

The Window

MACNJ

MACNJ

Serving the Central New Jersey Macintosh community since 1986

May 2015

Plan "B"

Hello everyone and welcome to the MACNJ newsletter. Please review it thoroughly for there are many articles of interest and quite a history lesson too in this issue. I'm sure you'll find something new.

The agenda for our May meeting is wide open, thus the need for Plan "B". In other words, we have been tracking down a presenter for quite some time. We know what (who) we wanted to do, but Plan "A" just hasn't worked out. So we activate Plan "B".

That means you will likely actively participate. In short, we'll have a greatly expanded Q&A and maybe review some recent software updates. All in all, think about the new tricks you've learned over the past few weeks as well. Make a note about them and bring the info to the meeting. If you want to send something to Dave or me beforehand, all the better.

Our Q&A sessions have always been interesting. We're fortunate to be able to help solve mysteries and problems we sometimes run into. I'll pick up some extra donuts to help fuel the chatter.

The meeting will be on Saturday morning May 2 and start at 9am. **We will NOT be in the band room this time. Enter the usual way at the far left doors and go straight back to room 169 on the left.** We'll see you soon.

Bill Barr,

Program Chair

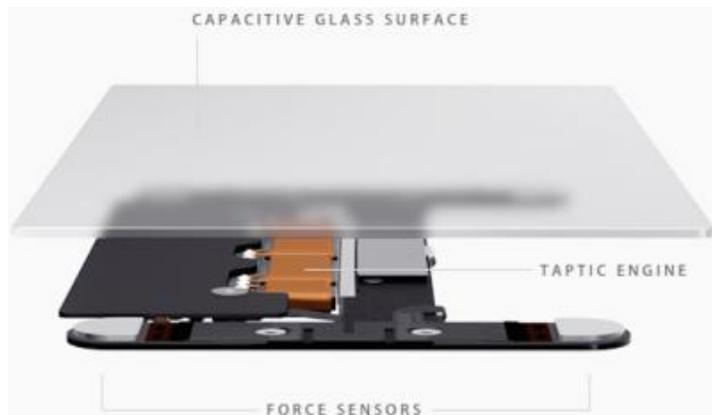
Force Touch Trackpad Makes MacBooks More Compelling

by Julio Ojeda-Zapata

I've always been conflicted about Apple's trackpads. I admire their comfort and precision, but I'm just more effective with a mouse. I'm also overwhelmed by all the trackpad features — I can never remember all the multi-finger taps and gestures, much less put them to practical use. So when Apple announced the Force Touch trackpad, with yet more input options, I was skeptical.

The Force Touch trackpad is currently exclusive to the just-refreshed 13-inch MacBook Pro with Retina display. It will also be found on the new 12-inch MacBook, due early next month. I've been using it on a 13-inch MacBook Pro with Retina display for a few days.

"Force Touch," which sounds like a kung fu fighting move, refers to new capabilities that simulate the sensation of a mechanical click even though the trackpad surface scarcely moves at all. Instead, the trackpad uses sensors to detect finger presses and responds with haptic-style vibrations.



This is almost indistinguishable from a physical click and is likely to fool anyone who is unaware there is a new trackpad. I had to watch my finger clicking on the new trackpad to be certain I wasn't using an old Apple trackpad with traditional mechanical movement.

TechCrunch's Matthew Panzarino does a good job of dissecting the trackpad technology:

There is a set of vibrating motors underneath that provides "force feedback," also known as haptics in some applications. This feedback fools your finger into believing

that you've pressed down on a hinged button, the way your current trackpad works. This feedback relies on phenomenon called lateral force fields (LFFs), which can cause humans to experience vibrations as haptic "textures." This can give you the feel of a "clickable" surface or even depth. The Force Touch feature of the new trackpad allows you to press "deeper," giving you additional levels of tapping feedback. The effect is done so well that you actually feel like you're pressing down deeper into a trackpad that still isn't moving at all. It's so good it's eerie.

Force Touch is more than a parlor trick. It brings with it new capabilities. In addition to the standard simulated clicking, you can press down a bit more firmly to "force-click." When you do so, you feel not one but two distinct clicks. And depending on where your cursor is pointing when you do this, different things happen.

