

MugShots

Volume X

Issue #10

OCTOBER, 2002

From the Desk of David Pogue:

A NEW MICROSOFT BLUNDER!

PEOPLE ACCUSE MICROSOFT of devious tactics all the time. Microsoft generally denies the accusations—after all, they're flanked by the best lawyers that money can buy.

This week, though, Microsoft gave itself a big, goopy pie in the face. On Oct. 9, the company posted a testimonial on its Web site called "Confessions of a Mac to PC Convert." It was a first-person account by a "freelance writer" about how she had fallen in love with Windows XP. She compared the operating system to a Lexus. "I was up and running in less than one day, Girl Scout's honor," burred the attractive, 20-something brunette in the photo.

There was only one problem: She doesn't exist.

A with-it member of Slashdot.org, the popular hangout for articulate nerds, happened to notice that the woman's picture actually came from GettyImages.com, a stock-photo agency. Associated Press reporter Ted Bridis took it from there. He tracked authorship of the article to one Valerie Mallinson, a public-relations woman hired by Microsoft to write the story. Microsoft was caught red-handed.

I was dying to find out how this public-relations fiasco came to pass, but Microsoft spokesman Tom Pilla would speak only in *Officialese*. "The article was mistakenly posted to the Microsoft Web Site," is all he would tell me. "Once we realized that it wasn't part of the Windows XP marketing activities, we pulled it. It's an unfortunate situation, and we take responsibility."

No wonder Microsoft has become a laughing-stock online. "Once we realized . . . ?" Hello? Exactly how disconnected are the right and left hands of Microsoft's marketing organization?

And then there's the feebleness of the ad itself. Not only is it a childish attempt to mimic Apple's "Switch" campaign, but Microsoft's bogus customer is hopelessly misinformed. "AppleWorks pales in comparison to Microsoft Office XP. There's no equivalent for the versatility of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint," she writes, evidently never having heard of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint for Macintosh.

Then she makes it worse: "Internet Explorer 6 does more for me than Netscape Navigator ever did . . . I can name and organize my Favorites any way I want." First of all, Internet Explorer is on the Mac, too. Second, had Ms. Fictitious ever, in fact, used Netscape Navigator, she might have realized that it, too, permits naming and organizing bookmarks.

To be sure, the online community is wasting no time in rubbing these gaffes in Microsoft's face. But nobody's mentioning the most disturbing part of all this: That it's part of a longer string of fraudulent Microsoft marketing efforts.

In 1998, the Los Angeles Times reported that Microsoft, during its antitrust trials, hired PR companies to flood newspapers with fake letters of support, bearing ordinary individuals' names but actually written by Microsoft PR staff. Payments were funneled through Microsoft's PR company so that the checks couldn't be traced.

Later, during the antitrust trials, Microsoft attempted to prove the inseparability of Windows and Internet Explorer by showing the judge a video. There was only one problem: The government's lawyer noticed that as the tape rolled on,

"There was only one problem She doesn't exist."

Continued on page 10

NOVEMBER 2002 CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	Executive Committee Meeting 8 PM. AHT Lounge	14	15	16
17	18	19	GENERAL MEETING 7:30 P.M. GCC AHT RM. 500	21	22	23
24	25	25		THANKSGIVING	29	30

In This Issue:

On the Cover:

Microsoft Blunder

Monthly Calendar 2

Mugsidge Mutterings. 3

Members On-Line 4

WWW Sites of Interest. 4

Free Jaguar (OS 10.2) for All K-12 Teachers .. 5

Free Web Design Program at GCC 5

Do I Need Firewall Protection?. 6

eTip: Where Do I Put This?. 6

Mac Download of the Week. 6

Base Station Hangups. 7

Pro Sound for Macs. 7

Security-What Is It and How Much Can I Have?8

Is OS X More Vulnerable to Viruses? 9

OS X File System Maintenance. 9

Comparing Apples to Apples. 10

MUGSNJ Membership Application 11

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From the Editor

Mugsnidge Mutterings

Brrrrr. November weather. Cold. And colder yet to come. Early darkness (I hate that). Miserable damp wet cold weather. makes you want to stay in the cozy comfort of your own little living room in front of that cozy TV where all the action is.

