

MACBITS

Volume XVI, Issue VI

November 19, 2002

What's Happening In MacMad

Jim Staal, President

Our part of the country is moving up. We now have an Apple Store as close as Orlando. Several of our club members made it to the grand opening, although some reported getting there too late to receive t-shirts. Seems that the store had a lot of early visitors.

Actually, I believe that we are well served here in Brevard by our own Apple vendors. Even so, it's nice to have the store within easy driving distance so that we can see the whole line on display, take advantage of the classes and presentations, and feel more like we are included in the community.

It's interesting to see how the use of the various operating system versions has developed within the group. There are still many using one of the OS 8 ver-

sions on older machines (even some earlier than that). Many more seem to have moved to OS 9, and some are using OS X. The capability of the particular Mac is one factor, of course, but comfort with the particular system also seems to be a major driver of which system is used. Some of us have legacy software that does not yet work well with the newer operating systems. Some just like the feel of the older systems. Others have gotten so familiar with the benefits of OS X that we find it difficult to move back to Classic or another older OS. Personally, I really enjoy the OS X features, especially the stability.

The use of particular applications also varies widely. Most of us tend to use the standards such as AppleWorks, but the many also use specialized soft-

ware such as iMovie, PhotoShop and FileMaker Pro. Our recent programs on these, as well as the operating systems, have revealed fascinating techniques and results. I wonder how many user groups have both tornado chasers and guard dog trainers using the Mac in their pursuits.

I am also continually impressed with the level of help given our members at the Wednesday meetings. It is really enjoyable to see the clusters of people working on various hardware and software issues.

One fascinating tidbit that came out in the last meeting was how few of us are using our Macs for playing games. I know it is not from a lack of games, since the more popular games are continuing to move to the Mac.



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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@mind-

spring.com

Photoshop, Quark,

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.

Personally, I use my Mac so much for business that I prefer to be away from the computer for my recreation time. I'm not sure whether that is the reason for you others. Another factor is the amount of other hobby-type pursuits available on the Mac.

This brings me to the subject of our upcoming programs. We have not heard much from the membership on the specific applications or subject areas that you would like to see. We know that you like instructional or demonstration programs, but whether you have a particular

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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



focus is unknown. Your MacMad Board would really rather respond to your requests than select for you, so let us know what you want. In some cases we may have difficulty finding a presenter to fill a request, such as the recent one for AppleScript, but we will try.

Speaking of the Board, elections are coming after the first of the year. We always need additional members to fill the positions on your MacMad Board. If it seems that the same people are always on the Board, it is simply because those people are willing to serve. All of us welcome new faces. If you or someone you are talking to are willing to help, please volunteer.

MACMAD

Macintosh Meeting And Drinking Society est. 1984

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<http://bbs.macmad.org>

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Created on Macintosh computers with Quark Xpress

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About Last Meeting ...

by Mark Fosgate
October 15, 2002

Jim Staal opened the meeting at 7:00pm with approximately 25 persons.

As a request was made by Ron Schnurer to do the Pledge of Allegiance, saying the pledge with Ron leading officially opened the meeting.

Next meeting is supposed to be conducted by Carl Carter on AppleWorks.

Jim asked about doing a Christmas party this year and no consensus was made.

Jamie Cox was introduced as the guest speaker for the evening on the subject of iPhoto.

Jamie started off by taking several pictures of the group as a means for showing the import of pictures from a digital camera and explaining how the process works. Jamie showed how to adjust the sizes of photos, how to search, how to create and apply keywords, and do simple edits of pictures. Jamie also showed the different functions that are available in the pro-

grams Share function. Additionally, Jamie showed how Image Capture could be used in Mac OS X.

Jamie switched into OS 9 to show how the software that came with his digital camera could be used to do a Panorama file ^{(3)}stitching^{(2)} the three pictures of the group present into one continuous panorama picture. Not all digital camera companies provide this type of software; so if this is important to you, look before you buy. Otherwise you'll have to pay out of pocket for this capability.

Dinner site voted on was Bennigar's. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

HOT TIP!

A problem that occurred in 10.0.x has come back. Any mountable volume (disk image, CD, etc.) inserted into the 10.1.5 G4 533 MHz shows up as unreadable. I found an Apple support doc for 10.0.x giving the correct hostconfig document corrections, <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=106345>

However this info is outdated. I tried just adding the AUTODISKMOUNT line to my hostconfig file, but this didn't work. Then I tried comparing the hostconfig file from a working system to this one, and found it was also missing AUTOCONFIG=-YES-. However even with these edits the machine refuses to mount external media.

Solution on the Macfixit forums.

