

MacBits

Volume XV , Issue I

January 19, 2001

Happy New Year! Since many of us have been extremely busy with the holidays and all, it seems like forever since our last meeting! Our Holiday/Christmas Party was a smashing success and everyone had a fabulous time. We discovered we actually could discuss something other than our favorite topic, Macs! I've included a few pictures of the event on this page.

You will want to pay special attention to this issue (pages 4,5, & 6) and the next. In fact, I would advise you to keep them next to your computer as a reference! Thanks to our Webmaster, Jamie Cox, we have an extremely resourceful article about Macintosh troubleshooting and upgrading; complete with internet links to many web sites and other useful resources. Jamie found this article in his travels and received permission from the author to let us publish it in our newsletter. Thank you Jamie! Well done!!!

BTW, any member who wishes to contribute something like this, is more than welcome!



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TOYS

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...sterlingphoto@mind-

spring.com

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.

Italian Words and Phrases

is an application for Mac that combines all the necessary for students learning Italian. Italian Words and Phrases 1.0 is now available for download from the Web.

<<http://www.macdirectory.com/4U/9920/>>

Fact: More than 18,000 products are available for your Mac. Find them all in Apple's searchable Macintosh Products Guide:

<<http://guide.apple.com/usindex.html>>

Sonnet Technologies has lowered its prices by as much as \$100 on G3 and G4 processor upgrades. By offering substantial and periodic price reductions, Sonnet Technologies maintains its market leadership by setting the best price/performance standard for G3 and G4 processor upgrades.

< <http://www.macdirectory.com/4U/9951/> > their order.

HotTips Weekly has joined FreeTechMail.org, the premier search engine for email Information Technology newsletters. This global newsstand has an outstanding selection of IT related eZines, from the best publishers in the business.

One stop for all the information you need to thrive and learn...Best of all, it's absolutely FREE.

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.

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books, software and conferences

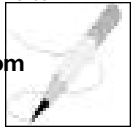
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We are now posting **MacBITS** on the **www.macmad.org** website!

Click on files, sign in using your name and password, click on newsletters and select the issue of choice.

Use Adobe Acrobat Reader Plug-in with your favoriteweb browser to read. This is a free download from **www.adobe.com**

MACMAD

Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society est. 1984

<http://www.macmad.org>

<http://bbs.macmad.org>

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Created on Macintosh computers with Quark Xpress

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**User Group
Network**



About Last Meeting ...

by Mark Fosgate
Nov. 21, 2000

Kathy Pihlaja Lacina opened the meeting at 7:05pm with approximately 40 persons present. Kathy introduced Tim Short of Florida Today as the first guest speaker.

Tim and the other staff photographers of Florida Today use the Nikon D1 digital camera. The D1 specifications can be found at the following web address:

<http://www.nikonusa.com>

Each photographer at Florida Today has three 96MB CF cards they carry around with him or her and Tim personally has not run out of storage space yet.

Tim fielded questions and answered

each as best he could. As he had a basketball game to cover that evening, he kept his presentation brief.

Next up was Dan Striby of Sterling Photo in West Melbourne. As Dan got setup, Monte Zelazny, our membership chairman, discussed his little Agfa digital camera that is a two Megapixel camera and how he has used it in his travels and gotten excellent results.

Dan uses a Nikon 990 digital camera at Sterling Photo. Dan demoed some pictures he had taken with the camera in different lighting conditions on the club's iMac and passed around some samples of the kind of output that could be achieved on both film and via an inkjet printer. Dan fielded questions on his camera and

how pleased he is with the results that he has gotten to date.

The specifications of the 990 are available at the following web address:

<http://www.nikonusa.com>

Cher Daley also showed off her Epson digital camera and some pictures that had been printed onto film at Sterling Photo. Cher's camera specifications can be found at the following web address:

<http://www.epson.com>

Kathy discussed the upcoming Christmas Party on Tortoise Island at the clubhouse (very successful by the way).

Dinner site voted on was Olive Garden. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

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Mac Trouble Shooting

Author:

Bill B. Johnson

[<billbjohnson55NoSPAM@hotmail.com>](mailto:billbjohnson55NoSPAM@hotmail.com)

I post this in these three mac related newsgroups the first week day of every month:

alt.sys.mac.newuser-help

comp.sys.mac.apps

comp.sys.mac.system

Download this report and keep it in a notebook next to your Mac. You won't regret it.

