

Please e-mail your questions or comments to
Bill Henry, Editor
(henryw@bellsouth.net)



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Say Hello to iLife '04

iBook repair program announced, and new updates to Safari and Java

Apple Computer introduced iLife '04 at Macworld including the new Garage Band application, see article on page 5 for more information.

iBook Repair Program

The iBook Logic Board Repair Extension Program is a worldwide program covering repair or replacement of the logic board in specific iBook models manufactured between May 2002 and April 2003 that are experiencing specific component failures.

The iBook Logic Board Repair Extension Program covers iBooks that have a particular component failure on the logic board, resulting in the computer starting up but the built-in and attached external displays exhibiting one or more of the following symptoms:

- Scrambled or distorted video
- Appearance of unexpected lines on the screen
- Intermittent video image
- Video freeze
- Computer starts up to blank screen

For more information visit the following web site: www.apple.com/support/ibook/faq/ [Ed. note: kudos to Apple]

Recent Software Updates (OS 10.3 only)

Apple has released Safari 1.2 and Java 1.4.2 updates. Safari 1.2 features improved compatibility with websites and web applications, support for personal certificate authentication, full keyboard access for navigation and the ability to resume interrupted downloads. It also works with Java 1.4.2 to support websites that use LiveConnect for communication between JavaScript and Java applets. 🍏

iLife '04 continued from page 5

iLife '04 is available now for a suggested retail price of \$49 (US) through the Apple Store®, Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers. The iLife '04 applications will also be included with all new Macs. An iLife Up-To-Date upgrade package is available to all customers who purchase a new Mac on or after January 6 that does not include iLife '04. The iLife Up-To-Date package is available for a shipping and handling fee of \$19.95 (US). iTunes version 4.2 is currently available as a free download at www.apple.com.

iLife requires Mac OS® X v10.2.6 or later, QuickTime® 6.4 or later, a Macintosh® computer with PowerPC G3, G4, or G5 processor, 256MB or more physical RAM and a 1024x768 or larger display. A 600 MHz G3 processor or faster is required for GarageBand and a G4 or G5 processor is required for GarageBand software instruments. An Apple SuperDrive™ or 733 MHz G4 processor is required for iDVD and a SuperDrive is required to burn DVDs. 🍏



BAC February Meeting

The February 14th meeting will be held at **McKinney Technologies** in Homewood at 1923 29th St. South.

We will be advising McKinney Technologies as they plan and setup an internet cafe adjacent to their new location.

Come early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and cookies plus... 🍏

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henryw@bellsouth.net

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Luther Fuller

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Jerry Jenkins

gjenkins1333@charter.net

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For Sale/Wanted

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 free of charge to current-BAC members.

Send information by the 25th of each month to the editor at: henryw@bellsouth.net.

BAC Disk of the Month

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

The cost is \$2 per disk and is available at the BAC meetings from Disk Librarian Jerry Jenkins.

CDOM February 2004

CDOM Feb. Special EDITION

Open Office 1.0.3...Freeware

Includes Documents and URLs. See article Feb. Peel page 3.

CDOM February Descriptions

Adobe Reader X 6.0.1...Freeware

(AdbeRdr601) New updated version. Requires OS 10.2.4 or later.

Amazing Slow Downer X 2.6.4...

Shareware Slows down music without changing pitch - and more. Requires OS 10.1 or later.

AppleWorks X 6.2.9 Update...Free-

ware Brings AppleWorks up to date. Requires Mac OS X and Apple Works 6.x for updating to ver. 6.2.9 or if running OS 8.1 or 8.6 or 9.1 to 9.2.2, updates to version 6.2.8.

Backup Simplicity X 1.1...Share-

ware Trial for backing up to external Firewire hard drives. Requires OS 10.2.3 or higher.

ChronoSync X 2.0.3...Shareware

Highly rated backup application. Full featured. Requires OS 10.2 or higher.

CookWare Deluxe X 2.0...Shareware

has everything - including a recipe database. Very highly rated. Requires OS 10.0 or later.

