



The

# ROSE BYTER

Apple Blossom Computer Club  
A registered Apple/Macintosh User Group

Apr '07  
still only  
\$2.00

## Next Meeting

# Tuesday

April 17

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. Introductions of members and guests
3. Old business
4. New business
5. Questions & (maybe)Answers
6. Discuss The Project

### New variable meeting schedule:

May: Monday, the 21-st

June: Thursday, the 21-st

July: Wednesday, the 18-th



# “The Project”

Ever want to be that white smock wearing, pen in the pocket, horn rimmed glassed scientist who has the answer for just *everything*? Well perhaps you'll get your chance to play one on TV!

A number of us have been joking about the notion of putting together a DVD about how to use Macintosh computers. But it doesn't need to be joke, foke. We have the technology.

It's the sort of thing no one in their right mind would take on. Lots of work. Lots of frustration. And the one thing you can be sure of is that no matter how good a job gets done, it'll never be good enough.

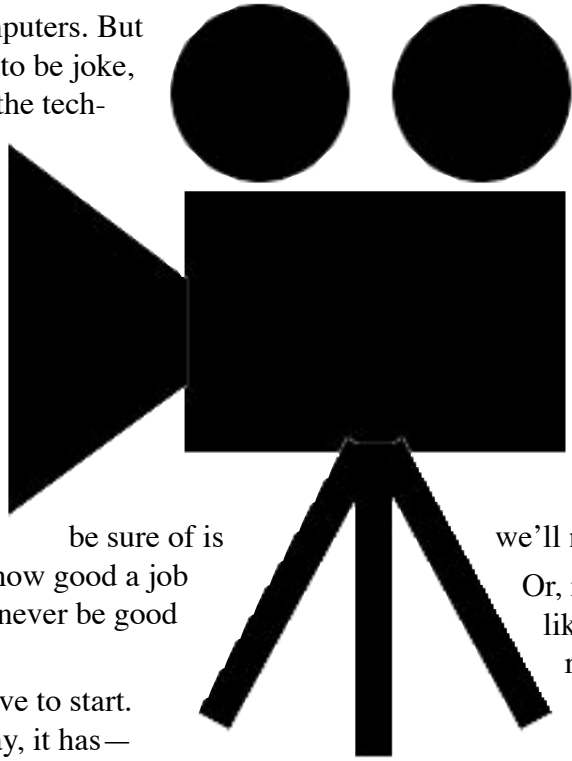
But projects have to start. I guess, in a way, it has— some of us have tossed the notion around a little bit. I guess that's a “start”. But projects also

have to run and we haven't put this one into it gym shorts yet, much less pulled on its running shoes.

Perhaps you're a camcorder jockey? We'll need your cinematographic skills. Or, you're an artist? We'll need story boards, illustrations, backgrounds, titles, cartoons etc.

Or you may be an expert (or at least an eks-spurt) at working with sound and/or video. Maybe you're good at organizing things (hah!)?

Clearly we'll need that. Or, maybe you like to write racey dialog? We'll clearly need lots of that. And we'll need actors to speak it. Stardom, anyone?



Jolane

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

Just \$20/year! Send with your name, snail- & e-mail address & phone to:  
ABCC  
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## Current ABCC Leadership

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### Web Master

Bernie Fox <brownfox@ramcell.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, Walt Pawley, at <walt@wump.org>. Plain text files are preferred, sent within the body of an email message or as an attachment. Mail physical media to:

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December 10, 2005, 11:30 a.m.

From: Bryon Beaulieu  
bfbeaulieu@charter.net

This is my first submission to the ABCC newsletter after reading it for more years than I care to admit. You could say I procrastinate but I'm not certain that word suffices in this instance. The reason for the submission is to pay my penance I guess and make good on a promise.

I've owned a Mac since 1985; by my latest count 7, beginning with the first 512k. I'll be the first to admit I have never used one to it's potential, especially this, our latest Mac, the first 1.8mhz G5. And I'll admit that for a period of three years I actually had a PC (shudder) sitting on this desk in order for my grandchild to learn a computer and play games that I was unable to find in the Mac world. Finally my wife could take it no longer and told me she wanted a new Mac for our 30th anniversary. I cried with joy, we bought one, gave the PC to our grandchildren and have never looked back.

