



# THE SEED

A Newsletter From Your...

**DENVER APPLE PI**  
Macintosh User Group

August 2019

<http://www.denverapplepi.com>

Vol. 40, No. 8

**Denver Apple Pi**  
**Mac SIG & Help SIG Meetings are held at**  
Applewood Community Church  
12930 W 32nd Avenue  
Golden CO 80401  
7 to 9 pm  
*SEE WEBSITE FOR MAP*

2019 Calendar		
Mac SIG	Aug 20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues
Help SIG	Aug 22	4 <sup>th</sup> Thur
Mac SIG	Sept 17	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues
Help SIG	Sep 26	4 <sup>th</sup> Thur
Mac SIG	Oct 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues
Help SIG	Oct 24	4 <sup>th</sup> Thur
Mac SIG	Nov 19	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues
Help SIG	Nov 21	3 <sup>th</sup> Thur
Christmas Party	Dec 17*	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues
Help SIG	Dec 27	4 <sup>th</sup> Thur
*Applewood Community Church may have other obligations on this date; party date will remain this way until further notice.		

## Mac SIG

**August 20, 2019, 7-9 pm**

**Presenter: Larry fagan**

### Program:

**How to Transfer iTunes Music from your Current iTunes to the iTunes on your Snow Leopard OS**

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## MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR JULY 2019

**Diana DeAndrea**

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 mail your remittance to the club mailing address: Denver Apple Pi, 6501 Welch Court, Arvada, CO 80004.

**COMING EVENTS:****Program suggestions for future meetings.****REMINDERS:**

- Help SIG—Call Elissa to get your name/problem on the list so our DAPi Help people will be prepared. You will need to bring your computer, your own power cord, mouse, and keyboard. Elissa will keep a sign-up list for those asking for help at the Help SIG meetings so members can be helped in a prioritized way. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Elissa at [elissamc@comcast.net](mailto:elissamc@comcast.net) or at 303.421.8714.
- Tom King says if you have questions about Excel for Mac, the spreadsheet software program, bring your questions to the Help SIG meeting. Please call Elissa in advance.
- Need help with iPad, iPhone? If you would like assistance with navigating and synchronizing your iPad and iPhone, bring them to the Help SIG meeting. Notify Elissa what help you need, and we will try to get the problems resolved.



## **AUSTRALIAN TEENAGERS HACKED APPLE "SECURE FILES"**

Using sophisticated access methods to open "secure files" on the mainframe at Apple, 16- and 13-year-old boys used employee-level servers to download a terabyte of data from Apple. The stated purpose of this hacking was to get Apple to notice them and offer them jobs at Apple.

In 2015 and again in 2017, the two teens from Adelaide, Australia, used VPNs and other tools to hide their locations and IP

addresses, but Apple's systems also logged the serial numbers of the MacBooks used to carry out the attacks. These serial numbers were linked to purchase records to enable the hackers to be identified. Apple reported the attacks to the FBI, which carried out a joint investigation with the Australian Federal Police. The AFP carried out a raid on the 16 year old teenager's suburban home, seizing two laptops, a hard drive and a mobile phone. Messages on the seized phone revealed the boy had boasted about hacking Apple to contacts on the WhatsApp messaging service. "The purpose was to connect remotely to the company's internal systems."

The teenagers avoided prison sentences because of their ages and because no harm resulted from their hacking adventures. Their hopes that they might be offered jobs at the Apple Cupertino headquarters were not fulfilled. Despite displaying their gifted talents of computer intricacies, the magistrate said, "... those who have this advantage of being gifted doesn't give them the right to abuse the gift.... Those who unlawfully interfere with those systems can do enormous amounts of damage."



## **APPLE SELECTS AND HIRES HACKERS**

In a report dated August 8, 2019, C/NET reporter Alfred Ng writes that Apple is "embracing hackers" by offering special iPhones specifically for qualified security researchers. Not just anyone can be selected for this "unprecedented fully Apple supported iOS security research platform," said Apple's head of security, Ivan Krstic. These iPhones

are not those sold to the public or the iPhones used by Apple staff. The hackers will inspect the processor and memory of iPhones but not be allowed to decrypt the iPhone's firmware, which only Apple staff have access to.

In 2015, Apple started offering \$200,000 for security flaws thru a bug bounty program. Now, as of August 2019, Apple is offering up to "\$1 million for a vulnerability that's persistent, could get kernel code execution, and didn't require victims to click on anything."



### ROBOCALL BLOCKER APPS

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90385795/im-a-security-expert-and-this-is-how-robocall-blocking-apps-violate-your-privacy>

So, you have stopped robocalls by downloading an app to stop the incessant spam calls. In 2018 in the USA, 26.3 billion robocalls were made. Robocalls are the #1 complaint made to the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Trade Commission.

