

# The Window

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## Simplify and Save with AppleScript

by Bill Barr, Program Chairman

The script is set for the May MACNJ meeting. Ben Waldie of Automated Workflows, LLC will visit MACNJ to demonstrate the benefits of using AppleScript for workflow automation.

Ben's presentation will contain a brief overview of AppleScript, a list of benefits, some basic script writing, some AppleScript demonstrations, and a question and answer session. In addition, Ben will provide MACNJ with some demonstration scripts to use.

### What is AppleScript

What is AppleScript and why should you care? Well, as much as we all enjoy time in front of our Macs, computers were designed to be able to automate certain tasks. AppleScript is an English-like language used to automate the actions of the computer and the applications which run on it.

AppleScript can be used for batch processing, performing tasks at specified times, and linking the actions of multiple applications to perform a series of related tasks. AppleScript is supported by hundreds of applications, including those from Microsoft, Adobe, Quark, Oracle and other leading vendors.

There are free scripts available for applications such as Safari, iPhoto, QuickTime Player, iTunes, and iDVD at <http://www.apple.com/applescript/apps/>.



Benjamin Waldie is the president and founder of Automated Workflows, LLC, a firm specializing in AppleScript and workflow automation consulting and development. Ben has been an evangelist of AppleScript and a developer of professional AppleScript-based solutions for businesses and individuals across the globe since 1997.

Prior to the formation of Automated Workflows, Ben was responsible for the management, planning, development, and deployment of a variety of real-world AppleScript solutions, creating and maintaining complex automated solutions for companies including Adobe Systems, The Associated Press, BMG Direct, and Random House. Ben has also worked for TV Guide Magazine, where he was the lead AppleScript engineer.

In 2000, Benjamin was the author of an introductory AppleScript training CD for The Virtual Training Company. Currently, Ben is a contributing editor to *MacScripter.net*, the largest and most popular AppleScript web site.

Benjamin is also the founder of the Philadelphia Area AppleScript User's Group, the country's first AppleScript User's Group.

Ben has been featured as a speaker and presenter at seminars and events throughout the country, including MacWorld and Seybold Seminars. He has also received recognition on several prominent web sites, including Apple's AppleScript web page. Contact Ben at [applescriptguru@mac.com](mailto:applescriptguru@mac.com) or visit his company's website at <http://www.automatedworkflows.com>

### AppleScript Saturday

The meeting will be held on Saturday, May 12 and it will run from 9 am to noon. Come see how simple and yet so sophisticated AppleScript can be. As always, check the MACNJ website <http://www.macnj.org> for the latest meeting information.

### AppleScript Resources

AppleScript Info  
<http://www.applescriptguru.com>  
AppleScript Training  
<http://www.applescripttraining.com>  
Apple's AppleScript page  
<http://www.apple.com/applescript>



**Inside: New Music from Apple, iMovie Festival, Summer Expo, SIG News...**

# Apple Introduces New iPods

Holds up to 7,500 Songs, Yet Lighter than Two CDs

Apple recently introduced its third generation iPods, which hold up to 7,500 songs in a stunning enclosure that is lighter and thinner than two CDs. The new ultra-portable iPods feature completely solid-state “no moving parts” navigation wheel and buttons; an elegant new dock with audio out for fast and easy connection to your computer or stereo; an “On-The-Go” playlist so users can build a playlist right on their iPod; a customizable main menu so users can promote the features they use most often to their top level menu; and Apple’s unique, patent pending Auto-Sync for automatically syncing your computer’s music library with iPod. The new ultra-portable iPods are available in three models: a 10GB model for just \$299, a 15GB model for \$399 and a 30GB model for \$499.

“The competition has not even caught up with our first generation iPod, and we are introducing our third generation. With the new iTunes Music Store, you can now buy music online and transfer it right onto your iPod for listening wherever you want.” said Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO.

