



SANTA BARBARA MACINTOSH USERS GROUP

Mouse Times

News, Views & Reviews from the Macintosh Community

SBMUG Newsletter

April-June 2003

Santa Barbara, California



A Letter from the (New) Editor

by Donald Burr <donald@sbmug.org>

Hello SBMUG! This is your new Newsletter Editor speaking. It is both an honor and a privilege to be speaking to you from this position. Since this is my first newsletter, I am still “learning the ropes,” so to speak, so any and all comments from you, the readers, would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to send them to me at <donald@sbmug.org>. Please try and be gentle! ☺

Of course, any newsletter is not a one-man job, and so we are constantly on the lookout for interesting and informative articles to publish. We can fill “empty space” to some extent, of course. But if no one submits any articles at all... well, a newsletter full of articles just written by me, the

editor, would be pretty strange! So I am sending out a clarion call to all you MUGers out there – send in your articles!!

They don’t have to be particularly fancy, or particularly long. They don’t have to be full of flowery prose either. We’re not grading you or anything, after all.

As to the question of “what do I write about?”... Perhaps you have recently purchased a new hardware or software product, and have formed an opinion on what you think of it, either positive or negative. Perhaps you found a great Web site that you would like to share with others. Or perhaps you have some views on Apple Computer, or the computer industry in general, that you would like to vent. Any of these topics would make excellent article material!

So, if you have the urge to write, please by all means do so! Once you are finished with your masterpiece, please feel free to e-mail it to me at <donald@sbmug.org>. You can format your submission as plain text, Microsoft Word, AppleWorks, or HTML.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank everyone who attended my presentation on Linux this past March. It was very gratifying to myself and the rest of the SBLUG team to see the significant interest that people showed towards Linux. I’d like to take the opportunity to remind everyone of our group, in case anyone wants to give Linux a try and has some questions, or perhaps is having trouble getting it going. For more information on our group and our meetings, please see the blurb on page 2.

Well, that about covers what I wanted to say, so without further ado, I bid you welcome to the April-June 2003 issue of the *Mouse Times*! Enjoy!

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Read the *Mouse Times* online at:

<<http://www.sbmug.org/MouseTimes/mtindex.html>>

If you prefer to read the *Mouse Times* online **only**, and not receive a paper copy in the U.S. mail, send an e-mail to the editor at <donald@sbmug.org>



Special thanks to:

Tom Williams, Steve Hillery, & Santa Barbara County Education Office for sponsoring our monthly main meetings at the SBCEO auditorium; various **SBMUG Members** who volunteer for the refreshments table; **Guy DeMangeon** for donating fruit and vegetables from his business, **The Berry Man**; **Kinko's** for printing the *Mouse Times*; and many others...

THE SBMUG WEB SITE

Don't forget to stop by the SBMUG web site for regular updates on SBMUG activities. Our webmaster, Robert Winokur, does a good job of keeping the information up-to-date.

You can find basic information, such as the time, location, and topic of our next meeting. You can find the e-mail addresses of the board members. Issues of the *Mouse Times* are available as PDF files (launch the application Acrobat Reader, included with newer Macs, to view PDF documents).

The SBMUG web site is at
<<http://www.sbmug.org>>

THE SBMUG E-MAIL LIST

At the web site you will find a link to the e-mail list. If you subscribe you will receive e-mail messages from skilled Mac users, from Santa Barbara and beyond, helping list members with questions. It's OK to ask any Mac-related question, and the list members love to answer novice questions.

You don't need to be a member of SBMUG to subscribe to the list, and it's free.

THE BEGINNERS' SIG

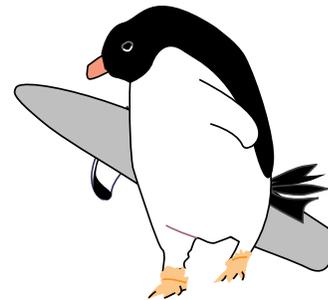
The Beginners' Special Interest Group is headed by Dale Lowdermilk <dale93150@aol.com> and Harold Adams <harold@sblife.com>. They meet once a month, usually on the first Monday, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Goleta Public Library, 500 N. Faiview, Goleta.



HOWELL MOORE & GOUGH
ATTORNEYS AT LAW • LLP

Our thanks to the law firm of **Howell, Moore & Gough**, for allowing us to use their conference room for the monthly board meetings.

The Board meets normally on the Thursday, a week before the general meeting, at 6:30 pm in downtown Santa Barbara. The Board is made up of regular member volunteers who are simply taking their turn helping to manage the various activities of the group. They invite any member to attend the board meetings, whether to just listen in or to share ideas and participate in the discussions.



NEED LINUX HELP?
SBLUG to the Rescue!

Did you attend March's Linux presentation? Would you like to try installing Linux, but don't know where to begin? Or are you having trouble installing or setting up Linux?

The Santa Barbara Linux Users Group (SBLUG) is here to help you!

We hold general meetings every two weeks where we present various topics relevant to the Linux community. In the weeks between general meetings, we hold "Q&A" sessions, where anyone is welcome to bring their Linux questions, be they newbie or advanced. You can also bring your computer to the meeting if you'd like the experts' help in installing or configuring Linux on it.

For more information about SBLUG, including the date and time of the next meeting, please visit their web site
<<http://www.sblug.com/>>

Upcoming SBMUG general meetings:
May 1 ("April" meeting), May 22, June 26.
Next Computer Show June 14.

