



The Road Apple

An Apple // "End Users" Underground Newsletter
Semper Apple //

AppleFest '89 Flyer---See special Subscription Offer!

Special
Edition

[from Vol. 2, No. 4]

Copied from "News, Views, and Half-Truths
The latest gossip in the Mac Community"
MacGuidelines, July, 1989, p. 25

"II Far Gone

The future of the Apple II looks ever more bleak with the merger of *A+* Magazine and *InCider* (sic). Software developers in The Valley have all but forsaken the Apple II line and no new development is imminent. Buy your Macs now: The GS has no future."

Oh, yeah? Read on.

The Apple II revolution, phase 2

This fall and 1990 will see the greatest number of Apple II developments since the roll-out of the IIe several years ago. The rumors that the Apple II is dead are dead. The rumors are dead as doornails, shot down by the following products and developments:

1. *AppleWorks 3.0*, a completely new and improved version of the classic standby, has been reworked by the Beagle Boys and "Classic" *AppleWorks* author Bob Lissner, so you know it's a class act. *AppleWorks*

3.0 will be the standard by which other integrated programs are judged. No review here, just read the trade and user group publications. This is the payoff for the long-suffering Apple II users who remained loyal all these years. The \$79.00 upgrade and the \$100.00 amnesty programs are a steal. It should be ready for delivery by the end of August or sooner.

2. TimeOut upgrades to 3.0 will work on all *AppleWorks* beginning with 2.0. As far as I know, the "Beagle Buddy" system will still be in force. The new installer system, found in TimeOut's *ReportWriter*, is a gem. The upgrades most likely will be ready when *AppleWorks 3.0* is released.

3. *ReportWriter*, a new TimeOut enhancement from Beagle Bros, is the greatest business productivity enhancement ever brought to *AppleWorks*. This program, along with *AppleWorks 3.0*, will make a business package that will knock the socks off many of the Mac and IBM packages.

4. Barney Stone's *DB Master Professional* should be a real whiz-bang with the 3.0 *AppleWorks*. Again, an incredible business productivity package that can stand alone or merge with *AppleWorks*.

5. *System 5.0* for the GS is a huge improvement of the original GS/OS (go slow/or slower) system disk. It makes your

GS a brand new machine. It's so improved that the new documentation is a must. By the time you read this, it, and the free disk upgrade, should be available from your Apple dealer.

6. *HyperStudio*, by Roger Wagner, is a breakthrough for GS owners in the hypercard technology pioneered and touted by the Macintosh people. *Tutor-Tech*, a hypercard program for the IIe and IIc from Techware, was release last year and is still selling well.

7. Broderbund's new *Print Shop* is said to be greatly improved with all sorts of dandy features.

8. Applied Ingenuity demoed an internal hard drive for the GS at AppleFest '88 in San Francisco and now Applied Engineering has begun delivery of their version, the *Vulcan* internal GS hard drive. Applied Engineering is also selling the *Conservor*, a GS external fan and surge protector developed by MDIdeas.

9. Apple Inc.'s *Video Overlay Card* is no small announcement for those who like to mess around editing video tapes and producing custom tapes with computer generated graphics.

10. Nite Owl Productions, 5734 Lamar Ave., Mission KS 66202, has a replacement battery, the *Slide On*, for the GS at just \$9.95; a real cut from the \$30-\$50 or more charged by dealers for replacement.

11. Zip Technologies is cranking out their accelerator *Zip Chips* as fast as possible with more designs in the works. Ditto for *Rocket Chip* and the *AE TransWarp* for the GS; both are doing well. There are also rumors of AE doing some research in a possible GS *TransWarp* chip.

12. *Shrink IT*, a new compacting free-ware software package by Andy Nicholas from Paper Bag Productions, c/o Andy Nicholas, PO Box 435, Moravian College,

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Bethlehem, PA 18018, is a real advantage for those of us who like to send files by modem or archive them using disk space to its best advantage.