The new 15GB and 30GB models come with an elegant dock for effortless connecting to a Mac or Windows PC. The dock provides a stylish home base for the iPod and includes an audio line out for easy connection to a home stereo or powered speakers, making it easy to sync, charge and go. iPod plays more than eight hours of continuous music and recharges automatically whenever iPod is in the dock or connected to a Mac or Windows PC.

iPod is the only portable music player with Apple’s patent pending Auto-Sync, an innovative feature that automatically downloads an entire digital music library into iPod and

keeps it up-to-date whenever the iPod is plugged into a Mac or Windows PC. With Apple’s new fast disk mode switching, iPod switches from Auto-Sync mode to music-player mode faster than ever before.

Building on the success of the original touch wheel, the new iPod is designed with a solid-state “no moving parts” navigation wheel and all touch buttons for enhanced sensitivity and precision over mechanical buttons. The buttons are backlit for easy operation in low light and continue to enable easy, one-handed operation. In addition to MP3,



Apple’s new third-generation iPod shown with docking station

iPod now supports the industry-standard AAC audio format, providing higher quality sound in the same disk space. Whether at the gym, at work, in the car or at the airport, iPod puts 7,500 songs in your pocket—the equivalent of three weeks of continuous music without repeating a single song.

iPod features new customization options including the ability to move frequently used menu items to the main menu. Users also have the power to create an “On-The-Go” playlist and rate their music collection directly on their iPod, offering a new level of control whenever they are away from their computer.

The new iPod for Mac and Windows will be available on

May 2, for a suggested retail price of \$299 for the 10GB iPod, \$399 for the 15GB iPod, and \$499 for the 30GB iPod through the Apple Store, Apple’s retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers. The new iPod will also support high-speed syncing via USB 2.0 with Windows PCs starting in June via a free software download. A separate USB 2.0 cable will be available in June for \$19.


All iPod models include earbud headphones, an iPod power adapter, a FireWire cable and a 4-pin-to-6-pin iPod FireWire adapter. 15GB and 30GB iPod models also include the iPod Dock, carrying case and wired remote; these optional accessories can be ordered for 10GB iPod models through the Apple Store. iPod requires a Mac with FireWire port, Mac OS X version 10.1.5 or later (Jaguar or later recommended) or a Windows PC with FireWire or USB 2.0 port, or Windows-certified FireWire or USB 2.0 card, Windows Me, Windows 2000, or Windows XP Home or Professional. A CD containing iTunes\* for Mac OS X and MUSICMATCH Jukebox Plus 7.5 software is included with iPod purchases.


\*Some iPod features require a Mac and iTunes.


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# Apple Launches iTunes 4, Music Store

**Rock and Roll will never die. It is, however, being reborn.**

 On April 28th Apple launched the iTunes Music Store, a revolutionary online music store that lets customers quickly find, purchase and download the music they want for just 99 cents per song, without subscription fees. The iTunes Music Store offers groundbreaking personal use rights, including burning songs onto an unlimited number of CDs for personal use, listening to songs on an unlimited number of iPods, playing songs on up to three Macintosh computers, and using songs in any application on the Mac, including iPhoto, iMovie and iDVD.


 "The iTunes Music Store offers the revolutionary rights to burn an unlimited number of CDs for personal use and to put music on an unlimited number of iPods for on-the-go listening," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO. "Consumers do not want to be treated like criminals and artists do not want their valuable work stolen. The iTunes Music Store offers a groundbreaking solution for both."

 The iTunes Music Store features over 200,000 songs from music companies

including BMG, EMI, Sony Music Entertainment, Universal and Warner. Users can easily search the entire music store to instantly locate any song by title, artist or album, or browse the entire collection of songs by genre, artist and album. Users can listen to a free 30-second high-quality preview of any song in the store, then purchase and download their favorite songs or complete albums in pristine digital quality with just one click.

 The iTunes Music Store also features exclusive tracks from over 20 artists, including Bob Dylan, U2, Eminem, Sheryl Crow and Sting, as well as special music videos from several of these artists which users can watch for free. In addition, the iTunes Music Store highlights new releases, staff favorites and up-and-coming artists, and delivers a compelling variety of music from many genres and time periods, ranging from Rock and Hip Hop to Jazz and Classical.

