

PictureSnooperX

The Ultimate Macintosh NewsGroup Snooper

Documentation

©1997-2003 by Qsys Software

Date: 5/08/2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
WHAT IS PICTURESNOOPERX.....	1
REQUIREMENTS	1
REGISTRATION	1
RESTRICTIONS	2
SUGGESTIONS/ERROR REPORTING	2
LEGAL STATEMENTS.....	2
PREFACE.....	2
INSTALLATION.....	2
QUICKSTART.....	2
FIRST RUN	3
<i>Introduction.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>License Agreement</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Default Preferences</i>	<i>5</i>
DIALOGS	6
TRIALWARE DIALOG	6
<i>Password</i>	<i>7</i>
PREFERENCES	8
<i>Connection</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Authentication</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>General.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Image FingerPrints</i>	<i>13</i>
NEWS GROUP LIST	14
<i>Create A News Group List</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Open A News Group List</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Add News Group.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Delete News Group.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Select News Group(s).....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Favorite Author Search.....</i>	<i>19</i>
DOWNLOAD STATUS.....	19
<i>Minimal Download Status View</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Expanded Download Status View.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Thumbnail Image</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Show In Finder.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Filter Site</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Filter Author</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Skip Message</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Favorite Site</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Favorite Author</i>	<i>22</i>
IMAGE PREVIEW	22
EXTENSION FILTER.....	23
AUTHOR FILTER.....	24
FAVORITE AUTHORS.....	25
INTERNET CONFIG 1.5 OR HIGHER.....	25
<i>File Mapping</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Usenet Server Information.....</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>User Name and Password</i>	<i>26</i>
ADVANCED OPTIONS.....	26

Re-Order News Group List 26

Change Message Start Number Of News Group 26

INTRODUCTION

What Is PictureSnooperX

PictureSnooperX is an Application that Searches UseNet News Groups for binary files. These binary files are usually pictures (and movies, and MP3, etc)!! After finding a binary file, PictureSnooperX downloads the file, decodes that file, and saves that file to the directory of your choice for later viewing.

Thus, you can search through GigaBytes of NewsGroup postings by people, while you're at work, sleeping, or out at the movies. PictureSnooperX will keep searching a newsgroup until you quit the application, or it runs out of postings to search.

Requirements

PictureSnooperX Requires:

- 1) System 8.5 or Later.
- 2) CarbonLib Is Required
- 3) Macintosh with the Thread Manager Extension (Later System Versions Have ThreadManager Built In).
- 4) An Internet Connection Using MacTCP or Open Transport (PPP or SLIP).
- 5) Access To A News Server Through Your Internet Provider.
- 6) QuickTime 3.0 or Higher
- 7) PictureArchive (Optional)

Registration

PictureSnooperX is Trialware. You can test the program, and if you continue to use PictureSnooperX, you will be required to register your copy. (This version will allow you to use Picture Snooper only 15 times before you must register you copy.)

Registration of PictureSnooperX is \$40 (USD) (Upgrade for Current Users of PictureSnooper2K is \$5 USD).. A Site License costs \$875 (equal to 25 users) and covers all locations for your organization within a 160 kilometer radius of your site (100 miles). One big advantage of a Site License is that you do not need to keep track of how many people at your site are using the software. A World-Wide License costs \$6000 and it covers all locations for your organization on the planet earth. After registering you copy of PictureSnooperX, you will be sent an unlock key. This key will allow you unrestricted use for the registered number of PictureSnooperX Version 1.x.x. This Registration Key will allow to use all future releases that include bug fixes and product improvements, up to the release of Version 2.0.

Paying for PictureSnooperX is fairly simple. To pay over the web, check out the link at <http://www.qyssoft.com/> and click on the Register link. Kagi handles payment processing for PictureSnooperX. Payments are processed within 3 to 4 days. You will receive an email acknowledgment when it is processed.

Protection:

PictureSnooperX has a protection scheme and when you pay, we tell you how to indicate to PictureSnooperX that you have paid the registration fee. If you do not have an email

address, please enter your complete postal address and please remember, we do not know what country you live in so please enter that into the postal address also. If you do not have an email address you should consider selecting the Postcard Receipt so that Kagi can inform you of your registration code. Kagi transmits the registration codes via email and paid postcard receipt only.

Restrictions

PictureSnooperX should only be copied with the Program, Documentation, and Registration together. It can be uploaded on free download sites, free diskettes, or free CDs. PictureSnooperX can not be sold, packaged on diskettes, CDs, or other Medium that charges Money for Access without express written permission by QSys Software.

Suggestions/Error Reporting

If you have any suggestions for product improvements, or errors to reports, drop me an email to Qsys@kagi.com. Also, check our web page at www.qsyssoft.com for the latest information on products from QSys Software.

Legal Statements

The Author or QSys Software hereby disclaims all warranties relating to this software, whether express or implied, including without limitation any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. QSys Software will not be liable for any special, incidental, consequential, indirect or similar damages due to loss of data or any other reason, even QSys Software, or an agent of his has been advised of the possibility of such damages. In no event will QSys Software be liable for any damages, regardless of the form of the claim. The person using the software bears all risk as to the quality and performance of the software.

PREFACE

Installation

The installation of PictureSnooperX requires only a copy of the Application, and the file 'NewsGroups' in the same directory. PictureSnooperX will automatically create a Preference File in your Preference Folder.

QUICKSTART

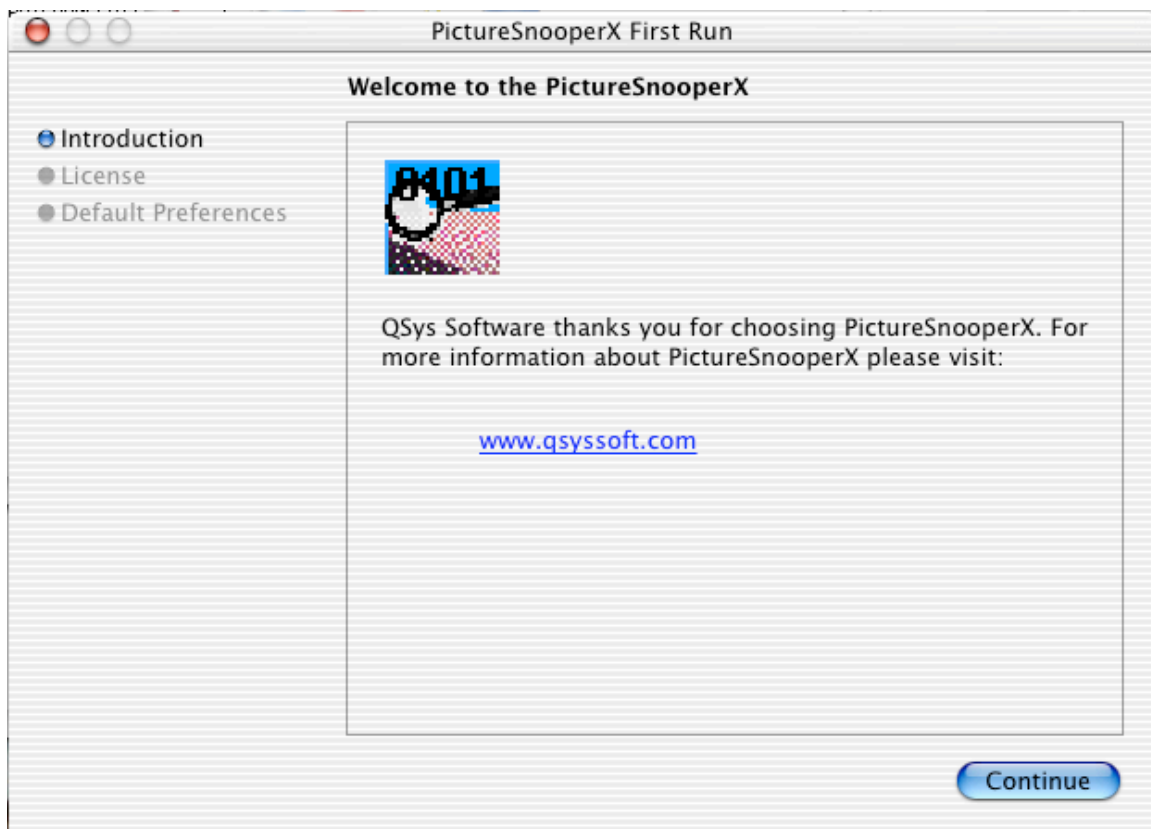
- 1) You must have available from your Internet provider the Internet address of your news server (and if required the port number)
- 2) After Installing PictureSnooperX, simply start up the application.
- 3) If this is the first time you have run PictureSnooperX, you will be presented with an introduction to PictureSnooperX, the License Agreement, and the MINUM preferences that you will need to input to get PictureSnooperX up and running.
- 4) Since this is a TrialWare Application, you will be presented with a TrialWare Dialog Box. If you have Registered and Received your Password (See Registration Section), click on the Register Button. If you are trying PictureSnooperX for the first time click 'Continue'.