During our years of Mac ownership I will admit to having some—infrequent—software conflict issues that with the assistance of either Walt (Pawley) or Terry (Cooper) I was able to get straightened out. Since 1985 I have never had what I would consider a major problem. Nothing at all like I used to have from the PC's at home and in the office where I worked. That is until recently when my Mac took a MAJOR dive.

You'd think I would learn by now to wait a while for things to settle out before downloading and installing a security update or any other software, especially if it's software I have never heard of before. But oh no, every so often I have to re-learn my lessons it seems.

This time it was an innocuous little program from Apple, of all folks, that succeeded in killing my Mac. You'd

think that getting a program from Apple would make it at least a tad bit safer to load than software from any other vendor. You'd be wrong in that assessment. The culprit in this case was a program Apple recently released called "Broadband Optimizer". Trust me—it didn't!

On the historic day in question I had downloaded and installed the latest Apple security update and, because I am on a cable modem, that other program "Broadband Optimizer". I continued to work that day for a couple more hours with no ill effects. That evening I shut off my computer and because I was running late the next morning I did not boot my Mac to check my mail before leaving the house. About noon I called the house and my wife asked me what the heck I had done to the computer last night as it would not run this morning. As I have in the past downloaded programs that caused some minor conflicts I suppose she had a right to her ire. I informed her the ONLY thing I had put on that machine of late was from Apple and it of all things should be safe so it had to be something else. Boy was I wrong!

As soon as I walked in the door I went to the Mac and tried to boot it. Everything went swimmingly right up to the point where the screen darkened ominously and I got a dialog box telling me to restart my Mac. Everything was frozen and nothing I did would change it. After trying several things to no avail and finally growing frustrated and not a little bit frightened as I had not backed up my Mac in a couple months (I know, I know) I called Terry Cooper. Now, Terry has in the past been able to save me and I had every confidence that he would be able to do so again.

When Terry answered the phone I told him my Mac was frozen on start-up and before I could say much else he told me I had downloaded and

**<- Letters 2** installed that Apple program "Broadband Optimizer". Huh? How'd he know that? Then he did succeed in scaring me, because he told me he too had downloaded it and his Mac was displaying the same dialog box and behavior. What REALLY scared me was when he told me he'd been working on his Mac since 11:00 that morning (it now being 7:30 p.m.) and he was just now getting his to boot, after many complicated and frustrating work arounds. He offered to come up the next day and work with me on getting mine up and running. And he told me as far as what I had on my machine at the time of the crash? Forget it - it's gone. AAAAWWW-WGGGGG! (I felt distinctly like Mr. Brown and his football scenario).

What was really bad was that I had been intending to purchase another hard drive so I could make my backups easier. As usual, a day late and a dollar short! Anyway, I found this really cool outfit in of all places, Portland, Oregon, where I was able to order a new LaCie 500g Extreme w/ triple interface for \$369 WITH NEXT DAY SHIPPING INCLUDED!

The next day after the new drive arrived I phoned Terry. Terry had had the time yesterday to simplify (if that's the word to be used in this instance) the process of getting my Mac to boot to a point where I would be able to backup my data then do a process where he re-installed a new system and archived the old one. We then set up the new drive, partitioned it then confirmed things would run.

As he headed out the door Terry told me I'd continue to find issues and problems as time went on until I got all my plug-ins plugged back in and various other issues squared away. He was right too, as here it is a week later and I'm still finding things and working on some issues like pages not loading properly that used to run without a hitch.

I have no idea what it was on my Mac

that would have caused such a serious conflict with "Broadband Optimizer". And Terry tells me he doesn't know either but it sure killed our Macs in a hurry. Whatever it was I can only hope that someone more knowledgeable than I in the esoterics of the Mac is able to identify it and let the rest of the world know. In the meantime, I keep promising myself that I will backup often and never again trust Apple. Of course, I've said that before.

Finally, I want to publicly and LOUDLY thank Terry Cooper for once again saving my bacon. I told him if he was able to get my Mac up and running and save most of my important data that I would repay him with an article to the newsletter. He was able to do that in spades. The man is a saint. Well okay, but he is a pretty good guy all the same. My Mac? It still has some issues and each day seems to bring up a new one. Like yesterday I still had my "iClock" in the menu bar. Today it is AWOL with no explanation given. Pages that used to open and run their content without a problem no longer work even though I've downloaded the latest in Java, Flash, & Quicktime. Little things like that. Hey Terry, you busy this weekend?