MACNOSTALGIA, A LOOK BACK AT 1984

By Brian Carlin <brian@sbmug.org>



While cleaning the garage, I found a catalog of Macintosh software, published in 1984, and thought it would be interesting to share what I found in it. I also found the receipt for my first Macintosh 128K (memory size), purchased in April, 1984. All of the prices mentioned in this article are in 1984 dollars.

The Macintosh retailed for \$2495 but I got a deal, they added an Imagewriter printer (not yet available) for only \$50 more. I believe it sold for up to \$500 at the time. I also bought a box of ten 400K (kilobytes, two-and-a-half disks could store one megabyte) single sided floppy disks for \$62. Two applications, *MacWrite* (word processing) and *MacPaint*, were included at no charge. The rest of the software industry named their programs Mac-somethings because of Apple's first two Mac programs.

The Macintosh was amazing, with its pull-down menus and windows. The text could be displayed in different fonts since the computer was just powerful enough to display everything as graphics. There was no "text mode" and "graphics mode" as one had to deal with on all other home computers at the time. Just five years before, computer makers were trying to figure out how to display lower-case letters on the screen.

The first thing I learned was the Macintosh needed two floppy disk drives. I had to do the "floppy shuffle" every time I wanted to copy a file from one disk to another. Most floppy disks had a copy of the operating system on them, leaving very little free space for other files or applications. With only 128 kilobytes of RAM memory and no hard disk, The Mac could only copy a small segment of a file at a time, and two disks had to be inserted one after another, several times.

The most amazing feature of the early Macs was the clipboard. You could actually create some artwork in *MacPaint*, copy it, and paste it in the middle of your *MacWrite* document and the text would separate, and display the picture where the blinking cursor was located. This was advanced technology, far beyond anything PCs could do in DOS. Most users were not very good artists, so most of the disks sold were clipart of *MacPaint* pictures.

The hardware was advanced as well. The Mac weighed about as much as a bowling ball, so I could lug it around with me, as long as I could find an AC outlet. The nine-inch black & white screen was very sharp since the monitor refreshed twice as fast a TV screen. The power supply struggled and quickly burned out, so I think it was a bad part of the original design. I had to buy something called a "Mac-cracker" to remove all the screws in the case to pull the back off. Later I learned the "cracker" was just a Torx screwdriver bit on the business end of a thing that looked like a bent coat hanger. When I pulled the back off I saw the signatures of the original Macintosh team molded on the inside of the plastic case.

Hard disk storage was a dream for the future. The catalog lists a few hard disks available, but they were out of my league. You could buy a 10 MB (that's megabytes, not gigabytes!) drive for as little as \$2,395. A 40 MB disk cost \$4,495. You could also buy a 10 MB drive with a 5 MB removable cartridge in a single unit for only \$3,290. The best disk drive in the catalog was a 45.1 MB hard disk for \$4,999. Yes, they actually included the "point-one" on the size of the disk.

When I did finally buy a hard disk drive I recall I couldn't pick it up or move it without issuing a command from the Mac to park the read/write heads. When I forgot to do this, the data on the drive was destroyed and I had to reformat the disk.

Laser Printers were not yet available and we didn't know we could network Macs together with special cabling. Apple announced their first LaserWriter printer and LocalTalk networking (the "Macintosh Office") in a 1985 Super Bowl commercial, the Lemmings commercial, which showed Information Technology executives marching off the edge of the cliff. It was much less successful than the first 1984 commercial. I still have the 1985 commercial on Beta tape somewhere. Cheap inkjet printers were in the far distant future.

After doodling many *MacPaint* pictures, the next thing I wanted to do was program my Macintosh. I bought *ExperLogo* (\$149.95) created by a local Santa Barbara company, and *Microsoft BASIC* (\$150). I never created anything too interesting in *ExperLogo*, and *BASIC*, being a first generation Microsoft product, kept freezing up the Mac so I had

to reboot regularly. I could move the mouse and make a text window, but couldn't really make use of the Macintosh operating system to design a real application.

I needed a more sophisticated compiler. But *MacFortran* (\$295), *Mac C* (with Mac C toolkit \$425) were rather expensive. These days I can download a Fortran compiler for free from the web, and a C-compiler is included with Jaguar. I soon discovered the features that made the Mac powerful, also made it difficult to program, so I gave up on that dream until Hypercard came along three years later.

Meanwhile, I enjoyed making graphics. My favorite Mac program of all time, *MacDraw*, was published in November, 1984 (\$125). It was good for making maps, but didn't correctly print objects pasted from MacPaint. The drawings could not be very big and complicated until the 512K (RAM) Macintosh ("fat mac") was available in 1985. Then we could make big charts with lots of symbols on them. The user could drag symbols around over the chart (or map) changing the meaning of the drawing. Think of bad war movies where generals move little flags and stick them in a map, or mysteries where the detective uses a house-plan to solve the crime. Miss Scarlett committed the crime in the Library, with the candlestick. When the Mac II arrived in 1987, with a color monitor(!), MacDraw was improved so that it could display up to 8 colors and custom patterns!

The Electronic Pad (\$395) allowed hobbyists to create schematic drawings of circuits.

For home finances, a Mac-User could buy *Checkwriter* (\$69.95) or *Chequebook* (\$74.95). Accountants could buy something called *Gallery* (\$795). Small businesses could do basic tasks with *QUEST Small Business* (\$695). *MOM, the Macintosh Office Manager* (\$495) offered word processing, spreadsheet, database, graphs, and mail-merge all in one package. *Megadesk* (\$125) offered an appointment book and calendar. *MacDesk* (\$149.95) provided a rolodex-like application with an analog clock display for time management.