- 5) You will be presented with a dialog box asking you to 'Create a NewsGroup List' or 'Open NewsGroup List'. Since an example List already exists with the application, click on the 'Open NewsGroup List' button.
- 6) The Open Dialog Box will ask you to open the NewsGroup List. Find the PictureSnooperX Folder that you just installed. Open the file called 'NewsGroups'.
- 7) You will then be presented with a pre-selected list of NewsGroups. Select a newsgroup and press the 'Use' Button.
- 8) After Selecting the newsgroup, you will be presented with the SAVE Dialog box. Select a folder where you want to have your downloads be save, and Click the 'Use Folder' Button.
- 9) You will then be presented with a status box of how your search is going.
- 10) You can now walk away and let PictureSnooperX do its work.
- 11) When PictureSnooperX is done, it will inform you that it has completed its search. Or when you are done searching, Simply Quit the Application.

First Run

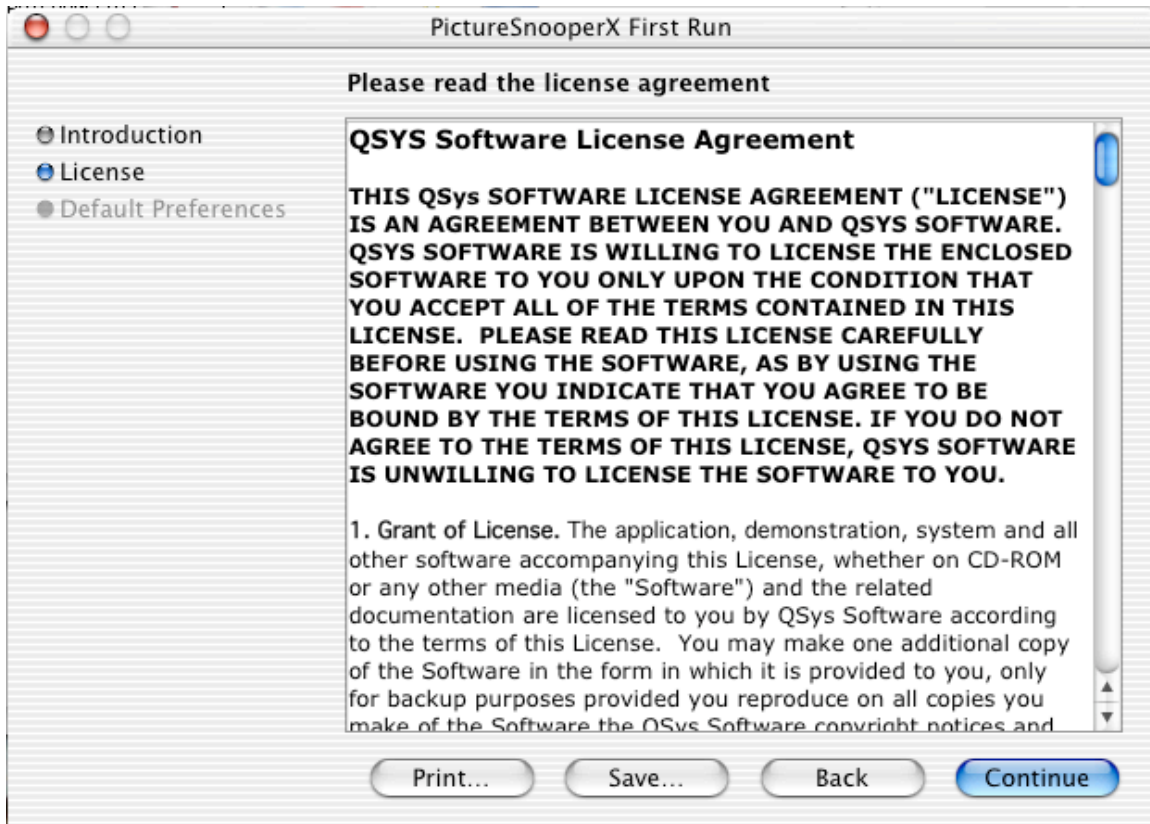
The First time you run PictureSnooperX, you will be presented with 3 dialog screens that will help you get up and running. The Three screens are listed below, and include the Introduction to PictureSnooperX, the License Agreement, and the Minimum set of preferences that you will need to set in order to get PictgureSnooperX up and running.

Introduction



Thank you for trying PictureSnooperX. If you have any questions about this program, or would like to check out the latest version, click on the hyperlink on this screen to open our web site in your preferred Web Browser.

License Agreement



The license agreement for PictureSnooperX is presented on this screen. Please read it carefully. If you wish, you can print out a copy or save it to disk, by selecting the appropriate button. If you agree to the license, press the Continue button, and click on the confirmation screen.

Default Preferences

PictureSnooperX First Run

Please choose your preferred options

Network Connection Info

☒ Set Server For This Application

News Server: news.myISP.com


Server Port: 119

☒ Set Authentication For This Application

Name: myName

Password:

☐ Always Send Authentication

 This is a subset of all the user preferences required to allow you to get up and running as quickly as possible.

You can change these preferences in the Preferences dialog.

Back Finish

The last screen that you will be presented with the first time you run PictureSnooperX, you will need to enter some basic information about your news server and name/password to use (if required).

Note for OSX: You will need to enter this information here.

