

DOUBLE CLICK

A Monthly Publication of Macintosh Users East (MaUsE)

November 1992

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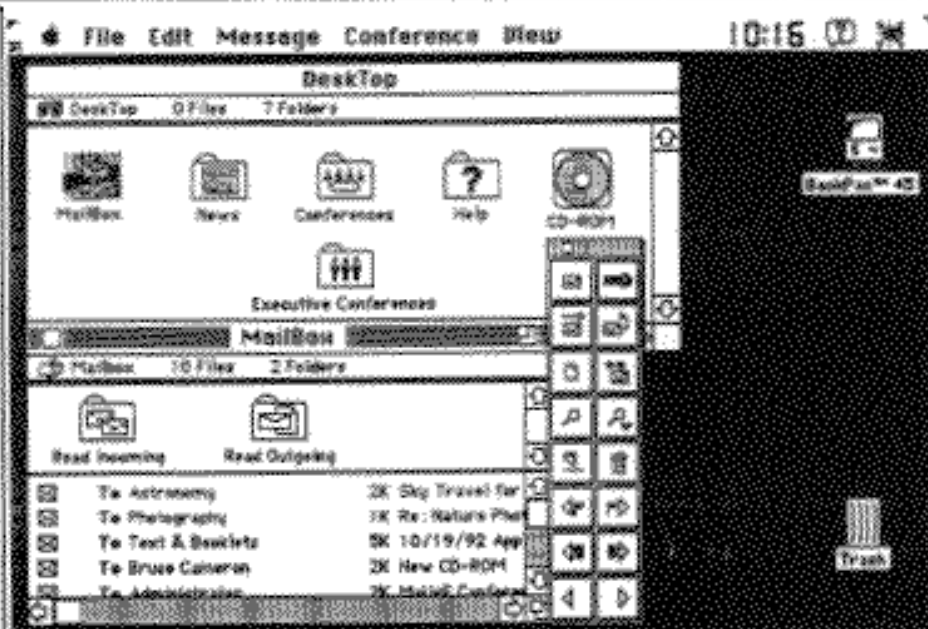


Figure 1

This Months Meeting November 25

By : The Editor

This months meeting will be on Wednesday, November 25/92, at our regular location, St. Thomas Church, in Brooklyn. A map showing the location of the church can be found on page 8 of this publication.

The club executive for the coming year will be elected at this meeting.

Justin Derrick will do a demonstration on the new MaUsE BBS. Following is a memo from Justin just received via the new MaUsE BBS :

"November's Demo: MaUsE BBS. MaUsE's new BBS will officially be released at November's meeting. The BBS offers 24 hours a day service for Electronic Mail, public conferences, and file transfers. Disks with the necessary software will be available for \$3 per disk, or FREE if you bring your own blank pre-formatted disk. Manuals and possibly modems will be for sale, as well as CD-ROM memberships (\$20/yr for members, \$40/yr without) Hope to see you there!"

Justin Derrick, Administrator, MaUsE BBS

New MaUsE B.B.S. Is Born!

By : Jim Foster

November, 1992, is an exciting time for Macintosh Users East because it means that our new electronic Bulletin Board Service is finally being released for use by all MaUsE members as well as the general (Macintosh) public.

The Administrator of 'the board', Justin Derrick, gave us all an impromptu demonstration of the BBS at last month's meeting but is getting ready to be the featured presenter at this month's meeting. Several new features have been added to the board since October and everyone should try to get out to the November 25th meeting regardless of whether you attended October's meeting and regardless of whether you are currently using your Macintosh for some form of telecommunications activity. We can practically guarantee that, even if you have never used your Mac for this kind of activity, you will want to do so after you see Justin's presentation.

(continued on page 4)

MaUsE
Macintosh Users East 

Executive Contact List

Please feel free to contact any of the following individuals if you have comments or questions relating to Macintosh Users East or Macintosh computing in general.

