



A registered Apple Macintosh User Group
July 2005~ Still only \$2.00



ABCC Declares State of Hunger, Abandons Formal Program in Favor of Feast!

If you have been a member of the Apple Blossom Computer Club for any length of time, you realize that in the summer, our collective minds turn to thoughts of food. In this case, pizza. Even better still, FREE PIZZA. (Well, free to you. The club pays the bill.)

Everybody who can possibly make it should come to this meeting. Sure, we'll talk computers, but the main focus is spending some quality time together. It's a family-friendly event, so bring anybody who can put up with Macintosh officianados. Be sure to give one of the officers a head count so we can order the right amount of pizza.

Pay no attention to the little map in the upper left hand corner of this page. That one will only get you to our usual meeting location. The satellite map below clearly marks the location of this special event!

See you there!



Next Meeting July 20, 6:00 PM

The Apple Blossom Computer Club will meet at Abby's Legendary Pizza Restaurant on NE Stephens in Roseburg. Family and friends are invited to eat FREE pizza and hang out with other ABCC members.

Agenda

1. Meeting starts at 6 P.M. (NOTE: this is a change from the usual start time.)
2. Eat pizza.
3. Eat pizza.
4. Find something to wash down the pizza.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning cash..... \$1,653.14

Income:

Dues\$100.00
Interest.....53

Expenses:

Newsletter\$29.44

Ending balance..... \$1,724.23

*Jim McClellan,
Treasurer*

The **Apple Blossom Computer Club** (ABCC) is an Apple Computer Inc., registered Macintosh and Apple II family user group. The ABCC publishes *The RoseByter* newsletter monthly which is posted to each paid up member and reciprocating user groups. ABCC participates in user group newsletter content exchange. The ABCC also maintains a WWW site at:

<http://www.abccmug.org>
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Membership

Just \$20/year! Mail a check along with your name, address and phone number to:

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Send your stories and newsletter ideas to the Editor, Philip Bowser, at pbowser@mac.com. Plain text files are preferred, sent within the body of an email message or as an attachment. Photos, illustrations, and documents in excess of 2 megabytes should be mailed on a CD to:

427 NE Winchester Street
Roseburg, OR 97470

Please understand that not all materials submitted will be accepted for publication and those that are will likely be edited.

Apple Bets on Intel Chips

About 14 years ago, Apple Computer built computers based on central processing units built by a Motorola/IBM consortium. About 90% of the rest of the world built computers from chips manufactured to Intel standards. At a recent developer's conference, Apple CEO Steven Jobs announced that beginning in 2006, Apple computers will also use Intel products.



The switch is great for the world's largest semiconductor maker, and probably won't be much noticed by IBM. Apple chips account for only about 2% of its income, and the company seems to be more focused on chips for game machines, routers, and cellphones. IBM even sold its personal computer division to Lenovo, a Chinese firm.

Apparently the shift came from IBM's failure to develop faster and cooler G5 processors. Although clock speed considered in isolation is often a misleading measure of overall speed, the Macintosh seemed to be stuck at 2.0 GHz while Intel had broken 3.0GHz and rushed onwards. Plus, the lack of a cool G5 chip meant that iBooks and PowerBooks were stuck in G4-land.

Steve noted that this change has been a long time coming, and that every version of OS-X has had a secret, invisible twin that ran on the Intel chipset. The trick now is to convince software developers to switch their programs over to the new chips.

There are some hurdles. For example, the G5 is based on a 64 bit word, something still on the drawing board at Intel. And the G5's "Altivec" engine, a way to more efficiently break up large computational tasks, is not implemented on the Intel chips. To help the over 3,800 developers along, Apple created a "Developer Transition Kit" which will create applications that run on both PowerPC and Intel-based Macs.

