

Apple Bytes

The Newsletter of the Lynchburg Apple Core

Volume 2004.10 ----- Lynchburg, VA -----September 10, 2004

Second Annual Dinner Meeting

Thursday November 18 - 6:15 PM - Oakwood Country Club

3409 Rivermont Avenue, Lynchburg - 434-384-8181

Social Hour - 6:15 PM - Dinner - 7:00 PM - Program - 7:45 PM

The November meeting is at **Oakwood Country Club, Thursday, November 18**. This is a social affair to meet and chat with your fellow club members from all three sections. Bring your spouse or a friend. It will include a social hour before the buffet. The dinner is planned with a good menu which will have a number of choices for your dining pleasure.

The program will include presentations by Apple Core members sharing their knowledge and experience with their Macs. We'll try to be finished by 8:45 at the latest.

Michael Corbin will show us how to make and manage our Christmas card list in AppleWorks.

Stevie Woodson, a teacher with 25 years experience, will show us how she has used the computer in the classroom to make learning more interesting for her students.

Randy Thrasher will present a 15-minute video he has prepared in iMovie and iDVD to show excerpts of the semiprofessional videos he has made of several exciting trips to distant places including Madagascar and South America.

We will have two new **iMac G5's** for all to see, both the 17-inch and the 20-inch models, courtesy of LAC member Ernie Duff, and new member Truman Vannatta. These are beautiful machines!

There will be no separate branch meetings in Amherst or Westminster-Canterbury in November.

December Meetings:

Westminster-Canterbury - Tuesday December 14, - 7:15 PM

Amherst, 123 N. Main St. - Wednesday December 15, - 7:15 PM

Lynchburg College, Hopwood Hall - Thursday December 16, - 7:00 PM

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Don't be a victim of pfishing - by Tom Johnson

What is pfishing? This is one of the latest attempts to steal your ID. They take the form of very official looking e-mails from your bank, credit union, credit card company, auction service (eBay), Internet service provider, etc.

These e-mails look absolutely official. There may be no way to tell if they come from a legitimate source by their appearance. However, there is one difference: these unsolicited e-mails will ask you to click on a link to go to their site to correct or verify your personal information. This will be stuff like social security number, credit card number, bank account number, passwords, etc.

Do not do this!! These sites will also look very legitimate and they will have warnings like: "Your internet service will be canceled", "Our records show you have had credit charges to a pornographic

web site, if this is not true then go here...to correct our records", or some similar warning to scare you into following their advice.

No legitimate service (bank, credit card, ISP provider, etc.) **will ever send you an unsolicited e-mail asking for private information. Never!** Don't fall for this, if you get an e-mail asking for private information **do not give any.** If you want to check, call your bank, etc. using the number on your statements.

Apparently this criminal activity has been very successful in stealing information from people and using their social security numbers and account numbers to steal their ID's and often their money. These often come from other countries, like Russia, and it is practically impossible to track them down and arrest them. So be careful, if you get an e-mail that feels strange, or makes you a little worried, take heed. Don't fall for the pfish!

For more information, Google "pfish." One very good site to read is at ABCnews.com:

<http://abclocal.go.com/wjrt/news/041204_CO_r2_pfishing.html>

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What is the PMU Unit? - by Tom Johnson

This is for PowerBook and iBook Users. The PMU unit is a computer chip that is usually on the logic board of the PowerBook and iBook MacIntosh laptops manufactured November 97 or later. It handles the power management of your computer. This includes backlighting, hard disk spin down, sleep and wake, some of the battery charging jobs, trackpad control, and serial port and modem (to avoid going to sleep when connected).

Setting in the PMU can become unstable affecting things like not turning on, not waking from sleep, battery charging problems, not "seeing" the AC adapter, and other problems.

If you are having problems with your Mac laptop, you should try the following steps in this order until the computer responds:

- 1) Force Quit (Option-Command-Escape)
- 2) Restart (Control-Command-Power button)
- 3) Force Shut Down (press the power button down for 10 seconds)

If none of these steps corrects your problem, you may need to reset the PMU. For information on how to do this with your model go to the following URL for details:

<<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=14449>>

I recently had my cursor freeze up on me. I followed the above steps several times without any results. I had gone to the URL above and printed out the directions (fortunately for me) before it happened. Without the cursor I found it virtually impossible to print out anything at all. For my iBook, the procedure involved force shut down, removal of the AC adaptor, removal of the battery unit, then pressing the PMU reset button next to my earphone plug. Waiting 5 seconds, reconnecting the AC power adapter, replacing the battery, then pressing the Power button. It worked, my cursor was now working again.

Apple warns that doing this will permanently remove a RAM disk, if present, and all of its contents. I recommend going to this URL, printing out the instructions that cover your model, and saving them. I'm glad I did. By the way, I got the URL and information on calibrating my iBook's battery pack with the Newertechnology replacement iBook battery I recently bought from Other World Computing (Macsales.com).

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Central Virginia Wireless Hotspots - *Gordon Mattox*

Scott Glass and I were talking Saturday about wireless connections for our laptops, and he mentioned that he had seen an article listing the wireless hotspots in and around Lynchburg and that there was a web site listing them. I Googled "Hotspots Lynchburg VA" and found it. So here is the latest information from the Region 2000 Technology Council:

<http://www.r2ktech.org/hotspotlocations.htm>

These are the FREE ones. There are others which are useable for a fee, like the one at Starbucks in Boonesboro and they are NOT listed here. Pay if you have to, but FREE is better!

Bedford City & County

Bedford Area Visitor's Center Inside Center - Opened October 14

Campbell County

Lynchburg Regional Airport Located inside terminal upstairs

Lynchburg City

A&C Daily Grind - Wyndhurst Located inside restaurant

Academy Cafe - Downtown Located inside restaurant

Days Inn Located throughout property

Downtown Riverfront All along the riverfront - fall 2004

Holiday Inn Select Located throughout property

Jonathan's Rest. - Downtown Located inside restaurant

Liberty University Located at DeMoss Hall & The Hanger

Myrt's Hot Dogs Located inside restaurant

Public Library - Memorial Ave. Located throughout library

Radisson Hotel Located throughout property

Rubs Restaurant Located inside restaurant

Wingate Inn Located throughout property

Have fun and good internet access at these Hotspots!

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The LAST of the PRINTED PAGE!

With this issue of Apple Bytes, the Club is ending the era of the printed page. This will be the last Apple Bytes distributed on paper. With Club members general acceptance of receiving Apple Bytes via e-mail, we are making this transition. Almost 90% of the membership receive their copy via the internet. The savings realized by the elimination of printing and U.S. Postal Service costs are allowing a significant subsidy of the cost of this year's annual banquet in terms of a better menu and service. More benefits will accrue in the future. Many thanks to **Frank Land** for helping us to move in this direction.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you have not provided the Club with a viable e-mail address, you will no longer receive the Apple Bytes newsletter of the Lynchburg Apple Core.

Please send your comments and/or your e-mail address to gcmattox@mac.com.