



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



How Do You Get Photos Into Your Email?

The May ABCC club meeting featured a demonstration of iPhoto by Phil Bowser, our newsletter editor. He was frustrated a bit by all of the locks and protections the school district places on access to the internet, which prevented us from seeing a number of features and tutorials. But the crowd was polite (mostly) and had several good questions.

Treasurer Jim McClellan provided some addresses for web sites that help you to share your photos. You may want to check out:

Next Meeting Thursday, June 15, 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: We will be discussing the idea of finding a new meeting location, the day and time for our annual 'picnic'/pizza party as well as our Sept. public meeting at the Ford Room at the library.

Bernie Fox
ABCC President



pictures.aol.com/ap/welcome.do



www.kodakeasysharegallery.com/Welcome.jsp



www.flickr.com/



www.smugmug.com/



www.heypix.com/



www.worldisround.com/

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.

www.archive.org

The Internet Archive and The

WayBackMachine

The Internet Archive is building a digital library of Internet

sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Like a paper library, it provides free access to researchers, historians, scholars, and the general



public. So far, the collection includes 34,735 movies, 34,944 concert films, 79,744 audio recordings, and 28,589 texts. You never know when you will need a photo of the German zeppelin, Hindenburg, exploding its hydrogen fuel, or when you will

want to watch a 1930's vintage Betty Boop cartoon! Could add spice up your next home video!

The Archive is also the home of the "Wayback Machine." This is an archive of every old web page the system has been able to save. Did you ever go back to a web site for a particular piece of information only to find the webmaster had changed the content? If you are a webmaster, did you ever regret throwing away data from an earlier web page? Fear not! It just might be waiting for you in the Wayback Machine!



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Thanks to Our Ambassador, Terry Cooper! (Worth more than your dues!)

>Dear User Group...

>I am writing to you from *Mac Directory* to offer you free issues of our quarterly magazine. If you are interested, please send me your User Group name, address and how many issues you would like to receive.

>Thank You,
>Julia
>MacDirectory

Hi Julia! Our name and address is: Apple Blossom Computer Club (ABCC), PO Box 638, Winston, OR 97496. We would like 20 issues. Thanks a lot!

Terry Cooper
Club Ambassador



MD is the premier digital lifestyle mag for Macs!

Apple Converts The iBook To Intel Insides

As predicted in my previous article about the Mac mini, the iBook is pretty much a Mac mini with a 13-inch widescreen attached. In a refreshing move on Apple's part, all versions of the MacBook contain Intel's CoreDuo processor, which adds to the cost, but makes for a much better experience. (Not to mention, the more of these Apple buys, the cheaper the unit price per chip!) The machines start at \$1099 with the ability to play a DVD and a 60gb hard drive, a 1.83Ghz processor, a 13" glossy screen like Sony uses, and 1280x800 resolution. If you're willing to pay \$1299 you get a SuperDrive (the ability to burn a DVD) and a 2.0Ghz processor. If you're willing to pay \$1499, you get an 80gb hard drive and your MacBook is black instead of white.

All the machines ship with 512mb of RAM (when you order, upgrade to at least 1gb please!), built-in wireless networking, Bluetooth, Apple Remote, MagSafe power adapter, iLife '06, and a built-in iSight camera in the lid of the laptop. Tiger is pre-installed. You also get 10/100/1000 ethernet, one Firewire 400 port, 2 USB 2.0 ports, and optical digital and analog audio in/out.

So how do you decide between a MacBook and a MacBook Pro? The key differences are that the MacBook does not have a dedicated

graphics card, and instead uses the Intel Graphics Media Adapter 950, which takes part of your computer's RAM and uses it for driving the display. Anecdotal reports on this arrangement suggest it is fine for word processing and web surfing, but probably not ideal if you plan to play a lot of games. The MacBook Pro has its own dedicated graphics card and RAM, and while not a high-end graphics card, it offers



better graphics performance than a MacBook will. The MacBook Pro also offers screen resolution of 1440 x 900, and has a backlit keyboard so you can see the keys while you sit on the couch by the fire and use your laptop. MacBook Pros can optionally be purchased with a 7200rpm hard drive for performance closer to a desktop system. And the MacBook Pro offers an ExpressCard expansion slot for things like an adding EVDO wireless card or a Firewire 800 card.