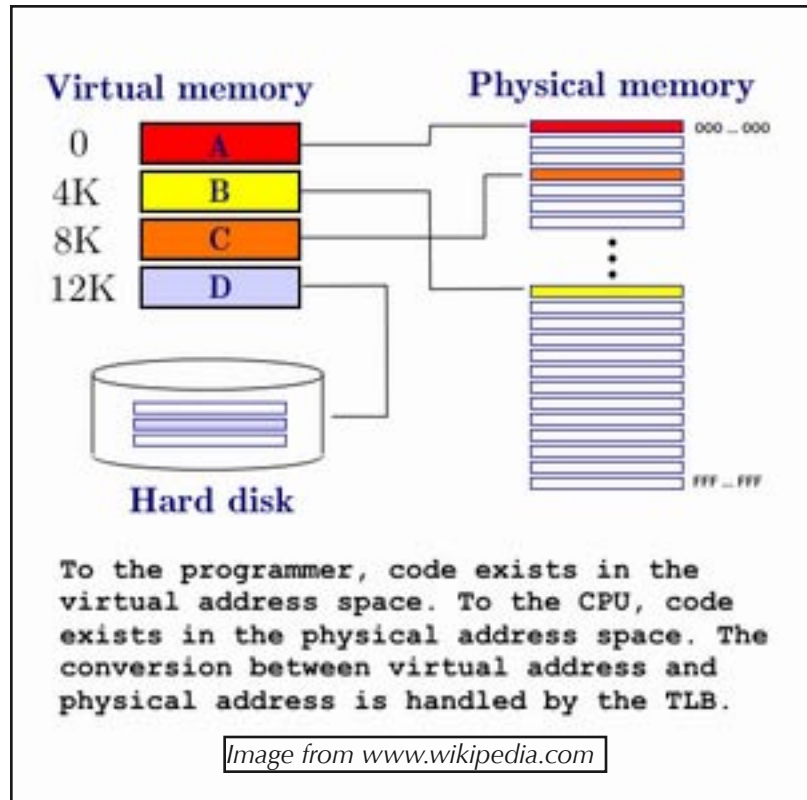
MicroSoft has already pledged to create just such a version of Office. And Adobe promised to upgrade its fleet of imaging software. So we are off to a good start!

*--Information for this story provided by
Bernie Fox and press materials at www.apple.com*

Notes from Bernie Wassa “Swap File”?

At the last ABCC meeting, a question was raised about “swap files.” Club President, Bernie Fox, did some checking and discovered the following:

OS 10 creates a virtual memory disk on your hard drive where files are placed so that the computer doesn't have to search the HD each time you want to access them. It's suppose to speed up things. The problem is that this virtual memory isn't always cleared when you quit a program or shut down. Hence the need to clear the swap files.



from www.ambientdesign.com

Free Realistic Media Art Application for OS-X

ArtRage is a painting package designed to provide a realistic and fun simulation of using paint on a canvas, along with pens, pencils, crayons, and other tools. ArtRage is available for both Windows and Mac OS X. It can be used with a mouse, but works better if you have a graphics tablet, or even better on a Tablet PC where ArtRage takes advantage of the unique interaction of pen and screen to produce a realistic painting feel.

ArtRage is all about playing with paint without the mess, and having fun in the process. You can paint your own image from a blank canvas to completed work, or load in a picture to trace and have the tools pick their colours for you as you paint over it.



By Channon Kun



By Mario Siegrist



By Serhat Ertan

Mac 911

By Christopher Breen

Cross-Platform PowerPoint

I've been using Microsoft PowerPoint v. X for some time, and I've had only one problem. When I need to present my files on a Windows computer, minor incompatibilities often arise. For example, text that is white on my Mac is black on the PC. I've learned to anticipate this and always check my presentation first on a PC when I won't be using my own laptop. What gives?--
Aaron F. Kopman



Though Macs and Windows PCs share better than they once did, they still don't always see eye to eye. With that in mind, you should take certain precautions when you use a Mac to create a PowerPoint document that your audience will be viewing on a Windows PC. Those precautions include the following:

Use Common Fonts

If you choose a font on the Mac and the PC doesn't have it, the PC will substitute a font you may dislike. To avoid trouble, stick to fonts that are present on both platforms, such as Arial, Times New Roman, Courier, and Symbol. If you're sure the presentation will appear on a PC that has a full version of PowerPoint installed (not just the PowerPoint Viewer application), you can also use the fonts that Office installs on both platforms. These include Century Gothic, Copperplate Gothic, Tahoma, and Verdana.

Use Common Graphics and Video Formats

As a Microsoft product, PowerPoint prefers graphics and video formats commonly found on PCs. For graphics, that means saving images in the PNG, JPEG, or GIF formats. PowerPoint for Windows is not hip to QuickTime, so if you must include video, use Windows' AVI format.

