



# The RAG Times

**December 2009**

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## Auto-Add Songs to iTunes from Any Computer Anywhere

MacLife Newsletter Dec. 14, 2009



The Home Sharing feature in iTunes 9 lets you share music between computers right within iTunes, but it has a bunch of limitations. Both machines need to be on one network, and the only automatic transfers are new iTunes Store purchases--regular old CD rips and non-iTunes downloads can be dragged manually from one computer to another.

But iTunes 9 also added the Automatically Add To iTunes folder to your iTunes Media folder. Any iTunes-compatible file dropped in here is, like the sign says, automatically added to your iTunes library. Just drop it in there and poof, it's gone. But check in iTunes. It's there.

Pretty cool, but better yet, we can add things to that folder from other computers, both on the lo-

cal network and elsewhere. So if you have a main iTunes library stored on a Mac mini in your entertainment center, [you can add tracks to it from any other computer you use](#), from an iMac in the den, a laptop in the backyard, or even your Mac or PC at work.

**Mac911**

## Cures for a crusty keyboard

Posted by Christopher Breen on Dec 16, 2009  
1:48 pm 10 comments

Reader Marcie Phipps seeks to clean up her act. She writes:

I have an old keyboard that I love, but its keys are sticking due to built up dust and gunk. Is there a way to clean it?

This is a common question and with it come solutions both tried-and-true and controversial. Starting with the tried-and-true:

The first step in cleaning a keyboard is to unplug it, grab a can of compressed air (found at any electronic supply store), and blast air around the base of the keys

*(cont'd page 2)*

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**RIAG Officers:**

President *	Mark Rafferty	(401) 232-2023
Vice President *	Helen Anger	(401) 247-1457
Secretary *	John Gentile	(401) 946-2486
Treasurer *	Michelle Smith	(401) 434-0946
President Emeritus*	Dave Angell	(401) 941-8934

\* = Member of RIAG Board

**NEED HELP?**

This is a list of RIAG Consultants. We may not be able to answer all your questions but hopefully we will be able to direct you to a knowledgeable source.

Dave Angell	(401) 941-8934
John Gentile	(401) 946-2486
Mark Rafferty	(401) 232-2023
Paul Gerstenbluth	(401) 884-1330

This is a volunteer service. Please be reasonable as far as calling times are concerned and try to have all the pertinent data at hand before you call. Before calling, have your computer running so we can quickly answer your questions. If you would like your name listed, please call the editor.

**Editor's Note**

Well, it's time for our annual holiday party! So bring something if you can or bring a friend!

I'm only putting out a short newsletter, there isn't much in the way of Apple news at this time. The news last month included the huge new iMacs and the really slick Magic Mouse - you've got to go check it out at the Apple Store!

My family and I want to wish you all a very merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah or whatever holiday you celebrate at this time of year. And a happy new year!

John

**Club Calendar**

Monthly Meeting Dec 19, Saturday  
At Mark's house TIME: at 2 PM. Our Holiday Party  
and learn how to make a web page. Map on  
page 4.

Monthly Meeting Jan 16, Saturday  
At Mark's house TIME: at 2 PM. To be announced

The montly meetings take place on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Mark Rafferty's home in Smithfield, RI.

Please let us know what meetings you would like to see.

**President's Report:**

In December Reinaldo Perez will show us how easy it is to create a web page! This can be a lot of fun and can serve as a way for a family to stay in touch. He is going to demo three easy to use programs: iWeb, DreamWeaver, and RapidWeaver. We will also have our holiday party at this meeting! So, bring some party stuff if you can, but please bring yourself anyway!!

See you then.

Mark

**Cruddy keyboard (cont'd from page 1)**

in the hope of dislodging whatever's gumming up the works. Do this holding the can of compressed air upright. Flip the can upside down and there's some danger that you'll squirt propellant into the keyboard.

Turn the keyboard over and give it a good shake in the hope of removing the gunk you've loosened. While in this position, blast it a few more times with the compressed air. If a key remains unresponsive after this treatment, gently pry it up with a small flat-head screwdriver and clean its post with a slightly damp cloth.

Now, the controversial:

If the keyboard is so filthy that it appears to be a lost cause—as it might after a major coffee, soda, or Mai Tai spill—put it in the dishwasher. Place it in the top rack, dial the dishwasher to a rinse only setting, don't put soap in the thing, and run it through. Remove the keyboard and let it drain, with keys down, until it's completely dry—this could take a couple of days.

