



The NASA Glenn Research Center Macintosh User Group

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Okay, holidays are over and we all should be back into a semblance of a routine. Right? Yeah... right..... **yawn!*

It's been a nice break, but here we are again, with another a monthly newsletter. MacWorld just ended (and if you have not seen the latest iMac, where **HAVE** you been? - see picture andd article inside). Hopefully we'll have some tidbits to report that will be of interest to you. Remember, this newsletter is for you, and some of the information in it should be by you. Don't be shy. Send me an email, write an article.

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2002 in the TDC (RAC Bldg, room 185). Own own illustrius Siu will discuss OS X and SSH (see small article inside this newsletter). As Melissa says in her President's Corner, we would like to open this meeting up to questions and answers and general discussion. Please come prepared, and if we don't know the answers, we'll be more than happy to see what we can find out for you.

As most of you already know, I created a Macintosh User Manual that is Glenn specific. It is in pdf format and is ready for download on Freeware/Shareware. If there is anything you'd like included in the next iteration of this living manual, please let me know.

For those of you already using OS X, please, we need to hear from you your pros and cons. What are you using it for now? What about all the Unix users at Glenn? Would OS X benefit them at this time? Can we persuade them to make the switch? The Titanium powerbook is doing a super bang up job of switching PC users over to macintosh (I switched 3 in one week), so maybe OS X will bring the Unix users into the fold.

See you at the meeting. Till next time.....

—Lisa Madden, Editor

President's Corner

Welcome to another year and another set of Apple products. This year will mark the beginning of Apple pushing OS X as their default operating system. Likewise, this is the year that the lab will most likely be transitioning our desktops to OS X as well. It's going to be a whole new Mac experience. But not a bad one. Hopefully!

A Macintosh Working Group has been started that's looking at an agency-wide solution to putting OS X on the desktop. Security and other considerations that the Mac never had to answer to are being considered. However, the user perspective is going to be very much listened to in this whole process. I am a consulting member of the MWG, and am trying to interject end-user experiences and concerns into every step of the process. If any of you have issues you'd like to see addressed, feel free to let me know and I will be sure to bring them to the table.

No date has been set for the deployment of OS X on the desktop, but since Microsoft Office version X is now shipping, it's probably not that far off. We'll try to keep you all posted through our MUG meetings and our email digest.

The next few months will hopefully see some good GMUG meetings as well. This month, we are tentatively scheduling a question and answer session. As I write this, Michael Mills might be able to return to talk about the new iMac and iPhoto released at this month's MacWorld as well. Tom Sui will give a short talk on OS X and SSH (Secure

Shell). February will bring Research Systems Inc (RSI) here to discuss and demo their IDL product on OS X. I am also in contact with Wolfram Research to get the hilarious guy from the MacWorld Mathematica demo to come to our March or April MUG meeting. Aside from that, I haven't anything definite in the works. If any of you have ideas, or would like to demonstrate something, please let us know and we'll work with you.

With the deployment of OS X, folks are probably going to want training. I am going to work with the MWG and our training folks, or maybe even ODIN/ACS, to see what we can do to make the transition for the end user as simple as possible. My consulting job on the MWG has been to help coordinate issues from users to those folks in charge of deployment. OS X really is not that scary. Let me know what kind of training you'd like to see. Do you need Unix training, OS X administration training, or just plain old how to navigate the new OS training? I'll collect your thoughts and suggestions and make sure they get up the chain and into consideration.

Also, as an FYI in case any of you Rev A iMac owners are in the market for a new home computer, Apple recently introduced their Apple Federal Employee Purchase program. I have included an article in this newsletter with further details. Hopefully this will mean we'll have more Mac home users among us this year who will want help getting up to speed using their brand new computers. We welcome users, new and old, anytime.

Thanks for listening, enjoy your Macs and welcome to another great year.

—Melissa McGuire, President

[http://www.lerc.nasa.gov/
WWW/AdvisoryGroups/MUG/](http://www.lerc.nasa.gov/WWW/AdvisoryGroups/MUG/)
or
<http://GMUG.grc.nasa.gov>

The New iMacs- WOW!



As a User Group member, we're sure you were either able to watch the MacWorld Expo keynote or have read all about these new beauties on the internet, so we won't bore you with more details.

What we will say is that as a User Group Member, you have special priority access to these new iMacs when they start shipping. All you have to do is order from the Mug Store and mention that you're a User Group member, and we will give you first priority for shipment when we start receiving our allocation, ahead of all the rest of our customers. As part of a select group of dealers called Apple Specialists, the Mug Store will be given top allocation priority, so you can be assured of the best chance to be the first one on your block to get one of these great new iMacs!

