

# dBUG MacNews

A Publication of Seattle's Macintosh Downtown Business Users Group



**PRESIDENTS LETTER:**

## Traveling Companions

With me on board, Amtrak's Coast Starlight departs Seattle's King Street station on time at 10:00 am, April 30th, 1997. This station desperately needs the currently planned renovation. It's easily the worst looking station on the entire route between Seattle and my stop in Emeryville, California.

While sitting in the observation car, an admirer of my PowerBook 1400 asks if I've worked with the new PowerBook 3400. It turns out that he works for IXA, one of Seattle's larger Internet Access Providers. {aka IAP's, IAP's

generally provide Internet Access to Internet Service Providers (ISP's) who in turn provide access to individuals like you and me.} I Learned some interesting things about internet connections, proxy servers, frame relay and ISDN. dBUG's current provider for PPP accounts gets their Internet feed from IXA.

Around 1:15 pm we arrive in Kelso/Longview 30 minutes behind schedule due to slow orders on entering Tacoma. My first meal on the train is a grilled Portabella Mushroom sandwich on Focaccia

bread... quite tasty. Very pretty scenes of bucolic south central Washington float by during lunch. The new spring leaves lend a soft green hue to the landscape. This part of Washington is considerably more scenic from the train than the car.

A little checking reveals no power outlets readily available. I'll have to either sit in the lounge car, or upgrade to a sleeper if I want continuous power for my PowerBook.

Our Portland union station stop  
*continued on page 3...*

**EVENTS:**

**Main Meeting:**  
June Raffle & Picnic

**INSIDE:**

Presidents Letter	1,3
Main Meeting	1,6
Special Interest Groups	2
Networking	3
The Free-Range Mac	4
MacPublisher	5
MacAddict	5
Used Powerbooks	6
Exchange Tips	7
Maps	7
June Schedule	8

**MAIN MEETING:**

## The Wizards of OS in the Emerald City June 11th "Tempo and Newton and NeXT, oh my!"

You don't need to be another Lincoln to know that the real brains of any computer is in the operating system. And unless you've been rusted solid for the past year, you know that Apple's OS plans have undergone more changes than a farmhouse in a Kansas twister. Well, have courage! The storm has passed, the Wicked Witch of Indecision is dead, and Apple is following the yellow brick road to the Emerald City with three great OS solutions. Strap on your ruby slippers and join us in the Northwest Rooms at the Seattle Center June 11th, as dBUG presents a peek at the future from Apple Computer.

We'll start with a look the current NeXT OS and OpenStep, courtesy of Steve Roller and The Puget Sound NeXT Users Group (<http://www.seattle.net/~nextpsug/>). Steve will be demonstrating on both a 1992 NeXTstation turbo B/W with OpenStep ver 4.1, and OpenStep on an Intel Pentium 166. Long time dBUG members may remember that NeXT gave a presentation at our Main Meeting in December of 1990. The OS was excellent and exciting then, and it has gotten even more so. If you are unfamiliar with this system, (or are just a disappointed

wanna-Be), come see why Apple's \$400 million was money well spent.

Following Steve will be Richard Ford, a Product Manger for AppleSoft. Richard will be presenting an overview of Apple's operating system products and plans, including details about Rhapsody, the future system that combines Mac OS and NeXTSTEP. He will also demo elements of the next major release, MacOS 8 [code named Tempo], the most significant upgrade to the Mac OS in many years (

[www.macos.apple.com/macos8/index.html](http://www.macos.apple.com/macos8/index.html)).

Insanely great operating systems are only as good as the hardware they run on. And what better way to run the current and future Mac OS than on the wickedly fast PowerBooks. Our final presenters of the evening will be the Apple PowerBook Team, demonstrating the world's fastest laptops ([http://powerbook.apple.com/phase\\_2/show.qry](http://powerbook.apple.com/phase_2/show.qry)).

I am happy to announce that the PB Team will be raffling off a PB 1400cs 117 16/1 GIG machine at the meeting.

In addition to the presentations,  
*continued on page 6...*

# Special Interest Groups

Please call the dBUG Info-line  
-624-9329- for last-minute info.

## 4TH DIMENSION SIG

Activities are primarily show and tell by various SIG members.

2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Walt Nelson

Home & Work-783-7611

## ADVANCED INTERNET TOPICS

The Advanced Internet Topics SIG is intended for Internet professionals.

3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Russell Cox

## ASSOCIATION FOR SOFTWARE DESIGN

At Association of Software Design (ASD) meetings you'll find a variety of people in and around the software design field.