Deluxe Klondike 3.5.2...Shareware

Card games. Requires OS 8.6 or higher.

Ebony & Ivory X 1.8..Shareware

Can play any chords, find matching keys, generate chords list, etc. Requires OS 10.0 through OS 10.3.x

FolderIcon X 1.7.8...Shareware

Create custom folder icons and document icons. Requires OS 10.2.1 or higher, or OS 10.3.x

Function Keys Mapper X 2.0...

Shareware Assign any operation to all Function Keys and in combination with

shift, option, command and control keys (80 in all). Requires OS 10.3.x

iLife04 MiniManual...Freeware

Highlights of iPhoto, iTunes and iMovie.

iTunes X 4.2...Freeware

Latest version. Requires OS 10.1.5 or later and QuickTime 6.2 or later.

VueScan X 7.6.74...Shareware

Updated, keeps getting better and covers more scanners. In most cases, it replaces and improves the original scanner driver.

Requires Mac OS 10.x

Mac System Updates

Apple recommends that you update your system software with the appropriate updates:

*Mac OS 8 should be updated to Mac OS 8.1.

*Mac OS 8.5 or 8.5.1 should be updated to Mac OS 8.6

*All versions of Mac OS 9 should be updated to Mac OS 9.1 or later.

These updates are available at www.apple.com/support or from the BAC Disk Library."

Message Board id and password for February

The BAC Message Board is located at www.applecore.org and click on Message Board. The User id for February is: peel and the password is 0204. Some browsers ask for the Name in the top box. This is the place for the user ID.

We hope that the BAC membership will take advantage of this Message Board. Feel free to ask questions or make comments and hopefully someone in BAC will respond. 🍏

February Door Prizes

The following list of door prizes will be awarded at the January BAC meeting, 1) a copy of the monthly CDOM. Disk Librarian Jerry Jenkins will have the disk at the meeting, 2) a one-week rental of any of the instructional CDs that are in our Library. Instructional Media Librarian Luther Fuller will have the library at the meeting. 🍏

Open Office

by Luther Fuller

The OpenOffice application is a suite consisting of Writer (text documents), Calc (spreadsheets), Impress (multimedia presentations) and Draw (diagrams and illustrations). It works a lot like Apple's AppleWorks (\$79) or Microsoft's Office v. X Standard Edition (\$399). But unlike these applications, it costs only \$0. That's right, it's free!

OpenOffice is an open-source project designed to run in X Window, a windowing system for Unix, not in Mac OS X. In Jaguar, the installation and use of an X Window emulator and OpenOffice was not a simple point-and-click operation and knowledge of Unix was necessary. However, Panther (Mac OS X 10.3) comes with an X Window emulator called X11 and X11 can run OpenOffice. If you are running Panther on your Mac, installing X11 and OpenOffice is easy.

Download OpenOffice - Go to <http://porting.openoffice.org/mac/ooo-osx_downloads.html> and download the file "ooo103darwinm.dmg". This is a large file, about 750MB. If you don't have a high speed internet connection, you can buy the OpenOffice Special CD-ROM from BAC Disk Library for \$1.00 — see Jerry Jenkins and CDOM page 2. While you are visiting the openoffice.org web site, you may notice that the latest version of OpenOffice is 1.1, but the download is version 1.0.3. Version 1.1 does not (yet) work with Mac OS X.

Install X11 - If you have already installed Panther, then open the /Applications/Utilities folder. If this folder contains the X11 application, then X11 is already installed and you are ready to install OpenOffice. If you are about to install Panther and want X11 installed too, you will have to click the Customize button, then check the box next to X11. If need to install X11 into a current installation of Panther, then do the following:

- Insert "Mac OS X Install Disc 3" into your Mac's CD drive

(Do NOT launch the OS X installer on Disc 1)

- Open the "Packages" folder which contains the file "X11User.pkg"
- Double-Click the file "X11User.pkg" and proceed with X11 installation

Install OpenOffice - Double-click the "ooo103darwinm.dmg" disk image file to create the disk "OOo 1.0.3 X11" on your desktop. Open this disk, then open the folder "MacOSX", then double-click the file "Install_OpenOffice.org1.0.3". Install OpenOffice in the Applications folder on your OS X startup disk. The installer will offer to install four components — do not uncheck the box next to these components. As installation of each component begins, you will see a small window containing the name of the component and a progress bar — drag this window to the

bottom of your screen and ignore it.

