



A registered Apple Macintosh User Group
January 2006~ Still only \$2.00



Next Meeting Thursday, January 19, 5:30 ~ 7:30 PM

The Apple Blossom Computer Club will meet at Joseph Lane Middle School, room #8 for it's monthly meeting.

Agenda

1. Meeting starts at 5:30 P.M.
2. Introduction of members/guests
3. Questions and Answers
4. Program: As of publication time, no one had stepped forward with a specific program. So there is a good chance it will be a general question and answer session, with members helping members with their troubles. Maybe an occasional brag over a new piece of gear.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Cash.....\$1880.08
 Income:
 Dues80.00
 Interest0.58
 Expenses:
 Newsletter30.00
 Ending Balance\$1915.75

*Jim McClellan,
Treasurer*

Got Photos? Try BubbleShare!

Last October, a Toronto firm launched a photo sharing site they call "BubbleShare." The concept is simple: you upload photos



and specify whether your pictures are public or private. BubbleShare hosts your images online, sending you via email the address of your photo album. You don't register, There is no fee. If you want friends and family to see (and maybe even download) your pictures, you send them your album's address.

Eventually, BubbleShare promises a "premium" service, which I suspect will sell you prints, or your picture on a coffee mug, etc. But it's not there right now. They say they just want to make it easier for you to "tell your story." Check it out at www.bubbleshare.com!

There is an iPhoto plug-in to make things easier for the Mac users among us, some blogging for community, and even an invitation to drop by their offices in Toronto on January 9 for some pizza and user feedback directly to the programmers!

--Phil Bowser

ABCC Elections Due in January

Elections Committee Chair, Brian Sundquist, reports the following candidates for office:

President

1. Bernie Fox
2. Jack webster

Treasurer

1. Jim McClellan

Ambassador

1. Terry Cooper

Editor of the Newsletter

1. Phil Bowser



Web Master

1. Bernis Fox

Director Positions

1. Phil Bowser
2. Trina "TK" McConnell
3. Brian Sundquist

If you want to run for office, you should probably contact Brian NOW at cottagehill@cmspan.net!!

The **Apple Blossom Computer Club** (ABCC) is an Apple Computer Inc., registered Macintosh and Apple][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>.
Copyright© 2005
All Rights Reserved

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.

Goin' Broadband by Philip Bowser

Mostly because of the price difference, I've been sticking with dial-up Internet service. I don't play multiplayer games on-line <<http://www.mpogd.com/>>, or watch movie trailers <<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/mac.html>>, so why would I need high speed access?

Well, software updates could be one reason. On a good day, my dial-up could deliver maybe about a megabyte in five minutes. So if I needed to download a 33-megabyte security upgrade, I had to do it at a time when I wouldn't need the family telephone for almost three hours. My strategy was to click the "download" button right before turning in for the night. With a little luck, my download would be waiting for me in the morning. If not, well - not much lost.

So, gradually, my OS became further and further out of date. I tried to buy some music from iTunes, but was blocked because my iTunes software was too old. I downloaded new software, but was told it wouldn't run until I upgraded my OS. Over time, more and more pieces ceased to function completely, and it all boiled down to needing to keep up with the upgrades. Time to investigate high speed connections!

Thanks to the Apple Blossom Computer Club, I got to hear presentations from each of



the high-speed Internet Service Providers (ISP) in town. Some just talked about their products and fees, some brought boxes of gear so we could see how much stuff would be involved, and everybody brought brochures. One even took club members out into the parking lot, set up an antenna, and demonstrated a wireless connection. Although this happened over a series of months, that was OK because I was in no particular hurry to spend more money.

Now I have a little antenna on my roof, pointed at yet another antenna on the hill across the way. This is my high speed connection to the Internet. My antenna connects to a router (above) into which I plug my desktop G4 and my laser printer. Two little antennae on the router send 802.11g signals to any Wi-Fi computer within range. This means I can sit with my laptop in any room of the house - or the back yard - and surf the 'Net, send email, share documents (and some applications) and print from my laptop to my printer in the basement. No wires for the kids or pets (or myself) to trip over. Plus, the connection is MUCH faster than my old dial-up (up to 3 Mbps!)



Bernie's Note About MISIE

A BCC club President, Bernie Fox, passed along the following news about Microsoft Internet Explorer for Macintosh. According to Microsoft's Mactopia Web page:

"In June 2003, the Microsoft Macintosh Business Unit announced that Internet Explorer for Mac would undergo no further development, and support would cease in 2005. In accordance with published support lifecycle policies, Microsoft will end support for Internet Explorer for Mac on December 31st, 2005, and will provide no further security or performance updates."