Name	Position/Phone
Jim Foster	President Bus: (416) 644-7219 Oshawa Hm: (416) 432-0921 Oshawa CompuServe ID: 76366.566
Doug Kettle	Membership Chairman Hm: (416) 683-3214 Ajax
John Field	Programs Chairman Bus: (416) 644-4562 Oshawa Hm: (416) 885-8718 Port Hope
Bruce Cameron	Librarian Bus: (416) 644-4736 Oshawa Hm: (416) 983-9205 Orono
Chris Greaves	Exec-At-Large Hm: (705) 887-2508 Fenelon Falls
Justin Derrick	BBS Administrator BBS: (416) 723-5361 Oshawa Hm: (416) 728-1389 Oshawa
MaUse MAILING ADDRESS	Macintosh Users East 419 King Street West Oshawa Centre P.O. P.O. Box # 30530 Oshawa, Ontario L1J 8L8

BBS Talk Part II

BBS Talk

By: Justin Derrick

Last month we left off at describing some common connection problems when calling BBS's. I'd like to move on this month to what more directly applies to us; namely, FirstClass software.

FirstClass Software

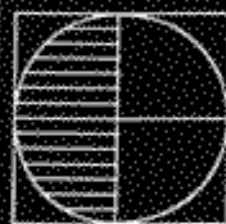
All software for Macintosh computers share one commonality. The coherent, graphic interface that we have come to know and love. But the one exception to this had always been telecommunication. When communicating with computers through modems, we were limited to a text interface. That is, we had to type each command that the other computer was to receive. Now, by using special terminal software, software that can simulate the Mac interface, the endless typing and command memorising is gone. FirstClass software from a Scarborough company called SoftArc Inc. has brought us just that. FirstClass software has two parts, namely Client and Server software. When the two pieces of software connect, you are in for a delightful surprise. After passing through the registration, a friendly window appears on your screen, littered with some of your best friends. A window full of icons, designating your personal mailbox, as well as conferences, and help folders. This will be a new beginning to your love affair with

Macintosh.

How to Connect to MaUse BBS

If you already have FirstClass Client software, and use it, the next paragraph may be slightly repetitive. As I said above, you need the special terminal software to connect using the graphic interface, that software being FirstClass Client (The latest version is 2.07). And now you need a settings document for the BBS. This includes a title screen, as well as some information already entered for you. (If you don't have either of the files, you can download them from the BBS, but I would suggest getting the disk from our club librarian, Bruce Cameron.) After double-clicking on the MaUse BBS document, a window will come up, with the MaUse logo inside it. Click the "Set-up" button to set your ID (Your 1st initial and last name, properly capitalized please - and no spaces) and your own password. After you're done, click the Edit button to change modem types, if the selection does not fit your particular configuration. After closing some windows and saving the document, click on the login button. If the line is busy, it software will keep trying until it connects, or tries 1000 times. After connecting, you will be presented with an application. Once filled out and accepted, you will be automatically registered as a user, and immediately be given access to various aspects of the BBS.

(continued on page 5)



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The ultimate in data protection.

Using simple menus and icons, Norton Utilities 2.0 combines the technologies from SUM and Norton Utilities to guide you through the best and worst of computing times.



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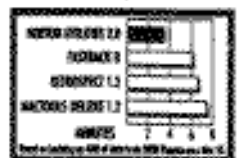
Say you've accidentally erased an important file, the enhanced UnErase* will dig deeper to recover it. The improved



Volume Recover searches farther and wider to find lost or damaged data.

All this and fast backup, too.

Of course, the first line of defense against data loss is reliable backup. Our fast and flexible Norton Backup makes it easy. Use the scheduler to plan automatic backups from one or more volumes. Its data verification and error correction



Norton Backup lets you quickly and easily make backups of single files, folders or large volumes.

codes ensure the integrity of your files.

To make the most of your Mac's performance, check out Speed Disk,** the fast and safe way to defragment your files and optimize your hard drive.



Speed Disk** accelerates your disk drive performance without fail.

Not just the best product, the best value.

The new Norton Utilities for Macintosh. It's everything you've come to expect from the top two Mac utilities. Plus, all the security, productivity, and system enhancements you'd expect from Peter Norton. In one box. Now what

could be greater than that? To upgrade, or for the name of your nearest dealer, call 1-800-343-4714 ext. 754-F.

Owners of SUM II and The Norton Utilities for Macintosh can upgrade for just \$39*—before June 30, 1992.



The Norton Utilities for Macintosh 2.0

Macintosh users have long known the value of The Norton Utilities for Macintosh and Symantec's Utilities for the Mac (SUM). Until very recently, however, taking full advantage of these utilities required users to purchase each product separately. The recent release of **The Norton Utilities for Macintosh 2.0** from Symantec puts an end to this problem and at the same time dramatically redefines the utilities market. *The Norton Utilities 2.0* combines and enhances technology from these two award-winning products. The result is the first utility-software package to integrate advanced disk repair and data recovery, automatic backup, and data security with productivity enhancements.

