `breed` VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  `name` VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  `age` TINYINT(2) UNSIGNED,
  `personality` TEXT NOT NULL,
  `enterDate` DATETIME NOT NULL,
  `petPic` VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
) TYPE = MYISAM
COMMENT = 'List of current animals available for adoption';
```

[Browse] [Select] [Insert] [Empty] [Drop]

List of current animals available for adoption

Field	Type	Attributes	Null	Default	Extra	Action
<input type="checkbox"/> petID	int(11)		No		auto_increment	Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> species	varchar(100)		No			Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> breed	varchar(100)		No			Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> name	varchar(100)		No			Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> age	tinyint(2)	UNSIGNED	Yes	NULL		Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> personality	text		No			Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> enterDate	datetime		No	0000-00-00 00:00:00		Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext
<input type="checkbox"/> petPic	varchar(100)		No			Change Drop Primary Index Unique Fulltext

the provided online interpreter. You'll want to learn how to join relational databases, index fields for faster queries, and other more advanced topics that we didn't cover here. Also, don't forget the official MySQL Web site at <http://www.mysql.org>. Finally, when you want to get help with Mac OS X specific MySQL issues, the best place on the Net is Marc Liyanage's site at <http://www.entropy.ch/software/macosex/mysql>.

With our foundations firmly in place, we can contemplate the upcoming beauty of the dance between our database and the PHP scripting language. Tune into the next Journal to join in the performance, where we'll finally be able to put our techniques into practice. ■

"Don't all arts involve creating form of some kind? So do our database driven Web sites benefit from pouring our content into forms. If you don't know how to create forms in a Web page, you should also read my other article in this Journal, which is about creating forms in Adobe GoLive."

Doctor Maclove (or "How I learned to stop worrying and love Mac OS X")

By Guy Serle

In the beginning.....

ONCE UPON A time, Apple created the Macintosh computer. The multitudes gazed on this work of wonder and said, "It is good." So it was. The computer for the "Rest of Us" was born. An easy to use graphic user interface. A mouse to point and click our way through programs instead of archaic DOS commands. Anyone could be productive on a Mac. But the powers that be at Apple looked at their good work and said, "It can be better." As OS 1 gave way to versions 2 through 6, small and some not so small improvements were made. Color was added. The ability to work with several programs at one time. Simple connectivity between computers, and easy to configure Internet hookup. Then things became somewhat....complicated.

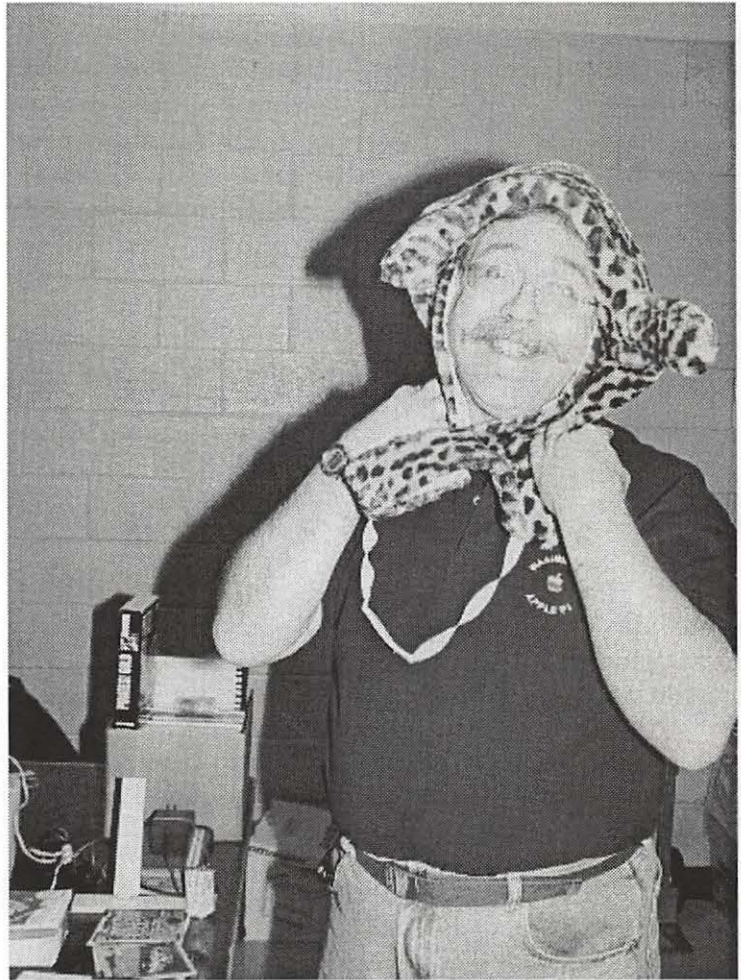
System 7, 8, 9 to the rescue?

System 7 added many new features and many new problems. Suddenly, there were new control panels and extensions to deal with, most with odd names that rarely gave a clue as to their actual functions. Even worse, every time the user added new software, the makers of said software added their OWN control panels and extensions. To be fair, earlier versions of the Mac OS than System 7 had control panels and extensions, but they mostly were from Apple. Apple usually (he said through gritted teeth) knew enough not to

add control panels and extensions that would by their very existence make your system crash. The same cannot be said for software makers. They would add stuff that would make their software run great and if it happened to screw up some other software that you used on a daily basis, well, why are you running software from other companies? I call this kind of logic Microsoftese.

An example of this would be working with digital video. When I first started working with digital video, I was using a program from Strata called "Videoshop". Not the easiest program to use when you're first starting out, but I soon learned all the nuances. Then I began to experiment with iMovie and another program called EditDV. The easiest of course was iMovie, but I could see the power of EditDV and wanted to give it a fair shot at being my everyday editor of choice. Just one little problem. EditDV used it's own FireWire extensions and would not operate with the ones that came from Apple. Apple's iMovie on the other hand could not work with EditDV's extensions. The work-around of course is to create two different control panel/extension start-up modes. Unfortunately, I would have had to restart every time I wanted to use the competing program. I don't like to do this. It adds unnecessary complications to my already overstressed life. I mean come on. If I wanted to mess around with different system configurations everyday to do the simplest tasks, I'd use a Windows PC. I had to make a choice. I balanced the ease of iMovie, to the future power (once I learned how to use the furshlugginer thing) of EditDV. No contest. Goodbye EditDV, hello iMovie. I chose ease of use over complicated power. Why you ask (or even if you didn't)? Easy enough to answer. I prefer to create rather than complicate. Apple understands this and this was the main driving force behind the Mac OS of ANY era. This is not to say that the Mac OS of bygone days was not powerful. It just wasn't as complicated to use. At least that was the intent.

Systems 7 and 8 (and all their various updates) were much better than their predecessors. Of course as in all things worthwhile, there was a price to pay. Instability. Sometimes (crash) the easiest things (lockup) seemed difficult (BIG crash) to accomplish (crash so



Some people will do anything to get attention.

bad that even Allstate won't insure you anymore). Constantly changing memory settings (Will someone tell me why software makers would set their default memory settings so low?) just for the basic use of some programs, never mind power user settings. Of course System 8 brought us Sherlock and other time saving applications. System 9 was for the most part the best and brightest Apple had ever offered us. And yet, in the Mac magazines and trades, we saw a glimpse of the future. It went through so many different names and configurations that it was impossible to tell where the ship was heading. All those cool features like true memory management, real multitasking, true plug and play hardware, crash protection for the OS. We wanted

(continued page 51)

Doctor Maclove continued from page 46

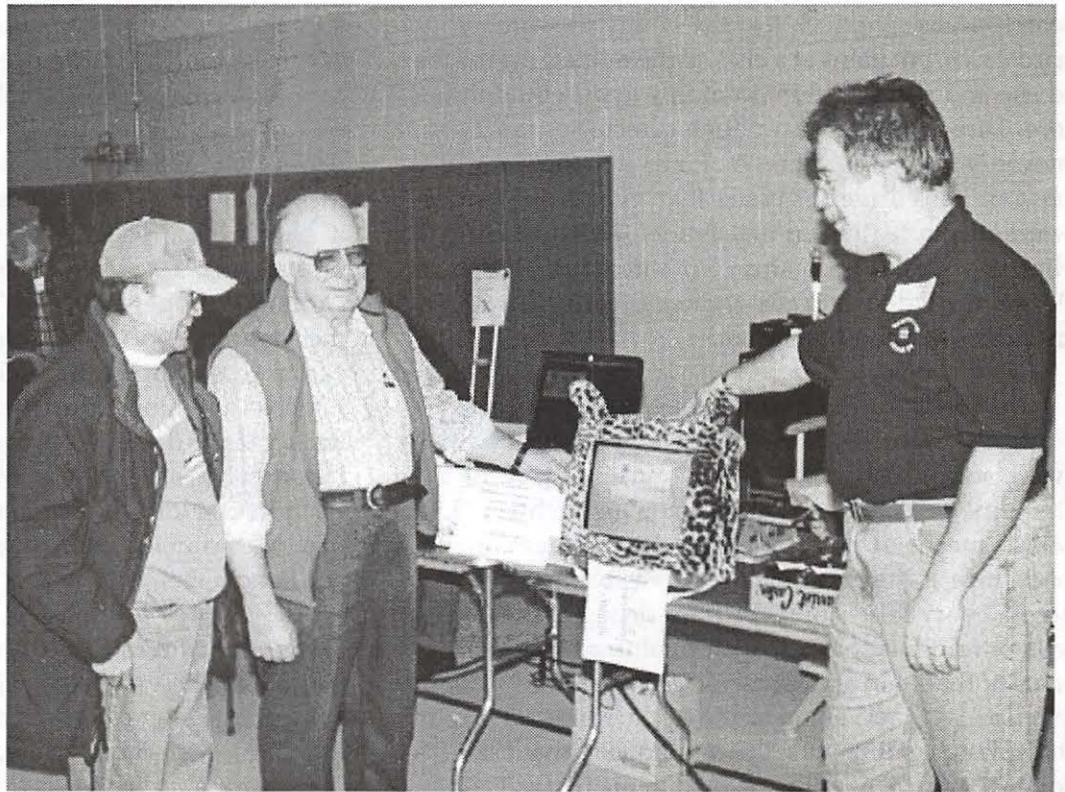
those things. Apple had set the standard by which all other GUI's were judged and in many ways, Microsoft had surpassed us. Finally, after years of teasing us with pretty pictures but no product, an event occurred that brought new hope. A founding father returned. Love him or hate him, Steve Jobs stepped up to the plate and began to clear some deadwood from Apple. New ideas began to flow freely again. Excitement was in the air. As in all change, some decisions were controversial. Others were altogether painful.

The Performa line of computers, gone. The clone makers, POOF! The Newton PDA, out like yesterday's trash. Apple purchased the computer company (NeXT) that Jobs had created after being somewhat unceremoniously dumped years ago. Microsoft and Bill Gates entered into a strategic partnership with Apple AND they also bought 150 million dollars of nonvoting stock. People questioned whether Jobs had lost it. Then it happened. The iMac was released. It was cute, it was powerful, it was affordable, and it was an all-in-one design that made sense. The iMac embraced new technology and dispensed with the old. The floppy drive was officially history. I never realized how little I would miss the darn thing until it wasn't there anymore. The best part? It was only the beginning. Other new hardware designs that were not only functional, but stunning to look at. Just down the road, there were new laptops with amazing feature sets. We also began to see screen shots of the OS to come and for the first time there was

actually some hope of it being released. Utilizing BSDUnix and the NeXT kernel in its core, it was unlike anything we had seen before. All the eye candy and power features we had begged years for and finally, with great fanfare, Apple delivered the original OS X beta for all (that met the hardware requirements) to see and use.

Now after having said all that

I was not an early adopter of OS X. While it was nice to look at, there were not many advantages for me to use it. Almost no software in the beginning and it was so drastically different from what I had been used to that the benefits didn't counter the costs I would have to put out to use it. Not to mention that I only had a beige G3 300 on which X would run painstakingly slow on. Two events happened in relatively quick succession that changed my mind. First, the MacWorld show (that I attended thanks to the courtesy of Apple Pi) allowed me unfettered access to OS X.2 and secondly, picking up for a great price a SuperDrive equipped G4 933 QuickSilver Tower. The tower, for



The Jaguar special edition Mac.

whatever reason, did not have OS X installed, but 9.1. After a bit of soul searching, I went out and got Jaguar (OS X.2). Installed it and began to play. WOW! Everything works as it should. The few OS 9 applications I installed start up flawlessly in Classic mode with very little time lost. Even better, Apple includes darn near everything for almost any type of computer need. iApps galore! iPhoto and a full working version of Graphic Converter takes care of most home digital photography and graphics needs. iMovie, iDVD and QuickTime (though if your doing any serious or not so serious digital video, do yourself a favor and get QuickTime Pro. The ability to save in different media formats alone is worth the price) for your digital video needs. Don't have an Internet account? Included is 30 free days of EarthLink Internet access, an email program called (in a fit of originality) Mail with a spam/junk filter, and yet another iApp called iChat (An AOL instant messaging client clone). iCal for managing contacts and appointments. iSync, a Bluetooth (Yet another wireless standard like Airport, but shorter range and intended mostly for peripherals like printers and PDAs) ready means of sharing information with your various digital devices. iChat, iSync, and iCal are all new for OS X.2. Big changes were also made to the Sherlock search utility. Sherlock lost the ability to search your hard drive, but gains at a click of the mouse, the means to use and search the Internet in ways it couldn't before. Direct hookups to phone directories, auctions, movie listings, and more. As far as searching for files on your hard drive, it's easier than ever. A straightforward search feature in any Finder Window. Double click your desktop icon for your hard drive and voila! A search window is ready and waiting for all your local drives searching pleasure.

He's making a List and checking it twice...

Speaking of Finder Windows, there a new way (well, actually only new if you're using OS X for the first time) of searching through the hierarchy. A "List View" means of going through those folders one by one allows the user to quickly and easily pick your way across every folder on your hard drive. Each time an icon or folder is selected, a new column with the contents of that item appears. While similar in concept to Window's "Start" menu or the Apple symbol in OS 8/9 displaying submenus, this is unique in that it works for every single window opened in the finder. Getting back to square one is as simple as clicking to the left of

the blue scroll bar at the bottom of the window. Select a different folder or icon, and all the columns opened by "List View" in your previous search disappear. An added benefit of List View is the preview element. By single clicking on almost any item, you can preview graphics or pictures, listen to an MP3 or AIFF sound file, even preview a QuickTime movie, all without starting up the parent program that created the original file. How many times have you double clicked a picture or sound file and not realized until it was opened that the file you REALLY wanted was another one. Using "List View", this is almost eliminated. There are many more features of OS X that I haven't touched on, but I'm still finding my way through it. I will say this, after using OS X.2 for almost a month now, I can't believe how easy it is to use and get used to. I never shut my computer down anymore. This used to be an invitation to disaster in OS 9, as a crash would occur at the most inopportune time. OS X has not crashed on me once. Not a single time. Individual programs have had (as always) some problems yes, but the OS X just keeps on going.

Not for everyone

Obviously, OS X is the future of the Mac. It is arguably the finest and most modern operating system in existence today. Should everyone jump in his or her cars, hit the Batmobile turboboost and go to their nearest Apple retailer and buy it? Not on your life. For many people, OS X will forever be an unattainable dream. Maybe the hardware they use and love won't support it. Maybe the applications they use and are used to will never be X ready. Maybe they prefer OS 7-9 and shout "Young Whippersnappers!" at all the people touting the advantages of OS X. Unlike the PC world, using an earlier version of the Mac OS doesn't leave them grasping cold and alone toward an uncertain future. If being a member of a Macintosh user group has taught me anything, it's that all are welcome at the Apple table. For however long the users of prior Mac OS's keep their machines running, someone at Apple Pi will be willing to help them. ■

*(The author currently has 6 computers at his house. A 933 QuickSilver Tower, two beige G3/300s, a Umax C600 clone, an APS M*Power clone, and a PowerBook 180. His long-suffering wife (A HapKiDo black belt) is no longer threatening divorce if he brings another computer into the house. She IS however threatening bodily harm)*

How to securely set up a home Wireless Access

by James Kelly

What does secure mean?

UNLESS YOU have an almost unlimited budget, like the Pentagon, you probably don't have enough money to make your network impregnable.

Secure means that you've taken just enough precautions to make your network difficult enough to break into that the bad guys pass you by and choose an easier target (or "lower hanging fruit").

The harsh reality is that the Wireless protocols 802.11b and its encryption protocol WEP or Wireless Equivalency Protocol, are not secure at any key length, even 128bit. The reasons for this go beyond the scope of this article. Refer to the additional readings section for additional information.

Okay, the Internet's a dangerous place and wireless networking is insecure, now what? The answer is be aware of the dangers and make use of the tools you already possess. If you do that you'll be in a better position than 90% of the internet users out there.

Security is nice but I have nothing of value to anyone else why should I take the extra steps? Well, there are several reasons.

First, a bad guy could use your network to attack another target, say www.whitehouse.gov. When the Secret Service traces the attack back....and they will...they will trace it back to YOU. YOU will be blamed.

Secondly, the bad guy might be looking for resources on your network like credit card information, unprotected file shares, etc.

Finally, you've paid for that broadband access why should your next door neighbor leach off of your connection and surf the web for free?

Given the above reasons, good security represents peace of mind. Good security also means knowing what you can safely do what you can't safely do over your wireless connection.

Reasonably ok things

It's probably ok to surf to ssl protected websites like Amazon and buy things. Here you are protected by the application level encryption that ssl or https affords you.

Connecting to a remote network via ssh or scp is also ok. Again you are protected by the application level encryption that ssh offers as apposed to the insecure WEP encryption built into wireless networking.

Bad things

Sharing printers or directories or hard drives over wireless connections. Cracking WEP keys is trivially easy to a skilled attacker. Once the keys are cracked, all of the traffic over your wireless network is readable including the passwords you send over this connection to access shares. If the bad guy can listen, he knows what you know including your passwords.

So what is the lesson here? When you need ftp or shared directory access to one of the Macintoshes on your network, turn it on, use it, THEN TURN IT OFF. Do not leave it on.

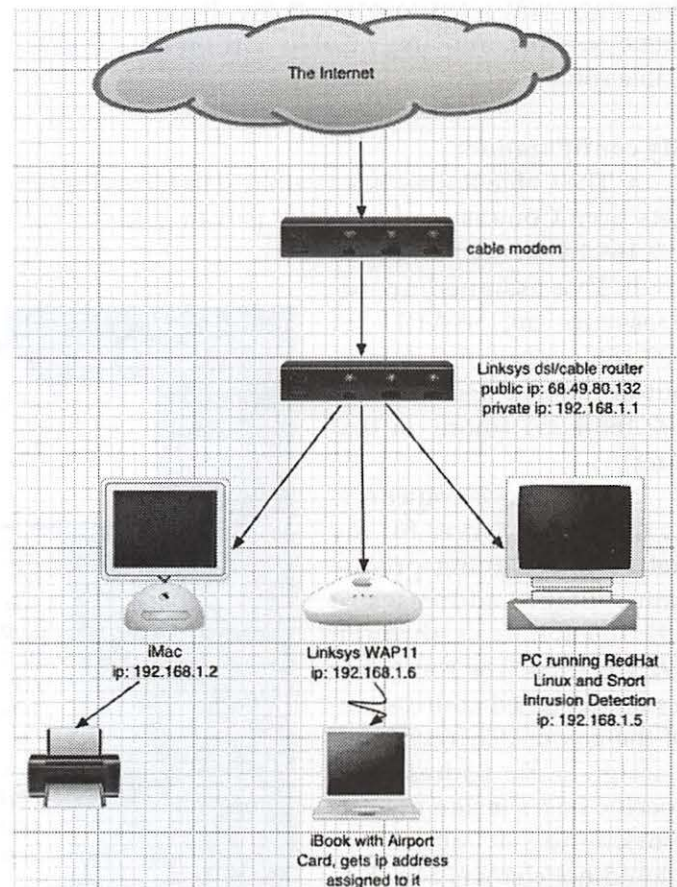


Figure 1.

