

Grand Mac SIG Newsletter



November 2011 Volume VI Number 6



Grand Mac SIG November 21 Meeting 4:30 PM Apache Room Mac Holiday Gifts - What to Give & What to Ask For



Mac Holiday Gifts

Always stymied about what to give family & friends who are Mac users? The

Monday, November 21 presentation will be on "Mac Holiday Gifts - What to Give & What to Ask For." We will give you great suggestions on Mac holiday gifts, some of which may be obvious (like a new Mac), others which you may not have even thought about.

A hand-out will be given which gives information on where and how to obtain this information, plus up-to-date prices for these gifts. This presentation will be done by our Mac SIG volunteers.

If you have some of your own additional ideas for Mac gifts, please email them to us at: mac@grandcomputers.org

Rita Skarbek will be giving a short intro to the new iPhone 4S, which would be a dandy holiday gift!

If your family is like ours, they are always looking for gifts for friends, parents, grandparents, or grandkids. And with Mac's surging popularity, there will be something for everyone to drool about!

Please join us and invite your friends and neighbors to this special presentation on Mac holiday gifts! See you on November 21 at 4:30 PM.





Welcome New Mac SIG Members

Welcome to these new Mac users since October:
James & Jane Conway,
Nancy and Roger Harrison,
Don Holliday, Art & Bev
Kleinfelder, Don & Jan Martinex, Howard &
Martha McGill, Carol Pheifer, Kathleen
Pietradoni, Roger & Rebecca Price,

Chris Schnier, Jim Shadwick, Richard & Diane Vick, and Don Zimbrick.

There are 124 Mac users on our list to date. We send informational emails to about 250 Mac users, many of whom are couple emails.

There are 567 members in the Grand Computer Club. The 124 Mac members are 21% of the club. Encourage your Mac friends to either join or renew their memberships at

www.grandcomputers.org



How to Buy a Mac or a PC

The Grand Mac SIG will present "How to Buy a Mac" on Thursday, November 10 at the GCC Coffee Chat at 8:30 AM in the Hopi Room, Chaparral Center. This will be part of a presentation covering purchasing both PCs and Macs.

Our portion will cover the five types of Macs available: iMac, 2 laptops (MacBook Pro, MacBook Air), Mac Mini, and Mac Pro. Then various options for increasing the processor, hard drive, memory, etc., will be given. A question and answer period will follow the presentation. All Sun City Grand residents are invited to the GCC Coffee Chats, so bring your friends who have shown an interest in buying a Mac.

Mac SIG Holiday Open House

Mark your calendar now for our Fourth Annual Mac SIG Holiday Open House, to be held on Saturday, December 3, from 2:00 - 5:00 PM at the home of Lenny and Joyce Klonec at 20140 N. Portico Way.

We'll provide the liquid refreshments, if you'll bring either a plate of hors d'oeuvres or holiday goodies. More information to follow in next month's newsletter.



Registration Continues for Mac classes

If you still haven't registered for our Mac classes, registration continues either online or at the Computer



I Love My Mac!

Club. Our classes will provide you with the expertise to make you a better Mac user and more proficient on your Mac.

Go to grandcomputers.org > Education > Class Schedule > or > Course Listing > or > Classroom or Open Space Calendars to find more information about our Mac classes.

There are still openings available for many of our classes.

Bits & Pieces for Mac SIG



APPS Sharing Session

An APPS Sharing Session for iPod touch, iPads, iPhones, and other smart phones will be held on Tuesday, November 8, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM in the Mesquite, Palms, Palo Verde Rooms at Sonoran Plaza for all Grand Computers Club members. There will be many tables set up for you to go to share your favorite applications (APPS), such as the following categories: Food, News, Sports, Fun & Games, Outdoors, Music, Fitness & Medical, Managing Money, Travel, Dining Out, Books, Utilities, Social Networking, etc. We will then compile the list of recommendations and email it to our attendees. RSVPs are not mandatory, but to make sure that we have enough space for everyone, it would be appreciated if you would email: mac@grandcomputers.org to let us know how many are coming. We invite you to join us!

Need Help With Your Mac? We have Mac volunteers who will tutor you!

