MacBits

Volume XIV, Issue 8 —————————————————————— **August 19, 2000**

Meet Our New Officers
and a few who remained

For those of you who haven't already been informed, here is the outcome of last months' elections:

Our new President is Kathy Pihlaja Lacina. (You can read all about her or any of the new board members in last months' MacBits).

Our new Vice President is Gayle Baker. Brenda Foster remains as Treasurer and Mark Fosgate has returned from his travels and has been reinstated in the office as secretary.

The auxiliary board members are Bill Bernett, Aquisitions (he's the guy you need to see for great deals on used equipment), Jamie Cox as Web Master and SYSOP (he keeps our Website and BBS maintained), and last but not least; myself, Cher Daley remains as your newsletter editor.

Before I go any further, let me extend thanks and appreciation to our former officers. Bryan Kattwinkel has been with our club for many years and has helped many people with every imaginable challenge. Many thanks Bryan and we look forward to your continued participation.

Thanks to Sue Honig, former Web Ghodess for all your help and internet expertise.

And Thanks to Pete Gelpi for all his efforts in keeping our membership records.

We welcome participation in any form in our club, whether it's helping on a committee, sharing ideas, helping other members, giving a demonstration, writing or drawing items for the newsletter or any way conceivable you can create to help the club.

Please let us know if you want to help! Look forward to many positive changes in the near future!

Inside This Issue

Member's Corner

New Member Spot Light:

Welcome to all our new members!

Stay tuned to this location in the future we hope to include interest areas of new members as well as their names.

Mac Books Available for discounts to Members:

Peachpit Press offers a **40% discount** to MacMAD if we order 11 books or more as a group. Contact Brenda Foster, Treasurer; if you wish to be put on the order list.

O'REILLY® **User Group Program** offers **20% discount on all O'Reilly books,** software and conferences

As a user group member you are entitled to a 20% discount any time you order direct from O'Reilly

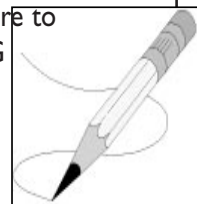When ordering be sure to include the code DSUG

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Not Just Pretty Faces! ;))

Pics of Our Current MadBoard in Action!

As you can see, we live up to the clubs acronym (Macintosh Meeting and Drinking Society) even at our board meetings. Here are some of our board members preparing to delve into good eats while making decisions to help serve our membership.

L-R: Gayle Baker, Vice President, Kathy Pihlaja Lacina, President
Top: Gayle, Kathy & Brenda Foster, Treasurer

Center L-R: Jamie Cox, WebMaster/SYSOP, Bill Bernett, Acquisitions; Mark Fosgate, Secretary

Bottom L-R: Bill Bernett, Mark Fosgate, & Cher Daley, MacBits Editor

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MACMAD
Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society   est. 1984

http://www.macmad.org
http://bbs.macmad.org

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Treasurer	Brenda Foster	724-1948	.needleworx@earthlink.net
Membership	Fay Null	255-8344	.faynull@aol.com
Sysop/Web Maaster	Jamie Cox	255-5387	.jamiecox@iu.net
Web Ghoddess	Sue Honig	636-1531	.sbjb@netstreet.net
Editor	Cher Daley	724-8981	.cdaleyart@aol.com
Director of Acquisitions	Bill Bernett	253-4813	.bill@spindata.com

User Group Network

Created on Macintosh computers with Quark Xpress
MacMAD does not condone or support software piracy.

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About Last Meeting ...

by Mark Fosgate

July 18th, 2000

Bryan Kattwinkel opened the meeting at 6:45pm with approximately 30 persons present.

A Q&A period was held for approximately 30 minutes on rumors and speculations of what Apple was to announce on 7/19/00 and issues that mainly applied to networking Macs and sharing a cable modem with multiple computers.

The primary purpose of this meeting was to seek out and then add nominees for board members positions and to then cast votes (of which I was the only add-on because I volunteered for the position of Secretary) by those present. It was also decided that a final count would be conducted on 7/25/00 by board members whose positions were not contested for those persons that needed to mail in their ballots as no provisions had been made in the past for including members that could not come to meetings for some reason.