But not us. We know where the action is. It's at the local mac users Group meeting place. it's the laughin' place, the questionin' place, the answer place, the education place, the friendly place, the eatin' place (yeah, we got food, too). Did I miss anything? We believe that we give you your money's worth. But in order to take full advantage, you got to come to the meetin'!



That said, lets move on to more interesting topics. Like, did you buy Jaguar yet? You know, there's a new deal for teachers in K to 12 situations. If you're one of those, you can get it for free. I believe Apple sends it to your school, so your peers and supervisors can see that you have a Mac at home. Cheap advertising, no? but, on the other hand, if you're not a teacher (like me), you're out of luck on this offer.

If you bought a new Mac between July 30 and September 30 (?), and it came with OS 10.x.x, you're eligible to buy it at cost for \$19.95. Go to the website <<http://www.apple.com/macosx/uptodate/>> and fill out the appropriate paperwork, but hurry! the offer ends October 31 (like, tomorrow, when the goblins go away).

WHAT? No Letters to the Editor for this issue? No issues, I suppose, that need to be discussed here. Anybody find any new cool shareware or freeware for OS X? I'd love to hear about it. Write a review and get your name up in lights.

It seems that Microsoft not only has a copycat operating system, now they have copycat advertising. And phony, at that. See the cover story, if you haven't already. I realize that my editorializing is far and away the most important part of this newsletter. But sometimes I have trouble garnering subject matter. Not a good conversationalist, I. But enough ego, let's turn to matters of the Macintosh.

I have heard some horror stories about people doing system upgrades on their Macs without first checking to see if the firmware is up to date. Before you attempt to go from 8.6 to 9.1, which is an easy upgrade if you have the 9.1 system disk (you need to buy that, it's a separate license), you should go to the Apple website and download the firmware upgrades for your particular model Macs. Failure to do this fairly simple task could result in problems of

catastrophic proportions (for your Mac, not for you). If your Mac doesn't require the firmware upgrade, it will tell you so. Owners of the CD-tray-loading iMacs of the fruity era are particularly at risk.

As far as OS upgrades go, you can go as far as 9.2.2 with free downloads from the Apple site. But you better have an internet connection with good continuity if you're downloading 9.2.1, which you must install before going to 9.2.2. 9.2.1 is approximately 72 MB, and that will take a l-o-n-g time if you're using a modem. Or get someone with a cable or DSL connection to do it for you and save it to a Zip disk (if you have a Zip drive) or burn it to a CD. You can drag/copy it to the hard drive to install it.

I'm also hearing about users who try to install Jaguar (OS 10.2), and are having problems. Sometimes the CD will not clear the hardware; in some instances added third-party RAM was found to be the culprit. If you have had similar problems, please let me know by writing to the "Letters to the Editor" <nagable@comcast.net> (that's me).

On a more somber note, one of the local school districts has decided to go all-PC and are dumping their 5400/5500 Power Macs for a pittance. If you or someone you know is interested in purchasing one, please contact me at the above e-mail address or see me at the meeting to discuss the computer's specs and answer other questions you may have about these Macs. It's the district where I work, so the computers were maintained by technicians and repaired by me when needed. they are the all-in-ones (like the iMac, but are a bit larger in size even though they have the same size monitor. they do come with a built-in floppy drive, CD-ROM drive, 32MB of RAM upgradable to 128, and one PCI slot that can hold a USB card (not installed) so you could use one of the newer USB printers. the hangup is that the only7 software that is left on the computers is the operating system, usually 8.1, and the accompanying applications and utilities.

This offer is not good indefinitely. the computers that are not sold to the teachers and staff will be dumped. See Nate (that's me) if you have any other questions.

On the other hand (there's always another hand), the current MacConnection catalog features a low-end indigo iMac for \$650. Now, there's a deal.

