



The

ROSE BYTER

Apple Blossom Computer Club
A registered Apple/Macintosh User Group

Jan '07
still only
\$2.00

Next Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 18
5:30 ~ 7:30 PM
Room #8
Joseph Lane
Middle School
2156 NE Vine Street

Agenda

1. Meeting starts at 5:30 P.M.
2. Introduction of members and guests
3. Questions and Answers
4. Program:
 - a. Election results
 - b. Discuss applications for demonstration at future meetings.
 - c. Show off any new gear you have obtained, tricks you have discovered, or products you have created.
5. Questions and Answers



What Is Roxik dot Com?

by Phil Bowser <philip574@aol.com>

If you are a freelance website designer, spread your name far and wide. That, in a nutshell, is the story of Masayuki Kido, who lives in Futuoka, japan. how do you promote yourself? You build a nifty, fun website hoping that word-of-mouth advertising will



He created **roxik.com**, a site designed to be - in his words - a "happy digital toy." The last time I visited, there were two fascinating toys online. Find the first under the "toy 1" button. After the screen **2 -->**

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>

Membership

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Send your stories and newsletter ideas to the Editor, Walt Pawley, at <walt@wump.org>. Plain text files are preferred, sent within the body of an email message or as an attachment. Physical media should be mailed to:

**676 River Bend Road
 Roseburg, OR 97470**

Please understand that materials submitted may not be used and those that are will likely be edited.

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<-- Roxik loads, you will see the sky on a VERY windy day. From the top, two people in silhouette drop down, one holding on for dear life to something off screen, the other holding on to the first person. They flap in the hurricane-force winds like a flag! You can click on a figure and drag it to another

part of the screen, with realistic motion. For example, if you grab the figure by the belt, the head, legs, and arms dangle down. When you release the mouse button, your hapless victim falls away in the breeze and yet another tragic scene appears. (Kinda puts a new spin on the phrase, “drag and drop,” doesn’t it!)



Each scene in the series increases in complexity. Eventually you control the orbits (and cast shadows) of planets! If your website needs motion, you will certainly want to contact **Masayuki-san** <masak@roxik.com>.

There is another button on the home page, labeled “Pictaps.” A click here takes you to a small drawing system that helps you to create a human-shaped figure. When it is complete, you can give it a name and save it.

Then is is added to over 32,000 other user-created figures. (If you want to find yours again, be sure to save it to your “favorites”!) At this point you will see a platform upon which you newly-created humanoid dances to an odd, modernistic melody. As the camera angle pulls back, you see hundreds of your figures dancing, jumping, and wiggling in a circle around the platform.

Is it a concert? Some kind of **3 -->**

by Jim McClellan <mcclellan@charter.net>

2006 Apple Blossom Financial Statement

Beginning Balance		\$1,915.75
Income		
Dues	\$935.00	
Interest	8.59	
Expenses		
Newsletter	\$340.71	
Website	148.50	
Aug. meeting	71.95	
Ending Balance		\$2,183.34

<-- Roxik

primitive ritual?
Performance art?

Who knows? But it sure is fun!

I just noticed something else about the website. The image of the designer displayed inside a small TV can also

be dragged and dropped! When you do this, the image changes into a funny face.



MS Vista EULA* snippets

*End User License Agreement

The PDF from MS came in a font that wouldn't render in Preview.

“As described below, using the software also operates as your consent to the transmission of certain computer information during activation, validation and for Internet-based services.”

This is basically licensing Micro\$hapht to spy on you.

“You may install one copy of the software on the licensed device. You may use the software on up to two processors on that device at one time.”

So, what do the new quad processor PCs use? Dual core is ...?

“You can also activate the software manually by Internet or telephone. If

you do so, Internet and telephone service charges may apply. Some changes to your computer components or the software may require you to reactivate the software.”

So once it's working, don't do anything new!

“... Windows Defender ... finds potentially unwanted software ... will automatically be removed ... it is possible [for WD to] remove or disable ... software ... not ... unwanted ...”

How paranoid can the richest people on the planet get that their product needs built-in police?

“ Microsoft provides Internet-based services ... In some cases, you will not

receive a separate notice when they connect.”

- Windows Update Feature.
- Web Content Features.
- Digital Certificates.
- Auto Root Update.
- Windows Media Digital Rights Management.
- Windows Media Player.
- Malicious Software Removal/Clean On Upgrade.
- Network Connectivity Status Icon.
- Windows Time Service.
- IPv6 Network Address Translation (NAT) Traversal service (Teredo).