The MacBook is 5.2 lbs, and the MacBook Pro is 5.6 lbs. Both families of machine feature DVI output to an external display, video mirroring, and extended desktop mode. Neither family of machine includes a modem. You need to buy that from Apple as an extra. In short, the differences are few, but the differences are significant enough that people

should have little trouble identifying which machine "family" will suit their needs best.

One area that will be considered an advantage for the MacBook over the MacBook Pro is that the RAM and the hard drive are both user-serviceable. (Typically RAM is always user serviceable, but being able to swap a hard drive is a giant plus for the MacBook family.)

So how do I rate the MacBook product family? If MacBooks are flying off the shelf at \$1299 and school districts are buying them, I suspect Apple will just rake in the cash, and not go after the student-on-a-budget customer with only \$799 to spend. And how far does your dollar go for that \$1299?

To make my comparison, I took the middle MacBook and added the Apple USB modem, which brought the MacBook to \$1348 with no Applecare coverage. The price of a Dell laptop comes to \$1254 with its slower CoreDuo processor, larger screen, and faster DVD drive. If you can forgive the MacBook's 13-inch screen versus the 15.4" screen on the Dell, and if you assume that Tiger and iLife are something you want (and prefer) to Windows XP, then the two laptops come out pretty close. (Last time I checked, viruses and spyware were not deterring people from buying a Windows computer.)

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MacNexus, the Sacramento
Macintosh User Group

BMW Night Vision (video)

BMW has released a video of BMW 7 Series Night Vision System with FIR (infrared) camera in front air dam. The video includes night driving scene with a jogger and a skater on the road. The infrared image is displayed on the on-board monitor, which another screen shows the driver's unaided view.

The difference between the two is striking, and is likely to sell a lot of BMWs on this feature alone. Of course, the driver's view is mostly black, with only a small stab of light to illuminate the road ahead. The jogger and the skater pop into clear view only at the last possible second, surely not enough time for a driver to react! But their warm bodies show up clearly on the infrared display. (In the photo above, the skater is at the left, moving out of the frame, and the jogger is the white spot way down the road on the right-hand shoulder.)



http://www.yankodesign.com/product_info.php?products_id=794



Timeflex Watches

Non permanent, self-gumming watch "timeflex" designed for using in situations when individual time control is necessary, but personal watch is difficult to access (swimming, sunbathing, working in laboratory, during going in for sports) & other situations where man uses working clothe.

You can just stick it on your clothe or skin and use until you need.

After that you can

throw it away. It is a conceptual project based on flexible screen technology. "Timeflex" can be bend and rolled as a paper. The menu can be controlled by touchscreen technology, the energy will be supplied by small super batteries, located in a thin layer of the watch. In the nearest future such technology will be popular and not expensive. (Text from the website!)



Designer: Igor Solovyov & Maria Solovyova
Contact Info: sigoryx [at] yahoo [dot] com

Amazon Dot Com's "Mechanical Turk"

by Philip Bowser

In the late 1700s, a chess playing machine designed and built by Wolfgang von Kempelen traveled across Europe. The machine featured a mannequin, dressed as a Turkish



www.futurefarmers.com

man, seated by a large cabinet that was filled with gears and springs. This "Mechanical Turk" beat most of its challengers, including luminaries such as Napoleon and Benjamin Franklin. Eventually it was discovered that a real human chess master was hidden within the works.

Nowadays, computers are advanced enough that they can play chess pretty well all by themselves. In 1997, a computer called "Deep Blue" beat Chess Champ Gary Kasparov <www.research.ibm.com/deepblue/>. But there are still some things that computers cannot do well.

For example, computers do

not recognize distorted letters on a twisted graphic background very accurately. That's why this task is occasionally inserted into a web site to foil programs that try to log in to everything in the world. I know several preschool and kindergarten children who could point to the barn in a large, complicated picture, but ask a computer to do that - naaah!

