

WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 ReadMe file - T R Teague - 29 April 1988

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This file is a plain text file briefly describing WWIV Mac BBS 3.0, such that you can decide whether you wish to spend time downloading the rest of this package for use.

- * WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 is a bulletin board system (BBS) for the Apple Macintosh line of computers. It is based on a system developed for the IBM PC (Copyright (c) 1986 Wayne Bell).
- * It supports 300/1200/2400 baud, D.C. Hayes 100% compatible modems and higher speed modems at 9600 and 19,200 baud (and other rates can be supported) - the U.S. Robotics Courier HST 9600 baud modem (which is Hayes compatible except at 9600 baud), and the Telebit Tralibblazer 19200 baud modem (which is Hayes compatible except at 9600, 19200 baud) are examples of these high speed modems (there are no standards currently set for 9600 and 19200 baud modems - one manufacturer's modem may not be compatible with another at these higher speeds). Note the old Apple 1200 modem is not Hayes compatible.
- * It requires a minimum of 512K of RAM memory to operate (it runs on all members of the Macintosh family), and a hard disk is recommended. It is compatible with Switcher, MultiFinder, AppleShare, RAMDisks etc.
- * The software is sold on a Shareware basis, and you are requested to send the author a donation of \$30 or more to the address below, if you decide to use the program.
- * The software may be freely distributed as long as the software is distributed complete and unmodified, and no fee is charged for distribution, other than any normal fee necessary for on-line charges, or duplication of diskettes. Since the complete package is quite large, should you wish, you may send a diskette to the address below rather than spending time and money downloading the rest of the software.
- * This is a enhanced version - it fixes some bugs and adds major enhancements, as detailed below.
- * The software is distributed as Stuffit files, whose contents are, and should remain so, as follows :

WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 Readme - this file, separate (17 Kb)

Stuffit 1.40b (95 Kb) and documentation (63 Kb) - a utility for compressing and archiving files for distribution - copyrighted by, and used with permission of Raymond Lau.

WWIV 3.0-1 OF 4.SIT - Part 1 of 4 of the WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 (300 Kb)
+ Init - the BBS initialization program

- + .MSG files (5) - BBS Support files
- + BBSDump - BBS utility program for analysing contents of BBS files
- + BBSUpdate - BBS utility program for updating older versions to 3.0
- + FixDLoads - BBS utility program for "lazy" Sysop's to maintain file sections
- + MoveSections - BBS utility program for re-arranging the BBS configuration
- + RRHostConvert - BBS utility program for converting Red Ryder Host to

WWIV Mac BBS

- + Sample - sample external application (quote of the day)
- + SavePaths - resource file for customizing the BBS configuration
- + Custom Menus - resource file for customizing the BBS menus
- + Hayes Compatible - resource file for standard Hayes compatible modem
- + Telebit Notes - text file describing things you need to know for Telebit

modems

- + TeleBit Trailblazer - resource file for TeleBit Trailblazer modem
- + TeleBit/Compression - resource file for TeleBit Trailblazer+ modem
- + USR Courier HST - resource file for U.S. Robotics Courier HST modem
- + Third Party Utilities - various utilities written by other people

WWIV 3.0-2 OF 4.SIT - Part 2 of 4 of the WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 (269 Kb)

- + BBS - the BBS program itself
- + BBS Keyboard Help - keyboard template for the BBS
- + WWIV BBS Docs - the documentation in MacWrite 4.6 format

WWIV 3.0-3 OF 4.SIT - Part 3 of 4 of the WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 (329 Kb)

- + BBS External App Stack - HyperCard™ stack version of Sample external application
- + BBS Help - the documentation and other help in a HyperCard™ stack

WWIV 3.0-4 OF 4.SIT - Part 4 of 4 of the WWIV Mac BBS 3.0 (249 Kb)

- + Autoexecute - sample external application for testing auto-execution
- + Validate - sample external application for self-validating new users
- + Writing BBS Ext. Appl's - documentation for writing external applications
- + Source files - some source files for BBS utility and external application programs

Parts 3 and 4 are optional, but if you are a new user and don't want to use ResEdit, it is suggested you get Part 3. If you want to write external applications, you need Part 4.