[Ed: OK, so it's a bit late. All I can say is that it's not my fault. ;-) ]

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From: Bernard Fox  
<brownfox@ramcell.net>

Read Phil's note in the newsletter and would like to suggest the program, Poster Print (\$17.90, <<http://www.lux-ordevelopment.ch/posterprint/>>, OS 10.4) as the program to use for making a poster as it will print (directly) all the pages necessary to paste together without going through a .pdf program.

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From: Phil Bowser  
<philip574@aol.com>

Dear Editor:

Just the other day I saw a website where you could upload your image and it would be merged into a frame

hanging in a real art gallery. It made it look as though you had successfully been selected for a gallery show. (Ah, with Photoshop, photography is no longer proof of anything!)

Well, here's a website that goes one better. Upload your image to the Musée de l'Elysée in Lausanne, Switzerland (<http://www.allphotographers-now.ch/form.php>). Once a week, their website selects 100 pictures at random. They print them using archival quality paper and inks, then hang them in a show. They will take a picture of your picture hanging in their museum and email it to you. At the end of the week, the images go into the permanent collection, replaced by 100 more.

Who knows - your Easter egg hunt picture of your offspring just might wind up in the "We Are All Photographers Now!" exhibit, showcasing the rapid mutation of amateur photography in the digital age. If you want to visit the show personally, you need to fly across the pond before May 20, 2007.

Good luck to all you shooters out there!

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From: Phil Bowser  
<philip574@aol.com>

Dear Editor:

Lately I've noticed that people who communicate on-line have these cute little cartoons of themselves decorating their emails and instant messages. Apparently they are called "avatars", a geek term stolen from the original Sanskrit and used to mean a representation. Started getting jealous that I didn't have an avatar.



And with my sketching skills, it seemed unlikely that I would ever get one. But recently I stumbled upon this web address: <http://avatarmaker.abi-station>. 6 -->

# Water Blogged Wump

Any trace of organization in these paragraphs is entirely coincidental

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## Intelligent Design

As mentioned last month, Skype is petitioning the FCC to open cell phone carriers' networks in the same manner that the Carterfone Decision loosened AT&T's grip on everything telephonic. An article "analyzing" this news pointed out that it comes at a time when cell carriers' practices are coming under scrutiny for other reasons, like the CTIA (which should probably stand for Cellular Technologies Industry Association or some such ... but doesn't) has petitioned the FCC to preempt state laws outlawing early termination fees. Or, Verizon typically has their customers' phones Bluetooth file transfer functions disabled so those customers must obtain their phone goodies from Verizon's for-pay web site. Several carriers reportedly have their handset makers disable the time tracking features so customers can't tell whether they're over their prepaid minute allocation or not. **Ignorance may not be an excuse but it's apparently too good a profit opportunity not to promote.**

In a related bit, there's the "Linux phone". This is a device that is supposed to be all "open source", which is a goal so far not met by any known phone. However, Taiwan's FIC (First International Computer) is hard at work attempting to attract developers to its project to market a fully open source cell phone, the Neo1973. Developer units are supposedly available about now. <http://www.openmoko.com/> if you're interest-

ed. While I don't suppose it matters all that much that you stick your oars into the development waters, it's extremely important that you stay tuned. There are **numerous people hoping to fill their deep pockets with lots more of your money** for very little real cost. They are busy having laws made to ascertain your inability to avoid it.

You're probably aware of the recent firings of a number of U.S. attorneys. It's been in the news. I'm not all that surprised that this occurred. **But it made me aware of something that troubles me.** Apparently these attorneys are routine political appointments, ie. they get changed with each change of administration. But, in addition, they are tasked with the job of promoting the administration's policies. Indeed, much of the flap over this situation seems to revolve around at least some of these ousted attorneys not prosecuting cases against the administration's political opponents expeditiously enough for the administration's tastes. I guess it's better than sending troops into the opponents' homes and disappearing them into jails or shooting them and their families in their sleep. I guess.