I guess the IPv6 one makes sense.

“We may also share [your data] with others, such as hardware and software vendors.”

Yeah, how magnanimous of Bill.

“You may not use the services 6 -->

Water Blogged Wump

Any trace of organization in these paragraphs is entirely coincidental

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Pretty Little River Weed

The ink's not even laid down on the Dec. '06 TRB and things are frantically squeezing through the pinhole I look at the world through that demand comment. **A true curmudgeon's work is never done!** For example, Micro\$hapht has released the new Windows X.P. Vista, and "Office" and "Exchange". Oh, happy day. Just what we all need — yet another round of incompatible crap we'll all be forced to somehow become compatible with by the nin-cow-poops running corporations who try to avoid getting fired by buying the new, proprietary "standard". What I don't understand is how one is "saving" money by buying new hardware, new software and training for support and operational personnel to do the very same things that are already being done just fine.

Sometimes I wonder if electing GW to office wasn't a magician's trick. You know — slight of hand — misdirection. In case you haven't studied magic, **the adage that the hand is quicker than the eye is, in fact, true.** Magicians routinely use this fact for their work. They combine it with misdirection: they keep your attention focused on something where the real action of the trick is not taking place so their quick hands don't get seen doing what needs doing. But the very same techniques work in business and government. In these venues, the misdirection is typically keeping the media talking about something of little consequence while progress on the

real issues is being made largely unnoticed. Believe it or not, it's a technical problem — you only have so much bandwidth. Politicians take advantage of this all the time. Big business employs them to write laws "for our own good" that give the big businesses the legal right to rip us off. We'd get mad about it if were it not for largely inconsequential "news" manufactured to keep us misdirected.

I recently saw a letter to a technorag's editor calling on the recently empowered Democrats to repeal the DMCA (Digital Millennium Copyright Act). **Ah, were it only so easy to get rid of laws as it is to enact them.** Frankly I see this as one of the weakest aspects of our governing system. We've made it pretty easy for small numbers of people to create the rules, often in complete secrecy, and very difficult for such rules to be rescinded. Even worse, is our apparent unwillingness to simply dispense with bad laws. Instead, there seems to be some necessity to modify the bad laws into something supposedly acceptable. Perhaps this is an attempt to compromise. That's OK ... if there's some reason to compromise. I'm troubled the idea of guaranteeing a hand full of people immense wealth for what is mostly the work of others.

Speaking of laws, our broken patent system is in the process of being revamped. Oh, goodie. I wish I could claim I was glad to hear this. After all, **the patent system is severely broken,** operating in a manner completely out of touch with the intention of its inception. One major change being proposed is to grant patents to the first to apply, rather than the first to invent. What a load of dingo kidneys. We already are granting patents to people who've had nothing whatever to do with inventing things that have been in common use for 50 years. Now we're going to canonize the process so that anyone who "gets wind" of

an invention can patent it as long as they hit the USPTO first. Should be a massive windfall for corrupt patent attorneys. Yes, I would be glad to hear of revamping the patent system ... if I had any faith that our law makers were acting in our behalf and not their own.

Recently X-ray microscopy has taken a big jump into the world of the Lilliputian. Xradia in collaboration with Argonne (IL) National Laboratory's Advanced Photon Source facility has demonstrated images of features as small 0.65 nanometers an otherwise atomically smooth surface. This will reportedly allow people to study surface interactions *in situ*. I'm a bit skeptical as the process involves using the world's brightest X-ray source and reflected X-rays. X-rays are not all that fond of reflecting. When they do, there's a fair exchange of momentum ... which could well have some effect on the process being observed. You know; Heisenberg and all that uncertainty stuff. One thing I find interesting is that **to see things this small, the microscope used has a diameter of around 500 meters.** Perhaps we'll one day make a microscope so big we'll be able to see quarks playing their color charged game of catch with gluons.