My gear:

- Comcast cable internet account (substitute your broadband account)
- Toshiba cable modem (came with account)
- Linksys Etherfast Cable/DSL router (8 port model)
- Linksys WAP11 Wireless Access Point (Hey why not an Airport? Because Airports cost \$300 and this model cost me \$105 at www.outpost.com)

My setup:

—Internet —>Toshiba Cable Modem—>Linksys Cable/DSL Router—>Linksys WAP11
 Simplified diagram of my network (See Figure 1.)

In addition to the protection that my dsl/cable router affords me, I also protect my iMac with host-based firewalling via Brickhouse and the built in firewall IPfw in MacOS X. I also run snort on another computer on my network to monitor for intrusion attempts.

I make a wireless connection to the WAP11 with an iBook with Airport card. For the initial configuration stage you want to connect the iBook into your home network into an available port on the Linksys Cable router.

My configuration:

- The Cable Router has a public IP address that it gets from Comcast and a default private address of 192.168.1.1 on my home network.
- I've assigned an address to my WAP11 of 192.168.1.6 but the default out-of-the-box IP address is 192.168.1.251 (more on that later).
- My Linksys router acts as the DHCP server for my network, assigning private non-routable addresses of 192.168.1.100 through 192.168.1.254. The router has a static assigned address out-of-the-box of 192.168.1.1 and I assign static addresses to specific boxes inside my network who's IP addresses should not change. My iMac has a static IP since I fre-

quently ssh to it from work and I've assigned a static IP to the WAP11. Note Linksys also sells a version of their wireless access point with a built in dsl/router and (or) switch. I prefer two separate devices rather than an all in one model since it allows me to simply unplug the wireless portion when I'm out of town, leaving the internet connectivity up.

Initial configuration:

- Plug the WAP11 into an available port on the cable router.
- Open a web browser on the iBook you've connected to your network and enter the WAP11's default IP address of 192.168.1.251 into the url field.
- Use a default username of no username and default password of admin (you will change these later)
- Since my Linksys router has a built in dhcp server and hands out addresses starting at 192.168.1.100, I want to set the WAP's address to an available lower address of 192.168.1.6 to avoid address conflicts with my other internal computers that I've hooked into the router. Select the "Select an IP address" radio button and enter it.
- Change the AP Name: from Linksys WAP11 to something less obvious. No need to let the bad guys know exactly what gear you have.
- Change the SSID: from the default to something that will give away little info to the bad guys. When you are done, click apply at the bottom of the page. (See Figure 2.)

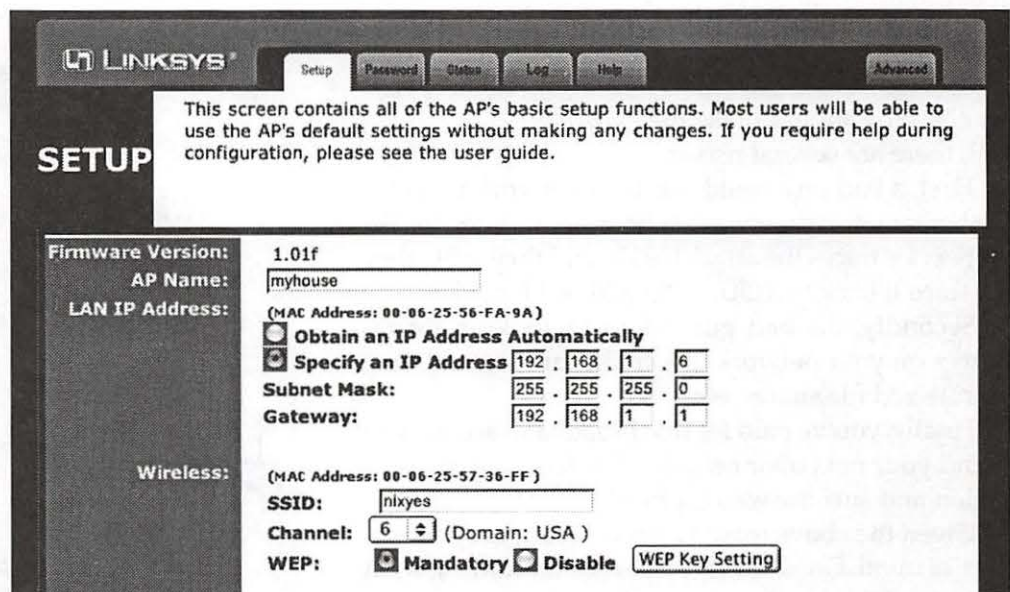


Figure 2.

g. Where it says WEP select "Mandatory" and then click the "WEP Key Setting" button and the below window will open. (See Figure 3.)

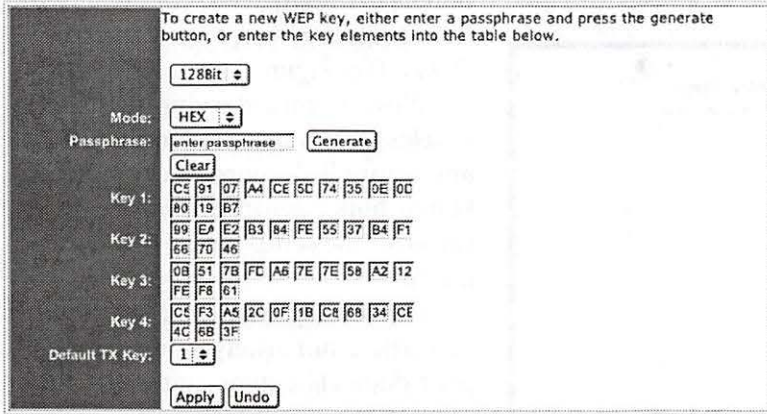


Figure 3.

h. Now select 128Bit at the top pull down window Under Mode select HEX

Why am I hassling with hex? Hex is a pain.

Because the password or hex is passed unencrypted and by using hex you make the bad guy's job just a little bit more of a pain. You raise the difficulty bar for the hacker.

Enter a pass phrase and hit "Generate" Then click Apply button. (See Figure 4.)

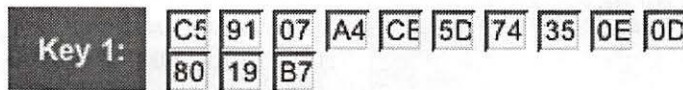


Figure 4.

Now look at Key 1 the hex continues onto the second line so it is:

C5 91 07 A4 CE 5D 74 35 0E 0D 80 19 B7

Note the space between the character pairs.

Note this is case sensitive so these are capital letters only.

Note 0 means zero not Capital Oh.

Note: Apple Support Note 106250 advises:

Hexadecimal - precede the string with a dollar sign (\$). For example: \$123456789a

Ignore this. Under 10.2.2 just enter the hex as I indicate above.

When you make your first connection from the iBook via wireless you will select the essid you've assigned and select hex from the pull down menu and enter this Key 1 in the box following the Notes above. Your iBook will then store this key for future connections. You might also check the box asking about storing the password in keychain as well.

Caveat: WEP allows for up to 4 hexadecimal keys. The cautious user may select and use any one of them. Changing the key you use frequently gives you an extra tiny degree of security, not much, just some. Unfortunately Windows 2000 allows you to store all four keys and rotate between them, but MacOS X doesn't seem to allow you to store more than one of the four keys. Again, this is a small edge, but when you're not the Pentagon, every small edge counts.

Next select the Password tab and change your wpa administrative password...remember it. Click Apply. (See Figure 5.)

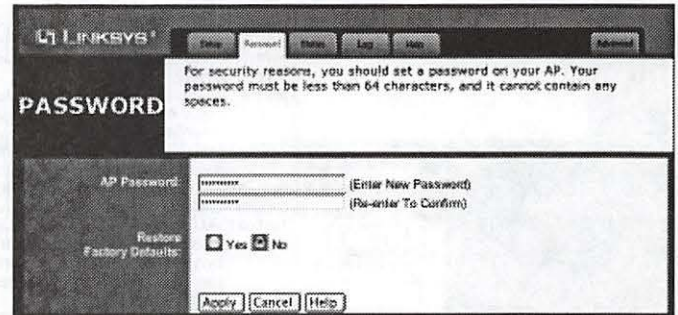


Figure 5.

Now you want to select Advanced tab then Filters tab. Here you want to limit access to the mac addresses of just the machines you want to access your wireless network. (And thereby exclude folks driving by in their cars.) (See Figure 6, next page.)

Notice I determined the mac address of the iBook by opening the Terminal application in Applications—>Utilities—>Terminal and did this command:

```
ifconfig -a <return>
```

The Wireless card is en1 and right beside the word "ether".

You want to use the mac address without the colons so you want to enter 00:30:65:1b:cf:89 as 0030651bcf89

The Mac address is unique to every computer so

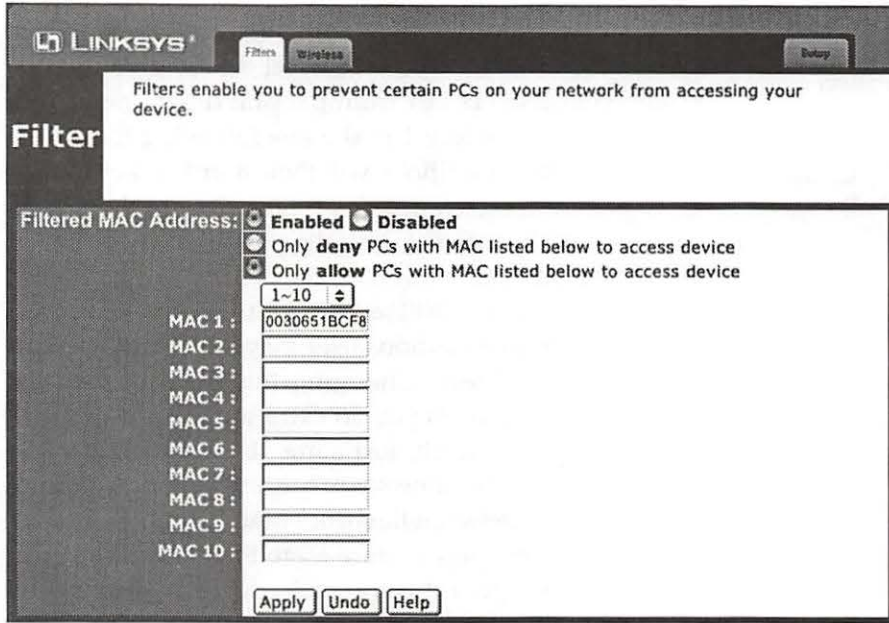


Figure 6.

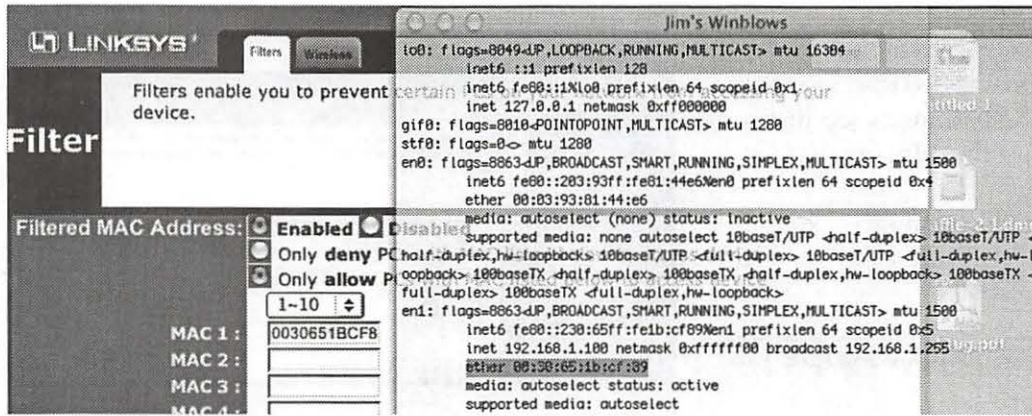


Figure 7.

yours will be different from mine. Its not mac as in macintosh, but it is a unique hardware address burned into every network connection on every computer. You also want to click the radio buttons: "Filtered Mac Address: enabled and "Only allow PCs with MAC listed below..."

You should enter the mac address of every computer you are permitting to access your wireless network as I've explained above-with no colons. The reason why you do this is to prevent the bad guy, parked outside your house/apartment building from accessing your network. Remember wireless signal can travel up to 300 feet or more.

As usual when you are done click Apply. (See Figure 7.)

Under the Wireless tab: Don't touch any of these settings. For example if you disable SSID Broadcast as I have in the picture below your iBook won't be able to find the WAP and your wireless connection won't work...so DON'T DO IT. (See Figure 8.)

Now if you are trying to integrate wireless into a small business network and want a little more security than the above home setup offers you might consider the setup next page. (See Figure 9.)

Firewalling is beyond the scope of this article, but briefly a firewall is simply a dedicated computer with a minimum of three network cards:

Public interface: connects to the internet, sometimes called the WAN port on a Linksys

Private interface: connects to your protected network

DMZ (de-militarized zone) interface: here is where you'd hook in your wireless access point.

The basic idea behind this setup is that the firewall would be able to apply a different set of rules to the DMZ subnet, and thereby limit the damage an intruder could do to computers on the private

subnet.

Idea: a firewall is a perfect re-use for that old 8500 powermac you have in a closet somewhere...just stick two more pci network cards in it, install MacOS X on it with a copy of Brickhouse (http://personalpages.tds.net/~brian_hill/brickhouse.html).

I will go into firewalling in greater detail in a future article.

Finally, I strongly suggest you take a look at at least some of the articles in the additional reading section.

Funny story: While writing this article, I unplugged my Linksys WAP11. I then booted my iBook and found that despite unplugging my WAP, I WAS STILL ABLE TO CONNECT TO THE INTERNET...using an IP ad-

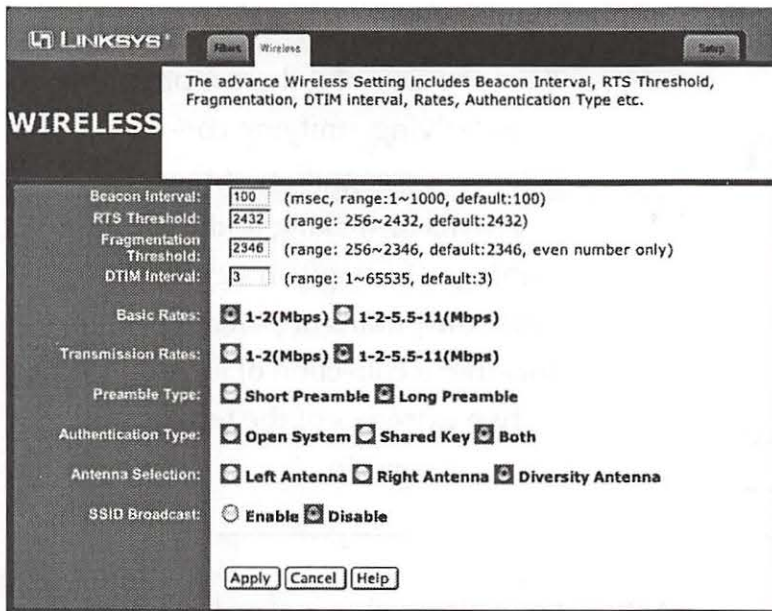


Figure 8.

dress not on my network. I didn't have to leave my basement. I didn't have to do anything at all except boot my iBook. I'm thinking I was on the network of one of my neighbors, but which one? ■

Additional reading:

The Unofficial 802.11 Security Web Page
<http://www.drizzle.com/~aboba/IEEE/>

Unsafe at any Key Size; An analysis of the WEP encapsulation, Jesse R. Walker
<http://www.netsys.com/library/papers/walker-2000-10-27.pdf>

Your 802.11 Wireless Network has No Clothes, William A. Arbaugh et al
<http://www.cs.umd.edu/~waa/wireless.pdf>

The Definitive Guide To Wireless WarX'ing by Slayer

I give you three guesses how this guy spends his weekends.
<http://www.kraix.com/downloads/TDGTW-WarXing.txt>

Apple Airport Security
 Basic Airport security tIPs.

<http://world.std.com/~reinhold/airport.html>

Brickhouse
http://personalpages.tds.net/~brian_hill/brickhouse.html

also available on racker.com"
www.versiontracker.com

Jaguar also includes a gui-frontend to IPfw that you might prefer to Brickhouse, and there are other firewall alternatives as well such as Firewalk, Impasse, and others. Do a search for "firewall" at www.versiontracker.com

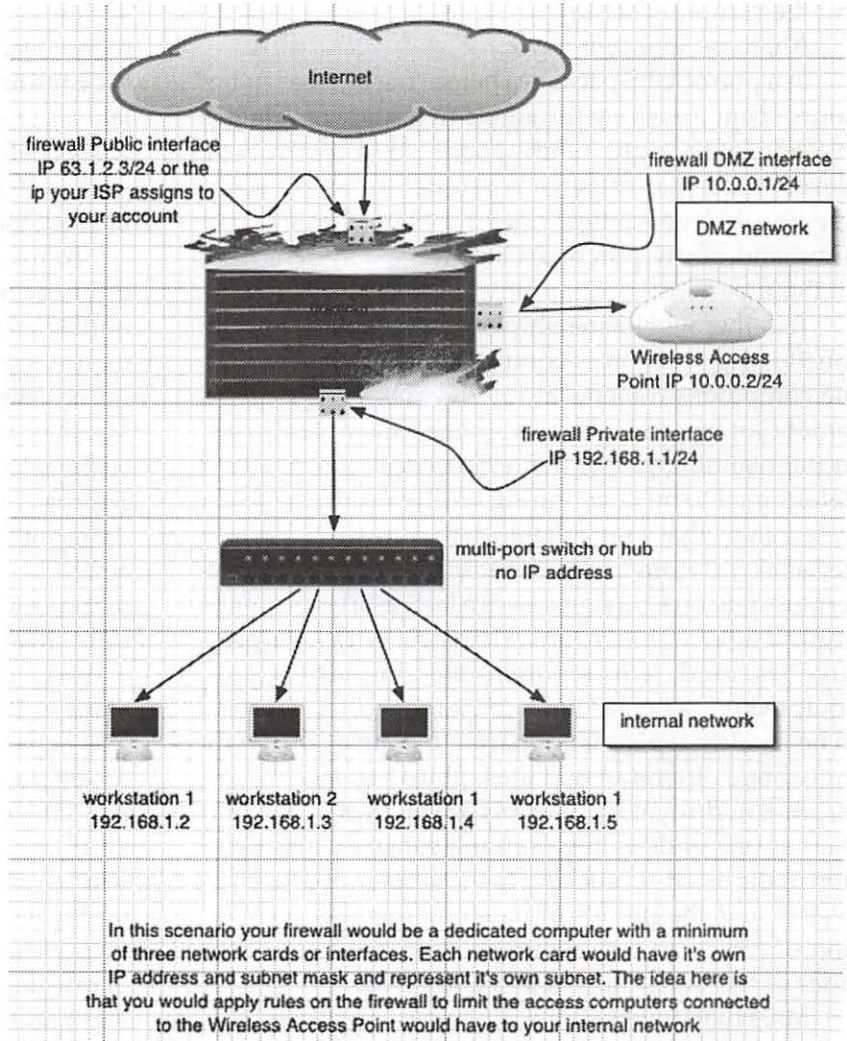


Figure 9.

