

MugShots

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SEPTEMBER, 2004

Apple Unveils the New iMac G5 World's Thinnest Desktop Computer Features High-Performance G5 Processors

Apple unveiled the new iMac G5, featuring the high-performance G5 processor and a stunning new design that integrates the entire computer right into the flat panel display. The iMac G5 packs a complete computer system into a mere two inches of depth—the world's thinnest desktop computer. The new line offers 17- or 20-inch active matrix widescreen LCDs and G5 processors running up to 1.8 GHz starting at just \$1,299.

“Just like the iPod redefined portable digital music players, the new iMac G5 redefines what users expect from a consumer desktop,” said Philip Schiller, Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Product Marketing. “With the entire system, including a gorgeous 17- or 20-inch display, just two inches thin, a lot of people will be wondering ‘where did the computer go?’”

The new iMac G5 makes the ultimate statement in design simplicity. The entire computer, including the power supply and slot-load optical drive, is built right into the display and rests on a sleek aluminum foot. All the I/O ports line up neatly along the rear right side for easy access, and with optional AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth wireless modules, there's no more cable clutter. With its elegantly thin profile, compact footprint and whisper-quiet operation (less than 25 dB), the new iMac G5 is the perfect fit for any room in the home or office.

The new iMac G5 features the breakthrough performance of the PowerPC G5 processor, as well as numerous system performance improvements designed to help consumers turbocharge their digital lifestyle applications. The 17-inch models come with either a 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a SuperDrive for burning professional-quality DVDs, or a 1.6 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a Combo drive for watching DVD movies and burning CDs. The 20-inch model has a 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor and a SuperDrive.

With a completely redesigned system architecture, the new iMac G5 now offers up to a 600 MHz front-side bus, 400 MHz DDR memory expandable to 2GB, AGP 8X graphics and 7200 rpm Serial ATA drives up to 250GB. The new iMac G5 comes standard with high-performance NVIDIA graphics with dedicated video memory for outstanding graphics performance and realistic game play.

The new iMac G5 was designed to be the perfect computer for iLife '04, Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications. iLife '04, which comes with every new iMac G5, includes iTunes for managing and buying digital music, iPhoto for organizing and sharing digital photos, iMovie for digital movie-making, iDVD for creating and burning Hollywood-style DVDs and GarageBand, a revolutionary music application that turns the iMac G5 into a professional-quality musical instrument and recording studio.

The new iMac G5 desktops offer a total of five USB ports (three USB 2.0) and two FireWire 400 ports for easy plug-and-play connections to popular peripherals such as Apple's market-leading iPod digital music player, digital video camcorders, digital still cameras and printers.

Providing the latest in wireless communications, the new iMac G5 offers an optional internal Bluetooth module and includes a built-in antenna and card slot to support an optional AirPort Extreme Card for 54 Mbps 802.11g fast wireless networking. The new iMac G5 also includes built-in 10/100BASE-T Ethernet and a 56K V.92 modem for fast Internet access.

Mac OS X version 10.3 “Panther” is pre-installed and delivers breakthrough features including iChat AV, an easy to use desktop video conferencing solution; FileVault, which uses the latest security standards and 128-bit encryption technology to ensure that data in the home directory is kept secure; Exposé, a revolutionary new

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Executive Committee Meeting 8 P.M. AHT Lounge	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 General Meeting 7:30 P.M. GCC AHT RM. 500	28	29	30
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From the Editor

Mugsnidge Mutterings

OK, Carole, that's it. No corner for you in this issue. You missed the deadline (I can't go any later than day of printing, ya know.) Now I have to figure out what to write so I can fill this whole entire page. Hmmmm...

One of our members is becoming quite famous. Lisa Rysinger, the presenter this evening, has written her own book on digital video, and will be signing copies at the meeting tonight. She has done several presentations in the past, and is a very interesting speaker. Digital video on a Mac is really quite easy if you know the basics, and her book covers all areas from the basics to the professionals. We are very proud that she is a member of our group. She has run her video-production business from Macs since its inception, at that time using a Power Mac 8100/100. Be sure to ask her when she's using now...



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The big talk in the Apple world is the new G5 iMac, and this editor will not be left behind. There are two articles in this issue, one on the cover (oh, you've seen that one already?) and the one about the Time Magazine "Gadget of the Year." Can you believe that just a few short years ago the rumor was that Apple was through? Finished? Kaput? Hah!

Apple stock has gone up, up, and up. Don't you wish you had bought it when it was \$12.50? Now it's... (let me check)... \$38.04 as of yesterday's close. TRIPLED your money, you would have. I didn't either, so don't feel too bad.