DIALOGS

TrialWare Dialog



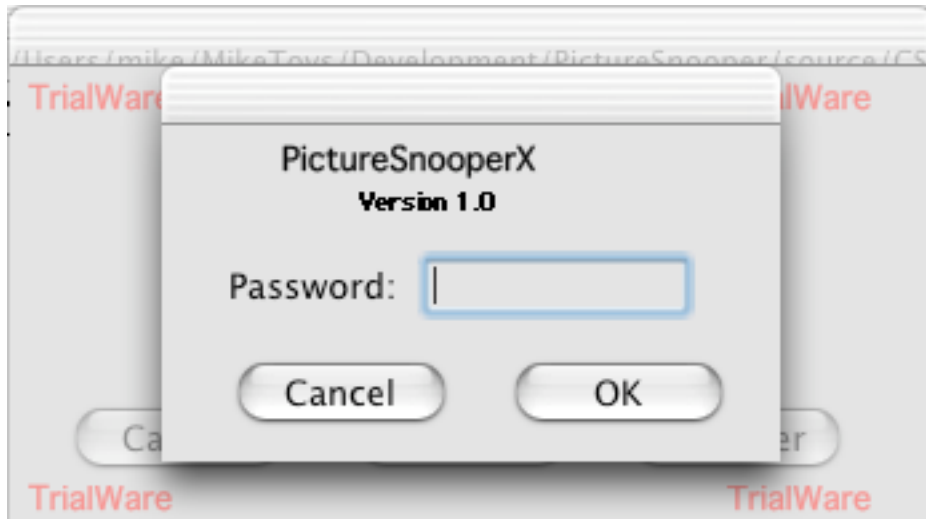
When using an UnRegistered Version of PictureSnooperX, the 'TrialWare' Dialog box will appear at startup. This dialog box will present you with the version of PictureSnooperX you are using, the number of startups you have remaining during your evaluation period, a 'Register' button, a 'Continue' button, and a 'Cancel' Button.

Once you have used the 'Register' Program that is included inside the 'PictureSnooperX' Folder, click the 'Register' button to enter you Password. Once you have entered your Password correctly, you will be able to run PictureSnooperX without having to see this dialog again. (However, if you ever need to reinstall the application, or have to reinstall your system, you may need to re-enter your password.)

If you are evaluating PictureSnooperX, and you want to see how PictureSnooperX performs, you can click on the 'Continue' Button. Note: Once the evaluation period has ended, you will not be able to use the 'Continue' Button.

If you have started PictureSnooperX in error, and would like to Quit the application, simply click the 'Cancel' Button and PictureSnooperX will stop execution.

Password



When you click on the 'Register' Button in the TrialWare dialog box, you will be presented with this dialog box.

Enter your password that you received when you registered PictureSnooperX, and press the 'OK' Button. If you entered your password correctly, you will be informed by the program. Keep your password in a safe place, to use on future releases of Version 2.x.x of PictureSnooperX.

If you do not wish to register, click the 'Cancel' button and you will be returned to the 'TrialWare' Dialog.

Preferences

Connection

The screenshot shows the 'PictureSnooperX Preferences' dialog box with the 'Connection' tab selected. The dialog has three tabs: 'Connection', 'General', and 'Image FingerPrints'. The 'Connection' tab contains the following settings:

- ☒ **Set Server For This Application**
 - News Server:
 - Server Port:
- ☒ **Set Authentication For This Application**
 - Name:
 - Password:
 - ☐ Always Send Authentication
- ☒ **Timeout Connection**
 - Close Connection In: Seconds

At the bottom right of the dialog are 'Cancel' and 'OK' buttons.

Selecting A News Server

When you use PictureSnooperX for the first time, or when you choose Preferences from the file menu, the above dialog box appears.

Set Server For This Application (Do Not Use Internet Config)

PictureSnooperX will attempt to use the 'News' Preferences that you have set up in Internet Config 1.5 or higher (if on MacOS 9.x or older). If you wish to use these Internet Config preferences, you are not required to enter any data into this box.

However, if you are not using Internet Config 1.5 or higher, or you wish to override the Internet Config preferences, select the check box. This will allow you to enter information for the News Server and Server Port.

NOTE: MacOSX.....You will need to enter your New Server and your Name and Password in PictureSnooperX

News Server

The 'News Server' text string is where you enter the IP address of the news server provided by your Internet Provider. The 'Server Port' string is the port number of the News Server you are using.

NOTE: The default value is 119 and should only be modified IF instructed to do so from your Internet Provider.

Authentication

Some servers require a user name/password to be entered before you can access the newsgroups. If this is required by your Internet Provider, you can enter your name and password here for PictureSnooperX to store for you. If you do not wish to do that, PictureSnooperX will prompt you for this information during the start of the download session if required by your Internet Provider.

When 'Always Send Authentication' check box is selected, PictureSnooperX will always send your authentication information to the server without waiting for this request from your Internet Service Provider.

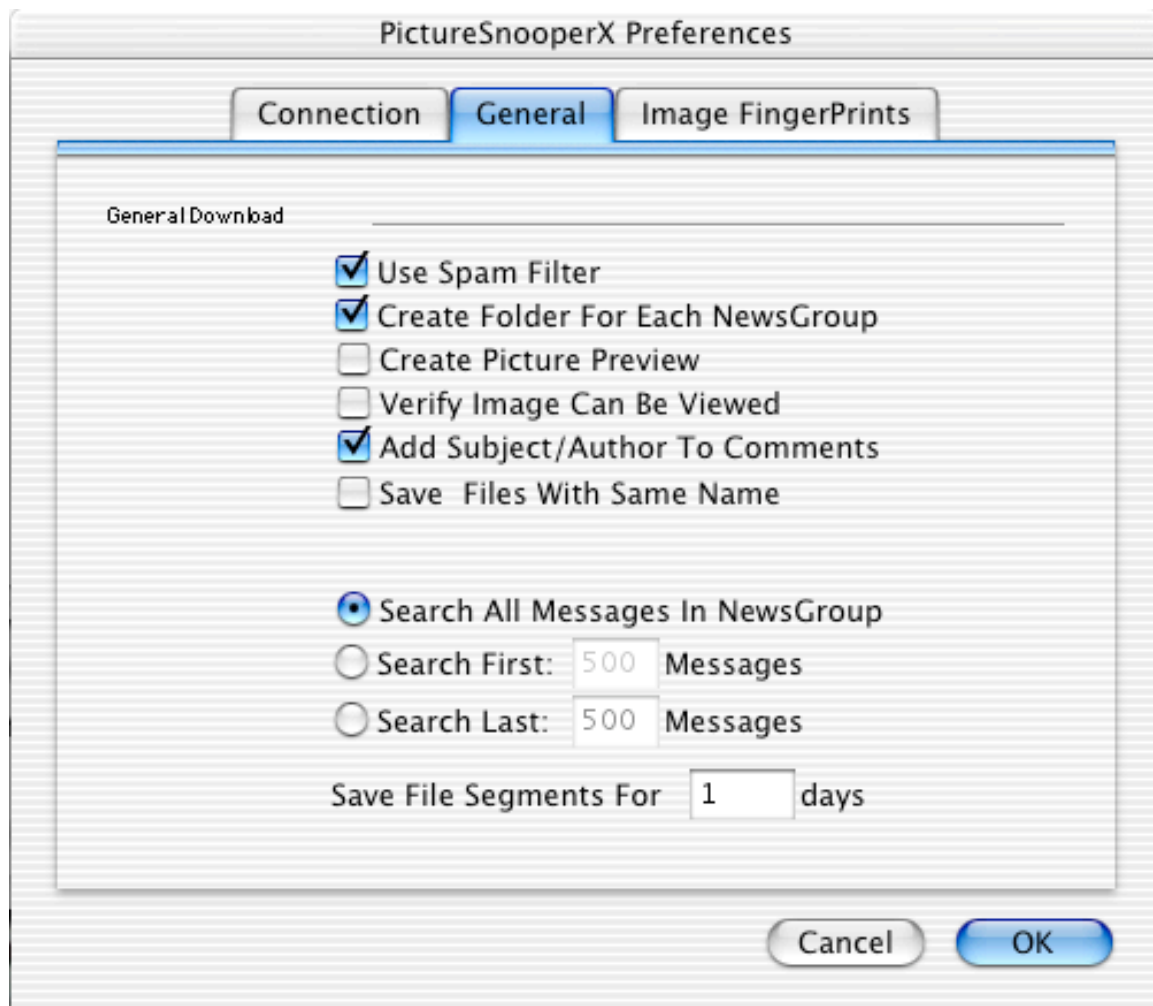
Also, for your convenience, PictureSnooperX will use the name and password you have stored in the Internet Config 1.5 or higher 'News' preferences. If you are not using Internet Config, select the 'Do Not Use Internet Config' checkbox, so that PictureSnooperX will know that you will be entering the name and password manually.