The Excel spreadsheet application was not yet available for the Mac, but *MultiPlan* (\$195) was. *Microsoft Word* was available in 1984 (\$195) for word-processing. Later Word's application size and price would bloat upward as the application dominated the word-processing genre.

The Internet was not yet ready for public consumption, but Telecommunications applications were a big deal in 1984. The favorite was *MacTerminal* because it was cheap (\$99). *Procomm* (\$549), *Blast* (\$250) and *MacModem* (\$599) were more advanced. *Lexis/Nexis* (\$225) let you search their news archive.

1200 baud modems cost about \$400 back then. Today's 56K modems are 40 times faster. Using a modem to send a fax was a few years from reality.

When I received the first Macintosh computer at Santa Barbara Research Center (an Aerospace company that no longer exists), a 512K Fat Mac with a hard disk(!), they gave me communications software called *Tekalike* (\$250). I was able to log onto their VAX computers at 2400 baud and make drawings on the Macintosh screen with their CAD (Computer Aided Design) programs, just as if I were using one of the huge Tektronix workstations in the CAD rooms. I saved screenshots of the CAD drawings and edited them in MacPaint. I was the only employee who could record a session of my VAX/VMS commands and output from the VAX computers into text files on my floppy disk. It was important to keep a record of the VAX programs I installed so I could prove I did it correctly. As a result of my Macintosh experiences, SBRC eventually purchased more than a thousand Macintoshes, and I had to provide tech support for them.

UMAX System (\$295) allowed the Mac to be used as a workstation on a mainframe computer, running Unix. The catalog points out the benefits of not buying a \$15,000 dumb terminal to display graphics. No one had a clue that the Mac would eventually run Unix all by itself, faster than the host computer did then.

There were no screensavers yet, but there was a fascinating slideshow program called *SlideShow Magician* (\$59.95). The user created MacPaint images and displayed them in a slideshow with sophisticated wipes and dissolves in-between. The idea behind Keynote and PowerPoint was there in the beginning.

Database management was primitive, but *Microsoft File* (\$195) and *MacLion* (\$379) allowed us to make flat-file databases. *Odesta Helix* (\$395) displayed the structure of the database with graphical elements. *1stBase* (\$195) was a relational database. *OverVUE* (\$295) displayed the database in a spreadsheet-like table.

My favorite database application was *FileVision* (\$195), a very clever graphical database. Records were displayed as icons in a pictorial representation of the database, which really satisfied my lust for maps, though the picture size was limited to the size of the nine-inch screen. The user clicked on the record icons to view the data, and drag records around the picture, just like MacDraw charts. A friend of mine created a huge database in FileVision. Unfortunately he was using the Macintosh during a thunderstorm. When the power went off and finally came back on, the database file was hopelessly corrupted and he had no backup.

You could buy a decent new car for about \$8,000 in 1984 (without expensive airbags), or spend the same money on a small Macintosh with a 40 MB hard disk, dot-matrix printer, and a few programs to achieve a basic task. Your Mac was an island, because there was no world-wide web, and few people had e-mail.

Those were exciting times, but now we can do much more for less money, in 2003 dollars! The best times for home computing are yet to be.

For more information about old Macintoshes, visit the web site <http://lowendmac.com/>

iPod Software Update 1.2.6 Now Available

by Donald Burr <donald@sbmug.org>



Those of you who own Apple iPods will be pleased to know that iPod Software Update 1.2.6 is now available.

This update fixes power management related problems introduced with 1.2; due to a miscalculation in the power manager, battery life was being incorrectly reported as being less than it actually is. This resulted in iPods prematurely shutting down or not turning on because the system thinks the battery is discharged, when in actuality it isn't.

Starting with the 1.2 series, iPod now has the capability of syncing calendar and contact information with iCal and Address Book, respectively, if you have iSync installed. It also adds support for Sound Check, a new feature in iTunes 3 that "normalizes" the volume of your MP3's, so that, for example, one MP3 plays ear-numbingly loud while the next MP3 plays at almost inaudibly silent levels. It also adds support for downloading and playing audiobooks purchased from Audible.com

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

I highly recommend that any iPod owner upgrade to the new 1.2.6 firmware as soon as possible.

This update is not yet available through the OS 9/OS X Software Updates mechanism, and must be downloaded and installed manually, at <http://www.apple.com/ipod/>.

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Configuring a Utility Hard Disk

by Adam C. Engst <ace@tidbits.com>

Years ago, when APS Technologies was the dominant hard drive vendor in the Macintosh world, I had a chat with Paul McGraw, one of the co-founders of the company, about why APS was starting to sell Macintosh clones. He said that since Apple was shipping such large hard drives at the time, he thought the hard drive aftermarket was going to become significantly less profitable. He was probably correct, particularly given the size of drives in today's Macs. Those of us who don't do video (which happily eats all the disk space you can throw at it) are unlikely ever to fill them.

But does that mean there's no reason for an external hard drive? Far from it. For quite some time after I bought my first Power Mac without SCSI, I lived without one. Not having a large external drive made me uncomfortable, though, and I was surprised how relieved I felt after buying one for secondary backups (primary backups at the time were going to VXA-1 tape), testing backup software, providing a boot disk for troubleshooting, and so on.

