THE SEED

A Newsletter From Your...

DENVER APPLE PI
Macintosh User Group

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

2020 Calendar		
Mac SIG	Nov 17	3rd Tues
Help SIG	Nov 19	3rd Tues
Xmas Party	Dec 22	3rd Tues
Help SIG	Dec	Unknown

On occasion, Applewood Community Church may have shelter obligations. You will be notified by email if DAPi meetings are to be cancelled.

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Denver Apple Pi Announcements

November 2020

We are awaiting conditions to change so we might continue our regular meetings.

The Applewood Church has established COVID-19 safety regulations that DAPi members must sign in order to attend meetings. When we resume meetings, Elissa will print off a number of waivers for attendees to sign at the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

We are putting collection of dues on hold until we are able to have meetings.

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: TBA

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 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.

As of September 29, 2020, the following Apple stores are open in Colorado, says The MacObserver Express:

1. Boulder, Twenty Ninth Street
2. Broomfield, FlatIron Crossing
3. Colorado Springs, The Promenade Shops at Briargate
4. Denver, Cherry Creek
5. Littleton, Aspen Grove
6. Lone Tree, Park Meadows

In Memory of
Montine Knowles

Montine Knowles passed away in October 2020. We will remember her with a smiling face at our many functions that she and husband Larry, longtime DAPi board member and Treasurer, attended including picnics, parties and meetings.

iWoz by Steve Wozniak (2006)
Reviewed by Darlene

I find Steve Wozniak to be an amazing person. He says he has an IQ of 200. Well, that helps to explain it. One thing that's common between him and Steve Jobs is that they both had supportive parents. And without that, it's hard to get very far in life. At a very early age, Steve was interested in engineering. He won all kinds of competitions. He was able to ask questions of his father, an engineer, and get patient and competent answers. When he wanted to get a ham radio license, his father got one with him.

I like the way that when he brings a character back into the story, he reminds you who they are. I remember reading a nonfiction book where there were tons of characters which the author would bring in again later, and it was impossible to remember who they were. I had to take notes and type them up so that I could have something to which to refer.

A lot of the technical information in this book is intelligible only to an engineer. I should think an engineer would enjoy reading how Steve figured out how to do all these things, starting when he was about eight years old and continuing throughout the book.

He tells the story of his continued interest in and creation of engineering projects, his friends who were interested in the same things, and his eventual connection with Steve Jobs.

Woz was working on calculators for HP for a considerable period of time. He was happy and planned to work there forever. At the same time, he was always working on inventions on the side. He invented the Apple I, which he and Jobs marketed to small computer stores, and then came the Apple II, which he also invented.

When HP started a project to build a small desktop computer without him, even though they knew that he had designed the Apple I and the Apple II, he told the project manager he wanted to work on the project, even if he had to play a lesser role, but he was turned down. He says, and he's right, that they should have put him where he would be happiest. One does wonder what they were thinking.

Within months of the introduction of the Apple II in 1977, dozens of companies were creating games and other software that ran on it. Other machines that came along at the same time didn't have graphics, and no one could create a game that would run on them. Apple provided documentation that enabled others to build circuit boards that fit into the Apple II slots.

The Apple II used a cassette tape for data storage. They knew they should have a floppy disk on the Apple II. There was a Consumer Electronics Show coming up in Las Vegas, and Steve was given two weeks to build a floppy drive for the Apple II. He had never used a floppy disk. He worked on it all day and night, through Christmas and New Year's, trying to get it ready to demonstrate at the show. Randy Wiggington helped a lot on the project. At 6 a.m. everything was finally working. He went to back up their one good floppy disk, which had all the right data, but because he was so tired, he accidentally copied the bad disk onto the good one. He had to scramble to put everything back like it was, just in time for the show.

VisiCalc software came out, and only the Apple II was powerful enough to run it. After a couple of months, business people were about 90% of Apple's market. From 1,000 units a month, suddenly Apple went to 10,000 a month. By 1980, Apple was

Tammy's Apple IIGS signed by Steve Wozniak at KansasFest 2013

the first company to sell a million computers. Steve says he believes the whole reason for this was the combination of the Apple II, VisiCalc, and the floppy disk.

Then a new computer came out from a company called Franklin. Everything inside was the same as the Apple II. Apple sued and won a few hundred thousand dollars, which was enough to stop them.

In 1980 Steve and Steve were in a group from Apple that toured Xerox PARC. They saw the mouse and the GUI (graphical user interface) and realized that this was the future.