TROUBLESHOOTING BOOKS

My favorite is **MACWORLD MAC SECRETS** by David Pogue and Joseph Schorr. It comes with a free CD loaded with some really great shareware and freeware. Another great book is entitled **SAD MACS, BOMBS AND OTHER DISASTERS** by my e-mail friend Ted Landau. He's the person responsible for my favorite web site which is called MacFixIt. MacFixit is discussed in the next section. Someone told me there is a book entitled, **THE MODEM FOR DUMMIES**. Here's

where you can find out about the books mentioned above as well as thousands of other books.

<http://www.amazon.com>

Use this key word to start your search: **Macintosh** Also: All large bookstores such as Barnes and Noble have Mac related books.

MacFixIt Go to this web site:

<http://www.macfixit.com/>

Look for the words near the top of the first screen that say: "Reports". Click on "Reports". There are about two dozen separate MacFixIt troubleshooting reports on the list. Find the ones that you need and download them. I suggest that you download troubleshooting reports in case you have a major crash that prevents you from going on line and reading the reports. I also suggest that you place all of the troubleshooting reports in a notebook and keep the notebook near your mac. Place a copy of this report that you are now reading in the same notebook. Also, make use of the key word search

section. I recently had trouble with Norton Utilities.

I typed the words **NORTON UTILITIES** into the **KEY WORD** search section and got some great information that made it possible for me to solve the problem that I was having. I have this site bookmarked and I visit it every time I go on line in order to read the daily reports. This site is almost as great as the one mentioned above:

Mac News Network:

<http://www.macnn.com/>

OTHER MAC SITES

There may be surprises at some of these sites.

<http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/staff/russ/mac.html>

<http://www.macaddictnetwork.com/today.html>

<http://www.ameritel.net/lusers/abrody/mac.html>

<http://w3.trib.com/~dwood/mac.html>

<http://www.macdaily.com>

NEWS RELATED TO MACS AND

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<http://www.appleinsider.com/>

<http://www.maccentral.com>

<http://www.sempermac.com/lists/evangelist>

<http://www.macdaily.com>

<http://www.macsurfer.com/>

<http://www.macresource.com>

<http://www.microsoft.com/mac>

<http://www.flashpaper.com/umac/>

<http://www.machome.com/news/headlines.html>

<http://www.macintosh-news.com/>

Press releases from Apple:

<http://www.apple.com/hotnews/>

MODEM RELATED WEB SITES

<http://www.macintosh.com/help.html>

<http://www.w56k.com>
<http://www.web.gimnet.com/~jnavas/modem/faq.html>

<http://www.teleport.com/~curt/modems.html>

http://www.usr.com/home/online/troubleshooting_f.htm

<http://www.cablemodems.com>

<http://www.coxrevolution.com/rev/qna.html> (FAQ re: cable modems)

Title of Report: Troubleshooting Unreliable Modem Connections:

<http://til.info.apple.com/techinfo.nsf/artnum/N24803>

DETERMINE WHICH MODEM SCRIPT YOU SHOULD USE:

There is a shareware program called, "Mac INIT Strings". The program has a database of over 70 modem manufacturers and over 700 modem models. Mac Computer Consultants should love this program. You will be able to determine which modem script or init string you should make use of with your modem. After you find the site, scroll down until you see these words,

"Mac INIT Strings":

<http://www.mrdataworks.com/download.htm>
related site:

<http://www.modemhelp.net/>

OT/PPP CONTROL STRIP MODULE

I like it because it tells the connection speed at the bottom of the screen. I suggest that you use it if you have Mac OS 8.5 or higher installed. New users that don't have Mac OS 8.5 should not try to install it since it needs

supporting programs before the control strip will function. Experienced Mac Users can install it if they have

Mac OS 8.0 installed on their Mac. However, you will need to have the supporting programs installed on your computer such as the Apple Control Strip and Open Transport/PPP.

<http://www.home.ici.net/%7Edjw/software/index.html>

<http://www.ccmag.com>

An online version of Christian Computing Magazine.

related sites:

<http://www.botcw.com>

<http://bythebook.com>

<http://www.versiontracker.com>

This site keeps you informed about every Mac related product that's new or improved.

MAC OS 9 SITES

If you recently upgraded to OS 9, you will need to upgrade some of your programs.

Here are some sites to provide help to you:

<http://www.versiontracker.com/systems/system9.shtml>

<http://www.macfixit.com/reports/mac9-2.shtml>

http://www.macintouch.com/m90_compatibility.htm

To download Mac OS 9.0.4: Use the

Software Update Control Panel in OS 9. Also, buy the latest edition of MacAddict magazine since it comes with a free CD that might have some upgrades and patches.

