

MACBITS

Volume XVII, Issue IV

July 19, 2003

What's Happening In MacMad

Jim Staal, President

In the last MacBits I mentioned that MacMad is getting better attention from vendors. Many benefits come from this attention, not the least of which is free stuff. Our upcoming meetings should see the return of software give aways and other goodies. In addition, most of these vendors provide nice discounts to User Group Members purchasing the software.

These vendors also offer a lot of software for evaluation. Usually, this is an download of the software along with an evaluation license. The evaluation license is exactly the same as a purchased license except that you are not allowed to sell the software.

We really need a lot of participation to fully take

advantage of these evaluations, and they can lead to some very interesting discussions. For example, we now have evaluation copies of Now Up to Date and Contact and of Chronos Personal Organizer. These are competitors to Palm Desktop and Entourage. The retail versions are not free, but possibly a case of getting what you pay for.

I would like to propose a fun challenge. In order to easily review and compare this software, I would like volunteers to represent each program, including Palm and Entourage. Hopefully, we have someone who is using each of the latter. We need someone to take the Now product and another person to take Personal Organizer. After a couple of months of using

the program, we will schedule a program at which each can tell us the pros and cons of the programs.

There are several similar competing sets of applications in the Mac world, including the page composition programs, graphics and the like. This comparison format can give us the ability to have an overview of the programs without anyone having to prepare a full presentation. The write-up of the comparisons should also be popular. As I have said before, don't worry about the write up. If you don't consider yourself a writer, we can give you help.

Our program options are also improving. We have leads on several Mac users

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Members

Helping Members

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

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Illustrator...Randy Perry...
(561) 589-6449Radknee@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



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in the area that are using Macs for some interesting business purposes. Of course, we still want to provide a continuing review of the more common applications such as Appleworks, the various accounting programs and the like.

Another possible type of program is a field trip (forget those memories of the

school trips). Some Mac Users in the area have systems that are just too complex to show at a meeting. One example of this is a music production system. If enough members want, we can arrange to meet at the user's location. We probably would want this to be separate from one of the regular meetings, perhaps on a Saturday.

It is very encouraging to see the new faces coming in, the meeting attendance picking up (even though many members are traveling at this time of year) and the general enthusiasm for the Mac growing. With the recent announcements coming from Apple about the future of the Mac, I believe that it is only going to get better.

MACMAD

Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society est. 1984

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<http://www.macmad.org>

<http://bbs.macmad.org>



User Group Network



About Last Meeting
by Tom Willing for
Mark Fosgate
May 15, 2003

Jim Staal opened the meeting at 7:05pm while I was finishing setting up the display computer for the evening, a Apple PowerBook 17" unit.

Jim dove right into his presentation on using several shareware applications that he thinks to be of use. They are: NoteTaker 2003 From:

<http://www.versiontracker.com> comes the following description: NoteTaker 2003 is powerful new OS X software for organizing your information lifestyle, your digital workstyle.

At its most basic level, NoteTaker is a personal note and idea organizer. With NoteTaker, you can make a list, organize an outline or jot down an idea. It's that basic. But with everyday work and lifestyle demands, our information needs are far more complex and diverse. And NoteTaker reflects this reality so that users can add and change the content and use of their information as needed.

NoteTaker's user inter-

face metaphor uses a visually rich "spiral" notebook pages with section tabs. Some users will simply have one tab and a long list of outlines while others will organize entire project and research journals with many sections and many pages within those tab sections. And it makes no difference how you decide to organize and use NoteTaker, it's flexible yet easy to understand. It's like having electronic paper on your OS X desktop.

In short, NoteTaker applications are unlimited. From managing the daily to do list information to sharing a project team binder across the Internet, NoteTaker becomes the software of our everyday lifestyle. Use it to communicate ideas. Organize personal information. Keep a project journal. Think on paper. NoteTaker is software you'll want to use every single day.

Next was Chronos Organizer. From <http://www.macupdate.com> comes the following description. Personal Organizer (Previously Consultant) is a full-featured information manager. It has built-in caller ID functionality, can translate sentences that you

write for appointments to automatically schedule an event, print mailing labels, and more.