Allison Uden, Product Manager for *The Norton Utilities 2.0*, stresses the importance of bringing together the features of these popular packages. "For example, SUM could recover files that Norton couldn't, and vice versa," she admits. "By combining these two technologies and maintaining the Norton interface, we've created a very powerful repair/recovery utility that's also very easy to use. Not only have we included all the other features of SUM and Norton, but we've improved and expanded the functionality."

Importantly, Symantec has combined these features without losing the familiar, easy-to-use interface that users have come to expect from *The Norton Utilities*. As before, no technical experience is required; the intuitive graphical interface makes the software easy to learn, use, and understand. In addition, shortcuts expedite many features. Easy and Expert modes simplify operation, and each module comes with its own hypertext-based Help system.

Symantec has also enhanced module functionality. In fact, Symantec says that *The Norton Utilities 2.0* now repairs more disk problems and recovers more data than any other utility product, going deeper and to greater lengths to recover lost or damaged data in a wider variety of circumstances. FileSaver maintains a record of critical disk information for fast and easy data recovery. The Norton Disk Editor lets you edit the structure and content of files and disks directly, providing complete information about disk-drive sectors.

Norton's backup utilities are also improved. As Uden explains, "The Norton Backup is an easy-to-use, powerful backup tool that helps protect your valuable information from loss. With it, you can back up files from one or more volumes to floppy disks, to a file, or to any mounted volume. Options include special file selections, file compression, automatic disk formatting, and automatic scheduling." In addition, Norton's data-verification feature makes sure that data is written and backed up correctly, and error-correction codes allow the backup to check the media.

Directory Assistance II has similarly been rewritten to keep track of frequently used files or folders. Users can now create worksets for a specific application or create a workset for a particular project. Security utilities include Wipe Info to erase files, folders, and disks completely; the Norton Partition to create, manage, and password-protect disk partitions; and Norton Encrypt, which secures files and folders with either DES or FastCrypt encryption methods. Speed Disk optimizes data organization; Floppier duplicates and initializes floppy disks;

DiskLight visually indicates disk access; and Layout Plus adds functionality to System 6 Finder layout and appearance. In addition to these productivity tools, Fast Find locates, views, and launches files rapidly, and you can use KeyFinder to view all the characters for a selected font at the same time.

The result is a powerful and versatile utility package, one Symantec thinks offers something for everyone. As Uden adds, "*The Norton Utilities for Mac 2.0* gives you everything from repairing a disk to monitoring its activity. Being able to get a variety of the best utilities at a low price is sure to interest every user with a hard drive."

System Requirements and Pricing

The Norton Utilities for Macintosh 2.0 requires a Mac Plus or higher, System 6.0.4 or higher, 1MB RAM (2MB with System 7). (Mfrs. Sugg. \$149.00)

Copyright 1992 by Egghead Inc. Reprinted with permission from the May 1992 issue of Eggsecutive Report published by Egghead Software. Non-commercial distribution allowed. America Online Unveils Mac "Version 2.0"

Exec. Elections

As of the date of publishing this issue of Double-Click, no nominations for Executive positions of Macintosh Users East have been received beyond those of the existing Executive Committee. Elections for Executive posts are scheduled to be held at the November 25th member meeting and nominations of additional candidates will be accepted up to and at this meeting. In the event that no further nominations are received, the attending membership will be asked to reaffirm the existing Executive for 1993. Only MaUse members in attendance at the November 25th meeting are eligible to vote on this proposal or in any election that may be held at that time.

New MaUse B.B.S. Is Born!

By: Jim Foster

(Continued from Page 1)

The key to all this excitement is the terrific software which is used to run the bulletin board. It is called FirstClass™ and is produced by a company called SoftArc Inc. of Toronto. FirstClass™ has become internationally renowned over the past year or so as a superior program for Macintosh communications because of its ease-of-use.

A few illustrations should whet your appetite for more information and help to explain what sorts of things you can do on a BBS.

Figure 1 shows my Mac's screen just after I have logged onto the BBS and opened my Mailbox. Every user of the BBS has their own Mailbox which appears in the FirstClass™ Desktop window. This is where you send and receive private messages to and from other users of the BBS. In the Desktop window, you can see some of the other BBS sections which are available. If you double-click on the News icon, a window opens which contains

several more message areas relating to late-breaking news, eg a Press Releases conference containing the latest news from Apple and 3rd Party Vendors. The Help? icon opens to various files which assist new users in familiarizing themselves with the BBS and with the FirstClass™ software.

