



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



New Date, New Time

Recently the ABCC Board polled the membership concerning changing the day and time that we hold our monthly general meetings. The membership selected the

Third Thursday Of The Month at 5:30 p.m.

as their preferred time. I then polled the ABCC Board and it was unanimously (of those replying) that we do change our meeting's time and day.

Next Meeting Thursday, October 20, 5:30 ~ 7:30 PM

The Apple Blossom Computer Club will meet at Joseph Lane Middle School, room #8 for it's monthly meeting. Please note this is a change from the old date and time!

Agenda

1. Meeting starts at 5:30 P.M.
2. Introduction of members/guests
3. Questions and Answers
4. Program:
 - a. Discussion on forming an Nominating Committee.
 - b. Discussion on last month's meeting at the Ford Room--what we learned, how to improve form and presentation for next year. This will be led by Jim and Phil.
 - c. Bernie will present a program (DVD) from Adobe on the new features of Photoshop CS2.

So, starting in October we will meet at Jo Lane Middle School on the third Thursday (October 20) at 5:30 p.m. BTW, everyone should be thinking about serving on the Nominating Committee as it's that time of the year to appoint that committee for nominating a President, Treasurer, Ambassador and one Trustee for 2006.

Your President,
Bernie Fox

.....
At the DC Library

Public Event Attracts New Members

Last month's Apple Blossom Computer Club meeting was a public event at the Douglas County Library. Called, "Meet My Mac," the session intended to provide basic computer instruction to members of the community who had little to no prior experience.



About two dozen people attended and all seemed to have a good time learning about Macintosh computers.

Several club members volunteered to make this meeting a success. Stan Steigart designed a poster and members

Continued on Page 3...

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:

ABCC
PO Box 638
Winston, OR 97496

Current ABCC Leadership

President & Web Master
Bernie Fox
brownfox@ramcell.net

Treasurer
Jim McClellan
mcclellan@charter.net

Apple Ambassador
Terry Cooper
tscooper@charter.net

AppleScript Guru
Jack Webster
jackw@rio.com

AOL User Group Rep
Phil Bowser
philip574@aol.com

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.

Video iPod Due Soon?

According to Wired News, Apple may be planning the release of a video iPod on October 12. The company emailed selected reporters, inviting them to a special event on that date, which sparked rumors that the long-anticipated video iPod would finally appear.

Apple doesn't comment on equipment about to be released, and the invitation simply said "One more thing.." (Apple CEO, Steve Jobs, is famous for using the phrase to announce the latest killer app during his keynote speeches.) The announcement will take place in the same theater where the Photo iPod was announced, adding even more fuel to the rumors that the video iPod was to be the next big thing.

To keep market share, Apple has had to constantly improve the iPod line, and a model that could also display video seems to be the next logical step. Anonymous sources leaving notes on the AppleInsider website claim the video iPod is pretty much like a 60GB photo iPod, but perhaps not quite so thick. (Find the whole story at <http://www.wired.com/news/business/0,1367,69096,00.html>.)



Treasurer's Report

Beginning Cash \$1,713.04

Income:

Dues 120.00

Interest 0.53

Expenses:

Postage 5.75

Newsletter 26.92

Ending Balance \$1,800.90

Note this does not include expenses for the September meeting as they were on an invoice paid in October. Our expenses are always a month behind because we don't pay the bill until the beginning of the next month.

*Jim McClellan,
Treasurer*

...“Public Event” from page 1.



distributed them all over town. Phil Bowser wrote and mailed press releases to local and regional newspapers and related broadcast media. Individual members hauled in their Macs and set them up to demonstrate a variety of applications. Jim McClellan and Bernie Fox came early and helped to set up the room. A lot of members talked up the meeting at work, in their neighborhoods, and around town to build enthusiasm.

Brian Sundquist sat in one corner making music with GarageBand. TK McConnell set up a wireless network. Dave Johnson wheeled in a multimedia science presentation. Terry Cooper helped some people learn about some of the older computers in the room Susan Callahan demonstrated what one could do with iPhoto.



Scott Dawson pulled some strings with an Apple regional representative so that he



could bring a brand-new iPod Nano to show off. Jack Webster demonstrated a genealogy program. Phil Bowser and Carolyn Dawson worked the main desk, greeting the public getting people to sign the guest register, and giving away handouts. Marie Rasmussen was our gracious hostess, making sure everyone felt welcome and connected with the local Mac “expert” they needed to see. President Bernie gave a welcoming address and then the guests wandered from station

to station as their interests directed.

The room was busy the entire evening, and the time flew by. Lots of people deserve special thanks, and I hope that I am not leaving somebody out. But a special round of applause should go to Apple Representative, Victor Blum, who Fe-



dExed an iPod Nano to the event, and Orenco Systems Incorporated, of Sutherlin. Orenco loaned a couple of iMacs so that we would have plenty to go around. Photos for this story were provided by Dave Johnson and Carolyn Dawson.