Apple doesn't allow us to discount new product, so the pricing on these machines will be the same everywhere. The difference with the Mug Store is your priority status and our outstanding customer service. We're always happy to answer the phone (we do not use voice mail during office hours- ever) and review everything you like about any Mac product or peripheral.

And remember, if you have an older Mac you want to trade in toward the new iMac (or anything we sell for that matter), we're happy to do that as well. We give good value and relieve you of the hassle of selling your machine, plus you can keep your old Mac until your new Mac comes in so you can easily transfer all your files before you send it off.

Thanks for being a User Group member, and don't forget to surf to <http://www.applemugstore.com> to dig up all sorts of great deals from used peripherals to the hot-doggenest G4 Apple makes.

<http://www.applemugstore.com>

User ID: iPod / Password: music

iTunes on OS 8.6

For those of you with older Macs, running pre OS 9, and interested in running Apple's iTunes software, there is apparently a patch out there to do just that. This only works with iTunes pre the current version 2.x that is out now. So, you would need the iTunes 1.x installer to use it.

It's called **iTunes MacOS 8 Patch 1.1.3** and download it here:

<http://www.versiontracker.com/moreinfo.fcgi?id=10036&db=mac>

I have not tested it nor tried it out, so I send this just as an FYI. As always, iTunes is not something supported here at Glenn, so use it at your own risk.

AOL for Mac OS X

America Online Launches New AOL for Mac OS X; New Version of AOL Service Fully Compatible with Next Generation Apple Operating System

DULLES, Va.—(BUSINESS WIRE)—Dec. 11, 2001—America Online, Inc., the world's leading interactive services company, today announced the availability of a new version of the AOL service developed specifically for the Mac OS X operating system.

The new AOL for Mac OS X is compatible with Apple's latest operating system and provides enhancements to core, existing features designed to bring the best of the AOL service to members choosing to upgrade to Mac OS X. America Online recently launched compatibility between the AOL service and Apple's AirPort, the first affordable and easy-to-use wireless networking solution for home, school and office.

Peter Ashkin, President of Product Strategy for America Online, said: "As part of our ongoing support of the Macintosh market, we are excited to launch the new version of our flagship AOL service. America Online has a long and valued relationship with Apple and we wanted to provide compatibility with Apple's next-generation operating system. On the heels of Apple's recent launch of AirPort, which provides a way for AOL members to access the AOL service through a wireless LAN, we'll continue to look for opportunities to extend the AOL experience to the Mac community by programming the AOL service in ways that enhance the Macintosh user's experience.

"Teaming Apple and America Online brings together the world's leader in personal computing innovation with the leading online brand and interactive services company" said Ron Okamoto, Apple's vice president of Worldwide Developer Relations. "With two great companies working together to bring the best of AOL to Mac OS X, AOL Mac users are going to love the freedom of wireless access with AirPort and the new features available only with AOL for Mac OS X."

AOL for Mac OS X provides enhancements that include a streamlined new design, new e-mail features, an updated Internet browsing experience and, as always, some unique features available exclusively to AOL Mac users. Additionally, AOL Mac members will find new content and features on the service including personally relevant localized content and new entertainment features. AOL for MAC OS X features include:

- Online mailbox sorting that allows members to easily sort email messages by sender, subject, date or type;
- New address book capabilities that allow members to access their contact information anytime, anywhere across various AOL products — along with separate address books for each Screen Name under the main account;
- Microsoft Internet Explorer browser for Mac OS X, version 5.1- built into the new software;
- The latest version of Flash player, which allows members to enjoy an enhanced multimedia experience online; and
- The addition of a CSL (connection script) enables compatibility with Apple's AirPort device for wireless LAN connections.

In addition to the new features introduced in AOL for Mac OS X, Mac users will enjoy new content and programming features like:

— A new AOL Welcome screen that includes more promotional space, rotating graphics and double the amount of personalization with “My Places.”

— Personally relevant local content delivered throughout the service from the new AOL Local Guide;

— Access to AOL Box Office — offering one-stop access to tickets for events of every kind in more than 60 markets;

— An upgraded version of the popular “You’ve Got Pictures”(SM) service allowing members to upload pictures from any digital camera or scanner for one-stop viewing, sharing, storing and printing, with free, unlimited photo storage space and a bundled pricing plan for both prints and online photos; and

— A redesign of each of the 20 AOL channels delivering a fresh, clean look and feel that offers consistent and intuitive template design for easier navigation across all channels.