"Consumers do not want to be treated like criminals and artists do not want their valuable work stolen. The iTunes Music Store offers a groundbreaking solution for both." –Steve Jobs

 All music on the iTunes Music Store is encoded in the industry-standard AAC audio format at 128 kilobits per second which enables smaller files and faster download times while rivaling CD-quality sound superior to the quality of MP3 files at the same size. The AAC audio format, developed by Dolby, was also adopted to provide the audio encoding for the industry-standard MPEG-4 video format.

 The iTunes Music Store is fully integrated into iTunes 4, the fourth major release of Apple's popular digital music jukebox software, allowing users to purchase, download, organize and listen to their music using just one application. iTunes 4 features major new enhancements including Rendezvous music-sharing between Macs, so users can legally stream their music to other Macs without the hassle of copying files from computer to computer.

 iTunes 4 with the iTunes Music Store is available as a free download from Apple at <http://www.apple.com/itunes>. The iTunes Music Store requires a valid credit card with a U.S. billing address, a Mac equipped with iTunes 4 and Mac OS X version 10.1.5 or later. Further information about Apple's digital music products can be found at <http://www.apple.com/ipod> and <http://www.apple.com/music>.



Apple's Music Store as seen through the iTunes 4 interface

The ability to browse the entire music store by genre, artist and album combined with free high-quality previews of every song lets users explore music in an entirely new way, to easily find the hits they love and discover gems they have never heard before.

Information and images used in this article were obtained from Apple.com, all rights reserved.

# Create, We Hardly Knew Ya

by Matt LaRusso, editor

In the April *Window* it was reported that Macworld Expo had been renamed Create. Just as that news was filtering through the Apple world, the event formerly known as Macworld Expo NY was renamed again.

## What's in a Name?

So long Macworld Expo... Goodbye, Create... This summer's Mac event in New York City is now known as "Macworld CreativePro Conference and Expo."

IDG World Expo, who runs the event, says the name change "further defines the event's focus on the needs of creative professionals, as well as consumers who want to develop more advanced skills in the creative arts."

**Macworld**  
Conference & Expo

+

**CREATE**

=

**Macworld**  
**creativePro**  
Conference & Expo

*Trying to keep up with the name of this summer's Mac Expo in New York City...*

While the name change may just be an attempt to encourage exhibitors and attendees who are not so interested in the creative arts to attend the show, each name change brings more confusion.

## Register Early

Macworld CreativePro Conference and Expo will be held at the Javits Center in New York City from July 14-18, 2003.

Whatever the name, the show will go on, and it will be in the best interest for User Group Members of all persuasions to attend.

If you register before May 19 using the User Group priority code D-CRUG, you will get free admission to the exhibits floor and 10% off any paid conference you may want to attend.

MACNJ members are encouraged to take ten minutes and register online for a free admission pass. Even if you are unable to attend or you change your mind and are unable to go, this registration will not cost you anything. Registration after May 19 or at the door during the Expo could cost up to \$25 for the same general "exhibits only" pass.

## MACNJ Presence?

Amid all the confusion with the name, there has been no mention of User Group participation at the CreativePro Expo event. However, if MACNJ is asked to participate as part of a User Group contingent as in the last two Macworld Expos, this information will be shared with MACNJ.

## For More Info...

Registration, a list of exhibitors, and other general information can be found on the official website (whose name has not changed) at <http://www.macworldexpo.com>.

# SIG News

## Digital Camera SIG

by Chod Lang

I have decided to discontinue our Digital Camera special interest group meetings, as attendance at the last few months has been meager.

Initially enthusiasm ran high, but the lack of interest has discouraged me and so I am canceling all future meetings.

I have given some thought to running a weekly online chat for the SIG and posting a "chat" page on our SIG site so that we can all share and see what we are discussing.

For the moment, I am contemplating Monday nights from 8 pm to 9 pm. If any of you are interested in exploring this kind of involvement, please send me an email at [chod@chodlang.com](mailto:chod@chodlang.com) to express your views.

Finally, if any one of you would like to pick this SIG up, please do not hesitate to do so.

