

# The DVMUG BBS

## (Bulletin Board Service)

### What is it?

The BBS is, essentially, our “back fence”. Members can post questions, news, observations, and opinions (within reason) and answers to questions. A benefit of the BBS is a new and private email address: first\_last;@dvmug.org that you can use and share with correspondents. Additionally, there is a public forum separate from your private mailbox. The public forum is titled “DVMUG” and anything you post there will be shared with all BBS users in our club.

Another valuable resource is the Gateway that is connected to the former Boston Computer Society, now called Virtual Harbor. In the Gateway area, there are hosts of different areas covering a multitude of subjects. You will see these features as our demo unwinds.

### How do I get the necessary software to use the BBS?

You can choose to install it on your Mac or iOS device in whichever sequence you like.

### For the Mac:

(MacBook or iMac)

The software needed is called “**FirstClass**”. Visit our web page at “[dvmug.org](http://dvmug.org)”. Note the “**BBS**” in the page menu bar.

To install your new software, open your Downloads folder in macOS and drag it to your desktop and double-click the “**dmg**” icon.

Be sure you choose the proper server when you set up your software. The correct server is “**fc.dvmug.org**”.

The screenshot shows the DVMUG website's BBS page. At the top is the DVMUG logo (Diablo Valley Macintosh User Group) and a navigation menu with links for Home, Blog, Calendar, Events, BBS, Contact, and Join. A red arrow labeled '1' points to the 'BBS' link in the menu. Below the menu, the page title is 'DVMUG BBS'. A paragraph explains that the BBS runs on FirstClass software and recommends downloading a client. Under 'Software Downloads', there are two links: 'DVMUG BBS 16.210 (23 Mb)' and 'FirstClass Mobile for iPhone'. A red arrow labeled '2' points to the first link. A red arrow labeled '3' points to the second link, with the text 'Choose #3 for iOS devices' next to it. To the right, there is a 'Login via the Web' button and a small image of the DVMUG logo with a 'Uptime 99.55%' indicator. At the bottom, it says 'The server for the DVMUG BBS is: fc.dvmug.org' and 'Apple User Group'.

After installing the desktop software from the DVMUG website for the Mac, you can install it on your iPhone and iPad. For the iOS version, you will need to go to the App Store, **search for FirstClass**, and download “**FirstClass Mobile**”.

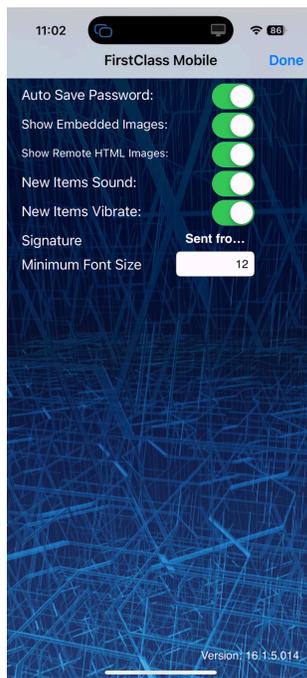


## FirstClass Mobile

Business

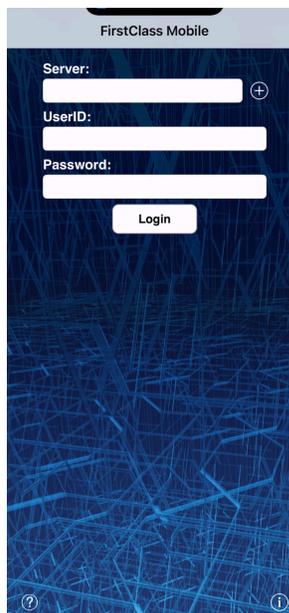
★★★★☆ 94

Once you install the software as directed, you will see a request to allow First Class to send notifications. Allow it. Next, you will see this page:



Click DONE in the upper left

Next,



Server: **fc.dvmug.org**  
Enter your first and last name (no initial). Choose a *simple* password You can remember and save it in a safe place.

Then, sign up as below:

A screenshot of a web browser window titled "FirstClass Login". The page features the OpenText and FirstClass logos at the top. Below the logos are two input fields: "User ID:" and "Password:". Underneath the password field, the text "Server: fc.dvmug.org" is displayed. To the right of the server information is a yellow "Login" button. In the bottom left corner, there is a small blue icon and the word "Advanced".

