

# Apple PEALINGS



Have a **BYTE!**

Macintosh Users Group  
www.TheMacClub.org  
Laguna Woods Village Macintosh Club  
Laguna Woods, California

December 2008, Vol 13 Number 11

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No Program in December \*\*\* Look For A Great One in January



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## Board Roster 2008...

|                                                   |           |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Charles Clark, President.....                     | 837- 6080 |
| Email: cclark@comline.com                         |           |
| John Hansen, Vice President.....                  | 830-5260  |
| Email: jhansen@comline.com                        |           |
| Anne Clark, Secretary/Web Manager/Instructor..... | 837-6080  |
| Email: aclark@comline.com                         |           |
| Willem Vermolen, Treasurer.....                   | 472-5002  |
| Email: Wimolen@mac.com                            |           |
| Shell Weinberg, Supervisor/Instructor.....        | 581-8481  |
| Email: shell@comline.com                          |           |
| Gladys Greene, Publication/Supervisor.....        | 768-7700  |
| Email: greenefg77@comline.com                     |           |
| Murray Massin, Board Member.....                  | 837-0878  |
| Email: emngee@comline.com                         |           |
| Ed Egan, Past President .....                     | 859-1938  |
| Email: eegan@fea.net                              |           |
| Bob Payne, Board Member.....                      | 472-0356  |
| Email: bobpayne@aol.com                           |           |
| Fern Lerner, Newsletter Assistant/TLC.....        | 951-8494  |
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| Carol Peterson, Membership .....                  | 586-2720  |
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| Faye Pearl, Supervisor .....                      | 470-9409  |
| Email: fayepearl@comline.com                      |           |
| Ruth Williams, Librarian.....                     | 598-2953  |
| Email: ruthe@comline.com                          |           |
| Ed Fuller, Mailing.....                           | 770-9211  |
| Email jeff12@fea.net                              |           |
| Metche Franke, Assistant Supervisor.....          | 462-9316  |
| Email: metche@comline.com                         |           |

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### Mac Board Associates...

|                                           |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Louise Dawson, Apple Ambassador.....      | Email only |
| Email: yesyoucan@mac.com                  |            |
| Michael Moore, Supervisor/Instructor..... | 770-9796   |
| Email: mikes59@myway.com...               |            |
| Audrey Glenn, Telephone Tree.....         | 588-0656   |
| Email: amglenn@webtv.net                  |            |

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### Mac L. C. Supervisors . . .

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Craig Hoyt, Supervisor.....         | 859-8007 |
| Email: craig@aztech4mac.com         |          |
| Louise Doslu, Supervisor.....       | 855-9010 |
| Email: loeydos@Gmail.com            |          |
| Dennis McGovern, Supervisor.....    | 462-3681 |
| Email: dgovern2@mac.com             |          |
| Ned Read, Assistant Supervisor..... | 457-9190 |
| Email: nedread@comline.com          |          |

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**Board Meetings**.....Tuesday afternoon, 1:15 p.m., following the Thursday General Meeting each month.

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### Important Information...

Mac Learning Center Phone..... 268-2263  
The Mac Club Web Site..... www.TheMacClub.org  
Anne Clark, Web Manager ..... Email: aclark@comline.com

## President's Message...



**Board Matters** Wim Vermolen is now the Mac club's treasurer. Since Wim was the vice president before he assumed the treasurer's position, the board elected John Hansen to be the new vice president.

**Hard Drive Management** All Mac users should know how to use the First Aid features in Disk Utility to maintain their computer files: Repair Disk Permissions and Repair Disk. Repair Disk requires the user to reboot from the System CD and choose the Disk Utility application in the menu bar and then select Repair Disk.

Things can go wrong in your computer without your sensing any problems for a while. Examples include slow opening of files or unusual dialog messages. Last month a member downloaded an iTunes update from Software Update... and ended up losing most of his music files. I assisted him with Repair Disk Permissions. The report was long but repairs were successful. The Repair Disk task reported major disk errors. A second run of Repair Disk repaired the disk. Although this did not restore the music files (his backups did), it would most likely have prevented the problem from occurring.

There is another, easier way to check your hard drive: AppleJack.

