



**BIRMINGHAM APPLE CORE  
MACINTOSH USER GROUP**

# The Peel

A PUBLICATION OF THE BIRMINGHAM APPLE CORE

<http://www.applecore.org>

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## Apple Releases Mac OS 10.3 Panther

**Shipped October 24 With More Than 150 New Features**

CUPERTINO, California October 8, 2003 Apple announced the upcoming release of Mac OS X version 10.3 - Panther. It delivers more than 150 breakthrough new features including a completely new Finder that provides one-click access to a users favorite files and folders; Expose, a revolutionary new way to instantly see all open windows at once; and iChat AV, a complete desktop video conferencing solution for business, education and consumers.


Apples retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers released the software Friday night, October 24, at 8:00 p.m.

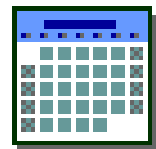
Panther features a completely redesigned Finder with lightning-fast file searching that is up to six times faster than Mac OS X version 10.2 Jaguar. The new Finder provides one-click access by putting a users favorite folders, storage, servers and iDisk in one convenient location. The new Finder also offers dynamic browsing of the network for Mac, Windows and UNIX file servers.

Panther also introduces Expose, a revolutionary new way to instantly view all open windows and choose any of them to be on top. Expose visually unshuffles overlapping windows on the desktop into an organized thumbnail view so a user can instantly locate and switch to any open window or get to any file on the desktop. Powered by the Mac OS X Quartz graphic engine, Expose is a breakthrough in working with multiple files, applications and projects.

Panther extends instant messaging to the next level with iChat AV, the worlds easiest to use desktop video conferencing solution, offering full-screen, full-motion

video over broadband, crystal-clear audio and a familiar easy-to-use interface. iChat makes natural conversations over the Internet immediate and effortless, and has been enjoyed by over half a million beta users since its introduction in June.

Suggested retail price of \$129 (US) for a single user license. The Panther Family Pack is a single-residence, five-user license that will be available for a suggested retail price of \$199 (US). Check the Apple Web site for update info. [www.apple.com/macosex](http://www.apple.com/macosex). 




### BAC November Meeting

The November 8, 2003 BAC Monthly Meeting will be held at the Homewood Public Library at 10:00 a.m.

Jill Tolbert, of Bessemer Tech, will demonstrate the software "Photoshop Elements 2." Adobe has provided a copy of the program as a door prize. This program is known as "Photoshop for the Rest of Us."

See page 2 of the PEEL for a list of the other door prizes to be awarded.

Come early and enjoy coffee and cookies plus...

## 2003 BAC Board of Directors

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## FOR SALE/WANTED

### Wanted

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**Do you have computer related items for sale or is there an item that you would like to purchase?**

**We will list the item in this space. Send information by the 25th of each month to: tedgallo@charter.net**

**This space is free to current BAC members.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## BAC Disk of the Month

The BAC DOM (Disk of the Month) is available at each BAC meeting. These CDs contain updates, shareware, and freeware.

The cost has been lowered to \$2 and is available at the BAC meetings from Disk Librarian Jerry Jenkins.

### CDOM November 2003

#### BBEdit 7.0.4 demo

Deluxe text editor.

#### Cemetery X 1.2...Shareware

Halloween screen saver. Requires OS 10.1 or later.

#### Crosswordz X 2.5...Shareware

Makes and prints crossword puzzles. Requires OS 10.1 or later. Also runs with OS 8.6 to 9.22 with CarbonLib 1.6 (Apple freeware)

#### DragThing X 5.0...Shareware

Makes one click docks, arranged in applications, documents, etc. Needs OS 10.2 or higher. Full support for OS 10.3

#### iClip 2.5.2...Shareware

Mac OS X utility to save temporary clip-pings. (Door prize at BAC November meeting).

#### iKey 104...Shareware

Use to assign any action to a key combination. Needs OS 10.2 or later.

#### iOrganize X 5.1...Shareware

#### MacFamilyTree 3.6.2...Shareware

Upgrade of good genealogy database.