According to InfoWorld's Tom Yager, **around 9,000 people switch to Mac every day.** Mostly this is the result of Micro\$hapht Winders users feeling "safe" because the latest round of Macs will run Winders XP (officially) and Vista (unofficially). I suspect that once they get started running Mac OS X, if they use the installed version of Windows at all, it's most likely because there's some proprietary, Windows-only, program they're forced to use. There's some considerable slop in how many people are switching, though. If one uses 250 work days per year as the basis, that's 2.25 million. But if one means 365 days per year, it's over a million more. What this portends for the extended future is unclear, at best. One grand unknown

is that people have been loading Intel processor versions of Mac OS X onto non-Apple equipment with mixed degrees of success (I've heard the "big" problem is with the audio drivers—not all that big a deal for the most part). This means that China might adopt Mac OS X in preference to MS Winders or even Linux.

If you have a dog or cat, you're probably aware of the great pet food recall. **We recently lost a cat—symptoms very suspicious;** it had been fed some of the recalled "bad pet food". Here's the thing ... WAKE UP! Almost no one is more than morally outraged by feeding their pet "the best pet food in the world" that kills it, especially because the "bad stuff" has been recalled. We are missing the point. All this happened because greed managed to convince a whole lot of "pet food makers" to become mere fronts for one company's carefully-crafted-to-be-as-cheap-as-possible products. This has become the way of modern "business". Companies with names we've grown to respect over the years are bought up by stock manipulations and "cost improved" by divesting them of assets and expertise while "outsourcing" any product they need to a contractor. Chances are no one knows who this contractor is. Chances are this contractor has little interest in quality ... and why should they—it's not why they got the contract. They got the contract because they were the cheapest. Do you think this is limited to pet food? WAKE UP!

I ran into an odd behavior in Mac OS 10.3.x when I updated the timezone data on my PowerBook. All the other Mac's I'd worked with on this issue, including another on 10.3.x, worked just fine. **The PowerBook, however, refused to display the Daylight Savings Time (DST)** value digitally in the menubar. It wasn't that the computer didn't know what time it was. In Terminal, typing "date" returned **5 -->**

## <--Water Blogged Wump

the expected results. Messing with the Date & Time System Preference panel looked completely as expected. If I chose any of the other clock displays, either analog or the floating digital, everything looked fine. It was only the digital menubar display that was off an hour. Apparently, whatever software creates this display was simply not working with the available data despite that data seeming to work with everything else I tried. Against my druthers, I ended up installing the combo 10.3.9 update (yes, Virginia, it's way behind the times). That got the digital menubar clock working.

I was just scanning through a federal government IT (Information Technology) magazine and ran across a bit expressing concern that **old people are retiring out of federal jobs and young people are not coming along to fill their spots**. Don't get your hopes up about the cost of government dropping as a result, however. The managers have a plan. It's the same plan that managers in mainstream corporate America has been employing. Yup; outsourcing. Most likely, it'll be contracted through Haliburton. Hey, why not? Haliburton needs more money (or, at least, they seem to be something of an infinite sink for it). I gotta admit, I have to wonder sometimes if the billions being dumped on them and their wanna-be rivals don't finance the activities of major indirect stock holders we class as our enemies.

Did you catch the conviction of, now former, Orange County, California, Superior Court Judge Ronald C. Kline for possession of child pornography? The interesting thing from a computer perspective is that **he was discovered by the efforts of a "hacker"** to compromise computers that downloaded his "trojan horse" plantings on child porn web sites. It's interesting in a lot ways. First, there's the part about using computers to catch the perps. But, to do this, there must be what amounts to "well known" sites for traf-

ficking in child pornography, ie. these places should be fairly easy to track. Then there's the questionable legitimacy of the technique; Kline's case was originally dropped because of evidentiary technicalities. Moreover, this was essentially a vigilante effort, done without court sanction (which happens to be why the evidence was finally deemed acceptable). It's also dangerous for the "hacker", who must have some child porn to infect with the trojan for posting.

Decades ago it was apparent to me that the course of electronics development we've all taken for granted would run into a "wall" as the size of transistors shrunk. **Mostly, this notion has been ignored, even ridiculed, because Moore's law has functioned well over those decades ... until recently.** Moore's law relates the number of transistors that can be built per unit area of chip surface as a function of time. Each 18 months or so, this number is supposed to double. There's still some margin left to be squeezed out of chip making processes. In the past, one made more money by making chips smaller and therefore many more chips per wafer (the basic slab of silicon on which chips are made) since the cost per wafer is about the same regardless of how many chips one makes on it. But the cost of doing these shrinkages is increasing very fast. It's become questionable whether the profit is there to be had. The cash cow starting to run dry.