Apple has a long list of capabilities on its site, but key examples include force-clicking a file icon to see a Quick Look preview, a point on a map to put a pin at in location, a reminder or event to see the details inspector, a link in Safari or Mail to see an inline Web preview, and text in a Web page or a Mail message to conjure up a window with relevant dictionary or Wikipedia information. It's unclear exactly how Apple chose these actions, or how they differ conceptually from Control/right-click actions.



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Force Touch *continued from page 2*

Increasing finger pressure on the trackpad makes video in QuickTime Player and iMovie fast-forward and rewind more quickly, and accelerate zooming in the Maps app. You also feel haptic feedback when aligning annotations in a PDF, dragging an iMovie clip to its maximum length, and snapping an iMovie title into place, among other actions.



Eventually, third-party developers will be able to tap the trackpad's new capabilities to, for instance, add pressure sensitivity to drawing applications. Such a feature is already present in Apple's Preview app, which lets you vary the thickness of a line you're drawing based on how hard you press the trackpad while doing so. This also works when marking up a Mail attachment.



On a more basic level, the new Force Touch trackpad replicates familiar features found on the mechanical trackpad, such as dragging a file with thumb and forefinger. It feels a bit better to do this with the Force Touch trackpad because click pressure can be adjusted from "light" to "firm" in the System Preferences, something that wasn't an option with mechanical clicking. I prefer "medium" pressure.

The Force Touch trackpad retains older capabilities. Tapping lightly with two fingers is still an equivalent of a mouse right-button click. Also present is the one-finger "tap to click" feature that some other Mac users dislike; I've long loved it. All the other gestures for dragging, zooming, rotating, and the like are there as well; I've just never found them compelling enough to integrate them into my fingers.

I wonder if I'll come to regard Force Touch as indispensable, or pointless. I can't answer that with just a few days of use, but I am leaning towards liking, but not needing, the new capabilities.

For example, I typically use Quick Look by selecting a file or folder and then pressing the Space bar. I could force-click the file instead, but is that easier or more convenient?

A little bit, maybe.

Going down the list of Force Touch actions, none make me want to cry out, "Wow, I'm glad I can now do that." But, as these become ingrained in the Mac landscape, it's entirely possible I'll embrace some of them. They're not game-changing, but they certainly are cool and fun.

In other words, the Force Touch trackpad alone is no reason to rush out and buy a new MacBook. But the new features are more evidence that Apple leads the way in trackpad design. I expect PC notebook makers to mimic Force Touch capabilities in short order.

Execution is everything, and the Force Touch trackpad has been implemented impeccably based on what I've seen so far. It just works, and is a welcome addition to the MacBook line. I hope Apple makes it possible for desktop Mac users to join the Force Touch party too, with an updated Magic Trackpad.

Excellent though it is, I'm still a mouse guy. That said, if key Mac apps start providing interesting Force Touch feedback capabilities that go beyond Apple's basics, I may have to reconsider.

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Personal Hotspot iOS8

By Linda Cameron, Mid Columbia Macintosh Users Group

A good friend just bought a new house in a neighborhood that has yet to get the infrastructure for Charter or Frontier. He cannot hook up internet or phone from either of those two sources. It could be 6 months or more before any of those are available. He finally went ahead and had Dish hook up satellite so he can watch football and whatever else is on TV. He decided that, out of necessity, he would have to switch to another cell phone plan in the meantime since his iPhone 5 is his only phone for now.

I had him come to my house and we logged into his T-Mobile account from my Mac and picked a pay-by-the-month plan that includes unlimited talk, unlimited text, unlimited data and up to 5GBs for Hotspot. It is \$80 a month plus about \$5 tax. I am sure many people are spending that much or more for their monthly cell phone plan and maybe they don't get as much? I got this friend hooked on Korean dramas (like me) and he figured he would be able to watch them on his iPhone, but not his 55" HD TV like he had been doing with the Roku before he moved. I reminded him that he had the Hotspot included in his phone plan and he should try using it. He would be able to watch on his iPad which is a lot bigger than the iPhone. He went into his Settings on the iPhone and turned on Personal Hotspot and was able to start watching Netflix and DramaFever on his iPad. He was very happy about that.