Redecorating Tips for Computer Refurbishers

Yesterday my older brother Jay came by to visit my apartment in the Washington dc area. When he saw all the refurbished computers and computer parts in my bedroom, he joked about the tasteful decor. "This decor style is named 'nouveau refurb,'" I joked with him.

When I was living in an apartment on my own, I sometimes had as many as 5 refurbished computers stored temporarily in the bathtub. Yes it's inconvenient to take them out for every shower or bath, but those computers are lifelines for the people who will be getting them from me. Worth the effort. Along these lines, here are some humorous tips on how you can spruce up and redecorate your living space using refurbished computers and computer parts.

If you have a corner of a room that doesn't have any computer or computer parts in it, why not give it a decorative punch with a tasteful pile of broken motherboards? For added interest, place these on a large square pillow. What could be easier? Your friends will be all talking about it for months.

Do you have a coffee table without any clutter on it? Why not highlight it with a dusty tape drive -- the perfect accompaniment to any coffee table? On top of the tape drive you can tastefully drape power cords. Use both gray and black power cords for an interesting visual effect.

Do you have a bathroom lacking

a broken CRT monitor? Grab a broken CRT monitor and place it right beside the bathtub. A broken monitor draws the eye right to the tub, accentuating both the monitor and the tub.

If you have a handful of Zip drives, why not create a Zip drive bouquet? Remember the large chipped and broken vase your aunt offered you? Call her up and grab it. After wrapping it with duct-tape, arrange the Zip drives in a floral arrangement right in that vase. You'll be the talk of the town.



*Photo from
andrewclutterbuck.blogspot.com*

You would be amazed what you can do with 14.4 modems. Look for a room in your house with fewer than 20 modems. Scatter the 14.4 modems around the room. Presto, the room is spruced up in a flash.

Want a finishing touch for your living room? How about a tangle of cables hanging from a meat hook from the ceiling? It's a fresh idea you'll see nowhere else around town. If you need any cable, just casually reach up behind you and grab a cable. Please be careful about your hand and that sharp meat hook.

Suppose you have a dozen beige box computers stacked up in a corner of the room. If you give each of these beige boxes a slight twist, you create a spiral helix, thereby honoring current dominant life forms, human beings,

and future dominant life forms, computers. Who says sculptures are only for sculptors?

The most useful of all materials, of course, are Ethernet cables. There are so many ways to use these to add decorative touches to a room. A long yellow Ethernet cable strung around a room at eye level adds pizzazz like nothing else can. Your artist friends will be begging you to tell them where you buy your Cat 5 cabling.

In all of the above decorating tips, don't forget ways of adding clutter under foot. If you see any

rooms where there are no obstacles to trip over, it's best to take care of this early rather than late. Old model laser printers, weighing over 70 pounds, are best for placing mid-room. Add a duct-tape vase bouquet of Zip drives on top for that special flair.

Keep in mind that in redecorating computer refurbishing spaces, musty is a must. While you can't buy true must (although I've never understood why not),

a good substitute is a couple sprays of WD-40 to lend the right aroma to your air.

Think of the computers and computer parts in your place as a way of expressing your style, your personality. You can perk up just about any space once you start getting creative. With proper planning and placement, the results can be breathtaking. You can rest assured that your clutter will be as unique as you are.

Phil Shapiro

The author has been looking for new ways to add clutter to his life for the past 10 years. He can be reached at <http://www.digitaldivide.net/profile/pshapiro> His blog is at <http://www.digitaldivide.net/blog/pshapiro>

TidBITS

by Adam C. Engst

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Apple Addresses Flaws in Some iPod nanos -- Shortly after writing about the iPod nano (see "New iPod nano Replaces iPod mini" in TidBITS-796), a reader wrote to me asking, "What about the issue of reports of the easy breaking of the screen when there has been no obvious / excessive / accidental misuse of the iPod nano?" As the device had only been out a few days, I had no idea what he was talking about. Soon, though, I began to see reports on the Web about people having problems with iPod nano screens cracking without being mishandled, as well as scratched screens. At that point, I didn't pay it much attention: when dealing with hundreds of thousands of consumer hardware devices, some flawed ones are bound to appear.