The following Mac users have volunteered to tutor:

Ann Sawyer, general Mac instruction (533-5357). Available year round.

Art McCall, general Mac instruction and repair (953-3253) October-April.

Sharon Hoobler, general Mac instruction, photo editing (623-975-9391) October-April.

If you are interested in being a tutor, email mac@grandcomputers.org about your expertise and we will put your information out to our membership. It is believed that \$40 per hour is a fair fee, payable to the tutor.



Remember Green Apples

Bring your problems to our Green Apples Tech Talk

Green Apples meets twice a month on the second Tuesday and the fourth Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the Computer Club Open Space Room. Our Mac SIG volunteers will try to help you solve any problems you might have or answer any questions for you *one-on-one*. Laptops are welcome. See you there!



Transitions for MobileMe Services

| MobileMe (eff. thru 06/30/12) | iCloud Services (requires Mac OS 10.7.2) | Alternative Services |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Mail | 🍏 | -- |
| Contacts | 🍏 | -- |
| Calendar | 🍏 | -- |
| Bookmarks | 🍏 | -- |
| Find My iPhone | 🍏 | -- |
| Back to My Mac | 🍏 | -- |
| iWeb publishing | --> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MacHighway.com • ragesw.com/webhosting.php • sites.google.com |
| Gallery | --> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picasa.google.com/mac • SmugMug.com • photobucket.com |
| iDisk | --> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DropBox.com • iDrive.com • SugarSync.com • docs.google.com |
| --> | iTunes | -- |
| --> | Photo Stream | -- |
| --> | Documents in the Cloud | -- |
| --> | Automatic downloads and purchase history for apps and books | -- |
| --> | Backup and restore | -- |

Transitions to Mac OS 10.7 (Lion) Services

Lion requires a Mac with an Intel Core 2 Duo, i3, i5, i7 or Xeon processor. It also requires 2GB of RAM to run. In order to get to Lion, you have to be running Snow Leopard version 10.6.6. or higher.

| Affected Software | Contingency | Alternative Services |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rosetta Programs | | |
| AppleWorks | Clone HD before Lion upgrade | • Pages, Numbers, Bento |
| Quicken 2007 | Quicken Essentials for Mac | • iBank 4 |
| FileMaker Pro 6, 8 | FileMaker Pro 9-11 | ? |
| Adobe CS1 | Adobe CS2,3,4 | ? |
| Microsoft Office 2004 | Microsoft Office 2008, 2011 | ? |
| Front Row | AppleTV | AirPlay |

Resource sites:

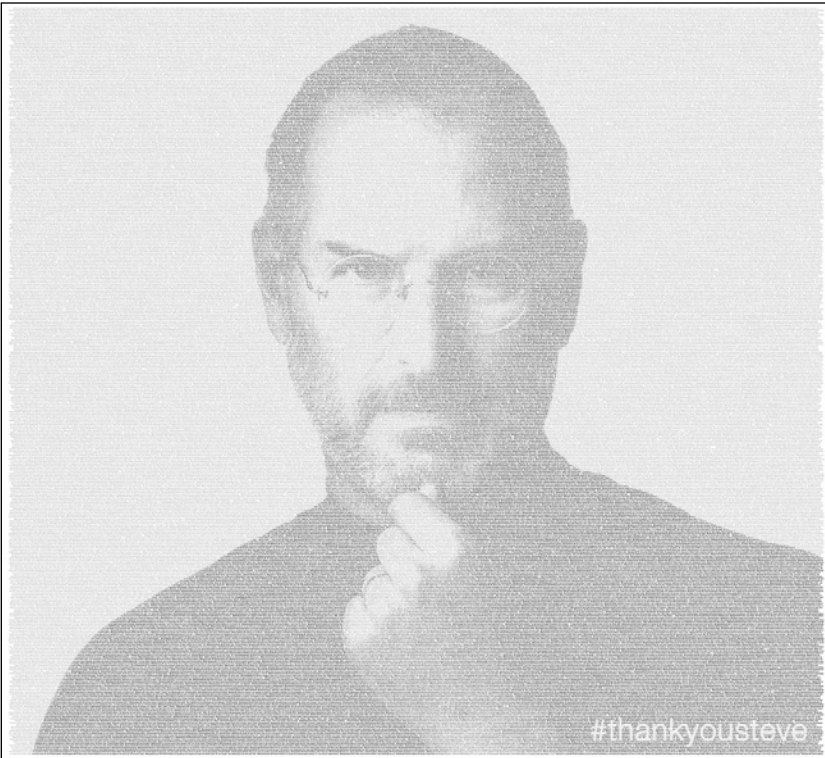
Mac OS X Lion Application Compatibility: <http://www.macworksinc.com/repairs/tag/lion/>
 Gizmodo instructions: <http://gizmodo.com/5808238/what-we-know-about-lion-and-why-it-may-be-the-last-mac-os-x>
 MobileMe to iCloud Transition FAQs: <http://www.apple.com/mobileme/transition.html>
 How to Move an iWeb site from MobileMe to Another Web Hosting Service: <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4686>
 How to Save Your MobileMe Galleries and Photos: <http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4702>
 Lion compatibility chart: http://roaringapps.com/apps:table/tags/_s/index_tags/
 Apple's MobileMe Transitions FAQ: <http://www.apple.com/mobileme/transition.html>
 The Lion Vet: The Problems and The Solutions: <http://macatlehighvalley.org/indexLV.html>
 Jim Dalrymple's iWeb to WordPress converter: <http://www.loopinsight.com/2011/09/14/iweb-to-wordpress-converter/>
 Ryan Fass' Replacing the MobileMe Features Lost in iCloud: http://www.peachpit.com/articles/article.aspx?p=1751378&WT.mc_id=PP_NL_WhatsNew_2011_10_13