I then suggested he ought to see if the Roku would also work with his Hotspot. He messed with it for a while and suddenly, his iPhone showed up as a WiFi source and he was able to watch on his bigscreen TV. He was even happier. We talked about it and figured that he should check his T-Mobile account often to see how much data was being used in the Hotspot since it was limited to 5 GBs a month. After a couple of weeks, he reported that he had used practically no data on the Hotspot but on his regular Data, he was up to about 30 GBs!

I visited him at his house recently so he could demonstrate how well the Hotspot was working for streaming on the Roku/TV. While we were there, I opened my own iPhone 5s Settings and turned on Personal Hotspot and suddenly my iPhone was showing up as a WiFi source on his Roku screen! I was dumbfounded! After entering a password from my iPhone, we tried it out by playing part of a video on the Roku and it worked great!



The reason I was so amazed is that a couple of months ago, I turned on Hotspot on my iPhone while playing around, and there was a message saying I had to get a cell plan that includes Hotspot to use it. I have an Unlimited data plan but no Hotspot plan. But now, all of a sudden I can turn on Hotspot and it works? When I got home, I started researching online and discovered that on any iPhone that has iOS8 or later, you can turn on Personal Hotspot in settings. Apparently, it works using your data plan and T-Mobile doesn't even know I am using my data for a Hotspot. My friend, Ed also had recently updated to iOS8 and that is probably why his plan is showing he hasn't been using his Hotspot at all even though he has been using the heck out of it!

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Personal Hotspot iOS8

continued from page 4

As for me, I have WiFi with my Charter internet and I don't need to use my iPhone as a Hotspot, unless the power goes out for a length of time. As for Ed, he is really benefitting from this new iOS8 feature and it came just at the right time.

Ed has reported that using his iPhone as a Hotspot does wear down the battery faster, so he usually puts it on the charger when he is streaming videos to the Roku. I think using a lot of data on a cell phone does use more battery power because I notice when I am using even Audio FaceTime, my battery goes down a bit in half an hour of usage.

The Joy of Tech™

by Nitrozac & Snaggy



Please,
let me go.
It's time for me
to die.



In the 90's, we fax
machines ruled!
But now, my time
is done. Please,
end the misery.



There's no reason to
keep me going. There
are much better ways
to send information
now.
Have you heard of the
Internet? Of email?



I'm running out
of paper...
cough cough
Pull the plug!
Do not resuscitate!

