

**iLife '04 - Apple's New Suite of "Sweet" Programs
Part 1 - iPhoto, and Comparison to Other Applications**

Westminster-Canterbury - Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 7:15 PM

Meeting in the Wellness Center Classroom, Ground Floor

Amherst - Wednesday, March 17, 2004, 7:15 PM

Meeting at Country & Mountain Realty, 123 North Main Street

CVCC, Room 4201 - Thursday, March 18, 2004, 7:00 PM

Next Month's Meetings:

Westminster-Canterbury - Tuesday April 13, - 7:15 PM

Amherst - Wednesday April 14, - 7:15 PM

CVCC - Thursday April 15, - 7:00 PM

Apple Bytes The Newsletter of the
Lynchburg Apple Core

Lynchburg Apple Core Web Site: <http://lynchburgmug.org/>

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Nineteen People Completed the Mac OS X Class

It was a full house at the CVCC Mac Lab for the last two weekends in February. Many of the attendees were already users of OS X, mostly Version 10.2 "Jaguar" but some have already switched to Version 10.3 "Panther." A number of the class were still OS 9 users looking to switch to OS X for the first time and wanting to get a foundation to make the change. All agreed that the class was very informative and useful. As a result of several inquiries, there is consideration of a follow-on class later in the spring. Anyone interested in such a class should contact Gordon Mattox.

Apple Core Meetings at CVCC Continue to Grow

There were twenty-eight persons in attendance at the Apple Core Meeting at CVCC in February, This almost ties the record of 29 in May 2002 when there were no Branches, and everyone attended at CVCC. Your Officers are now investigating possible solutions to our growing condition and would appreciate any comments or suggestions for working toward solving this situation. Contact Tony Young, Tom Johnson, Frank Land, or Gordon Mattox with your input. (Total February attendance for all branches was 39.)

New Apple Core Web site Under Development

Frank Land is working on the design of a new web site for the Apple Core. He presented his ideas to the Club officers at their meeting last Monday and his preliminary design looks very good. Pass any suggestions you might have to Frank.

Virginia Tech's Macintosh Supercomputer is Changing

Several members have inquired about the possible field trip to Virginia Tech. We have made contact with the Mac people in Blacksburg to see about us visiting "System X." Jerome Holman has responded that we will be welcome to come in April or May, after they have completed the rebuilding of the computer with new Macintosh G5 Xserves which will improve the design and performance of the supercomputer. What's happening to the G5 Minitorwars originally installed? Check out the new MacMall catalog that is offering us the chance to "own a piece of history!" The slightly used G5's are available for \$2799.00, about \$200 less than the brand-new price.

Apple's New iLife '04

Organize Photos & Songs, Create Movies, DVDs & Music The March program is an introduction to Apple's new suite of programs *iLife '04*, which is a package of five programs closely integrated to bring you a new look at photos, movies, and music. The iLife '04 package includes five programs:

- iPhoto 4.0
- iTunes 4.2
- iMovie 4.0
- iDVD 4.0
- GarageBand

The regular retail price for the whole suite, all five programs, is \$49.00, and the package comes free with all new Macs!

We will be reviewing the programs of iLife over the next few meetings, covering each one in enough depth to be useful and instructive.

The new iPhoto

iPhoto has been with us for a while but with the new version 4.0 included with iLife '04, it got even better. The maximum number of photos you may have in your Photo Library has been increased significantly, and the operational performance of the application has been improved to accommodate the larger nimbler. If you are like many digital camera owners, you can easily amass a huge collection of digital photographs — 2,500, 25,000, or more. And yet with iPhoto you can find just the ones you're looking for.

The main Photo Library can be arranged according to any of several set rules. You can create “albums” of your favorite photos and arrange them in any order you want independently of how they are arranged in the Library. These albums are actually just visual *lists* of your photos, not additional copies. They don't take up much space.

Each photo can be assigned one or more keywords such as “family”, “grandkids”, “party”, and the like to help organize and find them.

Your albums help you to organize your photo library, group the photos you want to burn to CD or DVD, or choose pictures for a slideshow, a QuickTime movie, or a web page.

You can view your photos in the iPhoto Library or any album at any size from tiny “thumbnails” to full screen. A medium size to small medium size is best for viewing several photos at once.

One of the coolest new features of iPhoto is Smart Albums. Easy to establish automatic time-based organization and easy-to-assign ratings make categorizing and finding images a snap. With a simple setting of selection criteria, you can set up albums based on a range of dates, ratings, titles, keywords, filenames or other criteria. For example, with a few clicks, you can find and organize all of the pictures from your vacation at the beach, or the pictures taken last Christmas, or even the last three Christmases!

Have you always been completely satisfied with your photos straight out of the camera? The editing features of iPhoto, while not of the power of Photoshop or Photoshop Elements or some other programs, are quite adequate for the average user. You can resize and crop photos, rotate them, adjust contrast and brightness, and automatically remove the dreaded “red eye.”

Note that when you edit a photo, it changes the photo's appearance in the photo library and in every album where it appears. To edit a photo without changing it everywhere it appears, make a duplicate first and then edit.

To increase color enhancement, click the icon once or several times. After enhancing a photo's colors, you can press the Control key to compare the enhanced photo to its previous version.

If you don't like the changes you've made to a photo, you can undo your most recent change by choosing Edit > Undo. You can also revert to the photo's original version by choosing Photos > Revert to Original. There is no Revert for deleted photos.

Another new feature is that immediately after importing your photos from your camera, you can review them in a slide show and rotate them if necessary. You can assign a 1-5 star rating for future selection of the best photos, and even immediately delete those that “don't make the grade” during your review.

Like to share your photos with another Mac user? Rendezvous technology lets you share your photos with everyone in your home or school over your local network connection. For those not on your network, you can burn an album to disk and another Mac user can see it in their iPhoto program as an album just like you have it on your computer.

You can create interesting slide shows complete with new transitions — and use songs from iTunes to accompany the show.

A very handy feature is the ease with which you can prepare a picture from your iPhoto library to be sent via e-mail. Select the photo to send, choose the size the picture should be, and then click the Compose button to open a new message in your e-mail program with the picture already attached. Just type your message and press Send.

Club member Jerry Lane has taken advantage of the Create Book feature of iPhoto to create a very nice album for his daughter's wedding. He took the photos, edited them, arranged them, and then ordered the book over the internet. He was quite pleased with the result. Ask him about it.

There is a fairly comprehensive Help system built into the program. I have already learned more by using it. There are a good number of books on the market to help you develop your skills in using iPhoto. Be sure to choose books covering Version 4.

Next month: iTunes