November 2011

http://denverapplepi.com/

Vol. 33 No. 11

## **Denver Apple Pi**

SIG and Help Meetings are Held at

APPLEWOOD VALLEY
METHODIST CHURCH
WEST 20<sup>TH</sup> & ELLIS
GOLDEN CO
7 TO 9 PM

unless otherwise noted



#### **MEETING DATES SET FOR**

#### Nov - Dec 2011

Mac SIG	Nov 15	3 <sup>RD</sup> TUES
HELP SIG	Nov 23	4 <sup>™</sup> WED
PARTY	<b>DEC 20</b>	3 <sup>RD</sup> TUES
HELP SIG	<b>DEC 28</b>	4 <sup>™</sup> WED

#### **CONTENTS**

Big Changes for Apple	
Products in 2012	2
Mac's Supposed Immunity	2
Google Earth	4
More Steve Jobs Insights	4
Attention MacBook and	
MacBook Pro Owners	5
DAPi Website Update	5
Predictions on Gadget	
Obsolescence	5

## DAPi Meeting - November 15, 2010

Larry Fagan — Potpourri continued: more about Mail, Keychain, and Weatherbug

Tom King — *Tidy Up* is tool that can help you reduce hard-drive clutter by identifying duplicate files on any mounted disk

#### REMEMBER OUR NEW LOCATION

APPLEWOOD VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH WEST 20<sup>TH</sup> & ELLIS Golden, CO

See map in October 2011 issue of The Seed

#### MEMBERSHIP

Renewal fees for the following member are due in November 2011: Tom Lentz

Membership dues for DAPI are \$15 per year and you will receive the monthly newsletter, *The Seed*, via email in PDF format. If you prefer, you can pay \$20 and receive a snail mail copy of the newsletter. You can bring your payment to the monthly meetings or you can send your remittance to the club mailing address: Denver Apple Pi, 6501 Welch Ct., Arvada, CO 80004-2223.

# BIG CHANGES FOR APPLE PRODUCTS IN 2012?

Joyce Etherton

Are big changes coming for Apple? Read The Mac Observer rumor by Bryan **Chaffin** which passes along information from a Taiwanbased English language newspaper DigiTimes suggesting "complete overhaul[s]" for iPad, iPhone, iMac, and MacBook Air. **CNET** writer Josh Lowensohn reports this as well. Lowensohn who covers "everything Apple" also suggests that changes are likely but dates for change are difficult to predict, and also maybe one should view these claims with a grain of salt.

However, another CNET report by Lance Whitney says Apple will spend \$7.1 billion on supply chain expenditures in 2012 and another \$2.5 billion in prepayments to suppliers. Apple is known to have exclusivity agreements with suppliers. This as well as other strategies gives Apple advantages over other PC makers in getting product as well as getting final products to the retail stores. Lance Whitney says, "this overall strategy has helped drive Apple's huge profit margins."

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Denver Apple Pi Recycles

Bring your empty inkjet and toner cartridges to the next meeting

# MAC'S SUPPOSED IMMUNITY TO SECURITY THREATS GONE FOREVER: 10 REASONS WHY

By Tony Pizza, Mac Appleholics

Over the years, Mac users have been conditioned to believe that their computers were immune from security threats. The folks who went to the Apple Store to get a Mac were told by friends, family and even Apple that they were much safer using a Mac than they would be with a Windows-based computer. And so, over the years, a general sense of complacency has emerged.

But that house of cards came crumbling down recently when Mac Defender starting making its rounds in the Mac ecosystem. Apple took too long to respond to the issue, and as expected, many of its supporters called it a red herring. But as the number of people who complained about these *fake antivirus scams* started to pile up, it quickly became clear that it was not a joke. **Mac Defender**, along with other malicious variants related to it, has become a major problem for Apple users.

The time has come for those folks and all others to acknowledge the simple fact that many security experts have been saying for far too long: Macs are not immune from security threat and users have to protect themselves.

## 1. Perception is everything

Over the years, Mac users have been under the erroneous belief that they were safe from any malicious software that was affecting Windows PCs. Granted, infecting a Mac with malware may be somewhat more difficult, but it can be done, as Mac Defender has proved. Now, all those malicious hackers who might have perceived Mac OS X to not be worth their time could be changing their minds. Perception is everything. Among scammers the perception is shifting toward believing attacking Mac OS X is a worthwhile exploit.