Lastly Jim showed URL Manager Pro. From <http://www.macupdate.com> is this description. URL Manager is a full-featured, stand alone Macintosh application that allows users to create a single, highly flexible repository for maintaining URLs. In particular, URL Manager offers tight integration with Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer Web browsers for effortless management of Web Page bookmarks. This release of URL Manager Pro has a feature that lets you "Reload" the Bookmarks menu in Netscape Navigator with the bookmarks of a URL Manager document. You can now "Reload" the Bookmarks menu conveniently with the Cabinet and Select submenus from the URL Manager Pro shared icon menu. Safari, Apple's own web browser, currently has issues with this software, although this will probably change soon now that Safari 1.0 was released recently.

I showed off Default Folder and Imprint. These two applications are life savers for me what with all the folder levels I keep and the number of people and businesses that I have to stay in contact with.

First up Default Folder description from: [macupdate.com](http://www.macupdate.com). Default Folder makes it easier for users to man-

systeme™

Xserve Web Hosting
plans starting at \$20/month
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FlipAlbum® 3 for Mac

Review by Cher Daley

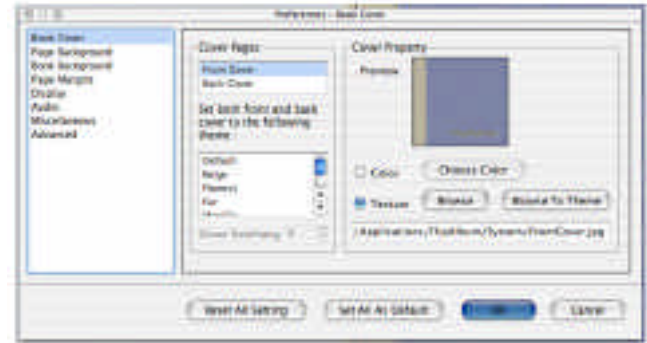
FlipAlbum®3 for your Macintosh is an easy to use program that allows you to make a book of just about anything, providing you use the file formats listed below.

You can simply drop and drag any folder that contains all your files and FlipAlbum®3 will do all the work for you!

If you are familiar with photo editing tools such as illustrator or free hand you can create your own background or can buy ready made backgrounds. There is also a place on the Web to go to get other backgrounds.

You can control what you want to do by going into the preferences folder and thus finding multiple options such as auto flipping pages, backgrounds, covers, page colors, audio, etc.. This is a good place to start.. FlipAlbum®3 allows you several options in the page properties box. You can choose colors, textures or browse for art work in your own folders. You can choose to set

If you are familiar with an image editing tool (eg. Photoshop) you can design and incorporate your own book covers into your Flipbooks.



Main Toolbar

Toolbar Descriptions:

With the toolbar, you can quickly perform common actions that are found in the menu bar (icon descriptions are arranged in order, from Left to Right).

Toolbar Item	Function
New	create a new book
Open	opens an existing book
Folder	open a folder of pictures to compile them into a book.
Copy From	copy files from another folder
Copy (left/right page)	copy page to clipboard
Paste	paste an image from clipboard
Insert (left/right page)	Inserts images from a specific folder onto the left or right page in the flipbook.
Annotate (left/right page)	insert annotation on left or right page
Overview	flip to thumbnail overview page
Audio	play/stop background audio
AutoFlip	start/stop auto-flip
Select	select image for resizing, rotating or batch processing

System Requirements

Mac OS 10.1.3 and above.
 Apple Macintosh computer, G3
 512 MB RAM
 450 MHz and above
 256 MB RAM and above
 30 MB free hard disk space
 Mouse
 CD ROM

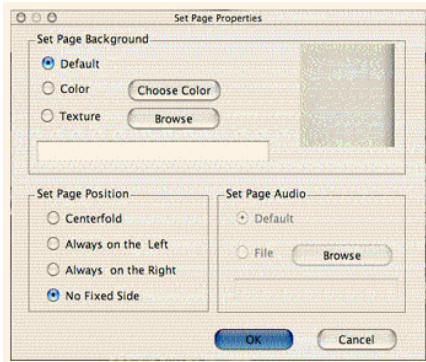
Mac OS 10.2 and above
 Apple Macintosh Computer,
 G4 700MHz and above
 512 MB RAM
 30 MB free hard disk space
 Mouse
 CD ROM

FlipAlbum® supports these file formats:

For optimum performance, Images (GIF, JPG, PNG, your Macintosh should have BMP) the following configurations or Open Electronic Book Package Format (OPF) better.