What am I Doing with a Computer, and Who Cares?

Part Two: Now You Are Mine

by Cheryl Parker

IN LATE FEBRUARY of the year 2000, Hummingbird Press had at last acquired all the components for what was, in my estimation, the u-l-t-i-m-a-t-e computer set-up.

Ah, those innocent days!

In a pile of UPS packages before me lay the fruit of hours spent thrashing through a mountain of catalogs in search of the right bundle and the best combo deal. Never mind that catalogs continued to arrive daily, bursting with new temptations; now it was time to take command of my purchases and forge a system from all those parts.

Together with ownership of long-obsolete, but still functioning, letterpress equipment, involvement with the computer problems at my day job, even as just a remote set of hands, had toughened me for this task. In the planning phase, that experience had made me determined to buy everything I really needed *new*. Let me explain what a remarkable departure this high-tech decision was from my basic nature. In my low-tech letterpress persona, buying new is a last resort, postponed until all other resources are exhausted. With letterpress supplies, used items represent the glorious "original equipment," whereas new items most often turn out to be shoddy replacement parts. In spite of the seemingly huge difference in philosophies between my letterpress and my computer personae, in the core of it there *is* one underlying, unifying constant: a recognition of the merits of sticking to the vintage of any given system and the pitfalls of patching together a collection of junk – two extremes of the tech world – two sides of the same coin – Jekyll and Hyde.

Ms. Hyde followed the directions, and soon, with my G-4 humming, I was ready to select a screen name.

"...in the core of it there *is* one underlying, unifying constant: a recognition of the merits of sticking to the vintage of any given system and the pitfalls of patching together a collection of junk – two extremes of the tech world..."

Anticipating little email correspondence other than with my father, I chose a favorite from the many nicknames Daddy had given me over a lifetime, expecting to be the only "Bratina" ever on the Internet. Well, Duh! Having rounded the half-century mark only a few weeks before, I jumped ahead of a few other Bratinas and settled for becoming the one-and-only Bratina50@aol.com.

At my day job, there was Internet access, but I had dutifully not explored the fun aspect of the w-w-web until I had my own connection. Now, true to my thrifty nature, I made a noble effort to use all of my 800 free introductory hours. A month later and sleep-deprived, Ms. Jekyll received a phone call from a past wedding customer who would soon need birth announcements. She really didn't feel up to the drive over from Alexandria, but – Bingo! – now we could work together by email. I had spent all that money on a computer primarily for the ability to manipulate text and art, and right away it was paying off in new and unexpected ways. I really had not comprehended what a large segment of the population routinely uses email. Soon it was apparent that even customers who still might not have email at home, preferred to wait for the next working day and find a scanned proof of their letterpress job in their office email rather than driving to my house. Since my dining-room/office was never quite adequate for brides and their entourage, not having to prepare for so many appointments was a huge improvement in my life, and, by email, I was more likely to be dealing with just one person at a time rather than a committee voting in my dining room.

Before I had basked too long in the glow of technological improvement, two problems began to emerge. Firstly, Bratina50 was attracting a lot of off-color spam, which, secondly, made me self-conscious about the nickname. The simple solution was to select a few new screen names for my different personae. I emailed an announcement of the new "business name" to the customers in my address book (who, in response, continue using my "family name"), I set up a "shopping name," and after WAP announced the development of webmail, I was finally able to make use of the neat and prestigious member@wap.org address.

These little successes made me bolder, and I began to cast envious eyes upon the website of a customer and friend who is also a Jekyll-and-Hyde kind of girl.

Leslie's Garden is a thriving business whose owner produces elegant, all-natural, hand-made soaps and markets them at craft festivals and over the Internet. Leslie was savvy enough to stake out the www.lesliesgarden.com domain before some spurious leslie stumbled onto it, and it has been a grand way for her to resupply customers between festivals. Because she maintains a large inventory, this works for her, but I hesitated, not certain how that would work for my on-demand kind of business. In short, by the time a family member offered to help me launch a website for my business, the domain of HummingbirdPress.com had already been claimed.

Of all the available names I have explored, the one that amuses me most is "virtualdingbat.com", but even friends who concede that it might seem appropriate on several levels, suggest that it may, by the same token, be laden with flaws similar to those of the Bratina50 email address. A list of other domain contenders follows:

- cybertype.com
- printess.com
- typester.com
- virtualhummingbird.com
- tonsofsoftype.com
- cyberinklink.com

If some of you members have a comment about these names or others to suggest, please email me at cheryl.parker@wap.org. WARNING: comments and suggestions may appear in the next journal issue. ■

AppleScript Explained

Adam Goldstein, NJMAUG member

SOME OF YOU may remember the "Startup Items" folder of OS 9. For those of you who don't remember, it offered a place to drop files and aliases so that every time your computer started up, it would open the files in the folder.

Unfortunately, the "Startup Items" folder is gone in OS X. However, in this column I'll explain how to emulate this functionality using a small AppleScript.

First, create a new folder in the root directory of your hard drive (usually called "Macintosh HD") called "Login." This is where you'll put all the files you want to open when you log in next time.

Next, open up Script Editor (you might have to do a search for it on your hard drive). Now, type in the following lines:

```
tell application "Finder"
    open every file of folder "Login"
end tell
delay 2
say "All files opened."
quit
```

This tells the Finder to open every file that is in the "Login" folder, wait a couple seconds, speak the words "all files opened," and quit.

Now, choose File-> "Save as Run Only...". Choose "Application" from the popup menu in the window. Now name the file anything you want, and save it anywhere you want EXCEPT the "Login" folder. If you save it in the "Login" folder, the script will execute itself and everything inside the folder forever! The only time you might want to use this is as an April Fool's joke.

Now, open up System Preferences (in your Applications->Utilities folder). Click the "Login" button. Choose the "Login Items" tab on the top of the window. Click the "Add..." button, find the script you just saved, and click on "Open."

Whenever you login now, every file in your "Login" folder will open.

Please note: if you have multiple users, you will need to set the script to open as a login item on all your accounts. Also, if you ever want to log in without all the files opening hold down Shift after you log in (or, if your computer is automatically set to log in, as your computer starts up). This will also keep any of your other login items from opening. ■

Adam Goldstein is a programmer who works mainly in AppleScript. A new version of his most recent shareware program, Perlidex, is available for free download at: <http://homepage.mac.com/goldfish1/Perlidex.html>

From *The MAUGER*, newsletter of the North Jersey Mac Apple User Group, Inc., October 2002.

Review:
Hemera Technologies:
The Big Box of Art (\$69.99)
and Photo-Objects:
Volume I (\$99.99)

By Rich Lenoce, CMC Secretary

WHEN I HEAR the term clip-art, I think of terms like "uninspired," "repurposed," "cheesy," and "amateurish." Nothing could be further from the truth with Hemera Technologies Big Box of Art and Photo-Objects collections for Macintosh. Words I'd use to describe them include "spirited," "inspired," "creative," "professional," and "stylish."

Perhaps the bad reputation of clip art libraries comes from that horrendous collection that comes with Microsoft Word or the \$1.99 clip art and photo CDs found at Staples on a spinning metal rack. The graphics folks at Hemera seemed to have studied all the things we hate about clip art and image libraries, and produced a product of truly exceptional quality.

The Images

This just isn't a collection of poor vector art and 30 year old pictures, but the two Hemera image libraries I tested are complete packages of sophisticated art work that have much in common with far more expensive professional stock libraries and other professional level services.

The art itself can't be compared to any other packaged collection. The first thing that strikes you is that it is more than just images—but images with style.

Designers at every level aren't just looking for representational art, but art that's stylish and captures a mood and feeling; they look for art that has texture, shape and color that can be integrated into an over all design. In the past, professionals have tended to skip over image libraries and purchase directly from professional stock art libraries where they must either pay an expensive per image cost or subscribe to the service. Professionals will find Hemera's products fill a void offering high quality at a very affordable price. Even Hemera's most basic drawings and photos offer a level of expression and artistic rendering beyond what we've come to expect from an image library.

Images on the CDs are compressed but once opened they are crisp, clean and import easily into all graphics, video and multimedia programs.

In the Big Box of Art there are 215,000 images including 110,000 vector images, 40,000 professional photos and pre-masked photo-objects, 51,000 images prepared for the web, 1,500 animations, 500 photo-font textures and 10,000 raster illustrations.

Searching for an Image

The cataloging software that must be installed to access the images is a real marvel, making searching and finding the perfect image a snap. The least expensive image libraries stuff images into nondescript folders with names like Nature and People, requiring you to use an image browser which can be tiresome. And because so many images are stuffed into folders, opening a folder often crashes most software. More expensive collections reference their CDs using poorly organized reference books with thousands of pages; hours of leafing through such a book can be frustrating. Hemera has solved this problem with a Sherlocklike search engine.

The search and catalog software is included on the first disk and is easy to install and use. Merely enter key words into a search window and you'll see a listing of files names that match your search, image type,

a description, an image preview and the number of the CD the images are stored on. Like any good search engine, you can narrow your search in several different ways. Considering all of the information and previews it must sort-through and display, this is a very fast and accurate application that runs in both OS 9 and OS X.

The collection also comes with a beautifully printed book as an additional reference tool but I found the search engine to be so good that the book was unnecessary. I know many people would rather go through the Land's End catalog then the Land's End web site—it's a matter of taste. I just found the search application to be so good and so fast that I was able to find the right image for a web page I was working on in only seconds rather than having to leaf through a book.

My only criticism with Hemera's Big Box of Art is that currently only the 215,000 image collection is available for the Mac; the 315,000 and 615,000 collections are for the PC only. However, except for the professional who really needs an extensive library, 215,000 images really covered all the bases. Hemera offers several on-line image services geared to those

"Perhaps the bad reputation of clip art libraries comes from that horrendous collection that comes with Microsoft Word or the \$1.99 clip art and photo CDs found at Staples on a spinning metal rack."

people. All Photo-Objects products are available for both Mac and PC.

At last year's Macworld Expo, I purchased a competitor's collection of 525,000 images and paid double the cost of The Big Box of Art. There is no comparison between the two. I've found more images isn't the answer to finding the right image for a project; it's the quality and ability to find an image that make a collection usable, and Hemera's software does both. Whether you are creating a greeting card for a friend,

building a web site or are a professional graphic designer looking to reduce your reliance on expensive stock services, at \$69.95 and \$99.99, The Big Box of Art and Photo-Objects are the one and only image collection you should own. ■

From the October 2002 *Connecticut Macintosh Chronicle*, newsletter of the Connecticut Macintosh Connection, Inc.



Waiting for customers.

Someone With a PC Sent Me a File How Do I Open It?

By Rich Lenoce, CMC Secretary

THAT'S THE BIGGEST complaint of any Mac user. There is this myth that Macs can't open PC files. In fact, we are probably the only platform that can open all kinds of files: PC, Mac, Amiga, Unix, TRS-80, you name it... we can open it! Following these simple steps should open most any file.

STEP ONE

Is the file compressed?

Many people compress files before attaching them to email. This "Stuffing" (a Mac term) or "Zipping" (a PC term) reduces the size of the file being sent without losing any of the data. Compressed files may end with a .zip, .sit, .hqx, .img, .tar, or .gz file extension. Double clicking a compressed file while still attached to the email launches Stuffit Expander which then decompresses the file back to its original size and places it on your hard drive. The file can also be decompressed by dragging it over the Stuffit Expander icon.

STEP TWO

Getting the File to the Desktop

If the attached file is not compressed, you'll still need to move, copy or save the file to the Desktop or hard drive. Some email clients, like OS X Mail, require you to drag the file icon in the email message to the Desktop. In other email clients, clicking and holding the mouse button causes a Contextual Menu to open that will give you choices on what to do with the file. Check your email client's Help file to see how to save an attachment.

STEP THREE

What Kind of File is It?

PC file types can be identified by their file extension. The file extension is the three letters after the dot

in a PC file name such as wordfile.doc or photo.jpg. Files can be divided into two broad categories: executable files, called applications, and data files that are created and opened by applications. Most PC applications have a .exe extension. These require the Windows operating system and an Intel processor to run, and won't run natively on a Mac. Connectix's Virtual PC can open PC applications by emulating a Windows PC but costs over \$150. VPC may not be worth the money to discover you've been sent a PC version of Pong! Most people will be sending you data files. DataViz's MacLink Plus will open many PC files without the original application but at \$100, this again may not be worth the expense. Luckily, most PC files can be opened on the Macintosh using built-in utilities or freeware/shareware products.

STEP FOUR

Double-Clicking

Double-clicking a file will open the file if it was created with a PC version of an application on your Mac, or if the file extension matches a built-in list of extensions and corresponding applications. This list is maintained in OS 7-9's PC File Exchange Control Panel and can be easily updated. OS X doesn't need this list because, like a PC, OS X's Unix operating system uses file extensions to keep track of file types and associated applications regardless of platform. By default, Mac OS X file extensions are hidden. To see Mac file extensions in OS X, select Finder>Preferences>Always Show File Extensions. If double-clicking the file causes an error to be displayed that states that no application can open that file, then the OS doesn't have a corresponding application in its list and may ask you what application to open it with. If you knew that, you wouldn't be reading this article, so on to Step 5.

STEP FIVE

What does the file contain?

To help you decide what tool might work to open the file, it may help to know what the file is. The easiest way is to ask the person who sent it. If that doesn't work, [whatis?.com](http://whatis.techtarget.com) has a complete list of every file format at <http://whatis.techtarget.com>. This list will tell you what software created or uses that file, or what the file contains—audio, video, text, animation, etc.

STEP SIX

Get these free applications to open files

Here are some free applications everyone should have on their Macs that are indispensable for opening files. AppleWorks (free with most new Macs, or \$60): AppleWorks is a powerful application for opening and converting PC files as it contains a special version of DataViz's MacLink Plus built into the program. AppleWorks' built-in translators for word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, database and graphics make it ideal for opening Microsoft Office files and files created using Adobe graphics programs. If you don't own AppleWorks and don't feel like spending the \$60 to open MS Office or AppleWorks files, two programs from Panergy are available, icWord and icExcel. Both are available for \$19.95 each or as a package for \$30 from www.icword.com. Microsoft Internet Explorer or Netscape: Web browsers work by opening and displaying the many file types that make up a web page. These include .jpg, .gif, and .png, as well as text and multimedia files. Many file types such as Flash animations (.swf) will only open in browsers. Just drag a file over an open browser Window and, if compatible, the browser will display the file. Apple's QuickTime, Microsoft's Windows Media and Real Media's Real Player: These free applications can open most multimedia files (images, video, audio, animation). Always start with QuickTime because it can open 45 file formats. Check for the latest version of these programs at www.versiontracker.com. Graphic Converter (shareware): This program is the undisputed king of graphics translation. G.C. can open over 160 different file types including those created on long dead computer systems such as Atari, Amiga, and Sinclair as well as those created using obscure PC programs. Graphic Converter comes in versions for both the classic Mac OS or OS X. If you find yourself using the program regularly, please send the developer the \$35 shareware fee. http://www.lemkesoft.com/us_index.html

HINT

A quick and easy way to find out if a PC file can be opened by any of these applications is to drag the file's icon over the application icon. If the application icon highlights (turns gray), drop the file on the icon and it should open.

**STEP 7
If All Else Fails...**

If none of the above applications opens your file, it is probably a specialized file created by a very specific application. To open it, you'll definitely need to know what application created it. Perform a search on versiontracker.com to see if there is a Mac demo version of that application available or a similar shareware program. For example, if someone sends you a family tree created by the PC application Family Tree Maker, it may open in a similar Mac program such as the shareware product MacFamilyTree. If you use the above tools and tricks, you'll find very few files that can't be opened on a Mac. ■

From the October 2002 *Connecticut Macintosh Chronicle*, newsletter of the Connecticut Macintosh Connection, Inc.



A patient young lady reads the new Tuesday Night Clinic brochure.

ArcSoft Funhouse™

Review by Sylvia Rego

4.5 Clicks of 5

Tested on iBook SE using OS X v. 10.1.2 (Jaguar)
[sic]

System requirements: Mac OS 8.6 and higher (including Mac OS X), 200MB of free hard disk space, and a 16-bit color display at 800 x 600.

Order Funhouse at www.arcsoft.com for US\$29.99.

It's never been easier to make funny pictures with photos of your family and friends.

Simply Spoof

TURN ANY image (magazine cover, political pic, Web shot, sports scene, or silly image) into your own customizable spoof. Simply snap, scan, or download your background image and within minutes you're able to seamlessly add the faces of family and friends.

Simply Fun

You can't go wrong! The automated process simplifies the capture, manipulation, and editing of digital images and text. The five simple steps are clearly numbered and labeled down the left side of the screen. By activating the steps only when their time is right, this program stops you from performing a wrong step. These steps let you insert personal photos and text into more than 150 unique image templates which can be easily browsed by categories including cartoons, trading cards, sports, fantasy and more. You could insert anyone's image onto a quarterback's body or a \$100 bill.

- 1-Get Template
- 2-Get Photo
- 3-Fine-Tune
- 4-Add Text
- 5-Print preview

Perfect mask creation

"Mask" out areas of a photo to create your template. The masked area will be transparent so other photos can be placed within. Easy tools and controls let you be precise. Blur tools create effective blends so photos don't look pieced together. Size and orientation tools for positioning inserted photos precisely.