Bryan showed a short demo of Apple1s HyperCard running some stacks that he1d received from a HyperCard group. HyperCard is an Apple product that was initially developed by Bill Atkinson and Dan Winkler back in the 1987 and included for a number of years on all Macs until several years ago. On Apple1s HyperCard site comes this little tidbit of information: 3HyperCard organizes information into easy-to-use "stacks" of cards through which users can navigate and search for the information they need. Simply by clicking on a button, they can view related text, see a graphic, hear a sound, watch a QuickTime movie, or listen to text spoken out loud.2

Bill Atkinson is now a nature photographer with a web page located at:

http://www.natureimages.com/

Bryan had some items that were given as door prizes to lucky members.

Dinner site voted on was the Olive Garden. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Members Helping Members

Please be considerate and call at a reasonable hour. Remember, these volunteer also have a private life.

WordPerfect,...Canvas …
Brenda Foster…724-1948
needleworx@earthlink.net

Photoshop, CorelDraw, Illustrator, Freehand, AOL, Color-It, ClarisWorks, Quark X-press
Cher Daley …724-8981…
cdaleyart@aol.com

Photoshop …Gayle Baker …
7257632…spucky@mindspring.net

Photoshop, Quark, Illustrator…Randy Perry…
(561) 589-6449
Radknee@aol.com

If you are experienced with a piece of software or hardware, and wouldn't mind a few calls for help, volunteer by giving your phone number to Cher Daley.

CD Recording Tips for Mac Users

by Jamie Cox

CD-R (CD recordable) and CD-RW (CD-Read/Write) drives and media have enjoyed great sales recently. Why are so many people recording their own CDs?

CDs have some advantages over other types of computer media. To begin with, CDs are potentially more permanent than other disks -- once written,
CD-Rs cannot be modified.

Also, the high capacity and low cost of the media gives them a better price per megabyte than other media. At about one dollar, and 650 megabytes each, CD-Rs cost about 1.5 millibucks per megabyte ($.0015). Blank zip disks are still about $10 each, and at only 100 megabytes, they cost about ten cents per megabyte, over 66 times as much!

But, you say, you can only use a CD-R disk once, while you can write on Zip disks over and over. That's where CD-RW comes in. It's a little more expensive, but still a bargain. You can find CD-RW blanks for around $3 now, which works out to less than half a cent per megabyte!

Recorded CDs can be read on regular CD-drives. This gives them a built-in advantage, since CD drives have been standard equipment on computers for several years now.

Macintosh users enjoy the capability to write CDs that are usable on MacOS, Windows and Unix -- virtually every computer system.

The main disadvantage of recordable CDs is that they are less convenient. You have to use special software to write to them, and you can't just drag files onto them like you can other removable disks. CD-RW disks, although you can reuse them, can't be erased selectively. In order to erase anything, you must erase the entire disk. This disadvantage is overcome by packet writing software such as Adpatec's DirectCD. It lets you drag and drop files onto a recordable CD.

For Macintosh users, by far the most popular CD recording software is Adaptec's Toast. Toast is really excellent, but beware -- if you are buying a CD recorder and it claims to come with Toast, the software included may be a crippled version of Toast that lacks many of the features of the full version.

There are several formats in use for CDs. The oldest format is of course, the music or audio CD. This format allows you to use your computer and CD recorder to record audio CDs that you can then play in an audio CD player, such as the one in your car or home stereo.

For Macintosh users, the most obviously useful formats supported by Toast are Mac Volume, and Mac Files and Folders. Toast also supports eight more formats, including ISO 9660 and a hybrid format usable by both MacOS and Windows.

Mac Files and Folders is convenient for backup. You select Mac Files and Folders in Toast's Format menu. Then start dragging whatever files and folders you want to the toast window. Keep an eye on the total space occupied by these items. Nothing is actually written to the CD until you click the Write CD button.

One of the trickiest parts to using Toast is giving the CD the name you want. It will get a name automatically depending on whatever you first drag to the toast window. To change that name, click the Data button, and then select the CD in the window that appears. Now press Command-I. This brings up an Information dialog box from which you can change the disk name. Not obvious, is it?