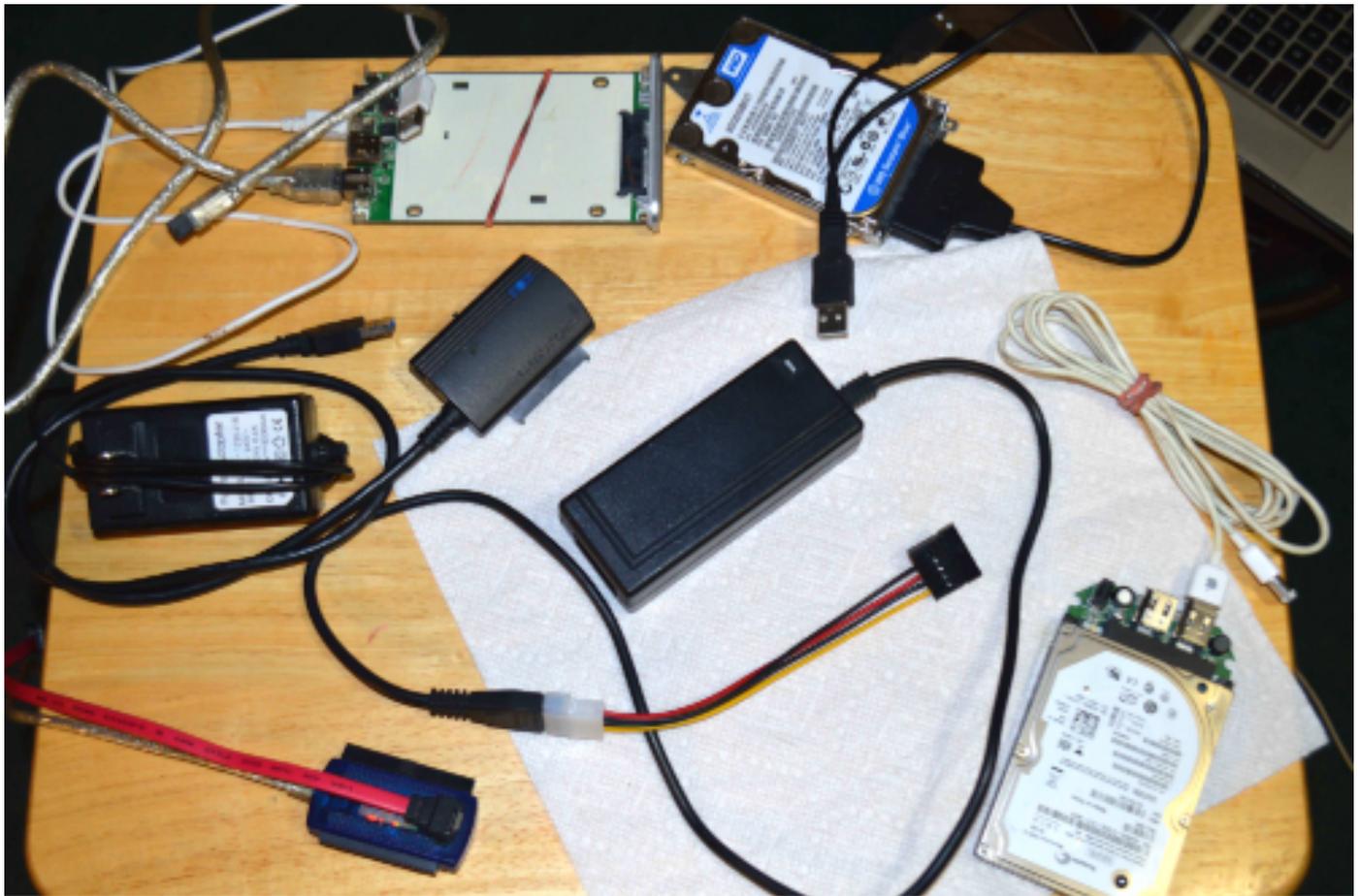
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Data Transfer Solutions

By Keith Smith, Mid Columbia Macintosh Users Group

A hard drive can get to the point it won't boot a computer, but contains critical data. Additionally, there are times when one needs to have a large number of files available in portable form, and having them all on an internal hard drive, as in a laptop, is not feasible. There may be other occasions, too, where a temporary storage solution is needed. I have recently been in a position to need solutions to *all* of the above. When those needs arise, nothing works so well as having a way to connect a bare hard drive to a computer. Fortunately, there are devices, both manufactured and improvised for that purpose. Because I do quite a bit of computer work including moving data from one computer, I have a number of such devices.



I have at my disposal, a FireWire 400 sled for IDE/ATA, 2.5 inch drives, a Firewire 400/800, USB 2.0 sled, a USB 2.0 cable with an IDE/ATA and eSATA interface that will allow connection to 2.5 inch or 3.5 inch hard drives, a USB 2.0 portable dock for 2.5 inch SATA drives, a USB 3.0 portable dock for SATA that will handle 2.5 inch or 3.5 inch hard drives. With each of the USB devices, there is an

external power source required to power up a 3.5 inch drive. Until recently, I had a FireWire 400 sled for 3.5 inch hard drives. It finally gave up the ghost, and I have yet to obtain another. So far, the USB portable docks have worked just fine in its place. What a USB connection won't do, however, is boot a PowerPC. That limitation does not exist for Intel Macs or PCs.

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Data Transfer *continued from page 6*

I recently added a USB 3.0 to eSATA device to my stable of interfaces, and it works great. I have yet to include Thunderbolt for my own use, but did acquire one for a church in California. A portable dock system that worked very well! Simply slide a 2.5 inch hard drive into it and plug it into the Thunderbolt port on the computer. As with Firewire and USB, no other power supply is needed for a laptop drive.

