KICKING the TIRES

by Frank Petrie, MaMUGs, Technology Specialist

I have been wrestling with various forms of Intuit's "software" for years now. Intuit always beats me. I just want to keep track of my bank accounts! That's all! My portfolio's online as is my credit card account. I've tried the competitor's offerings but they always have at least a dozen added features that I'll never use. So where does that leave me?

" Keeping tabs on your finances is a lot of work. Maybe you've tried using a paper check register, but it can't keep up. Maybe you've invested a lot of time and energy in Quicken, but you're tired of the clutter and advertisements. Why endure these medieval torture devices? Introducing CheckBook, the simple, powerful solution for managing your money."

Now we're getting somewhere.

The Good

Install. Launch. Get to work.

CheckBook features a wide range of convenient tools within a single window. CB supports multiple Accounts via its handy Accounts Drawer. You can even password-protect each Account if you wish. Filter and Search are always-on, as is Interactive Balance, a user-customizable field to keep an eye on any vital Account statistic, which is updated in realtime.

Three unique transaction types help keep your money in its place: Deposits, Debits and Transfers. You can access the three main work areas (Entry, Reconcile and Schedule) via tabs. You can print Account Entries or an Account Summary or use Text Export and put your data on a spreadsheet for further analysis. And within preferences, you can internationalized dates and currency.

I would like to request if the developer's could add credit card functions in , either incorporated in CheckBook or as a stand alone program. Then I would be totally set.

THE BAD

Nada.

THE UGLY

Nada.

The Close

I love software for the rest of us. WARNING: Cliche ahead – 'They get it!' CheckBook does exactly what I need – no more, no less. This cost less money and synapses than any accounting software that's out there.

Very simple, very straightforward. We need more apps like this.