Live image capture

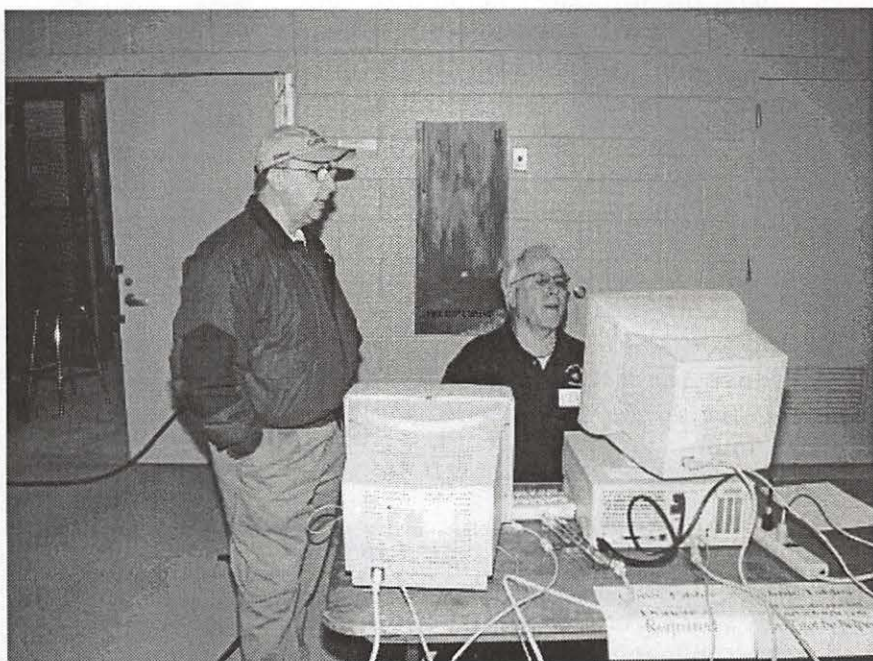
Capture photos directly into your selected template using a connected and compatible video device. With a few clicks, you have a captured photo placed perfectly within a template. Try various facial expressions and head tilts until your face fits just right!

"Match Color" option

Automatically adjust hue and saturation of the inserted photo for exceptional blending. Manual brightness, contrast, and hue sliders are available.

Full text editing

Add text anywhere on your image. Adjust font, size, style and color. Optional shadow can be moved and customized for blur and opacity for an added effect. Easy and powerful. Add catch phrases, slang, funny captions, exciting headlines, or readable "thoughts" in text bubble, cartoon style.



Jim Ritz helps his first customer.

"Turn any image (magazine cover, political pic, Web shot, sports scene, or silly image) into your own customizable spoof. Simply snap, scan, or download your background image and within minutes you're able to seamlessly add the faces of family and friends."

Share your work

Save (JPG, Windows BMP, TIF, PICT), Print (after drag-resize or relocate in the Preview screen), or email your finished work. Create images for special occasions, gifts, or just for fun. Make copies to use as party invitations, to frame and hang, or give as birthday gag gifts. Be ready for the upcoming holiday season.

What? No criticisms??

True to my perfectionist reputation, I could mention that the "Free New Content" on ArcSoft's website is not for Macintosh, the manual is not linked to the ? icon (but who cares—it's the same as the printed copy), the Install directions are for Windows (but who cares—we just doubleclick the Installer), the Print Preview grid does not show measurements, just a page view, there are two 'mystery' icons at top left of window which have no popout text label. They turned out to be OS X's functions of Minimize, and Close/Quit!! Must be a Windows thing! There is no UNDO within a Step! I still give this 4.5 Clicks because it is so simple to use for so many features and applications of it.

A Bargain at Double the Price

I was really surprised at the quality of controls in such an easy-to-use program. Nick's picture [not shown here] was so quick and easy that I wanted to do all the photos! Aren't you glad I didn't have time? By all means, get Funhouse and start having fun, and making enemies of those who have no humor. ■

From the October 2002 *Mountain Macs*, newsletter of the Macintosh Asheville Computer Society.

Multimedia MacBeth

Three actors play 40 roles in live performance

By Barbara Gibson

BEETLES AND BATS, serpents and scorpions, owls and falcons. They all come to life in a mesmerising new stage production of Macbeth, Shakespeare's haunting tale of lust for power and murder most foul. Staged by the Tony-award winning Actors Theatre of Louisville, Kentucky, this Macbeth combines ancient elements of masks and ritual with a kaleidoscope of digital images ranging from satellite photos to shadow puppetry and abstract collages—all created and projected onto the stage using Macs.

This adventurous production also uses just three actors to perform all 40 roles in the tragedy. "The core of the experience of watching Macbeth," says artistic director Marc Masterson, "is its incredible live performances, supported by magical, technological wizardry."

Digital Theatrics

Using digital images to create the environments, objects, and some of the characters, Masterson takes video out of a rectangle and moves it around through space. In early experiments, he says, "we shot into mirrors, onto plastic and different objects to see what kinds of images we could produce. We discovered that we could create a completely different kind of movement than you're used to seeing in a theatrical space. Things can zoom, swoop, move up and down in ways that they normally can't. Placing actors in this environment allows us to tell stories in a powerful new way."

"The other great thing," Masterson adds, "is that all this is affordable now. For the cost of a Mac, some software and a video projector, you suddenly have a whole new language to speak."

Macbeth x 6

A combination of live acting, digital video and rapid changes of masks makes it possible for Mark Mineart to play Macbeth and half a dozen minor roles, including a young boy whose murder Macbeth has ordered. And for Kim Martin-Cotton to play Lady Macbeth and several banquet guests—simultaneously. And for Will Bond to play 13 roles, including Duncan, Banquo, and Macduff.

But how?

This Macbeth begins with a bare stage, equipped with only three large, hinged panels that serve as both front and rear projection screens. In a technology pit—think of an orchestra pit—at the base of the stage, three Power Macs and one iMac feed four Epson multimedia projectors, three at the front of the stage and one at stage rear. “Three operators,” Masterson explains, “use the front projectors like follow spots. They’re visible to the audience in a way that a Bunraku puppeteer would be—always present, moving slowly and deliberately, creating the scenic environment, but you forget that they’re there.”

Hidden From View

Another operator, hidden from view, triggers the digital video and images—for instance, a video of Duncan when he first appears onstage. Posing quietly between the projection source and the screen, the live actor suddenly appears to pop from the video into a three-dimensional world.

The banquet guests are interactive digital images. They’re the same three actors previously recorded against a green screen and projected onto the background so they appear to respond to the live action around them, looking right and left and raising their glasses in a toast. And the ghosts? “That was almost too easy,” says Masterson. “We put a live actor down in the technology pit. He’s wearing a mask, and his image is projected live onto a chair that Macbeth is sitting in. Later, we project the ghost’s image onto a dense column of fog; Macbeth grabs at it and tries to make it go away. It’s a powerful way of creating illusion.”

Multimedia artist Valerie Sullivan Fuchs brought the images to life. Experienced as an artist who projects video onto three-dimensional objects, Fuchs selected the raw material for the video projections and used Adobe Photoshop and Premier to manipulate the images into collages, textures and animated abstracts.

“Using digital images to create the environments, objects, and some of the characters, Masterson takes video out of a rectangle and moves it around through space. In early experiments, he says, ‘we shot into mirrors, onto plastic and different objects to see what kinds of images we could produce.’ ”

Below Stage

Actors Theatre audio engineer Jason Czaja used *Production Designer* by WetElectrics and *VDMX* by VIDVOX to coordinate, queue and trigger the audio and video. *Production Designer* software allows a single Power Mac that’s equipped with a couple of ATI video cards to produce two screens of full television-resolution video. Working just beneath the audience, Czaja also used a video monitor to remotely track action on stage. “In live theatre,” he explains, “you need as much flexibility as possible. You have to be able to adjust the timing of the video in case, for instance, an actor skips a line. No two shows are ever the same—certainly the video is the same, but you have to be able to adjust the timing without slowing the production.”

“The Macs were much more flexible in the end. Once we rendered various codecs in QuickTime—and they played back smoothly on all the Macs—we didn’t have to worry about additional MPEG coding or file transfers to other delivery systems. And keeping all of the components in the computer made it possible for us to replace a file almost instantly. Even though the video footage was created earlier, once you get into a rehearsal hall, those images have to change, we would leave things overnight to render; the next morning, we’d have the entire batch of new video files to play with.”

Scene Change

“We’re actually using the Macs in just about every

aspect of the production, from script discussions that began over a year ago down to the video work we are doing today," Mineart observes. "The sound designer has his iBook, for instance, and he was ripping MP3s of characters who are prerecorded; then we'd load them into my iPod. That way, I could work outside of rehearsal to create the physical movements that I would not be speaking during the performance."

"It's such a logical extension of the technology," Mineart adds, "to incorporate digital video into a live performance, every night, eight shows a week. Many people think about creating, then processing and saving something on a computer. Then it's finished. That's

it. What we're doing is unique in that it's a real dance. The technology is like another character in the play. Some characters exist only digitally. Digital backdrops can change and morph instantly to shift scenes and locations, or to show what is happening psychologically with certain characters."

"This is something that will change the face of American theatre. Digital media gives us a whole new palette to work with." ■

From the March 2002 *Connections*, Official Newsletter of the MacBANG Macintosh User Group.

SketchUp™

Review by Dennis Wilson

SOMETIMES A program's name doesn't give you a clue as to what it does. Think "Toast" or "Acrobat." *SketchUp*, on the other hand, says it all with its name. This is a program for sketching, for conceptualizing, for trial and error.

Often in the process of design, architectural and other, one facet of the design may seem crystal clear in your mind, while how that detail relates to other parts of the design may be a total mystery. It is through a series of sketches that ideas begin to mesh and form a whole... or they may be discarded to make way for other ideas. Design is basically an evolution, built on a foundation of decisions. The heart and soul of this process is the quick doodle, the little sketches that range from the big picture to the most minute detail. Before *SketchUp*, this loose, creative design process was exclusively the province of pencil and paper. Now a new tool has been added. An additional step where the doodle can be refined within the computer environment without losing flexibility or spontaneity. It is the first time, in my experience, that the small design firm has the power of the computer to help at this stage of the process—and at an affordable price.

Not only can you produce quick freehand 3D

sketches with this program, but by using the VCB (Value Control Box) and the Measuring Tool those sketches are accurate in scale. You can actually measure your sketches, whether a building or a drawer pull, and transfer that information to your working drawings.

While on the surface, *SketchUp* may look like a CAD program, it most definitely is not. The program doesn't even have a text tool. CAD programs are highly structured applications that require preconception, they are geared toward producing a perfect end result. *SketchUp* on the other hand is not about preconception. It is about the ambiguous and ephemeral process of design.

And it is so easy to begin sketching. Start with a 2D rectangle or a circle. Rotate it. Pick a tool to pull or push it into 3D. Slice it, punch holes, tilt, carve, stretch until you have what you want. Look at it as a wire frame, or a solid, or transparent. Add color or texture. Drop in windows, doors, people, trees, furniture, etc. Cast shadows. Then roll it around, fly over it, walk through it. You can export your 3D models to AutoCAD or images to rendering programs as either JPEG, TIFF, or PNG files.

Abundant Help...

This is one of those programs that is easier to demonstrate than it is to describe. Perhaps that's why @Last Software chose to include so many QuickTime videos along with the program... over 30 by my count. The videos are great fun to watch and they are inspiring, but in my opinion, they are best used as an educational tool only after you have thoroughly grounded your-

self by going through each step of the written (Help) tutorials and have carefully read about each of the Tool functions.

This program is easy to learn, requiring only a commitment to understanding the basics and a willingness to explore. While it is not complicated or jargon laden like so many CAD programs, there is a lot to remember. And it's seductive. You want to jump right in.

... IF you use it (the help)

You can get into trouble by forgetting that, like any program, there is a learning curve. I was so successful blocking out house shapes and integrating them onto a contoured site plan, along with sloping roadways that I could not understand why I couldn't place a kitchen cabinet against a wall where I wanted it. Frustrated, I finally wised up and returned to the tutorial.

Sketch Up is an OS X application on Macintosh. It is a well written, stable and powerful program—but it has a couple of small quirks. The drawing window doesn't scroll, so if you draw something big your cursor is outside the visual window. You can see the size of the object in the VCB at the lower right, but it's not the same as seeing the object itself. Of course, the way to avoid this problem is to type the size into the VCB and hit return—but don't click on the VCB or highlight the numbers before typing because that causes the program to shift focus away from the keyboard. Yes, that's strange, but it's piddling stuff, which ceases to be a problem once you understand how it works. And @Last Software is currently working on a fix.

Impressive

This is an innovative and exciting program with a high 'WOW' factor which is perhaps why, according to the latest email newsletter from @Last, Steve Jobs and Richard Kerris showed off SketchUp during their KeyNote address at the recent Apple Expo in Paris. Closer to home, after years of using Draw programs to quickly convey ideas in 2D and struggling with

unwieldily CAD programs to get 3D models, I think I have finally found the 'Missing Link' I've needed for so long. For that reason I rate SketchUp as a 5 out of 5 clicks. Note: Thanks to Sylvia Rego for bring this program to my attention; Paul Rego for working his magic to get us a copy for review; Ted Sorrells for the high speed download; Sara Strebe and John Bacus of @Last Software who each gave me assistance promptly and with good humor.

Rating: 5 Clicks (out of 5)

Category: 3D architectural modeling program

Pro: must have design tool, quick learn, uncluttered, great videos

Con: No printed manuals for us page turners

Publisher: @Last Software; SketchUp.com

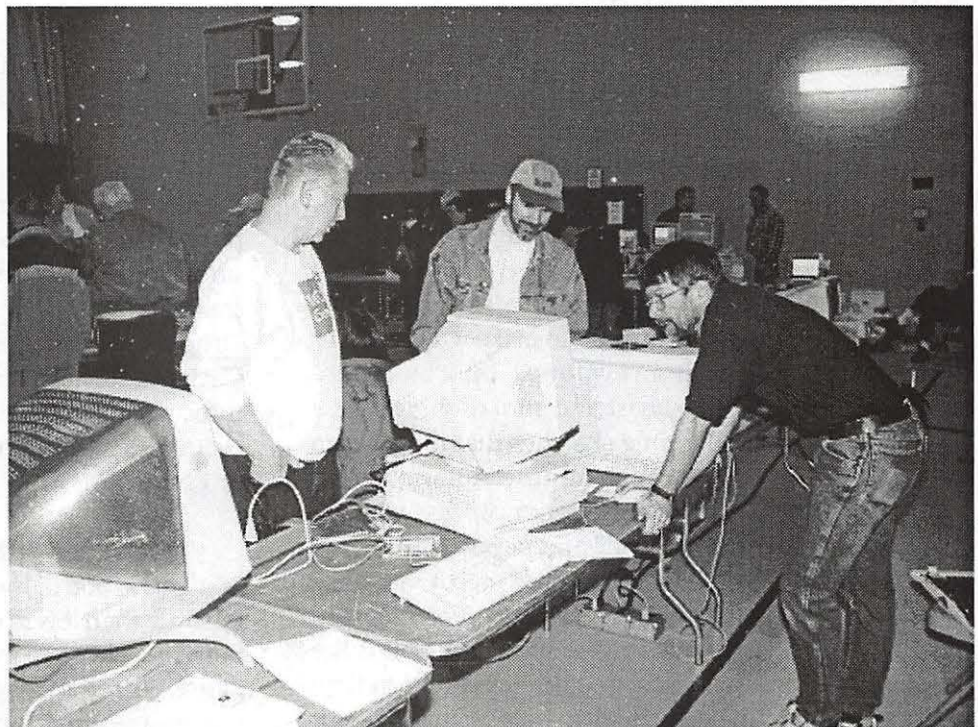
Cost: \$475 online download; \$20 more for the program CD including all videos

Version: 2.1

Requires: OS X

Other: An eight hour trial version... can also be downloaded from SketchUp.com. ■

From the October 2002 *Mountain Macs*, newsletter of the Macintosh Asheville Computer Society.



There were lots of folks who wanted to make sure their new purchases were working correctly.

Review: Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit

by Paul Gerstenbluth
(www.Gerstenbluth.com)

“COOKING WITH My Lean, Mean, Digital Juice Machine” You can your video projects with Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit. Create great visual effects and video edit fast, evenly and completely.

What is Editor's ToolKit?

This is an excellent graphical toolkit for video editors. Editor's ToolKit includes 50 sets of matching animated elements, 50 animated overlays, 50 animated lower thirds, 200 still lower thirds, 250 still mattes, 50 fonts, hundreds of stills. You receive 9 DVDs in all.

Editor's ToolKit Specifications

- 50 Animated Overlays
- 50 Animated Lower Thirds
- 200 Still Lower Thirds
- 250 Still Mattes
- 50 Fonts

Plus...Hundreds of stills in over 20 categories:

- Power Abstracts
- ThemeDrops
- JuiceDrops
- Template Drops
- Bonus Backdrops
- Cool TexturesExotic Paper
- Marble & Granite
- Photo Objects
- Cool Photos
- Bonus Photos includes Washington D.C. area
- 50 Sets of Matching Animated Elements that includes Backgrounds, Lower Thirds and Templates.

New Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit Arrives

The Juicer is animation processing software that is free with Editor's ToolKit. The Juicer provides one common video format that can be converted to all other formats without loss of video quality.

The challenge for Digital Juice. Make the Juicer

work with Mac and Windows computers. Also, make the Juicer works with NTSC and PAL, fields, progressive and alpha channels. Powerful features with the Juicer include batch processing, a preview gallery, time scaling, interface skimming and animation coloring.

Video Eye Candy for the Mind

I had the opportunity to attend the New York City Digital Video Expo. I heard and saw the skilled presenters demo Apple's Final Cut Pro and Adobe Premiere for editing one's video.

The missing ingredients to video editing was Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit. Now, I can visual create a table of contents with Editor's ToolKit and make it easier for my video presentation's message seen and digested by my video audience.

You can even separate the regular video clip from its alpha channel clip with Editor's ToolKit. Also, you can use the alpha clip from a Toolkit element on one of your own to make custom effects. With the Juicer program, you can rendered out with many different codecs. In addition, you can change the timing or speed of the clips, colorize the clips, and batch process them.

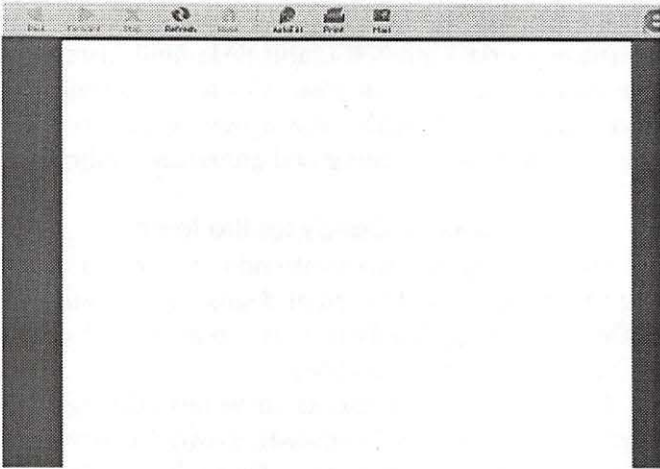
Camera Vehicles

Von Sternberger in the movie Morocco with Marlene Dietrich and Gary Cooper showed how Camera Vehicles were important. Images of a screen character were not built alone from Marlene Dietrich's acting and appearance but out of everything that was cumulatively visible in the film.

Important aspects of filming are lighting, matching scenes, cutting and editing which makes up the creative experience. Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit allows you to use special digital techniques when you edit your video work.