**There's trouble brewing in Open Source Software-land** and it's coming to a head. GPL (General Public License), aka "copyleft", was crafted by Richard Stallman in 1989 for the GNU Project (GNU stands for GNU's Not Unix). GPLv2 followed in 1991 and is probably the most prevalent in current software distributions. GPLv3 is now being crafted. Previews of its provisions have stirred up considerable controversy. For example, Linus Torvalds, creator of Linux, has vowed to stick with GPLv2. For me, perhaps the worst aspect of all this is that so

much license is required at all. Stallman is concerned that people should not keep source code secret. I'm in basic agreement. Indeed, I'd like to see some new law — which, for me, is major step as I mostly believe we have way too many laws already — requiring that source code, proven to build the products companies ship, should be placed in escrow until such time as the company no longer supports it in a substantial way, whereupon it would become publicly available. When I was young, formulae, algorithms and software were not patentable ... an admirable state, well worth reinstating. Perhaps if we behaved this way, Stallman would not feel the need to keep mucking with his license.

After spending \$2 billion on it, funding for the military's Land Warrior program has been cut. Land Warrior is the effort to turn every soldier into a part of a network on the battlefield. It supposedly won't be ready 'til 2014 if it has funding. So, what to do? Well, isn't it obvious — we sell it to other countries. **I guess I'm just stupid.** I'll admit that 2 gigabucks doesn't go as far as it used to but doesn't letting everyone else in on the technology that's supposed to give us the edge sort of dull it a bit? Besides, to make up the project's shortfall, they'll need something like another \$3 billion. Maybe the oil rich countries will get on board ... like Iran and Venezuela.

I've come to think of myself as something other than a "conservative" these days, though I can't see myself as a "liberal" either. So, you tell me, is it liberal or conservative to believe that passing a law to force people under 12 years of age to ride in back seats is just plain wrong headed? **We were once "the land of the free". These days it's more like "the land of schmucks forced to chose between being 'safe' or incarcerated"**. Geez! Life is dangerous — no one gets out alive. I wear seat belts. Why? Well, other than egregious fines for not wearing them, I once upon a

## <--Water Blogged Wump

time drove race cars on road tracks. Belts, in conjunction with a good crash cage, or even just a roll bar, do a great job of increasing the probability of surviving crashes. But I'd vote for not making wearing them mandatory in a heartbeat. I wear a helmet when I ride a motorcycle (and usually other protective gear) but I don't think I should have to if I don't want to. For as long as I can remember, I've ridden in the back of trucks, big and small. I'd probably think nothing of piling a bunch people in a pickup bed and going somewhere. Once upon a time, adults were allowed to make decisions about their and their children's behavior themselves. Not so much today and less and less all the time. If you must be a "do gooder", do it yourself; quit demanding that society do it for you.

I recently had the opportunity to view the modern movie version of Douglas Adams' Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, one of my very favorite compendiums of fictional wit and knowledge. This story has been produced by the BBC in both audio and video forms, retaining much that Douglas wrote into his five volume trilogy. This more recent work is, sadly, almost, but not quite, completely unlike what I believe his work was about. **I felt like I was watching the CliffsNotes version** where major points are too succinctly and directly made to catch hold in your brain. This is very unlike Douglas' written work which reads like beef roast done with a nice crust surrounding a juicy tender pink center, roasted with garden fresh vegetables *au jus* capped with a fine Pinot Noir satisfies the appetite. It's savory, substantial, full of flavor and nourishment for the mind. It's humorous, poetic and profound; a major commentary on our past, present and future. This modern, Hollywoodie movie deserves rending with a Vogon blurglecruncheon.

The News-Review for Sunday, March 25, 2006 printed a news article containing, "... monitors and televisions

... are crammed with dozens of toxic metals ..." as justification for Oregon enacting a law mandating some sort of recycling program. While I'm something of an "environmentalist" and have little argument with the notion of recycling materials, using blatant lies to scare people into passing stupid and, most probably, extremely expensive laws raises my hackles. Yes, toxic materials exist in virtually all electronics. However, characterizing electronics as "crammed" with such stuff is quite simply moronic. Had the article had a by-line, I would just be annoyed by the author's ignorant opinion. But as a news article, such characterizations must be researched and verified. As someone with more than a vague notion of what it takes to make such things, it's obvious to me that no such effort was made or the news service creating the article (AP) has a political stake in the legislative outcome. If you find my outrage to be outrageous, I strongly urge you to visit a computer recycler such as Roseburg's own Monitors and More and ask them what percent of the material they process is metallic, much less toxic.