Members On Line

*Column removed from web publication
in deference to members' privacy.*

World Wide Web Sites of Interest

from Frank Petrie, MUGSNJ Member

Macintosh News

- Macintosh News Network <www.macnn.com>
- MacSurfer Headline News <www.macsurfer.com>
- MacInTouch <www.macintouch.com>
- AAPL Investors <www.appleinvestors.com>
- As The Apple Turns <www.infoXczar.com/atat>
- MacOSRumors <www.macosrumors.com>
- **Dave Marra's website <www.marathon.com>**
- **MUGSNJ (that's us) <www.mugsnj.org>**

Help

- MacCentral/Forums <www.maccentral.com>
- MacNN/Forums <www.macnn.com>
- AppleInsider/Chat <ww.appleinsider.com>
- **MacSolutions <www.macsolutions.com>**
- MacTips <www.themacintoshguy.com>
- MacFixIt <www.macfixit.com>
- PC Talk <rblevin.net/TOC.htm>

Macintosh Books

- Macbookshop.com <www.macbookshop.com>
- Peachpit Books <www.peachpit.com>
- Barnes and Noble <www.barnesandnoble.com>
- Amazon <www.amazon.com>

Buy & Sell

- Mac4Sale.com <www.mac4sale.com>
- DealMac <www.deal-mac.com>
- MacTreasures <www.mactreasures.com>
- Ebay <www.ebay.com>

USB

- MacInTouch USB Guide <www.macintouch.com/imacusb.html>
- USBStuff <www.usbstuff.com>

Escrow service

- TradeSafe <tradesafe.com>

Software

- VersionTracker <www.versiontracker.com>
- Download.Com <www.download.com>
- Mac Downloads <ww.zdnet.com/mac>
- Antique Mac Software <www.macintouch.com/earlymac.html>

Appearance

- Font Diner <www.fontdiner.com>
- ClixSounds <www.clixsounds.com>
- The Icon Factory <www.iconfactory.com>
- DeskStop <members.aol.com/deskstop>
- Steve's Free Desktop Pictures <www.steveweb.com/FreeDTP>

Resources

- Encyclopedia Britannica <www.brittanica.com>
- Language Translations
<babelfish.altavista.digital.com/cgi-bin/translate?>

Just for the Fun of It

- The Apple Museum
<www.applemuseum.seastar.net/sections/home.html>
- Driveways of the Rich and Famous
<www.driveways.com/>
- EarthCam <www.earthcam.com>
- The Magic 8 Ball <www.themagic8ball.com>
- Doonesbury <www.doonesbury.com/dailydose>
- Northern Sun <www.northernsun.com>
- Mr. Showbiz <mrshowbiz.go.com>

Free Mac OS X v10.2 "Jaguar" For All K-12 Teachers

Apple's Commitment to Education

Apple wants to provide every K-12 teacher in the United States with a free copy of Mac OS X v10.2 3Jaguar.2 This program is designed to show teachers the stability and manageability of Mac OS X and how it gives them a powerful foundation for integrating technology into their classrooms.

From now through December 31, 2002, qualifying K-12 teachers can order their free 3X for Teachers Kit 2 which provides everything a teacher needs to learn and become comfortable with Mac OS X including:

- Getting Started with Mac OS X Training CD filled with practice exercises, tips, and over 80 QuickTime movies.
- Mac OS X v10.2 (Jaguar) Install CD Set
- Telephone support for 90 days
- Manual and License Agreement

Do I qualify?

To qualify for the 3X for Teachers 2 program you must be a K-12 teacher at a recognized school (Public, Private, Catholic, Bureau of Indian Affairs) and you must agree to have software delivered to your school address.

How do I order?

To order your 3X for Teachers Kit 2 simply apply online - we'll ask a few questions to verify you and your school. The rest is automatic. Teachers should receive the 3X for Teachers Kit2 within a week or two of placing their order.

For more details and to register for your free copy of MacOS X 10.2 at:

<http://www.apple.com/education/macosex-forteachers>

Rendezvous and iCal are also free and are made for 10.2.