Timeout Connection

By default PictureSnooperX will wait forever for the server to respond to various requests. On those occasions where this might not be desirable, you can timeout how long you want to wait for the server to respond. If the connection is Timed Out, PictureSnooperX will proceed to the next newsgroup (if one is selected), or End the Snooping Session.

To set the Timeout Time, check the box 'Timeout Connection'. By default the timeout delay will be 120 seconds. You will then be able to set the number of seconds to wait for the server to respond to your requests.

General



Spam Filter

The Spam Filter is a quick and efficient way to ‘bulk filter’ messages that are posted to multiple newsgroups (cross-posted). When this option is selected, PictureSnooperX will check if this message has been posted to multiple NewsGroups. If this is the case, PictureSnooperX will check to see if the user has already come across this message in a another newsgroup in the user list. If you have already seen this message, then PictureSnooperX will skip this message and proceed to the next.

Note: This method will be effective for most messages. However, if the same Picture is used in multiple messages, then there is a chance that it will be downloaded again. The only method that would guarantee this is to do a binary comparison of each binary with ALL binaries ever download. This was determined impractical in most circumstances

New Folder

The Create New Folder option, when selected, will create a new folder inside the user selected target directory for each newsgroup to search. The folders that are created use the names of the newsgroup being searched (up to 30 characters). Thus if the user was searching the **sci.astro** newsgroup, a folder would be created titled **sci.astro**. All downloaded binaries from **sci.astro** would be placed inside this new folder. If the

newsgroup is greater than 30 characters (example: **comp.graphics.apps.photoshop.landscape**), PictureSnooperX will delete down the name hierarchy until the name is less than or equal to 30 characters (in this example the folder name would be: **apps.photoshop.landscape**)

If this option is not selected, PictureSnooperX will place all downloaded binary files into the user selected target directory.

Create Picture Preview

By selecting the 'Create Picture Preview' option, PictureSnooperX will check to see if the file is a recognizable image. If it is a recognizable image, a 'Thumbnail' or 'Preview' picture will be added to the file. Thus, if you open these files with programs that use a preview open dialog, a preview image will be observed.

Verify Image

Since not only images are uploaded to news groups (ie. html files, zip files, exe files), this filter was added to help filter out these types of files.

By selecting the 'Verify Image Can Be Viewed' option, PictureSnooperX will try to verify that the file is a TRUE image. If the file is NOT a recognizable image, the file will be deleted automatically.

At present PictureSnooperX is able to recognize the most common formats that are used on NewsGroups. Namely: JPEG, GIF, TIFF, and PICT.

WARNING: If you are wanting to download MPEG movies, PhotoShop Files, etc. then DO NOT Select this option. PictureSnooperX will not recognize these files and thus delete them from your harddrive.

Add Subject/Author To Comments

When this option is selected, the News posting's subject information, along with the author is saved in the MacOS Finder information box. This information can be obtained by selecting the file and entering "Get Info" command from the Finder's File Menu.

Save Files With Same Name

During a download session, it is possible that two binary files are posted the posses the same file name. The MacOS does not allow for 2 files in a folder to have the same name. Thus, if this option is selected, the second file with the same name will have an _1 appended to the file name. The third file an _2, etc.

For example if foo.jpg already exists in the download folder, and you have selected this option, the next file called foo.jpg will be saved as foo.jpg_1.

Note: The limit for this option is _9 giving you a total of 10 files (the original plus _1 through _9) that will be saved to the download folder.

Search All/Limit Search

The Search All radio button allows the user to search all messages inside a newsgroup for binary files, and will download those files according to the options the user selects. PictureSnooperX will continue to search a newsgroup until the user cancels the search, or PictureSnooperX has searched all the messages inside the newsgroup.

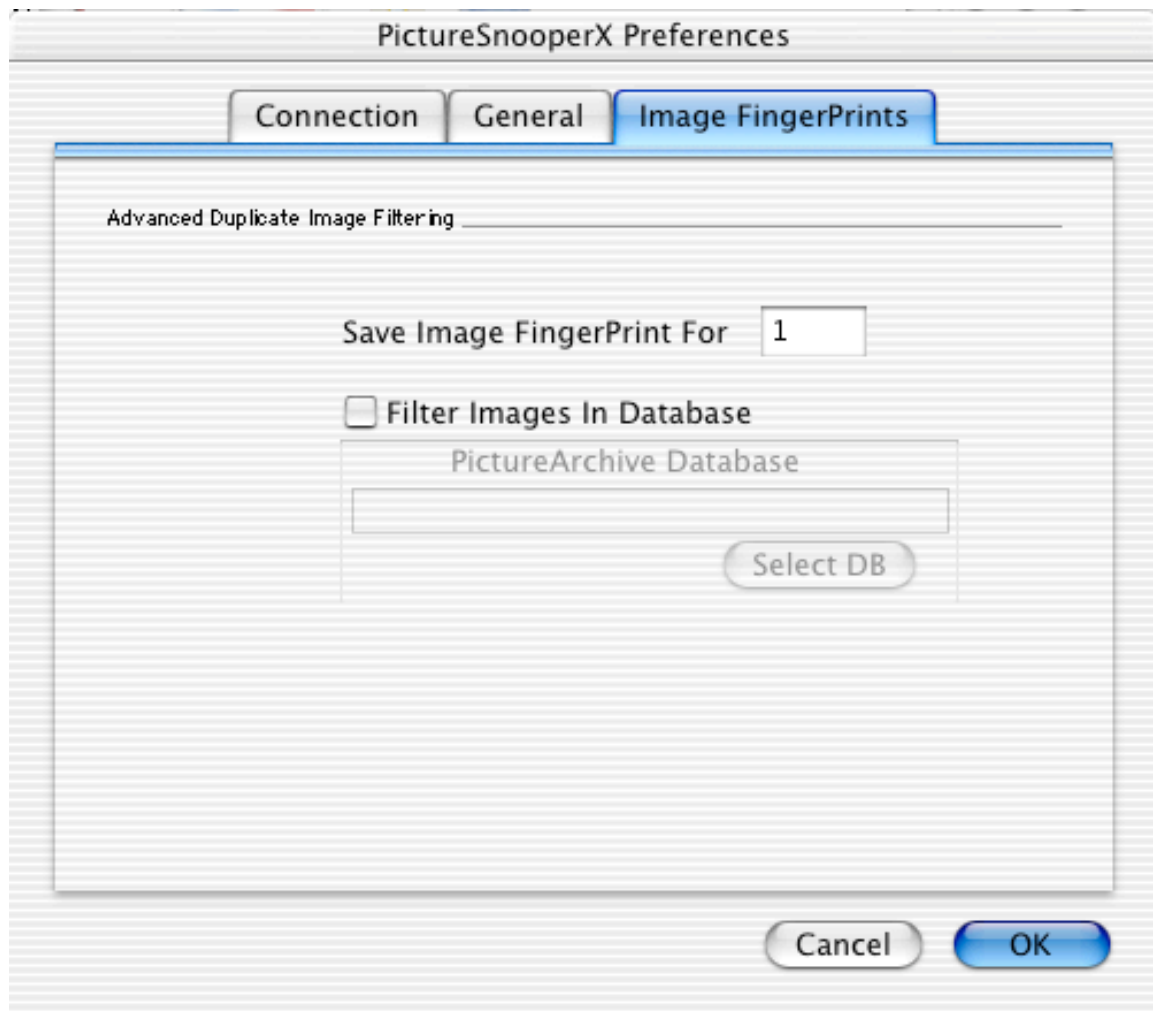
The Limit Search radio button will limit the number of messages searched by PictureSnooperX in EACH newsgroup. Thus if the user selects to limit the search to 50 messages, for example, PictureSnooperX will search those 50 messages. Upon completion of the 50 messages, PictureSnooperX will start the search of the Next NewsGroup or return the user to the NewsGroup list. If the user would like to search another 50 messages, the user would just select the newsgroup again, and PictureSnooperX will continue the search from where it left off in the previous search of that newsgroup.