1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Every other Month

(In June, but not in July)

dBUG Resource Center

## EXCEL SIG

The May SIG will feature a discussion in charting & start the VBA Study Group.

3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Evan Kentop



## DBUG BBS EXCHANGE SIG

The Exchange Beginnings TeleSIG is designed to teach the basics of telecomputing, with an emphasis on connecting to and navigating the dBUG ExChange. We will demonstrate the vast resources available on-line.

4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Cherie Nickell

## FILEMAKER PRO SIG

3rd Mon 7 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Greg Schumacher 364-1696

## FORMZ

Interested in 3D graphics? This software package is a powerful 3D surface and solids modeler which is used by an assortment of disciplines including architects, product designers and 3D digital artists.

4th Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Sue Plahn

Phone: 789-3582

Internet: splahn@dbug.org

## HYPERCARD SIG

3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Deforest Shotwell

dshotwell@accessone.com

## INTERNET INTRO

Have you heard of this amazing phenomenon? Do you need to be 'on-line'? Find out what it is and what you could encounter if you join the 'on-line' community.

3rd Saturday, 10:00 am.

dBUG Resource Center

Bill Levering

internet: idbill@dbug.org

## MAC BASICS

Are you new to computers? Have you used other computers but just started using the Macintosh? Are there questions you have about using your Macintosh that just aren't covered in the manuals? Then this SIG is for you!

4th Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Sue Plahn

Phone: 789-3582

Internet: splahn@dbug.org

## MONDO GRAPHICS/DTP SIG

For pre-press, production, and graphics professionals as well as novices: supporting Quark XPress, PageMaker, Freehand, Illustrator, Photoshop and related utilities.

2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

## NEWTON SIG

4th Monday, 7 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Greg Schumacher

Work-364-1696

## OPEN FRIDAY

Open Discussions, snacks, etc. Bring something you want to scan. Take a look at the Web. Bring a non-member. Talk about a new dBUG T-shirt or slogan. Start your own Special Interest Group

Every Friday 6 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

624-9329

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS SIG

4th Thursday, 7 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

Kevin Purcell

Internet: xenolith@halcyon.com

## NOTE:

The MacNews Calendar, SIG Updates, and the <Month> Events PICT on-line calendar are accurate at the time they are published.

Please call the dBUG InfoLine - 624-9329 - for last-minute changes and additions.

-Dick Carter

## SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS WORKSHOP

This is a workshop (hands-on if possible) aimed at beginning Macintosh programmers. The topic will be announced by e-mail and posted to the "Software Developer's SIG" folder on the ExChange about a week before. As always, feel free to bring an application or source code you want to show off, or just come and ask lots of questions.

2nd Saturday, 10:00 am.

dBUG Resource Center

James Jennings

internet: jennings@halcyon.com

## WEBASICS

On Haitus, until further notice.

1st Monday, 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Center

## WORD SIG

The focus of this SIG is to demonstrate how various aspects of Word 6 can make your computing tasks easier. Meetings are geared to include all levels of Word expertise, with emphasis on attendees' experience (or lack thereof). Topics are determined by participants and are announced one month in advance. Since this is an interactive SIG, questions are welcomed and meetings are sometimes subject to change of topic if attendees need other information quickly. Bring a disk of sample files for best resolution of problems or for suggestions on alternative solutions..

2nd Thu 6:30 p.m.

dBUG Resource Ctr.

Jean Thomas

(H) 363-WORD [363-9673]

## EXCHANGE.COM

Meetings open to members about the expansion and maintenance of the Exchange.

1st Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

Curtis Snow [Chairman]

is supposed to be 35 minutes but is cut short to 15 minutes because we're behind schedule. One phone call to check messages uses up my time before the final boarding call is made, no time to return any calls. During the brief stop, an old heavyweight pullman car is coupled to the end of our train. Mine is no longer the last car. The sun is peaking out from mostly cloudy skies as we pull out of the station. I'm down to less than half battery power.

Good news! I forked a few simoleons over to the conductor and I'm now sitting in an economy sleeper that comes equipped with its very own 120 volt outlet! The car attendant, an ex-marine named Ira, gave me a dinner reservation for 6:45. I'll try to put in a few billable hours before then. Currently we're stopped for a few minutes to pick up passengers in Salem.

At 4:50 pm we're pulling into Albany after passing a very smelly pulp mill. We're about 30 minutes behind schedule now. I just finished working out a slick feature in the database I'm working on to enable faster data entry of numbers and dates. These small

station stops are very quick, only about 2 or 3 minutes.