Developers Support Rendezvous

Rendezvous is the latest example of what drives innovation at Apple. Back when the problem at hand was getting big, fat media files in and out of the computer fast enough to make tasks like video editing possible, we came up with FireWire * now the standard that DV camcorders use, not to mention one of the reasons the iPod is the best portable digital music player on the planet. Today the problem at hand is taking advantage of rapidly proliferating networking-capable computers and smart devices without having to travel around with a bag full of adaptors just to make it all work. Rendezvous is our answer. To read more:

<http://www.apple.com/macosex/jaguar/rendezvous.html>

iCal Available for Download

Cal is an elegant personal calendar application that helps you manage your life and your time better than ever before. iCal lets you keep track of your appointments and events with multiple calendars featuring at-a-glance views of upcoming activities by day, week or month. To read more:

<http://www.apple.com/ical/>

Macintosh Users Group of Southern New Jersey
announces

a free program on Web Design
for both Mac and PC users
by Alan Sandler

at Gloucester County College,
on Wednesday, November 20th
at 7:30 pm.

Alan is a graduate of the Art Institute of Philadelphia and has worked in pre-press for over 12 years. He is currently in charge of the art department at Omnimed and has been freelancing for seven years.

Check out his website at:

www.freshlybreweddesigns.com.

For additional information go to mugsnj.org or call
856-468-5000 ext. 6445.

New Members

We have several new members this year. Please welcome them and extend that wonderful Mugsnidge hospitality toward them. Make them feel wanted, needed and loved.

Elaine Arbo

Marie Arguelo

Anita Drusdow

Sandra Dunn

Gerry Harpole

Stan Horwitz

Phil Miller

Bob Mooney

Dick Wendler

From the MLMUG Help Line via Bill Achuff

Do I Need Firewall Protection for My Comcast Cable Account?

Marty Swift writes:

Bill/Ed:

What is your advice regarding a router for high-speed cable as a personal firewall? I am running Comcast Cable and very happy with it. Should I consider firewall protection and from whom?

Many thanks.

Bill replies:

Ed and I are not the only two in the group who will have opinions on this topic. <G> Dave Johnson and Randy Philips also have opinions (which they've shared several times).

Quick answers. A router provides an excellent personal firewall. You can obtain a personal hardware firewall from any one of several companies, including: Belkin, Asanté, Linksys, Netgear, Apple, etc. The companies' products are so similar in the protection they provide it's often a matter of who offers the best deal. Twenty bucks (after rebate) for a name-brand [wired] router is hard to beat.

Here are my (expanded) OPINIONS and comments:

Hardware firewalls offer better protection than do software firewalls.

There are good PERSONAL software and hardware firewalls which cost about the same. [As Randy Zeitman pointed out, your ISP has its own firewall and no doubt if you're on a network, it TOO has a firewall.]

A router is basically a TELECOMMUNICATIONS hub or switch. It takes the incoming signal from your DSL/cable modem and "routes" it to more than one computer. An AirPort Base Station, although not called a router, does what a router does. AirPort is a wireless solution but there are others, equally good. [You DO need to wire your modem to your wireless base station, however, so wireless is a bit of a misnomer.]

There are both wired and wireless routers. Wireless solutions are, GENERALLY, more expensive because of hardware costs. [In an office environment, hardware costs may be secondary to other costs.]

OS X has a built-in software firewall.

Even with your ISP's firewall, and having a software AND hardware firewall, you can still be hacked if you make yourself vulnerable. You do so, for example, when you have File Sharing turned on.

Go to <www.dealmac>. Search on "router." Make your pick from the many good choices and for less than thirty bucks you can have a wired router and some peace of mind. If you want wireless, you'll pay about ten times that much. So far as I know all the name brand routers work fine with Comcast Cable once they are configured properly—typically no problem.

TODAY'S eTIP:

Where Do I Put This?

If you're used to previous versions of the Mac OS, you know that the rules about where to store things in Mac OS 9 were a lot looser than they are in Mac OS X. Storing everything in the Documents folder wasn't all that important back then. However, Mac OS X arranges its system files, applications, and other stuff a bit differently than older versions.