It calls for a real Homer headslap - DOH! I guess for security's sake I deleted the "unknown" group from Netinfo. This group must exist in order to mount external media, including disk images, as I discovered. Oh well, so much for thinking I knew what I was doing and being nice and secure. I was able to put Humpty back together again by looking at the settings on a nearby machine that works and copying them from that Netinfo.

I wonder why Apple hasn't posted this in their knowledge-base yet.

Just in case any of you run into this - another possible "gotcha" is that you must save your changes in Netinfo before deauthenticating, or it will nicely tell you that all your changes are being lost with no chance of saving them. Not a huge deal to reproduce the changes, but it's getting late and I'm tired.



Think different.



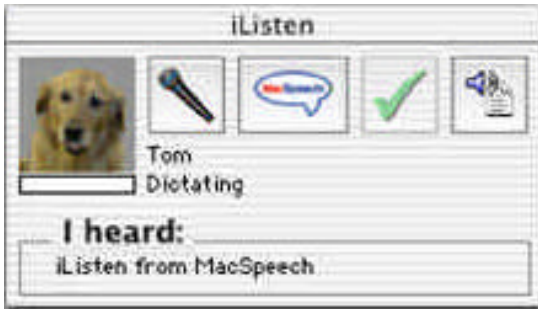
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iListen Makes Dictation Easy

A review by Cher Daley:



The control window allows you to change modes, turn the mic on and off and check spelling.

System requirements:

G3 or G4 Power Macintosh Computer

**Mac OS 9.2.2 and 192 MB of RAM
Mac OS X.1.5 or higher and 256 MB of RAM.**

ACD-ROM player.

MacSpeech is a Mac-only company, with software developers who have been creating speech recognition software for many years. iListen™, MacSpeech's first dictation product, is speaker dependent voice recognition software, based on a proprietary implementation of the Philips FreeSpeech speech engine from Philips Speech Processing.

iListen™ 1.5.1, created by MacSpeech is an easy to use dictation, editing, transcription, and speech navigation application. Whereas its competitor IBM ViaVoice; only works in certain programs, iListen™ works in almost every application including e-mail apps. A good example of this is the program I'm working in now, Quark Xpress, I used to have to cut and paste copy from one application to another. Now I don't have to do this because iListen works in Quark!

You also are able to use the digital voice recorder to time-record now and transcribe later. iListen will record from your WAV and AIFF audio files.

iListen™ features include:

- Direct dictation into any application
- Correct in any application
- Learns new words easily
- Transcription support - generate text from audio files
- New doc menu gives one quick access to iListen™
- Speech navigation - open, close,

and control application, navigate the desktop by speech.

- Huge 300,000 word vocabulary
- Runs on Mac OS 9 and Mac OS 10

iListen™ is easily scriptable with Applescript, and if you're using keyboard commands iListen™ has included TypeKey helper 1.2, a third-party application that enables you to write scripts for key commands such as copy and paste (command C) and (command V), or close window (command W). The possibilities are endless. It even gives you a quick start guide to get you started (for those of you we don't want to read the manual, and you know you are).

Another thing I liked about iListen™ is you don't have to use a headset to speak into the Mac. You can use a PlainTalk microphone, a USB microphone, or it will work with many headphone sets. This is particularly useful when you only have one arm to work with. Not only can you speak and have iListen™ type for you, you don't have the hassle with fitting headphones around your head! I mainly use my power book, you know the one, the G4 titanium and I am speaking approximately a foot and a half away from it. I'm only using the built-in microphone!

I also tested iListen with the Andrea NC-7100, USB headset that I had previously purchased. both worked well, but I prefer not to struggle with the headset. other microphones available are:

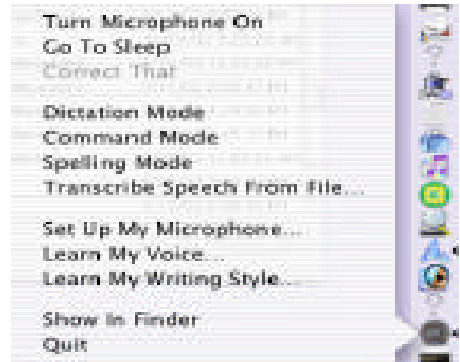
PlainTalk microphones:

Andrea NC-71 Mono
VXI iParrott Mono
VXI iParrott Stereo

USB microphones:

Andrea NC-7100
VXI Jamaica Mono
Telex H-841

If you already have a microphone that isn't on the list, don't worry; chances are it will work. iListen's Set Up My Microphone assistant should adjust the levels of most



iListen's options pop-up from the dock



iListen offers a variety of "faces" you can apply to the command window.

microphones to work with your system. Naturally, if you bought your microphone from MacSpeech along with iListen™, you can be sure it will work with the software.