**AppleJack**, a free user-friendly troubleshooting assistant, is an old friend, but for a while there was no version for the Intel Macs. Now there is. You can find the software at [applejack.sourceforge.net](http://applejack.sourceforge.net). The Read Me file is a "must read" for all users.

AppleJack allows you to check your disk with one command, or you may choose an interactive method where you can repair your disk (without a separate System CD) and check each user's cache, preferences and permissions. Web browsers generate countless cache files which, over time, will accumulate and affect the hard drive. A few minutes maintenance once a month will keep your Mac snappy.

Cheers.....Charles

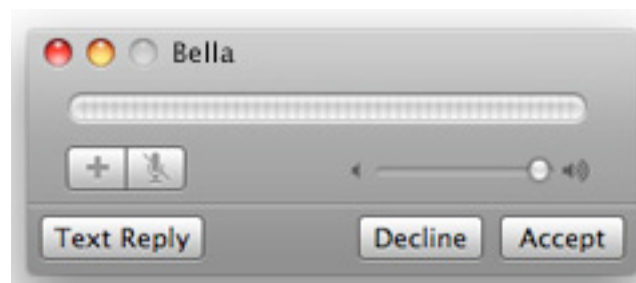
## No Program in December \*\*\* Look For A Great One in January

### **PRO TIP** **ALL ABOUT AUDIO CHATS**

iChat is a great way to communicate and share files in real time with friends and colleagues, whether they're across the hall or around the globe. With iChat, you can conduct text chats with anyone who has a MobileMe, AIM, Jabber, or Google Talk account. And if your Mac is equipped with a built-in iSight camera (or an external iSight or other FireWire camera) you can conduct video chats with up to three buddies at once.

But there's another way to chat: via audio. You can invite as many as nine buddies to an audio chat, which makes it great for group communication. As with video chats, you can record audio chats with permission from the participants. Audio chats are especially useful for interviews, long-distance business meetings, family conferences, and other situations when you'd like to communicate verbally with more than a few people at once, or save an audio record of your conversation.

Audio chats require a built-in microphone or an external mic connected to the audio input port of your computer. If a telephone or camera icon appears beside a name in your buddy list, it means they, too, have the software and hardware needed for an audio chat. (A "stacked" telephone or camera icon indicates that your buddy's computer has enough power to participate in a multiple-person chat.)



To start an audio chat, open iChat and select the buddy or buddies you want to chat with. To choose multiple buddies, hold down the Command key as you click on their names. Then click on the telephone icon at the bottom of your buddy list, or select Invite to Audio Chat under the Buddies menu.

When they receive your invitation, your buddies simply click the Accept button to join the audio chat. All audio chat participants are listed in the chat window along with their buddy pictures. Each participant also has an individual sound level meter, which makes it easier to tell who is talking.

To enable recording in an audio iChat, select Record Chat under the Video menu. A message is sent to all participants asking for their permission to record the chat. To grant audio recording rights for this chat, your buddies click on the Allow button. When participants want to leave the chat, they just close the chat window. Recording stops when the person who initiated the recording exits the chat.

Recorded audio chats are saved by default in the iChats folder in your user's Documents folder. You can change this default location under the General tab of iChat Preferences, and search for saved chats by date or title using Spotlight. You can also play your saved audio (and video) iChats in iTunes.

