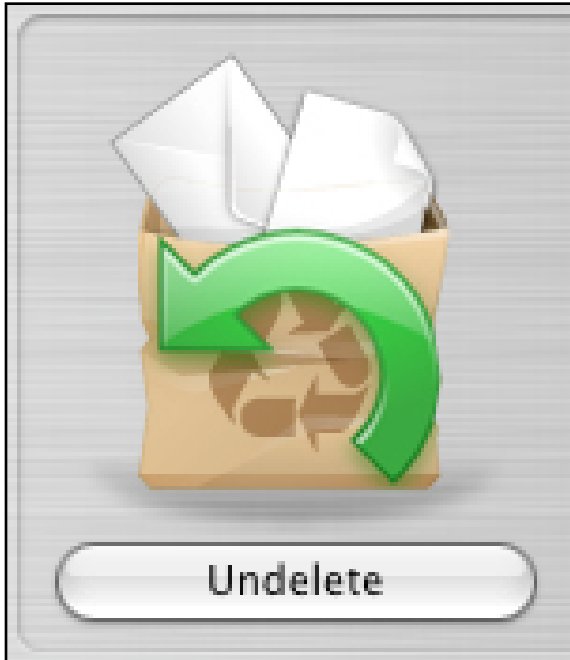


Apple Bytes

October Meeting

Thursday Oct 19 – 7:00 PM – Room 209
Centennial Hall at Lynchburg College



Meeting Topics for October:

(1) 1001 reasons you need a .Mac account, or .Mac Revisited with Bob Hall.

(2) Undeleting the accidentally deleted file under Mac OS X. Applecore President Michael Corbin recently deleted a batch of files, and found that despite advice to the contrary that “OS X does a pretty good job of wiping out all traces of deleted files, there are programs that can recover the supposedly unrecoverable, albeit at a price.

(3) Search for Applecore Officers for 2007. Elections are coming up at the November Meeting, you’ll want to be there unless you want “a little job to do.” Or even if you DO want one.

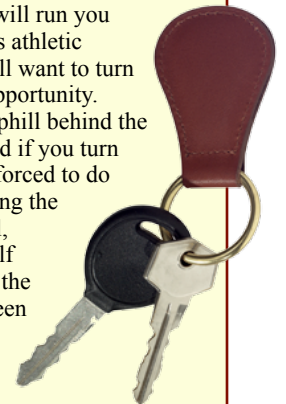
Centennial Hall Directions

Centennial is located between the campus library and the chapel, with parking behind and beside. To drive there most directly, you will probably want to use the LC main gate as a reference. This is located off Lakeside Drive, and however you get there, **DON'T turn into the main gate.**

There is a traffic light on Lakeside about 50 yards from the LC drive, and if you reach the LC drive first, continue to the traffic light and turn right there instead.

If you are on lakeside and reach the traffic light BEFORE you get to LC's drive, turn left at the light. If you reach the light from Old Forest Road instead of Lakeside Drive, go straight at the light.

All these will run you alongside one LC's athletic fields, and you will want to turn right at the first opportunity. That street goes uphill behind the college chapel, and if you turn right again when forced to do so, just after passing the back of the chapel, you'll find yourself headed for one of the parking lots between the chapel and Centennial with the latter on your left. You can also park behind the chapel, although there is a little bit of hill to climb, and there is a small parking lot across the street behind Centennial Hall. If worse comes to worst, it is also possible to park on the far side of the library, on down the street behind Centennial Hall.



eBook Review by Frank Land:

Mac OSX Technology Guide to Automator

AUTHOR – BEN WALDE, AUTOMATED WORKFLOWS, LLC

After inquiring about Automator and how to use it at our July LAC user group meeting, I found myself volunteering to cover the subject at a future meeting.

Reading the Automator literature on the Apple website (which is quite good) wasn't complete enough for me to learn how to use it. Then, I found out about the [Mac OSX Technology Guide to Automator eBook](#) written by Ben Walde of Automated Workflows LLC.

The book covers the subject far more extensively than I could present at the monthly meeting. The first section is written for Automator users; the second is a developers version.

In retrospect, I found the eBook to be very well written and concise. It's not what you'd call, "Automator for Dummies." Perhaps a small amount of computer-speak comes to play, but not a lot. That being said, reading about logic steps in building an automated process can be a little heavy for some people. Perhaps I'd expected it to start with "baby steps" and proceed to a trot. The book takes you much further than that. The great news is that being able to utilize Action steps already written by developers eliminates the need for you to learn AppleScript and become a programmer. A lot of the work has already been done for you with more to come.

From the eBook, I developed a real interest and appreciation of what might be accomplished using Automator. The trick to finding this process helpful is to match specific Actions (many of which are available as freeware) to your needs. There are also a number of Action packs available from Automated Workflows and others which solve specific work-related tasks. Better yet, if your work unit has an ongoing need to perform the same task over and over, a custom workflow can be written to accomplish that in the long run could save a lot of time and money.

The example workflows that come with the eBook are easy to follow and help a lot to whet your interest to develop more specific ones to handle your work. The nice part about Automator, you can share Actions and Workflows with associates and even collaborate in building new ones. Or, you can just order ones after trying out a demo version. And then purchase completed workflow packages if they meet your situation.

As is the case with many Mac users, it's easy to take the lazy approach of just jumping in and using software without reading the manual, frequently looking up answers in the index. Since fewer manuals

come with software these days, it's tempting to use this intuitive approach and "figure it out yourself." However, when it comes to improving your productivity with the software you use daily, that's not the way to do it. Often, a complete study of preferences, templates and now, Automator Actions, could improve your results and performance measurably.

If I had one request of the author that might serve our group's needs it would be to break down the Automator book into two versions....one for the user and the other (which would have both sections), for the developer. Were that possible (with a tweak in price), it would make this purchase a "necessity" rather than a "pretty good idea" for anyone using Tiger.

On Wednesday, September 15, Author Ben Walde called and brought me up to date on his book and Automator. At the meeting, his remarks and expectations were covered.

Learning how to use Automator will become even more important in the future as Leopard extends the power of Automator to new highs. I recommend that you take a close look at Ben Walde's book when you get started. You can order the book online at SpiderWorks <http://www.spiderworks.com>

TODAY'S [eTIP\(TM\)](#): Using Raw Files with Tiger, Panther:

In Mac OS X Tiger and Panther (v 10.4 and 10.3, respectively), you don't need to download software for your digital camera. The Mac OS has its own utility called Image Capture (click Applications, Image Capture in Tiger).

Connect your camera to the computer; when you click this utility's icon, a dialog box with your camera's model appears. From here, you have a choice to download some or all of your Raw images (stored in your camera's memory). You can also access a drop-down menu (click Options) with various profiles, including those you've made to calibrate your monitor. (You'll want to use your calibration options when you go to open, edit, and print your images in Photoshop.) After you download the pictures, they're stored in the system's Pictures folder.

For more information like this, get a copy of [Digital Art Photography For Dummies](#), by Matthew Bamberg.

<http://www.lynchburgapplecore.org/>