The traditional method of CD recording begins by spending a lot of time preparing your data on a CD image. This disk image is stored on your hard drive. It is a staging area where you can get everything prepared exactly as you want it before burning a CD. Once committed to CD-R, it can't be changed! This step can consume a lot of time if you're trying to make your CD convenient to access. This shouldn't be surprising, since 650 megabytes is a lot of material, and often consists of hundreds of files. You will want to organize your material so that you can find your files again later.

When preparing an image to be burned as a CD, be sure to arrange everything exactly as you want it to appear on the final disk. However you arrange files, icons and folders, is how they will appear whenever the CD is inserted. Check the screen position of windows. If you are using a large screen, position the windows where they will be usable on another computer with a smaller screen. Another tricky

part: if you don't unmount the disk image after making these changes, they won't be recorded to the disk image, and won't make it onto the CD. So be sure to quit Toast, drag the disk image to the trash, to unmount it, and then open it again, before burning the CD.

"Let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." Genesis 11:7

Everything we've said so far is really great. But there are potential problems with compatibility. Not all CDs you record can be read or played on all players or CD drives. Not only that, but it is very difficult to know in advance for sure whether or not a given combination will work. Compatibility depends on the brands of the recorder, the player and media as well as the software used for the recording.

The CD recordable industry is based on a trick -- namely that CD-Rs and CD-RWs, although they don't strictly meet the original specifications for factory-made CDs, are usually close enough to work in drives designed for factory CDs.

In the accompanying table CD Media Compatibility, you will see that although you can always read and write recordable CDs in your computer CD-burner, they may not always work in other devices. They will usually work in computer CD-ROM drives, with the newer drives being more likely to work than the older ones. Generally any CD or DVD drive in a computer is safe, and is more likely to accept recordable CDs than are consumer disk players.

If you have a home DVD-player, or planning to get one, beware! Although DVD players will play CDs, and may replace the CD player in your entertainment center, DVD players often are incompatible with CD-Rs, even to the point of damaging a CD-R disk so that it cannot be played anywhere.

Media compatibility is also very important. Many manufacturers of CD-burners specify particular brands of media that work best with their drives. Experience of club members, and of internet posters indicate that other brands will not work, or worse, will seem to work, but be unreadable later. For example, the Yamaha web site says: The recommended brands of media for Yamaha CDR/CRW drives are Yamaha, Mitsui-gold, TDK, Verbatim, and Sony.

CD-R disks are susceptible to being scratched on the top sur-face, where the label goes. Surprisingly, the bottom surface, the side where the drive reads the disk, is less fragile. Do not write on CDs with anything except a soft, felt-tip pen. Alcohol-free pens are sold especially for this purpose, such as the Maxell DiskWriter.

Choose a brand of media with a preprinted label surface on the top, to provide better reliability and protection against scratches. This avoids having to buy and paste on a paper label, which also involves a risk of damaging the disk.

Avoid media that you can see all the way through. Avoid bargain house-brand media. The value of the work you put into recording a CD goes way beyond the price you pay for the blank. Isn't your data worth an extra $.25?

Do not buy 100 disks the first time. Buy a few disks of various brands, and try them out. Record them on your CD-burner, and then make sure that you can read them on all the CD drives/players that matter to you. If you find a brand that works well, then, if you need quantity, go back and buy that brand in bulk.

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CD Media Compatibility   (R-Read W-Write)
                    Computer   Consumer   Consumer   Consumer   Computer
          Computer  CD-ROM     Audio CD   Audio CD   DVD        DVD
Media Type CD-Burner Drive     Player     Burner     Player     Drive

PRESSED CD  R         R          R          R          R          R
CD-R        R W       R          R          NO         Damage*    R
CD-RW       R W       R - Maybe  R - Maybe  NO         ?          R
AUDIO-CD-R  R W       R          R          R W        Damage*    R
```

* Most DVD-Players will not play CD-R music disks, and some will damage the dis
Check your instruction manual.

Look for "MultiRead" compatibility for CD players that will play CD-RWs.

```
CD Burning Checklist

    Put Reader Applications on CD

     Virus Scan

    Window Position

    View by...