Several technologies make working on the train, away from my office, much more convenient. The first is of course the powerbook itself. Of the three powerbooks I've owned (the 160, the 520c, and my new 1400cs) the 1400 is definitely the easiest to work with. I especially like the touch of the keyboard. Another convenience is one I've mostly cursed in the past and that is the tendency of some developers to ship their products with Adobe Acrobat documentation rather than printed manuals. In my office, I'd much prefer printed documentation at my elbow than a pdf that I have to keep switching to on the computer. However, on the road its awfully nice to have the equivalent of about six inches of manuals easily accessible on the Powerbook.

As we pull into Eugene, the late afternoon sun is shining in the car window, making it difficult to work with the passive matrix display on my powerbook. I think I'll take a break and stretch my legs at the Eugene station stop.

At 10:45 pm I'm turning in for the evening. The car attendant has

made up my sleeper, and I'll be watching the stars out my window as the train speeds along. After doing about two hours of database programming in my compartment, I walked back to the dining car and ate a Salmon dinner. By a stroke of good fortune I shared the table with a train operations man from Union Pacific. We had pleasant conversation about passenger and freight train operations and discovered a mutual interest in fly fishing. He lived in Idaho and gave me several good tips on fly fishing rivers in Idaho and Montana. I was quite envious of him because he was spending most of the trip up in the locomotive. After dinner, they showed the latest Star Trek movie in the lounge car, so I watched the last half of it before we pulled into Klamath Falls, Oregon. I've left a wake up call with Ira for 7:15 am.

Its 6:30 am and I'm just not used to sleeping on a moving train. I think I only got about six hours of sleep last night. We're now departing Sacramento with the sun peeking over the horizon and the warm glow lighting the wall of my compartment. There must be some serious padding in the

schedule between Klamath Falls and Sacramento. When I went to sleep we were 30 minutes behind schedule, now we're right on time.

The showers are a bit tight on the train, but not too bad. The next stop is Martinez, the stop before mine. I'm headed up for breakfast.

A traditional breakfast of scrambled eggs and bacon puts me on the right track (no pun intended) to start the day. I sat with a gentleman riding the train from Klamath Falls to LA to sign the papers for the sale of his house. He and his wife have purchased a 15 acre ranch/farm in Klamath Falls where they're moving to get away from LA. He told me an interesting story about the artificial insemination of cows, but we won't get into that here.

Back in my compartment, Ira has put the bed away and I'm enjoying the run into Emeryville in my own seat, sipping a cup of coffee from the car's coffee urn (each sleeper car has its own).

The train ride down from Seattle is certainly longer than the plane, but the relaxed pace, scenery, and people have made it a very enjoyable trip.

*-President, John Newhoff*

## NETWORKING:

BY RICK BLACK

## Networking Your Macs at Home

As you all probably know, virtually every Macintosh ever built has networking hardware built in via the printer port. The only thing needed to connect two Macintoshes is a printer cable (yeah, Apple says you need local talk connectors and cables, but the printer cable works fine in most cases.)

You could always share your printer this way, but before System 7, you had to buy a networking software program like Tops so that the Macs could set themselves up to share files. Since System 7 was released, the networking software is included. Apple released System 6.0.8 for older Macs - the last release of System 6 software - which allowed the older Macs with limited memory to file share.

If you want to network your two

computers and a printer at home, you'll need more than just a printer cable to connect the two Macs. An easy way to do this is to buy inexpensive local talk connectors that plug into the printer port of each Mac and LocalTalk printer, such as LaserWriters and most new HP inkjet printers. (You can even get a local talk board for an ImageWriter II if you need one on your network.) A company called Farallon introduced inexpensive PhoneNet connectors in 1990 to compete with the expensive AppleTalk connectors. They work the same, but they use telephone cords between the connectors instead of special cables. The telephone cable used in by PhoneNet connectors requires all 4 wires in the telephone cable. After going into the CHOOSER and

selecting AppleTalk for the printer port and selecting the appropriate printer driver, both computers could print to the printer.

Go into the Control panels of both computers and set up USERS AND GROUPS to define the two computers and the users and SHARING SETUP to determine who-can-get-to-what. Now, you can mount each other's Mac hard disk onto the desktops and copy files back and forth. You can even run each other's programs across the network, but it's a lot slower than running them off our own machines. If you want to run applications, an EtherTalk network is the way to go, since it will run at least twice as fast as LocalTalk.

One tip here: when we started sharing our hard disks, each of our hard disks were called HARD DISK.

