

# MacBits

Volume XV , Issue IV

September 20, 2001

## A Heartfelt Thank You

First allow me to thank all of you who have been praying for me while I am recovering from a very serious auto accident. While I was in the hospital and in the rehab center many of you visited and brought me cards, gifts and books. This played a huge part in my recovery to date! Although I'm nowhere near out of the woods, I've come a long way in the last few months. I have managed to limp 100' with the aid of a hemi walker! I'm still paralyzed on my right side but am getting some movement back in my leg! I am at home now and go to rehab for 5 hours 3days a week. I still welcome phone calls and visitors.



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## 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@mindspring.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.*

Visit **MacBits** on the Web!

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 favorite web browser to read. This is a free download from **www.adobe.com**



## 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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Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society est. 1984

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MacMAD does not condone or support software piracy.

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# About Last Meeting ...

by Mark Fosgate  
August 21, 2001

Gayle Baker opened the meeting at 7:00pm with approximately 30 persons present explaining that Kathy was not present due to personal issues and that the scheduled speaker wasn't available due to ongoing personal issues also and that Mark Fosgate (myself) would be the speaker for the evening on tuning your Mac OS.

I gave a presentation on how to fine tune the Mac OS thru System 9 by eliminating control panels, extensions, control strip modules and fonts that use lots of system resources and which can be freed up just by using the Extensions Manager Control Panel or Conflict Catcher to do so. Conflict Catcher can also do font management, which extensions manager cannot.

For those that missed the meeting, here are some of the Extensions and Control Panels that you can turn off:

## Extensions:

AppleShare  
ColorSync  
Desktop Printer Spooler (only w/Epson)  
Desktop Print Monitor (only w/Epson)  
File Sharing Extension  
File Sharing Library

FireWire (anything)  
Palm (anything)  
LaserWriter  
Location  
NVIDIA (anything) (unless a new G4)  
(ATI if you have a new G4)  
Printing Library (only w/Epson)  
Print Monitor (only w/Epson)  
Speech (anything) Voice (anything)  
Web Sharing  
Any additional unused printers

## Control Panels:

AppleTalk  
ColorSync  
File Sharing  
Launcher  
Location Manager  
Multiple Users  
Speech  
USB Printer Sharing  
Web Sharing

## Control Strip Modules:

If you don't have a laptop Mac throw out the Media bay Video and TV Mirroring. If you've turned off the extensions for Location Manager you can trash that one also.

## Fonts:

Keep the following: Charcoal, Chicago, Courier, Monaco, Palatino, Sand, Skia, Symbol, and Times. All others are optional. Some applications require specific fonts like MS products. Keep a Fonts (disabled folder) for others

and reload them as necessary

Buy and add more RAM now. RAM is the best and most efficient way to make your Mac run smoother and crash much less.

Download and use the following extensions to make your Mac faster and more efficient: Startup Doubler and Default Folder. Both can be found at


<http://www.versiontracker.com>. Support shareware and pay for it if you use it.

Disable the memory startup check in the memory control panel by holding down CMD & OPT while selecting the memory control panel. Hold down the key combo before clicking on the Apple Menu otherwise you'll only get the regular Memory control panel display.

Customize how you launch Applications to make life simpler. Use Pop up Tabs or make a folder that you install inside your System Folder, Apple Menu Items that contains aliases of your most frequently used Applications.

Dinner site voted on was Bennigan's. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

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# HTML 4 for the World Wide Web Visual Quickstart Guide

reviewed by Jan McClintock

This is the fourth Visual Quickstart Guide from Peachpit Press that I've purchased, and I would recommend them to anyone. No, that's not the end of the review, but only the beginning.

— The Visual Quickstart Guides are 7-by-9-inch paperbacks full of good, solid material that is easy to follow and understand. Each page includes the topic, an overview, a step-by-step instruction, and a Tips section. The text is only half of the page, though; the other half is the "visual" part: screen shots and graphics that illustrate what the text is explaining.

— In my opinion, there is no better way to learn from a book than to use these guides. Period.

— The HTML 4 guide by Elizabeth Castro is a good example (and since it's the fourth edition, she's had plenty of time to find out what readers want and need). It begins with an explanation of the changes in HTML over the past few years, and the current and future parameters of which web page authors will need to be aware.

— The first chapter is called HTML Building Blocks, and describes tags,

spacing, file names, and URLs. Chapter two continues with designing, planning, and organizing your web site, and beginning to create pages. Each chapter brings you higher on the HTML and web page design ladder: formatting text, creating and using web images, page layout, links, lists, tables, frames, forms, multimedia, and onward.

— The information that I was most eager to learn begins with chapter 13: An Introduction to Cascading Style Sheets. This concept of writing HTML will be the main way designers create web sites and pages from now on, and it's a little complicated for beginners. But having worked with irregular HTML using Claris Home Page and Adobe PageMill, I'm ready for more complexity.

