



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



ABCC To Vote On Revised By-Laws

The final draft of our revised By-laws is now available for viewing at <[http://www.abccmug.org/By-laws final draft.pdf](http://www.abccmug.org/By-laws%20final%20draft.pdf)>. Our old By-laws state that we must have a reading of the revised By-laws at a regular meeting (which we did at our March meeting) followed by a vote on the revisions at the next regular meeting (April).

According to the current By-laws we need to have a 2/3 of a quorum in order to have a legal vote. So, please read the final draft and let Jim (Jim McClellan <mcclellan@charter.net> know if you approve or not. We will also be voting at the April meeting, for those who haven't voted by E-mail. Remember, your vote is needed to meet the requirements of our current By-laws. Thanks.

*Bernie Fox
ABCC President*

Next Meeting Thursday, April 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.

Agenda

1. Meeting starts at 5:30 P.M.
2. Introduction of members and guests
3. Questions and Answers
4. Program:
 - a. Vote on Amended By-Laws
 - b. We will be discussing a proposal by George Kelion, the Mac User Group contact at Feral Interactive, a leading publisher of Mac games (whether or not the Apple Blossom Computer Club would be interested in participating). They offer sending complimentary copies of their latest releases to Macintosh User Groups, in exchange for a review - either posted online or in the User Groups' newsletter.

Resurfacing CDs So They Work Again

A simple way to remove scratches from a cd so you can get your data back off the disc again. Take some Brasso and pour it onto the CD. Please be careful with the Brasso, and only perform this in a well ventilated area.

Use the paper towel pieces to polish the CD. Polishing is ideal in straight strokes from the center of the disk to the outside so you polish perpendicular to the tracks on the disc. Because I was short on time, I used small circular motions similar to how I'd polish a car. Take your time with this. Add Brasso when it dries or gets pushed off the CD. Continue this process

for about 15 minutes.

Rinse the CD off under water and check the CD. The Brasso will have left small scratches on the disc as it wore down the CD. Keep going until the deep scratches are gone. When done, rinse the disc, and wipe it with the soft eyeglass cloth.

from www.instructables.com

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$1,991.96
Income:	
Interest	\$0.82
Dues	\$40.00
Expenses:	
Newsletter	\$35.30
Website	\$3.95
Ending Balance	\$2,013.53

*Jim McClellan,
Treasurer*

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>
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Membership

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

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Winston, OR 97496

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AOL User Group Rep
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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.

from terry cooper

How To Boot Windows XP on Intel Mac

A contest started by a user who promised his boss that a new MacBook Pro would boot Windows XP so it could replace an aging IBM desktop has bore fruit. The user narf2006 has succeeded in developing a solution to boot Windows XP on Intel-based Macs that has been confirmed by testers on various systems -- an won US\$13,854 in the process.

A note posted to WinXPonMac.com states:

“Contest has been won - updates to follow shortly. All further donations will go into an account to sustain the open source project that will be launched with the initial solution.”

Exact instructions for the solution should be posted soon.

UPDATE: A download page <<http://www.condoski.com/download/>> has been posted with full instructions and all the required patches to create a bootable Windows XP installation. The process requires:

- 1) An original XP PRO SP2 CDROM “It doesn’t have to be bootable, but it should have a I386 directory on the root.”
- 2) The xom.zip file (included in the downloadable file)
- 3) Nero Burning ROM
- 4) A blank CD
- 5) A PC