Should you rush right out and buy an external hard drive? It mostly comes down to whether or not you're the type of person who solves problems, either for yourself or for other people. Plenty of people just use their Macs, and if something goes wrong, they get help from elsewhere. Those people probably won't use an external drive sufficiently to justify the cost. But for people like me, who are always helping friends and relatives when we're not whacking our own systems into shape, an external hard drive is a necessity. Actually, that's a good question for a poll: do you currently have an external utility hard drive? Vote on our home page!

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

Over the last few months, I've been working with what feels like the mother of all external drives - Maxtor's 250 GB Personal Storage 5000. It isn't just a big FireWire and USB hard drive, though - it offers OneTouch Backup, which is a physical button on the front of the case that, when pushed, launches the bundled Retrospect Express and backs up your internal hard drive. I reviewed the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000 for Macworld recently; go read that review for details.

<<http://www.macworld.com/2003/03/reviews/maxtor5000/>>

<http://maxtor.com/en/products/external/personal_storage_5000/>

Although I gave the drive a positive writeup in Macworld, I criticized the product for its default configuration, which actually duplicates the contents of your Mac's internal hard drive to a folder on the Maxtor drive. That prevents it from being bootable; Mac OS X's System folder and other important support folders must apparently be at the top level of the disk for it to boot. Maxtor also made a mistake in how they configured the Duplicate action in Retrospect such that files you rename, move, or delete on your internal hard drive appear multiple times in the duplicate. So, what I'd like to do here is tell you how to reconfigure the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000 to make it into the ultimate utility drive. Don't worry if you don't have one of these drives; this approach works equally as well with any large FireWire hard drive and Retrospect Express. These instructions are specific to Mac OS X, but much of the general advice remains relevant for Mac OS 9 users who don't already have a utility drive.

<http://www.dantz.com/products/mac_express/>

A Clean Start -- Unlike many external FireWire drives, the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000 does not come pre-formatted, forcing you to initialize it in Apple's Disk Utility. That's not a bad thing, though, since I've seen problems on pre-formatted FireWire drives from different manufacturers. Specifically, I could make a duplicate to the drive using Retrospect Express, but I couldn't convince that duplicate to boot into Mac OS X. Reformatting and making another duplicate eliminated the problem.

As a result, I recommend you initialize any external FireWire drive first thing, before you start using it. If you want to be really sure that the drive is clean, click the Options button in Disk Utility's Erase tab and select "Zero all data" as well.

There's one other decision you may need to make at this point. Will you ever want to open your FireWire drive, extract the drive mechanism, and install it in your Mac with its contents intact? I haven't found solid information on this topic, but some people have had trouble using a mechanism connected to the IDE/ATA bus if it was initialized in the FireWire drive enclosure. To be safe, first initialize the drive inside your Mac, and then put it back in the FireWire case; obviously, this isn't a possibility for PowerBook or iBook owners, unless you have a friend with a Power Mac that can be used to initialize the drive. I did not do this with the Personal Storage 5000, but I did make the extra effort with the bare drives I bought for use with Granite Digital's FireVue FireWire drive bay, which I'm now using for backups and which I'll write more about soon.

<http://granitedigital.com/catalog/pg26_firewireidehotswapdrive.htm>

Should you partition at this point? Although I used to partition religiously, I'm no longer a huge fan of them, and the system I describe below works well for backing up multiple Macs without partitioning. Unless you have a specific reason for partitioning, I wouldn't bother.

Make It Bootable, Make It Useful -- Any good utility drive must be bootable, because you may need to use it when your Mac's internal hard drive isn't able to start the Mac. Plus, if you ever want to reformat your hard disk and restore from backup, a drive that can boot the Mac simplifies the process significantly. (Otherwise you must reformat using your Mac OS installation CD-ROM, reinstall the Mac OS, and then restore over the newly installed copy of the operating system.)

There are two ways of making your FireWire utility disk bootable, and which you choose depends on the size of the disk and your situation. If you're the only person who is likely to use the disk, even if on another person's machine, the easiest way to make it bootable might be to use Retrospect Express to make a duplicate of your internal hard disk to the external disk. You wouldn't want to do that if other people might be using the external drive, or if the duplicate would take up too much of the useful space on that disk.

The other alternative is to install clean copies of Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X on the external disk. You definitely want both, since some troubleshooting tools still run only in Mac OS 9. Plus, you never know what sort of Mac you'll want to use with your utility drive, so having Mac OS 9 available for older Macs that have never seen Mac OS X is a good idea. I opted to install clean versions of both Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X on the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000.

Although Apple provides some basic utilities with both versions of the Mac OS (Drive Setup and Disk First Aid in Mac OS 9, and Disk Utility in Mac OS X), you should also install any other troubleshooting utilities you may have, such as Alsoft's DiskWarrior or Symantec's Norton Utilities (the Norton SystemWorks bundle is a good way to acquire Norton Utilities and Retrospect Express all at once). Also be sure to install Retrospect Express or whatever other backup software you may use. Remember that this disk will also hold your backups, so you want to be able to boot from it, reinitialize your internal hard disk, and restore

from backup with a minimum of fuss.

<<http://www.alsoft.com/DiskWarrior/>>

<http://www.symantec.com/nu/nu_mac/>

<<http://www.symantec.com/sabu/sysworks/mac/>>

Default Retrospect Express Configuration -- Let's now look closely at how the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000 configures Retrospect Express by default, and how you can reconfigure it to meet your needs better.

The magic of the Personal Storage 5000's OneTouch button is that when you press the button, software that's installed on your Mac automatically launches Retrospect Express and executes a Retrospect Express script called "Maxtor OneTouch."