#### PopChar Pro 1.3.3...Shareware

See all the characters of any font and place any in your document.

#### PopChar X 2.1.2...Shareware

Same as PopChar Pro except for needing OS 10.1.2 or higher.

#### QuickTime X 6.4...Freeware

Latest version of QuickTime.

#### Retrospect Desktop 5.1... Trial

Application for backing up. Very versatile.

#### Safari CookieCutter 1.3...Shareware

Clean the cookies from your Safari.

#### SafeShred 2.1.9...Shareware

Don't just trash that secret document, shred it so that it is unrecoverable.

#### SilverKeeper 1.1...Freeware

Backup software.

#### Slot Machine v1.0.1...Freeware

Game


#### Warcraft III.. Demo

Game in 3D

#### XKeys X 1.1.1...Freeware

Launch items with Function Keys.

#### VueScan 7.6.63...Shareware

Driver for many scanners, flatbed or film 

## 2004 Officer nominations

The following members have been nominated as an officer for 2004.

President: Bill Henry

Vice-Pres. - Jim Hillhouse

Secretary - TBA

Treasurer - Penelope Fenton

Web Master - Penelope Fenton


Media Librarian - Luther Fuller

Disk Librarian - Jerry Jenkins

PEEL Editor - Bill Henry

Membership Chmn: Ted Galloway


The position of Secretary is open.

We need someone to volunteer for this position. Please tell one of the current officers if you would like to become involved. 

## November Door Prizes

The following list of door prizes will be awarded at the November BAC meeting. 1) a copy of the software "Photoshop Elements 2." 2) the book "Mac OS X Hints."

3) a copy of the monthly CDOM. Disk Librarian Jerry Jenkins will have the disk at the meeting. See the list on this page of the new software for November.

4) a one week rental of any of the instructional CDs that is in our Library. Instructional Media Librarian Luther Fuller will have the library at the meeting. 

## Book Review

### Mac OS X Hints

Jaguar Edition

By Rob Griffiths, Edited by David Poque

Published by Pogue Press/OReilly

\$24.95 (461 pages)

Reviewed by Bill Henry, President BAC

If you aren't afraid to tinker with your Macs operating system, this book will help you customize the way your Mac acts, looks and feels. Some hints require some minor tuning other hints need an experienced command of Unix.

Like all Missing Manual series books you are encouraged to contribute your own hints online at [www.missingmanuals.com](http://www.missingmanuals.com). This is also the site for updating your book to see the latest hints.

Some helpful hints include ways to speed up iPhoto, how to rotate pictures in iPhotoboth clockwise and counterclockwise., how to change the cursor to a hand useful for scrolling thru documents up & down, side to side and diagonally., Find out about the secret CD/DVD eject icon, how to say good-bye to the brushed metal look and go back to aqua and where you can find a PDF plugin.

Countless other hints can prove quite useful but a good portion of the book, 105 pages out of the total 463 pages, are devoted to using the Mac as a Terminal in Unix, not for the faint of heart.

It would have been nice to have had this book split in two one for the novices and the the other for the hard core users.

You may want to hold out for the Panther edition. David Poque was on TechTV showing off the new OS X Panthers little known but useful features. His updated OS X, Panther Edition, *The Missing Manual* is due out in December.

This book will be a door prize at the BAC November general meeting.

*[Bill Henry has been an officer with the Birmingham Apple Core for too long and makes a living designing structures for power plants to power all those Macs out there.]*

*[Ed. note: Current members of the Birmingham Apple Core can receive a 20% discount off the \$24.95 price by obtaining a coupon at the BAC meetings. Orders can be placed by calling 1-800-998-9938 or by e-mail at: [order@oreilly.com](mailto:order@oreilly.com). Online orders can be placed at [www.oreilly.com](http://www.oreilly.com).]* 🍏

## 100 Million Free iTunes Songs

SAN FRANCISCO -- October 16, 2003 -- Apple and Pepsi-Cola North America today announced a historic promotion to legally give away 100 million free songs to Mac and Windows PC users from Apple's iTunes Music Store.