"Additionally, as of January 31st, 2006, Internet Explorer for the Mac will no longer be available for download from Mactopia. It is recommended that Macintosh users migrate to more recent web browsing technologies such as Apple's Safari."

Image from www.bombich.com



Morgan's Forward About CCC

Hey Folks: A fellow Mac user sent me this post that i thought some of you might find helpful:

"Carbon copy cloner, this is very useful for backing up your startup drive to a .DMG (disk image file) that can be used to replace the operating system/applications/settings/everything!!!! I just went through a complete reinstall of my OS/applications and thought there must be a better way than juggling install CDs, serial numbers, resetting all my settings and all. Well I found it, I used Carbon Copy Cloner to clone a very stable incarnation of my OS/apps to an external drive in a 4.8GB .DMG file.

Now when disaster strikes I can simply restore my startup disc from the .DMG, which takes about five minutes, Compare that to the full day I spent installing OS/apps manually, SWEET!!! Oh and Carbon Copy Cloner is free!"

You can download your own copy at this address—

<http://www.bombich.com/software/cccl.html>

Hope someone finds that helpful :)

*morgan
msully@thecentersd.org*

REVIEW:

Canopus ADVC110

By Frank Petrie

Product: ADVC110

Company: Canopus

<www.canopus.com/products/ADVC110/index.php>

Requirements: Mac OS X (10.1 or later); also available for Windows

Test Rig: PowerMac G4/DP 1.42Ghz/1.5 GB RAM/OS 10.4.3

Going to MacWorld in San Francisco. And I'm going to be doing some vodcasting. As fate would have it, I visited there two years ago with my daughter, so I have a bunch of beauty shots, royalty free. Except they're all in Hi-8. And my miniDV doesn't have a pass-through function (went bottom end, so that I can drop a wad on an HDV camera in several years). Time for a conversion.

"Use ADVC110 to connect all analog and digital video cameras, decks and editing systems. ADVC110 is a portable and easy-to-use digital video converter... ADVC110 is the ideal device for capturing and outputting analog video from any FireWire equipped notebook and desktop computer. There are no drivers to install and ADVC110 does not require a power supply when used with a 6-pin FireWire cable."

This one sounds too good to be true. I'll bet my mother could hook it up! Seeing as she's down in South Carolina and I'm up here in Jersey, guess I'll have to do it.

THE JUICE

The package is quite sparse: ADVC110 unit, 1 x IEEE 1394 FireWire cable (6-pin – 6-pin) and the User manual. That's it. But that's all you need.

Don't be fooled. This is an amazing little piece of hardware. All I had to do was plug in the FireWire cable for both signal and phantom power, then run the cables from my Canon Hi-8 to the converter. That's it.

But whatever codec they're using to convert your analog signal to digital is phenomenal! The clarity, the color and the clean sound is more than I could have hoped for and more.

THE PITS

Nada.

THE RIND

Nada.

THE PULP

The Canopus ADVC110 is so simple to use, you can do it blind-folded. Hardware like this is such a treat to use. I opened the box, plugged it in and went to work.

Now, if I could only plunk down some change and get my life to work this smoothly...

RATING: 10 out of 10

©2005 Frank Petrie - Freelance writer

Email: phranky@mac.com

iChat: phranky

Archive: home.comcast.net/

~phranky



Mac 911: Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems



By Christopher Breen

Classic conundrum

I erased my Power Mac G4's hard drive during a clean install of OS X 10.4. Now I can't seem to reinstall OS 9 to run the Classic environment. Is there a way to install Mac OS 9 while my system is running Tiger?

--Rob Prosky

Although Tiger supports the Classic environment, it doesn't install the OS 9 components necessary to run applications in that environment. For that, you'll need the installation discs that came in the box with your Mac. With my Power Mac G5, I can install OS 9 using the Install Additional Software installer that's found on the Additional Software & AHT disc. You'll likely find such an installer on a separate disc called Power Mac G4 Mac OS 9 Install, or on a software-restore disc.

If you'll be using OS 9 only in the Classic environment, you needn't worry about how your hard drive is formatted. However, if you intend to boot your Mac into OS 9, you have to put the OS 9 driver on the OS 9 boot volume. The option for installing the driver is in both the Erase tab and the Partition tab of Disk Utility (/Applications/Utilities). To install the driver, you must reformat the drive or partition.

iPod safety net

My entire iTunes Music Library has disappeared. However, 5,624 of my songs are on my 40GB iPod. If I could retrieve all of them, I will have lost only a total of 35 songs. Is there a way to recover my music from my iPod?