Very recently, one of the grand daughters was given a brand new, second hand laptop, in the form of a 2009, white, unibody MacBook. She wanted it to have a new operating system installed, (OS X 10.7, aka Lion) and have all her settings and data moved from her previous laptop, a 12 inch, 1.2 GHZ iBook running Leopard. The dilemma? Connecting the iBook to the MacBook, directly, to migrate data and settings at the point in OS installation, where that possibility is provided. The iBook can be booted into Target mode for that purpose, but as there is no FireWire port on the 2009 or 2010 MacBook, that does no good at all. What to do? Well, there is the home network, but from hard won experience, I can say that option is very slow. Using an Ethernet connection is also slow. Been there, done that, and it's painful!

I have, on occasion, simply removed the hard drive from the old Mac or PC, connected it via one of my external interfaces, and proceeded to have data moved that way. However, getting the hard drive out of an iBook is no simple task. It requires much disassembly, as in removal of the bottom case to get to the screws holding the top case on, then removing the top case to access the hard drive. Work to be avoided if possible.

In this case, I used a SATA Firewire "sled" connected to the iBook, cloned the internal hard drive through the Firewire interface to a bare hard drive I had available. Then I moved the bare hard drive to a USB to SATA, portable dock, connected it to the unibody MacBook and proceeded to have the contents of the clone migrated to the MacBook, selecting the option "From a volume connected to this Mac," during the installation process. This worked very well, and everything moved over smoothly. Of course, there were applications that worked on a PowerPC running Leopard that didn't work in Lion. Those were deleted and their more up to date versions, where available, were installed in their place.

When the need arises to capture data off of a dying PC hard drive to put back onto a new one, I have found that removing the failing drive from the PC, and connecting it via USB or FireWire to my MacBook Pro allows me to copy the data off of it so it can be copied to another available drive for eventual recovery to the new PC or new PC hard drive. Yes indeed, an Intel Mac can read a PC formatted hard drive without a murmur. The portable docks make it a lead pipe cinch.

As for expense. The USB, portable docks are very inexpensive, even for the USB 3.0 dock. I don't have \$50 invested in all of them. Buying the FireWire hard drive cases was not cheap, but when they are needed, they have proved to be a wise investment. They are very portable and take minimal room in my laptop bag. Like a pocket on my shirt, I don't know what I'd do without them.

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I never make the same mistake twice. I make it five or six times, just to be sure.



USE THE MACNJ FORUM!

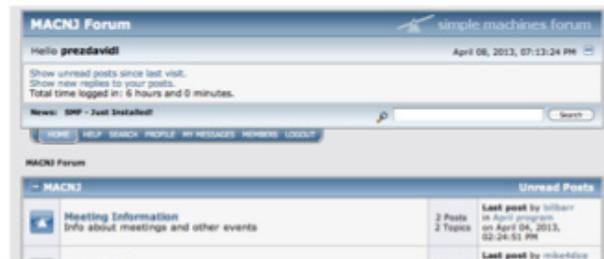
Our forum, using new software to keep out spambots, is only as good as we make it. All members are encouraged to use the forum. It can be of great help in answering questions, providing news, etc., between meetings.

To Register:

There are two links to the forum on the MACNJ home page; or go to macnj.org/forum/ and you are there.

Click on "register" (top right). You'll have to agree to conditions.

Enter a user name which can be used to identify you as member of MACNJ—not strange encrypted names such as xyz123— or you won't be approved. Check the member list to see what names have been accepted.



Enter a valid email address.

Enter and confirm your password. Then remember it! **You can also stay logged-in**, if desired. Look under Profile Information and **enter your location** (City, State). This is mandatory. Enter any other profile information which you choose to use. Click "submit" button, bottom of page. You will be notified by email that you are registered as a MACNJ Forum member. Most questions about the forum are answered in the FAQ Section.

How the Internet Started, According To The Bible

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of **Abraham Com** did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of **Dorothy**. And **Dot Com** was a comely woman, large of breast, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called **Amazon Dot Com**.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?" And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?" And **Dot** replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by **Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)**." Abraham thought long and decided he would let **Dot** have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, **Dot** devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as **Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS)**, and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - **Hebrew to The People (HTTP)**.

And the young men did take to **Dot Com's** trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called **Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS**. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, **Brother William of Gates**, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with **Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks**.

And **Dot** did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the **Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known**. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are." And **Dot** replied, "**Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators**." "**YAHOO**," said Abraham. And because it was **Dot's** idea, they named it **YAHOO Dot Com**.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young **Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK)** that he was, soon started using **Dot's** drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as **God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE)**.