For information go to: <http://www.applelinks.com/articles/2003/10/20031016162840.shtml> 🍏

## Software Review

### iClip

“What the old Scrapbook should have been”

<http://inventive.us/iclip> \$19.95

Reviewed by Ted Galloway, Peel Editor

iClip is a very handy utility for OS X. It is a strip with several bins that resides on your desktop to temporarily store text clippings, graphics taken from the internet, sounds, URLs and more. By clicking on the iClip button at the top of the strip you can reduce the strip to just the iclip Button. That way it stays out of your way until you need it. To make it reappear just click the button again. To put items in the bins simply copy and paste or drag and drop. The publishers suggest that this utility can take the place of the old Scrapbook in earlier versions of the Mac OS but is more flexible.

Clippings can be organized in to clipping sets by using the pull down menu on the strip and selecting New Clipping Set. Each set can have as many bins as you like but this will be limited by the size of your computer monitor. Under the same pull down menu you can select Manage Clipping Sets to change the number of bins for a particular set. For example, if you only need 6 bins for text clippings but need 12 for graphics, you can change this at this location.

The preference menu allows you to change the size of the strip and the bins to small, medium or large. It also allows you to change the orientation of the strip to Vertical or Horizontal.

One thing that I would like to recommend for a future release is a scroll bar on the strip. That way you can have related items in the same clip set without adding additional sets. At this point, iClip is only available as a download from <http://inventive.us/iclip>. You can download iClip for a trial period and purchase it after the trial period for \$19.95 less a 25% discount for current members of the Birmingham Apple Core.

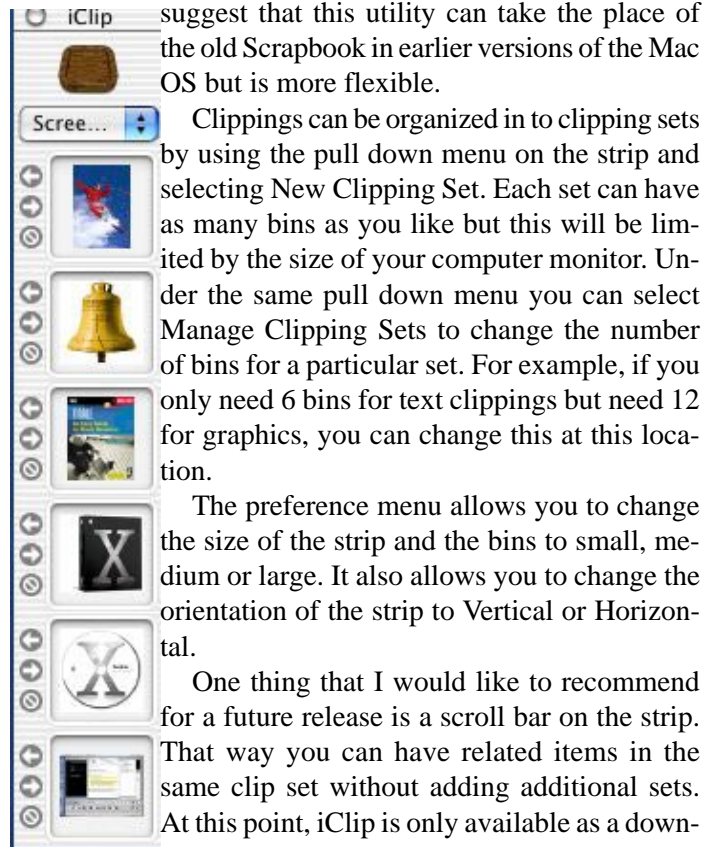
#### System Requirements

iClip requires Mac OS 10.1 or higher.

#### Recommendation

Overall iClip can be a handy tool to store items temporarily. For items you wish to keep you would need to paste them into a document and save them as a regular file.