See the MacSpeech Web site at www.macspeech.com for up-to-date information on supported microphones.

You can also use the Griffin Technologies (www.griffintechology.com) iMic USB to Audio microphone adapter to convert an analog headset to one that will work with USB systems.

iListen™ cooperates with Apple Speakable Items so you can do things like open applications, save files, close Windows, or just about

anything that you can command your Mac to do.

iListen™ is exclusively written for the Mac unlike VIA Voice which is ported from the PC side. Therefore, I believe this makes it much easier and smoother for installation and training your voice.

The program has capabilities of training several profiles so more than one person will be able to use it on the same computer. A profile is iListen's record of your voice model, along with details regarding your headset and the amount of background noise it heard while setting things up for you.

Beside dictating text, you can also use iListen™ to control your Mac without using the mouse or keyboard. iListen™ allows you to use speech as a "third hand." Speaking to your computer can be faster and can help you accomplish tasks more easily than constantly moving your hands from keyboard to mouse.

iListen™ has an extensive command vocabulary and "what can I say" window. What Can I Say

Window gives you a running list of the commands that are available for you to speak at any given time.



Because what you can do with iListen™ will vary depending on what's happening on your screen, you will see different commands

appear in this window as the context for those commands changes.

iListen™ has three modes it operates in: dictation, command, & spell. You will probably use the dictation mode the most. There are three ways to switch modes: speech, menu, and with a customizable keyboard shortcut that you will find in the iListen™ application.

All around, I would recommend this application for any MacUser. It is about the same price as VIA Voice and seems to operate much smoother. It will require some training, but the more you use it, the more it will recognize your style of speech.

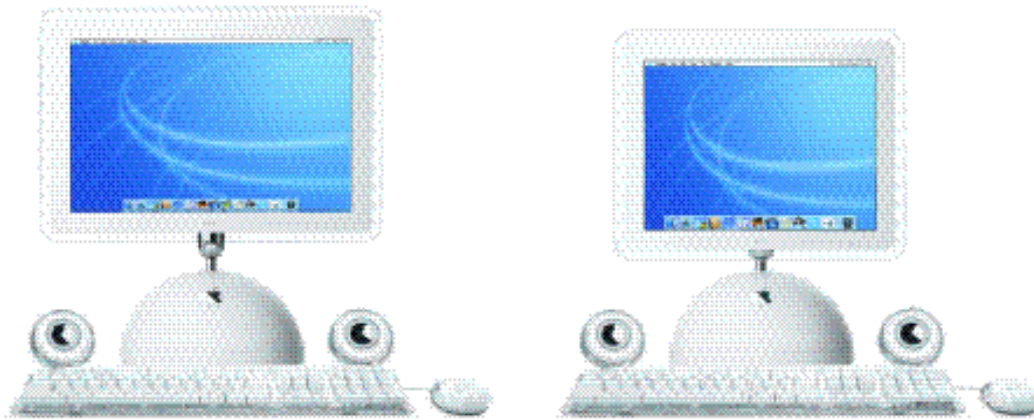
Street price:

iListen™ \$99.00

iListen™ with Headset \$149.00

iListen™ is offering a special for the MacMAD newsletter. If readers call into the sales on (603) 644-7253 and quote reference: "MacMAD November" iListen will give you a 20% discount on the software. \$79 (without microphone)

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These User Group discounts are brought to you by the Apple User Group Advisory Board. You must be a current MUG member to qualify for these savings. Not a member? Join a MUG today to take advantage of these special offers.

**1]VersionTracker/MacFixit Bundle**

You won't miss a software update or troubleshooting report with the VersionTracker/MacFixit Bundle. As a MUG member you have access to an exclusive price of **\$45.95** (regular price \$59.95).

**MacFixIt Pro (MFI):**

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1.<http://www.versiontracker.com/mp/propageapp.m?page=bundle>  
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3. In Step 3 enter the following promotion code: "mug". Click continue and you will see the special pricing.

Existing VT / MFI subscribers: purchasing the bundle will add one year to your current subscription.

Offer expires February 28, 2003. Offer valid in the US and internationally.

**IOGEAR Discounts**

IOGEAR offers a special discount to Mac User Group members on the industry's first USB 2.0 / FireWire PCI Combo Card, bundled with the acclaimed Arcsoft Showbiz digital photo and video editing software. Add the cutting edge convenience and high speed of USB 2.0 and FireWire to

your desktop computer. Then use the software to start turning your home videos and photos into blockbuster movies, complete with special effects, sound effects, scene transitions and

more, all in four easy steps.

The USB 2.0 / FireWire PCI Combo Card (model GUF220) has an MSRP of \$129.95, but Mac User Group members pay only **\$69.95**, a discount of 46%.