Use File Extensions

File extensions tell Windows what kind of file it's dealing with. If those extensions are missing, your presentation won't work on the PC. When you save a PowerPoint presentation on your Mac, make sure to enable the Append File Extension option in PowerPoint's Save dialog box. Without that extension, the Windows machine won't identify the file as a PowerPoint document, and the person sitting at the PC will have to add the .ppt extension to the file's name in order to open it.

Consider Upgrading

Office 2004 includes a new feature that you might find helpful-- Compatibility Report. When you produce a presentation in PowerPoint 2004 and save it, by default PowerPoint checks the document to see whether it's compatible with other versions of PowerPoint. If it isn't, you'll see a message indicating that there are compatibility issues. Click on the Compatibility Report button in the Save dialog box, and you'll learn what the problems are (See top screenshot). If PowerPoint can fix a problem, the Fix button will become active. If PowerPoint can't

fix the problem, it will offer ways to work around it (for example, using an AVI movie rather than a QuickTime MOV file).

AutoUpdate Doesn't

After I installed Microsoft Office 2004, the Microsoft AutoUpdate application launched and wanted to get the Service Pack 1 update. Everything seemed to go fine until AutoUpdate simply announced that the update did not complete successfully. Repeated attempts failed. How can I make it successfully apply the patch?--
Markus Mock

Microsoft's AutoUpdate might itself be in need of updating. To do so, download the latest version. If that doesn't do the trick, toss AutoUpdate's preference file: select Go To Folder in the Finder, type ~/ Library/Preferences , and delete the file named com.microsoft.autoupdate.plist.

If AutoUpdate remains uncooperative, put it aside for a moment and download the Service Pack update directly. If the update installs as it should, run Disk Utility (/Applications/ Utilities) to repair your Mac's permissions. If AutoUpdate still won't work, you need a fresh start. Run the Remove Office app (/Applications/ Microsoft Office 2004/Additional Tools/Remove Office) and then reinstall Office.

Selective Searching

I have a list of several Web sites I want to search for information or images. Do you know any way that I can limit a search to a list of Web sites?--*David Warkentin*

Continued on page 6...

PodLock

Your iPod is probably your favorite gadget. You can make it even better using PodLock, from Micro-mat. The makers of the most advanced Macintosh repair utility available, TechTool Pro, have created a product just for your iPod. PodLock helps you and your iPod in many ways:

- Backup and restore. PodLock allows you to seamlessly backup and restore your primary iPod volume to your Macintosh drive (excluding your music files). This is especially useful if you store files for transport on your iPod.

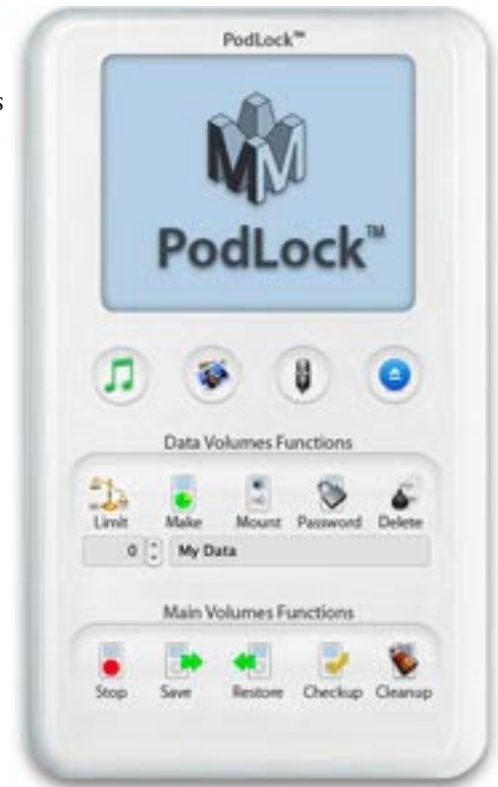
- Optimize the data on your iPod. By using PodLock's defragment tool, your iPod's drive will run faster. This means songs will load more quickly and data can be retrieved much faster.

- Hide your important files. PodLock allows you to create an "invisible" partition. It's like having a secret drive for your data files that only you can see by entering your personal password.* If you use your iPod as an external drive to transport data, you'll want this protection in case you should ever lose your iPod.

- Manage pictures and voice recordings. PodLock gives you an easy and convenient way to access other types of data on your iPod.

- Learn Technical Details about your iPod. Find out when and where your iPod was manufactured, the current version of the iPod system software as well as other important technical information.