### 2. The criminals see a money-making opportunity

Going forward, a growing number of cyber-criminals will attack Mac OS X because they see it as a fine money-making opportunity. Make no mistake, the reason cyber-criminals attack machines is to turn a profit for their efforts. Considering Macs are exploitable, hardly ever secured by an anti-malware program and run by people who are cynical when it comes to security, they seem like a better money-making opportunity than ever

### 3. Users have become lazy

Unfortunately, Mac users are simply lazier than Windows users when it comes to security because they are complacent. They believe they're safe, and they don't spend enough time thinking about protecting themselves when they use a Mac. A very small number of Mac owners are running security software as there is still a large contingent of folks

who believe there's nothing to worry about. As long as those people continue on that path, cyber-criminals will keep attacking Mac OS X.

## 4. The threats are everywhere now

More than ever, people around the globe are facing threats from all sides. Not only do they need to worry about malicious files in email attachments, but they need to think about issues cropping up on the Web, in social networks and elsewhere. Simply put, the number of places malicious files can be hiding nowadays is greater than ever. There isn't a single Mac user who's immune to that.

## 5. The security software isn't up-to-par

Those who use security software on Mac OS X will quickly realize that, in many cases, the programs just don't do enough to keep people secure. It's a major issue that hopefully the security community will address quickly. In my experience, many security programs just don't work as well or provide as comprehensive protection on a Mac as they do on Windows. Finding the best solution is like finding a needle in a haystack. The longer that takes, the worse it will be for Mac users.

#### 6. Mac sales are on the rise

Security experts have said all along that the main reason Windows has been attacked so heavily over the years is the popularity of the platform. With millions of people around the

globe running Windows computers every single minute, cyber-criminals enjoy a target-rich environment. Apple's low OS market share has caused the criminals to ignore it. But things are changing. Mac sales are on the rise, and a growing number of people are at least warming to the idea of using Apple's operating system. As more people opt for Macs, expect more cyber-criminals to focus their attention on Mac OS X.

## 7. Windows users know more about security than ever before

Though malicious hackers are still having little trouble breaking into unsecured Windows machines around the world, Microsoft has done a much better job over the years of informing the public of the dangers of not securing their machines. Mac users, on the other hand, are not as prepared as they could be, which makes them easy pickings for cybercriminals.

### 8. The criminals are happy with Apple's response

After the Mac Defender fake antivirus scam was first made public and issues started cropping up across the Mac ecosystem, it took Apple three weeks to finally get around to delivering a solution to the problem. Granted, it might have taken it that long to understand the issue and find a fix, but the response time is unacceptable. It shows a general lack of care on Apple's part. And for cyber-criminals, a general lack of care is a good thing. Apple must do a much better job of improving its response time to address future issues.

## 9. The criminals welcome Apple's cavalier attitude

One can say what they'd like about Apple's security policies over the years and the perception that security problems on the Mac never reached the heights of the problems on Windows computers. But it's hard to argue with the fact that Apple has been quite cavalier about security. Even the company's Mac OS X page says the operating system "doesn't get" viruses. Moreover, the company says that Mac OS X security requires "virtually no effort" from the user. These statements are troublesome, to say the least. And they have helped contribute to the generally unsafe nature of the Mac ecosystem.

## 10. Nothing is ever immune from security flaws

Regardless of whether or not Apple is doing a better job at protecting users than Microsoft, the reality is, there is no such thing as "immunity" in today's security world. Even the most militant security expert who uses all the latest tools to keep safe might fall victim to an exploit. So, it's important to realize that Mac OS X never was and never will be totally immune to threats. No one is safe.

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## Google Earth

By Joyce Etherton

This free program can dazzle you with its views of the earth, your hometown or a location you may want to visit. Visit your old hometown via Google Earth without the long drive.

It combines road maps, satellite photos and a topographic 3-D layout. It's really like flying over the surface of the Earth. And you can explore any place you can imagine. For example as we mentioned in an earlier issue of *The Seed*, you can visit The Prado Museum in Spain close enough to examine a painter's brushstrokes or the craquelure on the varnish of a painting.

See a tutorial on how Google earth photographs and develops the 3D images using computers. From this tutorial, you can continue using the links at the bottom of the page that lead you through the steps to view the masterpieces including Rembrandt and Velasquez.

## **Beginner Tutorials**

The videos below will help get you started using Google Earth.

- Street View
- 3D Trees
- Historical Imagery
- Navigation
- Searching Places
- Drawing and Measuring
- Placemarks and Tours
- Exploring Mars, Moon and Sky

• Moon in Google Earth

Google Earth is a broadband, 3D application that not all computers can run: Desktop computers older than 4 years old may not be able to run it. Notebook computers older than 2 years old may not be able to run it.