**Still**

# Eudora Going Open Source

by **Walt Pawley** <walt@wump.org>

The Penelope project to take Eudora open source is still not reporting any material progress. This does not mean that nothing is happening. It does mean that for long time Eudora users, frustration is mounting. You'd almost think Qualcomm was still pulling the strings ;-)

For those of you who've updated to Eudora 6.2.4 to get through this transistional limbo, there are other "gotchas" to contend with.

For example, one might think that clicking the Recipient button in Eudora's address book for an entry, which one does to make the entry available in a main menu item, would tag the entry in the address book data, Eudora Nicknames. But that is not how it works, would that it did!

Apparently this is one of those things that Eudora could do better (IMHO, at least).

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com/index\_en.shtml

Here you can select from hundreds of options for body type, skin color, hair styles, clothes, shoes, and accessories to build your own, piece by piece.

Every time you make a selection, your little avatar changes to reflect your choices. When you are done fiddling around and have your avatar looking the way you like, you can control-click on the image to pop-up a contextual menus that will let you save the image on your hard drive in either JPEG, PNG, or GIF format. If you feel adventurous, you can click on the "random" button and take pot luck!

How do you like the one I just made? I think it kinda/sorta even looks like me.

Here's an idea! All you ABCC members, go to this website, make an avatar out of yourself, print it out, and bring it to the next meeting!



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The recipient submenus are apparently maintained in a separate data list ... somewhere. Thus there's the opportunity for the address book, where it's controlled, to get out of sync with the actual menu. This left and right hand not knowing what the other is up to has never caused me any trouble since I don't use the recipient menus at all. But I recently got to try fixing someone else's Eudora that had fallen victim to just such a mismatch. How the mismatch occurred is far from clear—most likely some crashes in the middle of things.

I didn't manage to figure out how to clear the problem. It turns out that one uses the option key when opening either/both a recipient list and the address book.

I wasn't clear on the explanation. I fumbled about—it started working.

**6**

# That Bane of the Macintosh User

One aspect of Mac OS that causes a bit of difficulty these days is, like most things that have



been around for a while, its history. Back in the olden days of computing, when ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) was becoming the standard, there were basically three schools of thought about how lines of text should be terminated. The mechanical approach was to do what Micro\$hapht did—adopt both a carriage-return and line-feed (CR LF) to end lines. This has the “advantage” of being what was generally required of the terminals to function in the days before Micro\$hapht existed. The CR moved the print mechanism from the end of the line to the left margin. The LF then advanced the paper to the next line. It generally made a sort of satisfying klick-ker-swish-kathunk-a-dunk sound. But this also meant that line ends took two characters to define and was therefore somewhat more complicated to deal with in software. Others, fell into the DEC (Digital Equipment Corporation) or the UNIX camps—DEC used CR and UNIX used LF. Note that IBM didn’t play in this game all that much. They were too busy being proprietary with EBCDIC (Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code) to pay all that much attention to ASCII way back then.

So ... why is this a difficulty? There’s always been the obvious issue—exchanging files with other platforms. But more recently, Apple switched it’s low level standard from CR to LF by moving from a fully proprietary system to a UNIX derived system. Thus **7** programs we still use are in the old CR camp and newer stuff is LF’ing its line endings. Fortu-

nately, this is mostly a non-problem ... if you know a few things.

First, for the Mac users that just have to have a button to click or an icon to drop other icons on or they just can’t deal with it, there are GUI programs to translate the line endings from one “standard” to another. I won’t go into that here. But I also won’t leave you completely bereft. Programs like BBEdit will happily “do the right thing” when you open a text file. Then it will let you save it with the line endings of your choosing, even Micro\$hapht’s. TextEdit is very good at dealing with this issue and you don’t even have to download it. But there are limitations to this technique’s usefulness that can be vexing if you’re doing a lot of such work.

