Hello Out There in bits and bites space!

Having survived another stint as 'Harry' the Button Seller Vampire at this year TMF, I'm feeling lazy so this month's eTalk is a bit unusual.

But of course all of you who seek audio fame, will have created many dead CDs as part of your recording efforts. So the article that follows aims at easing your plight, or perhaps your guilt.

From my perspective, the good news is that at the festival, I talked with P. K. Dwyer, Mary Benson, with Mimi Geibel (Waterbound) and they expressed an interest in contributing to eTalk.

STOP the PRESS!

For those of you who attended this year's grrreat festive, we'd like some feedback. I do a post mortem on each festival, combining feedback from both volunteers and participants so we can do better in TMF '06. So, share, if you like, the good, the bad and the beautiful.

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Recycle CDs... Don't Throw Them Away

Years ago, when in undergraduate school my friends would play a game designed to test which of us was more intelligent. The rules were simple. One of us named an object such as a brick



or a safety pin, and we all had to writ down as many uses for a brick as we could in 5 minutes — longer if we had had a few glasses of wine. The person with the most entries got to choose the next topic. After 3-5 rounds the individual with the most, not necessarily plausible — just imaginative ideas, won. This tip took me back to my more carefree youth.

"What do you do with your old CD-ROMs? Why not recycle them. Here are a few suggestions.

<u>Coasters</u> — Use a piece of tape to cover the center hole.

Reflectors — On a rural mailbox or as driveway markers.

<u>Christmas Tree Decorations</u> — Glue 2 CD-ROMs with printed side together and add string for hanger -or- hang CDs outside on a tree at Christmas time. They can stand up to any weather and will reflect lights.

Garden Row Markers

Rifle Targets

Sun Catchers

<u>Mosaic</u> — Break by hand or with hammer, glue to board with tile mastic, then add grout.

<u>Mobiles</u> — Hang CDs with string or fishing line and balance from hanger, dowels, or branches.

<u>Clock</u> — Buy battery-powered clock workings, use the CD-ROM for face, then either add numbers or leave the face blank.

Hidden Plug Help — Put double stick tape on the non-mirrored surface of the CD, line it up with the plugs you need to find, and attach it to the wall behind the appliance to use as a mirror.

<u>Wall Decorations</u> — Use a tack in the center hole or use double stick tape to attach them to the wall.

<u>Game Pieces</u> — Make a giant checkerboard, 8 squares by 8 squares. Mark CD-ROMs with marker or paint: 12 black, 12 red. For chess, mark or draw chess pieces on blank side of CD-ROM.

<u>Carpet Protectors</u> — Place under sofa or chair legs to protect carpet/rug from furniture indent (replaced with CD indent!).

<u>Disco Ball</u> — Cut into small squares or break into pieces. Glue pieces onto large foam ball. Use unbroken CDs for a HUGE disco ball. Hang from ceiling by string or wire. Play loud music. Dance.

<u>Scarecrow</u> — Hang CDs in your garden to scare away the crows. This doesn't work! However, you can take several CDs and wire them together to look like an owl. Hang it so that it moves in the breeze. This will

scare small woodpeckers (downy, redbellied) away; keep them from girding your favorite trees. It won't keep flickers from hammering on aluminum downspouts at dawn.

<u>Bird Entertainment</u> — Sometimes cardinals and other birds will attack their reflections in a window or car mirror. This makes a mess on the glass. Hang up a CD, and birds will attack that instead of the window or mirror.

<u>Light Switch Cover</u> — Use a standard light switch cover as a template. Cut a hole for the switch with Dremel tool or by hand with a mat knife or tile cutter knife. Drill holes with slow drill and sharp drill bit.

<u>Desk Lamp</u> — Stacked CDs with neon light at center

<u>Survival Reflectors</u> — Stow in pocket accessible to signal for rescue while hiking or boating."

Submitted by: M.U.D. Slinger, Wilmington DE Used with Pail Tailors' permission from the May 2005 *Hints&Tips* at www.mac-hints-tips.com/

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...AND signup for concert announcements at *folkevent_3rfs* on our website. Ed Lund, our announcements list keeper will add you to that list, so you'll never need to miss a concert or coffee house again!

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Harry {doc} Babad eTalk Editor and List Keeper