Deserving Your Salute and Respect

The lean, mean Airborne's "Screaming Eagle"s paratroopers took on mission obstacles like jumps at Normandy and Holland during World War II. Editor's ToolKit is there when you need it like the current U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division's Screaming Eagles; both taken on hazardous conditions. After working with Editor's ToolKit, you will find that Editor's ToolKit deserves your salute and respect.



Pro Reaction

Editor's ToolKit works with Avid, Adobe Premiere, Stratosphere and Toaster. Digital Juicer Magazine (Sept./Oct. 2002) points out that Editor's ToolKit work's with Final Cut Pro and DVD Studio Pro. Also, I enjoy receiving Digital Juicer Magazine and reading and applying their creative ideas.

Con Reaction

The Juicer currently doesnot work with QuickTime 6 on the Mac. Use of setting up Editor's ToolKit for Avid, Adobe Premiere, Stratosphere and Toaster are shown only the DVD. A text information file would make it easier to set up and understand instructions for programs that work with Editor's ToolKit.

Final Notes

Digital Juice's Editor's ToolKit is versatile and you will want to use it every working day. Remove fat and sluggishness from your digital videos. Edit all your favorite video projects fast with the incredible easy-to-use Editor's ToolKit. Digital Juice credo is always give the customer the best and most original video products for the right price.

The free Digital Juicer Magazine and Tools for the Creative Professional are available by calling 1-800-525-2203. ■

Introductory Price: \$599.00
 Platform(s): Mac and PC computers.
 Web site: www.digitaljuice.com
 Manufacturer: Digital Juice, Inc.
 1736 NE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34470-4854

Paul Gerstenbluth is President of the ARIE Foundation and is a Macintosh consultant. The ARIE Foundation's mission is to provide VA hospitalized patients with hobby materials and Powerbooks that helps in their stay and recovery.

DoubleClick

by Dave Ottalini and Derek Rowan
 (c) 2002 The Journal Newspapers
 Originally published Sept. 19, 2002

DEAR DEREK AND DAVE, I always learn a lot from your articles and enjoy reading them. The subject column could have been just for my family! I love our digital camera, though I am still working at getting prints as good as I'd like, and have mass quantities of pictures. The e-trans (e-mail, post to a site, etc.) are fine for our most of our family and one child at college. My in-laws, however, don't have a computer or want anything to do with using any computer anytime anywhere under any circumstances. They don't have a DVD player either.

They have been missing out on a lot of pictures (and letting me, as the advocate for the digital camera, know it!)

So I was delighted to see, midway through Dave's answer, the "less technical solution" of recording to a videotape. (My in-laws did get a VCR last year.)

However, I do not have a clue about how I would get the photos from my Olympus C2040 Zoom camera media card onto the videotape. I know how to save them to my hard drive, and make a CD — but how do I get the photos from the media card or computer (I can get that far) ONTO the videotape?

On behalf of my husband, kids and in-laws (who will, after I receive your answer, share a LOT of pix between our home in No.VA and Nebraska) I thank you in advance for any advice/assistance you can provide.

With real appreciation,
 E. Eder Arlington, VA

DAVE: OK students, here's the scoop - in most cases, your digital camera allows you to transfer your digital pictures directly onto videotape. My

Canon GL-1, for example came with a special cable that plugs into the camera and then into the audio and video RCA plugs in the front of my VCR (yours may be in the back). I simply set the camera to "slideshow" mode and then start the VCR recording.

In our readers case, Olympus has provided a similar solution. The C-2040 Zoom is a great 2 megapixel camera. It should also have come with a special cable as part of the package - that is plugged into the "video output terminal" directly above the USB connector. A check of the Canon web site (www.canon.com) says that this camera offers a slideshow option as part of the package (just go into the menu and select it).

From there, its a simple matter of making sure you have a video tape in the VCR, the cables connected and off you go. I would start the VCR first, then the slideshow. You can check to make sure everything is working right (as in making sure your TV is set to Channel 3 usually) by playing the slideshow without recording.

I did that in Europe last summer, by the way. Because the Canon supported both NTSC (US TV) and PAL (European TV), I was able to switch to PAL and then hook up the camera to our TV in the hotel for a great review of all the sights we'd seen that day.

You can also pull these pictures into your computer, enhance them and then play them back out to your camcorder (and then back to the VCR if you like!). Mac users know iPhoto and iMovie make this especially easy to do, along with a program called Graphic Converter from www.lemkesoft.com or Adobe's great Photoshop Elements - now in its 2.0 version (www.adobe.com).

I always need to remind our readers that when film is processed, the developer adjusts the settings automatically to make your prints the best they can be (usually!). But with digital photos, you are the developer and to get the best prints (or on screen displays) you need to run your pictures through Elements or other program to enhance them. Most of these programs adjust things automatically for you which most of the time takes care of things.

Derek what tips do you have for our reader to make sure his in-laws get to see all the great shots our reader is taking with his digital camera?

DEREK: Well Dave, you're right about having to tweak your own pictures. But for me this is part of the fun. Now your digital pictures will all look pretty darn good coming direct from the camera, but with a few simple tweaks you can really make them a lot better.

The biggest thing I've found with digital pictures is that zooming in a notch or two really makes the image stand out. Many of us take pictures *too far away* from the subject trying to get them all in



President Pat Fauquet's daughter, husband and grandchildren even enjoyed the show.

the frame. The picture often looks better if you make it more of a close up of the person rather than their surroundings. Clicking the zoom button makes it a snap. This will also allow you to *move* the image within the frame a bit. You know how sometimes there is a stray arm, leg, or other object in the picture that you really don*t want there? Just zoom in a bit and move your subject so that stray object will no longer be printed. This feature alone will make you a believer out of digital photography. But it is important that you get a camera with enough resolution. While many people recommend a 2 megapixel camera as the lowest resolution, I recommend at least a 3 megapixel. The reason? You can zoom in on a photo and still allow a great 5x7 or 8x10 print.

The other trick is to use your software*s *auto fix* or other similarly named feature to automatically adjust your photos. It is my recommendation however as you get experienced with digital photography that you always leave your photos or at least a copy of them in their original state. You see the more times you save a jpg image, the worse the quality gets. By always having the original, you can make changes to it later and still have a superb quality print.

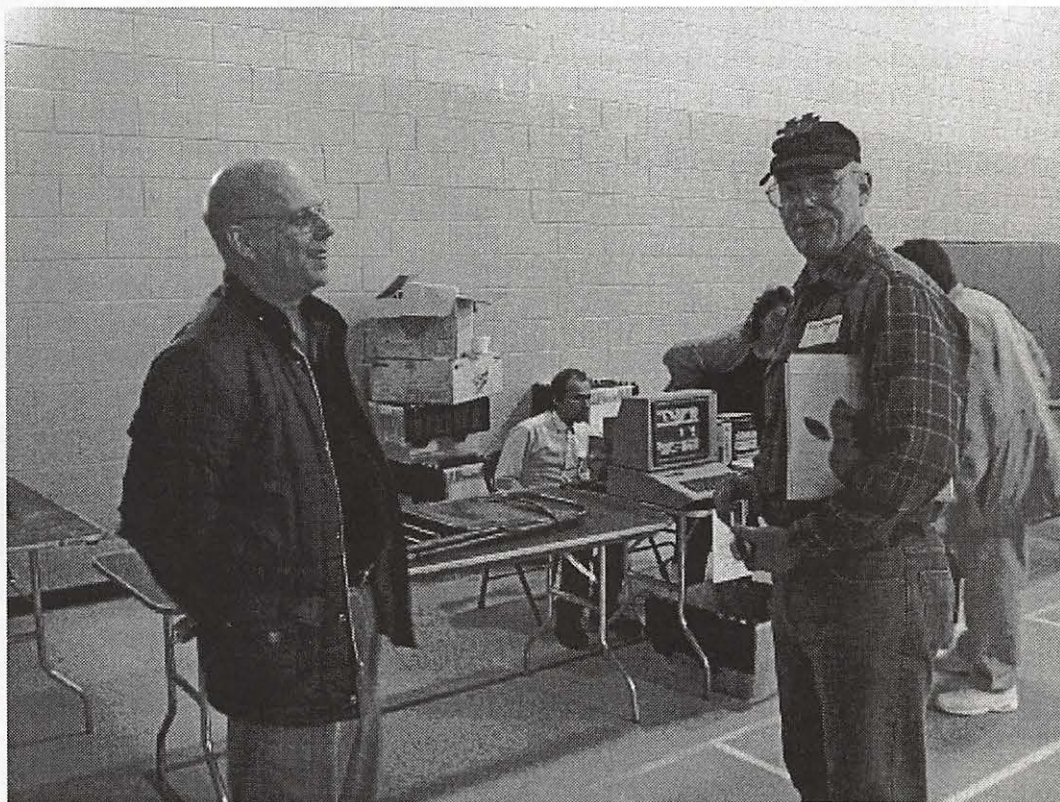
Next, remember to get a good quality photo printer. There are so many to choose from. I personally like the Epson brand. Whatever you choose, make sure you purchase the manufacturer*s paper. Yeah, you*ll pay more, but you*ll get the best prints.

Oh yeah, Dave*s idea of connecting your camera to a TV works! I*ve used my digital camera this way with three different applications.

1. During a training class I was teaching, I photographed many of the events

“The biggest thing I*ve found with digital pictures is that zooming in a notch or two really makes the image stand out. ”

and students and connected the camera to show some of the training in action at the end of class as a critique. 2. My camera, like many others allows me to actually send data to the camera as well as read it. I*ve used this to actually send photographs and small movies to the camera. At family gatherings, I*ve connected the camera to the TV showing the pictures I*ve loaded into it. 3. I*ve even used the camera as a business presentation device at a client site once. I made my Powerpoint slides into images, and loaded them on the camera and displayed them on a TV at the client site. ■



Ned Langston (right) coordinated the December Computer Show and made sure it came off without a hitch.

DoubleClick

Subject: DVD's on PC

By Dave Ottalini and Derek Rowan (c) 2002
The Journal Newspapers
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DAVE AND DEREK: What would I need in a PC to be able to view DVD movies? Is this financially practical? I intend to buy a home computer soon and would like this feature. I'm a weirdo who doesn't own a TV nor do I want one. I can see TV sports events elsewhere when I want. However, I do like watching movies that I've missed in the theaters occasionally. My other applications are basic: word processor, web surfing, e-mail, etc. Would it make more sense for me to buy a video monitor (without TV receiver) and DVD player for this application separately from the PC? If so, where might I find such a monitor?

I haven't seen anything written on this but know from our computer tech at my office that it is possible. Thanks for your guidance.

DAVE: Our reader is in luck because the answer is as close as his Apple store or local Apple Vendor. Every Macintosh computer today (save a low-end eMac) comes with the ability to play DVDs (or even burn them). You don't need anything else. Just put the DVD in the drive and you're off to the races. The new 17" iMac sounds like the perfect machine for you because it provides an excellent viewing experience and no extra monitors necessary.

All new Macs also come with a complete set of software that will help you do exactly what you were looking for. Internet and email of course. AppleWorks for word processing (and other things like spreadsheets and databases), all the iHub programs - iMovie, iPhoto, etc. will be there too. In fact, the new Macs shipping today have the latest version of the OS as well, OS 10.2 "Jaguar" that provides a lot of neat new features (did you read my MacWorld article a few weeks ago?).

By the way, the Macs can all read from and write to PC formatted CDs and Zips (no floppy disks un-



MacWorld New York will be held July 15-18, 2003. Join Washington Apple Pi for this **Fifth Annual Bus Trip**; it will be on Thursday, July 17th. Start making plans now!

less you get an add-on). A great, inexpensive alternative to the Office Suite (which has gotten excellent reviews, mind you - it's just a bit pricey for many) is a program called ThinkFree Office (<http://www.thinkfree.com/>). For just \$50.00 you get a complete suite of applications that rival it's big daddy Office suite. But it can't do some things - like envelopes - so there are some tradeoffs. The good news is, it is easy to use and learn, is available in both Mac and PC versions and offers a lot for the price.

As mentioned in previous columns, Apple has made it pretty easy to make the switch from PC to Mac. Just check out www.apple.com/switch.

Derek, I know the PC world finally woke up and discovered that DVDs were something people might want to watch on their computers. But it's that hand crank that has slowed a lot of folks down, don't you think??

DEREK: Oh you're hysterical.. Hand crank... hahaha...

Uh em. Dave, I can tell that you've never really setup a full movie viewing experience using a Mac. In this instance, there is no way the Mac betters the PC period. However, in our readers case the Mac may be fine. Let me give you the background.

This is one area where I have some pretty in-depth experience. You see Dave, I've built a home theatre in my house. Took a small room the basement and made it a theatre, complete with projector, movie theatre seats, full sound system, shakers on the seats for the lowest of bass rumbles, TVs showing the same content throughout the basement and a few other goodies. What makes the picture? A PC that I built. It handles the DVD playback, the sound passthrough, TV input and more. Now I won't bore our readers about the whys and hows, but the fact is, the Mac cannot do what the PC can in this case. Primarily because the Mac lacks the availability of choice for the main different programs that make all of this work together. For example, the Mac lacks Dolby Digital and DTS audio sound. Now I know the Mac itself and OS X support this, but the DVD software doesn't! In addition, there are only a couple of audio cards that have a digital signal going out (that you would hook up to your sound system). The Mac has trouble doing custom resolutions which is a necessity when connecting to an external projector for TV monitor. Why would you want to do this? Well, if you want a big picture, 17" just doesn't cut it! Many

of our readers may have a larger TV that they want to use their PC's DVD player on. You can with the right software and hardware get a superior picture using your PC instead of a dedicated DVD player. No really, I'm not making this up! The Mac doesn't have a lot of support for Digital Video Interface out, Infrared support (for connecting all of your remotes to components to have your PC control them), software front ends for even easier movie playback, personal video recorder technology and much more that space doesn't allow me to mention.

BUT, that in no way means the Mac or PC, or a Linux box for that matter isn't capable of displaying a DVD movie. In fact, a Mac or PC laptop is a great machine for the road. You can use it as your computer while you travel in addition to having a DVD player with you to! For home use though our reader asks specifically should he use his PC as his DVD player and is it any good, or purchase a monitor of some kind without a TV receiver and a stand alone DVD player.

Long term readers will know my answer. It depends. What is your actual needs for watching a movie? Do you want to be curled up on the couch or sitting in your chair where you normally do your word processing? If you don't mind sitting close to the screen, then your regular PC with a DVD drive in it will work fine. If you want to be further away then of course you'll need some sort of bigger screen. Your choices for a bigger screen are a TV and a projector. While there are monitors out there (such as the big screen plasma screens) you'll probably need to end up with a screen that has a TV tuner if you don't get a projector. If you don't want to watch the TV, then make sure you connect your DVD player to the TV's video inputs and keep the TV set to Video in and don't hook up cable or an antenna. You'll have effectively neutralized the TV tuner.

So my advice boils down to this: If you want to watch the movie while sitting in your chair at the PC, use the PC's DVD drive. If you want to sit on the couch, get a TV and a DVD player.

And most importantly, if you want to really set yourself up with a movie theatre like environment, don't get a Mac! ■

DoubleClick

by Dave Ottalini and Derek Rowan
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DEREK AND DAVE, My questions may be tough to answer since they extend beyond the world of computers and reach into hackers' motivation and the public's legal protections. Here's my story: I recently purchased a new iMac with OS X.2 (Jaguar). I've long used Quicken Deluxe to maintain my financial records and imported my old files from my backup copy. At first the new Quicken 2002 seemed to launch OK. The first window which opened requested my password, as it should. Shortly thereafter, Quicken began launching as if it were being opened for the first time, offering no password request and presenting blank accounts and portfolio windows. Subsequent attempts to launch Quicken might produce either result in what seemed to be a random process of selection.

I connect to the Internet via DSL cable. About the same time I was having my Quicken problem, I noticed that my firewall had been inadvertently disabled. My first question: Does the problem with Quicken sound like a software snafu or might it result from a

hacker meddling in my computer?

My firewall logs attempts at access, sometimes at the alarming rate of several hits per minute. In general, what are hackers' intentions? If hackers do download financial information, can financial institutions be trusted to release funds only to authorized account holders? Finally, if money is distributed to someone other than the account holder, is the victim liable or can he or she be reimbursed? Obviously I'm worried. In addition to your computing credentials, I hope at least one of you is a lawyer.

I enjoy your column and I appreciate any consideration you can give my questions.

—Paul Silverman

DAVE: Sorry, Paul—neither Derek nor I are anywhere near being attorneys but I'm sure we have a reader or two who is and might care to weigh in on that part of your question. So let's take a look at the "rest of the story."

As Derek and I have mentioned in past columns, the best thing to do with any problem program is to



Dan White answers questions and helps direct folks to the best buys.

make sure you have the latest version. Quicken 2002's final version was release 3 available at http://www.intuit.com/support/quicken/updates/qkn_updates_mac2002.html. That said, you might consider just upgrading to Quicken 2003 (\$50.00). I suggest this not because I like making you spend money (the 2002 update is a free download) but because manufacturers like Intuit are constantly finding bugs and other issues (like compatibility with the newest version of the OS) so you want to be sure to have the very latest that's available. Many times that takes care of the problem.

OS 10.2 has a firewall built in, and because you're using a cable modem it too has some firewall protection. The Mac is, frankly, much better at protecting itself from hackers than our Windows friends can say about their platform. But that doesn't mean you still can't have troubles. Hackers are constantly coming up with new and inventive ways to wreak havoc - tho they tend to like Windows users more only because there are so many more of them to pester.

If Quicken is the only program giving you some issues then it's likely a compatibility issue with Jaguar and an update/upgrade will help. You made no mention of any other problems. For example, if you found someone had stolen a credit card number you sent over the Internet and was using it to make purchases, other programs were acting weirdly, etc.. You should also double check all your preferences and other settings to make sure you did not inadvertently turn something off (or on, frankly). IF you double click on your Quicken file, the program should open into it with no problems once you've plugged in your password. It's possible that if you start by opening the program, it doesn't know where to look for your file. Back everything up, uninstall the thing and reinstall it to see if that also doesn't take care of the problem.

Derek, these kinds of problems may be the hardest to diagnose because we're not there in front of the PC to really see what's going on. Hackers are a real problem in our computer world but for some reason, I'm not inclined to think this is something happening due to an outside influence. I could think it's a worm or virus (which it wouldn't be a bad idea to check for) but I haven't heard of much going after OS 10.2 on the Mac.

"I recently purchased a new iMac with OS X.2 (Jaguar). I've long used Quicken Deluxe to maintain my financial records and imported my old files from my backup copy. At first the new Quicken 2002 seemed to launch OK."

DEREK: Dave, I agree. I don't believe there is any *hack* into the Quicken system and believe it is a coincidence. I did some Internet searching and didn't find any problems relating to any trojan horses or anything like this. Of course, this doesn't mean it isn't possible. I believe it was probably a virus or just bad luck. I would first make sure you scan for viruses (which will include many of the hacker backdoors) and are up to date with your virus definitions.

As far as your computer being scanned quite a bit — well, join the club. We all are. There are many people out there looking for ways into your computer system, but if you keep your operating system patched, and have a software or hardware firewall, don't sweat it.