We strongly advise you to store all your documents files and the folders that contain them in the Documents folder within your Home folder. Files that you place outside the Documents folder are very likely to get lost while you navigate through a maze of aliases and folders that belong and make sense to certain programs or parts of the system software — and not to you as a user.

If you have more than one user for your Mac, you could even save a file in another user's folder by accident, in which case you might never find it again.

So, trust us when we say that Documents is the right place to start, not only because it's easy to remember, but also because it's only a menu command (Go, Favorites, Documents) away, wherever you're working on your Mac.

For more on maximizing your Mac OS X experience, pick up a copy of Mac OS X For Dummies [http://catalog.dummies.com/product.asp?isbn=0764507060], by Bob LeVitus and Shelly Brisbin.

Mac Download of the Week

Some hate the Dock; others love it. And a select few love the Dock a little too much — so much so that they want multiple Docks (you know who you are). Well, your dream has come true with DockFun! [http://www.dockfun.com/], which allows you to have up to 10 different Docks, with their own position, pinning, and size settings.

Base Station Hang-Ups

by Justin

Base Stations often connect two or more computers to the Internet through one phone line. They can provide this service even to older computers without wireless capabilities through their Ethernet port. Connect a crossover cable between your Base Station and your older machine (I've done it with a 7500 and a Blue and White). Turn on Ethernet to AirPort Bridging, and you're all set! You'll find you can connect more than one hard-wired computer if you use patch cables and a standard hub or switch. You won't need a router, since the AirPort can assign DHCP addresses.

This is all well and good, but what happens when you want to connect to the Internet? An AirPort-capable computer can open the AirPort application in the Apple Menu in OS 9 and choose "Connect." An OS X computer can do a similar thing using the Internet Connect program.

But what if you just want to click on Internet Explorer and connect to the Internet automatically? Base Stations will dial automatically, but it often takes longer for them to dial, handshake, authenticate, and connect than Internet Explorer is willing to give them. IE will usually report the error "Failed to connect to server" after spinning its wheels for a while. You can usually click reload a couple of seconds later and everything will work normally.

Does anyone know how to increase the connection timeout settings?

Here's the other issue, and I finally found a solution for this one. You have surfed the net from your old computer (the one connected to the Base Station with an Ethernet cable). You found that old classmate's phone number and now you want to call him. Unfortunately, you either have to wait 20 minutes for your AirPort Base Station to disconnect itself or you have to find that newer machine with the AirPort application and use it to tell the Base Station to hang up. (You could simply unplug the Base Station, but that seems so crude.)

A better solution would be to download the java hang-up utility that Jon Sevy wrote:

<http://edge.mcs.drexel.edu/GICL/people/sevy/airport/index.html#Hangup>

Have an older PowerBook that you just upgraded to OS X? Currently using that WaveLAN card to serve cheese? Check out this site:

<http://wirelessdriver.sourceforge.net/index.html>

Sourceforge is a huge repository of Linux software. Since OS 10 is based on Darwin, a version BSD UNIX, loads of useful, cool, and almost-working stuff can be found here.

TODAY'S eTIP:

Pro Sound for Macs

A Mac's built-in sound is acceptable for many sound-related pursuits, such as editing audio for use on both Webcasts and real-live radio shows. But for true professional audio, you may want to upgrade your Mac's capabilities with an expansion card or device.

NuBus or PCI upgrade cards can do two things for you. First, they can give you a better array of ports, such as RCA-style phono jacks, to give you better quality connections for your channels of audio input. Second, cards and components can enable you to input multiple tracks of audio at once, thus using your Mac as a digital mixing board where each individual track can be managed independently. For example, if you were recording a rock band with a single audio-in port, you'd have to mix the instruments—guitar, keyboard, bass, and drums—using a mixing board before the audio gets into the Mac. That limits your ability to isolate the tracks and make the guitarist louder or add some sound effects to the bassist's riffs. With equipment that supports multiple audio inputs, you can bring in each individual track and computerize it to death.