MAC OS X SITES

<http://www.apple.com/macosx>

<http://www.apple.com/macosx/aqua.html>

<http://www.arstechnica.com/reviews/2q00/macos-qa/macos-x-qa-1.html>
Read what David Every says about it:
www.macweek.com

POWER BOOK SITES

<http://www.ogrady.com>

<http://www.powerbookguy.com>

<http://www.powerbookcentral.com>

<http://www.powerbook1.com>

http://www.sonnnettech.com/news/pr010500_pwrbook.html
<http://www.info.apple.com/support/powerbook/solve.html>

PowerBook 1400 FAQ available at:

http://www.ivsoftware.com/pub/faq/PB1400_FAQ.html

DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT THE SPECIFICATIONS OF YOUR MAC?

You need the specifications of your mac before you order RAM chips or when you upgrade your mac.

<http://www.everymac.com>

<http://www.macgurus.com/>

<http://www.lowendmac.net/compact/index.shtml>

<http://www.info.apple.com/til/>

<http://www.info.apple.com/apple-spec/applespec.taf>

<http://www.thechipmerchant.com>

The above site has schematic drawings of motherboards.

<http://www.micromac.com>

Scroll to bottom of home page and select Mac Specs. You can even examine a picture of your mother-

(Continued on page 6)

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- Equipment
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board at this site. I wish that the parts on the motherboard were labelled.

PRUNE YOUR SYSTEMS FOLDER

<http://www.mc04.equinox.net/informinit>

InformINIT Shareware Manual

It provides information on almost every extension, plus tips and tricks. I recently used it to help me determine which extensions that I could turn off in the Extensions Manager Control Panel.

also: <http://www.mir.com.my/~cmteng/Extensions/Overload/Shareware/Program/> Explains the source and function of almost every extension and control panel. The program also contains info. about error codes.

EXTENSIONS CONFLICTS

<http://www.mac-conflicts.com>

Is there a conflict between your extensions? If so, visit this web site. I also suggest that you purchase a program called "Conflict Catcher".

SCREENSAVERS

<http://www.AmbrosiaSW.com/Updates/>

You can download a shareware screen saver called ECLIPSE which works great. Don't waste your money on an expensive screen saver—just use ECLIPSE. WARNING: An expensive screen saver called "After Dark" has lots of bugs and conflicts with other programs and extensions. I trashed it. Lots of mac screen savers at this URL: <http://www.MacScreenSavers.com/>

A screensaver that includes password protection:

<http://www.chaoticsoftware.com/ChaoticSoftware/ProductPages/NOVA.html>

On the subject of passwords, there is a shareware program called FolderGuard. You can learn more about at

<http://www.maczsoftware.com/folder-guard.shtml> Privacy Site: <http://privacy.net/track/>

FOR THOSE THAT ARE NEW TO THE MACINTOSH

<http://www.mac-tips.com>

<http://www.macinstruct.com/tutorials/modem/tcp/>

<http://www.openmac.com/>

<http://www.macademy.com>

<http://www.mac-planet.com/>

An excellent book for newbies: "Macs for Dummies"

by David Pogue <http://www.david-pogue.com>

LINK A MAC TO A NON-MAC

<http://www.kan.org/6100/>

If you have a 6100, this site was made for you. There is information at this site that tells you how you can cheaply link a mac to a non-mac computer and instructions on to how to install a Level 2 cache.

LINK UP TWO OR MORE MACS

<http://www.farallon.com>

Farrallon's HomeLine Starter Kit

iMac RELATED SITES:

<http://macsupport.about.com/blcenter.htm>

iMac Troubleshooting:

<http://www.macfixit.com/reports/iMacII.shtml>

<http://www.info.apple.com/info.apple.com/support/pages.taf?product=imac>

<http://www.athenet.net/~gyoung/imac512.htm>

www.mac-tips.com

<http://www.theiMac.com>

iMac Reset Button—press a button instead of using a paper clip.

<http://www.imacresetbutton.com>

iMac related magazines:

iMac Buyers Guide

www.machome.com/imacbg.html

iMac Magazine

<http://www.imacmag.com>

iMac Troubleshooting Handbook:

<http://support.info.apple.com/info.apple.com/manuals/manuals.taf>

There is a new book entitled:

THE iMAC FOR DUMMIES

by David Pogue.

Another one is entitled THE iMAC BOOK by Don Rittner. If you can not find them at your local bookstore, go to this web site: <http://www.amazon.com> MacAddict www.macaddict.com MacWorld www.macworld.com MacHome www.machome.com

MacToday www.mactoday.com

(For graphics professionals)

MacTech www.mactech.com

(For tech experts and programmers)

MacWeek <http://macweek.zdnet.com/>

Canada's Macintosh Magazine

www.macinsite.com

Britain's Macintosh Magazine

<http://www.macformat.com/>

Mac Related Online Magazine

<http://www.1984-online.com/>

Another Mac Online Magazine

<http://www.macreport.com/>

Online Buyer's Guide for Mac Related Products www.macbuy.com

FREE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

MacAnswers web site offers free technical support by means of e-mail.