We should all feel proud of our support of Apple, but that's not why we assemble. We're a helping organization, which means that our principal concern is the education and enlightenment of all Mac users. We have plans afoot to start a few SIGs (Special Interest Groups) to educate members in particular areas of interest and, of course, areas of ignorance (we all have those, too, don't we?). Our presenter this evening is one of those special people who have taken the mandate personally. She has already run her own digital video sig for MUGSNJ and other user groups, and has contributed a considerable amount of her personal time to this end. If you have ANY interest in "making home movies" (which is the old-fashioned phraseology for digital video), buy the book, get it autographed (it may be worth big bucks some day).

I personally have only dabbled in video, but I have this really nice Canon video camera. One of my voice students noticed it sitting around the family music studio and commented, "Wow, that's a really good one!" So it sits and waits for Nate to find some "extra" time to read the manual and go about making some "home movies" for relatives and posterity.

Some days I wish I had more geeky inclinations, but, alas, my great passion, I have to admit, is not computers, but music. You'll probably say, "But the Mac is perfect for doing music, what with iTunes, Garage Band, and all the commercial music software available..."

But can it play trombone, or direct a choir, or sing? Well, yes, it can sing, and I have used it to create and print out instrumental parts when needed. So I have to admit that I have SOME geeky tendencies, but I become completely bogged when it comes down to the details of stuff like .mac, GarageBand, iDVD, and many other items too numerous to mention.

You have to sit and figure stuff out, and that's where I have difficulty. Sometimes I think I may be ADD, but then I can sit for hours and work on this newsletter, so maybe it's just "sporadic" ADD, or maybe I just run out of patience.

When I retire I'll have lots of time to catch up on all these "details" that I've had to leave behind because of other daily necessities, passions, and demands. (By the time I "retire" I'll be so far behind it will take years of geekism to accomplish that goal.) I have two teenage daughters at home, and have at least seven more years of educational support to provide before I can even consider retiring.

But the passions I refer to above are all labors of love (passion-love, get it?). Love always includes some measure of frustration. They spill over the number of hours in a day. I find myself missing meals on occasion (not a bad thing when you want to lose a few pounds). When I do have the rare opportunity to relax, it's not in front of my Mac. It's in front of the TV watching the Phillies or a DVD movie.

We have a subscription to NetFlix, so there's always a movie laying around, and most of them get watched by other family members while I'm busy doing other things according to whatever priority has arisen at that particular moment.

I'll use the rose garden photos in next month's issue. Hey! How about a column for members' non-Mac interests? Write one, already!

Members On Line

This column deleted in deference to members' privacy.

SITES WORTH THE SURF (6/04)

Frank Petrie, MaMUGs etc

Mac News

Macintosh News Network <www.macnn.com>
 MacSurfer Headline News <www.macsurfer.com>
 MacInTouch <www.macintouch.com>
 MacCentral <maccentral.macworld.com>
 AppleAudio.com <www.appleaudio.com>
 MacMinute <www.macminute.com>
 SpyMac <www.spymac.com>

Help and Information

MacFixIt <www.macfixit.com>
 Apple Forums <www.apple.com/discussions>
 Leoville <leoville.com>
 MacNN Forums <forums.macnn.com>
 MUGSNJ Message Board <www.mugsnj.org/links.html>
 Rich Levin's BBS <bbs.rblevin.net:8080/~rblevin>

Books

Peachpit Books <www.peachpit.com>
 O'Reilly Press <.oreilly.com>
 Pogue's Pages <www.poguepress.com>
 Barnes & Noble.com <www.bn.com>
 Amazon.com <www.amazon.com>

Hardware

The Apple Store <www.apple.com>
 Small Dog Electronics <www.smalldog.com>
 OWC <www.macsales.com>
 MacMall <www.macmall.com>
 MegaHaus <megahaus.com>
 J & R <www.jandr.com>
 PowerMax <www.powermax.com>
 WiebeTech <www.wiebetech.com>

GarageBand

Apple Garage <www.applegarage.com>
 GarageBandExchange <www.garagebandexchange.com>
 Click. Mix. Jam. GarageBand. <www.soniccat.com>

iPods

everythingipod <www.everythingipod.com>
 iPod Lounge <www.ipodlounge.com>
 iPoding <www.ipoding.com>
 iSkin.biz <iskinbiz.wbht.com>

Software

Konfabulator! <www.konfabulator.com>
 OS X Hax <www.osxhax.com>
 VersionTracker <www.versiontracker.com>
 ZDNet Downloads <downloads-zdnet.com.com>
 MacUpdate <macupdate.com>
 Macintosh Products Guide <guide.apple.com/index.lasso>
 Apple Software <www.apple.com/software>
 Rogue Amoeba <www.rogueamoeba.com>
 Script Software <www.scriptsoftware.com>
 Konfabulator! <www.konfabulator.com>
 Inferiis <www.inferiis.com>

Phun

Driveways of the Rich and Famous <www.driveways.com>
 The Onion <www.theonion.com>
 Dave TV <www.cbs.com/latenight/lateshow/dave_tv>
 Find A Grave <www.findagrave.com>
 Northern Sun <northernsun.com>
 The Free Site.com <www.thefreesite.com/>
 The Late, Late Show <www.cbs.com/latenight/latelate>
 "Visite Virtuelle" of the Louvre
 <www.louvre.fr/anglais/visite/vis_f.htm>
 MacBoy.com <www.macboy.com/cartoons/ipod/index.html>
 Hangers.com <www.hangers.com>

How to Protect Yourself From Vandals, Viruses If You Use Windows

By WALTER S. MOSSBERG

If you use a Windows personal computer to access the Internet, your personal files, your privacy and your security are all in jeopardy. An international criminal class of virus writers, hackers, digital vandals and sleazy businesspeople wakes up every day planning to attack your PC.