### **Minimum configuration for Mac:**

• Operating System: Mac OS X 10.3.9

• CPU: G3 500Mhz

System Memory (RAM): 256MBHard Disk: 400MB free space

• Network Speed: 128 Kbits/sec

• Graphics Card: 3D-capable with 16MB of VRAM

• Screen: 1024x768, "Thousands of Colors"

## **Recommended configuration for Mac:**

· Operating System: Mac OS X 10.4.5

· CPU: G4 1.2Ghz

· System Memory (RAM): 512MB

· Hard Disk: 2GB free space

· Network Speed: 768 Kbits/sec

· Graphics Card: 3D-capable with 32MB of VRAM

· Screen: 1280x1024, "Millions of Colors"

#### Recommended Browsers:

- · Firefox 3.6 and later (for Windows, Mac, and Linux) Download
- · Safari 3.1 and later (for Mac and Windows) Download
- · Google Chrome (for Windows and Mac) Download

# MORE INSIGHTS INTO STEVE JOBS' MANAGEMENT STYLE

By Joyce Etherton

Read how Steve Jobs managed to keep Apple producing exceptional products for so long in the new biography by Walter Isaacson. Comparisons are made to other companies including Microsoft and Dell. Wally Wang says in his article *Running a Company like Steve Jobs*, ComputerEdge®Online, "Perhaps one of the more interesting tidbits of information from this book [Steve Jobs] is the fact that Steve Jobs gave industrial designer, Jony Ive\*, more power than anyone else at Apple. Jony Ive is the man responsible for many, if not most, of Apple's designs from the MacBook Air and the iPhone to the iPod and the Mac mini." Steve Jobs said that product people didn't drive the company forward anymore, it was

the marketing people who expanded the business into other countries.

\*In 2009, Ive <u>was declared</u> the "smartest designer" in technology by *Forbes*.



## DAPi Website Update

By Joyce Etherton

http://www.denverapplepi.com

Plans are afoot for updates to our web page. Geek Street Studios will focus on crosslinking techniques to make our site easier to "discover." Members and online visitors will find it more user friendly as a reference source. Think about what you might like to add to this great website and email your suggestions to elissamc@comcast.net



## ATTENTION MACBOOK AND MACBOOK PRO OWNERS

November 8, 2011

Apple notifies owners of faulty MagSafe T-Shaped connectors of a class action suit.

MACBOOK AND MACBOOK PRO MODELS SHIPPED WITH T-SHAPED MAGSAFE CONNECTORS ARE REFERRED TO A WEBSITE HTTPS://www.adaptersettlement.com/ To Claim a Settlement FOR A FRAYED POWER ADAPTER. THIS WEBSITE PROVIDES

- IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES
- CLAIM FORM REQUEST
- CLASS NOTICE
- FAQs

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### PREDICTIONS ON GADGET OBSOLESCENSE

Joyce Etherton

Our standalone GPS systems, CD and DVD players, low-end digital cameras and video game consoles are going to disappear by 2020 says Yahoo! in a recently published story. Everything is shifting to mobile and everything is shifting to digital. Smartphones and tablets are replacing video games and digital game stores risk competing with digital delivery of video games through sites such as the Apple's App Store. Remember those old bookstores? Remember film from Kodak? Says Wally Wang in ComputerEdge®Online, "If you want to hold back or deny the future, just become a CEO of a major company that will reward you for short term thinking that never works in the long run."

Samsung's patriarch and chairman, Lee Kun-hee who likes to keep things shaken up told his managers: "The majority of our products today will be gone in ten years." Another quote from Mr. Lee in 1993: "Change everything but your wife and children."



## Denver Apple Pi Membership Information

Denver Apple Pi (DAPI) is an Apple Computer Users Group, not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. The SEED is an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or sponsored or sanctioned by Apple Computer, Inc. The opinions, statements, positions and views stated herein are those of the author(s) or publisher and are not intended to be the opinions, statements, positions or views of Apple Computer, Inc. Articles, stories, and other items in the SEED may be copied or used by other clubs or groups as long as credit is given to Denver Apple Pi and the author of the article. On reprints, please also include the date or volume number from the SEED.

**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

Our website is: <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, subject: "SEED Article"

Membership Form: Date		Denver Apple Pi Officers, May '08-May '09	
Renewal	New	President	Larry Fagan
Change			
Name		- Vice President (Help)	Jim Awalt
Address		Vice President (Mac)	Tom King
City		Secretary	Elissa McAlear
Phone		Treasurer	Larry Knowles
Email		Membership Chair	Sheila Warner
Kind of Computer: Apple II	GSMac OS		
Further information, call Elissa 30	3.421.8714		
ointees: Joyge Etherton (SEED E	ditor), Diana Forest (Webmaster), Jo	ohn Nelson (Web Assistant)	

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