If you are one of the lucky ones who **dip your tootsies in the waters Micro\$hapht,** you've probably noticed that Vista and Office 2007 were recently poured into the mix. The Micro\$haphtian press is hard at work trying to gain sympathy for their future "loss of revenue" to counterfeiters. Estimates are given of 1 in 10 of their products being counterfeit. This got me to thinking about the money involved. Note that I'm not talking about simple copies here. These are simulacrum of the real thing sufficiently good to fool most buyers and they work (something simple copies are less and less likely to do, BTW). Back to the money. The incremental cost to produce these units for **5 -->**

<--Water Blogged Wump

Micro\$hapht is, perhaps a few tens of megabucks. It probably costs the counterfeiters more. Still, the counterfeiters under cut Micro\$hapht, risk legal retribution, pay the bribes to stay in “business” and get very rich. I wonder if they’d have a market if Micro\$hapht made profits in keeping with the value they bring to the world.

Adobe Acrobat 8? Eight? Sheesh!

How many versions of a document interchange “standard” do we need?

But that is a *very* dumb question, isn’t it. Clearly we need enough versions to keep Adobe awash in revenue.

You now about how television programs are scheduled by considering the Nielsen ratings. **Regardless of what you think of a show, the opinions of a few “Nielsen families” are all that count.** Things might work out differently if Nielsen were able to take statistics on every watcher’s behavior. Well, now we have the chance to see how that works. No, not for television (not yet, anyway) but for web site use. You can now have your website monitored and rated via Nielsen/NetRatings. Sadly, these activities are well underway for major players. For example, Nielsen claims that Yahoo News is where the largest number of Internauts go to get their news. This is followed by CNN’s site, MSNBC’s site, AOL News and Internet Broadcasting News sites. Now here’s the thing — advertising rates are generally directly related to Nielsen ratings. It occurs to me that this could give users some power to cope with the other aspects of these various sites. When a site does nasty things to its users, they can boycott. A successful boycott would put a site’s ad revenue in the proverbial dumper.

I just got done running Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.8 which I installed for some reason not recalled at this time (sadly). I really try to avoid using Acrobat Reader of any version to read PDF files. Occasionally, like this time, I double-clicked first and then mut-

tered to myself about being a dumb %#@&^! I got to mutter a lot more after the program produced an initial display of the data. Oh, the data was fine. But I was just getting settled into to reading when up pops an alert about some diddly crap that Adobe thought would be good to annoy me with for their benefit. I quickly dispensed with it and went back to reading. Why do I care to make John Warnock any richer than he already is? A few seconds went by and yet another alert popped up to interfere with my activities. No, I don’t care to mess around with managing Adobe Acrobat Reader automated update crap at this, or any other, time ... except, perhaps, to manage to throw the blasted program in the trash.

According to a recent report, **an Australian company has developed a laser TV** that will be “available to consumers by Christmas 2007” and “cost half as much as current plasma and LCD” TVs “with superior performance and power consumption”. A spokesperson for the developer claims it will mean the death of plasma.

In case you’re worried about the telcos being cheated by content providers like Google and Yahoo using too much bandwidth consider that **the speed record for a single 160 Km fiber was recently raised from 10 Tbps to 14 Tbps** or roughly 350 DVDs worth of data every second. Another way to look at it is 583,333 cable Internet users each downloading data at a full 3 MBps, 24/7. This trickle of bits would worry me ... if carriers only put one fiber in the cables they lay.

I just discovered the SKA (Square Kilometer Array) telescope. It seems a Dutch organization is attempting to produce a gigantic, radio telescope system. They even seem to be in something of a hurry. IBM is on the hook to produce fully custom LNA (Low Noise Amplifier) and beam forming chips in just a couple of months. Then there are the individual antennas. They are still under development according to the website at <http://www.skatelescope.org>. The

claim is that SKA will eventually be comprised of 100,000,000 antennae. I have a hard time believing that the perpetrators of this thing have thought that out very hard — it’s literally one antenna within roughly 70 meters of any place you can be in a patch of ground 620 miles on a side. I may be wrong, but I don’t think there’s a patch of Africa that big that wouldn’t have a war going on somewhere in it. At least it will give the combatants something to hide behind. I wonder if this isn’t a project that would better be built in space.

Can Bill Gates save the world? This is a question being asked seriously by a number of journalists lately. Not me, BTW. Indeed, for me exactly what “saving the world” means is at least an open question if not a downright pointless set of words in the first place. Besides, do you really want the purveyor of Windows, who’s held back progress in computational systems for over two decades for his personal enrichment, deciding what else is good for you?