This is controversial because some keyboard manufacturers suggest that you not do this as they won't guarantee that the keyboard will survive the ordeal—particularly if you hit the keyboard with really hot water, detergent, and flying cutlery.

Speaking from personal experience, I've done this with a beloved [Matias TactilePro keyboard](#) that I'd given up for dead (this is the perfect condition under which to conduct this experiment). I'm happy to report that not only did it survive, it works perfectly (and is a whole lot nicer to look at than it once was).



## AppleWorks and Leopard

I recently upgraded my trusty iMac G5 to Leopard and love the new look and the way it operates. I especially like having the security of backing up automatically to an external drive.

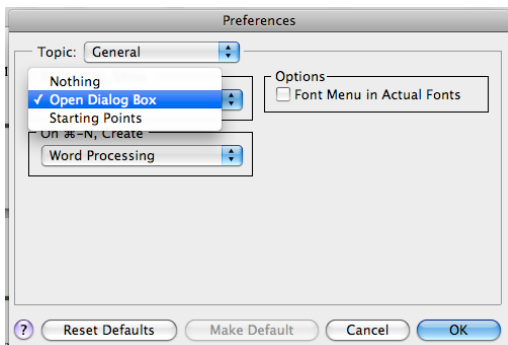
However, I did have a problem getting AppleWorks to start. Yes, I still use AppleWorks and have been using it in all its various versions from Apple II, Apple IIGS, ClarisWorks, and finally AppleWorks version 6. Yes, it is "old in the tooth", but it still is a valuable program that can do word processing, data base, spreadsheet, drawing and painting!

The normal set up is to have AppleWorks open up the Starting Points panel, and discovered that after I upgraded to Leopard, AppleWorks would crash with an error while starting.

I did a little research and discovered that, indeed, the Starting Points panel is incompatible with Leopard. The fix is actually easy.

If you have already loaded Leopard or Snow Leopard, find an AppleWorks document and double click on it. AppleWorks should open and the file should open with it.

Once open, go to the File Menu and then go to the Preferences and open it. Look for the **On StartUp:** prompt and click on the down arrow to see a choice dialog box. Make sure you choose to Open Dialog Box or Nothing.



The next time you click on the AppleWorks icon it will open without an error.



## Using the Mighty Mouse buttons.

I've had a few people complain to me lately that their Apple mouse doesn't have a right button. I recently found out that the default setting in the Mouse control panel is to not define the right button making it inactive. I wonder how many switchers are complaining about the Apple 1 button mouse! The fix is easy - just go to the System Preferences and open up the Mouse Preferences and tell your mouse what you want it to do with the various clicks.



## Meeting Directions:

Directions to Mark Rafferty's House.

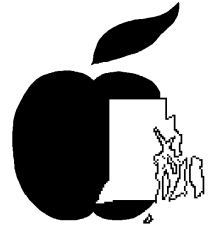


From 295, take the route 7 exit south to Whipple Road, turn right and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Carol Ann Drive.

From 95, take the route 146 exit and then take the Twin River Rd exit, turn right on Twin River Rd and go 1 mile to Route 7 (Douglas Pike). Turn right and go up to Whipple Road, turn left and then take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left onto Carol Ann Drive.



**Membership Application**  
**RHODE ISLAND APPLE GROUP**  
**PO Box 387**  
**East Greenwich, RI 02818-0387**



Please fill out the information below and send it with a check for \$30 (\$20 for one year's membership and a one time fee for initiation of \$10) to the above address or bring it to any meeting. (Please Print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2: (Business/School) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephones: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (Business)

Would you like your ( ) Home or ( ) Business/School # on the Membership list?

In an effort to better serve our members, we would like to know a few things about you and your computer system. This part is, of course, OPTIONAL but the information will help us better serve you.

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ (Optional)

I use my computer in: (Home), (Business), (School), Other \_\_\_\_\_ Circle all items that apply)

Briefly describe your computer system (present and planned). Please include any modem, hard drives, or major pieces of software, you have.

Computer \_\_\_\_\_

Printer: \_\_\_\_\_ Hard Drive: \_\_\_\_\_

Modem: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

• Is your computer used primarily for business, entertainment, science, education, or other applications?

\_\_\_\_\_

• What are some of the things (help, software, etc.) that you want or expect to get out of this group?

\_\_\_\_\_

• Is there anything you would be willing to contribute to the club. This might include: Demonstrations of Software or Hardware, newsletter articles, programs, and teaching others.

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the club?

# December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 2:00 PM RIAG Main meeting at Mark's house
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

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