By 1980, Apple had more than a hundred employees. Just before Apple went public in late 1980, it was apparent that top executives and founders of Apple were likely to make millions. But most of the other employees were left out. So Steve created the Woz plan, whereby any engineer or marketing person could buy 2,000 shares from him for $5 a share. He also gave away his own personal stock worth a million dollars to each of several employees who had been there even before they started Apple. In those days, giving away stock to people you thought

deserved it was unheard of. He sold 2,000 shares of stock at $5 a share to 40 people. He bought a house for cash. In December 1980, Apple's stock went public and Apple people became rich. Shortly thereafter, his wife Alice wanted a divorce so that she could be on her own.

By this time, Apple had its own building. By 1981, computers had become big. In all the comparisons of computers, Apple was always rated as the best.

Then the IBM PC came out, along with the Apple III, which didn't work. So the Apple II kept selling, and it was the largest-selling computer in the world for at least three more years. The Apple III was developed by a committee of the marketing department. It wasn't reliable, there was almost nothing that would run on it, and in the Apple II mode, the features that made it desirable were disabled.

From 1980 to 1983, the Apple III was heavily marketed. But the Apple II was still making huge profits for Apple, even without being advertised. The IBM PC surpassed the Apple II in sales in 1983. This was mainly due to their already developed customer base.

Mike Markulla told them that Apple was going to be driven by the demands of its customers, the opposite of a situation where engineers just build whatever they love and the company markets it. But this is exactly how Apple started — Steve built what interested him, and the Steves decided to market it. He says companies don't always evolve the way you want them to.

Mike Scott was fired because he and Mike Markulla disagreed about how to handle the company. But Steve liked Scotty's way of thinking and doing things. He had been president from incorporation until going public, and now he was just pushed aside and forgotten (not by Steve, though).

There was a plane crash, after which Steve suffered five weeks of anterograde amnesia. And then he came out of it. He married Candi Clark, an Apple employee. Emmylou Harris sang at the reception. He finished his degree at Berkeley. At age 30 he was probably worth a hundred million dollars or more. He put on the US Festival, for which he spent several millions. He lost $12 million, but he had fun. They did another concert and lost another $12 million. He invented the universal remote control, and he and two others left Apple to start a company to build them in 1985.

He was unhappy that the Apple II division couldn't get money or parts needed because the new Macintosh division was now favored. But that's not why he left Apple. The Wall Street Journal reporter reported the facts wrong.

He never planned to seek great wealth. So now that he had tons of money, he sought ways to give it away. San Jose named a street after him, called Woz Way. It was the street where

Children's Discovery Museum was located; that was the first project he funded, to the tune of millions of dollars.

He had three kids: Jesse (1982), Sara (1984), and Gary (1987). When Jesse was a baby, he did "flying tours" with him. He would put the baby's belly on his palm so he could see everything. The baby's eyes would look somewhere and stay there, so Steve would take him over to the thing at which he was looking and let him touch it. This continued from one thing to another. Then Steve discovered that the baby's muscles would tense in certain ways that told him which way to go and what to do. He'd tell people this and they didn't believe him, so he proved it by doing it blindfolded. It turned out that he could do it with other babies too. This father was very excited to have discovered this way to communicate with his son so that the baby could chose what to explore, even before he could crawl.

He got divorced in 1989. He gave computers to schools. He started teaching computer classes to 5th graders and then taught for ten years. If says that if he hadn't been an engineer, he would have been a 5th-grade teacher.

In the late nineties, rumor had it that Apple was in trouble, and System 7 was crashing a lot. He discovered that when using iCab or Netscape instead of Internet Explorer, Macs didn't crash. It was IE that was causing the crashes. He told this to every Apple executive and employee he knew, but no one would listen. Then Apple decided to buy a new operating system from NeXT, which had been started by Jobs after he quit Apple (wasn't fired), and Jobs would be returning to Apple. Jobs brought marketing leadership and charisma, which is what Apple needed.

He wrote this book because he finally found time and he wanted to correct misinformation that has been printed in books about Apple's history. Steve and Steve were not high school classmates; they were several years apart. Jobs did not engineer the first computers with Woz; it was Woz alone. Woz did not leave Apple because he was disgruntled; he left to start a company to make universal remotes. And he did not actually leave Apple; he still is an employee, receiving a very low salary. He continues to represent Apple at events.

At the end of the book he gives advice to people who have ideas. Forget everything you've heard. Clear the table. Do a factual study like a scientist would. Don't jump to conclusions or take a position too quickly and then search for material to support your side. Why waste your time supporting a bad idea? Don't be stuck in your ego. Think outside of the constraints others have invented. Reaching for perfection, striving to put everything together perfectly, in a way no one has done before — that's what makes an engineer or anyone else a true artist. If you're that rare engineer who's an inventor and also an artist, work alone.

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. Our web site is: http://www.denverapplepi.com

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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, 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
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Vice President (Help) _____ Tammy Hanson
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Denver Apple Pi
6501 Welch Court
Arvada CO 80004-2333

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