AOL Mac members will continue to enjoy all of the unique features available only with the AOL service for the Mac platform such as the ability to play and embed sounds in an email and share them with other AOL Mac users; the ability to attach files by dragging and dropping them into the email attachment window as well as the ability to enter every e-mail address in a single box and change the delivery type for each address (to/cc/bcc) with a simple click. Users can also have the text of instant messages (as well as chat and e-mail) and buttons under their cursor read aloud using built in speech synthesis.

This new version of the AOL for MAC OS X is available as an upgrade for existing members at no additional charge in the United States.

Powerbook Combo upgrade program

Apple is offering a combo upgrade program to some owners of G4 powerbooks. For details, head on over to their site.

Just sending this out for those of you who recently got refreshed and might be able to take advantage of this offer.

http://www.info.apple.com/usen/powerbook/upgrade_faq.html

Apple announced that it has made slot-loading Combo drives standard across its entire award-winning Titanium PowerBook G4 notebook line.

Starting January 14, 2002 , Apple will also offer current PowerBook G4 550MHz and 667MHz owners the opportunity to upgrade their existing DVD-ROM or CD-RW drive to the new Combo drive for US\$299.

The PowerBook G4 Combo Upgrade Program will be offered worldwide from January 14 - March 30, 2002. Customers should check the Apple Web site starting January 14 for further details on how to place an order.

Eligible PowerBook G4 systems

Part # Product description

M8362 PowerBook G4 550MHz

M8363 PowerBook G4 667MHz

Z03Y Build to order systems from the Apple Store online

Apple Federal Employee Purchase Program



<http://www.apple.com/r/store/federal/>

About two months ago, Apple introduced a program called the Apple Federal Employee Purchase Program. You can get to it through the Apple Store's web site (See the URL above). It functions similar to the store for education. Federal Employees can purchase Apple hardware and software at a discount. Terms and conditions are as follows— The Apple Federal Employee Purchase Program is a benefit provided by Apple Computer, Inc. to employees of the U.S. Federal Government. The program is intended for personal use.

The latest iMacs released at January's MacWorld address, are on the Federal Store site, and the discounts are all higher than that for the Educational discount. The high end iMac, with the superdrive, is especially discounted by about \$100.

Feel free to head on over to the new Apple Federal Store if you're in the market for a new Mac. With the discount, this is probably the best deal you can find on new Apple hardware. While it's only open to Federal Employees, that's not

to say that you can't purchase for other folks: gifts for the inlaws, etc. Good luck and happy shopping.



The Apple Federal Store offers powerful desktop and portable computer solutions at special prices for federal agencies and federal employees.

Shop for Your Agency

Federal SmartPay Store.
This store is designed exclusively for Federal customers to purchase Apple and third-party products using their federally issued SmartPay credit card.

Shop for Yourself

Federal Employee Store.
This program provides solutions at a special price for employees of the U.S. Federal Government who intend to purchase Apple products for personal use.

GSA Schedule & Federal Contracts

Please note that the direct Apple Store does not include a GSA Schedule. If you need to buy using a GSA Schedule, please purchase from one of the authorized [Federal Resellers](#).



SSH and MacOS X

by Tom Siu

A current exploit of the the SSH CRC 32 is high on the list of scanning going on in the wild on the Internet. No incidences of an exploit of a MacOS X system has yet been reported, and if you do have MacOS X running somewhere, this brief description should help you 'batten down the hatches' a little more.

When you enable 'Allow remote login' in the Application tab of the file sharing folder in OS X via the system preferences panel (see figure 1), you launch the secure shell daemon (sshd). This allows you to connect via the command line from another unix or OS X machine (also from an OS 9 machine using MacSSH) over the network on TCP port 22. By default, OS X (10.1 or later) will use the type 1 or type 2 protocol. The SSH CRC 32 exploit only works on SSH type 1, and depending on the system attacked, can result in a root compromise. If the ssh daemon is set up to start with protocol type 2, then fall back to type 1, the server could be vulnerable (note that the exploit happens mainly to Linux systems). GRC has restricted SSH type 1, but any OS X system could be vulnerable to the type 1 attack if the ssh daemon configuration file permits fall back to type 1. The solution to this is to disable type 1 and force type 2 only.

Figure 1



Figure 2 shows where in the sshd_config file the change has been made to force SSH type 2.

The following commands at the terminal window will get you there.

1. cd /etc
2. Use vi or any text editor to update the /etc/sshd_config file to look like what is in Figure 2. The line for the protocol type looks like this in the default setting:
 - a. #Protocol 1,2 — the default setting
 - b. Protocol 2 — forces type 2
3. Save the file, then return to the Sharing panel under System Preferences. Deselect the 'Allow remote login' feature, close the window to make the changes take effect. Then go back and reselect the feature.
4. SSH will now be forced to Protocol 2, protecting you from any Protocol 1 issues.