A bit of background: Retrospect Express scripts are nothing like AppleScript scripts - they're merely an automated way of telling Retrospect Express exactly what to back up and where to store the results. They come in three basic types: Backup scripts, Duplicate scripts, and Archive scripts. Backup scripts create backup sets, which store multiple versions of changed files and which only Retrospect Express can read. Duplicate scripts duplicate the selected files or disk to the destination as files in the Finder, but changed files are overwritten with the current version on subsequent runs. Archive scripts remove the files from your hard disk once copied elsewhere - avoid them unless you're sure of what you're doing.

The default Maxtor OneTouch script is a Duplicate script, so the "backup" you get from using it is actually a duplicate of your hard disk on the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000. That's not terrible, but with a duplicate, you lose access to previous versions of files, so if a file becomes corrupt, you could easily end up with only the corrupt version on your backup. True backups store multiple versions of changed files so you can revert to an earlier version that doesn't have the corruption.

The problems arise in the way Maxtor chose to configure the Duplicate script. First, they chose to store the duplicate in a folder at the top level of the Personal Storage 5000. That decision makes it a bit easier to back up multiple Macs to the same drive (since each would be in its own folder), but also makes it so the duplicate cannot boot a Mac in Mac OS X. Mac OS 9 isn't as picky about the location of its System Folder. Although I haven't confirmed this, I also worry about permissions confusions during restores, if you've backed up multiple Macs to standard files on the same disk. Still, this is a design decision, and it's not inherently wrong.

What is wrong is the way Maxtor sets the Replace Corresponding Files option in the Maxtor OneTouch Duplicate script. If you make a backup, and then move, rename, or delete a file from your internal hard disk, then perform another backup, you may find the results confusing. Thanks to the Replace Corresponding Files option, Retrospect Express won't see the original files on the duplicate as corresponding, so it won't replace them. In short, you will end up with the original file and another in the new location, with the new name, or in the Trash. It's a potential nightmare when the time comes to restore, since you must sort through and figure out which of the files is the correct version.

If you decide to stick with a Duplicate script, you can fix this misbehavior: Launch Retrospect Express, select the Automate tab, and click the Scripts button. Then, double-click the Maxtor OneTouch script to edit it, click the Destinations button, and choose Replace Entire Disk from the pop-up menu. Close and save and you won't have to worry about multiple versions of the same files littering your backup.

Better Retrospect Express Configuration -- However, I don't recommend you follow the above instructions, because even though a Duplicate script may seem the most obvious way to back up for

a novice user, it's simply not the best way to back up, period. Good backups store multiple versions of changed files, and for good backups, you want to use a Backup script. With just a pinch of cleverness, you can still use the OneTouch button on the Personal Storage 5000 to initiate the backups.

(For those of you who are following along, but don't have a Personal Storage 5000, never fear, since you can easily initiate a backup in Retrospect Express by creating a "run document" that, when opened, does exactly the same thing as pressing the OneTouch button. Just choose the script from Retrospect Express's Run menu and save it to a file from the Manual Execution dialog.)

The trick is the name of the script. First, we rename the existing script to get it out of the way. Select the Maxtor OneTouch script in the Scripts window and from the Scripts menu, choose Rename and call it something like "old Maxtor OneTouch." Now we replace it. Click the New button in the Scripts window, and choose Backup when Retrospect Express prompts you for a type of script. Next, Retrospect Express asks you to name the script. Call it "Maxtor OneTouch" (without the quotes, of course). The name is important - if you get it wrong, the OneTouch button won't do anything. When you're done, Retrospect opens the Backup: Maxtor OneTouch window where you configure your script.

Click the Sources button, and in the Volume Selection dialog, select your internal hard disk and click OK. Assuming you only want to back up one disk (Retrospect Express would be happy to do more if you have multiple partitions), click OK to close the Maxtor OneTouch: Sources dialog and return to the Backup: Maxtor OneTouch window.

Click the Destinations button next, and in the Backup Set Selection dialog, click the New button to bring up the Backup Set Creation dialog. From the Backup set type pop-up menu, choose File, set a password if you feel it's necessary, and give your backup set a name in the Name field (I usually append "Backup" to the name of the hard disk I'm backing up). Click the New button, and in the Save dialog that appears, save the backup set on the Personal Storage 5000, perhaps at the top level or in the main user's Documents folder - it doesn't matter. Back in Backup Set Selection dialog again, select your newly created backup set, click OK, and click OK once more in the Maxtor OneTouch: Destinations window.

Back in the Backup: Maxtor OneTouch window, click the Selecting button to open the Maxtor OneTouch: Selecting dialog. Choose All Files Except Cache Files from the pop-up menu (there's no reason to back up Web browser cache files), and click OK to return to the Backup: Maxtor OneTouch window.

You could, if you wanted, fiddle with the options, but you want verification and data compression turned on, so the defaults are fine. And, particularly for folks who don't have a Personal Storage 5000, you could also set a regular schedule on which Retrospect Express would automatically back up your Mac. But if you're going to rely on the OneTouch button, there's less need to do that. Close the Backup: Maxtor OneTouch window, and when prompted, save your changes. Quit Retrospect Express

That's it, and from now on, when you press the OneTouch button, Retrospect Express launches and executes your Maxtor OneTouch script, backing up your Mac to the Personal Storage 5000. The first time will take a while, of course, but subsequent backups will be much faster, since they don't have to copy as much data.