Guess what? Researchers are reporting that your blocking app may give your data to third parties—so you're exchanging one evil for another. Dan Hastings of NCC writes that "these apps themselves tend to have access to your phone number, your contacts, and even your text messages and voice mails." He looked at the top 10-15 robocall-blocking apps in the Apple App Store. Apple now requires that all apps must include a privacy policy "linked to the information about that app" in the App Store. Hastings carefully read through these policies and

found that said privacy policies give the user the choice to "revoke consent and/or request deletion" of the user's data, but then makes a general statement for you to "contact us" as a way of revoking your consent. Hastings then contacted some of these companies but got only one vague response back, which didn't provide useful information. *New York Times* published an article titled, "We Read 150 Privacy Policies. They Were an Incomprehensible Disaster."

So what's the solution? Your choice. Get a robocall blocking app and give your data to another group of spammers or just let your phone ring.



### APPLE CARD

<https://support.apple.com/apple-card>  
<https://techcrunch.com/2019/08/06/apple-rolls-out-apple-card-preview-to-select-users/>

The first group of public test users for the Apple Card is being notified they can apply for the card in their Wallet app this week (August 5, 2019). iOS 12.4 is required to operate this app. The full rollout of Apple Card will come later in August 2019.

Some features of Apple Card:

- Daily cash— When you buy something with Apple Card, you get a percentage of your purchase back in Daily Cash. Not a month from now, but every day. This is automatic and goes into your Apple Cash account, so you can use it just like cash. To view your Daily Cash amount, open Wallet on your iPhone and tap Apple Card.
- Your spending activities are automatically totaled and organized by color-

coded categories, like Food & Drinks, Transport, Shopping, Health, and Entertainment. And Apple Card provides weekly and monthly spending summaries to help you understand your spending.

Go to Apple's YouTube channel to see ten videos on how to set up, activate and use your Apple Card.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe\\_M8A5yxnLfW0KghEeajjw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe_M8A5yxnLfW0KghEeajjw)

Steve Jobs wanted a credit card for loyal Apple users. In the 1990s, he worked on having credit cards available in iTunes for Apple users. He didn't want people to be refused credit cards if their credit wasn't good and he was not able to work an arrangement with Capitol One because of his aversion to rejecting customers. Again in 2004, Jobs was interested in a credit card that would reward users with free music from iTunes, but terms he wanted could not be negotiated. So now, some 20 years later, Apple has negotiated the Apple Card launch with Goldman Sachs that allows even sub-prime borrowers to be approved for the card.

For those who maximize travel points on credit cards, here's a website to help guide card usage. <https://thepointsguy.com/>



## LITHIUM ION BATTERIES DON'T LIKE HEAT

iPhone owner Jabricia Pratt from Oklahoma City needed a new battery for her iPhone. In early July 2019, she first called the Apple Store to find how much it would cost, and then she went to Amazon to find how much

she could save by buying the battery there. She was able to save \$50 so she ordered the battery online thru Amazon. The battery being sold on Amazon was provided by a third party (LeeVee).

Ms. Pratt left the newly purchased battery in her car during the day while she worked, not installed in her iPhone. After work when she opened her new 2019 Jeep Cherokee door, the windows were covered with soot and interior of Pratt's new vehicle was completely burned out. She called the fire department that found the source of the fire—the lithium ion iPhone battery.

Whether her badly damaged 2019 Jeep Cherokee will be replaced by LeeVee is unknown at this time.

Lessons learned: Never leave batteries (installed or not) in the hot car. Consider paying Apple to replace the battery and pay the ±\$50 extra.

Personal note: In January 2019, I took my iPhone SE to the Apple store to get a \$29 replacement battery at a special price being offered by Apple. One month later, I returned to the Apple store and showed them that the battery had swelled up enough to see the innards of the my iPhone SE. They not only replaced the defective battery, they replaced the iPhone SE free of charge. My iPhone was never left in a hot location.



## Denver Apple Pi Membership Information

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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, 67501 Welch Ct, Arvada CO 80004. For information, call Elissa McAlear at 303.421.8714 about Apple II, GS and Mac. Email [elissamc@comcast.net](mailto:elissamc@comcast.net). Our web site is: <http://www.denverapplepi.com>

Mac SIG meets the THIRD Tuesday of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Troubleshooter Group Help SIG meets the FOURTH Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. unless a holiday necessitates a change. 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(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Kind of Computer: Apple II \_\_\_\_\_ GS \_\_\_\_\_ Mac \_\_\_\_\_ OS \_\_\_\_\_

### Denver Apple Pi Officers

President \_\_\_\_\_ Larry Fagan  
Vice President (Mac) \_\_\_\_\_ Tom King  
Vice President (Help) \_\_\_\_\_ Tammy Hanson  
Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Elissa McAlear  
Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Larry Knowles  
Membership Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Herman Pflueger  
  
Appointees:  
Web Master: \_\_\_\_\_ Tammy Hanson  
Seed Editor: \_\_\_\_\_ Joyce Etherton  
Web Monitor: \_\_\_\_\_ Darlene Board

**Denver Apple Pi**  
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**Arvada CO 80004-2333**

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