--Mike Quinn

There are many ways to do what you ask. Of the myriad utilities for moving music from an iPod to a Mac's hard drive, I prefer Whitney Young's Senuti (macworld.com/0721). I like Senuti because it's free, because it's faster than many similar utilities, and because it, unlike a lot of iPod recovery tools, will copy not only the music but also any playlists stored on the iPod (see top screenshot).

The Little App Factory's iPodRip (\$15) is another good choice. You're allowed to use it ten times for free before you have to pony up the modest shareware fee. This is quite a bargain, considering that unless you're an extremely unlucky individual, you shouldn't have to recover music from your iPod more than a couple of times.

Preview MIA

I have an iMac G4 with OS X 10.3.9 and cannot get a preview when printing from Microsoft Word. I think the problem is related to the fact that the Preview application won't open when clicked on directly. I just downloaded and installed the

OS X 10.3.9 update combo, but it didn't help.

--David Key

When an application acts up and restarting your Mac doesn't make it settle down, try deleting its preferences file. When these files become scrambled, odd things can happen--for example, the application can fail to launch. You can usually find your preferences files by following this path: /your user folder/Library/Preferences. In this case, you're looking for the file named `com.apple.Preview.plist`.

If that doesn't work, your next step is to launch Disk Utility, click on the First Aid tab, select your startup drive, and click on the Repair Disk Permissions button. This is a good all-purpose solution--sometimes it will fix the problem, but if it doesn't, it won't usually do any harm.

Still no luck? Before reinstalling the application, try repairing the drive by restarting the Mac while holding down Command-S (to boot into Single User Mode). Once the Mac has booted to the black screen with white letters, type `fsck -fy` and press return to repair the drive. If your Mac reports problems, re-enter `fsck -fy` until you get a clean report. When it reports no problems, type `reboot` and press return to restart the Mac.

Finally, if nothing else works, reinstall the problem application. If one of OS X's built-in applica-

...continued on page 6

...“911” from page 5

tions, such as Preview or iChat, is giving you trouble, you can use CharlesSoft’s Pacifist (\$20) to extract the single application from the Mac OS X installation disc.

Make your mark

I have a third-generation iPod, and it won’t bookmark the Podcasts I download from the iTunes Music Store. Is there any way for me to bookmark these files?

--Gwen Hunter

Ah, the convenience of bookmarking--listen to a bit of a Podcast on your iPod or computer and then play some different tracks, and when you return to the Podcast, it picks up where it left off. You’re not alone in wishing you could do this. Click Wheel iPods will bookmark Podcasts, but earlier iPods won’t. Thankfully, there’s a way to convert the files so you can bookmark them on your iPod, no matter what its age.

One method is to use Thunderstone Media’s iPodderX (\$25; ipodderx.com) to download your Podcasts. Enable the Convert Audio Files To AAC and Make AAC Files Bookmarkable options in the Subscriptions pane of the program’s Preferences window. With these options selected, iPodderX converts Podcasts into AAC files and then converts them to a bookmarkable form that all iPods can understand.

Alternatively, you can convert any non-AAC Podcast within iTunes by selecting the Podcast

and then choosing Advanced: Convert Selection To AAC. (If you don’t see that menu option, go to iTunes: Preferences, click on Importing, and select AAC Encoder from the Import Using pop-up menu.) Once you’ve converted the file, download Doug Adams’ free Make Bookmarkable AppleScript from Doug’s AppleScripts for iTunes site (macworld.com/0723) and use it to make those files bookmarkable.

Slicker slide shows

I like making slide shows of my digital photos. I could do this in iPhoto, but I use iMovie instead so I can add titles and have more control over the audio. Still, I wish I could use iPhoto’s Page Flip and Cube transitions. Is there any way to bridge this gap?

--Charlie Frick

You can approach this problem from a couple of different angles. If you’d like to work within iPhoto, which Apple’s iLife ‘05 includes (\$79), you don’t have to do without titles. Create a title image (white text on a black background, for example) in a graphics application, save it as a JPEG, import it into iPhoto, and include it as part of your slide show. The downside of this technique is that your titles have to be static images--you won’t get the swoopy-doopy moving titles you can create in iMovie.

Alternatively, you can create the slide show in iPhoto, choose Share: Export to save it as a QuickTime movie, and then import it into iMovie. There, you

use Edit: Split Clip At Playhead to break up the video as needed; then you can insert titles where you like.

Yet another alternative is to create the slide show in iMovie and use some of the many third-party iMovie transitions available today. GeeThree.com offers tons of transitions (as well as titles and effects) in its many Slick Transitions & Effects packages, priced at \$30 to \$70 per set and also available in bundles. If a comprehensive package of transitions is more than you need, check out cf/x, which offers single transitions; prices range from free to \$5.50 each.