from: <http://www.computer-books.us/>

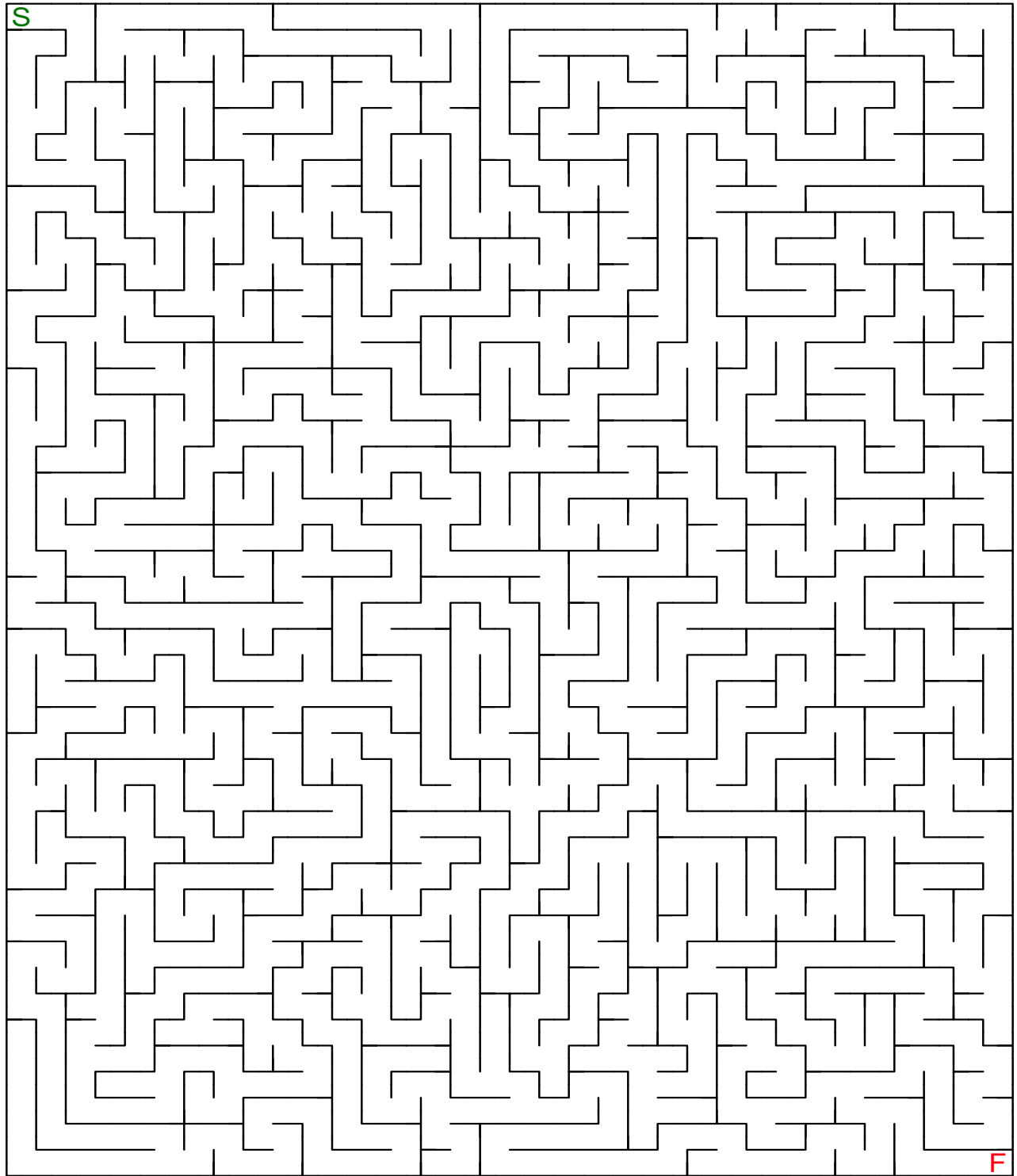
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ADA 95
AppleScript
Assembly Language
Awk BASIC
C C++
COBOL C#
Delphi Forth
Fortran SQL
PHP Java
Visual Basic
Perl Python



Puzzle Number 976,000,001

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This website is exactly what it says - nothing more, nothing less. Here you will find one billion mazes in Adobe Acrobat format, ready for you to download, print out and solve!! Keep those brain cells active, strong, and fresh with a little practice in planning ahead. No cutting through the walls, though - that's cheating!