Launch OpenOffice - Open the folder "OpenOffice.org1.0.3" in your Applications folder where you will find an application named "Start OpenOffice.org.app". This is the application file where you can launch OpenOffice by dragging-and-dropping documents or by double-clicking. When you launch OpenOffice, X11 will launch first. The first time you launch OpenOffice you will be asked to choose from a list — scroll to the bottom of this list and choose X11. OpenOffice takes a very long time to complete launching — be patient. OpenOffice can read and write MS Word files, so you might want to open one of these if you have one.

X11 Idiosyncrasies - X11 is an emulator for the Unix X Window System. It does not behave like Mac OS X. Just as OS 9 applications have the look and feel of OS 9 when run in Classic mode, X Window applications have the look and feel of the X Window System when run under X11. The first thing to notice about OpenOffice is that the menu items and tools are inside the document window, not the menu bar or a tool window. The X Window System expects you to have a three button mouse and uses the Control key (not the Command key) for menu short cuts. Apple's X11 knows that you probably have a one button mouse, so it uses the Option and Command keys to emulate the middle and right mouse buttons. You will just have to get used to this.

Documentation - I've included the files Starters_Guide.pdf and writer_guide_en_1.0.1.pdf on the OpenOffice Special CD-ROM. They should help you get started using OpenOffice. You can find more information at these URLs:

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/features/x11/download/>

<http://www.ooodocs.org/index.php>

<http://www.openoffice.org/>

But, be careful — most of the documents I've seen on X11 and OpenOffice apply only to Jaguar and should be ignored.

The Future - OpenOffice on Panther is not yet "ready for prime time", but it's very close. A native OS X version is in development that will not require X11, but the planned release date for this is sometime in 2006. 🍏

Luther Fuller is the BAC Instructional Media Librarian and has been known to jump out of perfectly good airplanes and tamper with OS X at the root user level. Neither of these are for the faint of heart.

PANTHER TIP - NEW APPLICATION SWITCHER

For Mac OS 10.3 Panther users a new feature is how to tab through open applications. Hit the Command(Apple) & then the Tab key once and all the open application appear in small boxes in the middle of your screen. Each subsequent hit of the tab key cycles through the oversized icons that represent the open applications. Once you reach the application you want to select let go of the command key, the application immediately jumps to the front.

Book Review

“iPhoto2 – the Missing Manual”

By David Pogue, Joseph Schorr, Derrick Story

\$24.96 Pogue Press/Orielly

A review by Tommy Ellison.

OK, I will admit I have never been a manual reader. The growing trend to substitute online help and electronic documents in lieu of printed manuals has never really bothered me. I never read them anyway.

I was asked to read and write a review on “iPhoto2” – The Missing Manual. I agreed thinking it would be a bit boorish. I am pleased to say this is a very good book on several levels. After all, I have been using Apple’s Digital Hub since its inception. I iPhoto, iTune/pod, iMovie, iChat and iDVD quite often in both business and personal affairs. In addition to iLife expertise, I have been a practitioner of the photographic arts since serving on the yearbook staff in high school. I long ago abandoned the smelly darkroom and made the leap to digital photography when Apple introduced their first digital camera – the Quick-Take 100.

The introduction of iPhoto was a welcome relief as megabytes of digital information began to pile up and clutter every nook and cranny of the storage space and media I possessed. iPhoto, the application was a godsend. But if you make and edit digital pictures at all, you already know that.

What about this book? In my opinion, this is not the “missing manual”... it is the manual. Especially since Apple did not provide a manual per se for iPhoto2.