The CD-ROM icon, when double-clicked, gives you access to over 1.3 Gigabytes (that's +1,300 MEGABYTES) of freeware and shareware files which users can download to their Macintosh. Due to the cost of purchasing a CD-ROM Reader, use of the CD-ROM does involve an annual charge of \$20 over and above your membership dues but we think this is an extremely good deal in light of the vast amount of software to which you then have easy access.

Also shown is the tool Palette, which you can use as a convenient alternative to the Menu commands or Command-Key alternatives to instruct FirstClass™.



Figure 2

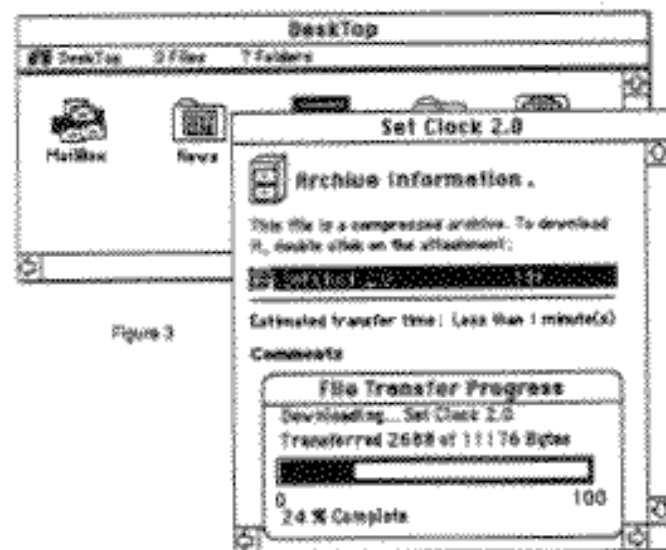


Figure 3

Figure 2 shows the window which opens when you double-click on the Conferences folder. Inside each of these Conferences (folders) are message areas and/or more Conferences. Unlike your Mailbox, where messages are confidential between the sender and recipient, Conference areas allow your messages to be seen and answered by ALL users of the BBS. This is a highly effective way to pose questions when you are not sure who may have the answer. It's also a great way to get lots of input on a subject.

As time goes on and suggestions are received, more Conferences will be added. The beauty of Conferences is that messages can be grouped into subject areas so you don't have to scroll through dozens of messages to see the ones which are most likely to interest you.

For example, since the October meeting, we decided that there should be some Conferences which are accessible only to MaUsE members, not to the general public. These include Prez' Corner and MaUsE Library. These are not shown in Figure 2 because they are contained in a special Conference elsewhere which can only be accessed by MaUsE members.

Figure 3 shows a file (called Set Clock 2.0) being downloaded from the BBS to my Mac. The Archive Information window tells you approximately how long it will take to be downloaded and, once initiated, the File Transfer Progress window shows you at a glance how much of the transfer has been completed. A really nice feature of the FirstClass™ software is that, after you have initiated a download, you don't have to wait until it is completed to conduct other business on the BBS. You can resume reading your mail, composing messages, and can even upload messages or files while the first file is downloading. Believe me, nothing could be easier than this software.

If you have never used your Mac for telecommunications, you may not be aware that to do so you must first obtain what is called a Modem, and the appropriate cable to attach the modem to your Mac. It is quite simple to set up a modem and its connection to the Mac and to a telephone line. To make it even easier for you, John Field, Bruce Cameron, and other members of the Executive have volunteered to act as our 'BBS SWAT Team' and will visit your home or workplace to set everything up for you at no charge!

At November's meeting, Justin will explain more about Modems, phone lines, and communications software, not to mention further demonstrating the capabilities of our new BBS. I know you will find this meeting VERY informative so bring a friend or guest (preferably both!) and prepare to be amazed!!

1993 Dues

As reported earlier, MaUsE will revise its membership dues process in 1993 so that ALL fees are due in March. Existing members renewing their membership prior to March will be asked to pay \$3.00 per month outstanding until March, whereupon the full 1993 annual amount will be due. Members who have already renewed and whose memberships now extend beyond March of 1993 will be asked to pay again in March but will be given a credit of \$3.00 per month after March toward their 1993 dues. This process will eventually allow us to arrive at one consistent timeframe for ALL renewals which in turn will greatly simplify the renewal process and will facilitate MaUsE's annual budgeting process. The support of all members in this regard is much appreciated.

