



# THE SEED

A Newsletter From Your...

**DENVER APPLE PI**  
Macintosh User Group

June 2007

Volume 29 No 6

## DENVER APPLE PI

### CALENDAR

SIG AND HELP MEETINGS ARE  
HELD AT THE CONSOLIDATED  
MUTUAL WATER DISTRICT  
BUILDING  
12700 W 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Lakewood  
7 to 9 pm  
*unless otherwise noted*

◆◆◆◆◆  
MEETING DATES SET FOR  
MAY- DEC 2007

June 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Mac SIG  
June 27 Wed Help SIG  
July 10 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Mac SIG  
July 15 Sunday Picnic  
July 25 Wed Help SIG

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### DENVER APPLE PI OFFICERS FOR 2007-08

Re-Elected Officers:

President	Larry Fagan
VP–Programs	Tom King
VP – Help	Jim Awalt
Treasurer	Larry Knowles
Secretary	Elissa McAlear
Membership	Sheila Warner

### JUNE 12 MAC SIG MEETING

Larry Fagan will discuss QuickTime.

QuickTime is software that allows Mac (and Windows) users to play back audio and video on a computer. In Mac OS X it allows open source streaming for delivering streaming media files on the Internet in real time. QuickTime Broadcaster delivers live events on the Internet. Quicktime is a free download from the Web or bundled with the Mac OS. (There is a charge for QuickTime Pro software.) Support for QuickTime is available at [www.apple.com/support](http://www.apple.com/support) to see the resources available. For a comprehensive guide showing what you can watch on QuickTime, visit [www.apple.com/quicktime](http://www.apple.com/quicktime).

QuickTime 7 for OS X Tiger and Panther has the following features:

- ❖ H.264 video
- ❖ Multichannel audio playback
- ❖ Life resize as you change the size of your player window
- ❖ New Playback capabilities–adjust playback settings as you would on DVD player or VCR
- ❖ Automatically determines your connection speed to ensure high quality content.

QuickTime, including QuickTime Player, PictureViewer and browser plug-ins, is available as a free download. QuickTime Pro is an upgrade and is \$29.95.

## JULY 10 MACSIG MEETING

Nancy Fagan will use iDVD to show us her photos from their trip to Ireland this past May. Nancy did a presentation on their trip to China last year and she is adept at presenting a fine travelogue. Her use of iDVD should give us inspiration to do something with our own digital photos.



## RECYCLE OLD BATTERIES

Joyce Etherton



Batteries Plus will accept any sort of batteries for recycling except alkaline. This includes all rechargeable batteries:

- ❖ Lead Acid
- ❖ Lithium Ion
- ❖ Mercury
- ❖ Nickel Cadmium
- ❖ Nickel Metal Hydride
- ❖ Silver Oxide

NO ALKALINE BATTERIES ARE ACCEPTED. DISPOSE OF THEM IN YOUR USUAL WAY.

## PROFESSOR FIZZWIZZLE AND THE MOLTEN MYSTERY!



Nope, this isn't another Harry Potter book; it's a logic puzzle from Grubby

Games. The following press release was sent to Denver Apple Pi. There are several web pages you can go to check this out. If you would like to review *The Molten Mystery*, a free download copy is available to DAPI. Please call Elissa to set this up.

*Press release from Ryan Clark of Grubby Games, June 7th 2007.*

From the creators of 2005's best puzzle game, Professor Fizzwizzle, comes a logic puzzler of volcanic proportions: Professor Fizzwizzle and the Molten Mystery! While on a well deserved vacation, Professor Fizzwizzle's investigation of a strange volcano has landed him in a hot spot of trouble. Now it's up to



you to master exciting new gadgets, outwit the Bat-Bots, and vanquish a truly cunning villain! Available on PC, Mac, and Linux, Professor Fizzwizzle's latest adventure pits him against the fiendish foe, Penny Pyroclast, and her island full of mind melting puzzles. Featuring over 210 levels in three different difficulty levels, Professor Fizzwizzle and the Molten Mystery is packed with fun for gamers of all ages and skill levels. And this is no ordinary puzzle game: Grubby Games has done away with the puzzle genre's frustration factor. Stuck on a level? Just use the "Show Solution" option to watch a walk-through. Made a false move? The multiple-level "undo" feature will come to your rescue. Find the action too fast? Adjust the game speed and play at your own pace.