— After styles, there are chapters on scripts (using them in your page), working with JavaScript, and extra touches to make your site special. Since I am also learning about JavaScript using another Visual Quickstart Guide: JavaScript for the World Wide Web, 3rd Edition by Tom

Negrino and Dori Smith, this introduction was helpful, and would be inspiring had I not already had an interest. The last few chapters are troubleshooting (called iHelp! My Page Doesn't Work!), Publishing Your Page on the Web (transferring your site to the host servers), and Getting People to Visit (publicizing).

— The appendices are helpful lists of HTML tools, special symbols, colors, compatibility, and a good index. The back cover of the book, like the first edition (with which I learned my first HTML), includes a Colors in Hex chart which you can remove and refer to while choosing web colors. The accompanying web site <[www.cook-wood.com/vqs/html4](http://www.cook-wood.com/vqs/html4)> offers a complete table of contents, examples from the book, links to pages created by readers, and a Question & Answer forum (the author hangs out there).

— Overall, this is a neat package with which to learn about HTML and design your web pages; and after you get the basics down, this is an excellent reference book.

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# Photoshop Visual Quickstart Guide for Windows & Macintosh

Originally published in MacApple Notes, the newsletter of the MacApple Users of San Antonio, Vol. 6,  
reviewed by Shelly Friedland

This is one of the Visual Quickstart series of books by Peachpit Press. I believe it is for those who already have some limited experience with Photoshop rather than for a total beginner in the program. The book is not meant to be read cover to cover. Rather it has chapters on the most obvious features of Photoshop and explains them very well. Users can thus go to those chapters or parts of the book which explain a particular skill such as compositing or layers, and focus only on that feature. There is an abundance of pictures and graphics used in each section which add

considerably to one's grasp of the material. Many of these are of the windows and menus actually used in Photoshop so users can relate exactly what is on the screen to the explanations in the book. I had found difficulty using the adjust commands under the mode menu.

This book has a whole chapter on adjust commands and takes you through it with pictures of each command and how to apply settings; truly a huge help to those struggling with these concepts. The text also includes 17 pages of shortcuts, segmented by platform, which gives the keyboard equivalents of many menu options. A comprehensive index

is also included as is a chapter on Imageready for producing images ready for the web.

I heartily recommend this text. It will be a valuable supplement to the user's manual for the program as it separates functions and provides graphic "how-to's" which are easy to grasp.

**Photoshop  
Visual Quickstart Guide  
for Windows & Macintosh  
by Eline Weinmann & Peter Lourekas**

**\*\*\*\* FOUR stars: very good, recommended**

**Audience = All computer users of any platform**



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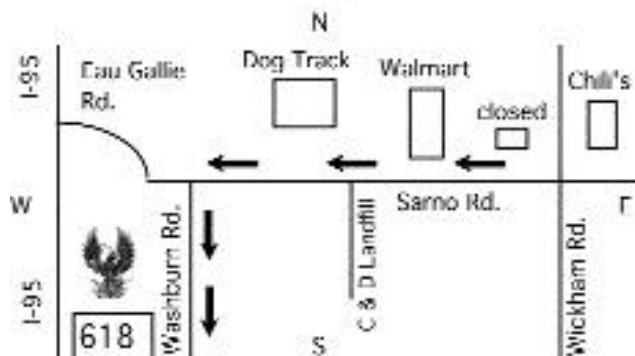
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# StuffIt Deluxe™ 6.0

A review of StuffIt Deluxe 6.0 by Ray Legall.

*Important: Before beginning these installations ensure any virus checking software is turned off.*

The recommended System configuration is a Mac with System 8.1 or greater, 6 MB available RAM, and 16 MB of free hard disk space.

After inserting the CD you are presented with the following window.

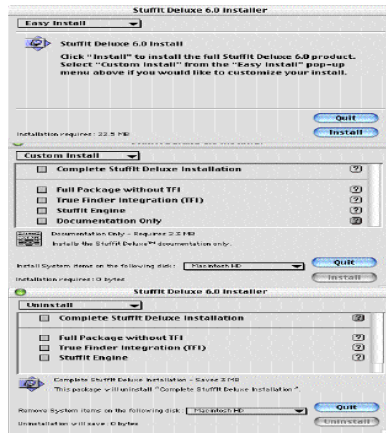


After clicking on the StuffIt Deluxe 6.0 Installer icon, you will be asked to register the program before the installation will progress. The registration number is conveniently located on the back of the CD case

The next dialog box allows you to choose the installation location, type (easy or custom) or to do a complete removal of the program if you wish



I elected to do the easy install, and to have the files placed in my Utilities folder. After all the files had been installed a dialog box appeared informing me that the installation had been successful and the next option was to do a restart.



The StuffIt Deluxe package consists of the main program StuffIt Deluxe plus the following tools. StuffIt Browser, Magic Menu, Archive via Rename, and drop boxes Drop Stuff, DropZip, DropConverter, DropSegment, Secure Delete and StuffIt Expander. By now you are probably asking what is StuffIt Deluxe and why do I need it.