I use a hardware firewall at home and BlackIce Defender software firewall. You can read about Blackice at: <http://blackice.iss.net/>.

DAVE: We always love to get suggestions from our readers - here's one way to track down a noisy computer fan like a reader had recently:

Suggestion to help find which noise is where. Save the center of a roll of paper towels. Put one end (for example) on the CPU fan and your ear on the other end. Repeat for other fans. You will readily find which is whining.

Toilet paper rolls not recommended for several reasons.

—Ed Schwarz

DoubleClick

By Dave Ottalini and Derek Rowan (c) 2002
The Journal Newspapers

DAVE AND DEREK, I have an interesting problem that I can't seem to solve. I have a Canon camera with a Compact Flash card and I have taken lots of pictures of my grandchildren. I have the pictures in the jpg format and through my computer I transferred them to a CDR disk.

My mother in law is 90 with all her marbles but no computer. She would like to see the pictures of her great grandchildren. She does have a TV set.

Is there a device made that she could put the disk in and plug it into the TV and see the pictures? I was told that a DVD player wouldn't do the job.

At this point the only way she can see the 500 pictures (proud grandpa) is: 1- Print them 2- Take the camera to her and play the CF through the camera to her TV set. Requires a visit! 3-Buy her a computer and teach her to use it. Requires patience! 4- Play the CF through the camera to my TV and video tape the pictures. Then have her play the pictures as if it were a

Blockbuster Special. Requires knowing what you are doing! 5-Have my mother in law come up and live with us. Requires headache pills!

If I invite friends over and I want to be the proud PaPa, I have to take them to the messy computer room to see the pictures or play them through the camera to my TV in the living room. Requires feeding them! That would mean that I have to save all the CF cards. The 128 MB is kind of pricey and as you can see I have lots of grandchildren and lots of pictures to take.

Now you can see my limited options and why I am looking for the device that will bail me out.

Thank you for your hopefully successful conclusion.
—Norman Liebow

DAVE —One of the best things I ever did was buy a digital camera (and yes it is also a Canon). I took it to Europe last summer and shot gobs of pictures. Even with some careful planning, I still almost filled up three compact flash cards. Because I had a camera that could show both NTSC and PAL (the TV format in Europe) I was even able to show my family slideshows of what we had done that day. A big hit!

Now comes the problem of our friendly neighborhood digital camera user Norman. All he wants to do is find some easy way to get his pictures into grandma's hands without causing too much of a fuss. He's already thought about some of the many possibilities as

we've seen. But you got some bum advice, Norman! DVD players CAN play CDs. And they can show slideshows you've burned onto CDs (or DVDs of course).

The way you do that is with a PC software package called DVD Picture Show from Ulead. Their web address is at <http://www.softlandmark.com/UleadDVDPictureShow.htm>. The web site says the CDs you produce are compatible with almost any DVD player worldwide and (for a PC program!) offers an intuitive interface that is easy to use. Another company, WebAttack International makes a similar product called tvCD Slide Show Creator. The web address for this company is <http://www.webattack.com/get/tvcd.shtml>.



This vendor won the award for most buttons at the Computer Show and Sale.

Of course, Mac users have known for a long time that the CDs they burned could be played on their grandmother's DVD player. With iPhoto, iMovie and iDVD on OS X, making these kinds of slideshow presentations is easy and you can even add music if you like, special effects and more.

But I still like the less technical solution of simply recording the slideshow your digital camera produces onto a video tape. Quick to produce, it should be also be easy for granny to use and it will keep her occupied for hours given the 500+ photos Norman has.

Derek and I will also try to keep you occupied for awhile Sunday afternoon at the DC Convention Center. Our Q and A session starts at 2pm at the Digital Edge Expo and promises to be a lot of fun for everyone. I hear Derek has a deadpan kind of humor brought on by waiting for scandisk to finish its 17th consecutive run on his PC! So we'll look forward to seeing you there.

DEREK: Hahaha Dave. Very funny — not. While your attempt at PC humor is weak, your advice is spot on. Those are great options for our friend to put his pictures on a DVD. There is another option that he may want to consider that I think would be far cooler and much easier. A digital picture frame. There are a couple of different types of these available. The one that will probably work best for you is from a company called Cevia. It is an LCD screen picture frame that you plug into a phone line. You purchase the \$199 frame and a \$7 per month account for it and anyone can easily send digital photos to the frame that will be displayed either until the next one is uploaded or in a slide show. All you have to do for great grandma, is get her the frame and plug it in. No separate phone number, Internet connection, or PC is required. In the middle of the night the frame automatically dials a local number and downloads any new pictures (and even today's weather if you choose) and then displays them in the style you choose.

You can keep up to 1,000 photos on the Internet account for the frame and the frame itself will hold up to 20 pictures. This allows you to have 20 new pictures displayed on the frame every day! Check it out at: <http://www.ceiva.com/> ■

Federal Penitentiaries Remove Hard Wooden Benches; Apple Sets Them Up in their Stores

WHEN AN APPLE store opened up in my neighborhood last year, I jumped for joy. I visit the store so often, half the time I'm there for no good reason at all. Every time I visit I sit on the hard wooden benches they've set up. To get a perspective on hard wooden benches, I checked in with a friend, Kenneth, who works as a counselor at a Federal penitentiary.

"Just curious, Kenneth, do they have hard wooden benches in Federal prisons these days?"

"Nope, they removed them all several years ago. We found that they hardened the butts of our most hardened criminals. They increased recidivism."

"I see," I replied cautiously. "Would it surprise you to hear that Apple has set up hard wooden benches in all of their stores?"

"Wow, is that so? Are they doing it to punish people? Have their customers done anything wrong?"

"The only thing their customers have done wrong is to walk into a store which sets up hard wooden benches for people to sit on."

"I'm not a technology person by any means, but I would think that a person sitting on a hard wooden bench would go from cheerful to grumpy in just a few minutes."

"Yes, that's right."

"And that they would be less likely to buy an Apple Cinema Display after sitting on a hard wooden bench."

"The 22-inch display or the 23-inch display?"

"I'm talking about the 23-inch display. Speaking as a professional counselor, I would say that a person sitting on a hard wooden bench would be strongly disinclined to buy a 23-inch display. I've also heard that

hard wooden benches were banned in Europe several years ago."

"For what reason?"

"Their negative effect on the economy. Billions of dollars in lost tourism spending."

"Is that so?"

"Yes, and in the most humane European country, Holland, the doctors use hard wooden benches as firewood."

"So you're saying hard wooden benches are a colossal mistake?"

"As big a mistake as the hockey-puck mouse. As big as the Titanic disaster."

"Wait a minute, the Titanic disaster involved massive loss of life. It's not fair at all to make a comparison."

"The losses from hard wooden benches are even more precious than life. Losses in sales."

"I see," I replied. "Did you hear where the hard wooden benches from penitentiaries ended up?"

"Last I heard, Apple bought 'em all." ■

Phil Shapiro The author is a satirist and Mac enthusiast in Arlington, Virginia. He can be reached at pshapiro@his.com and <http://www.his.com/pshapiro/>



The December Show is always the most popular. Traffic was heavy most of the day, despite the rain outside.

Author uses iBook, ViaVoice to Pen Sports Bio

by Dennis Sellers

dsellers@maccentral.com

November 5, 2002 7:00 am ET

TWO YEARS AGO author Steve Moore started a writing collaboration with ABC Radio sports anchor, Johnny Holliday. The result was "Johnny Holliday: From Rock to Jock," a new book written entirely using an iBook and IBM's ViaVoice.

Holliday was a pioneer Top 40 DJ with Cleveland's WHK, New York City's WINS with Murray the K, and San Francisco's KYA during the "Summer of Love." He's also been the radio "voice of the University of Maryland Terrapins" for 24 years, and was the announcer on the "Hullabaloo" TV show in the 60s.

"I transcribed [using IBM's Via Voice] over 200 hours of taped conversations — including 40 interviews with other sports and music celebrities — scanned the photos for the book from his original collection of pics, and submitted the manuscript electronically, all with my iBook," Moore told MacCentral. "Next I used the laptop to set up the Johnny Holliday Web site. During the entire two years on this project, I had ZERO problems with my Mac. It just worked."

Moore is no stranger to the Mac platform. He came to Georgetown University in 1976 to work as a lab technician. In 1984 he helped bring the first Macs into the university (Moore still has his first Macintosh, which still works.) He's been a professional musician — a guitar player — since 1969, and started writing articles about musicians/celebrities in 1985 when his son was born.

"This writing 'hobby' eventually led to co-authoring the scholarly biography of the late actress Helen Hayes (which I wrote on a Mac IIci)," Moore said. "Johnny Holliday asked me to coauthor his book because I had written an article on him for a local newspaper in the mid-80s, and he also knew I did the Helen

"Next I used the laptop to set up the Johnny Holliday Web site. During the entire two years on this project, I had ZERO problems with my Mac. It just worked."

Hayes book."

While writing the Holliday book, he would go to his subject's house once a week with his iBook, do interviews and take notes. But Holliday's home computer, a Wintel system, was constantly giving him problems.

"He'd try to enlist me into helping him troubleshoot it, and I'd always decline, telling him 'this is why I use a Mac'," Moore said.

On the Helen Hayes book ("Helen Hayes: A Bio-Bibliography by Greenwood Press"), he ended up submitting the whole book formatted as "camera ready," and it was published exactly as he gave them the file. The book has been in print for 10 years and the Mac Ici used to write it is still in use at Georgetown University.

In fact, Moore has stayed on at Georgetown, where he's been employed for 26 years. Moore has continued to promote the Mac and support the researchers, many of whom use Macs as their computer, especially in biochemistry. Today, his title is "Director of Advanced Research Computing," and Moore even has his own professional Web site, as well as a personal one.

"I can tell you honestly that most of my success as an IT person is directly attributable to the fact that I chose the Mac as my preference 18 years ago," he said. "It seems like I was always a step ahead of my fellow PC users. The Mac always made me useful to the research community I was hired to support."

Besides his iBook, Moore uses a Power Mac G4 at work. His 15-year-old daughter has an iMac and his 17-year-old son a clamshell iBook. Moore recently got an iPod and said it's the "coolest gadget I've ever owned."

"I have my book and all related notes and interviews backed up on the iPod, and I still have room for nearly everything I can get my hands on by Jimi Hendrix and Frank Zappa (my guitar gurus)," he said. ■

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You Never Forget Your First Love The Apple ///

By Jeffrey Fritz

I FIRST SAW IT in a computer store in downtown San Francisco. The year was 1980. I had gone out to purchase an IBM PC. I returned with the Apple /// and a bill which I handed to our accounting office for \$7,800.

The /// and I became great friends. I bought a second drive for it and then a 5 Meg Profile hard drive. Eventually I upgraded the memory to a whopping 256K. I lugged its 40 pounds to and from home so I could use it over the weekends. It never complained. It never failed.

I bought Visicalc for it and begin using it for income predictions. Those predications turned out to be amazingly on the nose. The CEO became very intimidated by this. Forecasting income was his job—not for some weird looking machine on the second floor. He marched into my office one day proclaiming, "Computers are for mindless idiots! I will have no mindless idiots working for me!"

A day later the Apple /// was forcibly removed from my office. I never found out where it went. I never saw it again. A few months later I resigned.

Five years later I learned of someone who worked for Apple. He had purchased an Apple /// internally and was looking to sell it. I scrapped together my pennies and dollars and asked him to ship the Apple /// to my home in Charlton Heights, West Virginia.

"No can do." He told me. "I am going to have Apple ship it out and they will only deliver to an Apple dealer. I'll sell it to you, but you'll need to find a dealer who will accept it."

Heart in hand, I drove to the only Apple dealer in the state—Computer Companion in Charleston, West Virginia. I explained my situation and asked the store manager if he would be willing to have the /// shipped to them. He responded that this would not be a prob-

lem. He'd call me when it arrived.

A week later the store manager called. The Apple /// had arrived, could I come to the store and pick it up? Could I? You bet! I'd be there in the morning.

On Saturday morning, I jumped in my car and sped the 30 miles to Charleston. When I arrived at the store, the Apple /// was no where in sight. Neither was the manager. I anxiously asked the salesman, "Err. Is there an Apple /// for me here?"

He looked me incredulously, "An Apple what? I've never heard of that. Now if you are interested in a //e or //gs, we can talk."

"No, I want the Apple Three! Apple sent it here for me. That's what the store manager said."

He was insistent. "First of all," he said, "Apple doesn't ship things to stores for customers. Second of all, Apple never made an Apple Three."

I was flabbergasted. "But, Apple sent it here. The Three really exists! I used one years ago in San Francisco."

I might as well have been speaking a foreign language. The salesman could not bring himself to believe me. Finally after a lot of pleading, cajoling and crying on my part, he reluctantly said, "Listen. I'll check in the back and see if they know anything about this. Don't hold your breath."

An eternity passed. I felt myself aging by the second. My heart was at my feet. My beloved /// was not there. Had I been duped by the Apple employee?

Finally the salesman returned from the back. Looking down at the floor he said, "It seems that something did arrive. Our technician has it. You can go back and talk to him."

There it was on the test bench. The technician had it up and running. It's was purring away and looking great. He looked up at me and smiled. "I've never seen one of these before. This is one really cool machine! I hope you don't mind, but I cleaned it up, adjusted the floppy drives and ran diagnostics on it. It's really in great shape."

Did I mind? Are you kidding? This was really nice of the technician. I hadn't expected the store to do anything but receive the boxes from Apple.

The technician looked at me with a sly smile and said, "Say. I don't know who you

"A day later the Apple /// was forcibly removed from my office. I never found out where it went. I never saw it again. A few months later I resigned."

know in Apple, but you got a ton of internal software with this machine."

He pointed to several floppy disk boxes on his bench. Floppy after floppy. Some contained current programs like Business Basic. Others contained experimental SOS versions that never saw the light of day. One contained a flight simulator by BAO that may have preceded Microsoft Flight Simulator 1.0. Plus there was a ton of experimental software most of which never saw the light of day. I never had the courage to run any of it.

The Apple /// spent many happy years on my desk before being replaced by a Macintosh Plus. The /// was eventually relegated to the upstairs closet—where it remains today. But one of these days it will emerge from its storage boxes and be powered up. Odds are that it will still run! ■



The Mac hardware and software was flying off the tables.

A Business Case Study of Open Source Software

In the September/October Journal, I wrote an introduction to the subject of Open Source software. I was surprised by the number of people who wrote asking for a follow-up. Most asked that I shift from the politics of the subject to the nuts and bolts of how a company can think through which to purchase: open source software (OSS) or commercial off-the-shelf (COTS).

My search brought me to The MITRE Corporation. Founded in 1959, MITRE is an independent, not-for-profit systems engineering firm engaged in scientific and technical activities for the public benefit. The corporation manages Federally Funded Research and Development Centers for several federal departments. In July of last year, Carolyn Kenwood, a senior analyst in their Economic & Decision Analysis Center, wrote a monograph entitled A Business Case Study of Open Source Software. Her full report can be found at <www.mitre.org/support/papers/archive01.shtml>. What follows are sections of Carolyn's executive summary that address the decision-making question.

—Lorin Evans

Open Source—A Review

OPEN SOURCE, by definition, means that the source code is available. Open source software (OSS) is software with its source code available that may be used, copied, and distributed with or without modifications, and that may be offered either with or without a fee. If the end-user makes any alterations to the software, he can either choose to keep those changes private or return them to the community so that they can potentially be added to future releases.

Some Examples of Open Source Software

The Apache web server is a freely available web server distributed under an open source license. Apache developers form a voting committee, and votes

“Although the open source development process offers many benefits over traditional COTS, Microsoft Windows continues to dominate the market. There are several reasons for this.”

from this committee set the direction for the project. The Apache Software Foundation <<http://www.apache.org/>> provides organizational, legal, and financial support for Apache projects. Apache web servers are known for their functionality and reliability. They form the backbone infrastructure running the Internet. Today, Apache comprises over 60 percent of the web server market and continues to grow.

Sendmail is a platform for moving mail from one machine to another. The Sendmail Consortium <<http://www.sendmail.org/>>, a nonprofit organization, runs the open source program and maintains a website to serve as a resource. Sendmail is estimated to carry nearly 90 percent of e-mail traffic.

Linux is an open source Unix-like operating system (OS). The kernel is maintained by the Linux community, led by Linus Torvalds, the creator of Linux. Linus Torvalds' homepage can be found at <<http://www.cs.Helsinki.FI/u/torvalds/>> Torvalds has appointed delegates who are responsible for managing certain areas of the project and, in turn, these delegates have a team of coordinators. Linux has multiple uses; it can be used as an OS for a server, desktop, or embedded environment. There are over ten million Linux users worldwide. According to an InformationWeek survey, Linux comprises about 4 percent of all operating systems, and that number is expected to rise to 15 percent in two years. Linux is the fastest growing server operating environment, increasing from 16 percent of the market in 1998 to 25 percent in 1999. In the embedded market, Linux is also expected to play a significant role. [An embedded device is a piece of microprocessor-based computing hardware, usually on single circuit board, which has been built to run a specific software application. The term embedded refers to the fact that these devices were originally used as building blocks in larger systems.] For further information

on Linux, visit The Linux Home Page <<http://www.linux.org/>>.

While Emacs, GNU toolset, Apache, Sendmail, and Linux are examples of open source products, the Practical Extraction and Reporting Language (Perl) is an example of an open source process <<http://www.perl.com/pub>>. Perl is a system administration and computer-programming language widely used throughout the Internet. It is the standard scripting language for all Apache web servers, and is commonly used on Unix. Perl is managed on a rotating basis by the ten to twenty most active programmers. Each takes turns managing different parts of the project. There are an estimated one million Perl users today.

Significance of Open Source

The open source development process differs sharply from the traditional commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) model. Eric Raymond likens the corporate or traditional COTS model, whereby a corporation produces and sells proprietary software, to a cathedral and the open source model to a bazaar. In the corporate model, individuals or small groups of individuals quietly and reverently develop software in isolation, without releasing a beta version before it is deemed ready. In contrast, the open source model relies on a network of "volunteer" programmers, with differing styles and agendas, who develop and debug the code in parallel. From the submitted modifications, the delegated leader chooses whether or not to accept one of the modifications. If the leader thinks the modification will benefit many users, he will choose the best code from all of the submittals and incorporate it into the OSS updates. The software is released early and often.