- PodLock's secret partition only prevents casual observers from gaining access to your iPod data. For truly secure data protection, you should also use the file encryption features of FileVault which is included with the Mac OS X operating system.



Bad News/Good News

The bad news was that I made an ill advised move and damaged the main drive on my computer.

The good news is that it gave me a reason to upgrade to Tiger, but that is not the best news. I discovered that I could install Tiger on any drive connected to my G4, even an external hard drive and it ran. Apparently Apple changed the rules again and it appears that it is no longer necessary to have the boot drive be your internal drive, boy back to the pre OS X days again. I like it!!!! Now those people who were worrying about upgrading to OS X from OS 9 or earlier and having to forget all their old software and files etc. can go to a dual boot regime and have their old world and a new world without worry.



*Terry Tufts President,
Northern Illinois Computer Society
ttufts@comcast.net*

...“Mac 911” from page 4

Google lets you limit searches to a single Web site or a group of Web sites. The trick is to phrase your query correctly. You need to use a combination of site:the site you want and the OR variable.

Travel to www.google.com (or type directly in Safari’s Google search field) and enter something like this in the Search field: `grunion site: stanford.edu . This limits your search for the noble fish to Stanford University’s domain. Or you can enter grunion site:stanford.edu OR site: pepperdine.edu OR site:ucsd.edu . Now you and the grunion are really off and running--this query searches the sites of all three universities for information on your piscine pal. Killing the Messenger`

Blocking Mail

In Apple’s Mail, is there any way to block the messages from a specific sender?--Sid Koss

Your ISP is the only one that truly has the power to block messages, and few ISPs offer such a service. You can, however, create a Mail rule that deletes messages from particular individuals. Go to Mail: Preferences and click on Rules. Click on Add Rule and type a name (for example, Get Lost!) in the Description field. Then use the pop-up menus to create a mail rule that reads:

From Contains joeexample.com

Delete Message

Note that applying this rule isn’t such a hot idea if you’ve

recently had a spat with your significant other and have sworn that you’ll never speak to him or her again. Such a rule could easily delete the groveling make-up note that person sends your way. A better option is to create a new mailbox--called Sniveling Worm, say--and create a rule that moves mail from your ex into this folder. To do this, create a rule that reads as follows:

From Contains joeexample.com

Move Message To Mailbox: Sniveling Worm

When you want to let bygones be bygones (or want to revel in your former sweetie’s despair), fling open this mailbox and read the messages you’ve diverted.

Mining for Movies

Is there a way to save QuickTime movies from the Web to my Mac for future viewing, so I don’t have to return to the original Web site? When I choose Save As in Internet Explorer, all I get is a link.--Fred Schneider

If you can’t save a file with the Save As command, it’s because that file’s owners don’t want you to save it. But that doesn’t mean you can’t.

The simplest way to do this is with Djodjo Design’s free iGet-Movies. Another way is to do it yourself, by following these steps:

Open the QuickTime preference pane, click on the Plug-In tab in the resulting QuickTime window, and make sure the Save Movies In Disk Cache option is selected. Now play the

QuickTime movie you want to save until it has fully downloaded to your Mac. (You’ll know it’s done when the gray progress bar fills the timeline.) Next, download a copy of Marcel Bresink’s free TinkerTool and launch it. Click on TinkerTool’s Finder tab, enable the Show Hidden And System Files option, and click on Relaunch Finder.

Double-click on your startup volume’s icon and then follow this path: `/ private/tmp/501/TemporaryItems`. Once you’re in the TemporaryItems folder, switch to List view and click on the Size column. The large file that rises to the top of the list--the one whose name begins with `QTPluginTemp` and contains a string of numbers--is what you’re after.

Drag this file to the desktop and rename it, giving it a `.mov` extension-- My Cool Borrowed Movie.mov, for example. You’ll be asked to confirm that you really want to add the `.mov` extension. Do so with my blessing, return to TinkerTool, undo your past actions to make invisible files disappear again, and enjoy.

Contributing Editor Christopher Breen is also Playlistmag.com’s editor in chief, author of Macworld’s tips and troubleshooting column, “Mac 911,” as well as Secrets of the iPod: Fifth Edition and Mac 911 (Peachpit Press). Find Chris’ books at www.amazon.com and www.peachpit.com. Get special user group pricing on Macworld Magazine! Subscribe today at <http://www.macworld.com/useroffer>.]