Note: If the 'Search Last ..' button is selected, it will be assumed by PictureSnooperX that any messages that might be skipped towards the beginning of the NewsGroup is not of interest. Thus, the starting message number will be updated to the current message. If the 'Search All' or 'Search First' option are then selected for that newsgroup, PictureSnooperX will pick up where it left off last during the last search.

Save File Segments

With many files too large for a standard newsgroup message, more files are split into many segments. PictureSnooperX allows for you to store those segments for XXX number of days. If all of the segments are found before the number of days is reached, those segments are combined and saved to your current download folder. If all the segments are not found before the XXX days, the segments are deleted.

Image FingerPrints



Save Image FingerPrints

One of the features of PictureSnooperX allows for you to filter out images that you already have downloaded in the last XXX Days. PictureSnooperX stores these 'fingerprints' for the number of days that are specified in this location. If the image with the same 'fingerprint' is seen again, then that image will not be saved to disk.

Connecing To PictureArchive FingerPrints

Users of Both PictureSnooperX and PictureArchive has the added benefit also perform the same 'fingerprint' check on images that exist in their PictureArchive database. Thus, if an image already exists in the PictureArchive databse, the image will not be saved to disk.

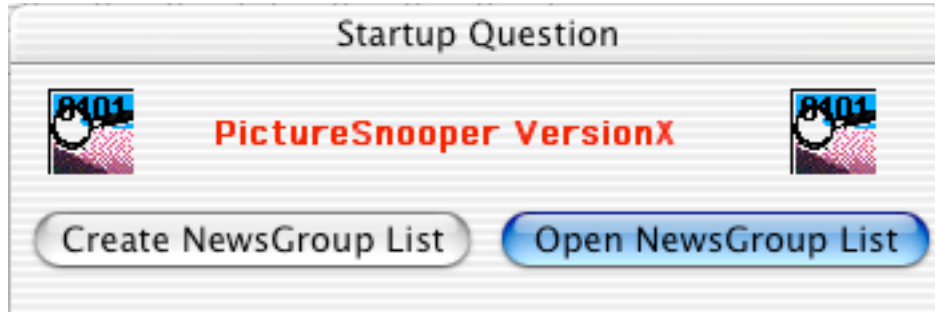
To connect PictureSnooperX to your PictureArchive Database, select the check box stating 'Filter Images In Database'. Then by pressing the 'Select DB' key, you will be presented with an Open Dialog box. Find your PictureArchive Database folder. Select the Database.key file (or what you named this file). Then when you snoop for images, those images will be checked against those in the database.

NOTE: If the database is moved, or the link is broken, you will see a dialog box indicating that it cannot find the database. Just re-select the database from this preference.

About FingerPrints

The method of ‘fingerprinting’ an image is a quick way to obtain a binary ‘signature’ of the image. That way on a very small amount of information is held about each binary. Although this method is very fast, and compact, it does have a draw back. If the image has been scaled, or recompressed using a different compression level, etc., the algorithm doesn’t know that it is the same picture. Thus, this method provides a quick filter against those who post the same image various newsgroups under different names. At the same time reducing the amount of time you spend searching through images, while saving some disk space.

News Group List



When you run PictureSnooperX, you will be presented with a Dialog box asking you if you would like to Create or Open a NewsGroup List.

Create A News Group List

There are two ways to create a NewsGroup List.

- 1) When you launch PictureSnooperX, or
- 2) From the File Menu: Select New...

Both of these methods will present you with Create File Dialog Box. Select the location of where you would like the NewsGroup List to reside. Give the file a name (ie ArtList , Scenery, etc.). After you create the NewsGroup List, you will be presented with a NewsGroup List that contains NO newsgroups. You will need to follow the steps below to add newsgroups to the list.

Open A News Group List

There are two ways to open an existing NewsGroup List.

- 1) When you launch PictureSnooperX, or
- 2) From the File Menu: Select Open...

Both of these methods will present you with an Open Dialog Box. Select the location of the file and the NewsGroup List file (older versions of this file is called ‘NewsGroups’ and is located in your PictureSnooper folder). After you open the file, your NewsGroup List Dialog will be shown with your favorite newsgroups.

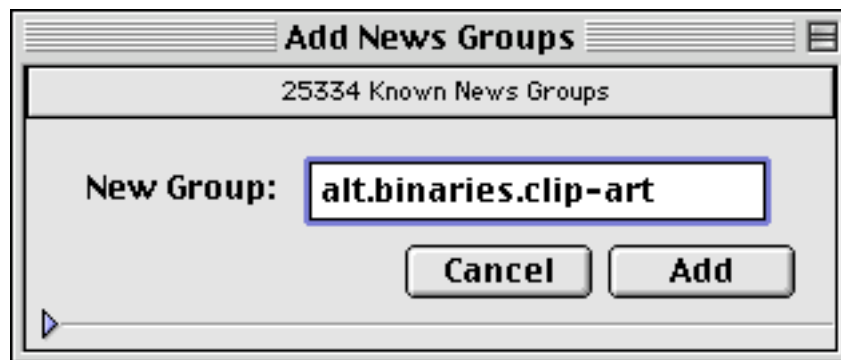


When you open PictureSnooperX the above dialog box is displayed with a list of News Groups to choice from. This dialog box is used to select a news group(s) to search through, and to add/delete your own NewsGroups.

Add News Group

By Pressing the 'Add' Button in the 'News Group List' Dialog, the 'Add NewsGroup' Dialog box shown below is displayed. By typing in the New NewsGroup, and clicking the 'Add' Button, will add this new group to the bottom of the News Group List. Note: If the News Group is already on the list, then PictureSnooperX will NOT add selection the News Group

If you change your mind about adding the news group, click on the 'Cancel' Button to return to the News Group List.