A copy of iClip, complete with registration number, will be awarded as a door prize at the upcoming BAC “Monthly Meeting” 🍏



## Review of Toast 6 Titanium - Software

by Randy Brandon, AAUG member-Reviewed 10/03

[This review is courtesy of the Alaska Apple Users Group <http://www.akappleug.org/> Used with permission]

For all of you cave dwellers out there that have never heard of Toast, I will just say that it is "THE" program to own for burning CD's, and DVD's.

It is a specialty program, in that, it is only built to burn CD's and DVD's, and does nothing else. But it is literally the industry standard for burning data and music to CD media.

The program installs as easily as it runs, and in no time, I was up, and burning.

Now, I realize that many of your first comments might be; So why do I need another CD burning program, when I already have one built in to my Mac? And the answer would be that because it works better than the built in one does.

Enter Toast Titanium 6. I have been an avid user of Toast since its inception, and have always liked most of it's features, and interface. It was one of the only programs available to allow users the ability to drive their stand alone CD burners, and was commonly bundled along with many of the CD drivers sold over the years. So Toast has a long history of making a product that really performs like it should.

If the only thing that I ever used my CD burner for was to save data, then I might never even need a program like Toast 6. But I would venture to guess that most computer users expect their CD, and DVD burners to do all kinds of things like making music CD's, hybrid formatted CD's, etc. But with a robust program like Toast Titanium 6, power users can literally, do it all. Toast Titanium 6 was designed to virtually perform every function imaginable when it comes to burning information to optical disks.

Since I am speaking only about Mac's running system X, it is important to note that although they can all burn cd's using the Apple built-in software, but that bundled software is extremely bare bones, and contains almost no additional options. And although it does the job, it remains a very basic, featureless application.

Toast Titanium 6 opens with a very intuitive menu window that contains all of the controls, and features in a layout that works extremely well.

Users simply launch Toast 6, and drag all of the files, and folders into the content area, and drop them. The program then provides a running account of the size of the files ready to burn. When you have reached the maximum amount that your CD or DVD will hold, you click the record button, insert a blank media, and burn away.

This main window has a series of tabs to help users select one of the four main disk types that you need to burn; Data, Audio, Video, and Disk copy. There is also a fly-out panel that contains most of the additional settings called for to customize your output. And what I really do like about Toast Titanium 6 is that the entire interface is both elegant, and powerful.

On to some of the latest new features. It is obvious that the designers at Roxio have been hard at work trying to make this latest version of Toast 6 be as user friendly as possible. A new feature named "Toast It" is a really great little addition to this program.

The "toast It" feature gives the user direct access to the program at anytime without even having to go find the icon, and launching it. Users simply select any file or folder, and press the control key. This pop up contextual menu leads the user directly to a Toast menu, and boom, it's open, and ready. Great feature improvement.

The new feature "ToastAnywhere" lets users access, and burn CD's and DVD's across networks so that homes, and small offices can use a central burner if they so choose.

There are new features for encryption and password protection of your files, plus compression, and automated scheduled back ups of files (Deja Vu Backup).

They have included some neat new audio features like CD Spin Doctor 2 for improvements to the audio quality of recorded vinyl records or tapes. And a very important new feature is a great Universal Audio Converter which serves to convert numerous sound formats into widely available standard formats.

New to the photo features page are two really neat utilities that allow the user to produce their very own "motion pictures" from still photo files, along with creating slide shows from those same still photos.

Toast 6 has come up with five new features with this latest version. Those new features include, more formats for DVD's, new DVD authoring, Plug & Burn (direct from a digital camera recording, a new universal video converter, and finally a Disk extractor.

It should be obvious by now that this latest version of Toast Titanium 6 is jam packed with some carefully thought out features that really give it a full upgrade feel, and look to it.

I have used almost every one of these newest features, plus all of the old ones, and find Toast Titanium 6 to be a remarkable program that is impressive anyway that you look at it. From its new look, to the bevy of new features, and on, and on. This program does more than most people will ever need

*The new features alone are all a worthwhile reason to purchase this upgrade, as they extend the serious capabilities of this necessary program.*

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See **Toast 6**, p. 5

**Toast 6**, from p. 4

to do, and it does it all with very little of a learning curve, and simplicity at its core.