Switching to the Mac: What Apple Didn't Tell You

It's generally understood that Apple's new Mac Mini is an attempt to get more PC users to switch to the Mac, so there may have never been a greater need for a book that helps PC users make the switch. David Pogue's *Switching to the Mac: The Missing Manual* is one of a handful of books that is specifically targeted at the PC refugee.

Pogue's book is designed to be read from the beginning to the end. While you can sometimes use the index to find an answer to a specific question, new users are much better off to read the first chapter before doing anything else. In it they'll find basic tips such as "Finder = Windows Explorer" and "Dock = Taskbar." Things that seem obvious to seasoned Mac users are not necessarily so for the Windows user ("Where are the application programs kept? Oh, in the Applications folder!")

The book doesn't just cover the surface topics. The difference between Cocoa, Carbon and Classic programs is discussed. While Pogue wisely does not cover OS 9 in much detail, he does discuss how to run it, why you would want to, and what some

of the pitfalls are. Most Windows users that have never used a Mac would be best off to forget OS 9, but depending on the programs you want to run that is not always possible.

Something a new user needs to learn early on is how to install new software. The book does a good job of describing the basics of this in only two pages. I can't imagine how happy I would

have been if I had been given these two pages when I switched. There is not a direct equivalent in the Windows world to a .dmg file, so clicking on it to get the disk image to mount (and then dragging its contents to the Application folder) is not obvious.

Better yet is coverage on the topic of how to uninstall a program. PC users would not be wise to go into the Windows Explorer to directly delete a program. Uninstalls under Windows are done through the "Add/Remove Programs" utility and, if you're very lucky, it removes all of the pieces of your application without removing too much. I continue to be amazed that the majority of programs on the Mac are removed by simply dragging their icon from the Applications directory to the trash.

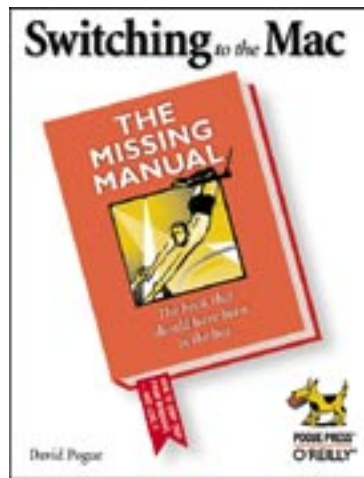
Most users that switch from a PC to a Mac will want to take some of their data with them, and

there is a fairly extensive section in the book to help with this. Pogue does not shy away from describing how to set up the network configuration in both your old PC and your Mac in order to get them to find one another. This is an area that is fraught with possible problems, but the book attempts to help you through it. There is also a section on how to transfer your email to your Mac. Most PC email programs do not export their data in a fashion that the Apple Mail program can import. Pogue recommends Little Machine's \$10 "Outlook2Mac" program to handle this, and from personal experience I can say it does the job.

Although the System Preferences pane is unavoidably mentioned throughout the book, there is an entire chapter dedicated to it later in the book. It does a great job of explaining the different controls and options, but if I were the author I might have placed this chapter much earlier.

Even with some of the faults of this book (including that it only covers up to OS 10.2) I'd still recommend it to a switcher. From personal experience I can say that switching is not easy, and without help it is difficult. This book should get the PC user successfully switched to the Mac, and from there the great features of the Macintosh and OS X should keep the user interested enough to continue the journey.

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The Macintosh User Group Store

You are eligible to get good deals on new and refurbished Macs because you belong to the Apple Blossom Computer Club! Here's how to save yourself some money and help your club a little bit at the same time:

- 1) Go to <http://www.applemugstore.com>
- 2) Log in using the following ID and password (which changes occasionally)

Good through 6/30/05

ID=best

PW=deals

3) Be sure to mention ABCC's group number, 45. This ensures we get points for all the purchases that our members make.



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- Order by email at order@oreilly.com

Be sure to check out ug.oreilly.com for lots of information and features, such as blogging!

Write For Your Newsletter!

Most of this newsletter comes from articles written by members of other computer clubs. (The clubs all agree to share newsletter content.) That's fine, as far as it goes, but your Editor believes this letter would be even more interesting and valuable if we would publish stories written by ABCC club members. Of course, that means YOU, gentle reader, will need to take pen in hand occasionally and send in a story! Send them to Philip Bowser (see masthead for address) and receive the grateful thanks of multitudes!

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Phil Bowser
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