Such hardware solutions are offered by Korg [<http://www.korg.com>], DigiDesign [<http://www.digidesign.com>], Lucid Audio [<http://www.lucidaudio.com/>], and Emagic [<http://www.emagic.de>], among others. They work in tandem with audio software from Macromedia [<http://www.macromedia.com>] or DigiDesign to manage all those sound tracks.

Mac Download of the Week

Music collectors will love this little app: DiskTracker

<http://www.disktracker.com/whatisit.shtml>.

It can catalog any disk—whether it's your hard drive or removable media discs, such as CD-ROMs—so that you can search for what you need in a jiffy. It's especially useful if you have a ton of MP3s burned to data discs. And you don't have to have the disk mounted on your computer to search, because DiskTracker searches its own catalog of the disk, not the disk itself. DiskTracker is available for Mac OS 9 and Mac OS X, and it costs \$30.

TAKE A TRIP TO THE BIG APPLE!

Ask Joan Balster about her
Humanities Club bus trips to shows and
other events in New York City,
Washington, D.C., and elsewhere!

Security—What Is It and How Much of It Can I Have?

**By Bill Achuff with response by Randy Zeitman
to a question posed to the MLMUG Help Line**

In a message dated 10/20/02 9:20:40 PM, Rudy Widmann writes:

I have a folder on my Mac that I would like to make invisible and password protected. When I say invisible, I also mean invisible from any searches done on my computer for anything in that folder. Is there a way I can make a non-text file password protected? Do I need to buy anything? I am using Mac OS 9.2.2.

Thank you for your help.

Bill Achuff replies:

It helps if you make the message subject more descriptive, Rudy (for sorting and archiving). I've edited your question for clarity.

It would be helpful if you told us more about your reasons for wanting to do what it appears you want to do. Privacy is probably a concern, so my asking you, "why," is almost an invasion of your privacy.

You're dealing with a rather complex issue—one which more of us should be concerned about than are.

Let's consider this a beginning—a topic of discussion opener.

First level of defense—make ALL your computer files inaccessible (or virtually so). To do this you have Keychain (with your OS) and there are a slew of third-party security applications like FolderBolt.

Go to MacDirectory, Tucows, or VersionTracker and do searches for "invisible," and "security," then read the features lists of the products you find.

You can make files and folders invisible and that will thwart most prowlers but one who is smart can find your invisible files. Again, there are third-party utilities for doing this like File Buddy (which can make a files/folders/volumes invisible OR visible. Sherlock (2) can find invisible files in OS 8.5 through 9.2.2.

You can encrypt files/folders/volumes and you can password protect them as well, without encryption. With the new version of StuffIt Deluxe you can use 512-bit encryption on an archive—if you forget the password you can forget about recovering your data.

Passwords seem to be the key. If someone has access to your computer and they happen to know your password(s) [many of which are chosen so

they are easy to remember], your privacy is compromised. There are even keystroke dongles which record your keystrokes—if you don't know one is plugged in, again, your privacy is compromised.

You'd be surprised how much corporate espionage has been done by rummaging through trash. If you don't securely delete files they can be recovered, in whole or in part. MacWasher, for example, can overwrite files ten times, only three overwrites are needed to meet DOD security requirements, seven for NSA.

Now go rent two movies, "Enemy of the State" and "The Conversation," both of which star Gene Hackman.

Randy Zeitman replied:

I can make any computer file not appear visible on any computer and not show up in any searches (and David Blaine didn't even teach me this...)

Ready?....

Don't put it on the computer. Zip disk + secret location = secure.

Else....

To make it invisible use ResEdit (apple.com) or other Shareware utility.

You can't make something not show up in a search for security reasons - I wouldn't buy a Mac if you could as I'd have no way to know what someone else might put on it.

Then use File Sharing to put a Username/Password on a folder.

To learn about File Sharing choose Mac Help...it's well explained in the Mac help system that's rarely used by most.

Bill Achuff continues:

Randy's suggestion MIGHT work, but as I stated when I replied earlier, unless we know what you are trying to do we can't provide the optimum suggestion or solution.

