



Oak Creek Apples

A 501.c.3 Organization for Education on Apple Computers

Macintosh Users Group Newsletter

October, 2007

www.oakcreekapples.com

Meetings Calendar

Wednesday, October 17, 2007:

🍏 Mac Basics & Beyond ... 5:00 PM

🍏 Main Meeting 6:30 PM

At this meeting we really will hear an overview of the much-in-the-news iPhone by Morgan Stine.

Be there!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next month (November), we have two options. Assuming the release of Mac OS X 10.5.x (Leopard) later this month, we look forward to a review

of it's many features by an as yet unknown volunteer. Among these features: **Time Machine** will back up your entire system, or just selected items. **Quick Look** lets you peek at an entire file without opening it. **Mail** will let you write notes (colored text, graphics, attachments, etc.). **iCal** has a new way of sharing files and information – with the event drop box you can add documents, pictures, video by dragging them into an event. And the new **synthesized** English voice, Alex, delivers a surprisingly natural intonation.

Should Leopard not yet be available, we will fall back upon another as yet unknown volunteer for the report on that newly offered iWorks 08, which includes Pages '08 (word processing and page layout), Numbers '08 (spreadsheets for everything from family budgets and event planning to

invoices and complex financial reports), and Keynote '08 (presentations, complete with Apple-designed themes, cinema-quality animations, and voiceover narration), plus import and export compatibility with Microsoft Office.

And should that unknown volunteer not materialize, Dick Searle will present his opinions of the Numbers '08 segment of iWorks '08. For the general home user, this may be (at \$79) the affordable Excel replacement suite we've been looking for.

Oak Creek Apple meetings are held at the Elks Lodge in West Sedona, just off Airport Road, on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except July and August.

Special Interest Group Meetings

Mac Basics & Beyond SIG:

Jannah Riemer does more than show how to point and click. There is always something to learn for all Mac users who don't make their living using special applications. This is a

great place to get questions answered. The **Mac Basics & Beyond** SIG meets from 5 – 6:30 pm every 3rd Wednesday, before the Main Meeting.

Notes From Last Meeting

Our last meeting (the first of the 2007 – 2008 season) opened with 12 attendees listening with rapt attention to Jannah dealing with a number of user generated questions. One pertained to Podcasts (download to computer, usually free) and where to keep them (iTunes>Podcasts). Another dealt with the Dock getting in the way of material on the screen, and still another with is there a “forward delete” in Apple Works word processing. Numerous other questions arose, some simple, others complex, all worthwhile.

The Main Meeting found Jannah as moderator, explaining to the choir what we, as a club, needed to do to continue as a valid voice of the Macintosh community. Some fresh blood would be helpful, and she had created and made available flyers which each of us were asked to distribute out in the community.

A Q&A session brought out the need some folks have for resolving the pixel vs inches quandry. Also mentioned was Flip4Mac (free from Microsoft) which allows Mac users to play .wmv and .wma files in the quicktime player. Further discussion evolved about the merits/demerits of local ISPs, i.e. qwest, esedona, etc.

Morgan Stine was unable to be with us for the iPhone overview at this meeting (he will join us on October 17), so Ken Hughes (NAZTEQ Consulting) expanded his scheduled talk on Tips and Tricks. Ken likes to create web sites with iWeb (currently part of the iLife '08 suite). And when it comes to organization of images, he much prefers Bridge (found in Photoshop Elements) over iPhoto. He also finds Firefox more useful in his work than Safari. But he admits it's a "whatever floats your boat" situation.

Following Ken's presentation, the "Raffle Time" was revived. Numerous items, contributed both by Club

members and well wishers, were made available to those whose names had been entered through presence and purchase.

The Apple Mug Store

<http://Applemugstore.com> is a wonderful place to shop for real bargains, and is available to all Macintosh User Group members.

You can find the current **User ID & Password** in the email notifying you of the meetings of the month.