13. The *Ram 3.3*, software that lets you easily load DOS 3.3 programs on your GS by producing a DOS 3.3 RAM drive in the GS. *RAM 3.3* uses all the memory on a GS memory expansion board from 256k to 1.5meg. Contact RDC, Inc., 408 S. Baldwin St., Madison, WI 53704 for details. They should be at AppleFest San Francisco.

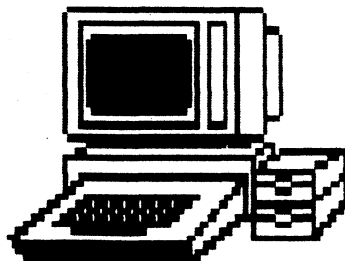
14. Rumors of the Apple *GSx* are all over the place. Seems that besides being a new computer, a motherboard upgrade for older GS machines is estimated to be in the \$200-\$300 range. There will be some extra ports (SCSI?) and 1 meg of memory at least. Sadly, the speed remains the same. Nothing of substance in the wind about the GS-Mac "Golden Bridge." Maybe next year.

15. Laser Computers is going gang busters with their Apple compatible line. Demand is at the 12,000 units per month level. Look for exciting new products from this fast-rising company in the Apple II compatible business.

16. The banding together of the Apple developers at the A-2 Central Developers' Conference will enhance the developers' and consumers' voice at the top Apple, Inc. levels.

17. AppleFest Boston '89 was a smash hit and San Francisco looks to be even bigger and better. With so many new products and developments, they'd better put rubber doors in the Brooks Convention Center.

I do believe that the speculation of the death of the Apple II computers is more than a bit premature. *Semper Apple III!*



[From Vol. 1, No. 3]

Build a better mousetrap and Apple, Inc. will buy the company

Styleware came out with *GSWorks* and claimed it to be better than *AppleWorks*. Guess the claim was valid since Claris (a.k.a. Apple, Inc.) bought out StyleWare. Nothing like absorbing the competition. Goodbye to *GSWorks* and hello *AppleWorks GS*. Surprise, surprise, surprise.

The //e version of *MultiScribe* is kaput and the 8-bit version of *AppleWorks* will be renamed *AppleWorks Classic*. Remember what Coca-Cola did several months ago? Jeeze, don't the corporate types ever learn? The next product to look for is *Diet AppleWorks with NutraSweet*. Or, *SuperNew Diet AppleWorksGold Classic NoCaffeine* in the new deposit-refundable package. Say, didn't John Sculley once work for a soft drink company? Hmhmhmhm.

It seems to me that if Claris, Apple, Inc., or whomever would spend as much time providing what customers really want at a reasonable price as they do thinking up cute new names for old stuff or grabbing up companies, all of us Apple // types would be in fat city. Wishful thinking.

What's in a name?

What's with national Apple publications dropping the word "Apple" from their titles? Both *Open Apple* and *A.P.P.L.E. Co-op* have changed their names--*A-2 Central* and *TechAlliance* respectively. Methinks there might be a bit of legal skulduggery going on between the Apple, Inc. legal types and publications with the name "Apple" in their titles.

From the "Notice of Members' Meeting of Apple Pugetsound Program Library Exchange (A.P.P.L.E.),..." comes this statement

in favor of voting to change the name of the user group to *TechAlliance*. "Apple Computer is requiring a license to use the word 'Apple.'"

No longer can you go to the store and buy a dozen apples or sing the song "Don't Sit under the Apple Tree" or profess a belief in God, country and apple pie without a license from Apple, Inc.

The Road Apple suggests the following substitute unpronounceable acronym "resfttg" for the word "apple." Resfttg means "round edible solid fruit that tastes good." Actually, "resfttg" is onomatopoeic in that it approximates the sound made when one sneezes in the direction of Cupertino.

So there you have it. We can now go on saying things like "she is the resfttg of my eye" or we enjoy resfttgsauce or we can read *The Road Resfttg*.