For those of you Mac users with MobileMe, you need to know that this service discontinues on June 12, 2012. It will be replaced by iCloud. To the left are transitions for MobileMe services. If you had an active MobileMe account as of June 6, 2011, your service has been extended through June 30, 2012, at no additional charge. After that date, the MobileMe service will no longer be available.



And Apple's OS X Lion also has some affected software. That information is at the left.





From apple.com website:

Steve Jobs

1955 - 2011

Thank you, Steve

Over a million people from all over the world have shared their memories, thoughts, and feelings about Steve. One thing they all have in common — from personal friends to colleagues to owners of Apple products — is how they've been touched by his passion and creativity. You can view some of these messages and share your own at rememberingsteve@apple.com

Grand Mac SIG

Monthly Meetings

3rd Monday, 4:30 PM, Apache Room, Chaparral Center

- ***October 17 - Lion Update & Fall Classes: Ted Gray & Sharon Hoobler***
- ***November 21 - Holiday Gifts: What to Give & What to Ask For: Mac SIG Volunteers***
- ***December 3 - Holiday Open House 2:00 - 5:00 PM***
- ***December 19 - iWeb: Gale McCall***
- ***January 16 - iCloud : Apple Rep***
- ***February 20 - Mac Tips: Geoff Buxton***
- ***March 19 - Nooks & Crannies of Mac OS X: Art McCall***
- ***April 16 - The Print Shop: Sam Valenti***



IRIScan: Mobile Scanning and OCR Power

A review by Tom Piper,
appleJAC Mac Users Group,
Jefferson City, Missouri



Do you have an optical scanner? Is it too big to travel with you, but you wish you had a small one? Wouldn't it be nice to have one that could scan without being attached to a computer? I found the solution at Macworld 2011 to do this and much more.

The **IRIScan Anywhere 2** is a stand-alone battery-powered single-sheet scanner that can help to archive and organize your documents, recognize and manage business cards, and save its output to a wide variety of storage options. With a default resolution of 300 or 600dpi, it will save JPEG files to its own 512MB of flash memory, or interfaces with SD, xD, MS, MS Pro, MMC, USB Slave (type-B Mini), and USB Host (Type-A) for USB Flash Drive. The battery is a 700 mAh lithium ion polymer rechargeable via USB cable that can scan up to 100 sheets on a single charge. When connected to a computer, the files can be transferred to any one of the included applications including:

- **Readiris Pro 12** is a text recognition software that performs all your tedious retyping work in no time; simply scan any document with the scanner, recognize it and within seconds you have a fully editable copy of your paper document in your favorite word processor, spreadsheet application or many other applications automatically such as Pages, Word, Numbers, Excel, Acrobat and more.
- **Drop2Read** is "drag-and-drop" companion software that automatically performs most frequent OCR tasks.
- **Cardiris 4** is a business card scanning program which automatically retypes what it sees, sends your contacts to the most popular contact managers for Mac including Address Book, Entourage, HTML, and vCard; consecutively scans the front and back sides of your business card; gathers all this information under the same contact name; and uses all the information retrieved from your business cards into Excel; and organizes e-mailings and mail merges.
- **ACDSee Express 2** is a workflow platform for photo-organizing that allows you to rate, share, and view your scans. If your Mac has iPhoto or some other photo management software, there really isn't a reason to install ACDSee.

The IRIScan unit is simple to operate: just press the power button and insert your business card, photo, receipt, typed page or other material up to 8.5" wide. The only lights include power and status indicators (green for on, orange for charging, and flashing for activity status), and there is a slidable paper guide to assist with alignment of smaller originals. There is a mini-USB socket on the end to connect to a computer (or power unit), a full-size USB socket on the back (for USB flash drive), and a SD/xD/MMC/MS card slot on the back for removable memory storage cards (must be formatted in FAT16 or FAT32). Scan resolution of either 300dpi or 600dpi JPEG format is selectable by the user just by pressing the power button once. It even automatically crops out dark edges when scanning. Scanning is the first step in capturing an image of an original.



For example, I had a bunch of business cards from Macworld that I wanted in my Address book, so I set my paper guide to 3.5" width, and insert each card, one after the other (it took less than 5 seconds per card). Then, I plug the scanner into the computer, and activate Cardiris . . . I switched my settings to IRIScan Anywhere 2 as my source, Business as my card type, and United States as my language (it will recognize any of 217 countries). It automatically recognized the SD card in the scanner and mounted it on the desktop, I selected all the files (I could have chosen only a few) then performed an Optical Character Recognition procedure on each file which was less than 10 seconds each (less than a 300KB file at 400dpi . . . the recognized text was posted in the built-in database which has fields for Company, First Name, Last Name, Title, Address and all the other information normally found on business cards, plus a Note field for extra stuff. It even would allow me to scan the backside of a card and post the additional information to the same record.

The accuracy of recognition and field placement was incredible, but not perfect, usually because of a bad print job on the card, or very unusual formatting (like vertical text). What's nice is that the database displays an image of the card above the database fields for easy corrections, when necessary. For black, patterned or picture backgrounds, often where white text is used, the program immediately notified me that it was unreadable, and allowed me to enter the text manually. It was very easy to do, resizing the window enlarged everything, which made me very happy, and saving it posted it to the Address Book and kept a copy in the database.

Next, I scanned in a full-size 8.5" x 11" color brochure at 600dpi, which takes about 25 seconds, and another 30 seconds to process and save (the result was a 6.1MB file). I then did a drag-and-drop of the file onto Drop2Read software, which performed an OCR in about 10 seconds to produce an RTF file of the text on the brochure . . . very handy indeed. I then did the same thing with Readiris Pro 12 which showed me the entire brochure with each image and text element "zoned" for individual adjustment or recovery . . . great control. My last step was to use ACDSee Express 2 to do some changes to time stamps, tagging, rating, and converting to a different format (if I had a number of JPEG files, I could have made changes in "batch" mode).

After having used this scanner and software for several weeks, I am very pleased with it. I do wish that scanning could be done while the unit is plugged into the computer, but it has to dismount the scanner volume (s) to do this, which produces the "disk was not ejected properly" error statement when scanning is done. It would also be nice to have a Bluetooth or Wi-Fi feature for wireless file transfer to a computer, plus a cloth carrybag to protect it during transport.

At \$149 (plus shipping of about \$10), this is a great resource which can be acquired from <http://www.irislink.com/>. With the advantage of scanning as a standalone device, this unit will be a great asset when I need to visit offices to get copies of file documents . . . all without a copy machine, and ready to access on my computer or iPad2 upon my return to my workplace. The IRIScan Anywhere 2 will be a real asset to my work!



Tom Piper
appleJAC Mac Users Group,
Jefferson City, Missouri