And the company that controls the Windows platform, Microsoft, has made this too easy to do by carelessly opening numerous security holes in the operating system and its Web browser. Even if you install the recent Service Pack 2 update to Windows XP, you will still be vulnerable.

As I have said before, I believe Microsoft and the computer makers should be taking care of all these problems with a unified, managed approach that would free users from having to learn about all the threats and constantly manage security. They should take responsibility for shielding users from hackers, spammers, viruses and spyware — the malicious software that hijacks your browsing and searching, pushes ads into your face, and secretly logs your activities.

But until that happens, you will have to fend for yourself. So here's a quick, rudimentary guide to protecting yourself in the digital world.

Opting out: The single most effective way to avoid viruses and spyware is to simply chuck Windows altogether and buy an Apple Macintosh. Apple's operating system, Mac OS X, is harder for the criminals to infect, and the Mac's market share is so small that hackers, virus writers and spies get little thrill, financial gain or publicity from attacking the platform.

There has never been a successful virus written for Mac OS X, and there is almost no spyware that targets the Mac. Plus, the Mac is invulnerable to viruses and spyware written for Windows. Not only is it more secure, but the Mac operating system is more capable, more modern and more attractive than Windows XP, and just as stable.

Macs are as good as, and often better than, Windows PCs at doing the most common computing tasks: Web browsing, e-mail, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, photos, music and video. The Mac version of Microsoft Office can handle Windows Office files with ease, and it produces files that Office for Windows handles effortlessly. Apple's computers are also gorgeous.

But switching platforms is expensive, and scary to people. So if you're sticking with Windows, read on.

Halting hackers: Buy a software firewall program, one that won't only stop hackers trying to get

in but will also halt suspicious programs already on your PC from trying to send information out over the Internet. The one I recommend is ZoneAlarm, a free utility from Zone Labs, available at www.zonelabs.com. Use it instead of the wimpier built-in firewall Microsoft supplies.

If you have a broadband connection or a home network, make sure your modem or router (a common piece of networking gear) is equipped with a feature called NAT, or Network Address Translation. This technology makes it harder for criminals on the Internet to find your computers. Even if you have NAT, however, I still recommend you have a software firewall program, because NAT doesn't block every attack.

Curing viruses: You must run a strong antivirus program, and keep it updated, even if updates cost money. I recommend Norton AntiVirus (the stand-alone program, not the cumbersome security suite). It's very effective, and its automatic update system is the best I've ever tested. It costs \$50, including a year of updates.

Stopping spyware: Since antivirus programs don't attack spyware, you will need to run, and keep updating, a separate piece of software called an antispymware program. I recommend Spy Sweeper from Webroot software, at www.webroot.com. It costs \$30, including a year of updates. Like an antivirus program, it not only detects and removes spyware already on your PC, but also watches for, and blocks, new spyware.

Stuffing spam: Buy a decent antispam program. I know of none that is close to perfect, but the best is probably MailFrontier Desktop, available for \$30 at www.mailfrontier.com. If you're really fed up, you can turn on the "challenge" feature in this program, which forces unknown senders to pass a simple test that baffles the mass-mailing software spammers use.

Browsing safely: I suggest dumping Microsoft's Internet Explorer Web browser, which has a history of security breaches. I recommend instead Mozilla Firefox, which is free at www.mozilla.org. It's not only more secure but also more modern and advanced, with tabbed browsing, which allows multiple pages to be open on one screen, and a better pop-up ad blocker than the belated one Microsoft recently added to IE.

Being careful: Never download software from the Web unless you are certain you know what it is and that you want and need it. If a Web site says

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COLSA Corporation

Taking Apple Xserve to MACH5

By Barbara Gibson

When the Hypersonic Missile Technology (HMT) team at COLSA Corporation and the U.S. Army need to model hypersonic flight on a computer system, they'll no longer have to wait two months to get results.

The HMT team, headed by senior scientist Dr. John Medeiros, now has access to one of the world's largest and most powerful computers: a supercluster of 1,566 64-bit, dual-processor Apple Xserve G5 servers.

Called MACH5—an acronym for Multiple Advanced Computers for Hypersonics—the Apple cluster “gives us more than 60 times the computational power of our current production machine,” says Medeiros. What used to take two months can now be done in a day.