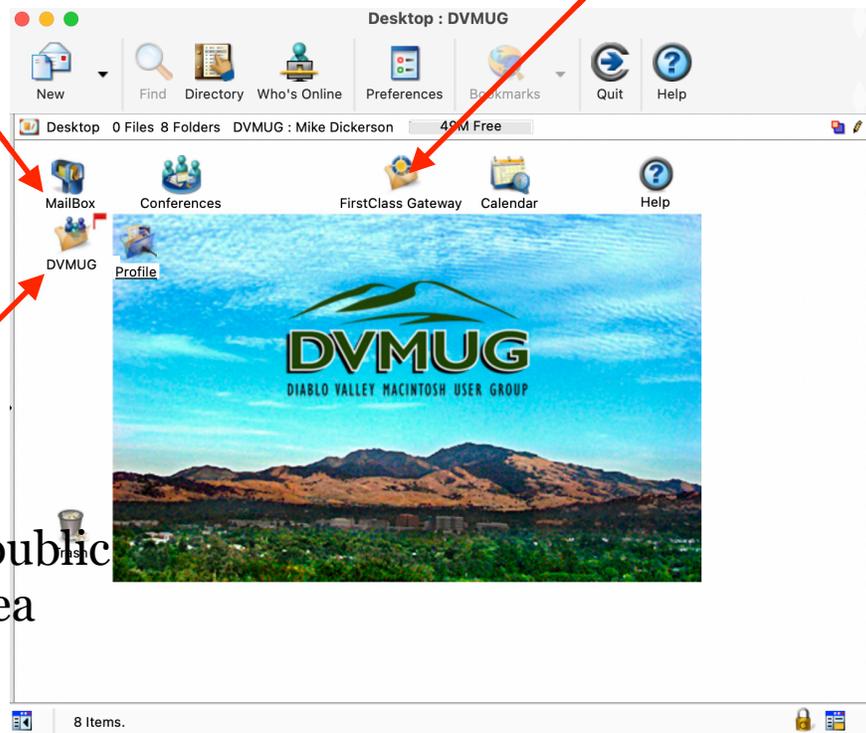
You will need to choose a user ID. It should be your name (skip the middle initial), and you should choose a password that you will **easily** remember. DVMUG administrators cannot see your password, so if you forget it, then your only recourse is to contact administrators and set up a new password. (We strongly recommend you use a password manager, and you can find several that are free as well as very reliable.)