The suggested arrangement of files on diskette are :

- + 800K HFS diskettes - Disk #1 : ReadMe, StuffIt, Stuffed Files #1 and #2
- Disk #2 : Stuffed Files #3 and #4
- + or 400K MFS diskettes - in total 3 diskettes will hold the complete archived

system (over 1 Mb archived, over 1.7 Mb unarchived),
if it is re-arranged, otherwise 4 diskettes are needed.

* Features of the BBS are :

- + Use of Macintosh User Interface for the System Operator (Sysop) allows for flexibility in arranging window displays, and use of Desk Accessories, Cut/Paste (limited to DA's) etc.
- + An unlimited number of users can be supported - passwords, security checks add to the integrity of the BBS.
- + On-Line context sensitive help available at all times to users.
- + Users are assigned security levels, which determine the amount of time on the system, access to certain files etc. New users are limited in what they can do, until they are "validated".
- + Users connect to the BBS when calling, automatically at the correct speed. A minimum and maximum baud rate can be specified that the BBS can support.
- + Up to 19 Public message sections with built-in editor, fast scan of new messages since last login, time compensation for message posting given, etc are available. "Backspacing" in messages is allowed, and messages can be left anonymously in a number of ways (there is a special "Dear Abby" board).
- + Private EMail with auto-reply, receipt etc. Also ability to send mail to multiple persons.
- + A voting section.
- + General text files can be made available for viewing by all users.
- + The list of all users, and callers today are available to all users.
- + Keyboard macros for user input.
- + Expert/Novice mode in the menus.
- + Default user settings such as screen size, word wrap on/off, one key/line mode of menu selection, message sections to be scanned automatically, mail box open/closed, "spinning cursor", pause at end of page of display on/off.
- + A list of other BBS's is maintained, and can be added to by users.
- + Various system messages are displayed at appropriate places while users are using the BBS - these are simple text files which can be modified by the Sysop, and an Auto Message that can be modified by users.
- + Users can "chat" to the Sysop, and only when the Sysop wishes it.
- + Up to 19 Public file sections, and 1 private Sysop section are

available for users to upload and download files to/from. Access to these sections are controlled in the same way as message sections, but an additional enforceable upload/download ratio (e.g. 1 Kb of upload for every 10 Kb of download) is available. The BBS supports XMODEM, XMODEM/CRC, MacBinary, ASCII, XMODEM with 1 Kb blocks, YMODEM

Batch file transfer protocols. This version supports MacBinary II.

- + Options are available in the file sections similar to those in the message sections for scanning for new files, or for looking for a particular file, based on its description (which the user specifies when uploading). "Wildcard" filenames can be used.
- + Uploading compensation of 1 min of extra time on for each 25 Kb uploaded is given.
- + When downloading, the approximate time needed, is displayed for the user, and when uploading (MacBinary only), the approximate time needed, is displayed for the Sysop. Complete control over the batch when using YMODEM Batch is available, including automatic logoff when finished.
- + There are a number of Sysop commands available, for running the BBS remotely.
- + A running log of users' actions is kept (today and yesterday).
- + The results of the voting can be surveyed.
- + A built-in text editor is available for changing system messages etc.
- + A "mini-DOS" is available for housekeeping chores.
- + A built-in "mini-terminal" program, with complete access to the file sections, is available for Sysop's to call other BBS's. A dialing directory and other features are available.
- + The BBS can be "closed" to new users, unless they know the correct new user password.
- + A display of all user activity appears on the Sysop screen, and the Sysop and user can enter keystrokes from either keyboard at any time. The Sysop can login "from the keyboard" as a normal user (this is how the Sysop can easily "upload" files already available on his disk, but not entered into the BBS).
- + The BBS menus can be modified by the Sysop.
- + Third-party utilities available.
- + External applications can be written which become part of the BBS -

allowing automatic execution when a user logs on; execution after being chosen by the user from a menu; and automatic execution during a specified time period - such an application, called Tabby, will be available from its author, Michael Connick, allowing connection to the worldwide Fidonet™ network, including EchoMail™. Sample applications and documentation is available to those who wish to develop their own - e.g. on-line games. Development is possible using HyperCard™.

