

**Lynchburg Apple Core - Central Virginia Macintosh User's Group**

**Thursday, February 19, 2004 - 7:00 PM - Room 4201, CVCC**

Guest Speaker Anderson Silva will demonstrate the use of DreamWeaver,  
a powerful software package to create high quality web sites.

**Westminster-Canterbury - Tuesday, February 17, 2004, 7:30 PM**

Now meeting in the Hume Room, 3rd Floor

**Amherst - Wednesday, February 18, 2004 - 7:30 PM**

Now meeting at Country & Mountain Realty, 123 North Main Street

**Next Month's Meetings:**

Westminster-Canterbury - Tuesday March 16, - 7:30 PM

Amherst - Wednesday March 17, - 7:30 PM

CVCC - Thursday March 18, - 7:00 PM

# Apple Bytes

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## Mac OS X Class at CVCC February 20, 21, 27, 28

The Lynchburg Apple Core is sponsoring a 1-credit college class on Mac OS X, covering both Version 10.2 Jaguar and Version 10.3 Panther. This class is intended both for Mac users who are new to OS X and those who have been using it for some time but who want to gain a better understanding and become more proficient in the use of their Macs. The class will be relatively small and will be geared for a lot of personal attention, questions and answers.

The class will meet on Friday evening, February 20, Saturday morning, February 21, and the following Friday evening and Saturday morning to minimize disruption of your normal schedules. It will cover new material since it will include Panther.

The past three years have been a period of transition for the Macintosh community. We are well on our way to the future. We have moved from the well-developed but now dead-end world of Mac OS 9 to the rock-solid world of Unix with a very attractive and friendly Macintosh face.

The last update to OS 9 was created November 30, 2001. There will be no more updates to OS 9. Developers are not writing programs or updates for OS 9. Users are finding that many programs based on OS 9 are no longer supported, Netscape 4.7.x is a notable example.

Meanwhile, new, exciting, useful and fun programs are coming out running in OS X. One of the latest is Apple's iLife '04 suite of programs included in every new Mac: iPhoto 4, iTunes 4.2, iMovie 4, iDVD 4, and GarageBand. We will be talking about these and demonstrating them over the next few months. Other programs are moving into their 2nd or 3rd revisions under OS X.

The OS X class at CVCC is listed as Business 195-01, "Macintosh Operations - Mac OS X" and the ID Number is 28231. Sign up through the CVCC Admissions Office on campus, or if you have been registered before, call 832-7633. Or call Gordon at 401-0163 for info.

The cost is the normal 1 credit-hour charge for CVCC which is \$64.25 plus the student fee of \$10.00. And of course, Seniors get to audit the class for free.

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A special note of thanks to Roger Lohn who has done many hours of volunteer Macintosh work with the Lynchburg Literacy Council over the past four months. Thanks, Roger!

## Have You Ever Wondered About QuickTime?

- Gordon Mattox

Every once in a while, when I am working with a client, they ask me something like "What is this QuickTime? Do I need that? Can I get rid of it. It's taking up space," or some other comment or question.

From the Computer Dictionary at Cheap Computers Information Center, I find about QuickTime:

*Apple Computer's program that enables the viewing of video, audio, 3D, and virtual reality. QuickTime® will work on both Macintosh and Windows.*

At **whatis.com** they say:

*Quicktime is a multimedia development, storage, and playback technology from Apple. Quicktime files combine sound, text, animation, and video in a single file. Using a Quicktime player that either comes with a Web browser or can be downloaded from Apple or the browser company, you can view and control brief multimedia sequences. QuickTime files can be recognized by their file name extensions: qt, mov, and moov.*

Both of these definitions are from PC sources, and they are generally correct, but they really don't satisfy me in telling the whole story.

QuickTime is a technology developed by Apple to create and to play back multimedia experiences including music and movies as well as still images such as JPEGs. Many programs dealing with such data files depend on the basic technology of QuickTime to operate and require it to be installed on your computer. As part of the installation, you get QuickTime Player to play movies. Preview displays your pictures. In OS 9, you get PictureViewer. What's so special about QuickTime? How do you use QuickTime?

Therefore, you don't really use QuickTime directly. It is the enabling technology behind your multimedia experience. In iTunes, it allows you to play MP3 music and audio files. In graphics programs it allows you to view JPEG image files, the most popular cross-platform image file format for the internet.

At its simplest, QuickTime is software that allows Mac and Windows users to play back audio and video on their computers. But taking a deeper look, QuickTime is many things: a file format, an environment for media authoring, and a suite of applications:

- QuickTime Player - for playing back audio and video files.
- QuickTime Pro - for flexible multimedia authoring to make your own movies and videos for the internet.
- Browser plug-ins - for viewing media within a web page.

- PictureViewer - for working with still images (For OS 9 and Windows; Preview does the job in Mac OS X).

- QuickTime Streaming Server - for delivering streaming media files on the Internet in real time.

- Darwin Streaming Server - for delivering streaming media with Unix, Linux, Solaris, and Windows.

- QuickTime Broadcaster - for delivering live events on the Internet.

- MPEG-2 Playback Component - for playing back MPEG-2 content - (Movies)

So, in answer to the original question, QuickTime is key to the multimedia experience many of us want with our computers. It's not needed for word processing or spreadsheets and the like. But most of us enjoy surfing the internet and for that, QuickTime is essential. It

allows us to see streaming video, and to listen to audio over the internet. Likewise, without QuickTime, we wouldn't have the musical experience of iTunes and our iPods. And it's needed for the digital photographers and videographers among us. Even our friends using PCs need it to get the fullest experience.

Best of all, QuickTime is *free!* It's installed with the Mac OS, and because Apple is always trying to make it better, it is offered as a free download when a new version is released. The current version is 6.5 for both OS 9 and OS X.

For those of us who want to take full advantage of its capabilities to author new projects, or to convert existing content to alternative formats, we can purchase QuickTime Pro for the very reasonable price of \$29.95.

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### **Important Notes**

Annual Dues are now \$25.00. The first raise in 20 years! Dues run on an annual basis from your membership date. We will send you a bill when you are due.

Remember, monthly meetings are keyed on the Main meeting held at CVCC, which are on the 3RD THURSDAY of the month. The Westminster-Canterbury Branch is on the Tuesday preceding, and the Amherst Branch is on the Wednesday preceding.



"The computer says I need to upgrade my brain to be compatible with its new software."