Although the icons representing the hard disks look different, we found that it would be nice if we renamed both. Her hard disk is now Powerbook HD and mine is Performa HD. Some minor adjustments had to be made to some programs that refer to folders on a hard drive named HARD DRIVE. Nothing major though.

Imagine, networking in your own house! The wiring took me about an hour to complete; the software setup took about 30 minutes. I can't imagine an average user doing that with MS/DOS machines! Viva la Mac !!!

*-Rick Black*

*-Rogue Macs Macintosh User Group (RMMUG)*

# The Free-Range Mac Tips and Comments

June 1997

-compiled by Bill Rabel



## Confused Claris

Once in a while, I find that ClarisWorks is "confused" and can't import a file because it can't find the translator. The same problem will occur when trying to save in another format. The same thing will affect other Claris programs too, such as ClarisDraw. The tip I fell back on is a classic that I will repeat: Drag "Claris XTND Preferences" and "XTND Translator List" out of the Preferences folder and Restart. New files will be created when you restart the Claris program.

- Bill Rabel, dBUG



## Claris Quick Move

In ClarisWorks 4.0 you can quickly move a block of text to another place in the same document by selecting the source text, scrolling to the new location and then Option-clicking where you want the text to go. This shortcut also works with text in the same text frame of a drawing, or the same field of a database and with selected cells of a spreadsheet. The only limitation is that the destination must be in the same window as the source.

- King Chung Huang, in MacWorld

## Unwanted Windows

You have to wait an inordinately long time after inserting some CD-ROMs, such as Marathon 2, while a window opens automatically from the CD-ROM you insert. To keep the window from opening, simply hold down the option key while inserting the CD. The same trick works for other types of removable disks.

- Drew Shankie, in Macworld



## System 7.6 Telcom

If you do a "clean" install of System 7.6, the telecommunication tools are not installed. They aren't even resident on the 7.6 CD-ROM. Apple Telcom Disk 1 and Apple Telcom Fax Software (disk 2) must be obtained from a previous source (I used the System 7.5 Update 2 CD-ROM). These disks must be installed if you have a GeoPort or Express Modem. The version on the 7.5/2 CD-ROM is 2.3.3, and you can update further by downloading the update disk images from <info.apple.com> and proceeding to U.S., Mac, Network, Communications, Apple Telecom.

- Bill Rabel, dBUG



## System Install Tip

I just (as you might gather from the previous tip) installed System 7.6 on my hard drive. It was a "clean" install, so no remnants of my previous System folder are in the new System Folder. Before I did any other installations of utilities such as RAM Doubler or Now Utilities, I changed one of the categories in the Labels control panel to "Apple". Then used the Labels menu to color-code every item in the System Folder, including all the items nested into folders, to the Apple Label. In the future, if I need to do any troubleshooting, I can identify everything that was there before I started fooling around.

- Bill Rabel, dBUG



## Scrapbook Sounds

If you use your Scrapbook to store sounds, don't try to drag them to the System—it won't work. Instead, copy a sound from the Scrapbook, open the sounds control panel, and then Paste it. Your Mac will ask you to name the sound and then it'll add it to the list of those already available. You can also use the shareware control panel SoundMaster which will let you easily attach sounds to many system events.

- SMUG News



## FM Pro Page Breaks

Does your FileMaker Pro 3.0 database have long text fields that span several pages? Use this undocumented tip to get perfect page breaks instead of cutoff text: In Layout mode, hold down the Option key while selecting Layout Setup from the Mode menu. When you do, you'll see the Layout Setup dialog box with a new addition in the upper right corner—the New Break checkbox. Click the box and press OK. Your FileMaker database will now print with perfect page breaks.

- Unidentified Newsletter Page



## Soup Up SimpleText

SimpleText doesn't come with a Find command (as noted in *Quick Tips*, February 1997), but you can add one by installing the free SimpleText Color Menu software by Alessandro Levi Montalcini. It adds color text, find and replace, window stretching, word counting, page margin settings and even a single style sheet.

- Krishna Mohan, in Macworld

## Alias Drag

After you run Find File, you can make an alias of a found object. Just hold down the Command key while you drag it to the desktop, another folder, or another drive.

To make a copy of a found object, hold down the Option key.

- <<http://www.tipworld.com>>



## Take Command

Find File can search all of your hard drives, inserted floppies, inserted CDs and other mounted disks. But what if you just want to search one of the drives?

You can tell Find File where to look for an item, with these Command key shortcuts: (Hint: Watch the Find items change as it jumps to the drive selected).

Command-1 will select the first drive listed, Command-2 will select the next one, Command-3 will select the third, etc.