“Once you have that kind of computational power,” Medeiros adds, “you can look at things with higher resolution and see other problems you want to investigate. Plus you can tackle much larger problems.”

25+ Teraflops

Medeiros and the COLSA team chose the Xserve-based supercluster to model the complex aero-thermodynamics of hypersonic flight for the Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) of the U.S. Army at nearby Redstone Arsenal. Working with the COLSA team, Drs. Billy Walker and Kevin Kennedy of RDECOM conduct leading-edge analysis of hypersonic flight for a number of important military programs.

At its peak, the supercluster can exceed 25 teraflops—calculating more than 25 trillion floating-point operations per second. By comparison, the world's fastest computer—NEC's \$350 million Earth Simulator—runs at a peak speed of 40 teraflops. A single person using a hand-held calculator—without pausing to eat or sleep—would need more than two million years to calculate

what the Apple supercluster can calculate in a single second.

Modeling Hypersonic Flight

“With the kind of computations we can do with the G5s, we can better understand and model hypersonic flight conditions for missiles and scramjet engines,” Medeiros says. Scramjets are experimental, air-breathing engines that can power systems to speeds in excess of Mach 6 in the upper atmosphere.

“NASA is interested in scramjet engines as a cheaper way to get into orbit,” says Medeiros. “Also, in terms of high-speed travel, scramjets may provide a means to achieve very high-speed global

transport.”

Medeiros' team and RDECOM will also use the supercluster to improve the design of intercept missiles that defend against attack.

“With this kind of power, we can expect to design scramjet engines and missiles in a more economical way with significant reduction in wind tunnel testing and in the number of very expensive flight tests,” says Medeiros.

“A single person using a hand-held calculator—without pausing to eat or sleep—would need more than two million years to calculate what the Apple supercluster can calculate in a single second.”



One of the world's largest and most powerful computers: a supercluster of 1,566 64-bit, dual-processor Apple Xserve G5 servers.

Cables Clarified—Chapter One

While there is certainly a wide variety of cables and standards out there, all cables share certain properties, and a good understanding of cable construction and technical designations is always helpful.

Generally speaking, almost all cables fall into one of two basic classes, which we will refer to as "data cables" and "coaxial cables." This article will look at both groups, how they are constructed, and what the various specifications mean.

Data Cabling

Data cabling, in various forms, includes a wide range of computer cables, including serial, USB, SCSI, networking, and even phone cords. Generally speaking, data cables all have a similar, relatively straightforward, construction. They are comprised of one or more insulated copper wires surrounded by a PVC jacket, with connectors attached at either end. The signal travels through the wires inside in the form of a low-voltage electrical current. To prevent interference, an aluminum foil shield is often wrapped around the wires inside the jacket.

Here are some of the many connectors you will see on data cables:

- DB-9 (serial)
- USB (A type)
- DB-25 Male (parallel)
- RJ-11 (phone)
- DB-25 Female (serial)
- RJ-45 (network)
- HD-15 (VGA)
- HPD68 (SCSI III)
- MiniDin 6 (PS/2 keyboard)

Being able to recognize different connectors and knowing their names can be very helpful when trying to order cables. For example, a "USB cable" could have any one of four different connectors on it, depending on how it will be used. A "SCSI III cable" gets even worse. Therefore, it is important to know the technical name of each connector that is on the cable.

Beyond the connectors, of course, is the wiring inside. Here again, it is helpful to be able to read the often cryptic technical descriptions and designators.

Here is a typical line you might find on a spec page or stamped on the outer jacket.

**9C 28AWG + DRAIN 26AWG WIRE,
W/AL-FOIL, BEIGE OUTER PVC JACKET
UL2464 80c 300V E219485.**

The first designation is 9C. That indicates that there are 9 connected wires inside this cable (a typ-

ical 9-pin serial cable). Each of these wires is 28AWG. AWG, or "American Wire Gauge", is a standard measurement classification for copper wiring; the lower the number, the thicker the cable. 28 AWG is common for computer data cables, although some cables require a slightly thicker wire (network cables, for example, require 24 AWG). The description above also indicates a "drain wire" that is 26AWG. In essence, this is a ground wire.

The designation "w/AL-Foil" indicates that there is an aluminum foil shield around the wires, again, a common construction with computer data cables (but less common in phone or network cables).

The "UL2464" style mark (also often written as "AWM 2464") indicates that this is a wire generally designated as an "external interconnect cable". UL stands for "Underwriters Laboratories", an internationally recognized safety certification lab. Almost all electrical components on the market today are UL-certified (you can find a UL sticker on the bottom of any power strip, lamp, or extension cord on the market). Following the UL style number is a rated operating temperature (this cable is rated for up to 80 degrees Celsius) and voltage rating (300V). Finally, in the example above, there's a UL file number. Generally written as a letter "E" with five or six digits following it, the presence of this number indicates that Underwriter's Laboratories has certified this manufacturer to build this style of cable; this cable is, therefore, "UL Listed." You can look up the UL certification for any UL file number by visiting <http://www.ul.com/> and clicking on the "Certifications" link.