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Technology

>> Concept >> Samples

It is what it says, simply, fabric in a can.

Fabrican is the fusion of art and science, combining expertise from London's Royal College of Art with Imperial College London

Whilst the principle is simple, the underlying technology is unique. Importantly, the technology is being developed with a number of key market sectors in mind. The fabric is flexible enough to deliver product of varying characteristics to suit the needs of the fashion industry, or the automotive industry, or cleansing companies. It is as soft as silk for some uses, or as tough as hemp for others. It can be applied to soft or hard surfaces and it is as durable as needs be.



Check it out at www.fabrican.com!

Free Real Estate Data

A recent addition to the wired world is the zillow.com real estate information website. Here you can find the value of your house, or just about any house in the country. It's free and it doesn't require any kind of subscription.

Zillow's database is updated daily, giving you a real-time look at your local housing market. You can also get the website to guess at the value of your home with an addition or a remodeling. At the right is the editor's childhood home in Missouri; the green space in the upper left corner is the playground for North Glendale Elementary School.



A USB Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID)

Our inspiration for this little project came from a couple sources. First, we'd like to thank this site for providing us with the idea.

Second, we had a bunch of floppy disks lying around our office...a bunch of USB hubs...and an iBook sitting around.

So...we did what came naturally. :-)

OUR SETUP:

- * iBook G3/700MHz
- * 384 MB of RAM
- * Running OX 10.4.3
- * 13 VST Floppy Drives
- * 6 USB 1.1 Hubs (Not all ports were used though)

WHY:

We work in the IT department of Carroll College, and were inventorying equipment in the closet. We ran across a box of USB floppy drives that were just sitting there...looking very sad and lonely. We blew off the dust from them and decided to give them a second life. We also had to test the drives, and rather than waste the time to test each drive

individually we thought it would just be easier to RAID them all together and test them all at once. So that's exactly what we did.

HOW:

1. Collected all the hubs, USB cables, and floppy drives we would need

2. Realized that it's harder than you think to find enough floppy DISKS for all those drives

3. We connected it all up to Windows XP SP2, and although it saw all the drives and disks, we weren't able to RAID them using any software we could find

4. Gave up on Windows

5. Fired up ye olde iBook

6. Connected all the USB hubs and drives to the iBook

7. Put floppy disks in all the drives and zeroed all of the disks and set them as Mac OS Extended format

8. We then added the disks to a new RAID that we decided to call Mega Floppy 06

9. Our RAID was formatted as Mac OS Extended and we let it sit and create

10. It successfully created and mounted our new RAID and we danced a dance of joy

11. Testing commenced

OTHER NOTES:

1. Average read/write throughput was about 70 KB/second

2. We originally were trying for 20 drives, but OS X was freaking out and only adding the drive, not the disk, so, we scaled back to only 13

3. Later this month, we will commence with our next project...a RAID of...drum roll please...Zip drives

4. We learned a couple important things...first...floppys can't keep up with streaming video. Streaming audio is okay but if you want it better...use a hard drive. :-)



Review

iFlex Only So Much

by Frank Petrie

Product: iFlex

Company: N/A

Requirements: iSight

Price: \$14.99 USD

Review Rig: G4 1.42 DP, 2x120 HD, 1.5 GB RAM, OS-10.4.5

I bought a 20" aluminum display for my rig and have been very happy with it. I plan on using it as my second monitor when I finally purchase a MacBook Pro, in fact. The only bother was with my iSight camera - how to mount it.

Now, I could have went to the Apple Store up the street (yes, I have the fortune or misfortune of having an Apple store only one mile away) and purchased iSight Accessory Kit for \$29.00. But not only is it way overpriced (second only to Apple's RAM prices), for the want of the magnetic mount, I'm then lumbered with a second of every other adaptor that came with the iSight. There must be another way. Aha! iFlex may be the answer. Let's see.