Moving a folder OFF the hard drive will make it secure but if you are trying "NOT to leave traces of your activity," that's another thing.

And I alluded to other issues of security which I will innumerate now. Spouses are using "activity checkers" to check on spouses and parents on children. In both instances we are dealing with a lack of trust, but I think it is prudent for parents to

(Continued on page 10)

From MLMUG Help Line

Is OS X More Vulnerable to Viruses?

Response by Bill Achuff

In a message dated 10/23/02 6:15:31 PM, Mimi Connelly writes:

Macs are said to be safe from viruses. Then I heard that OS X is vulnerable because it uses open source code. One safeguard is said to be keeping File Sharing turned off as well as knowing who sent you an e-mail attachment. Anything else we should know? [copy edited]

* * * * *

Bill Achuff replies:

Whomever said Macs are safe from viruses is wrong (but read on). NO computer is safe from viruses. If Macs were safe from viruses then Norton Anti-Virus, VirusBarrier, Virex, and TechTool Pro's virus protection are scams.

Macs are GENERALLY not susceptible to PC viruses unless they are running a PC emulator such as VirtualPC. There are far fewer Mac viruses than there are PC. Macs running OS X are more susceptible to viruses than those which are running OS 9 or earlier. In my more than fifteen years using a Mac, my computer has never been infected by a virus, and I know of no one using OS X who has been infected by a virus since it was introduced over a year ago. It is possible to become infected but I have never heard of a Mac user who LOST data due to a virus infection.

It is possible to pass on a virus but not become infected—this can happen when you exchange files with PC users. It is for THIS reason I use virus protection, so I do not become a carrier.

Obviously, if you don't share files you are less likely to become exposed or infected. There was a virus, once, on a Mac Addict CD, that was ultimately, determined to be benign.

You do not catch a virus because you receive e-mail with an infected attachment. If the attachment contains a PC virus you are probably immune. But WITH VERY RARE EXCEPTIONS if you do not run, (or execute) the attachment, you will not become infected, and if you have virus protection software installed it should intercept the viruses attempt to infect your computer.

Ironically, we are your own worst enemy. We will lose more data in our lifetime through failure to backup our data and sloppy file management than we ever will from a Mac virus.

From: Troy Kingsbury "Tech Tails"

OS X File System Maintenance

<tech@list.smalldog.com>

There are a few ways that Apple helps you keep your files in order in OS X: Disk Utility and "fsck."

In OS 9, if your system crashed, when your computer rebooted disk first aid would automatically run to check your system for possible errors. In OS X, things run a little differently.

If you are running 10.2, you can boot up in what is called "Safe Boot Mode" to try to resolve any software issues that cause your system to have problems starting up. To boot up in safe mode, hold down the shift key while booting up in OS X until the words "Safe Boot" appear. In this safe mode, it may take a while for the words "Safe Boot" to appear because the computer runs a disk check utility and repairs any troublesome folders before the computer continues to start up. Once the computer starts up, you should be able to restart it and things should be back on track.

If you are still having problems while starting up, you may want to try booting up from the OS X install CD that came with your computer and run the Disk Utility program to verify and repair your hard drive. To do this:

- 1) Insert the OS X CD and restart the computer while holding down the "C" key.
- 2) Right after the computer starts up, before anything else (like hitting the continue button) go into the menu and choose Disk Utility.
- 3) From the options listed, choose Disk First Aid and highlight the hard drive of your computer that you want the program to verify.
- 4) After verifying your hard drive, choose repair if needed.

A third way to check your computer if it is still having problems is to use "FSCK" (file system check).

To run "fsck" boot up the computer in single-user mode. To do this, hold down the command and "s" key when your computer is first booting up. You may release the keys as soon as you see the Open firmware text appear on your screen. At the end of the text lines, you can type in fsck -y and then press return. (It is important to have a space between the k and the hyphen.)

After the computer checks out the system files, you can type in the word reboot and then hit return. Your computer should boot up in OS X and your troubles will hopefully be resolved.

