

Welcome to *TEKTOK*
February 20, 2017

Keep going, for success lies just around the corner for those who refuse to quit.

~Anonymous

Web Sites

Pluto Day – 18th Feb each year

If you're like us, you grew up with a solar system that had nine planets in it. You also grew up in world that didn't teach new math, but that's a rant for a different day. Then one day they suddenly decided that designating Pluto as a planet was just wrong, and our most distant friend in the solar system suddenly was told he wasn't good enough for the planet club anymore, and would forever be considered a 'dwarf planet'. Kind of a consolation prize for those not cool enough for the big planets club. Pluto Day celebrates the discovery of Pluto in 1930, when it was designated as a planet, and that's how it should have stayed!

History of Pluto Day

The story of how Pluto was discovered actually starts in the 1840's, when one Urbain Le Verrier determined that there was a planet outside of Uranus, but that planet obviously wasn't Pluto, it was Neptune. But the same methods by which Neptune was discovered led to another beyond it. You see, Uranus was demonstrating some oddities in its orbit, oddities caused by its nearest, yet undiscovered, neighbor, Neptune. Once they were able to actually observe Neptune, they realized that another planet must be disturbing Uranus's orbit as well, what they were seeing couldn't be explained merely by Neptune.

This led to a search for Planet X (an Amazing name that we think Pluto should have kept, but we're not able to do anything about that, obviously) headed by Percival Lowell. Unfortunately Lowell would pass from this mortal coil (and into the hands of Pluto, God of the Dead) before Pluto was discovered... At least, before he would know about it. You see, during their surveys of the deep sky in search of 'Planet X', two faint smudges would appear that were later to be revealed to be Pluto.

The actual discovery of Pluto happened in February of 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh. After so many years and so many lives spent searching for it, we think that Pluto deserves to remain a planet, don't you?

How to celebrate Pluto Day

The best way to celebrate Pluto Day is to learn as much about this planet (yes we said PLANET) as you can. It's got an interesting history, and a composition of some familiar substances. Oh yes, for those who'd like to know? Pluto was named by Venetia Burney, an 11 year old who had a fascination with classical mythology.

[Clyde Tombaugh: Discoverer of Pluto](#)

[Archived Content] [Archived Content] Noted astronomer and discoverer of Pluto, Tombaugh was only 24 years old when he made this discovery. Site includes a personal interview that took place in 1991.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20160309122629/http://www.achievement.org/autodoc/page/tom0pro-1>

[Pluto](#)

This site contains copious information about Pluto. The site contains descriptive and statistical information, as well as a detailed article about the search for trans-Plutonian planets and the "Nemesis" hypothesis.

<http://nineplanets.org/pluto.html>

[News in Science: The planet formerly known as Pluto ...](#)

From ABC News in Science, this article discusses issues related to Pluto its removal from planetary status. The brief article also touches on the renaming and re-listing process of Pluto.

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2006/09/14/1740687.htm>

Hardware/Software

Reach Out and Touch Bar

I am just getting used to my new MacBook Pro with Touch Bar and while I cannot say that the Touch Bar has changed the way I work, YET; I do think that it may!

The things I use the most now are the Siri button and the fingerprint sensor. I am also using it with AirMail and love the big red "Move to Trash" button. If the app you are using is optimized for the Touch Bar you may be able to customize it for the way you work. When I am working on my inbox we have one set of Touch Bar helpers and when I am in the middle of writing an email I have another set of useful buttons.

But where are my function keys? Well, I never use function keys, but if you

need your function keys it is simply a matter of pressing the “fn” key at the bottom left of the keyboard and your beautiful Touch Bar is transported back in time to function keys.

When you are in the Finder the Control Strip on the right side of the Touch Bar shows a few familiar buttons like volume, mute, and display brightness, as well as Siri. The Escape (Esc) button appears on the left side of the Touch Bar.

In Safari you can just touch one of your favorites and safari surfs right over. Once you are there, the Touch Bar will show you open tabs, just touch to open, a back and forward arrow, home button and of course, you can customize it to add things like history, autofill or sidebar.

In Photos, the Touch Bar speeds your search for just the right photo as you slide your finger across the thumbnails. You can tap to mark a selected photo as a favorite or tap rotate it. After you select a photo, tap to see editing options (crop, filters, adjust, retouch, and red-eye). You can edit your photo using controls that appear on the Touch Bar.

It is pretty cool in Maps, too, but I don't know how many people are navigating with their MacBook Pros. You can find yourself by tapping in the Touch Bar to find your location. Tap the search field to type where you want to go. See what's nearby. The Touch Bar shows buttons with categories of nearby locations, like restaurants, hotels, and gas stations. Get there: When you select a location to visit, you see options for getting directions, calling the business, or viewing its website.