THE JUICE

"The iFlex is a fully shielded, high quality Firewire cable inside

a carefully engineered all-metal flexible tube. It's 18-inches long, and is specifically crafted with just the right stiffness and shape-holding rigidity to provide an easily adjustable stalk for mounting your iSight." Oh really?

You notice immediately when you first remove it from the box, is that it is a quality piece of hardware. There seems



to be a solid rigidity. Things are looking positive.

Until you try it. Then you notice immediately that the full 18" length of coil can't support the weight of the iSight! I plugged it into one of the FW ports on the back of my display, stuck in the iSight, and watched the iFlex flex to my desktop. It was then that I noticed that in all the promo pictures that I found was that the iFlex is always coiled but never extended!

(Yes, there is a shot of an iSight peering over the top of an aluminum PowerBook. But if you'll notice, the iSight's weight is being supported by the screen.)

THE RIND

We've gone over that.

THE PITS

Only half fulfills its promise.

THE PULP

This didn't suit my situation at all. The real answer is for Apple to stop being so greedy and sell the iSight mounts separately so that you only purchase the one that you need for your situation. I'm willing to bet that if Apple made this move, they'd make more

money than they do selling these kits. What a pain.

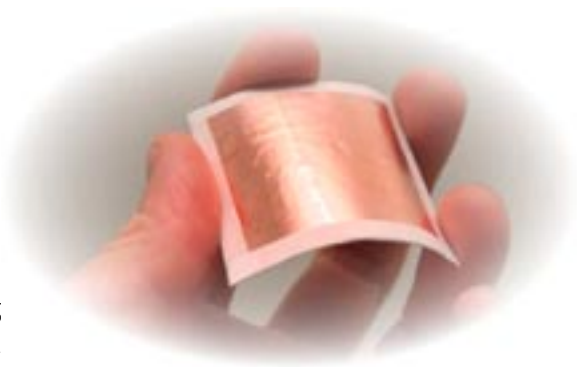
RATING: 5 out of 10

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from <http://www.enfucell.com/>

Paper Battery

Enfucell's scientists have developed miniature power sources over 10 years. The cumulated experience covers technologies from traditional "chemical" batteries to biocatalytic fuel cells. Their paper battery is based on the traditional battery technology in order to minimize the production costs. Later, in the case of more energy demanding applications, fuel cell or hybrid technology can also be applied



How It Works

The paper battery converts chemical energy directly into electricity. In our case, metal is oxidized at one side of paper and manganese oxide or other oxides are reduced at another side of the paper. The paper-containing electrolyte is used as separator. The metal might be zinc, aluminum, nickel and so on. The process generates electricity without any environmentally harmful by-products and goes on at a very wide temperature and humidity with a stable power output.

Advantages

It is an efficient, green, low power source technology. Compared to existing solutions, the main advantages for the end customer are:

- Cheap (low manufacturing cost and raw material cost)
- Thin and flexible (customer decides the size and shape)
- Easy disposal due to environmentally friendly technology
- Easy integration to the applications (both the power source and application are printable by roll to roll manufacturing technology)

The paper battery provides a stable voltage for the applications, which is around 1.5 volts if metal zinc and manganese oxide are used. Different voltage requirements from various applications can be realized by using multiple batteries in series, using different chemical materials or applying fuel cell technology.

Transparent Computer Screens

Flickr is a photo storage website. A Flickr user nicknamed "w00kie" has collected photos of computers that use images of the immediate area as desktop pictures. When everything is properly aligned, the overall effect is that of a transparent computer screen. w00kie's website is in French, but you can see it at www.macbidouille.com. The transparent screens are at www.flickr.com/photos/w00kie/sets/180637/



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 4/30/06

User ID: user

Password: group

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

BTW-if you go to <http://homepage.mac.com/ugab/offers/vendorcodes.htm>, and use the password "ugvendo" you will find a page of links to a wide variety of discounts available only to Mac user group members!



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.

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

Phil Bowser
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