- <<http://www.tipworld.com>>

## Don't Be a Drag

Have a file on hand that meets the criteria of an item you want found? Instead of typing in the search criteria for the item you want to locate, drag your handy file to the Criteria section of the Find File window. Find File will automatically settle search criteria according to the file.

- <<http://www.tipworld.com>>

## List-en Up

To copy a whole list of found items [in Find File], select the items and choose Copy from the Edit menu. This will create a tab-delimited list that's perfect for dropping into a table in your word processor.

If you want more than just names, drag the selected items to a Drag-and-Drop capable application (such as SimpleText or Note Pad). This will display the same information you see in the Items Found window (name, size, kind, and date modified).

- <<http://www.tipworld.com>>



# Review: MacPublisher

Have you ever wanted to make a snazzy flier for your company picnic? Does your child want to make her own valentines to exchange? How about letterhead—want to design your own? Then you need what is known as a page layout program. But you probably don't need anything that is expensive and complicated, such as the industry favorites PageMaker and Quark Express.

That's where MacPublisher comes in. At \$25, MacPublisher is priced to capture the home and small business market, already courted by such products as PublishIt! Easy; Ready, Set, Go; and Adobe Paint and Publisher.

Of course, if you are using a current version of word publishing programs such as Wordperfect or Microsoft Word, many desktop publishing and page layout functions are built in. You may find that those programs are all you need to put together your snowmobile club's newsletter. However, they are functions laid upon underlying architecture of a powerful word processing program. I have found that these functions in word processing programs are not as fluid to work with as those in page layout

programs.

When asked to try out the program for the user group, I decided to curl up with MacPublisher's manual and try the tutorial to see what the program could do. First problem: the manual is poorly written. The instructions for working through the tutorial were choppy and abrupt. Plus, they would direct you to choose commands in menus that you could not find—if you poked around enough, you could find the command in some other menu.

When I tried to circumvent the manual, as any self-respecting Mac user usually does, I found the interface to be slightly less than intuitive. I was happy to find the usual floating tool palette, a vertical strip of icon buttons that, when clicked; draw squares, lines or circles, permit you to type in text, allow you to move selected objects around, etc. When I pulled down all the choices in the menu bar (e.g. File, Edit, Graphics, Text, etc.) I found the standard collection of commands that most layout programs have. However, the horizontal array of tools and functions under the menu was mysterious at first glance—you

could not tell what they were for until you clicked on the downward-facing arrow next to each mystery box to see what the pull down menu contained. I'm sure I'd memorize them as time went on, but other programs manage to make those buttons immediately recognizable.

Templates are handy, pre-designed documents that the program blocks out for you—you need only to fill in the blanks and voila! you have a newsletter. MacPublisher's templates include such things as; menus, brochures, invitations, stationery, calendars, certificates, and more (50 in all). I chose a few graphics from the 1000 images clipart collection included with the program (nice feature), typed out a little text in a word processing program, chose a "Flyer" template, and in a matter of minutes, composed a nice looking advertisement for a computer sale. That's the beauty of templates—they save you a lot of time.

MacPublisher's templates are a bit frustrating, however, because they do not let you fiddle with their design, such as moving the text around or resizing the graphics. Other programs I have dealt with make more helpful

template designs with interesting fonts, line dividers, overlapped graphics, etc.

So, to heck with their tutorials and predesigned documents... let's just open a new document and start from scratch. I developed a two column, one page newsletter with text I had from other documents. I fiddled with colors and shades and importing graphics and wraparound text (which MacPublisher calls runaround, just to be different, I guess) and it all worked pretty well. Although I ran into the same confusion problems with the manual when I went to look a few things up.

So, is this the product for you? Well, you can't beat the price at \$25, if all you want to do is an occasional document using their templates and their clip art. However, for a little bit more money and a lot less frustration, you can get a smoother, more flexible low-end desktop publishing program such as Broderbund's Print Shop Deluxe or Adobe Paint and Publisher (which also throws in an excellent paint and draw program into the package.)

by Lisa Miller of CAMP in Augusta ME  
(Capital Apple Mac Performa User Group)  
Email: LisaMMaine@aol.com

# Review: Mac Addict Magazine

Mac Addict Magazines come and go. They change over the years to something only the computer nerds become interested in or they get so commercial that those companies doing the advertisements get the good reviews. Could there be a connection there.

I don't usually talk about magazines because there are so many and there isn't much available for the beginner and the intermediate user. I am looking at the 5th issue of a magazine which fills the bill. Why the fifth issue? Well, I have gone through the first 5 and wanted to make sure that they haven't run out of steam by now. They haven't!