In most apps you can customize the Touch Bar. Choose View -> Customize Touch Bar. The customization window appears on your display, allowing you to choose your favorite items. When you're customizing the Touch Bar, its buttons jiggle like on your iPhone, and you see the Done button on the left side.

Use your cursor to drag items that you want down into the actual Touch Bar. You can also drag items left and right within the Touch Bar to rearrange them, or drag them up and out of the Touch Bar to remove them. Tap Done in the Touch Bar or click Done on the screen when you finish.

Apple hasn't forgotten about accessibility either. As an example, you can activate Voice Over by pressing the command key and tapping the Touch ID button three times. VoiceOver tells you what's on your screen, and walks you through actions like selecting a menu option or activating a button using your keyboard or trackpad. It can also tell you what's on your Touch Bar.

You can change the magnification level by holding down the Command key and use a two-finger pinch gesture or while panning with one finger, quickly tap with a second finger to synthesize a tap where your first finger is. Hold the second finger down and move both fingers together to synthesize a tap down and drag where your first finger is. Hold your finger still in one location to enter direct-touch mode, which allows you to interact directly with the control under your finger.

I think that the Touch Bar is a pretty amazing innovation that may really make a difference in how I interact with my Mac. I did not think that I would use it much with my external keyboard, but I am moving my MacBook Pro closer and closer so I can use the Touch Bar to do things like delete mail or surf through my photos.

Hints/Tips

Function keys

Touch Bar replaces the Function keys, but you can bring them back by just pressing the fn key. This behavior is customizable – open System Preferences Touch Bar options and you can customize what the fn button invokes. You might want to access traditional System Controls instead.

Riddles You Can Tell in Class

What Roman numeral can climb a wall?

Answer: IV (ivy).

What letter travels the greatest distance?

Answer: The letter D because it is at the end of the world.

When were there only 2 vowels?

Answer: In the days of No-A, before U and I were born.

This Day in History

Birthdates which occurred on February 21:

1903 Thomas Yawkey baseball owner (Boston Red Sox)

1925 Sam Peckinpah Fresno CA, film director (The Wild Bunch, Straw Dogs)

1931 Larry Hagman TV actor (I Dream of Jeannie, Dallas)

1934 Rue McClanahan Healdton OK, actress (Maude, Golden Girls)

1936 Barbara Jordan Houston TX, (Representative-D-TX, 1972-78)

1937 Gary Lockwood Van Nuys CA, actor (2001, Survival Zone, Lieutenant)
1946 Tricia Nixon Cox Richard Milhaus Nixon's daughter (or 0202)
1946 Tyne Daly Madison WI, actress (Cagney & Lacey, Angel Unchained)
1946 Alan Rickman actor (Robin Hood Prince of Thieves)
1947 Jill Eikenberry actress (Ann Kelsey-LA Law)
1953 Christine Ebersole Park Forest IL, actress (Saturday Night Live, Barbara-Valerie, My Favorite Martian, Tootsie)
1953 William L Petersen actor (Return to Lonesome Dove)
1986 Amedeo Belgium, son of princess Astrid/arch duke Lorenz

On This Day:

1173 Pope Alexander III canonizes Thomas Becket Archbishop of Canterbury
1431 England begins trial against Joan of Arc
1792 Congress passes Presidential Succession Act
1857 Congress outlaws foreign currency as legal tender in US
1862 Texas Rangers win Confederate victory at Battle of Val Verde, New Mexico
1862 Confederate Constitution & Presidency are declared permanent
1874 Benjamin Disraeli replaces William Gladstone as English premier
1878 1st telephone directory (with 50 names) issued (New Haven CT)
1885 Washington Monument dedicated (Washington DC)
1887 Oregon becomes 1st US state to make Labor Day a holiday
1925 1st issue of "New Yorker" magazine published
1931 Alka Seltzer introduced
1969 Ted Williams signs 5-year contract to manage Washington Senators
1972 Richard Nixon becomes 1st US President to visit China

Doug Yonce

Apple Distinguished Educator

Apple Teacher – 2016

STAR Discovery Educator

Doug.Yonce@svusd.org

yonce@mac.com

To subscribe/unsubscribe or manage your preference, visit:

<http://www.svusd.org/technology.html>

Archives of selected newsletters may be found at:

<http://www.mryonce.com/tektokarchives.html>

TEK TOK uses **netTrekker** to explore the internet

netTrekker delivers the industry-leading digital learning resource library with only the best content from the web — 360,000+ curated digital resources tagged, organized, and aligned to standards so that teachers, students, and parents can find just what they need, all in one place, in a fraction of the time. Learn more about this tremendous resource at:

<http://www.nettrekker.com/us/>