## Photoshop SIG

by Matt LaRusso

There will not be a May Photoshop Special Interest Group meeting. The original meeting, scheduled for Thursday May 8, has been cancelled.

The SIG will resume with the next meeting in June on Thursday the 12th, from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Voorhees High School. This will be the last Photoshop SIG meeting before the summer break.

As always, members are encouraged to bring their questions, problems, images, or anything they would like to share, to the meeting for discussion.

# MACNJ iMovie Fest

by David L. Davis

Calling all aspiring filmmakers... MACNJ is holding its first annual iMovie Digital Video festival. This is your chance to try your hand at digital video creation and share it with your fellow MACNJ members.

## Requirements

There are only two requirements for entry into the festival. The movie must be no more than 3 minutes in length, and the final editing must be done using Apple's free iMovie (any version) video editing software.

The festival is open to any MACNJ member, limit one entry per member.

The final video may contain whatever subject or content you wish to employ. You can use motion footage captured with a video camera, still photos, or animated footage created in either a 2D or 3D software package. You may create a visual poem, story, music video, animation, commercial, or

anything else that fits within your three minutes.

## A note about Exporting

All entries should be saved as QuickTime files for presentation at the meeting. This will also reduce the file size enough for easier transporting on a CD or ZIP disk.

When you are finished editing in iMovie, choose "Export to CD-ROM." The finished 3 minute movie should then easily fit on a CD-ROM or 100MB Zip disk.

The final movie should be brought to the meeting on a CD or DVD. To help us



*When you are finished editing in iMovie, choose "Export to CD-ROM." The finished movie should then easily fit on a CD or ZIP disk.*

prepare for the meeting, please send an email to David Davis at [davidldavis@patmedia.net](mailto:davidldavis@patmedia.net) by June 1 to ensure your spot in the festival lineup.

Each participant should be ready to introduce their film at the meeting and be willing to describe any techniques employed in the making of their video.

However, if you are unable to be present and would still like to participate in the festival, send your completed video to:

David Davis  
242 Cherryville Road  
Flemington, NJ 08822

The disc must arrive by June 10th to be included. If you have any commentary you wish to have read, please include that as well.

## Ready the Popcorn

MACNJ will show the submitted videos at the June 14 meeting from 9:30 am to 12 noon. There will be a \$50 Apple Store gift card awarded for the best submission, determined by a vote of the members in attendance.

## iMovie Resources

Want to learn more about using iMovie? Check out these online resources.

### Apple's iMovie website

Download the latest version, check camera compatibility, and <http://www.apple.com/imovie/>

### Iowa State University College of Design iMovie tutorials

[http://www.design.iastate.edu/LABS/mac\\_tutorials/imovie/basic.html](http://www.design.iastate.edu/LABS/mac_tutorials/imovie/basic.html)

### Macworld article "How to Share Your Movies on the Web, CD-ROM, or Videotape" – great information for exporting your finished movie

<http://www.macworld.com/2000/12/bc/howtoimovie/>

### Plug-ins for iMovie (both for sale and free)

<http://www.ezedia.com/iMovie>  
<http://www.geethree.com/slick/>  
<http://www.virtix.com/imovie/>

### Additional iMovie links

<http://www.floydcalderwood.com/imovie.html>

# April Meeting Notes

by David Davis

David opened the meeting by announcing Apple's update of Jaguar 10.2.4 to 10.2.5 which should fix, among other things, some of the Print Center problems.

## e-Etiquette

David reminded the members that "frivolous emails" are not always welcome and should not be sent to the entire member list. Please only send to those who you know for sure will appreciate a particular e-mail.

## Publicity Vacancy

Chod Lang will no longer be able to do publicity for the Group. Please let David know if you are interested in filling the position.

## iCal

David reminded us to check the iCal for scheduled meetings and activities such as next Tuesday night's Camera SIG.

## Programs

Bill Barr, Program Chairman, welcomed visitors and guests to the meeting. There was a conversation about next month's topic, AppleScript and how it helps automate repetitive tasks.