Recently Amazon dot com launched a test service which works like the Mechanical Turk. People who need to have a task completed that really requires human intelligence can set their computer to go www.mturk.com and request that people from all over the world take on that task and return to them what they need. The "human intelligence tasks" vary widely: a) write a routine in the computer language C++ that does some specific task, b) take a picture of a house at a certain location, c) name the three best sushi restaurants in Tokyo, d) name your three favorite athletes, and so on. Human responders sign on to the system with a user name and password (if you have purchased something from Amazon dot com, you have those already). Responders then select which tasks to attempt. Each task has a time limit, and some require that you first take a test to see if you have the basic qualifications to perform the task. The responder then hands over his/her product, which is supposed to be reviewed by another human within 10 days. If the work is acceptable, the responder is paid in US dollars by having that money

added to their Amazon dot com account. Just like the original Turk, requesters have the experience of interacting with a machine



Gary Kasparov, chess Grand Master
www.research.ibm.com

but - down deep - there is human intelligence.

I recently gave this system a try. Just by logging in, I found I was qualified to answer "opinion" questions such as "name three top vacation sites," or "If you could bring three people back to life, who would they be?" I started a qualification test, found it was not something I wanted to do and clicked on the "cancel" button. A warning appeared telling me that if I bailed on this qualification test, I would be blocked from further qualification tests from this requester. That seemed a bit harsh, but I've only tried one test so I don't know if this is a common practice. It's been a week and so far none of my requesters have gotten back to me as to whether or not my responses were "acceptable."

I'll bet you are wondering how much money I could make using this system. Well, the "3 opinions"
Continued on page 7...

Chessmaster 9000 v. 1.0.2

A Review by Bernie Fox
Developed by Zonic Ltd for the Mac
Published by Feral Interactive
<http://www.feralinteractive.com>
\$40 price tag

To start with, I'm really not a game person as most people would describe a 'game person'. I play very few games, on rare occasions chess. When I do play a game, I don't want to go through all the PR that the developer might provide in their quest to make the game interactive.

Feral starts by presenting a minute or two 'movie' before actually giving one the chance to start the game.

Since Chessmaster 9000 is made for anyone who has any interest at all in chess, the first 'real' window which appears, after one sets up the player (or you log-in), is where you get a chance to choose what you wish to do; either go to the: Library or Classroom or Game Room or Tournament or Database or Kids Room or CM Live.

*The Game Room provides tools to play and learn about chess.

*The Classroom is where one goes to find tutorials on every-

thing from the basics to advanced techniques.

*The Tournament Room is where one can play Rated games where one gets rated and can only play opponents, which the game provides, in your own category.

*The Library is where one goes if you would like learn/play like the masters by experiencing/watching more than 800 classic, master-level games by the best players in history.

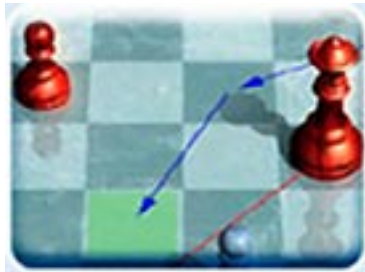


Image from chessmaster9.ubi.com

*The Kid's Room is provided for children in order for them to learn chess and improve their playing skills.

*The Database Room (for true chess fanatics) is where one goes to learn more about moves, games, and board positions by exploring/searching more than 500,000 chess games.

*The Chessmaster Live Room is where one goes if one wishes to play chess with other Chessmaster 9000 owners over the Internet or LAN.

What bothered me from the start is that the game comes on a DVD (that's not what bothers me) and installs a 1.39 gigabyte (yes gigabyte) folder onto your hard drive. Then, to play the game, one must always have/use the DVD (which does bother me), which means if you use a laptop, you must drag the DVD with you when you travel (rather an

inconvenience as far as I'm concerned). For those who just want a simple chess game, the free Chess game which is included as part of OS X probably will be enough but if you want the ultimate chess resource, nothing comes close to Chessmaster 9000.