Once you've mastered the game, you can prove you're the best puzzler around by competing for online high scores. Or, if competition isn't your thing, create your own masterpiece with the full-featured level editor and share it with friends, or the whole world! Join the action now by downloading the free demo of Professor Fizzwizzle and the Molten Mystery from [www.grubbygames.com](http://www.grubbygames.com)

Based in Vancouver, Canada, Grubby Games was formed in October 2004 with a simple goal: To make accessible, polished games that are fun to play. We feel that something is being forgotten in this era of multimillion-dollar games with cutting-edge graphics. As lifelong gamers, we understand that flashy graphics are much less important than solid gameplay. We're passionate about developing games that are beautiful, easy to learn, and above all, fun. We want to provide you with games that we would love to play ourselves!

Screenshots:

<http://grubbygames.com/pfmm/screenshots.php?screen=1>  
<http://grubbygames.com/pfmm/screenshots.php?screen=2>  
<http://grubbygames.com/pfmm/screenshots.php?screen=3>  
<http://grubbygames.com/pfmm/screenshots.php?screen=4>



## NANOTECHNOLOGY IN OUR iMACS

Joyce Etherton

From a recent *Consumer Reports* we read that Nanotechnology is being used in many products, including our very own iMacs. The Intel chip in the iMac contains transistors so small that 100 would fit inside a single human cell. This microscopic circuitry uses less power while boosting performance.

Manufactured products are made from rearranged atoms. For example, if atoms in coal are rearranged we get diamonds. If atoms in sand plus a small amount of impurities are rearranged, we get computer chips. Nanotechnology is about rearranging atoms whichever way we want. And eventually atoms and molecules may be rearranged as Lego blocks are rearranged and allow most products to be made lighter, stronger, smarter, cheaper, cleaner and more precise.

Nanotechnology for computer chips has been an ongoing experiment since 1995 says the International Association of Nanotechnology. Nano is a prefix attached to length, mass and time scales and is one-billionth, so a nanometer is one-billionth of a meter. Someone has estimated that this new, wondrous Intel nanometer chip would allow 30,000 angels dance on the head of a pin.



## MACINTOSH OS X ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

MacAttorney, "The Free Newsletter for Macintosh Using Attorneys" by Randy B. Singer has a copyrighted *Macintosh OS X Routine Maintenance* at [www.macattorney.com/ts.html](http://www.macattorney.com/ts.html). See a nice compilation of routine maintenance for your Mac using OS 10.2 through OS 10.4. The Table of Contents gives ten things to do to keep your Mac in top shape plus a note on Defragmenting your hard drive. If you don't have a routine you follow for maintenance, this might just be the thing for you to look at.

Additionally, Mac software and where to get it are listed.



## [INTER]NET TAXES COULD ARRIVE BY THIS FALL

From John Nelson

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By Declan McCullagh

[http://news.com.com/Net+taxes+could+arrive+by+this+fall/2100-1028\\_3-6186193.html](http://news.com.com/Net+taxes+could+arrive+by+this+fall/2100-1028_3-6186193.html)

Story last modified Thu May 24 06:25:25 PDT 2007

The era of tax-free e-mail, Internet shopping and broadband connections could end this fall, if recent proposals in the U.S. Congress prove successful.

State and local governments this week resumed a push to lobby Congress for far-reaching changes on two different fronts: gaining the ability to impose sales taxes on Net shopping, and being able to levy new monthly taxes on DSL and other connections. One senator is even predicting taxes on e-mail.

At the moment, states and municipalities are frequently barred by federal law from collecting both access and sales taxes. But they're hoping that their new lobbying effort, coordinated by groups including the National Governors Association, will pay off by permitting them to collect billions of dollars in new revenue by next year.

If that doesn't happen, other taxes may zoom upward instead, warned Sen. Michael Enzi, a Wyoming Republican, at a Senate hearing on Wednesday. "Are we implicitly blessing a situation where states are forced to raise other taxes, such as income or property taxes, to offset the growing loss of sales tax revenue?" Enzi said. "I want to avoid that."

A flurry of proposals that pro-tax advocates advanced this week push in that direction. On Tuesday, Enzi introduced a bill that would usher in mandatory sales tax collection for Internet purchases. Second, during a House of Representatives hearing the same day, politicians weighed whether to let a temporary ban on Net access taxes lapse when it expires on November 1. A House backer of another pro-sales tax bill said this week to expect a final version by July.

"The independent and sovereign authority of states to develop their own revenue systems is a basic tenet of self government and our federal system," said David Quam, director of federal relations at the National Governors Association, during a Senate

Commerce committee hearing on Wednesday.