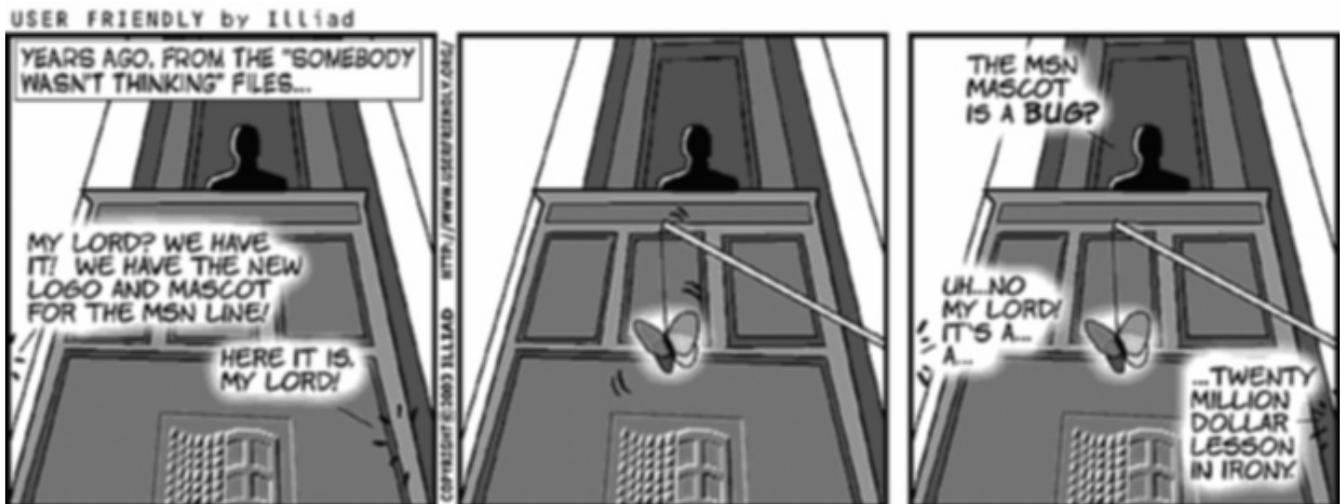
Multiple Macs -- What if you want to use the 250 GB Personal Storage 5000 to back up multiple Macs in an office? All you must do is connect the Personal Storage 5000 to each Mac in turn, and then run through the process outlined above for creating a Maxtor OneTouch script for each machine. It's easiest to create a separate backup set for each computer, rather than directing all the backups into a single backup set. Then, all you must do to initiate a backup is to plug the drive into the Mac and into an electrical outlet, wait for it to mount on the Desktop, and then press the OneTouch button.

Still, there are two issues to consider. First, plugging and unplugging cables, both FireWire and power, can be a royal pain if you have to root around behind desks and look for unused sockets. It might be worth buying some extra FireWire cables and Maxtor power adapters so the cables are easily accessible. Second, the license for the bundled copy of Retrospect Express is technically only for a single computer, so it's up to you to decide if you're comfortable interpreting the license such that it's acceptable to use that copy of Retrospect Express with multiple Macs as long as you use it only with the Maxtor Personal Storage 5000 drive.

Recap -- Lest all this seem overwhelming, let's recap what we've done here. We reinitialized the disk, which is a good idea with any new external drive. Then we made it bootable, either by duplicating the internal hard disk to it, or by installing clean versions of both Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X. We also installed all troubleshooting and backup utilities so they'd be available when needed. Then we configured Retrospect Express to make good backups rather than the less-useful duplicates.

Run through these steps with your external FireWire drive, whether or not it's from Maxtor, and you'll be all set the next time trouble comes knocking on your Mac's door.

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**Sony-Ericsson Clicker:
A Remote Control for your Mac!**
by Donald Burr <donald@sbmug.org>



Have you ever wished that you had a remote control for your Mac? Perhaps you want to be able to control iTunes to change tracks, shuffle playlists, turn on/off visualizations, and so on? Or perhaps you give a lot of presentations using Keynote or PowerPoint, and wish that you could control your slides without having to stand right in front of your computer? Or maybe you are a trickster, and would like to have your Mac do something to startle your friends or co-workers while you are hidden around the corner – maybe play a loud sound, or display an embarrassing picture taken at the office Christmas party? Or perhaps you would like your computer to automatically activate a password-protected screen saver when you walk away from it, to prevent prying eyes from getting at your files?

Well, I've got good news for you: If you have a Sony-Ericsson cell phone with built-in Bluetooth and a Bluetooth-enabled Mac, then the Sony-Ericsson Clicker <<http://homepage.mac.com/jonassalling/Shareware/Clicker/>> may be just what you've been waiting for!

Note: for the rest of this article, I will refer to Sony-Ericsson Clicker as "SEC," for short.

You will require a Bluetooth-enabled Sony-Ericsson cell phone; the models known to work are the T39m, R520m, T68, or T68i. You will also need a Bluetooth-enabled Mac running OS X 10.2.4 ("Jaguar"): either one with Bluetooth built in, such as the new 12" and 17" aluminum G4 PowerBooks, or a Mac with a USB to Bluetooth adapter. Apple sells the D-link DBT-120 (also known as the DWB-120M) Bluetooth adapter; this is the adapter I use with my 800 MHz PowerBook G4 Titanium, and it works very well. Apple sells this item on their online store <<http://www.apple.com/bluetooth/>> but it can also be found at many computer retailers, such as CompUSA and Fry's Electronics. Expect to pay \$49.95 for one of these devices. (Keyspan also makes a similar USB-to-Bluetooth adapter, the BT-2A which also works very well; Belkin's USB-to-Bluetooth adapter is reported to work well also.)