The minimum requirements to install and play Chessmaster are:

- Mac OS 10.2
- 700MHz processor
- 256MB RAM
- 16MB VRAM
- 1.3GB HD
- DVD drive

Feral, however, recommends that you have the following:

- Mac OS 10.3
- 1 GHz processor
- 512MB RAM
- 16MB VRAM
- 1.3GB HD
- DVD drive

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$2,081.37
INCOME	
Dues	100.00
Interest	0.82
EXPENSES	
Newsletter	29.02
4 yrs Web Hosting. .	133.40
Ending Balance	\$2,019.77

From Jim McClellan, Treasurer
mcclellan@charter.net
Check out www.winstonoregon.net
I update this at least weekly.

...“Turk” from page 5

questions typically pay \$0.01! The programming questions pay more, but I doubt that the money received is nowhere near how much a worker would receive for writing that same bit of code as a full-time employee. And that’s what strikes me as odd. This Mechanical Turk encourages people to do work for less than their usual rate of pay. That may be good for the requesters, but it’s a “race to the bottom” for the workers!

Amazon dot com simply brokers the deals between requesters and responders. So it can earn money no matter what. Amazon charges a fee to post the request, and to return a response. Amazon holds the worker’s payment in it’s coffers (probably earning interest on the money) until enough accumulates that the worker can request it be deposited in his/her bank account. But wait - there’s more! Once you have a pile of money in your Amazon account, wouldn’t it be really, really easy to simply BUY something from Amazon with that money? Why, it wouldn’t even feel like real money - more like Monopoly <www.monopoly.com> money!

Truth be told, it’s fun and interesting to take on a variety of mental challenges. Somewhere, out there in the back of your mind, you are pushing on to do “just one more” because you are “getting paid” for your work. But it is VERY easy to forget what an incredibly small amount of money it is, and how you may be participating in a worldwide reduction in the standard of living of everybody. The Mechanical Turk is an interesting use of the technology, but I’m beginning to think the best way to play this game is to not even start.

Disney/PIXAR Dumps Ronald

According to blog traffic (which apparently started with a story in the L.A. Times), Apple CEO, Stephen Jobs, is a pescetarian. So one could understand how he might not be happy that his cartoon company, PIXAR, uses McDonald’s packaging to promote it’s movies.

Seems this agreement goes back around 10 years, so why

Dashboard - Philip B. Bowser (If you're not Philip B. Bowser, [click here](#))

HITs Available to You					
Title	Requester	Reward	# of HITs		
Restaurant Research - Seattle	RestaurantMaster	\$1.25	92		
It's Easy, and a Chance at \$500	Sound Clip Creation Contest	\$1.00	1		
Restaurant Verification - Seattle	RestaurantMaster	\$0.95	2		
Rank Your Top 3 - Top Seattle Mariners	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Best Takeout Food in Seattle	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Best Record Stores in Seattle	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Top Flat-panel Televisions under \$2,000	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Best Smartphone	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Best ryokan in Japan	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		
Rank Your Top 3 - Top cricket batsmen of 2006	Amazon Requester Inc.	\$0.91	1		

Your HIT Status					
Date	Submitted	Approved	Rejected	Pending	Earnings
Today	5	0	0	5	\$0.00
May 26, 2006	1	0	0	1	\$0.00

HIT Totals					
HITs You have Accepted			HITs You have Submitted		
Value	Rate		Value	Rate	
HITs Accepted	7	—	HITs Submitted	6	—
— Submitted	6	85.7%	— Approved	0	—
— Returned	1	14.3%	— Rejected	0	—
— Abandoned	0	0.0%	— Pending	6	—

The author’s “dashboard” showing “human intelligence task” status.

now? We are all pretty much used to seeing little movie toys stuffed into fast food meals aimed at children who would then be tempted to say “That’s the movie I want to see!” We are not surprised to see posters of movie characters hanging on the walls along with giant images of burgers and fries.

Could it have anything to do with the fact that the Disney Company bought PIXAR? That action alone made Steve Disney’s largest shareholder?

With Disney cancelling about one billion dollars of product placements, apparently on ethical grounds, that left a big advertising vacuum in the movie world. Dreamworks, whose *ET* movie broke new ground by including Reeces Pieces as a plot device, moved quickly to make sure *Shrek* 3 characters appeared all over the golden arches.



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 7/31/06

User ID: ipod

Password: video

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.

Let Me Write Your Web Page

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

Phil Bowser
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You haul. You split. \$85 a cord
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