I must commend the publishers for including a printed manual with Toast 6. This program requires full printed manual, and I for one am delighted that there is one in the box.

In summary, Toast Titanium 6 is the one utility program that everyone needs to own. The program is beautifully designed, and user friendly to boot.

The new features alone are all a worthwhile reason to purchase this upgrade, as they extend the serious capabilities of this necessary program.

If you don't own it, buy it. If you do already own it (the older versions), upgrade it. Toast Titanium 6 is the undisputed leader of the pack, and if you don't already own it, you should!

**System stats:** I ran this program on a 1 GHz, twin processor G4 machine with an 80 Gb internal drive, and 1 Gig of RAM. Plus a 40 GB LaCie Firewire HD, all running on System 9.2.2, and System 10.2.6

**System Requirements:** Toast Titanium 6 requires System 10.2 or higher, 200 MB of hard Disk space, 2 GB for every 10 minute of digital video, Quicktime 6 or higher, and a CD or DVD recorder.

*Randy Brandon is a professional photographer in Anchorage, Alaska.*



<b>Product</b>	Toast 6 Titanium
<b>From</b>	Roxio, INC.
<b>Phone</b>	1-800-518-2432
<b>Web</b>	www.roxio.com
<b>Price</b>	full program is \$ 99.95 (\$20.00 rebates on upgrades)
<b>Pros</b>	New design interface, features galore.
<b>Cons</b>	Zip, Nadda, None
<b>Moose Rating</b>	

**Get involved.**  
 Become an officer in the  
 Birmingham Apple Core

## Apple to address Panther, external FireWire drive issues

By Jim Dalrymple [jdalrymple@maccentral.com](mailto:jdalrymple@maccentral.com)

October 30, 2003 7:20 pm ET Apple Computer Inc. has responded to concerns from its users that Mac OS X Panther disables or corrupts files on external FireWire 800 hard disks. Users began reporting the issues to Apple shortly after the release of the operating system on October 24, 2003.

"Apple has identified an issue with external FireWire hard drives using the Oxford 922 bridge chip-set with firmware version 1.02 that can result in the loss of data stored on the disk drive," Apple said in a statement given to MacCentral.

Users that have been affected by the problem have reported that on booting the machine with a FireWire hard disk attached, Panther reports that "you have inserted an unrecognized disk," with the option to eject, initialize or ignore. After pressing ignore in hopes the disk would show up on the desktop, users tried a variety of disk utilities with no luck.

Plugging the affected FireWire drive into a computer running Mac OS X Jaguar did not help either -- in fact, some users even tried to connect the drive to a machine running Mac OS 9 with no luck. Users have reported trying Apple's Disk Utility, Disk Warrior, Norton Utilities and a variety of recovery methods found on forums around the Internet.

Apple said that they are working with drive manufacturers using the affected chipset, but recommend users stop using the drives until a fix has been released.

"Apple is working with Oxford Semiconductor and affected drive manufacturers to resolve this issue, which resides in the Oxford 922 chip-set. In the interim, Apple recommends that you do not use these drives. To stop using the drive, you should unmount or eject the disk drive before doing anything else." 🍏

### New support site for OSX (Panther) and iTunes

Mac OS X has evolved. Check out the all-new Mac OS X 10.3 Panther support site for tips & tricks, resources and hundreds of great articles.

<http://www.info.apple.com/usen/panther/>

<http://www.apple.com/support/macosx/>

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Over 1 million copies of iTunes 4.1 for Mac and Windows have been downloaded already. If you're looking to get the most out of this great release, check out our new iTunes support website. It includes tips & tricks, tutorials and lots of great articles. If you have a billing question, just click on our customer service link.

<http://www.info.apple.com/usen/itunes/>

iTunes for Mac: <http://www.apple.com/support/itunes/>



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