

SSMUG NEWSLETTER

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MEETINGS

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM

Flossmoor Station Brew Pub

WALTER PALMER, Editor

Apple Car May Slip to 2021

No real reason is given for the delay in the introduction of the Apple car, but then Apple denies even developing on one. It would be interesting to know what it would be

like. To be cynical, there will be some necessary but otherwise generic item (tires, for example) that Apple will insist will be incompatible unless you buy them from Apple.

Speak of the Devil...

Two days after I wrote the preceding it was announced that Bob Mansfield, Apple's Special Projects "guru", who had left the company has rejoined it. Speculation is that his job is to get the

Apple Car
(Applemobile?) back on
track.

Final update: It seems
Apple may have
lowered its sights. Now
there is talk about Apple
just making the GPS/
self-driving part and
having someone else
make the actual car.

That makes sense
except that several years
ago they approached
BMW and Daimler with
the idea, but neither was
interested. Also, Apple
outsources the
manufacturing of its
current products now.
This was Tim Cook's
idea.

We won't know until
we know.

3D Printers

Sometime, while your
editor slept, public
libraries began making
coin operated 3D
printers available for
public use, like
photocopiers. The
Homewood PL is
among them. Clearly,
these are for small, one-
off, items. The word is
that they are extremely
slow.

Wet Cell Phone?

The Verizon retailer on
Halsted in Homewood
has a machine (Redux)
that will dry out a
smartphone and
hopefully resurrect it.
They are located in the
outlot next to where

Menards was and (will rise again). The cost is \$90.00 for a smartphone. The new iPhone 7 is rumored to have a moisture indicator inside. It is not known if this process will reset the indicator or not.

iPhone 7 rumors

As we near the presumed introduction date in September, the rumor mill is heating up.

The earphone jack is almost certain to be gone. Wired earphones will connect through the lightning port. This will preclude simultaneous playback and charging unless one is playing

through a car. Already there are earbuds on the market that connect via Bluetooth. Some do not even have wires to connect them to each other. Replacing something as expensive and as small as an earbud, think hearing aid, will make a dandy revenue stream for somebody. There is such a thing as too small (and too light). Feeling the weight can be an important reassurance that the object in question is still there.

The camera is rumored to be improved, causing a 'camera bump' that is larger than the one on the iPhone 6 (horrors,

you can catch fingernail on it!). There are leaks of a model with dual cameras, on the back of the phone. It is now known if this will see the light of day or not.

If Apple is looking for a new product line, it may be a good idea for them to sell a dedicated camera. Improved camera, Internet for iCloud. and that is it.

iOS 9

This is kind old news by now since WWDC is several months past by this writing. Still ...

Improved lock screen

The lock screen will display more information by default

and will unlock when the phone is picked up. There are safety measures, so don't worry too much.

However, 'sweep to unlock' will be gone. You push the Home Button, which is still physical, to perform the same function. [Apple is considering adding iris scanning as a method of securing the iPhone.]

Control Center will be improved and expanded.

MacOS

OS X will be called macOS again. Back when they wanted to differentiate OS 9 from OS 10, which was an entirely new OS so they named it OS X. But then Apple came out with OS X 10.1, which was really OS 11, and so forth. They finally decided to do what much of the public already has done and call OS upgrades what they really are.

The other big news is that SIRI will now be available on the Mac.

Interestingly, voice control of computers has been predicted in SF movies for some

time now. There was even a book, (article?), titled “Luke Skywalker Can’t Read”, they predict that in the future people will not use keyboards, but will simply talk to their computers. Remember in “Star Trek ‘Save the Whales’” when Scotty picked up the mouse and tried to use it as a microphone? Then there is the rise of audio books.

Will we lose skills as technology advances? Sure, writing brought about a loss of memory skills, I cannot give a manual transmission, etc. There are those who don’t know what a manual transmission is.

Voices were invented before writing.

However, there will be a loss of privacy and people's "cocktail party" hearing abilities will stay sharp.

The real solution is to connect the brain and the computer directly. Wire a wifi interface directly to the brain.

That can sound "icky" except that there are many people with steel plates in their heads, artificial joints, and a bit of plastic in their (our?) eyes.

Links

WWDC announcements (partial)

<http://9to5mac.com/2016/06/13/ios-10-features-developers/amp/>

How to convince a partner or spouse to erase emails on a shared computer:

<http://www.macworld.com/article/3076841/mac/how-to-convince-a-partner-or-spouse-to-delete-old-emails.html>

What to do when you can't do anything with a "wonky" external hard drive:

[http://
www.macworld.com/
article/3087089/storage/
what-to-do-when-your-
mac-can-t-mount-
repair-or-erase-a-
drive.html](http://www.macworld.com/article/3087089/storage/what-to-do-when-your-mac-can-t-mount-repair-or-erase-a-drive.html)

mac-elanor-mac-
malware/amp/

How to keep snoops
from listening in to your
computer's microphone:

[http://
www.macworld.com/
article/3091124/macs/
mic-drop-how-to-keep-
snoops-from-listening-
to-your-laptops-
microphone.html](http://www.macworld.com/article/3091124/macs/mic-drop-how-to-keep-snoops-from-listening-to-your-laptops-microphone.html)

New Mac Malware:

[http://9to5mac.com/
2016/07/06/backdoor-](http://9to5mac.com/2016/07/06/backdoor-)