If you would like browse all the News Groups available for you to use through your internet provider, PictureSnooperX gives you that ability. By selecting the triangle, the Add Dialog box will expand to reveal a way to select filtered Newsgroups.

Before you can search known News Groups, you must first download a list from your internet provider by selecting the 'Download List' Button. This can take some time depending on your modem speed and provider. As Newsgroups are added, the total known will be updated.

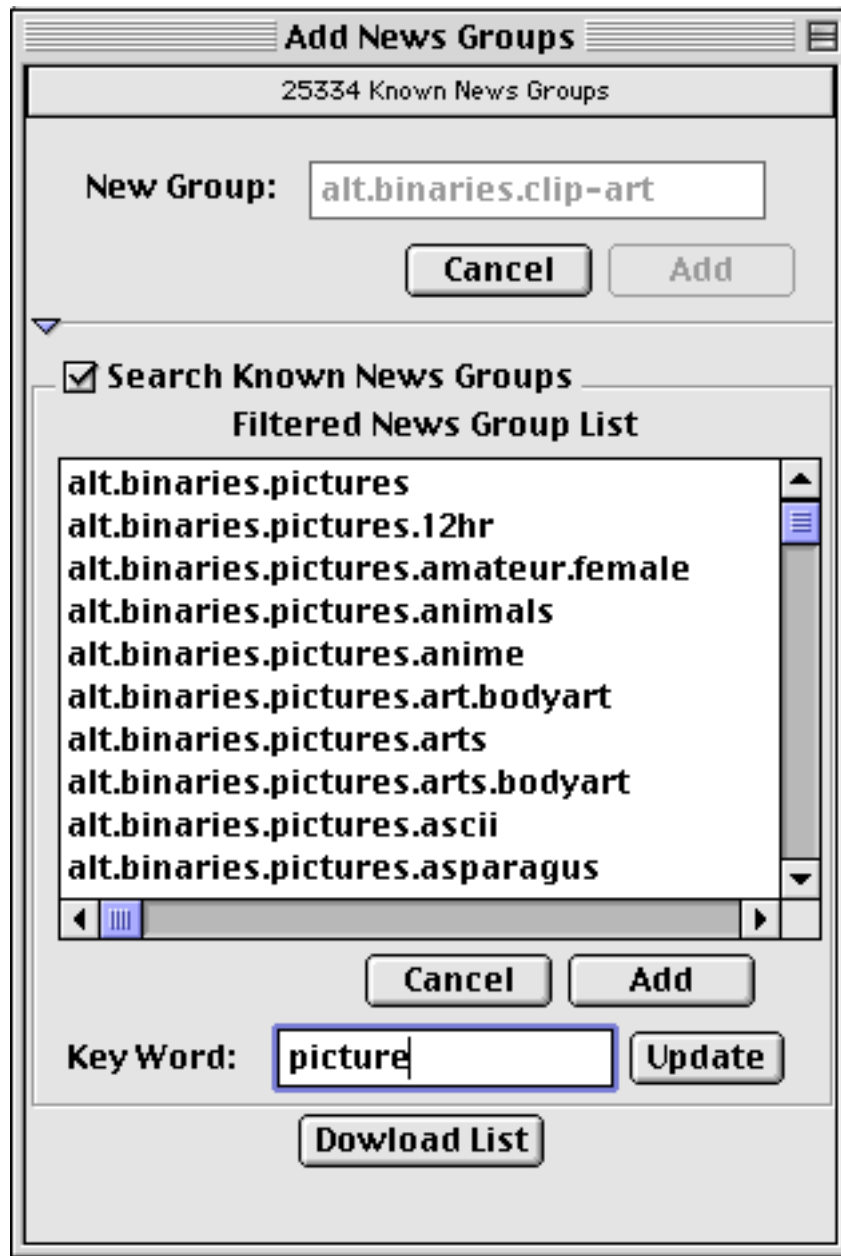
NOTE: The Search Known News Groups check box will NOT activate until you have downloaded the list of Newsgroups from you internet provider.

NOTE: While the triangle has extended the Add News Groups dialog box, the 'Add' Button has been disabled. This 'Add' Button is only good for a single addition to the list for the Newsgroup that you would type in. When the triangle is in the down position, the lower 'Add' Button will add selections from the filtered list to the search list.



Once you have downloaded the list from your internet provider, the 'Search Known News Groups' check box will become active for your selection. You can then enter a key word to search the list. By pressing the 'Update' button after entering a key word to filter the list by, a list of all Newsgroups meeting that criteria will be displayed as shown below.

You can then make your selection from this list. Once all your selections have been made, click the 'Add' Button to add these Newsgroups to the search list. Note: If one of the Newsgroups you select is already in the search list, that group will not be added again.



Delete News Group

To Delete a News Group from the list, select the News Group to be deleted, then click on the 'Delete' Button. If you perform this action by accident, you will have to add the News Group back using the 'Add News Group' method.

Select News Group(s)

To select a NewsGroup to be searched, simply select the News Group from the list (it will be highlighted), then click the 'Use' Button. This will cause the list to disappear, and a 'Save Dialog Box' to appear.

Note: If you wish to search Multiple newsgroups, use the Shift-Click or Command-Click to select multiple News Groups.

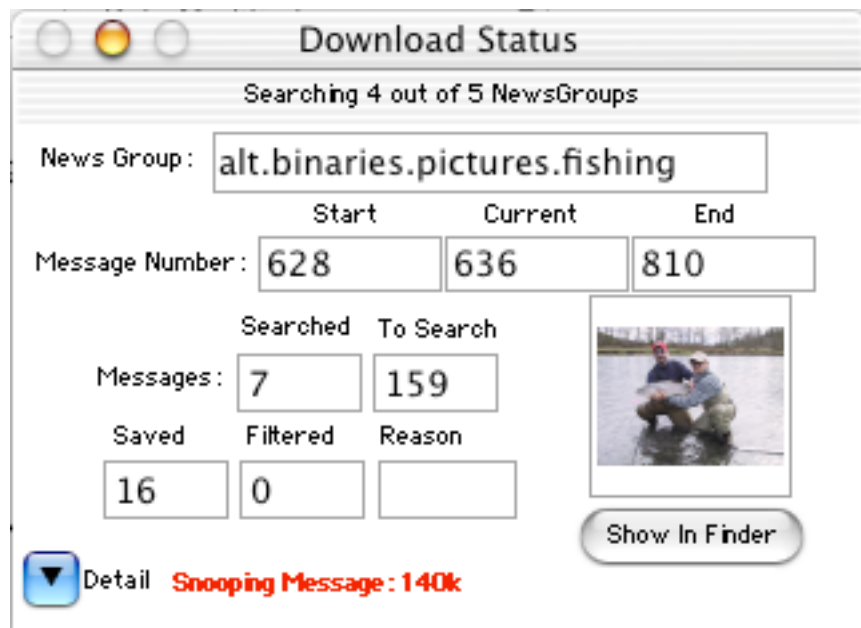
At this point you need to select the folder where you want to save the binary images (target folder), enter that folder, and click on the 'Save' button. Note: You do not have to enter a name for the file, since each file downloaded will have it's own name.

After selecting the folder and clicking 'Save', PictureSnooperX will display the 'Download Status' Dialog box, and start searching for pictures.