Installing SEC is a snap. Once you download the disk image, simply double-click it to mount it (or if you are using Safari, it mounts it for you); then drag the "prefPane" file into your /Library/PreferencePanels folder (if you don't already have a PreferencePanels folder in your Library folder, create one). No rebooting is necessary. SEC's functionality is accessed through the System Preferences pane, in the "Other" section.

The first thing you will need to do is "pair" your Bluetooth phone with your computer, if you haven't already done so. First of all, you will have to make your Bluetooth phone "discoverable." On the Sony-Ericsson T68i, activate the phone's menu, click on "Connect," then "Bluetooth," and finally "Discoverable." You will be asked to enter a name for your phone; either stick with the default "T68i," or choose your own. Once you enter the name, your phone will be discoverable for three minutes. Now, back on your Mac, pull down the Bluetooth menu (on the right hand side of your menu bar) and choose "Setup Bluetooth Device..." (If you don't have a Bluetooth menu bar item, go to the Bluetooth preference pane, click the "Devices" tab, then click on the "Setup New Device" button.) You will be prompted through the steps necessary to "pair" your phone with your computer.

Now you have to tell SEC about your phone. On the SEC preference pane, click the "Select Device..."

button. A list of paired devices will appear, with your newly-paired Bluetooth phone in it. Select it and click “Select.” Lastly, click on the “Publish” button to enable your phone’s new-found remote control abilities. Now it’s time for the fun to begin!

Fire up iTunes. Browse to one of your favorite playlists. Now, pick up your Bluetooth phone, and for full effect, walk a few feet away from your Macintosh. On your phone (I’ll be using the T68i as an example), activate the menu and click on “Connect,” then “Accessories.” A new menu should appear here, labeled “Macintosh.” Select it. Now you should see a bunch of menus, labeled “iTunes,” “Keynote,” etc. These are the menus which you use to control the corresponding programs. The “System” menu controls system-wide properties, such as screen savers, sound volume, etc. Go into the “iTunes” menu and play around. Amazing, isn’t it? If you have either Keynote or PowerPoint available, open it and load up a presentation. Try using the phone to control your slides. Pretty neat, huh?

But wait – that’s not all! You can also control any – I repeat, ANY – program that is AppleScriptable. On the SEC preference panel, click the “Action Editor” tab. Here you can write AppleScripts that you can use to control programs. Go ahead and look at the scripts already provided for some examples. When you’re ready to try your own script, click the “New...” button. You now have a choice of three possible script types to choose from.



Script – This is the most basic script type. It simply runs an AppleScript when it is called from your phone. No data can be passed to or from your script. This is the most often used type of script.



Slider – This type of script allows you to control any scriptable control using a “slider” type control that appears on your phone. This type of control is suitable for adjusting such properties as system volume, screen brightness, changing a song’s Rating in iTunes, and so forth.



Msg Box – This type of script will display a message box on your phone’s screen, containing any text that your script sends to it. Use this type of control when you want to get some sort of data from your Mac or a running program and display it on your phone’s screen. For example, displaying the name of the currently playing track in iTunes, displaying how long your system has been turned on (“uptime”), and so on.

Once you have chosen your script type, a new “untitled” script will be created; double-click on the script name to give it a more meaningful name. On the right side of the screen will be one or more text boxes where you can enter your script. If you are just getting started with AppleScript, you will want to check out the AppleScript web site <<http://www.apple.com/applescript/>>; there are many useful resources to get the beginning scripster started.

Once you are finished writing your script, you will have to add it into your phone’s menu. To do this, click on the “Phone Menu” tab; in this pane, find your newly-created script in the scroll box to the right side of the screen, then drag and drop it into the menu structure presented on the left side of the screen. If you’d like to create a new sub-menu, drag the “Menu” object into the pane. In either case, double-click on the newly-added object to give it a meaningful name. Finally, click the “Apply Now” button to publish your changes to your phone.

