



# THE SEED

A Newsletter From Your...

**DENVER APPLE PI**  
Macintosh User Group

April 2009

Volume 31 No 4

## 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  
APRIL - OCT 09

Mac SIG	Apr 21	Tues
Help SIG	Apr 29	5 <sup>th</sup> Wed
Mac SIG	May 19	Tues
Help SIG	May 27	Wed
Mac SIG	Jun 16	Tues
Help SIG	Jun 24	Wed
<b>Picnic</b>	<b>July 12</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
Mac SIG	July 21	Tues
Help SIG	July 29	5 <sup>th</sup> Wed
Mac SIG	Aug 18	Tues
Help SIG	Aug 26	Wed
Mac SIG	Sep 15	Tues
Help SIG	Sep 23	Wed
Mac SIG	Oct 20	Tues
Help SIG	Oct 28	Wed

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April 21 Meeting

Speaker – to be announced via email

## MAY ELECTION OF DENVER APPLE PI OFFICERS

As a volunteer organization, it is vital that we continue to have input from all members so that we keep our group active and progressive. Thank you to all members who attend our meetings and offer suggestions for programs and activities and who willingly share their ideas and knowledge by presenting programs. We all can learn from each other. **If you are interested in volunteering to be an officer of the DAPI, please call Elissa at 303.421.8714 or email her at [elissamc@comcast.net](mailto:elissamc@comcast.net)**

Position	Current Officer	Nominations
President	Larry Fagan	
Vice-President (Mac SIG)	Tom King	
Vice-President (Help SIG)	Jim Awalt	
Treasurer	Larry Knowles	
Secretary	Elissa McAlear	
Membership	Sheila Warner	
Appointees:		
• Web Masters	Diana Forest John Nelson	
• Seed Editor	Joyce Etherton	
• Librarian	Wes Schalamon	

The official ballot for election of officers will appear in the May Seed.

## MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2009 Membership renewals are due for the following DAPI Members:

- Frederick Gluck
- Jim and Beth Harris
- David and Janet Hill
- Charlie Mettler
- Dee Mosley
- Paul Neiman
- Dave Sommer
- Keith Wertz

If you receive a snail mail copy of The Seed, your dues are \$20 per year. If you receive an email PDF copy of The Seed, your dues are \$15 per year.

You can bring your payment to the monthly meetings or you can send your remittances to the club mailing address:

Denver Apple Pi  
6501 Welch Ct.  
Arvada, CO 80004-2223



## BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION SPEED TEST

*Joyce Etherton*

Why Test your Broadband Internet Connection? Simply put, to see if you are actually getting High Speed Broadband Access.

For an excellent description of what broadband internet access is, what delivery methods are available, e.g., DSL Broadband, Cable Broadband and Satellite Broadband (vs. dial-up access) go to this URL. Additionally, you can test your internet connection speed for free.

<http://www.internetfrog.com/mypc/speedtest/>

Additional URLs for free testing your internet access speed:

[http://www.digitallanding.com/section\\_display.cfm/section\\_id/20?gclid=CKTxgeGR2pkCFQ6jagoddDB9VQ](http://www.digitallanding.com/section_display.cfm/section_id/20?gclid=CKTxgeGR2pkCFQ6jagoddDB9VQ)

<http://www.speedtest.net/>



## TIME SAVER TOOLS IN FINDER WINDOW

*Joyce Etherton*



OS X offers some time-saving tools while in the Finder Window. For a full review, go to