“There are a few issues ... users may find bothersome about ... Vista ... the new User Account Control ... requires users to frequently respond to queries from the operating system.” **Incredibly, all those ellipses don’t hide the original meaning.** One of the things I’ve abhorred for a long time is the way Windows throws up alerts about stuff you’re not working on, most probably don’t care about and frequently get you into trouble if you’re cavalier about dismissing them. As the article says, “... it can annoy users because of the repeated interruptions.” Sadly, I’ve seen some similar behavior arising in recent Mac applications. This is not a good omen.

For something like 40 years, we’ve been seeing the fundamental devices of electronics get smaller like Lewis Carrol’s Alice chugging shrinking cookies from a bucket. This has enabled them to get faster and use much less power. The latter might seem contradictory, what

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<-- 3 EULAgizims

to try to gain unauthorized access to any service, data, account or network by any means.”

This is extremely silly as written. One frequently does this in the normal course of events, if taken literally.

“You may not

· work around any technical limitations in the software;

Does this mean you just have to wait for Micro\$hapht to fix their crap even if you know how?

· reverse engineer, decompile or disassemble the software, except and only to the extent that applicable law expressly permits, despite this limitation;

<--Water Blogged Wump

with new processor chips using more and more energy, but one need remember that the complexity of processor chips has increased even faster than the shrinking! Over twenty years ago, I could see that this process would proceed pretty much as it has, running into a kind of “rubber wall”. **The further one pushes technology into this wall, the harder the wall gets.** There’s some compressibility left in this wall but feature sizes in electronics are already being designed taking quantum effects into account and going smaller makes things worse. Not having a lot of atoms to make things up means that all the atoms have to stay put with respect to all the other atoms in the device if it’s to continue working. This is not really in the nature of things atomic. For these and many other reasons, what’s needed for the future is a different mind set on how to fabricate these things. There are, finally, some serious efforts to experiment along these lines.

Despite pushing into the “rubber wall” new systems will be getting some faster parts. PCI Express 2.0 is about to come off the press with a doubled clock rate so **I suspect you can expect to see some Macs with even higher I/**

Scare tactics.

· use components of the software to run applications not running on the software;

So, there you’re only allowed to run “approved” software?

· rent, lease or lend the software; or

Even if I loan the computer?

· use the software for commercial software hosting services.”

Hey, this is actually a good idea!

“You may uninstall the software and install it on another device for your use. You may not do so to share this license between devices.”

“You can recover from Microsoft and its suppliers only direct damages up to the amount you paid for the software.”

O bandwidth. One thing puzzles me, though it’s mostly just because I’ve long ago given up caring about details of these things. I did some quick research and it seems PCI Express is basically considered a serial interface. That being the case, it could be used for virtually everything inside the computer to deal with various modules. Take hard disks, for example. They are currently using SATA, a serial interface. There’s little reason — short of the insight to see it — not to provide such an interface for almost anything. The PCI Express concept could be used for this. It would even work as a network interface, potentially as fast as 160 Gbps (the cable might be a tad unwieldy ;-). But the real advantage to users would be its ubiquity.

You’ll like this one. Those nice big 300 GB disks you’re buying to back up your data on can now be backed up on removable media — **the holographic disk has arrived!** You can now place orders with InPhase or Ikegami Tsushinki for a new drive that will record up to 300 gigabytes of data on a single platter that is spec’d to last 50 years. Not bad. Of course, the price is bit steep for most of us — *only* \$18,000 for a drive and \$180 per disk.

AI Shugart Passes

AI Shugart, a pioneer in the computer disk drive industry and one of Silicon Valley’s most colorful entrepreneurs, has died. He was 76.

Most early Apple][diskette drives were Shugarts but mainly he founded Seagate Technology.

2006 seems to have been a hard year on my “heros”. Guess it goes with the territory - the getting old thing

If my recollection is correct, the SCSI standard arose from the SASI specification.

SCSI=Small Computer System Interface

SASI=Shugart Associates System Interface.

Say, you know ... 300 GB drives in OEM packages run about \$150 right now and aren’t all that much bigger than a DVD.

I’ve been concerned that we’d do this. **According to the PBS NewsHour presentation on Christmas day, Walmart executives are well aware that they can dump most of their employees if they can get RFID** (Radio Frequency Identification) working well enough and are working toward that situation. Walmart has long been pushing to use RFID for less sweeping objectives. But time will tell. Just in case you don’t see the problem, here’s the deal. Retailers will RFID tag all their items. You grab a cart, go get what you want and roll it out to your car. The cart will detect and inventory all the stuff you load onto it. When you go out the door, the cart will tell the door jam what you’ve taken. The door jam will talk with your debit card in your wallet, extracting funds from your account as you walk through. It may even check your personal identity by interrogating the chip implanted in your arm. Imagine what such systems will make life like if they become commonplace. If you think jobs are hard to come by today, you ain’t seen nothin’ yet.