    Anything on CD Desktop?

    Check Aliases

    Check Volume Name

    Empty Trash

    Screen Saver off

    Quit Other Applications
```

An e-Mail Correspondence in regards to CD Burning!

New models come with a current version OS and have enablers to allow the new circuitry to be recognized. A new iMac requires the current OS and the enabler.

When an OS update comes out, it folds in support for the models and the enabler no longer is needed. The OS 9.04 update requires that it be booted and used before being burned (it cleans up the installation). The CD's that come with a specific model often have just the system components (the System File resources) needed for that model.

The DiskWarrior CD comes with a special partition driver that will boot the correct system for the model it is used on (7.6, or 8.1 or 9.04). The CD can be copied and work. But the special partition with the boot driver can not be created - uses some special utility called bootstrapwriter.

Theory says that when OS 9.1 is released, if a universal system is installed, that will boot later powermacs. You will still need an OS 7.6 CD for pre 68040's, and an OS 8.1 for 68040's and Powermacs with 16 or 32 Mb RAM.

Share The Sites...

MACWORLD TOUR: Even if you could not make this year's MACWORLD EXPO, MacDirectory's photo tour is the next best thing. Join MacDirectory on a tour of the sites and scenes at the best MACWORLD ever!
http://www.macdirectory.com/MW/Tour1.html

PEI - PHOTO ELECTRONIC IMAGING
A really cool magazine website for tips and tricks on image editing from pros
http://www.peimag.com

A-DOCK
http://jerome.foucher.free.fr/ADock.html
Shareware
The OSX Dock Concept made for your older OS 8.5, 8.6, or OS9. Display icons of running applications in line and you can click between apps from desktop.

Screen Savers
Even if you don't rally need them, they're fun!

Blackwatch 1.5.3
Freeware
http://www.penumbra.apple.com/blackwatch

Darkside
A wide range of screen savers. $20
http://www.poubelle.com

Maxscreen
Freeware/includes a bunch of modules imported from Linux