StuffIt Deluxe allows you to combine multiple files and folders into one archive for easy transmission to another person via the Internet, or to move files to floppy disks or removable cartridges (Zip disks) for storage. The archives it creates are also in a compressed form saving you valuable disk space.

Pictured below is the wide range of compression file types that StuffIt can handle. As you can see there is not much that it can't open



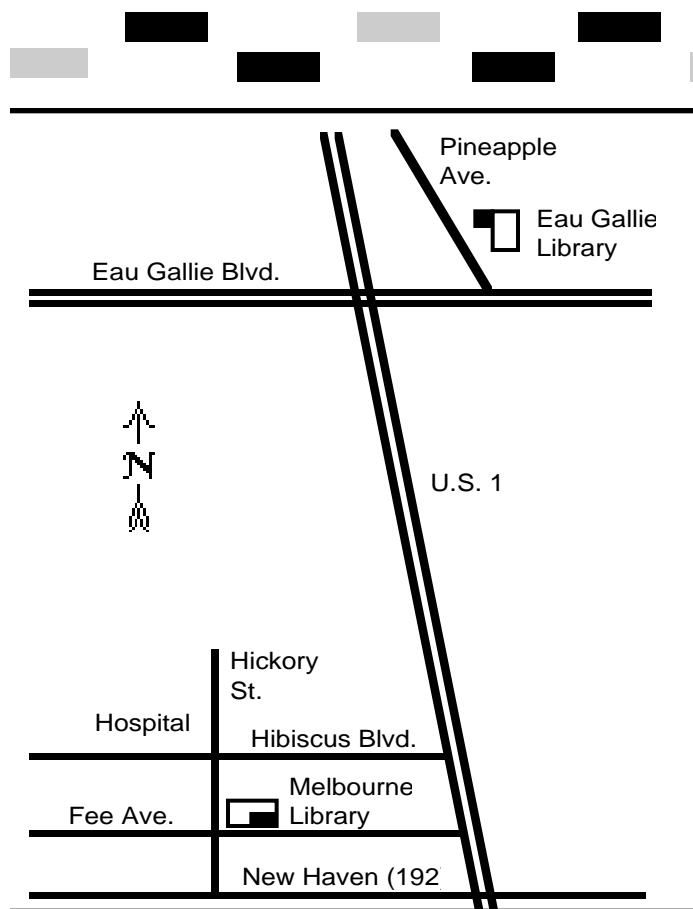
One part of the StuffIt group is StuffIt Expander, which is a freeware application that you can give to anybody that does not have StuffIt on their computer. With just the expander utility they will be able to open any stuffed files that you send them. Another cool feature is the ability to compress a file into what is called a self extracting archive, that can be opened on any computer Macintosh or Windows without StuffIt being installed on that computer

The way the Drop applications work is just as the name sounds, you click on the file you want to work on and then hold and drop the icon on the appropriate drop box icon. DropStuff will compress the file and save it as a StuffIt archive. DropZip will also compress the file and save it in Zip format that is commonly used by PC users. DropConverter converts archives that were stuffed using older versions of StuffIt to the latest version 6.0. DropSegment is very useful if you have a large file that will not fit on a single floppy disk; it breaks up the total file size into individual numbered segments that can then fit onto floppies for transport. Copying the segments back onto your hard drive after you receive the floppies, the original file can be reconstituted to its original size. And finally for the security conscious, Secure Delete is an application that will remove any trace of a file from your computer if you wish, without any fear that the file can be recovered from your hard drive.

The way it works is it first deletes the file and then overwrites the space the file occupied on your hard drive with zeros. It does this four times to remove any trace of the file.

One new feature of StuffIt 6.0 is the ability to check for updates and automatically download them from the manufacturers web site if you have an active internet connection.

Overall, the improvements made in this latest version of StuffIt are well worth the price.



## Classifieds

**For Sale: UMAX 6E Color FlatBed Scanner & Software**, SCSI connectivity, 28 bit, Works Great!  
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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](http://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](http://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

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

### Tuesda y, September 18th

To Be Announced **7:00 to 8:30** at  
the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave.  
in downtown Melbourne. Check  
our bbs for info!

### Wednesda y, October 3r d

Bring your questions and/or Mac to our  
help session at the EauGallie Library,  
Pineapple Ave., EauGallie, FL  
**7:00 to 8:30**

### Tuesda y, October 16 th

To Be Announced **7:00 to 8:30** at  
the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave.  
in downtown Melbourne. Check  
our bbs for info!



Stay posted to MacMAD web page for updates and  
news on meetings! [www.macmad.org](http://www.macmad.org)

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**Level = Intermediate: comfortable  
with daily computer use**

**HTML 4 For the World Wide Web,**  
**by Elizabeth Castro**  
**Published by Peachpit Press; \$19.99, available**  
**online or at local bookstores;ISBN .**  
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