<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=08242> <http://www.apple.com/ipodnano/>

Last week, however, Apple's Senior Vice President of Worldwide Marketing Phil Schiller addressed the problem in an interview with Macworld Magazine. He said that less than one-tenth of one percent of the iPod nano units suffer from a manufacturing defect, and that owners with the problem can call AppleCare to have the iPod replaced. As for the scratches, Schiller noted that the screens use the same materials found on the current iPod color line, which have not generated complaints. (One enterprising owner documented his success at using a \$4 can of Brasso to bring his black iPod nano back to like-new condition.) [JLC]

<http://www.macworld.com/news/2005/09/27/nanoscreen/index.php> <http://todd.dailey.info/archives/2005/09/27/restore-your-ipod-nano-to-new-condition-with-a-4-can-of-brasso/>

Retrospect 6.1 Gains Full Tiger Compatibility -- Although Retrospect 6.0 has worked fine with Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger in general, it doesn't support two of Tiger's new features: access control lists (ACLs) that enable administrators to

control who can access and modify files stored on a Mac OS X 10.4 server and extended attributes that will be used by future Mac applications. EMC Dantz has now released Retrospect 6.1 to add support ACLs and extended attributes. Needless to say, most people didn't even notice this omission in Retrospect 6.0, but it's nice to see the update anyway. A similar update for Retrospect Express 6.1 will be available in the future (Retrospect Express users running Tiger should be sure to update to Retrospect Express 6.0.212). The Retrospect 6.1 update is free for Retrospect 6.0 owners; it's a 24 MB download. [ACE]

<http://www.dantz.com/updates> <http://kb.dantz.com/display/2n/articleDirect/index.asp?aid=7971&r=0.7230188>

Windows Treo Questions Palm OS Future, by Jeff Carlson jeffc@tidbits.com

On 26-Sep-05, the heads of Palm, Microsoft, and Verizon Wireless held a joint press conference to announce a new Palm Treo smartphone running Microsoft Windows Mobile 5.0, not the Palm OS. Although rumors had pegged such a device for months (you can see pictures of one at Engadget, which also had video in early August of what appears to be a developmental model), the announcement still came as a bit of a shock to people who have always associated Palm the company (in its many iterations) with the Palm operating system.

http://www.palm.com/us/company/pr/news_feed_story.epl?reqid=760974
http://www.palm.com/us/company/?creativeID=RFB|windows_20050927
<http://www.engadget.com/entry/1234000867059961/>

Despite the press event, the Windows Treo is not yet a shipping product, and doesn't even have a model number. It will be available in early 2006, and will at first be exclusive to the Verizon Wireless network.

Why go with Windows Mobile when Palm has invested so heavily in the Palm OS? Or, as a friend of mine commented, "That just seems like the worst business plan ever. If you have Palm in your name, you should still be committed to the OS." If you've watched

Palm over the years, however, you know it's not so simple. If you haven't, well, it can be outright confusing. But despite the apparent oddity of a Windows-based, Palm-branded handheld, it just may be the thing to ensure that Palm, Inc. stays in business.

A Gnarled Family Tree -- The last time I wrote about Palm for TidBITS (see "PalmSource to Drop Mac Support in Palm OS Cobalt" in TidBITS-717), Palm, Inc. had spun off its Palm OS division into a subsidiary called PalmSource. Up to that point, Palm had become the dominant handheld vendor, but didn't do much to innovate in its space, leaving the door open to rivals such as Microsoft to build Windows CE (also called PocketPC and now Windows Mobile) and Research in Motion (RIM) to succeed with its Blackberry handhelds.

<http://db.tidbits.com/getbits.cgi?tbart=07543> <http://www.blackberry.com/na/index.shtml>

Realizing that it needed some sort of smartphone product, Palm purchased rival Handspring - which was originally formed by the founders of Palm who had bailed to forge their own handheld path - to acquire Handspring's promising Treo line of smartphones. Together, Palm and Handspring became palmOne (with annoying capitalization). Palm was going to design the hardware, while PalmSource tried the Microsoft route of licensing its operating system back to palmOne and to other vendors such as Sony.

<http://www.palmsource.com/>

Unfortunately, things went south from there, especially for PalmSource. Sony abandoned the market entirely, leaving palmOne the only large Palm OS licensee. Worse, the highly touted Palm OS 6, also known as Palm OS Cobalt, was largely ignored by palmOne. Although Cobalt was designed specifically with mobile handhelds in mind, palmOne had successfully adapted Palm OS 5 (also called Garnet) to perform those functions in its Treo line. To date, nearly two years after PalmSource was spun off, Cobalt hasn't appeared on any handhelds (though Oswin Technology demonstrated

...continued on page 6

...*TidBITS* from page 5 a Cobalt smartphone at the last PalmSource DevCon in May).

http://www.palminfocenter.com/view_story.asp?ID=7874 <http://www.oswintech.com/>

In July 2005, palmOne tossed \$30 million to PalmSource to acquire full rights to the Palm name, and renamed itself the appropriately capitalized Palm, Inc. PalmSource, meanwhile, shifted its development efforts and is now working on building Cobalt to run on top of Linux. In September, PalmSource announced that it is being acquired by Tokyo-based Access Co., Ltd. for \$324.3 million in cash.