<http://www.macanswers.com/>

Here's the email address:

answers@macanswers.com

also: matt@macinstruct.com

It might take up to 48 hours to get a response.

Other Free Technical Support Sites:

<http://www.nowonder.com/>

<http://www.interactivepages.com/>

<http://www.macinstruct.com/>

(click on Ask MacInstruct)

<http://computingcentral.msn.com/topics/macintosh>

<http://www.micromac.com>

<http://www.macalliance.com/>

<http://www.theaskguys.com/index.html>

<http://macsupport.about.com/>

<http://www.strout.net/macweb.cgi>

ASK JEEVES is a web site that will help you find things you can't find making use of Yahoo and other search engines. It's the fastest and easiest way to find answers on the web.

Bookmark it: <http://www.ask.com>

ERROR CODES

Many readers of Macintosh related newsgroups see posts on a regular basis asking for help in understanding what various error codes mean. I suggest that you download APPLE ERROR CODES. After you download it, make copies and place them in a notebook just in case you can't get your mac to start or get on the web because of a crash. Keep the notebook near your Macintosh.

Various sites related to Apple Error Codes:

<http://www.bleurose.com/blableu.shtml> (download "Black & Blue")

<http://til.info.apple.com/techinfo.nsf/artnum/N1749>

<http://members.aol.com/raymeow/AEC.sit.hqx>

<http://www.mir.com.my/~cmteng>

<http://www.adobe.com/supportservice/custsupport/TECHGUIDE/MACSYS/main.html>

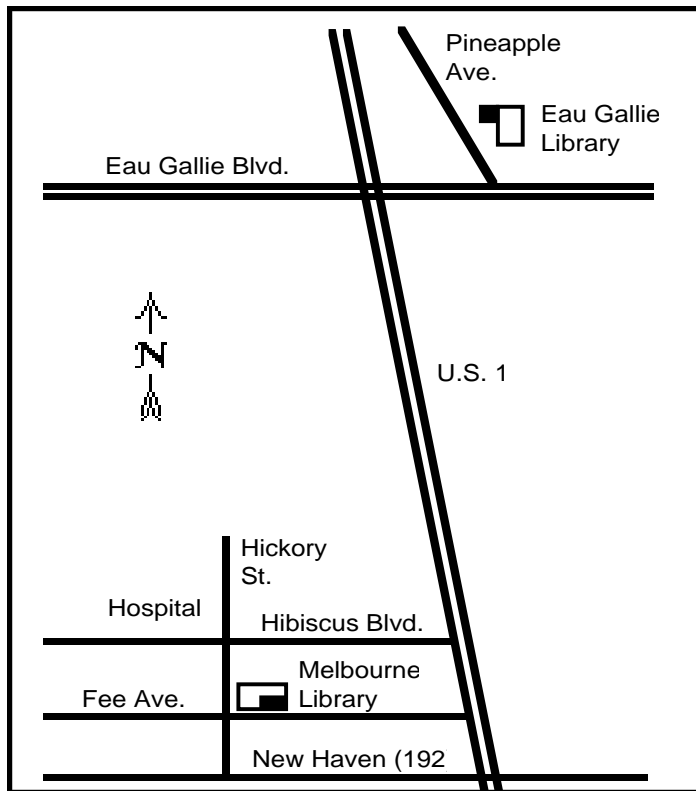
UPGRADE OPTIONS FOR NEW AND OLDER MACS

<http://www.fastermacs.com>

<http://www.micromac.com>

<http://www.maconnection.com/>

See Next Issue For More!



CLASSIFIEDS

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Various Computer Tables
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Mac IICx, Floppy Drive, 19.9K Modem, 80Meg HD,
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For Sale: IX CD Player and software ,
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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

Tuesda y, January 16th

Jay Flemming will demonstrate using an Appleworks Spreadsheet/Data Base for tax purposes **7:00 to 8:30** at the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave. in downtown Melbourne

Wednesda y, February 7th

Bring your questions and/or Mac to our help session at the EauGallie Library, Pineapple Ave., EauGallie, FL

Tuesda y, February 20th

Meeting Topic to be Announced
7:00 to 8:30 at
the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave.
in downtown Melbourne

**New
Meeting
Hours!
7-8:30 PM**



Stay posted to MacMAD web page for updates and news on meetings! www.macmad.org

MACMAD

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See Inside
For
Great Tips
On
Troubleshooting
Your Mac!

Moved? Address Correction Requested.