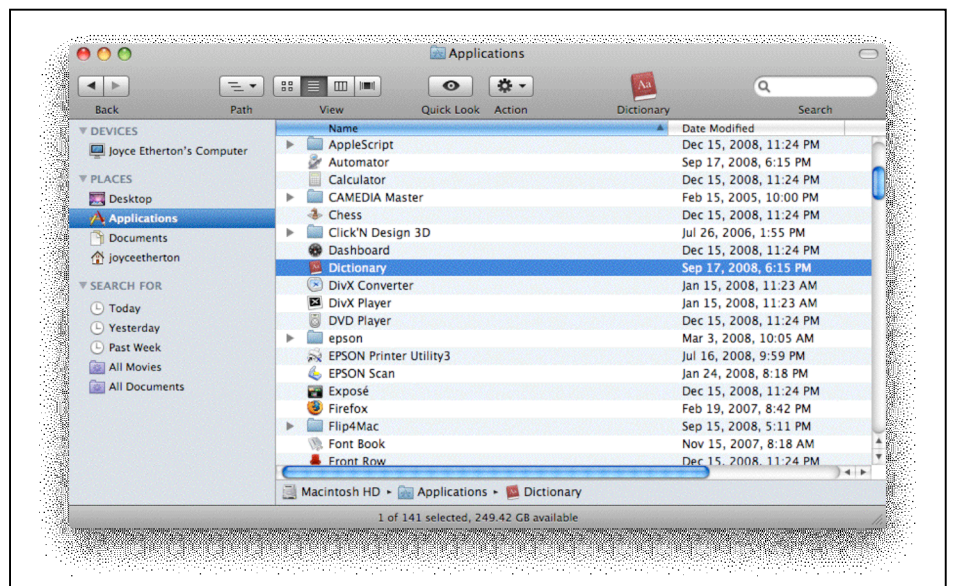
<http://www.macworld.com/article/139348/2009/03/findertools.html?lsrc=mwweek>

For a summary, see below:

In the Finder Window,

Spring-loaded folders - drag a file over a folder, press the space bar and the folder will open revealing the contents.

Drag icon to tool bar - If you have a document, file or application which you want to access quickly from any window in the finder, you can drag it to the tool bar and it will be available instantly--no searching. For example, In the applications folder (shown below) there is a dictionary application. Click on this dictionary application and drag it to the top of the tool bar. Rather than hunt for the dictionary, click your finder button, and any window that opens you can see the dictionary icon at the top. Command-drag will remove it.



The path bar is shown at the bottom of the finder window (see above). It shows you where the selected application is located—Macintosh HD >

Applications > Dictionary : If you are looking at an individual file, it will show you where it is located and you can drag the file into another folder.



## STILL USING APPLEWORKS?

Joyce Etherton

Christopher Breen writing in macworld.Com says, "When it comes to the death of AppleWorks . . . [it] was abandoned in the last millennium and it ain't coming back." In Mac 911 Tip of the Week he has outlined what still works on Modern Macs and has made numerous suggestions of utilities that will convert your old files. Snow Leopard, the new Macintosh OS, is coming soon, although the scheduled release date continues to change. For Christopher Breen's comments and suggestions about converting your old AppleWorks files, go to: <http://www.macworld.com/article/139468/2009/03/moreonolderfileconversion.html#jump>



DAPI recycles ink & toner cartridges. Our club  
Receives money for recycling, so  
bring your used  
Cartridges to the next meeting.

## SPARK 3.0B-HOTKEY SHORTCUTS MANAGER

Reviewers give Spark 3.0b9



<http://www.macupdate.com/info.php/id/14352/spark>

Spark is a powerful and easy shortcuts manager. With Spark you can create Hot Keys to launch applications and documents, execute AppleScripts, Command iTunes, and more.

You can also export and import your Hot Keys library, or save it in HTML format to print it. Spark is free, so use it without moderation!

Below are comments about Spark from several users:

One of the most useful - or even essential - Mac utilities on my computer(s). I'm amazed this isn't wildly popular and that Apple hasn't bought the company.

Use it to make the Control key + almost anything into a hotkey for anything! And if you have the Apple extended keyboard (a great item itself), use its 7 extra F keys with Control, Option and Command for 28 hotkeys before you even touch the rest of they keyboard.

Examples for one-touch hotkeys on my Macs:

Mail, Firefox, Photoshop, Lightroom, iTunes, Word

And not just apps: One touch: Applications, Home Folder, Downloads, WhooHoo!