BBS Talk Part II

By: Justin Derrick
(continued from page 2)

The BBS operates on the same principal as your Macintosh, so feel free to experiment, and post a few messages in the conferences. When you are finished, select Disconnect from the

File menu to disconnect from the BBS, and return to your Mac. Selecting Quit automatically disconnects you from the BBS, and exits the program.

What you can do...

Now not only can you leave messages in conferences for other users to view and respond to, but there are several more exciting things.

- *E-Mail -You can send private electronic mail to users on the system.
- *Background Transfers -Send or receive files while you do something else!
- *On-Line viewers -View files, & listen to sounds on-line!
- *Chatting -Chat with other users who are on-line
- *CD-ROM Download files from our incredible 1.3 GIGABYTE CD-ROM! (Paid access only)
- *Newsletter Submissions -drop off an article for our newsletter!
- *MaUsE Library -check out what our library has for you!
- *Press Releases and TidBIT's -Mac news, hot off the wire!

Using the BBS allows you to touch base constantly with the user group. Find out what is on the agenda for future meetings, make submissions to the newsletter, and talk to the executive members! Not only is it a great place to socialize, but hobby conferences and technical help folders can make calling MaUsE BBS educational!

What all this means... Well, all the benefits of Macintosh computing have come to telecommunications. No more fooling around with modern set-ups and remembering (or forgetting) commands, or wading through miles of menus. Not only is it a better way to get to know MaUsE, it's just plain fun!

Door Prizes!!!

From time to time, MaUsE is able to hold Door Prize draws at our regular monthly meetings. To avoid any misunderstandings or disappointment, please remember to bring your valid MEMBERSHIP CARD confirming your status as a paid-up member of Macintosh Users East. Membership cards will be collected from all MaUsE members in attendance at meetings and the Door Prize draw will involve picking a membership card or cards at random. Members who renew their membership dues at the meeting, or new members who join at the meeting, will be included in such Door Prize draws. Non-attending members, attending members whose dues are in arrears, as well as guests and the general public will NOT be included in Door Prize draws.

Drive7™ : A Hard (Disk) Drive Saga

by Jim Foster

This is a review of what I guess you would call a Hard Drive 'utility' program for System 7. It's also a story about what led up to my buying this program. Either way, it's a story with a happy ending.

When System 7 was first released, I was both an early adopter of it and also one who approached it with great caution. I am lucky enough to be the user of two Macs: my Mac Plus at home and my Mac IIfx at work. At the time, my Mac Plus had only 2 Megabytes of RAM, so System 7 was pretty much out of the

question on it. My Mac IIfx, on the other hand, had 8 Meg of RAM, appeared to be an ideal candidate for System 7, and was in fact the first machine in our office to have System 7 installed. Knowing that many users were encountering what I will generously call "compatibility issues" with System 7, and not wanting to be faced with the sometimes tedious job of sorting out such problems just when I was faced with some other deadline in my work, I kept my original System 6.0.5 on the Mac IIfx also and using System Picker to alternate between the two operating systems. Over a period of about 6 to 9 months, as I became more confident in System 7, sorted out the odd problem which it presented, and grew more appreciative of its new features, I reached the point where I could trash my old System 6 folder.

Meanwhile, back at home, I upgraded my Mac Plus to 4 Megabytes of RAM. When moving documents between the two machines, I find it helpful to have both machines running nearly identical System Folders. So, eventually, System 7 was installed on the Mac Plus also.