Benefits and Risks of Open Source Software Compared to Traditional COTS

Due to the different development models, Program Managers can achieve many benefits over traditional COTS by using OSS. Popular open source products have access to extensive technical expertise, and this enables the software to achieve a high level of efficiency, using less lines of code than its COTS counterparts. The rapid release rate of OSS distributes fixes and patches quickly, potentially an order of magnitude faster than those of commercial software. OSS is relatively easy to manage because it often incorporates elements such as central administration and remote management. Because the source code is publicly available, Program Managers can have the code tailored to meet their spe-

cific needs and tightly control system resources. Moreover, Program Managers can re-use code written by others for similar tasks or purposes. This enables Program Managers to concentrate on developing the features unique to their current task, instead of spending their effort on re-thinking and re-writing code that has already been developed by others. Code re-use reduces development time and provides predictable results. With access to the source code, the lifetime of OSS systems and their upgrades can be extended indefinitely. In contrast, the lifetime of traditional COTS systems and their upgrades cannot be extended if the vendor does not share its code and either goes out of business, raises its prices prohibitively, or reduces the quality of the software prohibitively. The open source model builds open standards and achieves a high degree of interoperability. While traditional COTS typically depends on monopoly support with one company providing support and "holding all the cards" (i.e., access to the code) for a piece of software, the publicly available source code for OSS enables many vendors to learn the platform and provide support. Because OSS vendors compete against one another to provide support, the quality of support increases while the end-user cost of receiving the support decreases. Open source can create support that lasts as long as there is demand, even if one support vendor goes out of business. For government acquisition purposes, OSS adds potential as a second-source "bargaining chip" to improve COTS support.

OSS can be a long-term viable solution with significant benefits, but there are issues and risks to Program Managers. Poor code often results if the open source project is too small or fails to attract the interest of enough skilled developers; thus, Program Managers should make sure that the OSS community is large, talented, and well-organized to offer a viable alternative to COTS. Highly technical, skilled developers tend to focus on the technical user at the expense of the non-technical user. As a result, OSS tends to have a relatively weak graphical user interface (GUI) and fewer compatible applications, making it more difficult to use and less practical, in particular, for desktop applications (although some OSS products are greatly improving in this area). Version control can become an issue if the OSS system requires integration and development. As new versions of the OSS are released, Program Managers need to make sure that the versions to be integrated are compatible, ensure that all developers are working with the proper version, and keep track

of changes made to the software. Without a formal corporate structure, OSS faces a risk of fragmentation of the code base, or code forking, which transpires when multiple, inconsistent versions of the project's code base evolve. This can occur when developers try to create alternative means for their code to play a more significant role than achieved in the base product. Sometimes fragmentation occurs for good reasons (e.g., if the maintainer is doing a poor job) and sometimes it occurs for bad reasons (e.g., a personality conflict between lead developers). The Linux kernel code has not yet forked, and this can be attributed to its accepted leadership structure, open membership and long-term contribution potential, GNU General Public License (GPL) licensing eliminating the economic motivations for fragmentation, and the subsequent threat of a fragmented pool of developers. Ninety-nine percent of Linux distributed code is the same. The small amount of fragmentation between different Linux distributions is good because it allows them to cater to different segments. Users benefit by choosing a Linux distribution that best meets their needs. Finally, there is a risk of companies developing competitive strategies specifically focused against OSS.

When comparing long-term economic costs and benefits of open source usage and maintenance to traditional COTS, the winner varies according to each specific use and set of circumstances. Typically, open source compares favorably in many cases for server and embedded system implementations that may require some customization, but fares no better than COTS for typical desktop applications. Indeed, some literature sources generalize that open source products are no worse than closed source, but our findings indicate that the scale measuring the value derived from open versus closed source software can be heavily tipped in one direction or the other depending on the specific requirements and runtime environment of the software.

A decision between OSS and traditional COTS is based on three factors:

- (1) costs – both direct (e.g., price of software) and indirect (e.g., end-user downtime);
- (2) benefits (i.e., performance); and,
- (3) other, more intangible criteria (e.g., quality of peer support).

Direct costs are largely understood and have traditionally comprised most of the total lifecycle costs of a system. However, indirect costs as well as operational and performance benefits (e.g., scalability, reliability, and functionality) play a most influential economic role

*"In the September/October Journal,
I wrote an introduction to the
subject of Open Source software. I
was surprised by the number of
people who wrote asking for a
follow-up."*

—Lorin Evans

in today's more mature software market. Other, more intangible criteria are difficult to quantify, but can also impact the effectiveness of open and closed source software. Because indirect costs and operational and performance benefits play a much larger role in OSS compared to traditional COTS products, traditional lifecycle cost models and other COTS software tools can no longer be relied on for optimal mission-oriented and IT investment decision-making involving a choice of OSS.

To understand how indirect costs should be incorporated into the analysis, Program Managers must understand what these costs mean to their programs. Since the salary and other labor costs associated with an employee are direct costs, only the labor costs that are "wasted" and could be used in more productive ways should be included as indirect costs. In other words, although there is no additional direct cost to the organization, not as much output was received from the employee due to inefficiencies in the process or system. To a profit-making organization it would be hoped that this improved productivity increases profits. For example, time wasted could be spent bringing in more business. Within a Department of Defense (DOD) organization, the concepts of bringing in more business and increasing profits do not apply, and these lost productivity costs could be viewed as justification for force structure cuts. If, for example, an organization migrates to a new solution and experiences improved productivity, the organization could perform the same job with fewer people.) Data collection efforts to understand these metrics are viewed negatively by employees for this reason. Unless a direct cause-and-effect link can be established, it may be that some indirect influences are best viewed as relative costs rather than as absolute costs in support of IT investment analyses.

Program Managers need [to think through]

lifecycle costs, benefits, and other, more intangible criteria to account for hidden costs and benefits that they might otherwise have overlooked. With this . . . , Program Managers can make software-purchasing decisions being fully aware of their economic, performance, and mission implications. . . .

Compared to traditional COTS products, OSS provides more options to Program Managers for life-cycle supportability. The maintenance burden of OSS can be similar to pure COTS ("buy"), custom code ("build"), or lie somewhere in between. Unmodified OSS can be considered similar to pure COTS. Thoroughly modified and owner-maintained OSS is comparable to custom code. "Modifiable COTS," or OSS that relies on short-term modifications yet attempts to re-merge with newly released OSS updates, takes advantage of the benefits of both pure COTS and custom code. The following diagram illustrates this spectrum and points out differences between the above scenarios.

BUY BUILD

Program Managers should evaluate the relative advantages and disadvantages of the pure COTS, "modifiable COTS," and custom code maintenance models for their specific use and set of circumstances. Pure COTS is advantageous because it is cheaper to acquire. However, Program Managers need to assess the suitability and functionality of the software to their specific needs. The software may require modification, and Program Managers are subject to licensing restrictions and set maintenance schedules. Pure COTS may have more known security holes, and control is maintained by the authors of the software. "Modifiable COTS" takes advantage of customer code while leveraging the economies of scale achieved by COTS products. The software can be modified in-house or by a vendor. The interoperability of systems may be increased with "modifiable COTS." The impact on national security may need to be evaluated. Custom code is more expensive to acquire, functions according to specification, may have more bugs, requires more labor, and is sometimes difficult to support.

Open source will benefit the government by improving interoperability, long-term access to data, and ability to incorporate new technology. Interoperability increases because open source enables the same code, documentation, and data formats to be used in every system component. (However, the downside risk of exposure should be evaluated; if the security of an open source system is compromised, interoperability could

also be compromised.) Long-term access to data gives the user full access to its own systems. It is possible to contract out maintenance development work to support vendors, who have the same information as the original supplier. Open source can allow the government to more easily adopt new technology because it reduces the cost and risk of change. Open source projects tend to be evolutionary and less disruptive to operations.

Use of Linux

The number of Linux users worldwide has grown from 1 user (Linus Torvalds) in 1991 to an estimated 12 million users in 1999. . . . [T]he number of Linux users has been growing with the number of Internet hosts. As the Internet expands, the number and productivity of open source development teams increase and attract more users.

Although Linux deployments are widening, they are not deep. Between 1998 and 1999, the Linux server OS market share grew from 16 percent to 25 percent and the Linux client OS market share grew from 0.4 percent to 4 percent. It appears that most of this growth came from Unix users who switched to Linux.

Discussion

Although the open source development process offers many benefits over traditional COTS, Microsoft Windows continues to dominate the market. There are several reasons for this. First, Microsoft has invested significantly in marketing Windows to developers. Second, NT is a very broad platform that enables servers from different vendors to work on NT. In fact, there are over 100 NT server vendors. Third, users often choose Windows because of the large choice of compatible applications and its ease of use. There is an affinity between the desktop and server environments when Microsoft products are used. Fourth, Windows NT has historically had a much lower initial cost of entry compared to Unix. Hardware and software costs are lower when using NT because the system runs on commodity components and standard chipset and storage devices. For the above reasons, Windows is perceived as a less risky choice by IT management. Industry analysts further add that "no one ever got fired for buying Microsoft."

Despite these pro-Microsoft observations, the GartnerGroup has concluded that one cannot generalize whether NT or Unix offers the least expensive long-

term support. Instead, the least expensive choice depends on the specific application, environment, and current skill base of the organization.²⁰ It should also be noted that Windows does not scale as well as Unix, and this can turn the tables on the relative total costs of Windows versus Unix. NT is not as powerful as Unix and, according to GartnerGroup tests, NT can only support up to 1,000 concurrent users. Smaller organizations that grow into larger ones must correspondingly add more boxes to support its larger user base. In some instances, five-times as many boxes of NT may be required to get the same performance as a Unix box.

Organizations that do not plan for growth often choose Windows for its low initial cost of entry, while organizations that plan for aggressive growth upfront may choose Unix. Therefore, the optimal choice of Windows versus Unix depends on the number of users the system supports. As the number of users increase to over 1,000, Unix becomes the most effective platform, or optimal platform choice.

Since the recent surge in online use that has helped to fuel the maturation of Linux, there have been small migrations to Linux. Some users of Unix have shifted to Linux, a Unix-like OS. In addition, some start-up businesses with little capital choose Linux because it runs nicely on older computers. If more Program Managers compared OSS to traditional COTS for their specific business case, it is likely that there would be many more users of OSS today.

Conclusion

OSS is a viable long-term solution that merits careful consideration because of the potential for significant cost, reliability, and support advantages. However, these potential benefits must also be carefully balanced with a number of risks associated with OSS approaches and products. The optimal choice of OSS versus traditional COTS varies according to the specific requirements and runtime environment of the software. OSS is often a good option for products relevant and interesting to a large community with highly skilled developers. It typically compares favorably for server and embedded system implementations that may require some customization, but fares no better than traditional COTS for typical desktop applications. When making a decision about whether to use OSS or traditional COTS, it is recommended that Program Managers follow the five steps presented below.

1. Assess the supporting OSS developer community (e.g., Linux, Apache). Look for communities that

are large, talented, and well organized.

2. Examine the market. Is there a strong and increasing demand for the specific OSS product? To what extent have vendors and service providers emerged in the commercial marketplace to provide complementary services and support not available from the community?

3. Conduct a specific analysis of benefits and risks. The MITRE effort has developed a taxonomy of OSS benefits and risks [found in the full report] that can be used to compare candidate OSS products to your specific economic, performance, and mission objectives.

4. Compare the long-term costs. Use the MITRE-developed OSS Cost Element Taxonomy [in the full report] to compare the long-term costs associated with usage and maintenance of OSS versus traditional COTS relative to your specific objectives.

5. Choose your strategy. Following the previous four steps will provide enough information and detail to choose the most effective option combination of OSS, traditional COTS, and proprietary development to support objectives.

In conclusion, open source methods and products are well worth considering seriously in a wide range of government applications, particularly if they are applied with care and a solid understanding of the risks they entail. OSS encourages significant software development and code re-use, can provide important economic benefits, and has the potential for especially large direct and indirect cost savings for military systems that require large deployments of costly software products. ■

Footnotes: please see website for full footnote information.

We would like to thank MITRE for making this monograph available. The views, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of The MITRE Corporation and should not be construed as an official Government position, policy, or decision, unless designated by other documentation.

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New Pi Fillings X CD available

Program Notes

Pi Fillings - The X CD, Volume 1

This CD was created by Washington Apple Pi to serve several needs of our members using Apple's OS X:

- **Apple Updates:** the **Apple Updates** folder contains software revisions for several Apple products. *Please note that Apple no longer allows user groups to distribute updates to Apple system software (such as OS X patches).*

- **Update your Applications: Essential Applications** contains the current versions of the most requested general purpose applications and utilities. There is even a collection of not-so-essential stuff as well;

- **Get Smart:** is your chance to learn more about your computer from the experts. Among the topics covered are upgrades, servicing, and networking Macs;

- **Internet Applications and Utilities: Internet Applications** contains the current versions of general purpose browsers, specialty readers, and utilities you need to actually use the items you bring home from a day surfing;

- **Application Updates:** contains updaters for several commercial applications, including Microsoft Office X

and AppleWorks.

- **Distractions: Fun Diversions** contains a few goodies to take your mind off the work involved in installing all of this stuff;

- **For New Members:** If we are new to you, please take a moment to read the file **About Us** and visit the **New Member's Sampler** folder;

- **Explorer™ Configuration:** If you are a new subscriber to the TCS Explorer™ Internet service of Washington Apple Pi, check out the **TCS Software** folder inside of the **New Member's Sampler** folder. You will find very complete **Read Me** instructions in this folder to help you locate the pieces you need for your computer and install them correctly.

Most of the programs on the CD come with their own README file. Please look at the appropriate README file for more information on a specific piece of software.

The CD has been pre-indexed so that searching the contents of the CD will be faster. To aid in navigating this CD, the contents of each folder are listed below.

Other than some 'freeware' programs and commercial updates from various vendors, the programs in this collection are Shareware. Shareware is a means of distributing software that lets you use the software before committing your money. It eliminates middlemen, so you get quality applications and utilities at a good price. With a shareware program, you have the opportunity to try it for short period of time to see if it fulfills your needs. After trying it, you are on your honor to either send the registration fee to the author or stop using the program.

Please support the authors' requests for shareware fees if you decide to add

these programs to your software library. It is important to encourage authors to use this channel by paying them for their efforts.

Contents

Apple Updates

- **AirPort Updates**
 - AirPort 2.1.1 Update
 - AirPort 2.0.5 Update
- **AppleWorks 6.2.4 Update**
- **Firmware Upgrades**
 - AirPort Firmware Update 4.0.7
 - DIMM First Aid 1.2
 - iBook Firmware Update 4.1.7
 - iMac Firmware Update 4.1.9
 - iMac Firmware Update 1.2
 - Mac OS X 10.0 SCSI Card Update
 - PowerBook Firmware Update 4.2.9
 - Power Mac G4 Firmware Update 4.2.8
 - PowerBook Firmware Update 4.1.8
 - Power Mac G4 Cube Firmware Update 4.1.9
 - Power Macintosh G3 (Blue & White) Firmware Update 1.1
 - Ultra2 SCSI Card Firmware Update 1.2
- **iPod Updater 1.2.1**
- **Keychain First Aid 1.0**
- **Mac OS X Modem Update 1.0**
- **Mac OS 10.1 Only**
- **AppleScript 1.8.3 Update**
- **SuperDrive Updates**
 - iMac SuperDrive Update 1.0
 - Power Mac SuperDrive Update 1.0

Application Updates

- **Aladdin 10 for X 1.0.2 Update**
- **AppleWorks 6.2.4 Update**
- **BBEdit 7.0.1 Update**
- **Microsoft Office X 10.1.2 Update**
- **Pangea Updates**
 - Bugdom 2 1.0.3 Update
 - Cro-Mag Rally™ 2.1 Update
 - Otto Matic 1.2.2 Update
- **Reunion 8.01 OS X Updater**
- **Virtual PC 5.0.4 Update**

Essential Applications

- Acrobat Reader 5.0 (5.1)
- BBEEdit Lite 6.1.2
- Gimp-Print 4.2.4 (OS 10.2 only)
- Graphic Converter 4.5.1
- Stuffit Standard 7.0.1
- VueScan 7.5.63
- Not-So-Essential Stuff
- Alarm Clock S.E. 3.0
- Calculator+ 1.0.1
- Can Combine Icons 3.0.5
- Celestia 1.2.2
- Cocoa Account 1.0.6
- DiskCatalogMaker 3.0.2
- Doublet Scan 4.0.3
- escapepod 1.0.0d1
- Free Ruler 1.1
- gBrowser 1.5b22
- HourWorld™ 3.03
- iPulse 1.0
- Jotz 1.0.93
- JView 1.9.5
- MacJanitor 1.2
- MacTracker 1.7.3
- Notebook
- Notebook 2.5 Beta (for OS 10.2)
- Notebook 2 (for OS 10.1.x)
- Palm Desktop 4.0
- Print Window 2.0.1
- Quartz Extreme Check 1.1
- SimpleImageX 3.3.4
- Snapz Pro X 1.0.6
- TCWorldClock 1.1
- Tex-Edit Plus 4.4
- UnicodeChecker 1.5.4
- Z-Write 1.3.1
- ZipIt 2.2.2

Get Smart

- AirPorts
- Apple Memory Guide 11/00
- AppleSpec 7/2002
- G4 Cube
- Firewire

- iMac
- Kidsafe
- ChildSafety
- HateGuide
- Healthy
- Safechild
- SafetyTips
- TeenSafety
- SafetyNet
- OS 9 Stuff
- Networking
- OS X
- OS 10.1 Manual
- Windows on Mac

Internet Applications

- Kidsafe
- Commonsense guidelines for Internet traveling (PDFs)
- Basic Applications
- AOL for Mac OS X 10.2.1
- Chimera 0.6
- Eudora 5.2
- Internet Explorer 5.2.2
- Mozilla 1.2.1
- MT-NewsWatcher 3.3b1
- Netscape 7.0
- OmniWeb 4.1.1
- Watson 1.6

Internet Utilities

- ADGate 2.8.5
- Bad Cookie! 1.2
- BLT 0.1.1
- Charla 1.6.3
- Fire 0.31e
- Interarchy 6.0
- iStock 1.1
- MICE iRC 1.0
- OmniDictionary 2.0.3
- RBrowserLite 3.0.9.4
- Taco HTML Edit 1.1.2
- Thoth 1.5
- Web Jumper Lite 2.1
- Windows Media Player X - 7.1.3

Fun Diversions

- Angband 3.0.1
- Antack 1.1
- Bubble Trouble X 1.0.0
- Deimos Rising 1.0.2
- Issa 1.0.2
- JewelToy 1.3.0
- Lux 1.1
- MacLago 3.5
- MacSolitaire 1.6
- MacXword 1.1
- Maelstrom 3.0.5
- MP3 & Audio Stuff
- Audion 3.0.2 X
- iPod Updater 1.2.1
- iTunes Tool 2.0.3
- Sound Studio 2.0.7
- X-Tunes 1.2
- Nifty Life 1.0
- nsNet 1.2
- PhoneWord Lite 1.0
- RotSquare 1.0
- Screen Savers
- Field Lines 1.1.0
- GLTronSaver 1.0
- Helios 1.2.1
- ifs 1.1.1
- NerveRot 1.1.0
- RocksGL 1.0.0a
- SkyFly
- Solarwinds 10.2.2
- StarSpiral 1.1.2
- StonerView 1.2.0
- SokoSave 5.1
- Solitaire Till Dawn X 1.0
- VideoLAN client 0.4.6

New Member's Sampler

- Loot for Little People
- Altivec Fractal 1.1.3
- anAtlas 2b7
- Loot for Teens
- 3D-XplorMath
- Atom in a Box 1.0.8
- PLT Scheme v202
- Soporific
- x48 1.2

• Loot for Big People

- MacFamilyTree 3.3
- OpenMac 2.0.1
- TCS Explorer™
- TCS Explorer Configuration

The CD-ROM was created by us, Washington Apple Pi, Ltd. We hope you enjoy using the CD as much as we enjoyed creating it. Some of the Pi people who made this happen are: Will Byrd, Lorin Evans, Abe Brody, Dale Smith, John Barnes, David Harris, and Pat Fauquet. And while you are using this one, we are creating the next one. Watch for it!