This magazine is full of basic

Mac stuff, reviews, some light hearted articles, some how-to articles, some Net Stuff and a bunch more. It is not written in technicaleese. {You know you can't understand a word that's printed.} This is full of good information for the newbie which should be a review for the "knowledgeable" Mac person. Best of all it has a CD with each magazine.

Reviews goes from Freakin' Awesome to Spiffy to Yea, Whatever to Belch! Sorry no mice here. This issue had a review on the SuperMac S900L, a 3D product, Adobe PageMill2.0 and Persuasion, a photo shop utility, Mariner Word (a spiffy word processor that I

think is fantastic), Quicken Delux 7 (does everything except pay the bills), a printer/scanner (first since Thunder Scan, I think), Pilot (US Robotics Newton), a group of games, some CD's, some kidz Stuff and several other items.

If you want to create a comic book, check out page 90 - 93. A step by step fully illustrated article.

The CD has lots of good stuff but don't bother with the item that starts you out because it doesn't work well. Hasn't worked well in any of the CD's it is a multimedia thing that dies somewhere in the middle. Maybe you can get to work better than I. It is called "This Issue." There are demos from a number of compa-

nies that sponsor the disk as well as some additional shareware/freeware programs. You say you're artistic and want to change the system sounds on your Mac. SquelchSysBeep is a freeware item you will just have to check out. It gives you a basket full of cooth and some uncooth sounds for your Mac. The latest Apple system update and AOL's software is here. Games too! Try Classic Gin Rummy. And bunches more.

Another good thing is that Mac Addict has a WWW site. It is as cool as its magazine so check this area out first. The URL is: <http://www.macaddict.com>

Because of the disk, Mac Addict may seem a bit on the expensive side but look inside it is worth it. This is a great magazine. Definitely a "Freakin' Awesome."

-Rick Curran, BetaCopy Electronic

# Buying a Used Powerbook

by E. J. Stevens

My initiation to the Macintosh was with an SE in March, 1993. I was soon able to trade up to a Portable (i.e. luggable) with a backlit one-bit (black/white) active-matrix screen and 9 MB of RAM. I was hooked.

It was the Spring of 1994, and I wanted a Mac for home; but I wanted a portable desktop. I did not want to take a step backwards screenwise, so I had to have an active-matrix screen. The late 100 series PowerBooks were out and the 180 was top-dog (33 MHz 68030 & FPU) and that became my machine of choice (based on its active-matrix LCD screen with 16 shades of grey and video-out)—but I could not afford a new one. Rumors were out that the 180 could no longer be ordered, it would soon be discontinued. This would reduce its used price.

I kept my eye out locally and on-line, and did my homework on prices. I wanted to buy one locally so I could test the machine on site. I had a test kit of Norton Utilities, Disinfectant (for virus detection), and PB Screen Tester (shareware for testing the screen for bad pixels). I should also have had Snooper, a thorough hardware diagnosing program with plug-ins to test the ports.

When the Inquirer ran an ad, I called every half hour and by evening it was mine! Originally it had 4 MB RAM, 120 MB HD and no modem. I bargained on the price because it was stripped down and discontinued. Initially I added the maximum 10 MB RAM card to max it at 14 MB and installed a 14.4 GV Gold modem.

In December, I upgraded the hard drive to 500+ MB and shortly thereafter bought a 28.8 Global Village Platinum modem and sold my 14.4 over AOL in the same evening (upgrade cost was \$110). I bought an auto power adapter at a PC show for \$15.

My desktop has a PaperPort

scanner, Syquest EZ135 drive, 14-in. color monitor, CD-ROM drive, and speakers, plus an external keyboard and mouse, which I no longer use, preferring the PowerBook's. I sit it on my desk and connect a few wires and I have a full featured, networked desktop machine in 256 colors. As usual I have scrounged bargains. I have very little interest in upgrading to a new PowerBook because the grayscale active matrix is great for word processing. I can still do a color presentation and surf the net.

If I were to sell this machine today the buyer would get a great deal because the used market does not offer a premium for extra RAM, large hard drives, video-out and modems; the precise additions that make a high-end PowerBook so useful. You should try to get a fully configured PowerBook because you will get it much cheaper than a base model that you upgrade yourself.

In it's day, the 100 series PowerBook line was (1) the best-selling Macintosh line ever and (2) the best selling line of notebook computers in the entire computer history. That means you can still get replacement parts, internal and external batteries, 14.4/28.8 modems, auto adaptors and wetsuits to protect them, at retail prices.