To get more info on this issue, go to the Apple Knowledge Base and check out article ID #106214.

A New Microsoft Blunder

Continued from page 1

the number of icons on the desktop kept changing. Microsoft sheepishly admitted to having spliced together footage from different computers to make its point.

And now a phony testimonial illustrated by a photo bought from a stock-art agency.

What does all of this say about a company's corporate psyche that it feels the need to fabricate evidence of the public's love?

Maybe Microsoft is jealous of the genuine affection Mac fans seem to exhibit for their machines. Or could it be that the company somehow feels rejected by the quirky (and as far as anyone can tell, real) people in Apple's "Switch" ads.

But more likely, Microsoft's latest blunder demonstrates neither jealousy nor wounded pride — it's pure arrogance. The company thinks it can get away with anything. This time, at least, it's wrong.

A screen shot of the original Microsoft ad can be viewed at:

<http://www.scripting.com/misc/msSwitchAd/lies.jpg>.

Visit David Pogue on the Web at:

<http://www.davidpogue.com>

Comparing Apples to Apples

We asked what record label sued Apple Computer for trademark infringement.

In 1991, Apple Records, the label formed and run by none other than The Beatles as a part of Apple Corp., won a settlement of more than \$20 million from Apple Computer for trademark infringement.

The suit stemmed from an agreement formed between the two companies roughly a decade earlier that stated Apple Computer could use Apple in conjunction with computers and software, while Apple Records would retain use of Apple within music and recording industry circles.

The issue grew murky in the late 1980s when Apple Computer began offering products that could play back or synthesize music, which Apple Records viewed as a violation of the companies' trademark compromise. Apple Records filed suit in 1989, and two years later Apple Computer settled.

The issue has apparently been resolved to both parties' satisfaction since the late Beatle John Lennon was featured (among many others) in Apple Computer's 1997 "Think Different" advertising campaign.

Security

Continued from page 8

do SOME checking or to make inquiries about their children's Internet usage (maybe not clandestine). Some schools and some businesses have polices which forbid attempts to override security programs, IOW, if you try to subvert an activity checker, or to hide files on a computer, (something which is easily checked by comparing the bits of storage used against that which is visible) you could be expelled or terminated with cause.

Security and privacy are VERY important concerns, too often ignored or overlooked. No surprise that while an employer is giving an employee notice of termination, security is clearing out the employees office and making sure computer files are secure. Seldom do we hear, "Jones, you have until 5 o'clock, today, to turn in your badge and clear out your desk." In some highly secure workplaces you better not get caught walking in or out with a Zip Disk in your pocket.

So, the question remains, what is it that you are trying to accomplish?

As an example, if you are backing something up for security purposes, often you are backing up FROM your hard drive. You may have no choice. But it will do little good to trash files after copying

them to a Zip if you have TechTool Pro's Trash Cache enabled.

If making a security backup is the LAST thing you do you, may leave temporary files behind which can be easily retrieved. Trash can be recovered in several ways unless you run a utility like ShredIt, or Wipe Info or MacWasher.

Okay, so let's suppose you successfully thwart all the hardware devices and work around the software security devices...did you beat the security cameras?

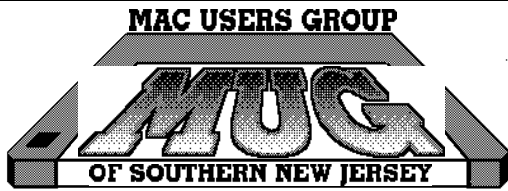
If you watch "West Wing" regularly, you'll recall the episodes dealing with selecting a Supreme Court Justice. Sam or Josh said, privacy issues would be something the Court would have to face in the decade ahead. That was before 9/11.

If it is a game, who's ahead? Is it be easier for you to HIDE what you do or for someone to FIND OUT what you've been doing?

Letter to the Editor

How come there aren't more articles in this newsletter written by MUG members? —Anon.

Are you kidding? Bill Achuff is a member and half this issue is taken up with his articles. Thank you for your concern! —Ed.



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