I LOVE this thing!  
(Version 3.0b9)

I have only one criticism of this app: It should have been available from the very first day OS X came out. since, like such other features as the old Apple Menu, managing F-keys was a feature of OS 9 that Apple was wrong to deep-six in OS X. So when users upgraded to OS X they found they had to pay money to third-party developers to retain functions they had previously enjoyed for free. Now at last we have a free solution.

Spark is fantastic. Since moving to OS X quite some time ago, I've missed the configurable hotkeys users had available through OS 9. Spark easily picks up the slack and takes the options further by letting you choose anytime control keys for iTunes, shortcut keys to documents and it even lets you write and test Applescripts (something I don't do...maybe in the future). To boot, the application is packaged very nicely and the aqua-style interface a la Apple's GUI makes use a no-brainer. Try it, you'll like it, and at the price, you'll love it!

I really like this utility. Yes, the interface is rather complex, and could be cleaned up a bit. However, I like the flexibility that it affords. It's nice and stable, and is a great productivity assistant. The only feature request would be the ability to open up a submenu on a hot key, from which a secondary choice can be made. (a la XKeys).



See Page 5 for Photoshop/Elements Seminar  
Announcement

## TWITTER AND THE FAIL WHALE

*From the Web*

Twitter is a free service that allows users to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers with short messages of 140 characters or less. These messages are read by "followers" — people who make a conscious decision to subscribe to your messages and have them delivered to their own Twitter home pages.

Each message you post is known as a "Tweet." In the social media and social networking industry, Twitter facilitates a process known as microblogging or microsharing. Every user is identified by putting an "@" sign in front of their name (for instance: @cglynych).

Updates are displayed on the user's profile page and delivered to other users who have signed up to receive them. Senders can restrict delivery to those in their circle of friends (delivery to everyone being the default). Users can send and receive updates via the Twitter website, SMS (Short Message Service), RSS (Really Simple Syndication—receive only), or through applications such as Tweetie, Twitterrific, Twitterfon, TweetDeck and feedalizr. The service is free to use over the web, but using SMS may incur phone services provider fees.

Joining Twitter has value for many people, but it can also be a waste of time if you don't understand how the medium works and how best to utilize it.

The Wild West view of social networks proposes that you should just try them out and see whether or not you like them. But in a world where most people already belong to existing social networks (such as Facebook or LinkedIn), on top of using long-established technology like e-mail and text messaging, allocating time for another outlet should be considered carefully.

When Twitter experiences an outage, users see the "fail whale" error message created by Sydney artist and designer Yiying Lu,[34] a whimsical illustration of red birds using nets to hoist a whale from the ocean. The iconic image of Fail Whale has been latched onto by Twitter fans not just as a representation of Twitter's downtime, but also as a representation of the community's love for the service and their hope for its triumph over their many struggles.

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/the\\_story\\_of\\_the\\_fail\\_whale.php](http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/the_story_of_the_fail_whale.php)



## NEW FREE SOFTWARE FOR MAC USERS

### Paintbrush 2.0 for Mac OS X

A free new version of a simple paint program for Mac OS 10.5 or later provides a way to make simple images quickly:

[http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/imaging\\_3d/paintbrush.html](http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/imaging_3d/paintbrush.html)

### Free turn-based game for Mac OS X

<http://codenautics.com/zombies/>

### NeoOffice 3.0

This is the newest update for NeoOffice (March 30, 2009) to a free, full-featured set of office applications, including word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and drawing programs for Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later. Features include, but are not limited to:

- Uses Native Mac OS X spellchecker
- Uses NativeMac OS X Address Book
- Handles most MS Office 2007 Word, Excel and PowerPoint Files
- Handles Macros in Excel Files
- Aquafication—features that make it more and more Mac-like

Donation suggested: The cost and time spent on NeoOffice are trivial for a large corporation, but they are very large for the two people that operate the NeoOffice project so donations are used to help pay for NeoOffice cash expenses like bandwidth, machines, and webhosting fees that we would have to pay for ourselves.