It also means many owners bought lots of accessories that can be included in the deal. Today's cost of a 10 MB RAM card for the 100 series is over \$300, the GV Platinum 28.8 internal modem is also over \$300 (GV Gold is nearer \$200). You want these already included or you want to bargain hard against the prices of other PowerBooks you have seen on the market (newspaper, AOL or Internet news groups) that do have these features. You may have to pass on a PowerBook that was

never upgraded. Don't be impressed with 2 year old batteries; take them but don't expect them to last long.

You need to decide what you want from a PowerBook and shop accordingly. All machines had a 3.5-in. HD floppy drive, internal hard disk, internal modem slot, and a port for printer or Apple-Talk networking. Most had a SCSI port but required a \$30 adapter. Many had a port for an external desktop modem. Some have Sound-in, Sound-out, color video-out.

One feature of the color PowerBook video-out is that it can mirror the PB screen or extend the desktop on any side (built-in on the 160, 165, 165c, 180 and 180c models, requires additional card on 190 series). These models supported 8-bit color on monitors up to 16 inches (832x624 pixels). All came with the required adapter to convert the PB port to standard Mac video.

I think the key differentiating features are (1) screen quality, (2) greyscale or color screen, (3) video-out and (4) PowerPC upgrade (190 only). In general I favor the higher models from 160 upwards. All except the 170 had video-out. The 160 and 165 had a 9.8-in. diagonal, backlit supertwist liquid crystal displays with 640x400 pixels, 4 bit resolution (16 shades of grey).

The 165c had an 8.9-in. color passive-matrix LCD screen capable of 256 colors at 640x400. The 170 had a 9.8-in. black & white active-matrix LCD displaying 640x400 pixels, the very screen used in the Portable I fell for in 1993!

The 180 had the aforementioned 9.8-in. 16 shade greyscale active matrix LCD screen displaying 640x400 pixels. The 180c shows 256 colors and 640x480 pixels on a 8.4-in. color active matrix screen. The 190 shows 16 shades on a 9.5-in. greyscale passive-matrix LCD screen at 640x480. The 190cs shows 256 colors on 10.4-in. diagonal passive-matrix LCD screen at 640x480.

Notice that several screens are small but pack full 640x480 displays, indicating a higher number of pixels per inch. Better for graphics but awkward for word processing as the letters are small.

Active matrix screens are easier on the eyes over long work sessions and visible from a side view of the screen, but they carry a price premium.

Educate yourself about the all-in-one PowerBooks but try to spend some time behind the screen of several models. There are also other models to consider: PowerBook Duos, the 500 series and the 5300 series.

Read up on PowerBooks in old MacUser and MacWorld issues (at the library or search online). My favorite reference for the 100 series is PowerBook: The Digital Nomad's Guide by Andrew Gore and Mitch Ratcliffe, from Random House.

PowerBook aficionados are passionate people—just stop one of them and ask. You, too, can have a portable desktop!

—The Main Line Macintosh Journal  
© MLMUG

## MAIN MEETING... CONTINUED

we will have an area with demo stations for the PowerBooks, NeXT, MacOS and the Newton OS, the latter featuring the cool-for-school eMate 300 and the amazing MessagePad 2000 (<http://www.newton.apple.com/newton/newton.html>).

As already noted, this meeting will be taking place at the Seattle



Center, in the Lopez and Fidalgo rooms. These are among the Northwest Rooms, between the Key Arena and the QFC. Because of the extraordinary amount of material to be covered, we'll be starting early, with doors opening at 6:00 pm, and presentations beginning at 6:30.

This promises to be an outstanding Main Meeting, so bring friends, family, co-workers... and Toto too.

—Charles D. Wheeler  
—June Main Meeting Coordinator

**EXCHANGE TIPS:**

## Favorite Places

### How to Create your Own Favorite Places Folder

From the Conference menu, create a New Folder. Select it and type Command-I (or select "Get Info" from the file menu). Rename the folder to "Favorite Places." Double click on the icon inside the Get Info window. You should get a palette of icons. Scroll to the top of the icon palette and find the Favorite Places icon and double click on it. Close the Get Info window and select Save.

### How to put your favorite places in Favorite Places:

If you have a conference or a folder you frequent and if you feel as if you have to open kazillion windows to get to it, you might want to place it inside your personal Favorite Places folder. Here's how:

Select the conference or folder you frequent. Choose "Make Alias" from the conference menu. Now go back to your Desktop (not your Finder Desktop, but the window that says "Welcome to the Exchange"), and drag the Alias onto your Favorite Places folder.