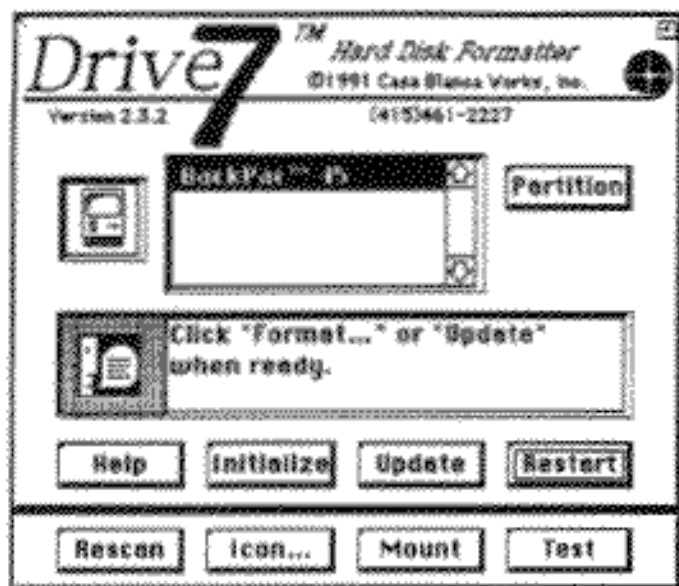
But not all was right. On the Mac Plus, I experienced an extreme penalty in speed, particularly in booting up and in using the Finder. On my Mac IIfx, in spite of having a total of 8 Meg of RAM, I encountered situations where I could not open or manipulate quite large Excel documents because of insufficient RAM. I was able to work around this problem by booting my Mac from a System 6.0.5 floppy. System 6 uses quite a bit less RAM than System 7 and the additional RAM accessible by Excel under System 6 was just enough to get the job done. This was a workable solution but not very elegant and one which was eventually not going to work as the documents got larger and larger.

System 7 introduced a feature called Virtual Memory. This is an ability to have the System allocate a certain amount of hard drive space to be used as supplemental RAM. As it turns out, this type of "RAM" isn't very good as far as speed is concerned when compared to additional real RAM (chips) but it is certainly better than running out of memory altogether. The real problem, however, was that Apple only made it easy to implement Virtual Memory if your Mac was using an Apple hard drive.

As it turns out, BOTH of my Macs use non-Apple hard drives. I had requested a 160 Megabyte hard drive with my IIfx at work and it was delivered with a Quantum hard drive because Apple didn't offer their own 160 Meg unit at the time this computer was ordered. At home, my Mac Plus sports a Jasmine BackPac™ hard drive.

In the process of looking into this Virtual Memory business, I became increasingly nervous about the fact that I did not have software to ensure that either one of my Mac hard drives was really optimized for System 7. Quantum is still around but I did not have their current Driver software. More alarmingly, Jasmine has been out of business for quite some time and I didn't relish the thought of trying to track down appropriate software for my BackPac™ if a problem should arise with it.

Researching past issues of MacUser magazine, and following some message threads on CompuServe™ led me to a product called Drive7™ which is produced by Casa Blanca Works, Inc. of Greenbrae, California. Following a couple of E-Mail notes back and forth between myself and Casa Blanca on CompuServe™, I contacted their office by phone with the intent of ordering a copy of Drive7. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that, not only did Casa Blanca have a price for User Group members which was lower than most of the major mail-order house prices, they would also send an evaluation copy for the User Group for no charge.



Delivery of Drive7™ was delayed a few weeks for various reasons, but my follow-up contacts on CompuServe™ and by telephone were handled in a very courteous and professional manner. If there was a Customer Satisfaction Index for software vendors, these guys would get high marks for their handling of such calls.

I have recently used Drive7™ on both my Mac Plus and my Mac IIfx. Drive7™ is remarkably easy to use. In fact, it takes longer to boot up the Mac from the Drive7™ startup disk than it does to actually run the program.

Drive7™ comes with a small (35 page) but well written and illustrated manual. It is a short read but one which I strongly recommend you experience before running the program. Remember, you are about to mess around with your hard drive—a little time invested up front is worth it.

The most time consuming activity associated with running Drive7™ is to first back-up your hard drive. This is necessary both because you could inadvertently damage your hard drive contents whenever you use any hard drive utility and because it is possible that Drive7™ will determine that you need to reformat your hard drive before you can install the Drive7™ Driver software.

My basic purpose in using Drive7™ was to replace the existing hard drive Driver software with the Drive7™ driver software to ensure full System 7 compatibility. This is a process called Updating and I found I was able to Update both of my machines without having to Reformat or Initialize either of the hard drives.

The Mac Plus does not support Virtual Memory regardless of the Driver software but I was pleased to find that Drive7™ for the Mac Plus includes some 'software' designed to speed up some of its activity under System 7. I haven't conducted any rigorous before and after tests but I find that Finder operations are quicker. The Mac IIfx certainly does support Virtual Memory and, after running Drive7™, I was able to easily add quite a bit of additional hard drive 'RAM'. In my experience, Drive7™ has certainly been a productive investment on both machines.