If I rated book for computer geeks like me, I would award 4.5 out of 5 stars. When I find three or more useful hints or ideas in a book of this type, I feel it is worth the price of admission. I’ll tell you what they are in a moment... I will also share my only disappointment as well.

This well-written and straightforward book is subdivided into five primary sections:

1. Tips on what to look for when purchasing a digital camera. Too late for me but great for the potential digital camera prospects.

2. How to use your digital camera. Loaded with tips and techniques for all photographers – both digital and antiquated film/slide users.

3. iPhoto2 basics. The heart of the book, I learned several new techniques for editing, managing and storing my photographic images.

4. How to use your photos in slideshows, prints, CD and DVDs. What good is a “Kodak moment” if you never share it with others? This chapter will open your eyes on new methods to share your work.

5. A “how-to” on additional useful iPhoto2 features (desktop images screensavers and Applescript ideas.

Also included is an appendix with basic trouble shooting ideas, a description of iPhoto2 menus and where to find additional digital photo resources.

While it is not the intention of this review to fully describe the best features of “iPhoto2”, I have to admit I learned a few things from the book that have become helpful for me using iPhoto2.

Here they are:

1. In the preferences of iPhoto2, one can choose to view and edit the photo in the main window or open the image in a separate window. I have formerly used the “open in edit view” option and frankly did not know I could open the image in its own window before. I have wasted more than a few moments working with images only to accidentally revert to the “organize” view by mistake. Opening in a separate window saves time and provides several edit and view options not available in the other mode. You can even customize the edit window tool bar to insure frequently used tools are readily available.

2. The second helpful hint I discovered was the explanation on how “iPhoto2” uses keywords for easier searching. I now take a moment to add key words on all photos being imported in order to save time later when searching for specific images or themes. This feature will save you hours later if you discipline yourself to enter the key words when importing photos into iPhoto!

3. “iPhoto2” library management has always confused some users because of the nested folder concept Apple uses when “iPhoto2” imports images from your camera. In an “iPhoto2” library containing 2000 or more images, the folder methodology becomes rather large, confusing and actually slows down the process. Several tips on managing your “iPhoto2” library are included in the book. One great tip was the use of an alias in the home/pictures folder on the hard drive. The last tip, and the one I now use, is the third party add-on program written by Brian Webster, a Mac software developer: “iPhoto2 Library Manager” is a small, (288k) free download that allows the user to create, delete, manage and rename multiple “iPhoto” libraries on the fly. For me, this tip alone was worth the price of the book.

This is a must-have book for digital photographers who use “iPhoto2” for storing, archiving and managing their photo libraries. iPhoto2 is truly the shoebox/light-box for digital photography. “iPhoto2 – The Missing Manual” is the Rosetta stone for understanding and using the program to its full potential.

My one complaint? No color photographs of the examples being used in the book. I hate reading books with black and white photographs of color screen layouts and examples. The publisher will probably tell us this method keeps cost down. In my case, the use of color photographs for illustration would be well worth the increased cost.

iPHOTO - The Missing Manual book review is continued on page 5

Apple Announces iLife '04

New versions of iPhoto, iMovie iTunes & iDVD;

Introducing GarageBand

MACWORLD EXPO, SAN FRANCISCO—January 6, 2004—Apple® today announced iLife™ '04, the next generation of Apple's award-winning suite of digital life-style applications. iLife '04 features major new versions of iPhoto™, iMovie® and iDVD™ and introduces GarageBand™, a revolutionary new music application that turns a Mac® into a professional-quality musical instrument and recording studio for musicians and aspiring musicians alike. iLife '04 also features the recently-released iTunes® 4.2, the world's best digital music jukebox software which includes the iTunes Music Store, the world's number one digital music service. iLife '04 leads the industry in allowing consumers to easily organize their photos, manage their music collection, create movies, author DVDs and now create music.


“With iLife '04, Apple is taking another leap far ahead of its PC competitors in offering the most innovative software for organizing and creating digital music, photos and movies,” said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. “And now GarageBand does for music creation what iMovie did for video and iPhoto did for photos—makes the creative process easy and affordable for everyone. Over half of U.S. households have at least one member who currently plays a musical instrument, so we think GarageBand is going to find a very receptive audience.”