That is how it all began.
And that's the truth.

I would not make this stuff up.

How to Prevent Google from Monetizing Your Face

by Josh Centers



Google caused a commotion when it announced updates to its Terms of Service to allow the search giant to begin using user reviews in ads. (Users are alerted to the changes by a bar that appears at the top of at least some Google sites.) **“Shared endorsements,”** as Google calls them, will place your name, photo, comments, and ratings in Web ads seen by your friends. This can include businesses reviewed in Google Maps, reviews from the Google Play store, and anything on the Web for which you’ve clicked a +1 button.



This isn’t quite as troubling as it first appears. After all, the entire point of reviewing products is to inform the public. That said, I have two problems with Google’s approach.

First, if Google is going to monetize the work of its users, then it should share the profits. Companies pay celebrities big bucks for endorsements — we common folk should be compensated as well. Such an approach would encourage even more users to review products, although it might lead to an epidemic of sock puppetry.

Second, whether or not Google were to share revenues with users, the addition of user reviews to Web ads could give Google an uncomfortable incentive to encourage positive reviews and possibly hide or sanitize negative ones.

The good news is that it’s easy to opt out of shared endorsements, and you may already have opted out in the distant past by answering a similar question while signing up for Google+. Just visit the Shared Endorsements settings page [<https://plus.google.com/settings/endorsements?hl=en>] and deselect the checkbox reading “Based upon my activity, Google may show my name and profile photo in shared endorsements that appear in ads.” (Parsing the meaning of the checkbox

with such wording is on par with having to select the Limit Ad Tracking option in Apple’s iOS privacy settings to opt out of ad tracking; fortunately, Apple moved that control from iOS 6’s hidden Settings > General > About > Advertising location to the sensible Settings > Privacy > Advertising spot in iOS 7

Based upon my activity, Google may show my name and profile photo in shared endorsements that appear in ads Save

While we certainly don’t recommend allowing Google to use your work in shared endorsements, at least Google lets you opt out. Facebook’s “sponsored stories” do very much the same thing, and Facebook doesn’t let you to opt out, only control who can see your activity [<https://www.facebook.com/help/222629841080902>]. (Facebook introduced sponsored stories in January 2011 without changing its terms of service and ended up paying \$20 million to settle the resulting class-action suit.) It’s hard to imagine that Twitter isn’t planning a similar feature.

And yes, it is legal for these companies to do this — apart from Google’s opt-out option, your only real defense is to stop recommending things via social media services

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Meeting Notes, April 4, 2015

by Hugh Murphy, Jr.

The meeting opened with a Q & A session. Margo Murphy inquired about a webcast she missed. Several members complained about problems with Comcast email. Dave remarked that Comcast does have problems and there are differences in operating systems. Bill Barr replaced his modem with a new one from Comcast and now has two WiFi sources. Dave suggested that the Comcast is faster than the Apple source. There was much discussion about Comcast. Some members have other providers - Helen Oszuzik has Earthlink and Ronni Buffington has Verizon DSL.

Dave introduced the new Apple watch and wondered what will happen when the software becomes obsolete. Bill Barr remarked that former member Matthew Ramachandran, the teenage phenomenon, would probably buy the Apple watch. Ronni pointed out that every generation has made important discoveries over the years. Lee Roth cited the book *Future Shock* in the discussion of the fast technological changes which have occurred. He still keeps his parents' TV set as a reminder of the past.

Jim Oszucik has a problem trying to transfer data from one hard drive to another; Bill Barr will look into the problem during the break.

Sheila stated that her WiFi system is not available to her. Bill suggested obtaining a new modem from Comcast which will provide a WiFi source. Bob Fasanello offered that a new computer may also serve as a WiFi hotspot.

Dave described creating a mini network in the house, and Ronni stated that Macs and PCs may be shared.

Dave proceeded to the main topic - the evolution of communications. In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell was granted the patent for a telephone; the first call was made on 3/10/1876. As an aside, Stan Menscher revealed that the so-called red phone line between the US and Russia was actually a teletype machine. Transcontinental wiring was accomplished from 1914 - 1916. A video was presented which showed Lily Tomlin as Ernestine, the telephone operator, which prompted remarks from members about party lines. It also showed the Dick Tracy watch, which was science fiction at the time. Now the Apple Watch debuts on 4/25/2015; it requires an iPhone to be functional.