That Bane of the Macintosh User

Mac OS X is apparently provided with what amounts to three different classical shell



programs “out of the box”, if what I see on my PowerBook is any guide. There’s the **tcsh/csh** pair, the **sh/bash** pair, **ksh** and **zsh**. I refer to the first to as pairs since they are essentially one program that uses the name by which it’s started to mold it’s character. In early Mac OS X, Terminal defaulted to using **tcsh**. Later versions use **bash**. There are other shells you can add to the system should you care to. One of note is **tcsh**.

Bash is the shell that I prefer to work with. I have a couple of reasons. First, it’s syntax is essentially the same as **sh**. As you might guess from the terseness of the name, **sh** is a shell that’s pretty much a standard for doing things in *nix variants. Virtually all the shell scripts that do standard things are written for the **sh** shell. **Bash** is a kind of superset of early versions of **sh** though they’ve been pretty much directly compatible for quite some time. Thus, if you stick to basic stuff in **sh/bash**, the chances are really good that your work will stand the course of time and be successful running on foreign systems. Additionally, I find **sh/bash** handier for doing repetitive tasks and arithmetic compared to **csh/tcsh** (can’t really offer an opinion on **ksh** or **zsh** — how about you?). Finally, I’m kinda dumb so I like to keep the number syntaxes I know something about down to a dull roar.

You can experiment with these different shells by simply typing their names at a command prompt. If Terminal starts with a shell you don’t care

to use, you can change it to something else. The nominal approach is to change the setting in NetInfo database (the nifty, well hidden mystery settings that control your computer’s world), though it appears you can also get Terminal to execute the shell of your choice in its preferences.

Here’s the part of all this that makes it really valuable — all these things are ASCII text based. ASCII (“ask-key”, oft mispronounced “ask-key two”, stands for American Standard Code for Information Interchange, if memory serves) has become the base means of representing arbitrary data. It’s been around a long time. This means that there’s been a lot of really sharp minds developing programs to do things with it. Most of those programs are written using ASCII and are capable of processing/creating ASCII expressed data. One way to think about it is that if you want to convert something into something else, if the somethings are represented in ASCII, there’re a lot of tools ready to use on the problem. The tools the ultra-geeks have created are very powerful and can be quite difficult to fathom in their entirety. Fortunately, they’re frequently very handy when used by mere mortals.

With all this talk about ASCII text, one would think a text editor might come in handy. They’d be right. If there’s a problem, it’s that the number of choices available is dauntingly large. Apple generally suggests that “newbies” use **pico**. Well, **pico** is simple. Frankly, it’s way too simple. Why Apple doesn’t supply Hugh Mahon’s **ee** and/or **aee** is beyond me. They are actually easier to use than **pico**, provide an easy to use menu system and are much more capable. Sadly, it has to be added by the user. This is easy to do and, if you’re not familiar with compiling any software, Hugh’s programs are a good place to start. They’re not huge and generally require no special handling to compile. Still, I don’t want to get into that here ... yet. Apple also provides **ed**, **nano** and **vim**. If you can figure out **vim**, there’s no point in

your wasting time reading this. **nano** is **pico** on steroids.

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Of course, you don’t really need to edit stuff to use in a shell with editors that are designed to work with Terminal. One of the most popular editors for Mac-geeks is BBEdit. Even the free version is a handy tool. TextEdit can do a fine job of dealing with many text handling jobs. Worse coming to worst, you can even use Micro\$hapht Word.

But for simple things, you can simply type a first crack at a file you’re building straight into the shell. Simply type the command, **cat > myfile**, hit the return and start typing (or pasting ;-). When you’ve entered enough to suit you, type ^D (control-d) and **myfile** will be closed containing the text you’ve entered. The command, **cat**, is short for “concatenate”. It’s primary reason for existence is to write data from a set of files to “standard output” in sequence. So one would type **cat file1 file2 ... fileN** to make all N files list to the terminal window one after another. This is seldom useful unless you can read really, really fast. Which is why I used the “redirection operator”, **> myfile**, to redirect standard output to the **myfile**. But, I didn’t specify any files to concatenate! True ... unless you know that if there are no files given, **cat** copies data from “standard input”, which is normally what you type. The **cat** program knows when to stop by running out of data on its inputs. This is why you use a ^D. It’s the ASCII for “End Of File”.