# What you will see

This is your private mailbox

This is the way to the Gateway

This is the public DVMUG area

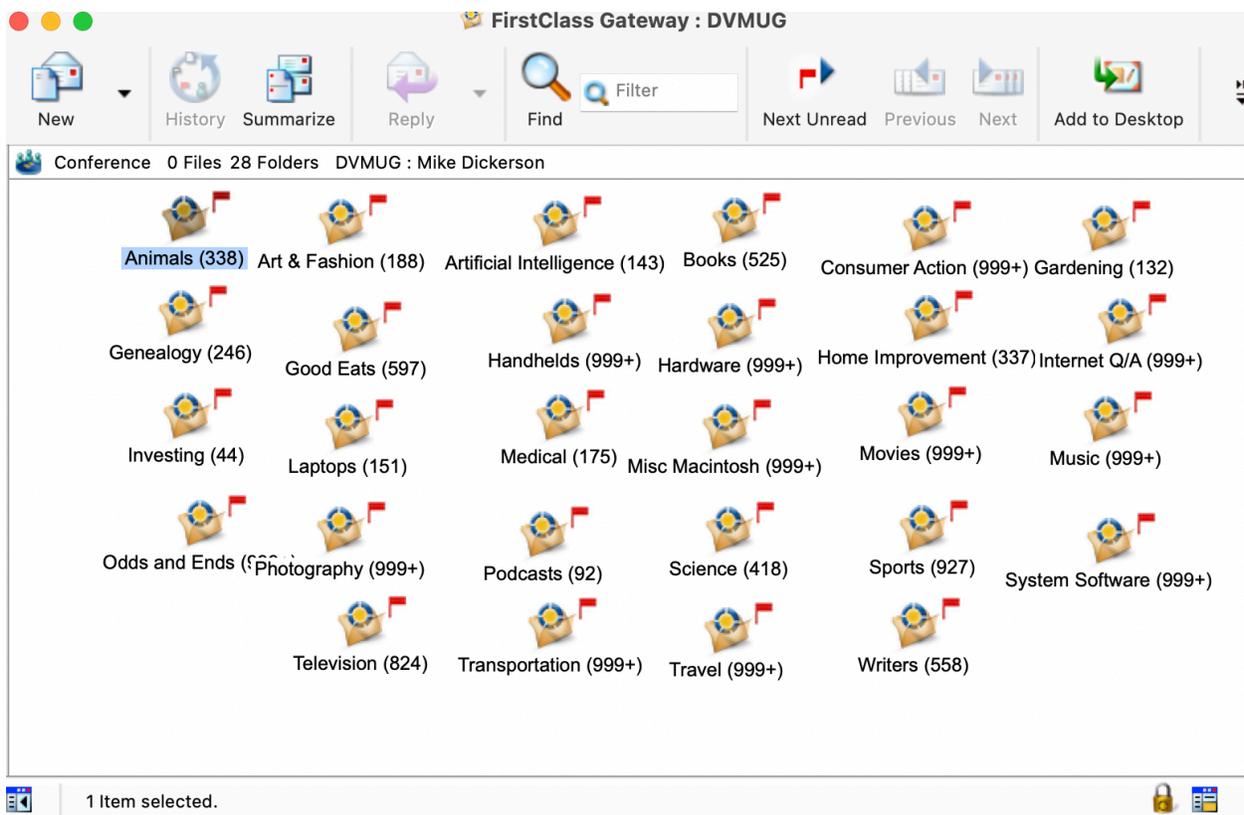


Private mailbox is where you can send and receive mail.

The DVMUG area is where you post public text such as questions or announcements. It is the major place you can get answers to your questions from other DVMUG members.

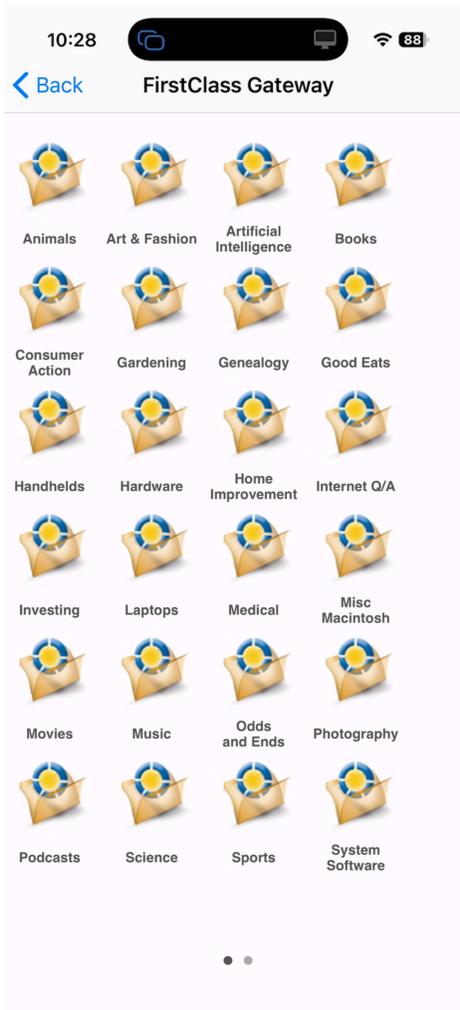
## The Gateway

The Gateway is operated by our sister group, Virtual Harbor. We have two-way access to all of the folders therein.



## The Gateway

## Here's the Gateway as it looks on the iPhone



### Gateway Pages 1 and 2

Notice all of the different folders. Each of them contains communications, questions, and information that is useful and interesting.

Red Flags—indicate that there are unread messages inside the folder. When you read a message, the red flag disappears. Browse the folders, and you will find the names are pretty self-explanatory.

It is not possible to log in from two devices at the same time.

A note of good manners....when you are done using the BBS, **always** log out as there are limited connections available.