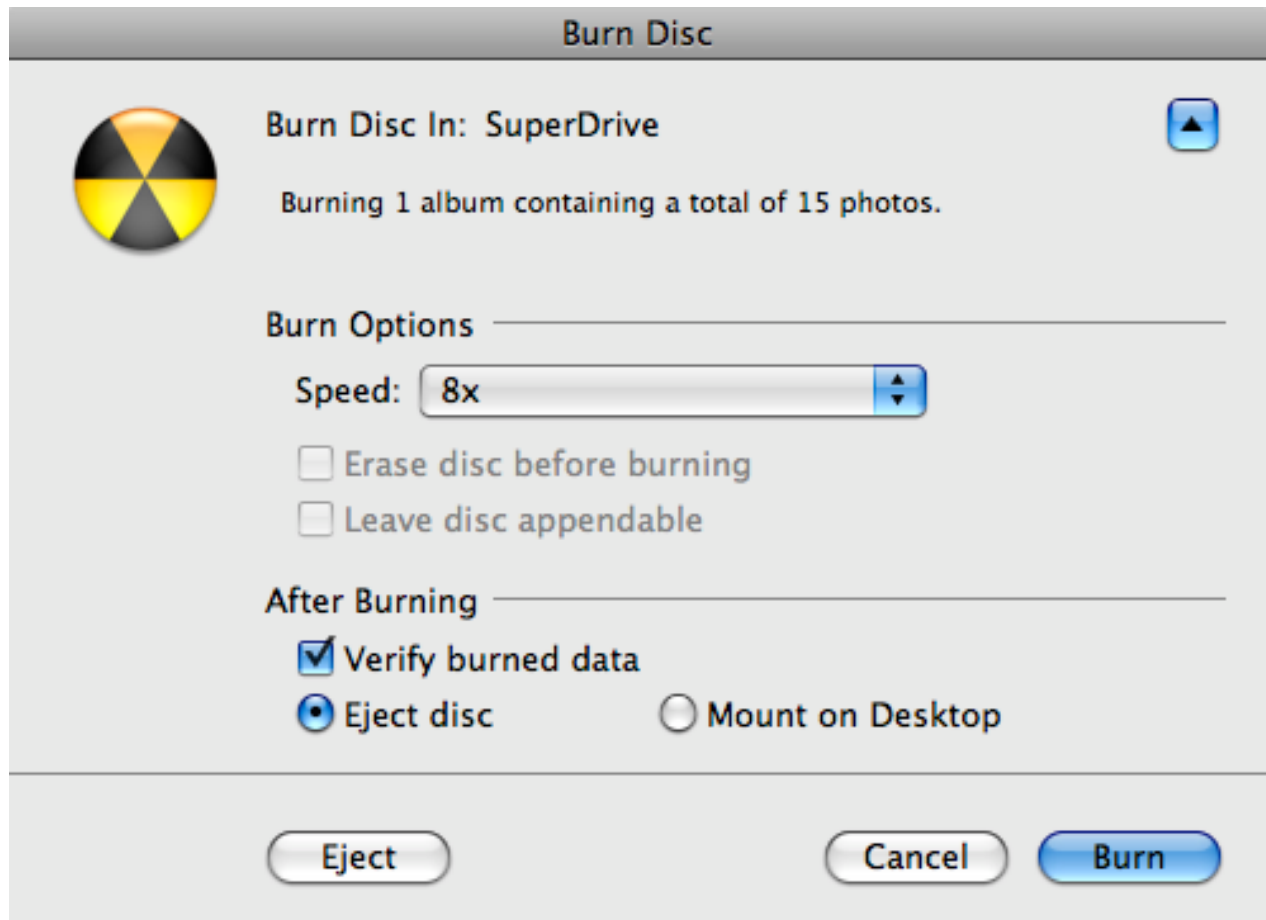
# "Anne's Corner"

"Anne's Corner" for December 2008  
iPhoto'08 CD burn failures? Try burning at a low speed.

When my attempt to burn iPhoto photos to a CD repeatedly failed, I decided to do a Google search. Maybe others had the same problems - and a solution.

The error message had said, "The burn failed because of a medium write error." I typed this sentence into Google's search field and received a page full of links on the subject. After exploring several, including the Apple Support web site, and reading the comments and suggestions, the most repeated solution was to reduce the burn speed.

I decided to try this. In iPhoto, after selecting the photos and choosing Burn from the Share menu, I clicked the blue triangle button in the upper right-hand corner of the Burn Disk dialog box to see more advanced options. Then I selected 8X from the pop-up list of Speed options and clicked the blue Burn button.



The burn was successful.

P. S. If you hover your mouse over the 8X, a yellow note pops up saying:  
Select a slower speed to work around burn failures.

Enjoy!  
Anne Clark

## A Message from the Editor

I, Gladys Greene, have been the Editor of the Apple PEALINGS, Laguna Woods Village Macintosh Club newsletter, all these many years, and I have enjoyed every minute of creating a paper that will hopefully carry information, news, a smile now and then, current names and dates of coming Programs, any changes that our Board has made to make our organization run smoothly, a Calendar of what and when it will be happening in our Learning Center.