GarageBand turns the Mac into a complete recording studio, allowing both novice and seasoned musicians alike to easily play, record and create amazing music using a remarkably simple interface. With GarageBand, recorded performances, digital audio and looping tracks can easily be arranged and edited like building blocks to create a song. GarageBand comes with more than 50 software instruments, including a premium-quality grand piano, that can be played and recorded with any USB or MIDI music keyboard. Over 1,000 professionally pre-recorded audio loops can be combined to make complete songs or backing tracks. Vocals and live instruments such as guitars can be recorded digitally via microphone or analog input. All these tracks can be edited and mixed together with over 200 pro-quality effects presets, including pro-quality effects such as reverb and echo, and the built-in expertise of professional recording engineers. With GarageBand's advanced modeling technology, guitar players have access to some of the most revered vintage amplifier sounds with six guitar amps, including clean jazz, arena rock and British invasion. GarageBand can also export completed songs to iTunes for burning to CD, encoding in MP3 or high quality AAC, transfer to iPod™ or for use in the other iLife applications.

iPHOTO-The Missing Manual from page 4

All in all, this is another well-done publication from Pogue/O'Reilly.

Tommy is a long time BAC member and has served in every office. He is an avid Mac user and works for Robbins Flooring.

[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. Online orders can be placed at www.oreilly.com.] 

iPhoto 4 now lets users scroll through and resize up to 25,000 photos in seconds to find exactly the photo they're looking for. New time-based photo organization gives users even easier access to their photos, and Smart Albums automatically organizes photos based on date, keyword or the user's own rating. New slideshows include cinematic transitions and controls for rotating, rating and deleting photos on the fly. With Rendezvous™ photo sharing, photos can easily be shared between computers across home networks.

iMovie 4 features editing directly in the timeline to make movie creation easier and faster. Users can select and edit multiple clips simultaneously to modify and render clips faster and more efficiently. With graphical audio waveforms and live audio scrubbing, users can find specific edit points in audio tracks, and alignment guides make it easy to precisely sync video and audio. Live video can be imported directly from an iSight™ camera to the clips panel. iMovie 4 also makes it simple to share movies over the Internet via email or web with a .Mac Home Page, and users can take movies with them when they travel with a compatible Bluetooth mobile phone or PDA.

iDVD 4 includes 20 new Hollywood-style themes, many with intro movies and sub-menus, that can be personalized with music, photos and movies for truly original DVDs. Movies from iMovie, photos from iPhoto and music from iTunes or GarageBand can be added directly to a DVD via the media browser, and enhanced photo slideshows can include cinematic transitions and iTunes playlists. The DVD Map provides an overview of entire DVD projects, and professional-quality encoding can fit over two hours of video on a single DVD.

iLife '04 also includes the latest version of iTunes, the world's best digital music jukebox software with the iTunes Music Store inside. iTunes allows users to import music from CDs, legally download music for just 99 cents per track, organize and mix the music in their digital music libraries into custom playlists, burn custom CDs or take their entire music collection with them on their iPod. The pioneering iTunes Music Store, iTunes digital music jukebox software and market-leading iPod portable digital music player provide a complete solution for music fans to buy, manage and listen to their digital music collections anywhere.

for Pricing & Availability see page 1



McKinney Technologies, Inc.

Simplifying Technology

1923 29th Ave., So.
 Homewood, AL 35209
 Ph: 205-802-7886 Fax: 205-802-7898
 e-mail: info@mckinneytech.com

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Art Vires

Apple Solutions Consultant (Birmingham)
 Cell Phone (205)335-4779
 e-mail: avires@apple.com

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Chris Perry

1722-B 28th Ave. So., Homewood, AL 35209
 Phone (205) 870-7044 Fax (205)780-1944
 e-mail: chris@perrycomputer.com
 www.perrycomputer.com



Bill Henry, Editor
 2438 Mahaska Drive
 Birmingham, AL 35244

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