<http://www.neooffice.org/neojava/en/download.php>

### Easy web authoring

KompoZer is a complete web authoring system that combines web file management and easy-to-use WYSIWYG web page editing.



KompoZer is designed to be extremely easy to use, making it ideal for non-technical computer users who want to create an attractive, professional-looking web site without needing to know HTML or web coding.  
<http://www.kompozer.net/>



### PDFs LOOKING THE SAME

**From:**  
<http://webserver.computoredge.com/online.mvc?zone=CO&issue=2715&article=usergrps&src=1>

[This letter is in regard to Digital Dave's March 20 column, where Dave addressed PDFs.]

I used to think that PDFs would look the same on every computer. Recently I converted a document with a non-typical font to a PDF. On the original computer the PDF looked like what I created, but on another computer that didn't have that font, the PDF used a different font. This surprised me, since I thought that PDFs were graphic files of the original. I would expect this from a word processing file, but not from a PDF.

-Dennis, San Diego

If you need to be sure the printed copy of a PDF will be the same on all machines, you must embed the fonts when you create the PDF. Otherwise, Adobe will substitute for non-available fonts. For this reason, when I am sharing files, I always make sure to use a more or less universal font, such as Arial or Times Roman.

### FINDING AND REMOVING DUPLICATES IN ITUNES

For a good review of how to remove duplicates with a built-in Apple Support, see:

<http://support.apple.com/kb/HT1417>

Some people use third party apps or applescripts to weed out duplicate tracks. Take a look at Tidy Up!:

<http://www.hyperbolicsoftware.com/TidyUp.html> and Dupin:

<http://dougscripts.com/itunes/itinfo/dupin.php>

Also, here's a virtually unknown keyboard short cut: in iTunes, hold down the Option key and click "File". This will change the menu entry to "Show Exact Duplicates." Show duplicates only displays tracks with identical titles, but selecting "exact" will only display tracks where ALL fields are identical.

For a review of TidyUp! Go to:

<http://www.softpedia.com/reviews/mac/Tidy-Up-Review-56983.shtml>



### Colorado Council of Camera Clubs - CCCC

Photoshop and Photoshop Elements Seminar  
 May 2 and May 16, 2009

9-4 pm 5640 County Line Rd. Littleton, CO

**Pre-registration required: \$20 for non-CCCC members**

With use of digital images becoming more popular, the Council is offering this two-day seminar to help members become familiar with their digital images once they are loaded onto their computers. This seminar is designed mainly for those who are just starting out with the Photoshop/Elements and are not yet comfortable with the basics. For both PC and Mac users, instruction by digital projection and handouts will be available so computers are not necessary.

For complete information in PDF format go to:

[www.macintechsig.org/files/2009%20Seminar%20Flyer.pdf](http://www.macintechsig.org/files/2009%20Seminar%20Flyer.pdf)

## **Denver Apple Pi Membership Information**

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**MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:** MONTHLY MEETINGS: information, new product announcements, door prizes when available, share ideas with other members, and copy programs from the Disk Libraries. PROGRAM LIBRARIES: Over 900 public domain programs, GS Library on 3.5" disks or on a 100 MB ZIP disk, Mac disks available in HD, ZIP and CD formats.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES** are \$20.00 per year for a monthly hard copy of the SEED and \$15.00 per year for a monthly pdf copy. Fill in the form below or ask for an application to send with your check to the Club mailing address:

**DENVER APPLE PI, 6501 Welch Ct, Arvada CO 80004-2223**

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 Mac Help 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"

**Membership Form:** Date \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Change \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

### **Denver Apple Pi Officers, May '08-May '09**

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), Diana Forest (Webmaster)

### **Denver Apple Pi**

6501 Welch Court

Arvada, CO 80004-2223

### **FIRST CLASS MAIL – Dated Material**

### **Return Service Requested**