Before I knew that the **tr** command existed, I fashioned a Perl program to make the CR->LF translation that I could build into scripts. Here’s what it looks like

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
# Convert cr's on STDIN to
#          lf's on STDOUT
while (read
(STDIN,$buf,65536)) {
    $buf =~ s/\r/\n/g;
    print $buf
}
```

It served me well and still does.

My **crlf** program is pretty much redundant once you stumble into the **tr** command, which is much more capable than just translating line endings since it will translate a whole set of characters into a different set in one pass.

Here’s an example: Apple’s newer utility programs frequently output Unicode text which is 16-bits per character instead of ASCII’s 8-bits. But for the most part, the upper 8-bits of these Unicode characters are zero (at least if you set your language to ‘Murkin). If you use this Unicode text in a program that doesn’t understand Unicode, It generally looks pretty messy, like this snippet ...

```
<FE><FF>^@m^@o^@b^@i^@
^@1^@2^@/^@5^@/^@0^@6^@
^@9^@: ^@1^@0^@ ^@P^@M^@
```

... but you can “cut through” all those zeros with a command like ...

```
tr -d '\000' < afile.txt
```

... which tells **tr** to delete (**-d**) the characters in the string (**'\000'**) from the data presented on standard input (**< afile.txt**), resulting in ...

```
<FE><FF>mobi
12/5/06 9:10 PM
```

... on standard output (the Terminal window), which I find much easier to read. To do the **crlf** program’s work all you need is **tr '\r' '\n'**, which means “translate returns into newlines”.

You can find out a lot about **tr** by reading its “man page”. You can simply type **man tr** in Terminal and read all about it. But, being a Mac user, you’d probably feel more comfortable using a GUI program for this purpose. I use ManOpen a lot (not because Terminal is uncomfortable for me but because ManOpen is small, easy to use and cuts down on typing ... most of the time). You can get ManOpen at <http://www.clindberg.org/projects/ManOpen-2.5.1.dmg>.

One thing I find such translations useful for is working with Eudora e-mail files. I generally archive globs of e-mail as **gzip** compressed text files. Every now and then, I’ll need to dredge some arcane missive from yesteryear out of my collection. Since these files are terminated with CRs, using the **grep** command to look for things returns whole files as a single line. This is hardly useful. So, I do something like this ...

```
cd archive
for anArchive in *
do
    echo ${anArchive}
    gunzip -c ${anArchive} | \
        tr '\r' '\n' | grep -b
pattern
done
```

## <-- Dread Terminal

... though I do it with some messy shortcuts and don't need the (\) for line continuation.

The **cd archive** sets the "current directory" to the archive so subsequent commands use that folder as the tacit place to find data files. Then the **for anArchive in \*** does all the stuff between the **do** and the **done** repeatedly, setting **anArchive** to each file in the current directory one after another. The **echo \${anArchive}** part of the stuff outputs the name of the current file to Terminal window. I do this when I need to know the file that has the data in it. This wouldn't be necessary if I actually stored the decompressed version of each archive but that wastes hard disk space. The **gunzip -c \${anArchive}** part decompresses the current archive and sends the "live" data through the pipe ( | ) to be translated from Mac lines into UNIX lines flowing through

the translator, **tr '\r' '\n'**, and piped ( | ) further to **grep -b pattern** where lines matching the **pattern** data will be output to the Terminal window.

So, what is **pattern**? It's a "regular expression" that describes what you're

## <--Letters, pg 6

From: Terry Cooper  
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### Eject key after 10.4.9 upgrade

This got me after I upgraded to 10.4.9. I couldn't figure out why I couldn't get the "Shut down, etc" dialog box. This is the Control/Eject combo to shut down or restart.

Eject key issues: Delays, will not bring up sleep/shutdown dialog Several users have noted a difference in the way the eject key works after applying Mac OS X 10.4.9. Some users report that the key no longer brings up the "sleep, restart, shutdown" dialog box

trying to find. Suppose you bought something over the Internet and needed the invoice number for a warranty issue. You might type **invoice\ #** for **pattern**. The backslash says that the space that follows it is part of the **pattern**.

post-update (accomplished by pressing the control key and eject key simultaneously), nor ejects optical media.

One reader writes: "The Eject key shortcuts to sleep or bring up the sleep/restart/shutdown window no longer work on my Power Mac."

The solution, in most cases, is simply to hold the eject button down for a longer duration. It appears that Apple has lengthened the interval of time the key needs to be pressed, presumably to prevent a situation where the key is accidentally pressed, bringing up an unwanted occurrence of the sleep/shutdown dialog or ejecting inserted media.

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