Another bonus with Drive7™ is that it allows you to easily change your hard drive icon on the Desktop. This may at first sound a little trivial—after all, your existing icon has probably

served you just fine up 'til now—but a very handy feature is the ability to have the icon also display the SCSI ID number of the hard drive. This is useful in our office, for example, where we all share the same portable tape drive back-up unit but have a variety of SCSI ID numbers for our hard drives. Previously, we always had to run some sort of software like SCSI Probe to first determine our hard drive ID, then ensure that the tape back-up unit was set to a different SCSI ID number, and only then attach the back-up unit and boot up our Mac. Now, we can see at a glance what our hard drive ID number is and more quickly ensure that the tape drive and any other SCSI devices are set to other ID's.

Drive7™ can also be used to Partition hard drives, something I have not yet found a need to do, as well as to Format and Test hard drives. Included with Drive7™ is Drive7rem, a Control Panel Device (CDEV) with which you can automatically mount virtually any Macintosh-formatted removable cartridge. This includes Syquest, Iomega Bernoulli, Apple and Toshiba CD-ROMs, as well as Sony and Ricoh optical drives. This is especially useful in mixed-vendor environments where such removable media may have been formatted with any number of formatters.

Drive7™, and the people behind Drive7™, exemplify the best features of Mac—simple to work with, sophisticated performance, and you-get-what-you-expect.

For more information, or to order your own copy of Drive7™, contact John Christopher at Casa Blanca Works, Inc., 148 Bon Air Center, Greenbrae, CA 94904 U.S.A.; Fax: 415-461-2249; Voice: 415-461-2227; AppleLink.AOL: CBWorks; CompuServe: 73750.1317. Be sure to mention the User Group!



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Contributors:

Hugh Amos
Jim Foster
Justin Derrick
Macintosh News Service

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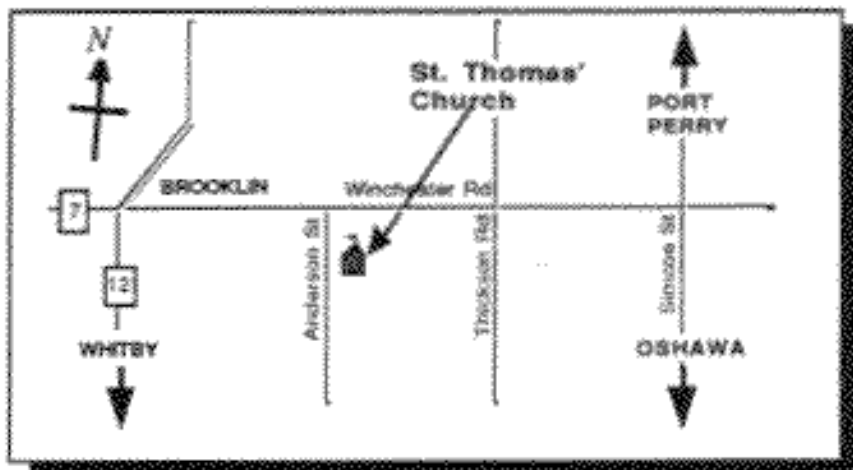
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MaUse Meeting Location & Schedule



Members of the general public, guests of MaUse members, and all regular MaUse members are invited to attend any of MaUse's membership or Executive meetings. It is NOT necessary to bring your Macintosh with you...all that's required is an interest in Macintosh computing.

Listed at right is the schedule for 1992. Membership meetings are generally held at St. Thomas' Church in Brooklyn (see map above) starting at 7:30PM. Shareware disk sales begin at 7:00PM. Executive meeting locations vary...call ahead to confirm exact locations/times.

Month	Exec Mtg	Member Mtg
October	8th	28th
November	5th	25th
December	3rd	None
January	7th	27th
February	4th	24th
March	4th	24th
April	1st	28th
May	6th	26th
June	3rd	23rd
July	1st	28th
August	5th	25th
September	2nd	22nd

Acknowledgements

MaUse is a member of MNS, the Macintosh News Service, which acts to distribute information/articles between Mac User Groups in North America. Various articles in Double-Click are provided courtesy of MNS and its Corporate sponsors.

Symantec is this month's MNS Sponsor. The Executive of MaUse and Double-Click Editor thank Symantec for providing this service. We encourage MaUse members to advocate the products/services of MNS Sponsors.

Each month's MNS disk becomes a part of our MaUse Public Domain software library and members are welcome to see Bruce Cameron for copies or information regarding the contents of these MNS disks.

Symantec

MEMBER
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