If you have any questions or need help in security configurations, contact Tom Siu at 3-2232.

Apples for Students Program



Local Giant Eagle grocery stores are running the “Apples for Students” program again where you save your receipts and schools use them to earn points toward new computers.

Even if you don’t have kids, you can participate by going through their website. By registering, all the points are collected automatically and you don’t have to save receipts. You do have to have a giant eagle advantage card, however.

<http://www.gianteagle.com>

From their site:

Apples For The Students Program

The New Giant Eagle
Apples For The Students Program

Use your Giant Eagle Advantage Card® instead of collecting register tapes!

Giant Eagle is proud to announce its continued commitment to education by contributing \$800,000 to this year’s Apple For The Students program.

It begins Sunday, November 4, 2001 and continues through Saturday, March 23, 2002.

ISP’s for Home Connectivity

From time to time folks ask about how to find out what ISPs are available for them to use for home internet access.

Here are a few references that might be of use to those in the market for an ISP.

http://herbison.com/iap_meta_list/iap_meta_list_us_oh.html

<http://thelist.internet.com/>

<http://www.isp-planet.com/>

<http://apk.net> (this is an Ohio-based ISP)

<http://www.earthlink.net>

MacWorld Keynote HiLites

* OS X will ship from today forth as the default OS. OS 9 will be there for Classic, and you can still change your system boot choice back to 9 if you need to, but OS X will be the one all shipping Macs boot into. (deployment on the desktops here on lab is still in the works. No date yet set.)

* Apple introduced a new iBook. It has a 14" screen. So now there are three models, 2 with 12" screens and the high end with 14". The latter two (pricewise) come with the Combo drive. <http://www.apple.com/ibook/>

* A new application called **iPhoto** is free from Apple starting today. It's an OS X app, and is, like iTunes with music, a way to manipulate, store, and retrieve your digital photos. Steve did demo and it was very cool. I want my Grandfather to get this app for use with the digital camera he's about to get because it'll make my tech support much easier! :) <http://www.apple.com/iphoto/>

* Photoshop for OS X was announced, although a shipping date was not.

* There are, now, over 2500 applications available native for OS X

* Last but not least, the redesigned from the ground up, iMac. <http://www.apple.com/imac/> It has about everything I have heard folks wanting: flat panel LCD display, G4 processor, and in the high end model, the Superdrive (the one you can burn CDs, DVDs and watch DVDs and play CDs on...it does it all!). If you have been reading the rumor sites at all this morning, you'd have seen that Time magazine scooped Jobs. The new iMac is on this week's cover and Time's web page went online before the keynote. Oops!

*The new iMacs are on the Apple Federal Store site at roughly \$70 -100 less retail. The top model is \$1691 (\$1799 retail). That even beats the Education discount at \$1749.

Maybe we can get Michael Mills back here with an iMac so we can see one in person.

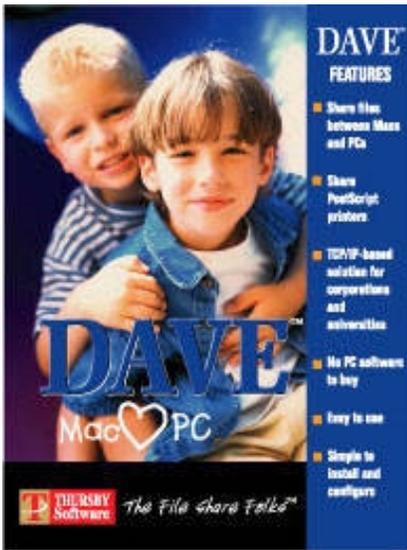
Hope you are all having a great day. If anyone didn't see the keynote and would like to, I am supposed to be getting a tape of the broadcast. As long as you promise to return it in a short time, I will loan them out.

Melissa McGuire



Share and Share Alike: a Review of DAVE

Melissa McGuire



Company: Thursby Software.
Web Page: <http://www.thursby.com/default.html>
<http://www.thursby.com/products/dave.html>
Price: Free Trial available
OS X beta version Free (download)
Requirements: Macintosh with a 68030 or higher
Mac OS 7.6 thru 9.1
A minimum of 16MB of RAM
Apple's Open Transport
TCP/IP V1.1.1 or later
Any hardware required for TCP/IP

From Thursby's website, here's a description of what Dave can do:
Share and Share Alike "DAVE is the first and only cross-platform networking solution of its kind. DAVE uses the fast, industry standard TCP/IP protocol instead of AppleTalk and is designed specifically for the Apple Macintosh. It is installed on the Macintosh and no additional hardware or software is required on the PC. DAVE is a one product fits all solution for sharing between the different Microsoft platforms and Macintosh systems."