Favorite Author Search

As you build up a list of favorite authors and favorite sites, there are times where you want to search a newsgroups for those authors only. At the same time, you want to save your connection time, by skipping those authors that are not on your favorites list. By selecting this option for your downloads, PictureSnooperX will quickly search your selected newsgroups for those authors. Any other that is not on the list, PictureSnooperX will not waste any time downloading that binary.

Download Status



Download Status


Searching 4 out of 5 NewsGroups

News Group:

	Start	Current	End
Message Number :	<input type="text" value="628"/>	<input type="text" value="636"/>	<input type="text" value="810"/>

	Searched	To Search
Messages :	<input type="text" value="7"/>	<input type="text" value="159"/>

	Saved	Filtered	Reason
	<input type="text" value="16"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>



Snooping Message: 140k

Minimal Download Status View

Download Status

Searching 4 out of 5 NewsGroups

News Group:

	Start	Current	End
Message Number:	<input type="text" value="628"/>	<input type="text" value="656"/>	<input type="text" value="810"/>

	Searched	To Search
Messages:	<input type="text" value="24"/>	<input type="text" value="142"/>

	Saved	Filtered	Reason
	<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>



 **Detail** **Snooping Message: 124k**

Current Message

Subject:

From:

Amount Read:

Expanded Download Status View

This window displays where PictureSnooperX is at as it searches the News Group(s) that you have selected.

The 'Searching # out of # NewsGroups' indicates which Newsgroup is being searched and how many newsgroups remain to be searched. (When the user selects multiple newsgroups to search. See: NewsGroups List (above))

The 'News Group' text is the News Group that is currently being searched for binaries pictures.

The 'Message Number' is the method used by the NewsGroups to track news group postings. The 'Start' value is the first assessable message number. The 'Current' value is the message number that is currently being searched. This number is saved, so that if you have to quit the application, you can start from the last message that you have searched. The 'End' value is the last known message number in the news group.

The 'Messages' fields give you some statistics on how PictureSnooperX is doing. The 'Searched' value is the number of messages PictureSnooperX has searched for binary files. The 'To Search' value is the estimated number of news group messages still to be searched.

The 'Binaries Found' value represents the total number of binaries that have been downloaded from the newsgroup. The 'Items Filtered' are those binaries that were not saved to the download folder because that message was posted to another site (and you have the spam filter selected), or the image 'fingerprint' was located in your PictureArchive Database, or has been previously downloaded in the last XXX days as defined in your Preferences. The 'Author Filtered' are those messages that were skipped because either the author or the author site is located in your Filter Author List.

The 'Filtered' field is show the number of binary files that were filtered out as based on your preference settings. The reason the last binary file that was filtered is shown in the 'Reason' box. The reasons that will be displayed are as follows: 1) 'Spam' – this is where this file was already viewed in another newsgroup that you have snooped. 2) 'Finger' – This binary was filtered out since it matched another binary that was previously download, based on the Fingerprint Filter.

In RED at the bottom of the main section, is a status message to inform you with the status of PictureSnooperX during News Group binary search.

Information about the current message being snooped is presented along the bottom of the window. The Title of the message and who Posted the message are displayed in the 'Subject:' and 'From:' dialogs. The 'Amount Read:' progress bar shows an estimate of how much of the message has been read off the news server.

Thumbnail Image

The thumbnail image can be clicked upon to bring up the image in a Preview Window. (See Preview Window Below)

Show In Finder

By pressing the 'Show In Finder', the image that is currently displayed in the thumbnail window, cause the Finder to come to the foreground, with the file highlighted.

Filter Site

By pressing the 'Filter Site' Button, the current download site will be added to the List of Authors to filter this site from all future downloads. This will not effect the current message that is downloading, but will effect all future news group postings from that site.

For further information about this filter, see the Author Filter Section Below.

Filter Author

By pressing the 'Filter Author' Button, the current download author will be added to the List of Authors to filter out during the download process. However, this will not stop the current message from being downloaded, but will only effect all future messages posted by this author.

For further information about this filter, see the Author Filter Section Below.

Skip Message

This button allows the user to skip the current message that is being downloaded.

Caution: When the user selects this button, PictureSnooperX will request the next file. However, at present it does take some time before the server will respond to this request. PictureSnooperX is still Snooping, however, some servers insist that all of the current message be sent to you, before the server will honor the request for the next message. We are looking at ways to speed up this process, and as soon as we get a reliable method, we will post an update.

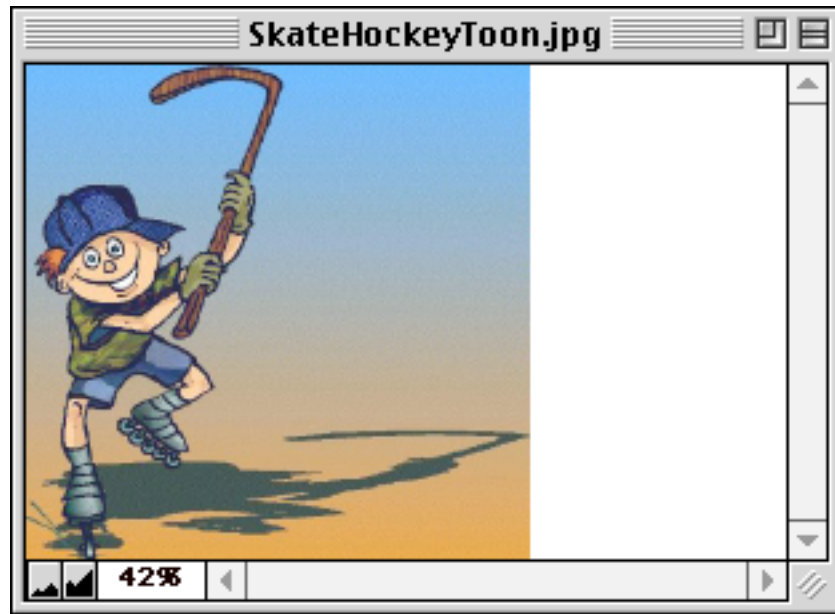
Favorite Site

By pressing the 'Favorite Site' Button, the current author's site will be added to the List of Authors in you Favorite Author List. For further information about this filter, see the Favorite Author Section below.

Favorite Author

By pressing the 'Favorite Author' Button, the current author will be added to the List of Authors in you Favorite Author List. For further information about this filter, see the Favorite Author Section below.