*Internet sales taxes:* At the moment, for instance, Seattle-based Amazon.com is not required to collect sales taxes on shipments to millions of its customers in states like California, where Amazon has no offices. (Californians are supposed to voluntarily pay the tax owed when filing annual state tax returns, but few do.)

Ideas to alter this situation hardly represent a new debate: officials from the governors' association have been pressing Congress to enact such a law for at least six years. They invoke arguments--unsuccessful so far--like saying that reduced sales tax revenue threatens budgets for schools and police.

But with Democrats now in control of both chambers of Congress, the political dynamic appears to have shifted in favor of the pro-tax advocates and their allies on Capitol Hill. The NetChoice coalition, which counts as members eBay, Yahoo and the Electronic Retailing Association and opposes the sales tax plan, fears that the partisan shift will spell trouble.

One long-standing objection to mandatory sales tax collection, which the Supreme Court in a 1992 case left up to Congress to decide, is the complexity of more than 7,500 different tax agencies that each have their own (and frequently bizarre) rules. Some legal definitions (PDF) tax Milky Way Midnight candy bars as candy and treat the original Milky

Way bar as food. Peanut butter Girl Scout cookies are candy, but Thin Mints or Caramel deLites are classified as food.

The pro-tax forces say that a concept called the Streamlined Sales Tax Agreement will straighten out some of the notorious convolutions of state tax laws. Enzi's bill, introduced this week, relies on the agreement when providing "federal authorization" to require out-of-state retailers "to collect and remit the sales and use taxes" due on the purchase. (Small businesses with less than \$5 million in out-of-state sales are exempted.)

It's "important to level the playing field for all retailers," Enzi said during Wednesday's hearing.

While it's too early to know how much support Enzi's bill will receive, foes of higher taxation are marshaling their allies. Sen. Ted Stevens, an Alaska Republican, said Wednesday that he'd like "to see an impregnable ban on taxes on the Internet."

Jeff Dirksen, the director of congressional analysis at the National Taxpayers Union in Alexandria, Va., said in written testimony prepared for the hearing: "If such a system of extraterritorial collection is allowed, Congress will have opened the door to any number of potential tax cartels that will eventually harm rather than help taxpayers."

*Internet access taxes:* A second category of higher Net taxes is technically unrelated, but is increasingly likely to be linked when legislation is debated in Congress later this year. That category involves access taxes, meaning taxes that local and state governments levy to single out broadband or dial-up connections. (See CNET News.com's Tech Politics podcast this week with former House Majority Leader Dick Armey on this point.)

If the temporary federal moratorium is allowed to expire in November, states and municipalities will be allowed to levy a dizzying array of Net access taxes--meaning a monthly Internet connection bill could begin to resemble a telephone bill or airline ticket with innumerable and confusing fees tacked on at the end. In some states, telephone fees, taxes and surcharges run as high as 20 percent of the bill.

These fees that states levy on mobile phones, cable TV and landlines run far higher than state sales taxes at an average of 13.3 percent, cost the average household \$264 a year, and total \$41 billion annually, according to a report published by the Chicago-based Heartland Institute this month. Landlines are taxed at the highest rate, 17.23 percent, with Internet access being virtually tax free, with the exception of a few states that were grandfathered in a decade ago.

Dirksen, from the National Taxpayers Union, urged the Senate on Wednesday to "encourage economic growth and innovation in the telecommunications sector--in contrast to higher taxes, fees and additional regulation" by at least renewing the expiring





**DENVER APPLE PI MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

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Elissa McAlear: call 303.421.8714 for information about Apple II, GS and Mac. Email [elissamc@comcast.net](mailto:elissamc@comcast.net)

**Our website is:** <[www.denverapplepi.com](http://www.denverapplepi.com)>

Macintosh SIG meets the THIRD Tuesday of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Troubleshooter Group meets the FOURTH Wednesday of each month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

SEED articles should be mailed to [jjetherton@comcast.net](mailto:jjetherton@comcast.net), subject: "SEED Article"

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 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kind of Computer: Apple II \_\_\_ GS \_\_\_ Mac \_\_\_ OS \_\_\_\_\_

**Denver Apple Pi Officers, May '06-May '07**

President	Larry Fagan
VP (Help)	Jim Awalt
Vic President (Mac)	Tom King
Secretary	Elissa McAlear
Treasurer	Larry Knowles
Membership Chair	Sheila Warner

For further information, call Elissa 303.421.8714

Appointees: Wes Schalamon (Librarian), Joyce Etherton (SEED Editor), Diane Forest (Webmaster)

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