Also discounted: USB 2.0 CompactFlash Card Reader (GFR201), USB 2.0 2.5"

Hi-Speed Hard Drive Enclosure (GHE125U), and 5 port USB 2.0 PCI card (GIC250U).

To take advantage of these special offers, please visit:

<http://www.iogear.com/mug>  
Offer expires January 31, 2003. Offer valid in the US.

**Spamfire**

You don't have to put up with unwanted junk email. Spamfire from Matterform Media removes unwanted commercial and pornographic email from your in-box. It works with any POP3 email account and any email program (support for IMAP, Hotmail and AOL is still in development). Spamfire uses intelligent, fuzzy-logic filtering to identify spam and protect messages you want to keep. Automatic internet updates ensure you always have the most advanced spam protection available. Spamfire works in OS 9 and OS X and is a Mac-only product.

Mac User Group members can purchase Spamfire for just **\$23**, more than 20% off the regular price.

Box & CD, regular price: \$39 (MUG price \$31) Download, regular price: \$29 (MUG price \$23) visit the MUG page on the Matterform Web site:

<http://www.matterform.com/mugoffer>

Offer valid until February 28, 2003.

## Cool Contest!

Here's a way to win a year of FREE MacMAD membership!...

ATTENTION: MacMAD is holding a contest!! The member bringing in the largest total of money from sales of ads for the MacBit Newsletter will receive a 1 year free membership to MacMAD.

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\$ **400** ..... Full Page  
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\$ **75** ..... Eighth Page

Members receive a 20% Discount from these prices.

# CLASSIFIEDS

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**Umax Flatbed SCSI** Single pass Color Scanner w/software and drivers tht work w/OS 7-9. **\$60**

**19.9Bps Modem** w/software **\$10**

**Franklin Day Planner** software **\$10**

**ColorIt!** software(draw, paint,image editing software) w/manual **\$15**

**Apple Imagewriter** (Dot matrix) printer **\$50**

**Quadra Work Group Server 98** (can be used as computer or server..server side needs minor-work) **\$70**

Call or e-mail Cher Daley 729-1433

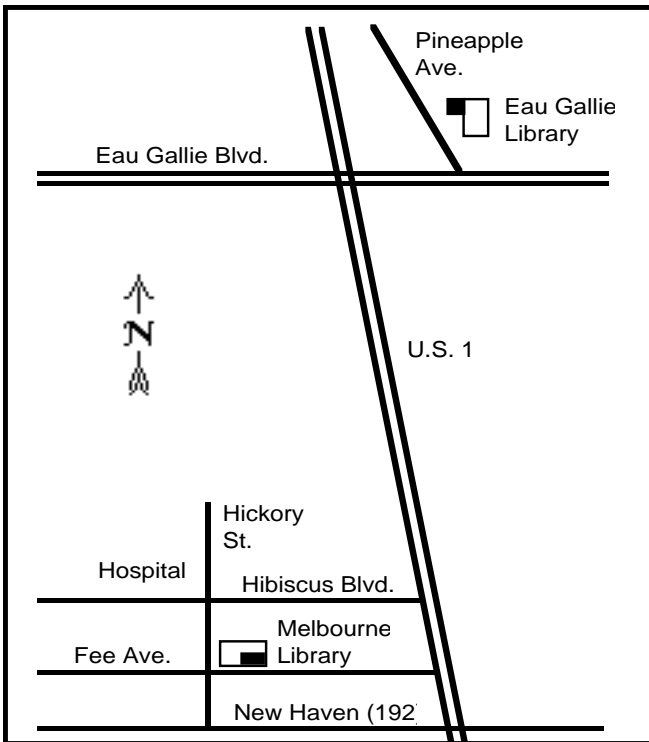
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available exclusively to MUG members for **20% off** (limit 1 per customer).

To take advantage of this offer, send mail to [sales@webcrossing.com](mailto:sales@webcrossing.com) and include the name of your MUG.

For more information, including features and pricing from \$295 before discount, see:

<http://www.webcrossing.com>

Offer expires 2/28/03. Offer valid in the US and internationally.

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Call 1-800-800-6542 (don't forget to mention code "SMUG" when calling)

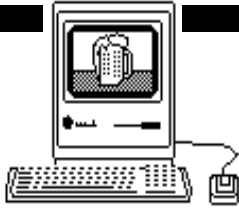
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\* Offer good on new subscriptions only

Offer expires February 28, 2003. Offer valid in the US.

## 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**

### Tuesday, November 19th

Carl Carter (one of our own) is doing a presentation on Appleworks!

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

### Wednesday, December 4th

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

### Tuesday, December 17th

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)

Moved? Address Correction Requested.

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Melbourne, FL 32936-1093

**MACMAD**