Sound Files (MP3, MID,WAV)

There is another file extension that needs some explanation. It is the .flp format. This is a proprietary file format of E-Book Systems. You would probably see this file extension at the Overview, Contents and index pages whenever you make any changes to each page of the album, like adding annotation or repositioning etc.



page positions and audio. By browsing through the audio section, you can link to your favorite MP3 files.

FlipAlbum®3 has drag and drop capabilities and you can also create a new FlipBook. You either open a folder containing your images/objects or start with a blank FlipBook and add the pages and images/objects one by one, or you can choose to open an existing FlipBook.

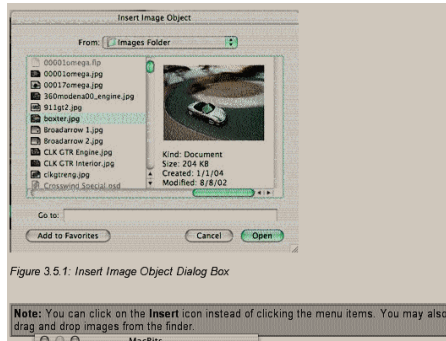


Figure 3.5.1: Insert Image Object Dialog Box

You can also rotate objects, and add more than one object to a page.

Batch Processing of Image Files

Batch Selection allows the user to do specific operations on multiple image files at the same time. The following batch functions are available in FlipAlbum:

Rotate: Rotates the selected

images.

Size Change: Resamples and changes the size of the selected images.

Copy Files To: Copies the selected files to a different directory.

Move Files To: Moves the selected files to a different directory.

Delete Files: Deletes the selected files.

You can also add music, multimedia clips and photos all on one page.

The program promises to become more interactive with features interchangeable with the PC version so you can exchange & record to CD's & DVD's this summer.

I would also like to see image editing features built into the

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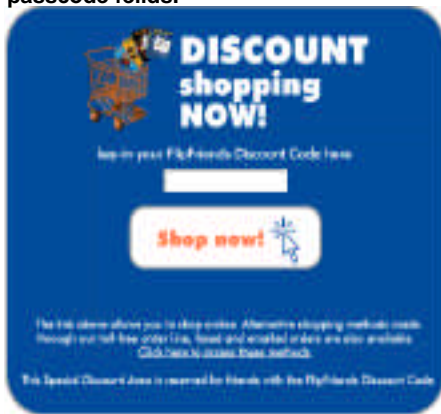
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program. Then again this would likely make the program price go up!

Retail price for the Mac version of FlipAlbum 3 is \$39.95, but if you mention code **FFP1662**, you will receive \$10.00 off!

To order with discount go to: <http://www.flipalbum.com/promo> or you can call me at 729-1433 and I will group you with sev-

This is the only area you will need to fill in on the first page. Ignore the e-mail and passcode fields.



eral orders to save on shipping costs. Although this might take a while. You can

also download a trial version from the web and if you like it, mention the above code and **FlipAlbum 3** will give you a key to unlock your trial version.

Feature List			
1.	Realistic 3D Page-Flipping gives you a natural and intuitive viewing experience.	11.	Pages can be easily inserted or deleted direct from the album.
2.	Multi-page rapid flipping for album browsing.	12.	Create full-page layout with multiple photos and annotations.
3.	Hold album pages. You can hold and compare contents of different album pages.	13.	Create your own themes for any occasion with your favorite front and back cover, book and page background.
4.	Autoflip function. Allows you to view or show your pictures as an automated album.	14.	Translucent annotation. Insert translucent text annotation for that classy look.
5.	Album thickness allows you to quickly access specific pages.	15.	Supports centerfold page layout in landscape format.
6.	Open folder. Automatically creates a page-flipping album with your folder images.	16.	Thumbnail overview, table of contents and index are all created automatically and hyperlinked to the actual pages. You can cut and paste them to any page within the album
7.	Folder management. You can rename, copy, move and delete your folders easily.	17.	Support batch function for "rotate", "change size", "copy to", "move to" and "delete"
8.	You can save the entire album for archive or future reference.	18.	Drag-and-drop thumbnails and contents to rearrange pages quickly
9.	You can preview individual image in full screen mode.	19.	Supports MP3 playlist. Add your favorite list of MP3 musical tracks as background music
10.	Display filename of images on album page header for easy reference.	20.	Work with the most popular images and audio formats: .gif, .png, .jpg, .bmp, .mid, .mp3 and .wav.