Jannah Riemer
Mac Consulting

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iPods, digital cameras too!
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Sharing iCal without .Mac

TUAW.com

Ask TUAW

Posted Sep 12th 2007 8:00PM by Mat Lu

Sharing iCal without .Mac

Jay asks

I'm a terrible planner – I always seem to find myself agreeing to hang out

with friends when I had already planned dinner with my girlfriend the week before for that same night. Either that, or with her teaching and going to grad school classes, I lose track of where she is at certain times of the day, and this sometimes leads to strife between us. We both have MacBook Pros and use iCal as our primary calendars. Is there any way that we can sync up our calendars, to where I can open iCal on my computer and see what she has going on, and she can do the same thing for

me? Is this a .Mac feature? Is there a way to do it outside of .Mac?

Yes, just publish the your respective calendars to a WebDAV (or more properly CalDAV) server. If you have access to a WebDAV server already (or want to sign up for an account with Box.net) you can follow these instructions. If you want an even easier method, iCal Exchange offers free hosting. Keep in mind, however, that this will of course share your calendar information with the third-party host (though not the public).



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Computing Vocabulary: Those USB Flash Things

By Rob Pegoraro
Washington Post
September 7, 2007; 10:18 AM ET

I'm going to take a break from that... phone pricing issue that everybody's buzzing about over at [Post I.T.](#), and which has even migrated to our op-ed page, in the form of Gene Robinson's [fine essay](#). (Seriously: I'm so sick of it that I'm not even going to type the name of that gadget.)

Instead, I want to talk about something more important: What the heck do you call those little USB memory thingamabobs most people use to transfer files?

The most popular term for them seems to be "USB flash drives." It's

short, catchy, memorable--but also fundamentally wrong, as flash-memory storage doesn't involve a drive of any sort, or even any moving parts.

I've heard other people call them "memory sticks." I like that--in part, because that usage steals a perfectly good description back from Sony, which still labors under the delusion that people like its proprietary Memory Stick format. Most USB flash-storage units also take the form of a stick (notwithstanding some [bizarre exceptions](#)--USB sushi, anyone?). Then again, the term "memory stick" can also apply to flash memory in general; this summer in China, I saw memory cards of all shapes sold as "memory sticks."

For a while, I tried to push the term "USB keychain", but I don't seem to have gotten anybody to join me in that usage. And it's not like I've ever carried around a USB... whatever on my own keychain anyway. "USB fob" suffers from that problem as well. Besides, admit it: Have you used "fob" in conversation lately? We could give "USB pod" a shot--the name describes the shape of these things quite well--but there's always the risk we'll get [sued for using the name "pod"](#) by a certain Cupertino, Calif., computer firm. Most dismaying of all, the Wikipedia [entry](#) for these things reports that

some manufacturers are now condensing "USB flash drive" down to "UFD." Ugh.

What do you call them? Got any suggestions for an upgrade for this branch of our computing vocabulary? Fire away in the comments!

Membership

The Oak Creek Apples is exclusively an educational institution for the public on the use of Apple Computers, including maintenance, security, and software applications. Membership is open to anyone who wishes to belong. A dues-paying membership is a Regular membership (the member, spouse and their dependent children may participate, though only the member may vote). Guests and the public are welcome to attend our meetings on an occasional basis to become acquainted with the Group and its activities. Regular membership dues are \$25.00 per year to be renewed on the anniversary of joining the Group. In addition to participation in group activities, regular members receive a monthly emailed newsletter covering general and special-interest group activities, Apple news, and informative articles. A postal mailed version of our newsletter is still available for an additional \$8.00 annual fee.

To become a member when at our general meeting, ask one of our greeters at the greeting table at the back of our meeting room. One can also join the Oak Creek

Apples by sending a check for \$25.00 payable to the Oak Creek Apples to:

Membership Registrar
Oak Creek Apples
150 Color Cove Road, Sedona, AZ 86336

Please include your email address and mailing address and phone number with the payment.

We do not share our mailing list.

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