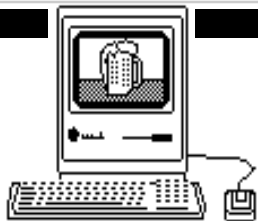*http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/~boley/maxss.html*

Setting Sun
3D Screen Savers
http://www.webthing.net/settingsun

Editors Note: If you'd like to see this section remain, please e-mail your favorite sites to: cdaleyart@aol.com. We no longer have a Webghoddess seeking these sites out for you!

Pineapple
Ave.

Eau Gallie
Library

Eau Gallie Blvd.

N

U.S. 1

Hickory
St.

Hospital

Hibiscus Blvd.

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Library

Fee Ave.

New Haven (192)
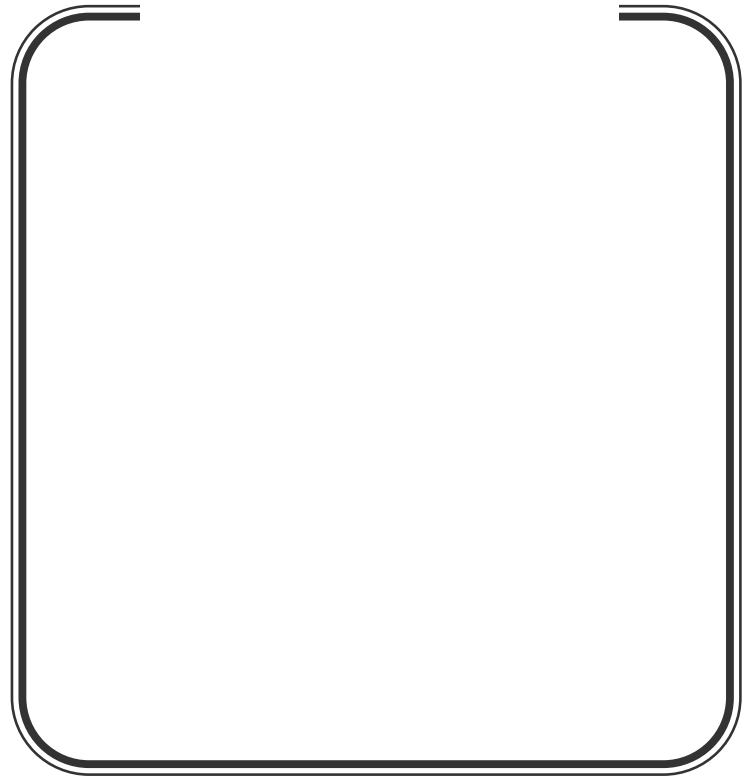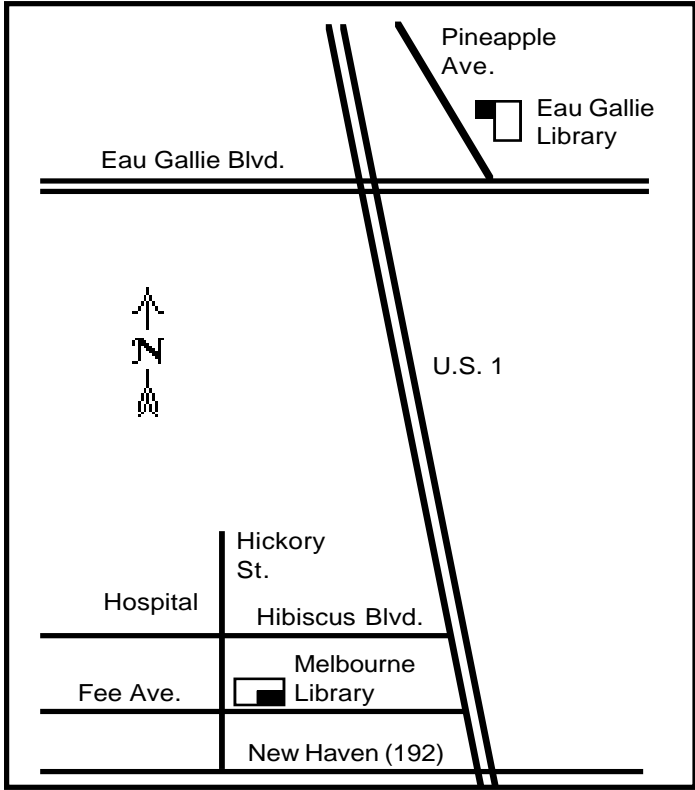
About MACMAD

MacMAD is a user group devoted to helping each other explore the possibilities opened by the Apple Macintosh. We publish this newsletter, operate a web site (www.macmad.org), and hold meetings on the first Wednesday and third Tuesday of each month. **Our TeleFinder BBS is now available at bbs.macmad.org.**

After each meeting all are welcome at a local restaurant where we indulge in a festive open discussion over pitchers of cokes, beers, and food stuffs galore. Here the true spirit of the world of Mac is exposed, many acquaintances are made and expertise shared openly. Thus our name, MacMAD, which stands for "Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society."

Meetings

New Meeting Hours! 7-8:30 PM

Tuesday, Aug 15th

Roger Wilson, Connecting Point, will talk about the Macworld Development Conference. Come see what Apple plans for this year! Meeting held from **7:00 to 8:30** at the Melbourne Library,

Wednesday, September 6th

Bring your questions and/or your Mac to our help session at the Eau Gallie Library **7:00-8:30**pm 1521 Pineapple Ave., Melbourne
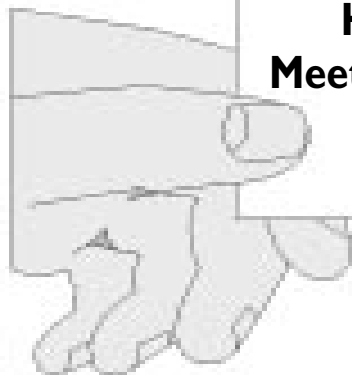
Tuesday, September 19th

Presentation topic to be announced. **7:00 to 8:30** at the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave. in downtown Melbourne

MacMAD

**P.O. Box 1093
Melbourne, FL 32936**

Our Meeting Hours Have Changed! Meetings Will Now Begin at 7:00pm!

Moved? Address Correction Requested.