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age files by adding features and correcting flaws in the Mac OS X file dialogs. It currently supports

Carbon applications such as Office X, Acrobat, Illustrator 10, Internet Explorer, Metrowerks Code Warrior, Eudora, GraphicConverter, BBEedit, AppleWorks, Password Wallet, and FileMaker Pro. Support for Cocoa applications will be added in a free update.

Next up was Imprint also described by macupdate.com.

Printing labels and envelopes just got a whole lot easier... You're four steps away from printed labels or envelopes:

Choose addresses from the Mac OS X Address Book Select a label template or envelope size Select a typeface and font size Click "Print"

...it's that easy.

Features:

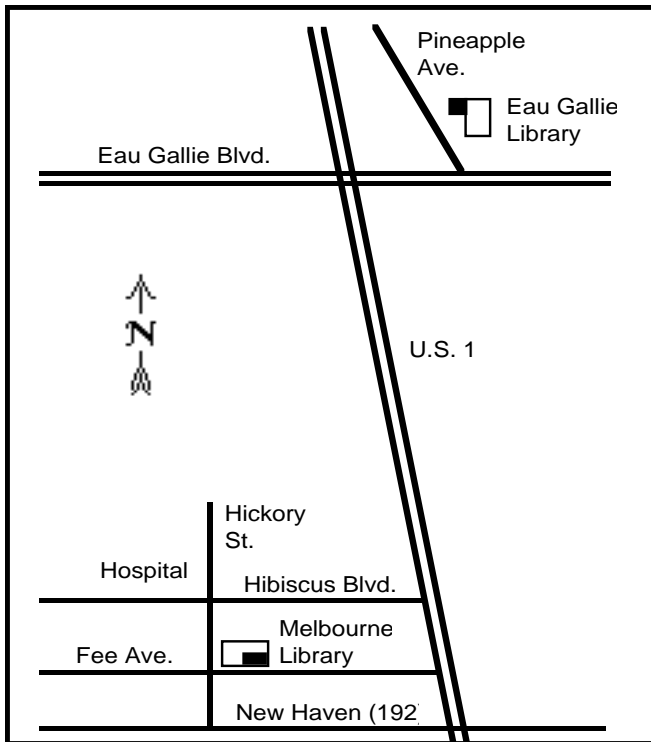
Print labels quickly with over 100 Avery label templates

Use addresses directly from the Mac OS X address book

Print labels or envelopes to address book groups, individuals or a combination of both. Save your own label and envelope files for later use Never print labels or envelopes with tacky "wrapped" addresses again: Imprint automatically downsizes fonts to make sure addresses fit within the required space.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm with dinner vote for Bennigan's.

CLASSIFIEDS



FlipAlbum®3 for Mac Is offering \$10
Off their product if you order it through
me. <http://www.flipalbum.com/promo>

Mention code **FFPI662**

Reformatted Zip Disks \$7 ea.

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sands of dollars in time and trouble each year.

Our regular price is \$229 (US) per year, but **Mac user group members can get their first year for just \$99 (US).** Price is \$125 (US) outside the U.S. & Canada. Please contact us for a free sample issue, or to subscribe:

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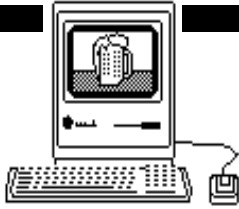
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This is a "phone-only" special. To receive your discount, call 888-368-6825 and ask for Larry.

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

Tuesday, July 15th

Spence Guerin is demonstrating Macromedia Freehand, Macromedia's drawing and Illustration program.

7:00 to 8:30 at

the Melbourne Library, Fee Ave. in downtown Melbourne. Check our bbs for info!

Wednesday, August 4th

Help session. Bring your questions, Macs or ideas for help or helping members. Eau Gallie Library **7:00 to 8:30 pm**

Tuesday, August 17th

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

All May Meetings are being held at Eau Gallie



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

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MACMAD