+ and many, many, more features ...

* Please send any correspondence/donations to :

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Mountain View,
CA 94041

Please note this is a change of address from previous versions.

* Update from 2.2 to 3.0 :

Bug fixes :

- + Problem with use of modem words and linefeeds - fixed.
- + Problems with ProModem 1200 - fixed.
- + Validating on a BBS with no users would crash - fixed.
- + Numbers greater than 255 being entered in a user's defaults would crash - fixed.
- + A problem with the number of users in the Init program - fixed.
- + Older machines (64K ROM, Mac XL - with HFS) would crash on startup because the BBS thought they were capable of running MultiFinder - fixed.
- + File transfers on older machines (MFS) would cause incorrect filenames to be created - fixed.
- + The user's upload/download Kb could not be changed to higher than 9999 - fixed.
- + Files downloaded using Browse were not counted as a download - fixed.
- + AppleShare 1.0 has bug which causes problem - must use AppleShare 1.1.

- + Time not updated in GFiles section - fixed.
- + Maintaining the message and file sections had some bugs - fixed.
- + "Wildcard" renames in the file section wouldn't work - fixed.
- + The RRHostConvert utility would not automatically convert filenames to uppercase - fixed (not necessary for this version).
- + Aborting a browse in the file section would cause subsequent browses in the same section not to work - fixed.
- + Normal Macintosh user interface appeared not to work in mini-term - fixed.
- + Users could insert too many extra lines into messages and crash BBS - fixed.
- + A subtle bug could cause system crashes or freeze BBS occasionally - fixed.
- + Old EMail and messages not removed at end of day processing - fixed.

Enhancements :

- + Support for higher speed modems - specifically 19,200 to 57,600 baud.
- + A flexible modem parameter configuration has been added - allowing better control over modem commands sent to your modem at initialization, calling out, and hangup etc. Sample configurations for popular modems are available.
- + Support for YMODEM batch file transfer protocol - downloads for users, and both uploads and downloads for Sysops. The size of the batch can be specified, and several sub-options exist.
- + Support for the Macintosh file naming conventions (i.e. any name up to the maximum length allowed). However, it is optionally still possible to enforce MS-DOS naming conventions if you wish. "Wild-card" names can be used for downloading etc. Lowercase Macintosh names are allowed.
- + Enhancement when reading EMail - the original message is no longer automatically deleted after leaving a reply.

- + The file section upload/download ratio is now more flexible - allowing control over the actual ratio, and control over individual users.
- + In various places where the user's download security level can be changed, so can their upload/download Kb.
- + Additional parameters have been added, allowing you more control over the size of serial port buffers etc.
- + When uploading from the keyboard, a standard Macintosh File Dialog is now used, and files can be moved/copied from anywhere to the appropriate file section automatically.
- + When in the mini-terminal, a different file section prompt is displayed to avoid confusion when calling other WWIV Mac BBS's.
- + An additional method of restricting a user's time on the system has been implemented - they are either allowed some many calls per day, as before, or so much time on per day.
- + Other enhancements in the file transfers - once an upload has started, if the file will be too large to fit on disk, the upload will be aborted immediately. Other speedups have been made.
- + Support has been added for "external applications" - meaning third-party programs and utilities can be made part of the BBS in a number of ways - automatic execution when a user logs on, selection by the user from a menu, or automatic execution during a specified time period. The intended use of the automatic execution is support for the FidoNet™ network system in use throughout the world - this is accomplished by a third-party application called Tabby being developed by Michael Connick, which will be available separately shortly. Sample external applications and documentation, including use of HyperCard™ are currently available.
- + Added to, and changed logging of file transfers to Sysop's Log.

- + Added a check to the modem initialization code - if the modem doesn't respond to the modem initialization string within approx. 1 minute, an error message will be displayed on the Sysop's screen, and the BBS will then not appear to be stuck in a loop - i.e. you can quit from the BBS, or simply switch your modem off/on and recycle the BBS, or logon from keyboard etc.
- + General improvements in the way the Macintosh user interface is handled, especially when using MultiFinder.
- + FixDLoads utility enhanced to allow selection of specific file sections.