## Featured Program

Matt Cirigliano and David Davis presented a program focusing on digital video editing on the Mac using applications such as iMovie, Final Cut Express, and Final Cut Pro.

The program began with a wonderful movie providing an overview of MACNJ. David discussed how it was done using iMovie 3.

Matt displayed a number of digital video cameras and described some of the things to look for when considering purchasing a camera. He pointed out and explained features as a 3CCD chip which captures richer color (and is also

more expensive) and the advice to look for "analog in and out" as well as the suggested the use of a camera with a mini DV format for recording media.

With iMovie 3, Apple has more closely integrated the other applications in the "iLife" family. Importing a photo from the iPhoto library was demonstrated as well as bringing in sound from the library and iTunes.

Also shown were instructions on how to cut clips in order to edit a movie. Additional features such as the many aspects of titles, using a choice of speeds, direction and "pause" timing were shown. We learned about the varied types of transitions connecting one clip to another and the many effects that can be used to add drama or humor and interest to any movie.

There was a demonstration of "blue screen" technique to insert a figure over any type of background. EZ Screen from eZedia was suggested as an available iMovie plug-in for this effect.

The use of the "Ken Burns Effect" which provides movement to still images was also demonstrated. This effect was made popular in recent years by Ken Burns' documentaries on baseball, jazz, and the Civil War.

It was an entertaining and informative presentation, and MACNJ members in attendance should now be more confident and eager to try using iMovie either for the first time or in new and unique ways.

## Next Meeting

The meeting will be held on Saturday, May 10th at Voorhees High School from 9 a.m. to noon. As always, check the MACNJ site at <http://www.macnj.org> for the latest meeting information.

## Member Benefits

### Peachpit

Peachpit Press has created an exclusive discount incentive for the members of MACNJ when shopping online at their website. This new offer opens up their entire line-up of books to you at an additional 20% off our already discounted prices and allows you an unlimited number of purchases with these savings. How do you do it? Simple. Visit the Peachpit Press online store at <http://www.peachpit.com> and complete your shopping. At checkout, enter coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF and the discount will automatically be applied.

### O'Reilly

MACNJ user group members get 20% off any O'Reilly book they purchase directly from O'Reilly. Just use code DSUG when ordering at <http://www.oreilly.com/>.

### CreativePro Expo

If you register before May 19 using the User Group priority code D-CRUG, you will get free admission to the exhibits floor and 10% off any paid conference you may want to attend. <http://www.macworldexpo.com>.

### CreativePro MUG Discounts

While Macworld Expo figures out what to call itself this year, there are a selection of great Macworld CreativePro Expo vendor discounts (including some heavily-discounted magazine subscriptions) available to User Group Members at the Mug Center. Visit the discount page at <http://www.mugcenter.com/vendornews/vendornews.html>.

# MACNJ Member Directory

from the MACNJ membership database

## Officers and Committee Chairs

David L. Davis, President	(908) 782-0788
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Michael W. Fordice, PhD, Webmaster	(973) 361-3715
Matt LaRusso, Newsletter Editor,	
Photoshop SIG Chair	(908) 237-1042
Graham Curtis, Treasurer	(973) 762-9366
Publicity Chair (vacant)	
Deborah M. Lynch, Librarian	(908) 439-3120
Elaine Studnicki, Refreshment Chairperson	(908) 806-3649
Barbara Middleton, Recording Secretary	(908) 996-4747
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## About the Member List

Every effort is made to keep the member directory current. If your name has disappeared from the list, you may be delinquent in your dues. Please check with treasurer Graham Curtis. Send all other address updates, changes and corrections to President David Davis. Thank you.