To Be Continued...

How to Protect Yourself

Continued from page 5

you need some special plug-in to view things, be very wary. Common viewer software, like that from Real Networks, Apple or Macromedia, should be obtained from those companies' official sites.

Staying current: You should probably install Microsoft's new SP2 update, which does improve Windows security — although it has caused serious problems for a minority of Windows users. And you should install all the "critical updates" Microsoft issues for Windows.

Bottom line: If you use Windows, you're asking for trouble. But you can mitigate the risk by taking precautions.

Product Review

Total Training for Adobe Photoshop CS

Running Time: 24 Hours, 7 DVDs

Company: <http://totaltraining.com>

Price: \$299 (UG Pricing 25% off till October 31, 2004)

System Requirements: DVD Player

Experience Level: Beginner through Advanced

Warranty: Money-Back Guarantee

Reviewer Rating: 4.5 Apples out of 5

Reviewer: Maria O. Arguello

I have been a user of the Total Training series for Adobe Photoshop since version 6. Deke McClelland has proved to be an outstanding teacher with his very entertaining and informative lessons. Every Adobe Photoshop user, whatever is their level of experience or expertise, can get huge benefits from this series. The lessons are very carefully scripted and they include every possible feature of Photoshop CS. Each new version of Photoshop is always full of new features, which can take years to master unless you have and use the Total Training series to help you learn faster. The bonus DVD is full of tips and tricks and more advanced techniques.

Many digital cameras today have the capacity to capture camera RAW files. Photoshop CS is capable of opening these images to get higher quality output by working with the complete RAW data files. RAW has many formats and it may not be read 100% correctly by certain third-party software.

Deke uses the image of a peacock to illustrate how photos taken in camera RAW are corrected with Photoshop CS. The peacock was a perfect choice because of its colorful plumage. He opened a camera RAW file and used the camera RAW dialog to enhance the plumage colors by way of the advanced "Calibration" tab that allows you to fine tune the hue and saturation of each individual color channel, without affecting others. The "Adjust" tab of the RAW dialog Box also has exposure, brightness, and contrast sliders. Once he finished with the adjustments, he opened a JPEG photo of the peacock to compare the two images. The RAW photo that was corrected appears more colorful than the JPEG due to Photoshop's ability to perform more editing tasks on 16-bit-per-channel files, as well as up to 56 channels per photo. He explains how the JPEG image can also be color corrected using Levels and Hue/Saturation but working with the complete image file gives better results. It's like working with the negative.

Not having had any personal experience with camera RAW, I would have liked Deke to explain, how to bring a camera RAW photo from the camera into Photoshop. In Total Training the photo is already in a file. But how does one get it into Photoshop? I decided to try it on my own and found out that I had an older version of the RAW plug-in

not compatible with my camera. As soon as I updated the plug-in I could open a RAW image. My digital camera Sony DSC-828 is one of the cameras supported by the Photoshop CS Camera RAW plug-in.

Match color is a new feature in Photoshop CS that instantly matches the color balance of one image to another. Deke chose photos of two skulls. He wanted to apply the correct color balance of the first image to the second image. He selected the first image as the source in the Color Match dialog box and the second as the target. Once he corrected the photo, he made some minor adjustments until he was satisfied. Deke advises that if you don't like your result; start over because Match Color can't be applied as nondestructive adjustment layers.

Deke chose a photo of his two sons to illustrate how to correct a photo, which may be too yellow or too blue. The challenge becomes correcting colors inside an image with minimum damage something that can't be accomplished with Match Color and Shadow/Highlight. The secret lies in choosing Image>Adjustments>Variations. In variations you can add more blue or yellow to correct the photo. You can also adjust the intensity and the opacity until you are satisfied. The end result was a great photo of his sons from an image that was too yellow in the beginning.

Adobe Photoshop CS is the latest version of this powerful digital image editing software package. It works seamlessly with the rest of Adobe's creative software programs and is very rich in new features, including an improved File Browser, an intelligent Histogram Palette, Shadow and Highlight Corrections, multi-image color matching, and editable text on paths and in shapes.

One of the best ways to take advantage of it all is by viewing and working with the highly entertaining, unforgettable, and enjoyable series presented by the one and only Deke McClelland. He is a true Photoshop expert and renowned author of such titles as The Photoshop Bible and Photoshop for Dummies. You learn all about editing photos, removing red-eye, and developing professional-level image editing and design skills from the best and with confidence.

The index for each DVD allows you to pick and choose any specific lesson, so you don't have to take them in sequence. An hour a day with Total Training for Photoshop CS will make you a proficient user of the premier—the best and most powerful digital image editing software package from Adobe.