For additional copies, or information about our upcoming CD releases, send e-mail to: <office@wap.org>; or visit our Internet site at <http://www.wap.org>; or send snail mail to:

Washington Apple Pi
12022 Parklawn Drive
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USA

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Washington Apple Pi Classes for January & February

Mac OS X New User Series

Tue, Jan 7, 2003 Tue, Jan 14, 2003

Tue, Jan 21, 2003

Tue, Jan 28, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz Member

Cost: \$140.00, Others: \$190.00

Course Prerequisites: None

This course is meant for people who have their first computer or for those people who would prefer learn about the Macintosh at a slower pace. Emphasis is given to hands-on practice, frequent reviews and a slow class pace. Topics covered include simple word processing, printing, writing emails with the Mail application, an introduction to the Internet and emphasis on using the Finder and the Dock. While students who complete this course will be ready to take several other courses, you will need to complete the Mastering OS X series to enroll in the majority of classes being taught at Washington Apple Pi. This course consists of a series of four three hour sessions. Students are expected to attend all four sessions in the same series.

Mastering OS X

Tue, Jan 7, 2003

Tue, Jan 14, 2003

Tue, Jan 21, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$150.00, Others: \$200.00

Prerequisites: OS X Four Part New User Series

This course is designed for people who have prior computer experience, either on the Macintosh platform or on Windows. The sessions are taught at a faster pace than the New User Series and additional material will be presented. The sessions cover basic and intermediate skills and troubleshooting using OS X. The use of the Terminal application and Unix commands are NOT covered in these classes. This course consists of a series of three three hour sessions. Students are expected to attend all three sessions in the same series.

AppleWorks Word Processing

Thu, Jan 9, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz Member

Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

The word processing module of AppleWorks contains many powerful features. Learn how to format documents, make lists and outlines, add pictures, use the spell checker and thesaurus, set up tabs, and make templates. This course is offered as one three hour session.

How to Open Almost Any File

Thu, Jan 9, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz Member

Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

The ability to add layers to an image and then to work one each layer individually demonstrates the real power of Photoshop Elements. In this class we will use layers to adjust parts of an image and add elements such as type and a different background to images. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Web Pages with iPhoto, iDisk and .Mac Homepage

Thu, Jan 16, 2003 9:30 AM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz Member

Cost: \$100.00,

Others: \$150.00

Calling all .Mac users. This is your chance to make easy web pages and share them with family and friends. Bring your digital camera full of images or a zip or CD with digital images and by the time class is over you will have not only a web page, but a web site! This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions. Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

Mastering OS X

Thu, Jan 23, 2003

Thu, Jan 30, 2003

Thu, Feb 6, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz \$150.00

Member Cost: \$200.00 Others:

This course is designed for people who have prior computer experience, either on the Macintosh platform or on Windows. The sessions are taught at a faster pace than the New User Series and additional material will be presented. The sessions cover basic and intermediate skills and troubleshooting using OS X. The use of



the Terminal application and Unix commands are NOT covered in these classes. This course consists of a series of three three hour sessions. Students are expected to attend all three sessions in the same series.

OS X Mail, the Address Book and iChat

Thu, Jan 23, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz Member

Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

Microsoft is not upgrading Outlook Express to run in OS X. Instead Apple Computer has written Mail as the suggested e-mail client for OS X users. Come learn about this simple but powerful program. Learn how to combat spam, filter your mail, use the system wide OS X Address Book and how to use iChat. Students will learn how to migrate their existing mail and address books and learn how to check e-mail via the web when they are away from home. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Some Specifics

Who—Standard members are those who have paid the standard membership dues and includes all family members living within the household of a standard member. Associate members are those who have only paid the associate membership dues.

What—The tutorial program of Washington Apple Pi is hands-on training for our members in the use of Macintosh computers. The tutorial room is furnished with computers so that each student has the use of a computer during class.

When—Classes are no longer scheduled months in advance. You need to contact the office via snail mail, email or by phone to tell the office what classes you are interested in taking and what times you are available to take the classes.

Where—Unless otherwise stated, all tutorials sponsored by Washington Apple Pi are given at the office located at 12022 Parklawn Drive in Rockville, Maryland. A map to the office may be found on the web site at <http://www.wap.org/info/about/officemap.html>.

How—After enough students have stated their interest in taking a specific class the interested students will be contacted and the class will be scheduled. If you would like to inquire about the current level of interest for a specific class please either call the office during business hours or send email with the classes you wish to know about along with a

daytime phone number. The office will get back to you either by email or by telephone.

Fees—Class fees vary due to the level of the class. Please see the specific class description for the fee for that class. Pre-registration and Pre-Payment must be made to hold a seat.

Class Size—Class size is limited to 6 students per class.

Instructor Cancellation—If a class is canceled by the instructor, all students will be notified of the cancellation. Please check your home answering machine and email if you have not given a work number for notification.

Student Cancellation—A student cancellation must be received 72 hours prior to the scheduled class time. Student Cancellations may only be made via telephone during Washington Apple Pi's business hours or via email to the email address of office@wap.org. The office does not have an answering machine - only an announcement machine.

Office Information

Washington Apple Pi
12022 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 208522
www.wap.org
email: office@wap.org
Office Hours:

Monday - Wednesday - Friday (10 am - 6 pm)

Mac OS X New User Series

Mon, Jan 27, 2003 Mon,
Feb 3, 2003 Mon, Feb 17, 2003 Mon,
Feb 24, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM
Instructor: Pat Fauquet
Member Cost: \$140.00, Others: \$190.00
Course Prerequisites: None

This course is meant for people who have their first computer or for those people who would prefer learn about the Macintosh at a slower pace. Emphasis is given to hands-on practice, frequent reviews and a slow class pace. Topics covered include simple word processing, printing, writing emails with the Mail application, an introduction to the Internet and emphasis on using the Finder and the Dock. While students who complete this course will be ready to take several other courses, you will need to complete the Mastering OS X series to enroll in the majority of classes being taught at Washington Apple Pi. This course consists of a series of four three hour sessions. Students are expected to attend all four sessions in the same series.

Introduction to iPhoto

Mon, Jan 27, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM
Instructor: Pat Fauquet Member
Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00
Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four
Part New User Series

Users of OS X can use iPhoto to import, organize, edit and share their digital images from cameras, scanners and Picture CDs. Come learn about this simple but powerful application that can also be used to make sideshowes, books and prints. Bring your digital camera full of images or a zip or CD with digital images to learn how do these and more projects. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Maintenance and Troubleshooting for OS X

Tue, Jan 28, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM
Instructor: Jim Ritz Member
Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00
Course Prerequisites: Mastering

OS X T

here are certain things that should be done to keep your Mac running in top condition. When a problem occurs, there are procedures you can use to fix the issue. Learn basic troubleshooting and maintenance in this three hour class.

iMovie Slideshows

Wed, Jan 29, 2003 Wed, Feb 5, 2003 9:30 AM-12:30 PM
Instructor: Pat Fauquet
Member Cost: \$100.00, Others: \$150.00
Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

Bring your camera full of digital photos, a photo CD or photos on a portable hard drive to learn how to make a video from you them. We will edit the photos, add transitions, effects, voice and music to complete a project that friends and family will want to watch. Completed projects will be made into Video CDs or QuickTime movies ready for the web. This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions.

How to Open Almost Any File

Thu, Jan 30, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM Instructor: Jim Ritz Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00 Course Pre-



This is how some of the WAP volunteers felt during the day.



requisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X The ability to add layers to an image and then to work one each layer individually demonstrates the real power of Photoshop Elements. In this class we will use layers to adjust parts of an image and add elements such as type and a different background to images. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements

Mon, Feb 3, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Pat Fauquet

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

Now that you are taking digital photos or scanning pictures, learn how to fix problems such as over exposed or under exposed pictures, color casts and contrast issues. This inexpensive program is often included with cameras, scanners and printers. It may be all you will ever need to edit and print your treasured photos. Come learn how to use it! This course is offered as one three hour session.

Mastering OS X

Tues., Feb 4, 2003

Tue, Feb 11, 2003

Tue, Feb 18, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz \$150.00

Member Cost: \$200.00 Others:

Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

This course is designed for people who have prior computer experience, either on the Macintosh platform or on Windows. The sessions are taught at a faster pace than the New User Series and additional material will be presented. The sessions cover basic and intermediate skills and troubleshooting using OS X. The use of the Terminal application and Unix commands are NOT covered in these classes. This course consists of a series of three three hour sessions. Students are expected to attend all three sessions in the same series.

Web Pages with iPhoto, iDisk and .Mac Homepage

Tue, Feb 4, 2003 Thu, Feb 6, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$100.00, Others: \$150.00

Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

Calling all .Mac users. This is your chance to make easy web pages and share them with family and friends. Bring your digital camera full of images or a zip or CD with digital images and by the time class is

over you will have not only a web page, but a web site! This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions.

Introduction to Spreadsheets

Tue, Feb 11, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

This class will introduce basic spreadsheet concepts. Students will learn how to set up a spreadsheet, how to enter and edit numbers and words, how to enter basic formulas and make basic charts and graphs. They will learn how to sort data and how to print the whole spread sheet or only a portion of it. Students will use either the spreadsheet module of AppleWorks (ClarisWorks) or Excel. This class is not meant for persons who are intermediate or advanced users.

Maintenance and Troubleshooting for OS X

Thu, Feb 13, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS X

Other Educational Opportunities

Apple Computer Inc.

Reston, VA 703-264-5100 or

www.seminars.app.com

MacBusiness Solutions

301-330-4074 or

www.mbsdirect.com

MacUpgrades

301-907-0300

Micro Center 703-204-8400

or www.microcentereducaton.com

Piwowar & Associates 202-223-6813

or www.tjpa.com

There are certain things that should be done to keep your Mac running in top condition. When a problem occurs, there are procedures you can use to fix the issue. Learn basic troubleshooting and maintenance in this three hour class.

OS X Mail, the Address Book and iChat

Thu, Feb 13, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS X

Microsoft is not upgrading Outlook Express to run in OS X. Instead Apple Computer has written Mail as the suggested e-mail client for OS X users. Come learn about this simple but powerful program. Learn how to combat spam, filter your mail, use the system wide OS X Address Book and how to use iChat. Students will learn how to migrate their existing mail and address books and learn how to check e-mail via the web when they are away from home. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements

Mon, Feb 17, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Pat Fauquet

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS X and Introduction to Adobe Photoshop Elements

The ability to add layers to an image and then to work one each layer individually demonstrates the real power of Photoshop Elements. In this class we will use layers to adjust parts of an image and add elements such as type and a different background to images. This course is offered as one three hour session.

AppleWorks Word Processing

Tue, Feb 18, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Prerequisites: OS 9 or OS X Four Part New User Series

The word processing module of AppleWorks contains many powerful features. Learn how to format documents, make lists and outlines, add pictures, use the spell checker and thesaurus, set up tabs, and make templates. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Using iMovie to Edit Video Content

Wed, Feb 19, 2003 Wed, Feb 26, 2003 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Instructor: Pat Fauquet

Member Cost: \$100.00, Others: \$150.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

Bring your digital video camera with some movie footage, your firewire cable and the power cord for your camera, a new video tape and we'll make a movie. You will learn to edit your video, add titles, transitions, effects, music and voice to your movie. Then we send the edited movie back to your camera, make a QuickTime movie, and show you how to make DVD's and Video CDs. This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions.

Putting AppleWorks to Work

Thu, Feb 20, 2003 9:30 AM To: 4:00 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$100.00, Others: \$150.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

AppleWorks does far more than word processing. Learn how to use it to make flyers, databases, spreadsheets, slideshows, graphs and charts and mail merge letters. This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions.

Adjustment and Image Layers in Photoshop Elements

Mon, Feb 24, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Pat Fauquet

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

The ability to add layers to an image and then to work one each layer individually demonstrates the real power of Photoshop Elements. In this class we will use layers to adjust parts of an image and add elements such as type and a different background to images. This course is offered as one three hour session.

Maintenance and Troubleshooting for OS X

Tue, Feb 25, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM

Instructor: Jim Ritz

Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00

Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS X

There are certain things that should be done to keep your Mac running in top condition. When a problem occurs, there are procedures you can use to fix the issue. Learn basic troubleshooting and maintenance in this three hour class.

How to Make Great Prints

Mon, Feb 24, 2003 1:00 PM To: 4:00 PM
Instructor: Pat Fauquet
Member Cost: \$100.00, Others: \$150.00
Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

Bring your printer, its software and some digital photos to class. We will explore how to get good results, how to choose the best paper for your project and how to make a variety of decorative items with your printer. This course is six hours long. It will be taught either as an all-day class or in two three hour sessions.

Let's Burn Some CDs

Wed, Feb 26, 2003 9:30 AM To: 12:30 PM
Instructor: Pat Fauquet
Member Cost: \$50.00, Others: \$100.00
Course Prerequisites: Mastering OS 9 or Mastering OS X

Learn the finer points of making music, data and video CDs in

this three hour class. Learn all about Roxio Toast and the Apple Disc Burner software. Learn how prepare data, optimize files and make labels too. This course is offered as one three hour session. ■



Tom Witte once again did the announcing chores and handled raffle ticket giveaways. He was helped by a pink flamingo this year.

**Washington Apple Pi
Tutorial Registration Form**
www.wap.org

Washington Apple Pi
12022 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 20852
301-984-0300 Office@wap.org

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone (day) _____ (Evening) _____
Member Number _____ Non-member _____
Email address _____
Times when your are available for classes _____

Type of class wanted _____

Please fill in the name(s) of the class(es) that you wish to attend.

Class #1 _____
Class #2 _____
Class #3 _____
Class #4 _____
Class #5 _____
Class #6 _____

Mail registration and payment to the above address.

Classifieds

Classified advertisements can be placed by mailing copy to the business office of Washington Apple Pi, Ltd., 12022 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD 20852. Be sure to include your WAP membership number and indicate area codes with your phone numbers. Ads must be received by the ad copy due date listed in the calendar page for that month in order to be included in the appropriate issue. Any ads postmarked after that time will be included at the discretion of the editor. Cost is \$2.00/line (40 characters per line), maximum 12 lines. Members of Washington Apple Pi, Ltd., may place ads up to three lines at no charge. The editor reserves the right to refuse any ads deemed inappropriate.

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—**ClarisWorks Users Group Discount.** Loyal WAP members receive a \$5 a year discount on their CWUG (ClarisWorks User Group) membership and renewals as a benefit of their WAP membership. WAP Members must identify themselves as such and then deduct \$5 from the regular \$39 (printed ClarisWorks Journal) or \$34 (electronic ClarisWorks Journal) membership dues when they join or renew. Contact the ClarisWorks Users Group directly at Box 701010, Plymouth, MI 48170; toll-free at (888) 781-CWUG; Fax: (734) 454-1965; Email: <membership@cwug.org> or web site <http://www.cwug.org>.

Help Wanted

—**Senior Software Engineer:** V-ONE Corporation is looking for a Senior Software Engineer for Mac Client. Please refer to our website at www.v-one.com, or e-mail HR at paige@v-one.com

—**Idactix, LLC Consulting** - Expert Mac solutions and troubleshooting. Services include networking, AirPort, FileMaker databases, AppleScripting, PC/Mac integration, and data backup. Prompt on-site service. 301-530-2607 or info@idactix.com.

—**Volunteers Needed:** Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic of Metro Washington is looking for volunteers who can read technical books (currently working on data structures in c++ for example). We are located in Chevy Chase at the Friendship Heights Metro, 5225 Wisconsin Ave. NW (at Jennifer Street- across from Mazza Gallery). We need computer literate folks willing to volunteer for 2 hours a week, to help read textbooks onto tape. The tapes are used by students borrowers. Interested folks can come by on Wednesday evening, January 20th, between 6-8pm for an open house orientation. Else, they can call Laurel after 3pm at 202-244-8990 and get more info. Evening sessions start at 5:30 and 7pm, Monday-Thursday. ■

Membership Application

New Member **Renewal**

Please print or type:

Name _____ Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

(Must have for the TCS)

Occupation _____

Please answer a few questions for us regarding your computer use. Check the computers/equipment that you use on a regular basis.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apple II or III | <input type="checkbox"/> PowerMac |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apple II GS | <input type="checkbox"/> IBM, PC clone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apple III (SARA) | <input type="checkbox"/> PowerBook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre PowerMac | <input type="checkbox"/> iMac |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> G3 or G4 |

WAP has many Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Regional Groups (SLICES). Please check each group you would be interested in.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annapolis Slice | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia Slice | <input type="checkbox"/> NOVA/Educators SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delmarva Slice | <input type="checkbox"/> Game SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frederick Slice | <input type="checkbox"/> QuickTime SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled SIG | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excel SIG | <input type="checkbox"/> Stock SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FileMaker SIG | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's SIG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy SIG | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I can serve as a Hotline contact for _____ | |

Enclose check or money order payable to Washington Apple Pi, Ltd. If you are using a credit card please remember that we only accept VISA and MasterCard.

- Check/Money Order VISA MasterCard

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

(Required)

- Basic Membership—1 year \$49
- Student rate* for 1 year \$42

Indicate desired New Member Kit (1 only)

- Mac 1.44 k
- Mac CD

For other options please add correct amounts

- WAP Bulletin Board System (TCS)**with e-mail \$ 20
- WAP Bulletin Board System (TCS)**with Internet \$ 171
- 1st class mail (U.S.) \$17
- Airmail to Canada, Mexico, West Indies or Cental America \$20
- Airmail to Europe & South America \$38
- Airmail to Asia & elsewhere \$48
- Surface to Europe, Asia & elsewhere \$18

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please circle Yes or No for the 2 items below.

1. Please leave my name on the Pi mailing list. (The list never leaves the office and all mailings are supervised by the Pi staff.)

Yes No

2. My name, address & phone number may be published in the membership director.

Yes No.

*Please enclose photocopy of current student ID.

** Access to the TCS is contingent on WAP having a current home telephone number for the member.

Applicant signature and date

Pi Fillings: The X CD



Available at General Meetings for \$X, or \$XII via snail mail. Call the Pi office at 301-984-0300, or send an order by mail to: Washington Apple Pi, 12022 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20852

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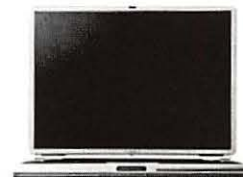
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Washington Apple Pi, Ltd.

12022 Parklawn Drive

Rockville, MD 20852

January / February 2003

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