After the break, Dave showed a video of the TV show *Modern Family*, which he found on YouTube, captured with Snapz Pro, and edited in Quick Time. The family used Apple products to communicate with each other through a series of amusing and fouled-up events.

Dave and Bill demonstrated Facetime. Bill placed a call to his wife from his iPhone and her image was projected on the screen, but she was unable to call back. Dave was able to call Bill from his computer.

MACNJ Meeting Information

Check the latest meeting information on the MACNJ website at www.macnj.org



MACNJ's general monthly meetings are usually held on the First Saturday of each month at Voorhees High School, in High Bridge, New Jersey, from 9 AM to noon. Visitors are welcome.

From the Morristown area

Go west on State Route 24 to County Route 513. Go southwest on 513 for 4.9 miles through Califon. Continue on 513.

Voorhees High School will be on the left at 256 Route 513, across from Voorhees State Park.

From the Somerville area

Go north on US Route 202 until it intersects with interstate 287. Take I-287 northwest for 4.2 miles to I-78 west. Follow I-78 west for 13 miles to Route 31 north (this is the Clinton/Washington exit.) Follow Route 31 north 2.1 miles to a traffic light where there will be a sign for High Bridge. Turn right onto County Route 513. Follow 513 north for two miles into the town of High Bridge. Voorhees High School is two miles further north at 256 Route 513, on the right, across from Voorhees State Park.

From points west

Go east on I-78 to exit 15 (Clinton/Washington exit for Route 31 north) Follow 31 north 2.1 miles to a traffic light with a sign for High Bridge. Turn right onto County Route 513 North. Follow 513 for two miles into the town of High Bridge. Voorhees High School is two miles further at 256 Route 513, on the right, across from Voorhees State Park.

From the Flemington area

Take Route 31 north past Clinton to a traffic light with a sign for High Bridge. Turn right onto County Route 513 north. Follow 513 for two miles into the town of High Bridge. Voorhees High School is two miles further at 256 Route 513, on the right, across from Voorhees State Park.

Parking and Entrances

Parking is plentiful and free. Park in the main parking lot of the school, enter the main entrance by the flag pole, and follow the signs for the MACNJ meeting room in the choir room on the first floor.



Photo by Bill Barr



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Member Benefits

MACNJ User Group members in good standing are encouraged to take advantage of the following savings and benefits

Peachpit Press

Peachpit Press provides our group members with a **30%** discount off the list price of any of their books. At check-out, right before you put your credit card number in, you must enter the user group coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF (case-sensitive). This coupon code is an exclusive offer that may not be used in conjunction with any other coupon codes.

O'Reilly & Associates

Don't forget, you can receive **35%** off any O'Reilly, No Starch, Paraglyph, Pragmatic Bookshelf, SitePoint, or Syngress book you purchase directly from O'Reilly. Just use code DSUG when ordering online or by phone 800-998-9938. ordering at <<http://www.oreilly.com>>.

Vendor Offers For MUGs

The MUG Center, the Resource Site Macintosh for User Groups, offers a number of software, shareware, and hardware specials for User Group members. Visit<<http://www.mugcenter.com/vendornews/vendornews.html>>.

MACNJ Membership

Annual dues are \$24, due each January. Members joining during the year pay \$2 per month for the months remaining in the current year. Families may join for \$35. Please make all checks payable to "MACNJ". Checks can be given to President David L. Davis at the monthly meetings, or mailed to:

MACNJ Membership
David L. Davis
13 Smith Street
Hampton, NJ 08827

Fill out this form and return it with your payment.

MACNJ Membership Form

Check one: Membership Renewal New Member

Month membership begins

amount enclosed (\$2 per month, \$24 for the entire year/\$35 per family)

Name (if a family membership, please list all member names)

Street address (if this is a renewal, please indicate if any of your address information has changed.

city

state

zip code

Home telephone number

mobile phone number

e-mail address

What I do with my Macintosh (favorite Apps, creative work, etc) Be as descriptive as possible!