# MACNJ Meeting Information

Check the latest meeting information on the MACNJ website at <http://www.macnj.org>

MACNJ meetings are usually held on the second Saturday of each month at Voorhees High School, in High Bridge, New Jersey, from 9 a.m. 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 (Clinton/Washington exit.) Follow 31 north 2.1 miles to a traffic light with 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 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

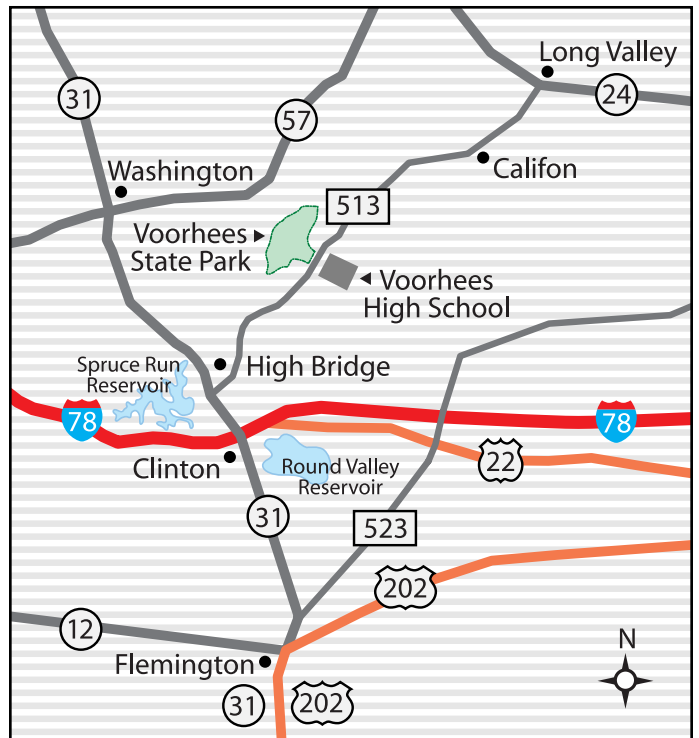
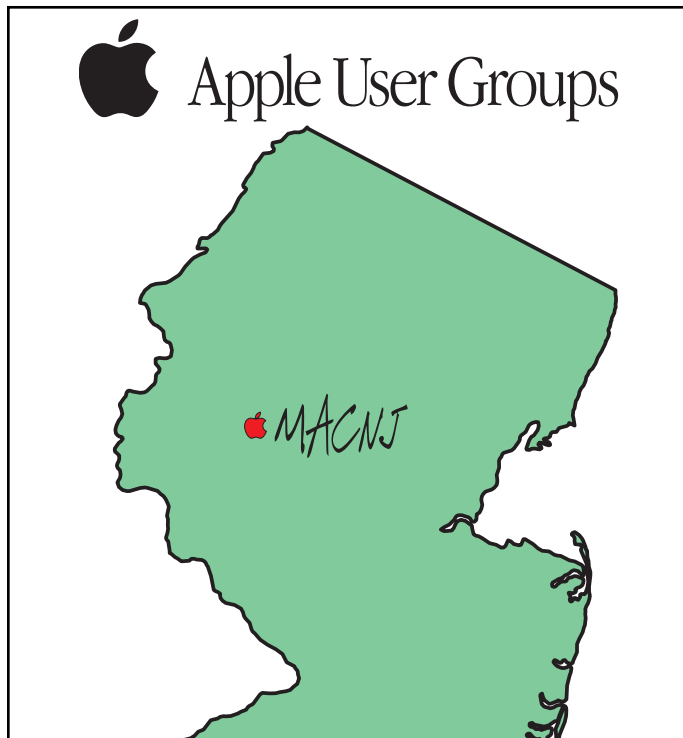
Bridge. Turn right onto County Route 513 north. Follow 513 for two miles into the town of High Bridge. Voorhees High School is two miles further at 256 Route 513, on the right, across from Voorhees State Park.



photo by Bill Barr

### 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.



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# Membership Form

Annual dues are \$24, due each January. Members joining during the year pay \$2 per month for the months remaining in the current year. Please make all checks payable to "MACNJ". Checks can be given to Treasurer Graham Curtis at the monthly meetings, or mailed to:

**MACNJ Membership  
c/o Graham T. Curtis  
33 Woodland Road  
Maplewood, NJ 07040**



*Apple's new 14.1" 900 MHz iBook  
image courtesy of Apple*

*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)

name

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

city

state

ZIP code

telephone number

e-mail address

computer interests (list as many as you'd like)