Don't walk, but run to purchase this valuable series if you are an Adobe Photoshop CS user. I give it 4.5 out of 5 apples.

Continued on next page

Time Magazine's Gadget of the Week

By **WILSON ROTHMAN**

It has been a good year for Apple. Since the beginning of 2004, I've discussed GarageBand, AirPort Express and the latest iPod. If you go back 12 months, you can probably even throw in iTunes Music Store, the original G5 and the official release of iChat AV. This isn't favoritism, I'm just impressed. Rather than spend money on its silly "Switch" ad campaign, the company has spent it inventing actual reasons for people to switch from Windows to Mac, not least of all personal style. The iMac G5 is super suave, but it's also a pretty good deal.

If you're big enough of an Apple fan to own an iPod, you probably already have a good idea of what the iMac G5 is all about: the familiar white sheen, the brushed metal L-shaped stand, the brilliant widescreen LCD. Throw in Apple's wireless Bluetooth keyboard and mouse and you've got a scene of Kubrickian merits. Only the cable that runs from computer to an iPod (or printer or digital camera or PDA) disrupts the sci-fi harmony. In terms of actual computing power, it occupies a nice space between the PowerBooks and the dual-processor G5 PowerMac.

The coolest enhancement you may not have heard about is the automatic Mac-to-Mac upgrade software. When you start the iMac for the first time, it asks "Do you already have a Mac?" If you say yes, it asks what kind and then, if it qualifies (running OSX, has native FireWire support, etc.), it asks you to connect a FireWire cable. It then sucks all of the pertinent account information, favorites, applications and documents from the old computer to the new one, virtually cloning it head to toe. I tried the migration with a PowerBook that had about 5GB of personalized data, and it only took 15 minutes or so

before the iMac was up and running everything the PowerBook was meant to. Only one application needed to be re-registered, and the software even told me which one that was. I don't know much about the legal side of software licensing, but moving even expensive apps (we won't name names) was frighteningly easy. By the way, none of the data on the older Mac is harmed in the process.

One of the big PC trends right now is the "desktop replacement," that is, a notebook with a big screen and a processor meant to be plugged in: they don't get very far on batteries, but as a fully enclosed system with integrated wireless networking, they're far more convenient around the house. The trouble is, every notebook is more expensive than its similarly powered desktop-PC equivalent. The new iMac is the "desktop replacement" replacement: most of the positive notebook attributes (except, of course, that you wouldn't take it to Starbucks) with a much smaller price tag.

When I say smaller price tag, I don't mean it's cheap. In fact, if you opt for the Bluetooth kit (short-range wireless networking) and its compatible wireless keyboard and mouse, you will pay an extra \$100 (Bluetooth kit alone is \$50). To make sure your purchase makes sense in a year, you'd probably opt for the middle or higher of the three models, because of the processing power and also because of the SuperDrive, which can burn DVDs as well as CDs.

Even after a lot of customization, the 17-in. iMac G5 is still perhaps \$1,000 less expensive than the 17-in. G4 PowerBook it outperforms. So, if the reason you're shopping for a notebook is so you can use it at the kitchen table (or even at your house but also your summer rental), save some money and put the rest into the iMac G5.

Product Review: Total Training for Adobe Photoshop CS

Continued from previous page

About the reviewer:

Maria O. Arguello has been a Pennsylvania resident since 1970. She is a native of Nicaragua but became an American citizen in 1964. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Loyola University of New Orleans and her Master of Science degree from West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Since retiring from the Philadelphia School System as a science teacher and science department head, her newfound time has allowed her to become more involved with her Mac and the User Group Community. Maria is president and vendor liaison of the Main Line Macintosh Users Group (MLMUG), where she has also served as member-at-



large and as special events coordinator. She is an active member of several MUGs, including the Macintosh User Group of Southern New Jersey (MUGSNJ); Princeton Macintosh User Group (PMUG), where she serves as a board member; South Jersey Apple User Group (SJAUG); the Macintosh Business Users Society (MacBUS), where she served as secretary for a year; and Macs at PACS. She is a member of the Apple Consultants Network and the Online Apple Regional Liaison. Maria enjoys learning about the diversity of the user group community and loves to attend conferences for the Mac to represent her home group, MLMUG.

Apple Introduces iMac G5

Continued from front page

way to instantly view all open windows; Instant On, which wakes the computer from sleep in just one second; and Automatic Networking, which automatically switches the network connections between Ethernet, 802.11 wireless and modem.

The new iMac G5 also comes with a collection of productivity, learning and entertainment titles including AppleWorks, Quicken 2004 for Mac, WorldBook Encyclopedia 2004 Edition, Nanosaur 2 and MarbleBlast Gold. Everything you need for your digital lifestyle is included right out of the box.

Pricing & Availability

The new iMac G5 line will begin shipping worldwide in mid-September through the Apple Store (www.apple.com), at Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers.