How To Use Dave(Set up for GRC)

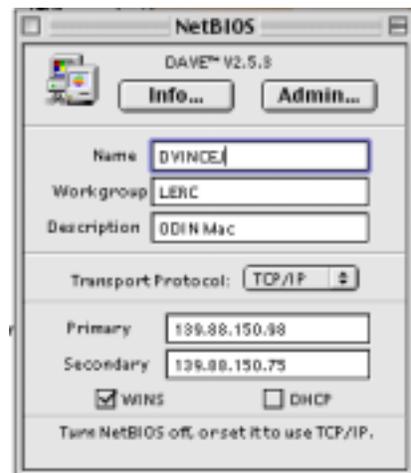
After you run the DAVE install, your Mac will restart. After the restart, the DAVE software install screen will appear. Perform the following:

- Click the right arrow to bypass the introduction screen
- Click the right arrow to bypass the "Company Network" selection (Company Network selected)
- Click the right arrow to bypass the TCP/IP button screen
- Click the right arrow to bypass "Windows NT Server in use" (Yes should be selected)
- Click the right arrow to bypass the DHCP screen (DHCP NOT selected)
- Check My Network Uses WINS
- Enter "Primary:" 139.88.150.98
- Enter "Secondary:" 139.88.150.75
- Enter the "Name" of your Mac, then click the right arrow
- Enter the "Workgroup:" LERC
- Enter the "Description:" ODIN Mac
- Check the box if you want to log onto the network with DAVE at startup
- Click the right arrow to bypass the Summary screen
- Select that you don't want to or you want to share your local files.
- (You can always turn sharing on or off in the DAVE Sharing Control Panel)
- Click right arrow
- Click "OK" to exit the setup utility

Some Screen grabs of Dave.

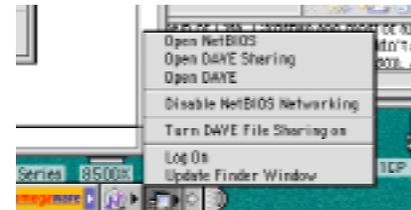
If you wish to skip going through the Dave setup installer, you can go straight to the NetBIOS control panel. Either way, here is an example NetBIOS control panel, generously donated by Dawn Vincej. This is how yours should look, with the exception of a different computer name. *Make sure that the description makes it known that this is a macintosh.* When the 98/NT folks go browsing through their network neighborhoods, it's nice to have them see a few Macs out there sharing the network and proving all sorts of old notions false.

An additional member of your control strip will be added now that will allow you to turn Dave sharing and NetBIOS on and off at will. The graphic snapshot of my desktop should illustrate this ability.



Netbios Control Panel

Control Strip Module



Applescriptable iTunes

Just thought I'd pass along this site. It makes sense that iTunes is Applescriptable, but I had never looked into it before. Here's a nice site with some script examples for doing various things to your mp3 collection.

<http://www.malcolmadams.com/itunes/index.html>

icExcel

If you need to open Microsoft Excel spreadsheet files but don't want to invest in Excel, this tool lets you view, search, and print those files more affordably. (Shareware, \$19.95)

<http://www.icexcel.com/>

Kill those pop-up windows

http://macscripter.net/sb_search.t?keyword=terminator&go=Search

direct download http://files.macscripter.net/ScriptBuilders/WWW/PopUp_Terminator.hqx

Have you ever been surfing the web, click on a new site, only to have two or three other windows pop up as well! Usually they are ads, with annoying lifetimes. Well, a small script, written by Rob Jorgensen rjj@woh.rr.com, will help to keep those pop windows from even occurring. Best of all, it's free. The only downside is that it works with Internet Explorer, not Netscape. Head on over and check it out!

Details from the writeup on MacScripter.net: Up Terminator 1.1 Editable Freeware | 12/01/2001 | Script #625 Author: Rob Jorgensen | Author's Minimal Web Site <<http://homepage.mac.com/robjorgensen/>> Comments: Requires Internet Explorer. Up Terminator was written to make it possible to avoid quitting Internet Explorer just to escape those \$%@#!*\= pop-up windows that sometimes seem to take control of our browsers. Pop-Up Terminator aggressively targets only those windows which are deemed undesirable by the user. Pop-ups be damned!! Version 1.1 is much more effective than version 1.0. Pop-up windows that escaped Terminator's wrath in v1.0 are now terminated as they should be.