# dBUG Membership Form

Turn in this form with payment to a dBUG cashier at a general meeting, a SIG leader, or mail it to:  
Mac dBUG, P.O. Box 3463, Seattle, WA 98114-3463  
Please, **NO cash by mail, only checks, VISA or MasterCard.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you hear of us? \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my payment of the \$48 annual membership dues for The Macintosh downtown Business Users Group starting the month of \_\_\_\_\_ 1997. Of this amount, \$14 is for a subscription to the *dBUG MacNews* during my One-year Membership.

Please *also* enroll me for One-year of:

Regular Membership:	\$48.00	\$ _____
Family Membership:	\$24.00	\$ _____
Senior Membership:	\$36.00	\$ _____
Student Membership:	\$36.00	\$ _____

**NEW!!  
PRICES!**

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check     VISA     MasterCard

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Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make checks payable to **dBUG**

For dBUG Use Only	Check Deposited <input type="checkbox"/>	Check # _____
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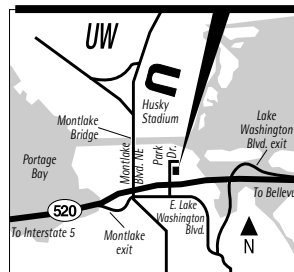
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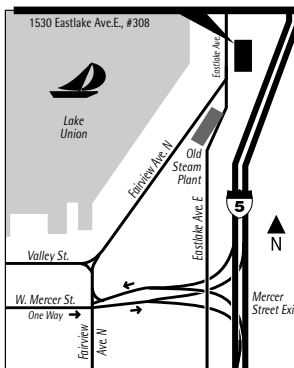


### MAPS

#### Museum of History and Industry



#### Resource Center (RC)



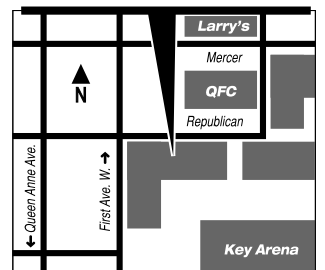
### ADDRESSES

**Museum of History & Industry**  
2700 24th E., Seattle

**Resource Center (RC)**  
1530 Eastlake Ave. E,  
#308/#307, Seattle

**Seattle Center**  
Gen. Info: 684-8582  
Service/Info: 684-7200

#### Northwest Rooms



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### What is dBUG?

The Macintosh downtown Business Users Group is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the exchange of information between business users of the Macintosh computer and related products.

Membership is \$48 per year. (See page 7)

For additional information, write to:

dBUG Membership Info  
PO Box 3463, Seattle, WA 98114-3463.  
dBUG Info-line 624-9329

### The Exchange {dBUG BBS}

Main Line: 624-8783  
East Side: 746-2183  
N. Snohomish Co: 353-7197  
S. Snohomish Co: 670-2312  
Tacoma: 952-7391  
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Tips Bill Rabel

### Submissions:

All articles, ads and suggestions must be submitted to the Editor for use by the second Friday of the month to be included in the newsletter of the following month.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>June Meetings</b> <i>Also see SIG notices on page 2</i>	2	3 Association of Software Design Resource Center 6:30 pm	4 Board Meeting Resource Center 6:30 pm	5	6 Open Friday Resource Center 6:00 pm	7 ExChange.com Resource Center 11:00 am
	9 4th Dimension SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	10 Mondo Graphics/ DTP SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	11 Main Meeting Seattle Center 7:00 pm	12 Word SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	13 Open Friday Resource Center 6:00 pm	14 Software Developers Workshop Resource Center 10:00 am
	16 FileMaker Pro SIG Resource Center 7:00 pm	17 HyperCard SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	18 Excel SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	19 Advanced Internet Topics Resource Center 7:00 pm	20 Open Friday Resource Center 6:00 pm	21 Internet Basics SIG Resource Center 10:00 am
23 Newton SIG Resource Center 7:00 pm	24 Exchange SIG Resource Center 6:30 pm	25 Mac Basics Resource Center 6:00 pm	26 FormZ Group Resource Center 6:30 pm	27 Open Friday Resource Center 6:00 pm	28	
30	1	2 Board Meeting Resource Center 6:30 pm	3	4 Open Friday Resource Center 6:00 pm	5 ExChange.com Resource Center 11:00 am	

For last minute info on SIG meetings... call 624-9329

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**Newton Will Be There!**  
See the MP2K.  
(This is not your father's MessagePad.)  
The June Main Meeting!

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