http://www.palm.com/us/company/pr/news_feed_story.epl?reqid=712951 <http://www.palmsource.com/opensource/> http://www.palmsource.com/press/2005/090905_access.html

Looking at where the players have ended up so far, I can't help but draw comparisons to Apple and the Macintosh: as young companies, Apple and Palm dominated their fields, grew complacent, and were slowly but surely pushed to the edge of the market - by Microsoft. Unlike a lot of people, I've never believed that if Apple had licensed the Mac OS, they'd now own the personal computer market; that approach has really worked only once... with Microsoft. (The jury is still out on Linux, but that's a slightly different case: Linux is a grass-roots operating system that has made enormous strides in certain highly technical markets, where the driving force is not market domination on the road to riches, but market domination on the road to weakening Microsoft.)

Perhaps if PalmSource had been able to convince Palm to start using Cobalt, they would have fared better. But from the outside, it looks as if they spent two years tinkering instead of selling Cobalt to device makers. "Real artists ship," as Steve Jobs is famously quoted.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steve_Jobs

Enter Microsoft -- While Palm has been flailing about like a kid who's just eaten all of his Halloween candy, Microsoft has been relatively slow

and steady in its Windows Mobile development. The last version I really got my hands on was in 2001 when I reviewed an HP iPaq for HOW Magazine, which, while an improvement over previous versions, still felt counter-intuitive and awkward. Windows Mobile 5.0, which powers the upcoming Treo, seems more usable.

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsmobile/5/>

And one of the things that Windows Mobile offers that the Palm OS has had trouble with is remote integration with Microsoft Exchange. Companies invested in Exchange Server want their employees to be able to interact directly on smartphones, which the new Treo is capable of providing. The new device doesn't possess the capability to receive email messages pushed to it - the feature that has made RIM's Blackberry handhelds so popular - but it will be available in the future.

One upside, at least from what I could tell by watching portions of the streamed Palm/Microsoft/Verizon press conference, is that Palm has applied their expertise in phone software to the new Treo. Aside from the advantage of having a phone and organizer combined into one device, the main advantage of the Treo has been its superior software. For example, Palm demonstrated how the new Treo can decline an incoming call by sending a quick text message to the person who's calling, rather than send them to voicemail or ignoring the call.

Palm Support on the Mac -- As usual, native Mac support is either nonexistent or unclear; we'll know more when the device is actually released. However, I have to commend Mac developer Mark/Space for their positioning: they currently offer The Missing Sync for Windows Mobile 2.0 for existing Windows Mobile devices (though Windows Mobile 5.0 is not yet supported).

http://www.markspace.com/missingsync_windowsmobile.php

It's possible that Palm may update Palm Desktop to provide compatibility with the new device, but I'm not holding my breath. The company only recently

(in the last few months) fixed a problem I wrote about in August 2004 (see "Escaping Palm HotSync Installation Hell" in *TidBITS*-744). The installer would run into a permissions problem that was infuriating to work around.

Palm Desktop 4.2.1 Rev D finally fixes the problem. (Technically, Rev C fixed it, but then was unavailable for a short time until Rev D appeared. If you downloaded and installed Palm Desktop 4.2.1 Rev C and HotSync works fine, you don't need to update to Rev D; the installer is a 17.1 MB download.)

<http://www.palm.com/us/support/macintosh/macdesk421revd.html>

Note that when I was helping a friend install Palm Desktop 4.2.1 Rev C on his PowerBook, I needed to eradicate every trace of Palm Desktop and HotSync to get the installer to work correctly. Simply trashing the application folder, as Palm recommends, didn't do the job; we had to find and delete all Palm and HotSync preferences and related files (such as synchronization conduits) before installing.

The Future of the Palm OS -- I'm not quite ready to claim that the Palm OS is dead: Palm, Inc. continues to sell plenty of organizers and Treos (470,000 Treos were sold in the most recent financial quarter), and Palm CEO Ed Colligan stated at the Windows Treo press conference that the company would continue to sell Palm OS Treos. It also has four years of Palm OS licensing paid for as part of the Palm, Inc. branding deal with PalmSource.

http://www.palm.com/us/company/pr/news_feed_story.epl?reqid=760060

And yet, with PalmSource sold off and Microsoft stepping in, I can't help but think that the Palm OS needs to start showing something spectacular in the future to avoid the fate of other up-and-coming operating systems. Look at what happened to the BeOS: it was bought by PalmSource and never heard from again.



What Do They Call All This Stuff?

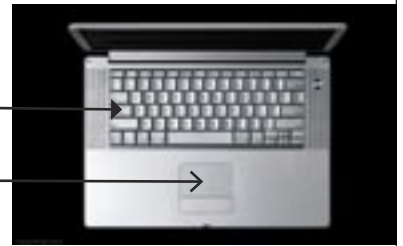
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Mac 101

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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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