The new iMac G5, for a suggested retail price of \$1,299 (US), includes:

- 17-inch widescreen LCD with 1440-by-900 pixels;
- 1.6 GHz 64-bit PowerPC G5 processor;
- 256MB of 400 MHz DDR SDRAM;
- Combo (DVD-ROM/CD-RW) optical drive;
- NVIDIA GeForce FX 5200 Ultra graphics processor with 64MB video memory;
- Two FireWire 400, three USB 2.0, two USB 1.1 ports;
- 10/100 BASE-T Ethernet networking, 56K V.92 Modem;
- Internal support for AirPort Extreme wireless networking and Bluetooth;
- 80GB Serial ATA hard drive running at 7200 rpm; and
- Built-in stereo speakers and microphone.

The new iMac G5, for a suggested retail price of \$1,499 (US), includes:

- 17-inch widescreen LCD with 1440-by-900 pixels;
- 1.8 GHz 64-bit PowerPC G5 processor;
- 256MB of 400 MHz DDR SDRAM;
- SuperDrive (DVD-R/CD-RW) optical drive;
- NVIDIA GeForce FX 5200 Ultra graphics processor with 64MB video memory;
- Two FireWire 400, three USB 2.0, two USB 1.1 ports;
- 10/100 BASE-T Ethernet networking, 56K V.92 Modem;
- Internal support for AirPort Extreme wireless networking and Bluetooth;
- 80GB Serial ATA hard drive running at 7200 rpm; and
- Built-in stereo speakers and microphone.

The new iMac G5, for a suggested retail price of \$1,899 (US), includes:

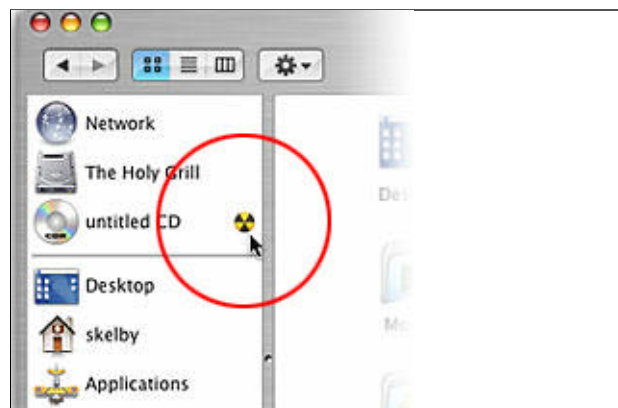
- 20-inch widescreen LCD with 1680-by-1050 pixels;
- 1.8 GHz 64-bit PowerPC G5 processor;
- 256MB of 400 MHz DDR SDRAM;
- SuperDrive (DVD-R/CD-RW) optical drive;
- NVIDIA GeForce FX 5200 Ultra graphics processor with 64MB video memory;
- Two FireWire 400, three USB 2.0, two USB 1.1 ports;
- 10/100 BASE-T Ethernet networking, 56K V.92 Modem;
- Internal support for AirPort Extreme wireless networking and Bluetooth;
- 160GB Serial ATA hard drive running at 7200 rpm; and
- Built-in stereo speakers and microphone.

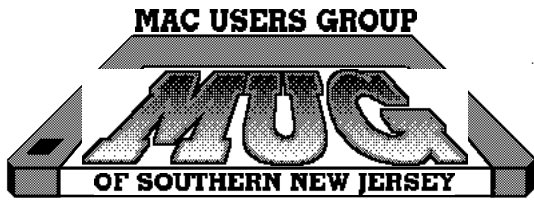
Build-to-order options and accessories include up to 2GB of RAM, 160GB and 250GB hard drives, AirPort Extreme Card, AirPort Express and AirPort Extreme Base Station, internal Bluetooth module, Apple Wireless Keyboard and Apple Wireless Mouse, and the AppleCare Protection Plan.

The new iMac G5 systems, including a new configuration without an optical drive, are also available to education customers in the US and Canada through the Apple Store for Education at www.apple.com/education/store or by calling an Apple education sales representative at 800-800-APPLE.

Tip: Burning a CD Right From Your Finder Window

If you've loaded a blank CD (or a DVD) into your Mac, you'll see it appear in the Sidebar of any open Finder window. You'll also notice a little Burn button appears to the right of the blank CD's name (which is "untitled CD" by default). So now, when you're ready to burn that disc (maybe you're using this disc to back up some files), you can simply press the tiny Burn button that appears right within the Sidebar. Burning doesn't get much more convenient than that.





Membership Application

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular (\$20) | <input type="checkbox"/> GCC Staff (\$10) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Collegiate (\$10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$25) | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal (\$____) | <input type="checkbox"/> GCC Student (Free) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (\$15) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate/Institutional* |

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____ Fax _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____ Fax _____

Send mailings to: Home Address Employer Address

How did you learn about MUGSNJ? _____

At which user level would you classify yourself? Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Computers owned _____ Computers used _____

Current OS _____ Other software experience _____

Special interests: Desktop Pub./Graphics Video Communications Beginner Mtgs.