All this is being sent to our members by mail or on our Web Site or in a pocket on the wall of the Learning Center. To do this an Editor must have been given the information necessary to fill these pages each month.

I have had wonderful helpful members who are careful to send their information in time to meet the Deadline for proofing, printing, and mailing. But I do need your help to send more interesting material for each issue as it rolls around.

*Please share the pleasure of what you know with all of us. Gratefully, Gladys*



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|  <p><b>iMentor</b><br/>Private Computer Tutoring<br/>Installations and Troubleshooting</p> <p><b>Rick Thues</b></p> <p><b>714-728-3224</b><br/>iMentor@pobox.com</p>  | <p>"When the CHIPS are down"<br/>CALL<br/><b>THE APPLE DOCTOR</b><br/>Steven M. Spiegel</p> <p>Apple II &amp; Macintosh Computers<br/>Repairs, Accessories &amp; Upgrades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State Licensed #E-26047</li><li>• 25 Years Experience</li><li>• By Appointment ONLY</li></ul> <p>6 Mesa Circle<br/>Aliso Viejo, CA 92656<br/>Cell: (949) 683-0323<br/>E-Mail: appledoctor@cox.net</p> |
| <p><a href="http://www.themacclub.org">www.themacclub.org</a><br/><b>www.themacclub.org</b><br/><a href="http://www.themacclub.org">www.themacclub.org</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>AzTech</b><br/>Professional On-Site Service</p> <p><b>Craig Hoyt</b><br/>Macintosh Specialist<br/>261-B Calle Aragon<br/>Laguna Woods, CA 92637</p> <p>Phone: 949-295-2242<br/>craig@aztech4mac.com<br/>www.aztech4mac.com</p>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>West Coast Internet</b></p> <p>Generously providing<br/>high speed cable<br/>connection to the<br/>Mac Learning Center</p> <p>Phone<br/>949.487.3302</p>                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>NetSTAR</b><br/>COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>Generously providing<br/>standard internet<br/>connection to the<br/>Mac Learning Center</p> <p>Phone<br/>888.336.3878</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## iBank 3.0.... Lee Wight md

iBank 3.0, a product of IGG Software, LLC <<http://www.iggsoftware.com>>, positions itself as an alternative to Quicken, Microsoft Money, or other personal finance software. According to their web site, this is the “premier Mac OS X financial application.” This a Leopard-only version; earlier versions are available. iBank 3.0 was named a runner-up for Best Leopard Application in the 2007 Apple Design Awards.

I compared this program directly with Quicken 2007, copying my entire Quicken data file to iBank for test purposes, a process that took about one minute. The interface is quite different from Quicken’s, with more gee-whiz colors and graphs, but displaying roughly the same information. The learning curve would be relatively steep, but probably no more so than for a first-time user of Quicken. The manual, available either as a Help file or as a Preview-friendly PDF file, is excellent. Program features include Cover Flow for transactions, automatic direct downloads from financial institutions (if they support the OFX protocol,) reports and charts with interactive graphs, and the ability to sync with your iPhone or iPod Touch and backup to MobileMe. The company provides free technical assistance via email and an interactive Web user forum.

The charts and graphs are useful, but for me did not always develop correctly, failing to load certain accounts or time periods. The program hiccuped several times, the ever-popular spinning beach ball surfacing after a seemingly simple command, and once it froze completely, necessitating a Force Quit. The direct download worked seamlessly with one account, not with another which I know is OFX-compatible. The program saves every three minutes, unlike Quicken, which saves continuously.

Mileage may vary. On my Intel Core Duo iMac with 2 GB of RAM, the program size and data file size are comparable to Quicken’s, but iBank can be a memory hog, running with 100 to as much as 850 MB of RAM, while Quicken was consuming 70-75.

After a couple of weeks running iBank in parallel with Quicken, it does indeed seem a worthy alternative for someone considering personal financial software for the first time, but probably would not sway most established Quicken users to change. It lists for \$59.99; a free trial is available. The company also produces iBiz, a time-billing and invoicing application (\$49.99) and iPaste, a clipboard enhancer for \$12.99.