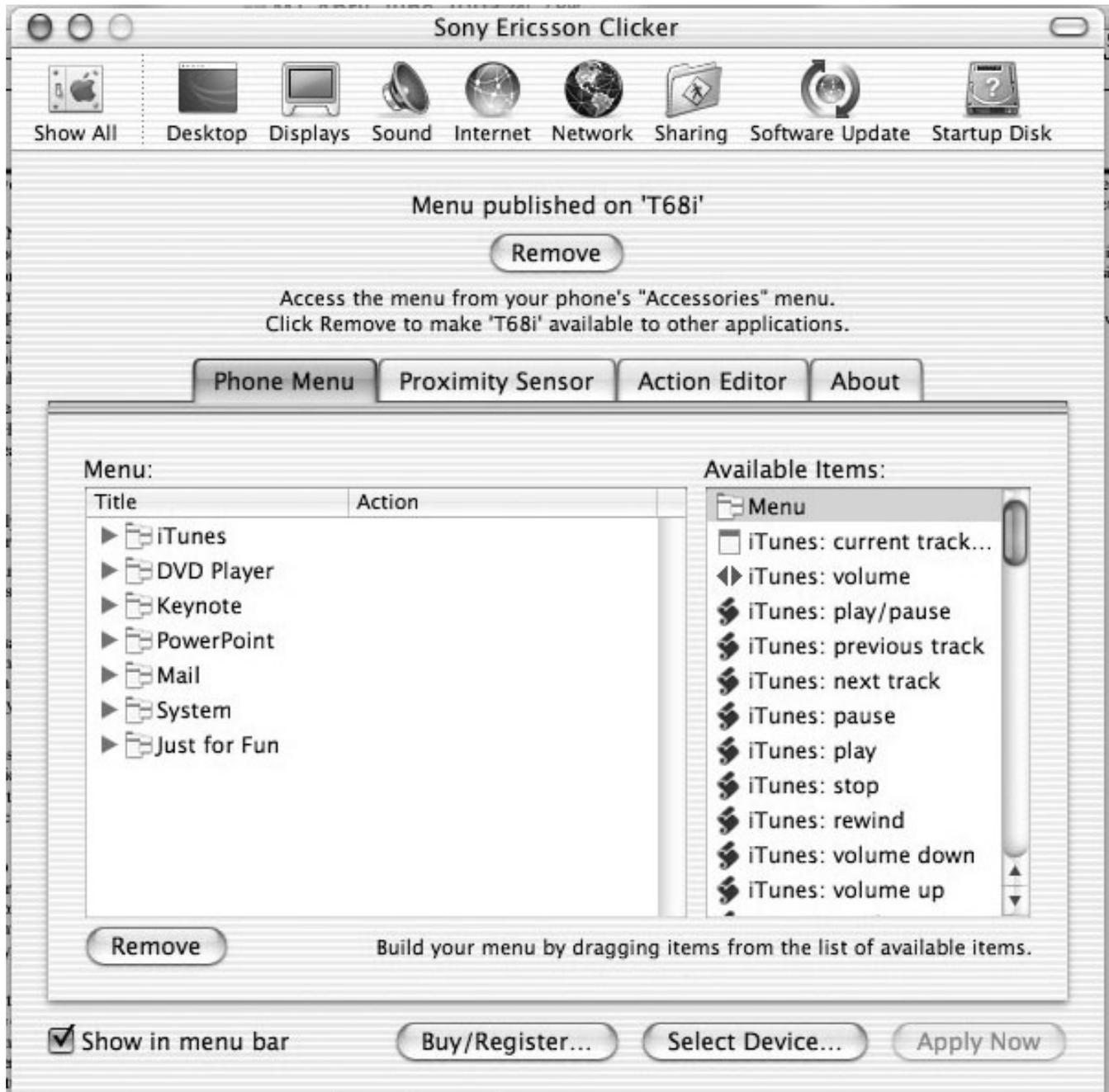
There’s one more neat feature I’d like to talk about, and that is the Proximity Sensor. You can trigger a script to run when your phone leaves your Mac’s Bluetooth range (10 meters, or about 33 feet), and you can trigger another script to run when your phone comes back into range of your Mac. This can be used, for example, to automatically start up a password-protected screen saver (and terminate it when you return), or to pause iTunes music playback (and restart playback when you return). A very handy feature indeed.

What if you don’t have a desire to learn AppleScript, but still want to use this program? Not a problem! One of the

benefits of the Internet is that it allows people to share their works, and there are quite a few sites now devoted to sharing SEC scripts that others have created. Look in the “Script Collections” section of the SEC website for more details. One very good script registry is being hosted by Anand Mandapati, an enthusiastic SEC user, and can be found at <http://www.resistance.net/SEC>.

You may download and try out the Clicker for free; the only limitation in the non-paid version is that it will only process 30 “clicks” per login session. If you wish to purchase the full program, you may order an unlock key online using the eSellerate-based storefront on the SEC web site; the (very reasonable) shareware fee is \$9.95. They accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover/Novus, and American Express. The online payment site is encrypted to protect your sensitive personal information.

For more information in this fine program, or to download your own copy, see <http://homepage.mac.com/jonassalling/Shareware/Clicker/>.



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Please contact the Editor for the Newsletter Deadline Schedule.

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<u>Rates:</u>	<u>1 issue</u>	<u>2 issues</u>
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Half page	65	100
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Business card	20	35

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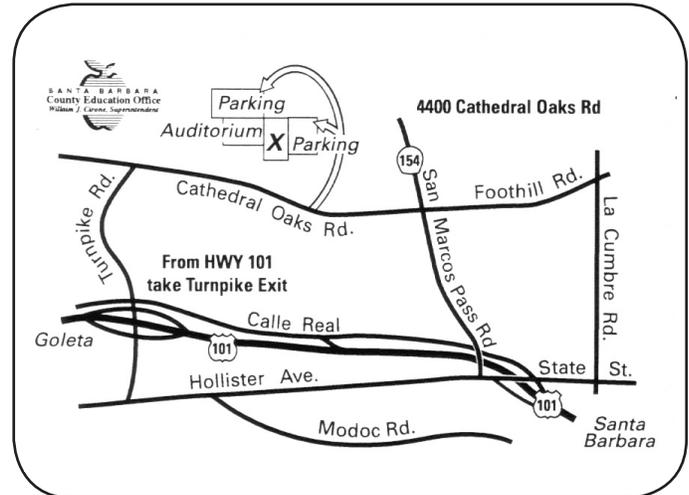
MONTHLY MEETINGS 3RD THURSDAYS

Santa Barbara County Education Office
4400 Cathedral Oaks Road

Upcoming meetings: May 1 ("April" meeting), May 22, June 26.
6–7 pm Questions & Answers • 7:20–9 pm Presentations

Meetings are at the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) auditorium, 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road (half-mile west of Hwy 154). Just inside the driveway entrance, turn right and follow the road up the hill to the end. Turn left into the parking lot — you'll find us in the auditorium.

Currently scheduled meeting dates through May 2003 are shown on page 2. Program information and meeting dates will also be listed on our Web site: <<http://www.sbmug.org>>



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