Other _____

I'll help with these positions: Membership Newsletter Program Hospitality

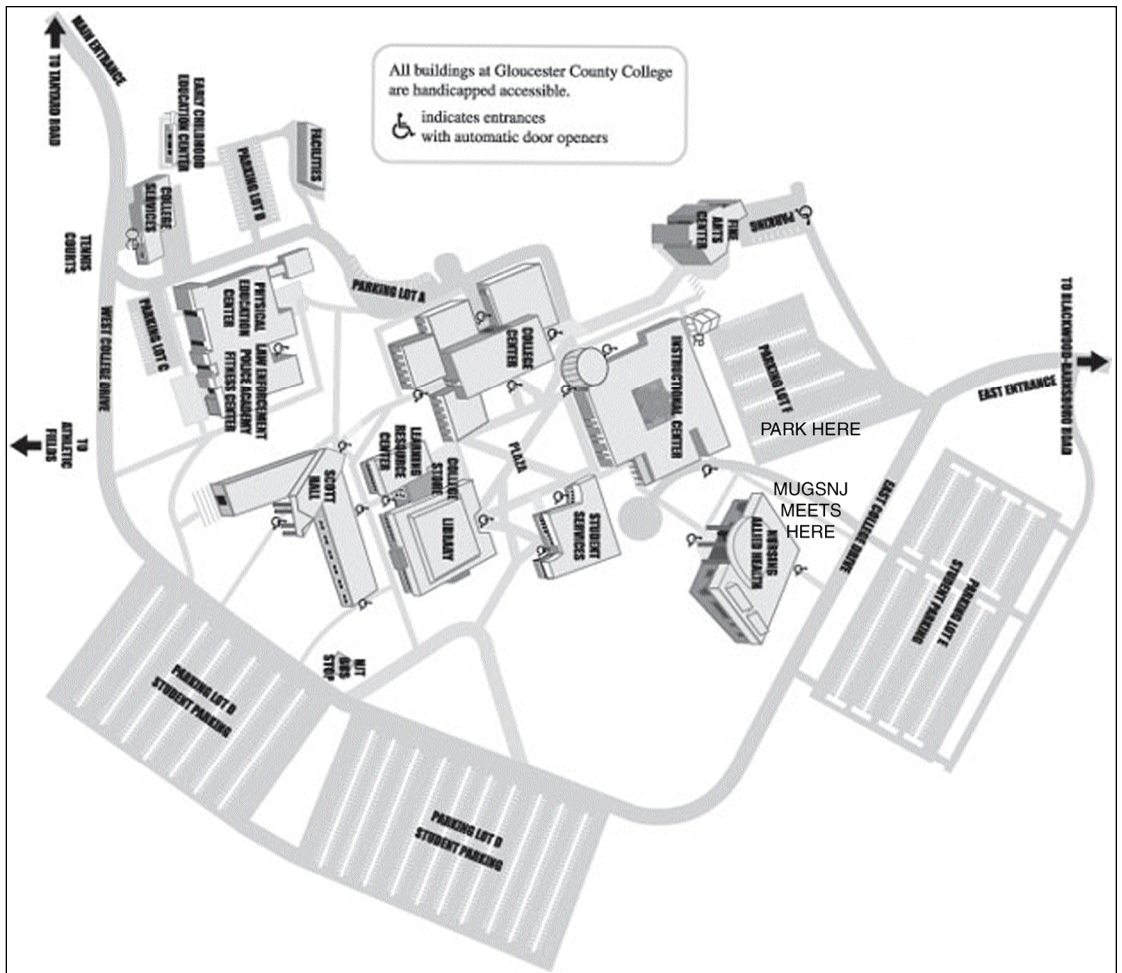
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Hardware and software assistance
- Info on the latest software and upgrades
- "MUGSHOTS" newsletter available at meetings
- Notices of Macintosh events
- Special interest groups (SIGs)
- Meet great people!

***NOTE:** Corporate/Institutional memberships are granted by approval of the Executive Committee of MUGSNJ, and are based on the number of memberships requested by the corporation/institution as well as its non-profit status.

Gloucester County College Campus Map

MUG General Meetings are held in the Auditorium, Room 500, of the Allied Health and Technology Building at 7:30 pm on the last Wednesday of each month. In the event the last Wednesday precedes a holiday, the meeting is held a week earlier. **Executive Committee Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Lounge adjacent to Room 502.



Mug Shots

SEPTEMBER, 2004

Macintosh Users Group of Southern New Jersey
Gloucester County College
Liberal Arts Department
1400 Tanyard Road
Sewell, NJ 08080-9518
Phone: 856-468-5000 ext. 6445

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 7:30 P.M.
WACOM GRAPHICS
TABLETS
BE THERE OR MISS OUT!