Meanwhile Sculley is in Japan. Trying to make a production deal for the Golden Bridge, perhaps? Better he should stay home and put out a few fires. Word is that even Macintosh owners are getting a bit testy about Apple, Inc.'s policies.

Question: Steve Wozniak endorses Applied Engineering's products which enhances their sales. What would happen to the sales of products manufactured by a company that used John Sculley's endorsement?

[from Vol. 2, No. 3]

Free macro

If you have TimeOut's *UltraMacros* and *SuperFacts*, as everyone should, here are a couple of macros to make italics the easy way:

```
<sa-><awp : print "<ib>"! italics  
begin  
<sa->><awp : print "<ie>"! italics  
end
```



[from Vol. 2, No. 2

Special Report from the U.S. Dept. of Aggravation

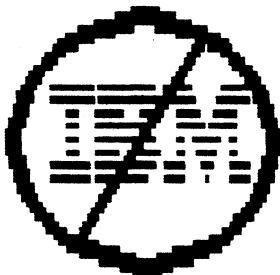
(ed. note: The U.S. Dept. of Aggravation is part of the Division of Redundancy Division under the direction of the Secretary of the Inferior.)

Apple consumers are warned against the use of computers sprayed with ALAR (Apple Licensing Agreement Requirement) which causes severe illness at the mere mention of the word "apple." The symptoms are keyboard nausea, loss of memory, inability to peek or poke and an overwhelming craving to eat chips.

In the same press release came an additional warning not to buy Apple computers manufactured in Chile. A terrorist plot to spray these machines with another dangerous substance has been uncovered.

The terrorist group claiming responsibility has yet to be identified but they have been seen by witnesses. They are described as having short hair cuts, no facial hair and wearing dark blue business suits, white shirts, maroon ties and highly polished leather shoes.

If this substance contacts the skin or the fumes are inhaled victims are observed to wander about aimlessly, eyes glazed over and mumbling, "Aye bee em, Aye bee em." Linguistic experts have concluded that this apparent meaningless phrase means "I've been Macintoshed, I've been Macintoshed." So far, the only known cure is to have them immediately place an order for an Apple IIe, IIc, IIGS or a Laser computer.



[from Vol.2, No. 1]

Product review *AppleWorks GS* or How much is that doggie in the window?

AppleWorks GS has been released and reviewed. Consensus is that it's a bow-wow of a program that should come with its own flea collar to fight the bugs it has.

The first bug is the start up. Boot *AppleWorks GS* and take a break. Make a pot of coffee, read the morning paper, call your friends or start making a loaf of bread. Chances are that you'll finish what you started before the damned thing is ready.

One of the system requirements is 1.25Mb of memory. That will get the program up and running, but try to do anything with it. Better you should have 2.0Mb of memory.

You can import *AppleWorks* text to the word processor but good luck using the same function with the data base or spreadsheet. This little jewel only accepts ASCII text for these two features.

The desktop publishing feature is one of the weakest around. Truly not for the serious generator of newsletters and such. I can't imagine anyone trying to market a desktop publishing program that doesn't allow for text to flow around graphics. Claris can and does.

"Whoever wrote the printer routines for *AppleWorks GS* ought to be dragged out and shot!" ---John Wrenholt, *Scarlett*, Nov. 1988

The print commands were designed by someone who really hated Apple computer users or fetched his brains out of a Cuisinart after a few quick pulses. Absolutely the worst, period. And, dear readers, once you get to the printing stage, can you print a straight text in a draft mode like *AppleWorks*? Of course not. Everything is printed in a graphics mode. However, printing this way does give you time for another

coffee break or a short stroll. Actually, there really is a draft mode for printing of sorts, but all of the print commands and formats are lost. What a program!