And now, for something completely different, I was asked for more about the **grep** command. As mentioned in an earlier column, **grep** gets geekie, so be careful what you ask for. While I wasn’t there at the time, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grep> points out that **grep** is named for a command in a text editor named “ed” that takes the form **g/re/p**. I’d not intended to write about **grep** as Google claims there’re “1,540,000 English pages for

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←-- Dread Terminal

grep”; lots more than I can come up with and some written by people who know what they’re talking about. But I do use **grep** routinely. It’s very handy, so I may be able to provide some notions to get you started **grep**’ing yourself.

First, I recommend going to <http://www.clindberg.org/projects/ManOpen.html> and d/l’ing (downloading) ManOpen. It makes learning about the geekie stuff seem a whole lot less geekie.

Perhaps the simplest form of **grep** use is when it’s in the middle of a pipeline (sequence of commands separated by the vertical bar “|”). For example **ls|grep .jpg** might be enough to get a list of the files in your current directory (the **ls** lists almost all of them) that are JPEGs (as filtered by the **grep** command). This is an example that isn’t quite what it seems, however. While it will list files with **.jpg** in them, it will also list files with **<any character>jpg** anywhere in the file name. While it might work in the real world simply because it’s unlikely that **<any character>jpg** is common except for the end of the name, this is a happy coincidence, not a guaranteed result of the **grep** command as given.

But, it is possible to “fix” that. The reason is that “regular expressions” are really a means of describing subsets

of all possible strings. For example, **jpg** means all strings containing the three characters j, p & g in ordered juxtaposition. But **.jpg** doesn’t mean “.”, j, p & g that way. This is because the period is defined to be a “metacharacter” in regular expressions. This is where we drift over the cliff into the murky mists of geekland.

Regular expression metacharacters “do things”. As a **grep** metacharacter, the period matches any character, not just a period. It’s a means of creating regular expressions that have variations in them. But suppose you really want to match just a period. What do you do?

In the infinite inscrutability of master geekerie, one moves yet another character from the roster of just plain stuff to the exalted position of metacharacter. For this function, the backslash, “\”, was chosen. A backslash is said to escape the following character. In other words, a character following a regular expression metacharacter backslash is treated as itself. So, we might type **ls|grep \.jpg** to get files with **.jpg** in them. Sadly this ploy is stymied by more complication.

Here’s the rub. When you type a command into a shell, it’s parsed (interpreted) by the shell according its rules. Like the **grep** command, shells also use the idea of metacharacters. There aren’t all that many characters available so naturally there’s some overlap in metacharacters from program to program, shells included. The back-

slash is generally a shell’s metacharacter for escaping the following character. We might type **ls|grep \\.jpg** to get files with **.jpg** in their name.

Are we there yet? No, not quite. We really want just files that end in **.jpg**. Is there a way to do this? Of course. All we need to do is promote yet another metacharacter. This time it’s the dollar sign, “\$”. Most shells also use the dollar sign for a metacharacter but not to represent anchoring the regular expression match to the end of the string being compared. So, we need to type **ls|grep \\.jpg\$** to get a list of file names with **.jpg** a their end. We could also type **ls|grep '\.jpg\$'** in some shells because the shell metacharacter, “'”, suspends the shell’s parsing between the ticks.

In recent months, I’ve found **perl** to be more useful for some string matching tasks than **grep**. Basically **perl** can do the same sort of string matching jobs that **grep** does, but has one big advantage — it’s succinctly programmable. More about that next month ... unless someone asks for something else.

from David Titus <bullyt@mac.com>

If you want a quick list of the shortcut keys try this Apple document entitled Mac OS X keyboard shortcuts:

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=75459>

[Ed. Note: This is long enough to make a nice wall hanging and it applies to recent models of Macintosh and not so much to the old beaters some of us still use. The good news is that there’s a list of articles at the bottom the cited one that might cover such things.]

Want to keep your newsletter from looking SO ...



Well, then, all you have to do is get involved! Use your digital camera. Tinkle the word processor’s keys. Write about your passions, triumphs & mistakes (ah, come on—we all make ’em ;-).

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<http://www.ABCCmug.org>

Give it a look.
Put in your own ...