But wait, there’s more! A visitor to the Mac 911 forums at Macworld.com suggests that you create a presentation in Keynote, included in Apple’s iWork ‘05 (\$79). Put one picture on each slide and use cool transitions (see bottom screenshot). Then save that presentation as a QuickTime movie, ready for import into iMovie.

Protecting archives

Is there a way to secure an archive with a password?

--Alberto Martinez

If you select a file in the Finder and choose File: Create Archive, you won’t see an encryption option. But you can use Apple’s Disk Utility to create encrypted disk-image archives. To do so, create a folder and place anything you want to archive and encrypt

Continued on page 7...

...“911” from page 6 inside it. Launch Disk Utility and choose File: New: Disk Image From Folder. (If you’re using Panther, go to Images: New: Disk Image From Folder.) In the resulting dialog box, navigate to the folder you just created and click on Image.

In the New Image From Folder dialog box that appears, choose Compressed from the Image Format pop-up menu and AES-128 (Recommended) from the Encryption pop-up menu. Click on Save. You’ll soon see an Authenticate dialog box. Enter and verify a password for the archive. If you don’t want the image to decrypt automatically when opened from your user account, disable the Remember Password (Add To Keychain) option. (In other words, if other people will operate your Mac while logged in to your user account, disable this option so they’ll need the password to decrypt the archive.) Click on OK to create the encrypted and compressed archive. Note that you can use these archives only on a Mac--Windows won’t have a clue what to do with them.

You can also create password-protected archives with Allume’s StuffIt Standard Edition (\$50)--an option that makes sense if you need to e-mail archives that work on the Mac and on Windows.

Fax facts

Having given away my old, reliable Brother fax machine, and needing to send a fax, I thought I’d give the fax

feature on the Mac a try. The result was zero. Nothing. No matter what I tried, it wouldn’t work. I’m using OS X 10.3.9. In particular, I’m confused by the drop-down fax window that asks which modem I want to use. I’m using DSL, not a dial-up modem. What am I missing here?

--Don King

You’re missing the notion that traditional faxes send analog signals over analog modems via analog phone lines, whereas your DSL modem uses digital signals.

It’s possible that the wall jack you’re using for your DSL connection also supports analog calls--a quick way to test it is to plug a phone into that jack and listen for a dial tone. If the jack works, you can plug both the DSL modem and your Mac’s modem into the jack, using a line splitter.

If not, you need to plug your Mac’s modem into a standard phone line or transmit the fax to a compatible mobile phone using Bluetooth. Adding a Bluetooth fax-modem device is a somewhat convoluted process, and not all mobile phones and services support faxing. But if you’re thinking about faxing via a Bluetooth phone (and you use Panther or Tiger), read Apple’s Knowledge Base article “Adding a Bluetooth Fax Device”.

Another option is to do all your faxing online, through a service such as eFax. For \$12.95 a month, you can send faxes via eFax’s eFax Messenger software or

the Web. When people send you faxes, they use your personal eFax number (usually with the area code of your choice). eFax receives the fax, converts it to a graphics file, and mails it to your e-mail account as an attachment.

Tip of the month

In the August issue, you suggested that a reader who wanted to send e-mail messages with embedded HTML should use a third-party AppleScript and Microsoft Entourage, included in Office 2004 (\$399). An easier solution is to use the free Mozilla Thunderbird e-mail client to create this sort of composition.

I use the Insert: HTML option every month to send out my company’s HTML newsletter from my PowerBook, and the results work like a charm on every e-mail client I’ve tested. Furthermore, Thunderbird has many other useful features that make it a worthy adversary of (or companion to) Apple’s Mail.

--John Rork

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>.

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 1/31/06

User ID: ipod

Password: nano

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

**RECENTLY
IMPROVED!**



30% DISCOUNT!

As a user group member, you are entitled to a 30% discount any time you order directly from O'Reilly. When ordering, be sure to include the user group discount code: **DSUG**

- Order online at www.oreilly.com. Enter the DSUG code where indicated.
- Order by phone at **800-998-9938**. Ask for customer service and provide the representative with the DSUG code.
- Order by FAX at **707-829-0104**
- 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!

Free Advertising for ABCC Members!

Members of the Apple Blossom Computer Club can advertise their goods and services in this newsletter for free. Contact the Editor to arrange YOUR advertisement! Keep in mind this is a small newsletter, so there will be space limitations.

Let Me Write Your Web Page

Long-term ABCC member seeks small-ish web page authoring jobs, reasonable rates.

Phil Bowser
541-673-8219

Seasoned Oak Firewood

You haul. You split. \$85 a chord
Call Bernie 672-2487