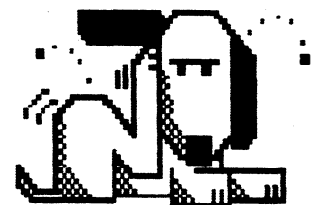
Wouldn't you know the whole thing is mouse driven? There are a bunch of us who would much rather keep our fingers on the keyboard than chase that damned mouse all over the desk all the time. A mouse (or joy stick) is great for games, but not for serious text and data computing.

The facts of the matter are that Claris bought *StyleWare* and took *GSWorks* off the market in a move to restrict the competition. Then Claris renamed the package *AppleWorks GS* in a bit of sleight of hand subterfuge that will mislead those who have heard of the gigantic success of *AppleWorks* and are first time buyers of GS computers.

Ask the question: what would you do if you were aware of the success of *AppleWorks* and just purchased a GS? Wouldn't the name *AppleWorks GS* appeal to you? Of course it would. Never mind that none of the wonderful *AppleWorks* enhancements of the *TimeOut* series will work. Never mind that it is painfully slow. Never mind that it has importing problems. Never mind that it will not work with any other commonly available *AppleWorks*-friendly programs. Never mind that this dog retails for \$299.00

Betcha bucks that Claris would not have released such a canine-like program to the hot-shot Macintosh owners. But, what the hell, we're just Apple II and GS users; we're learning to expect our ration of fertilizer from Claris, a.k.a. Apple, Inc.

Perhaps this dog started life with a pedigree, but after the spaying or neuter job by Claris, it's just a stray mutt.



(from Vol. 2, No. 2)

Editorial---

Is *The Road Apple* anti-Mac?

The Road Apple has received a few complaints that it is against the Macintosh computer. Initially this was true way back last year when I started this newsletter in a fit of pique over an Apple, Inc. presentation to educators I attended. At the time, *The Road Apple* was privately circulated to a few "movers and shakers" in the business. I even had a "Sack the Mac" phrase on the letterhead.

Once I got the venom out of my system, I realized that a solid pro-Apple II stance was really much better and that I wasn't against the Macintosh as such. I was really against Apple, Inc.'s Macintosh Marketing Manure (please don't say "3-M") of pushing Macintosh computers at the expense of the Apple II line. For that reason I dropped the "Sack the Mac" but retained the "Semper Apple II," which more accurately reflected the thrust of *The Road Apple*.

It really galls me that Apple, Inc. is (1)

showing the Macintosh down our collective throats and, (2) pulling the rug of support for the Apple II line out from under our feet. Apple, Inc. has forgotten who made it possible for it to be successful and even develop the Macintosh. This is problem when MBA (Masters of Business Annihilation) types take control of a consumer driven corporation and meeting the need of the customer is replaced by meeting the greed of the managers. I use the attempt to corner the memory chip market as an example of greed. Don't the Apple, Inc. managers remember the silver venture of the Hunt brothers?

To put all of this into perspective, consider the following: What if Apple, Inc. had developed the Macintosh first and then brought out the Apple IIe? How would Macintosh owners react when they are told that their computers are obsolete and fit only for home and elementary school applications? How would they feel about production cut-backs and no product development? How would they feel that the only real source of technical assistance is a user group instead of the company that made the machine or

the dealer who sold it? How long would General Motors last if the only place you could get help with your Chevy is a Chevy user group?

Your Honor, I rest my case. *Semper Apple II!*—Al Martin

Another macro

This is, by far, the most useful macro I have. It was not included in the TimeOut's *UltraMacros*, though it should have been. I first came across it in the old *Super Macros* and have found it to be invaluable. Since it wasn't included in *UltraMacros* and it's a well-know fact that I'm a technical nerd. Randy Brandt personally supplied this fabulous macro. Use it in good health.

It saves the contents of the desktop to the current disk and clears the desktop; nice to have when you quit for the time being.

```
<sa-esc>: <all oa-q : rtn : oa-s
oa-q esc>4<rtn rtn :
x = peek $c55 :
if x >0 then rept>!
```

While in San Francisco, I'll be staying at the Amsterdam Hotel, 749 Taylor, 673-3277 or 441-9014.



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