Image Preview



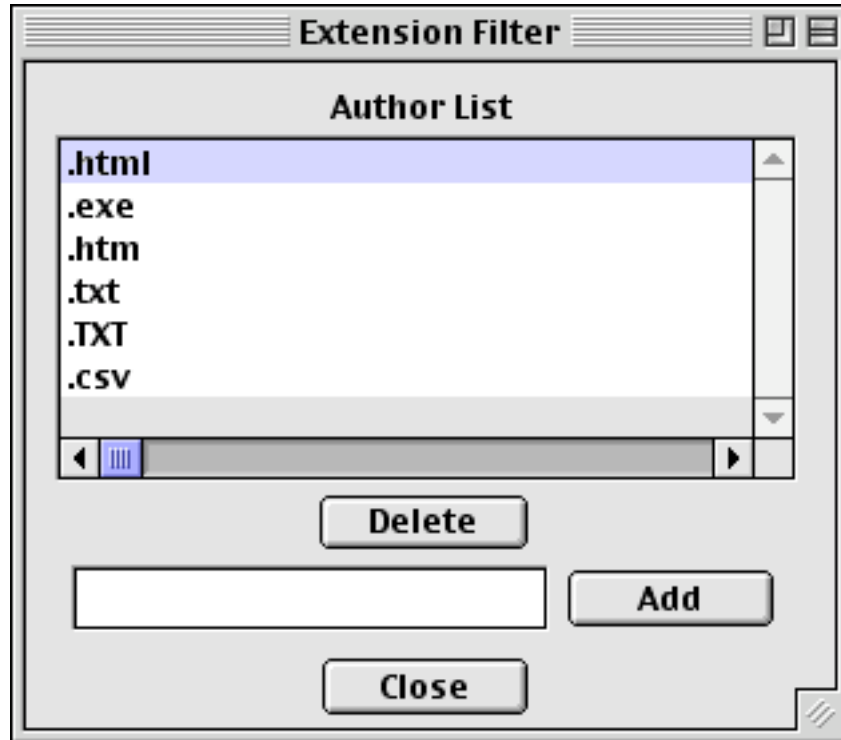
When the 'Show Image Preview Window' is selected in the Preference Dialog (see section above), a window is opened during the download process. This resizable window will display the last downloaded known image format file from the current session.

This SIMPLE preview window is intended to give the user a QUICK look at what is currently being downloaded. If the user wishes to have more detailed view capabilities, they should continue to open the files with their favorite Imaging Software.

At the top of the Preview window, the name of the file that is currently being viewed will be shown. In the bottom left corner, the user can select to decrease or increase the current image size by a factor of 2. The current scale size is shown next to the two scale buttons.

When loading the image from the disk into the preview window, the image will be scaled such that at least one of the dimensions (horizontal or vertical) will take up the entire window. This way, the image size can be selected to take up as much screen space as desired by the user, without the image window always changing sizes, trying to accommodate various picture dimensions.

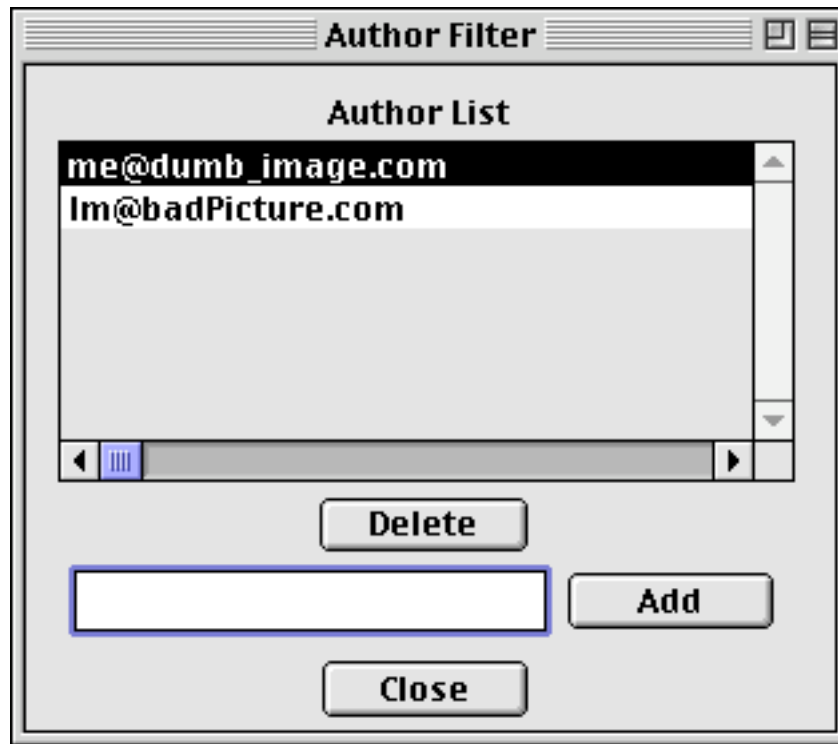
Extension Filter



The Extension Filter allows the user to FILTER out files that do not interest the user. Thus, if a file ends with an extension shown in this list, the file will not be saved to the disk.

NOTE: You must include the period (.) as part of the extension for it to work. Also, the list is case sensitive. Thus if you would like to filter .html and .HTML, both must be added to the list.

Author Filter



The Author Filter allows the user to FILTER out authors (and entire sites) with message postings that do not interest the user. Thus, all authors (or author sites) on the Author List will be Filtered out, and PictureSnooperX will skip all messages posted by that author and proceed to the next message.

To open this window, select the 'Author Filter...' from the File menu.

There are 2 ways to add Authors to this list. The first is to type in the Author's email address and click the 'Add' Button. The second, is to press the 'Filter Author' Button in the Download Status Window (see above).

If you would like to delete an Author from this list, select the Author and then press the Delete Key.

To Close this window, press the Close Button.

FILTER AUTHOR SITES: You can filter an entire author site by proceeding the name of the site with an '*'. As an example, to filter the site from junk@spam.com, you could add to the Author Filter site *spam.com Thus, any postings from the spam.com address be skipped.

Favorite Authors



The Favorite Authors allows the user to Search a News Group for only the authors displayed in the list. All other authors (or author sites) that are not on the favorite list will be skipped. To use this option you will need to check a box during the selection of the newsgroups to snoop. (See News Group List above)

To open the window, select the 'Favorite Authors...' from the File menu.

There are 2 ways to add Authors to this list. The first is to type in the Author's email address and click the 'Add' Button. The second, is to press the 'Favorite Author' Button in the Download Status Window (see above).

If you would like to delete an Author from this list, select the Author and then press the Delete Key.

To Close the window, press the Close Button.

FILTER AUTHOR SITES: As with the Filter Author, you can select the entire site as a Favorite Site. You can add an entire author site by proceeding the name of the site with an '*'. See the example above under 'Filter Author'.

Internet Config 1.5 or Higher

File Mapping

File Mapping allows the user to read the **name.ext** format of most files. By using the **ext** (i.e. jpg, gif, pic, etc.) the file type/creator can be set so that the user can have the Macintosh automatically launch the correct application to read the file.

If 'Internet Config 1.5 or higher is present and configured with file mapping, PictureSnooperX will use these preferences to map the downloaded file. If Internet Config

cannot be found, then the file will be saved as a generic file. (If you do not have Internet Config, it can be downloaded from most shareware sites).

Usenet Server Information

While setting up your preferences, the default choice for the user is to use Internet Config 'News' information. For further information, please see the Preference Section above.

User Name and Password

While setting up your preferences, the default choice for the user is to use Internet Config 'News' name and password. For further information, please see the Preference Section above.

Advanced Options

Re-Order News Group List

After you add many News Groups to your NewsGroup List, the list can become very unorganized. You can re-arrange the order of the newsgroups by selecting a newsgroup and dragging it to another part of the list. When you release the mouse, that newsgroup will be placed where the highlight bar is showing it to be.

Change Message Start Number Of News Group



To change the message start number, Option-DoubleClick a NewsGroup in the NewsGroup List. A window like the one shown above will be presented to you. The name of the NewsGroup will be listed at the top with the current Message Number that will be the starting point (if the message still exists, or another preference option will over ride). You can edit this number and set it to any value you would like.

Note: If you would like to start at the first message in a newsgroup, just set the value to zero.

WARNING: If you are filtering images with the Image Keys or Snooping the Last XXX messages of the NewsGroup or other filters could change the actual starting message number and what files will be saved to disk.