Here are the names  
of the Door Prize winners of the  
November, 2008, General meeting,  
in the order drawn:

Murray Massin  
Howard Huang  
Edith Batalis  
Dave Berberian  
Wim Vermolen



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| <i>Ed Fuller</i>        | <i>Mailing</i>        |

## Macintosh Learning Center

--- Shell Weinberg

Laguna Woods Town Centre

Laguna Woods Village Community Center, 3rd floor

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday

### The Learning Center MacApple Library

Today we talk about the exceptional Library our Club maintains in the Learning Center. As you may know, borrowing a book from this special Library is a **privilege** only given to **Mac Club members**.

This Library is special because all the books have information about Macintosh and Apple hardware and related software exclusively. We add at least one new book each month about some popular Mac subject.

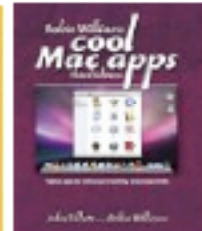
Some of our books have been donated to the Library by members and other folks... and some of the books have been purchased by the Club to keep information fresh and up-to-date. In addition, every month *Peachpit Press* generously gives us one free selection from their extensive catalog of Mac related books.

I will mention a few books you may want to take a look at... maybe even read.

If you are a Beginner or new Mac user you can learn from books by **Robin Williams**. She presents information in an easy to read, non-technical style that should help you learn and understand fundamentals and basics about your Mac and the Operating System.

Some of the Robin Williams books available:

- 359 **The Little Mac Book, Leopard** 2008
- 366 **The Little iMac Book, iMac** 2000
- 344 **Mac OS 10.5, Leopard** 2008
- 348 **cool Mac apps, Applications** 2008



Should you be interested in iLife or iWork:

- 333 **iLife '04 Apple Training** 2004
- 349 **The Macintosh iLife '08** 2008
- 350 **Creating Pages w/iWork** 2006
- 360 **iWork '08, includes 3 apps** 2008



Interested in the iPhone:

- 327 **The iPhone Book** 2008
- 365 **iPhone 3G** 2008



You will also find an excellent selection of books on Photoshop & Photoshop Elements:

- 338 **Photoshop Classic Effects** 2004
- 361 **Photoshop CS2 in 24 hours** 2005
- 353 **Photoshop CS3, Photography** 2008
- 352 **Photoshop Elements 6 Book** 2008
- 354 **Photoshop Elements 6, Teach** 2008



Laguna Woods Village Macintosh Club  
Laguna Woods, CA

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Laguna Woods, CA 92637-7322



*"Happy Holidays"  
Everyone*

## 🍏🍏🍏 Calendar ■ December 2008

|                                                                      |                            |                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * <b>e-Mail / Internet CLASS</b> ( <i>Anne Clark</i> )               | Thursday, December 4       | 1:00 - 3:00 pm                 |
| <b>Learning Center CLOSED</b>                                        | <b>Friday, December 5</b>  |                                |
| * <b>Mac for Dummies &amp; Pages class</b> ( <i>Shell Weinberg</i> ) | Wednesday, December 10     | 1:00 - 3:00 pm                 |
| <b>GENERAL MEETING</b>                                               | <b>No Meeting</b>          |                                |
| <b>Learning Center CLOSED</b>                                        | <b>Friday, December 12</b> |                                |
| <b>BOARD Meeting</b> in Spruce Room ( <i>Adm. Bdg.</i> )             | Tuesday, December 16       | 1:15 - 3:30 pm                 |
| * <b>Photoshop Elements 6 CLASS</b> ( <i>Anne Clark</i> )            | Thursday, December 18      | 1:00 - 3:00 pm                 |
| <b>iMovie Q &amp; A &amp; OS X CLASS</b>                             | <b>No Classes</b>          |                                |
| <b>HOLIDAYS (L.C. CLOSED)</b>                                        | <b>Wednesday - Friday</b>  | <b>December 24 - January 2</b> |

**ALL CLASSES (\*) ARE DROP-IN ..... with a request for a \$2 donation**

Macintosh Computer Learning Center is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. EXCEPT when Classes are given it will be closed, and on **indicated days**.

Schedule subject to change, see <http://www.themacclub.org> for the latest information  
Mac Learning Center telephone number 268-2263