BYTE BANDITS CLUB

MACHINE

MEMBER

TRS-80's

OF AMERICA

A meeting of the Byte Bandits was held on Aug 24 and it was voted to continue the meetings on a monthly basis.

The next meeting will be from Noon to 4:30PM on Sunday September 18, 1988 at the home of Mary Brown.

David Peter will be there to help with locating any items needed such as loaner documentation.

The Bulleting board was scheduled to be in service and any log-on questions will be answered.

Please bring your computer and any related items to this next workshop session so that the members may help with whatever problems you have, or so that you may demonstrate something new for interested members.

If someone would like to prepare newsworthy items for the monthly news letter, please speak up, and an editor is needed to format the next letter for October as I am on vacation at the time it needs to go out.

There is an insert in this months letter which is a reprint of the Tandy Club News, I hope you find it intersting and informative.

Henry reports that $90 was collected at the August meeting for use in defraying costs of the telephone and electricity for the bulletin board and to provide postage for the monthly mailings. If you have additional donations please see Henry Schulze at the meeting or obtain his address for mailing.

One of the members was having difficulty making a double sided system diskette for his Model 4D, so while preparing the diskette, I wrote down the steps required and they are given on the back page after the Tandy letter.

Happy Computing
Bernard Thompson
(408-867-7455)

Tandy User Group Newsletter

NEW COMPUTERS INTRODUCED

Although you might have seen something written up in the newspapers or weekly trade journals, you probably don't have much information yet about the products introduced on July 27 here in Fort Worth. Let's try to remedy that. Up front let me say that all of the new models share a really sharp new family look, and all are now equipped with a 101-key enhanced keyboard, key-for-key compatible with the IBM enhanced keyboard.

TANDY 1000 SL

Just above the 1000 HX (which continues in our line), and replacing the 1000 SX, is the new Tandy[R] 1000 SL computer. The SL uses the 8086 microprocessor, which makes it equivalent in speed to the IBM[R] PS/2 models 25 and 30. We've added the HX's power and run capability and more. The SL now has MS-DOS[R] version 3.3 and our DeskMate[R] interface in ROM. But that's not all. The ROM also contains an 80,000-word spelling checker for use with selected DeskMate-based programs.

The SL also has an EEPROM to store system configuration information, just like the HX did. Again, immediately upon power-up, the system goes into either the simple menu, or DeskMate... or the application of your choice. It's so fast that, if you want to see what happens when you turn the power on, you'll have to turn your monitor on first and let it heat up!

With DeskMate in ROM, an SL user will never have to deal with MS-DOS unless he or she wants to. Everything can be done from DeskMate... FORMAT, COPY, MAKEDIR, REMOVE DIR, CHANGE DIR... virtually everything. Even a few of the DOS utilities are in ROM, so you won't have to dig up a DOS disk when you want to FORMAT or COPY.

If you happen to like dealing with DOS, you can do it. If you want a later version of DOS, you can boot from a disk. But think how nice this will be for those family members who aren't as computer literate as you are!

The 1000 SL comes with 384K of RAM, expandable to 640K. The built-in disk is a 360K, 5.25-inch unit, with space to add one more 3.5 or 5.25-inch front accessible drive. Hard disk expansion is via an internal hard disk card. Also included are an RS-232 port, parallel printer port, joystick adapters, plus video support for Hercules[R] monochrome and CGA color with enhancements. GW-BASIC is included, too. There are five, 10-inch PC-compatible card slots, and provisions for an optional 8087 math co-processor.

Now... I've saved the best for last. The new Tandy 1000 SL computer is the first PC compatible to offer, as standard, high-fidelity voice and sound input and output! That's right... INPUT and output. You can record, digitally store on disk, edit and playback very high-quality voice and sound. And there's a demo program (under DeskMate, of course) to experiment with. We've included a microphone/line input jack, headphone jack, speaker, and volume control. You can record your own voice, cut and paste

sections of the recording, even reverse one or all. And, you can paste a recording on your DeskMate clipboard, and then place it on top of a second recording. Digital sampling rates are selectable at 5.5K, 11K, and 22K samples per second. Of course the quality is best at the highest rate, but the amount of recording time is more limited. Make no mistake... we're not talking about synthesized voice here -- we're talking about voice quality equivalent to hi-fi tape recording! Although you'll have a ball playing with this amazing new capability, the exciting prospect is the incredible new tool this gives to the creative software developers of the world. And yes, several are already at work on products which will take advantage of it. You really must see and hear this product to believe it! And to make it even more appealing, the suggested retail price of the SL is only $899.

TANDY 1000 TL

Of course we couldn't leave the 1000 TX out of the enhancement effort, and the result is a great new Tandy[R] 1000 TL computer. It uses a powerful 8 Mhz 80286 microprocessor to achieve speed six times that of the original XT, and about three times that of the 1000 SL. The TL is used in this 8-bit bus computer to achieve 80286 (AT-class) speed at a very affordable price of only $1,299.

The 1000 TL has also been given the ROM and EEPROM advantages and the sound capabilities described for the SL. The TL is supplied with 640K of RAM, and a single 3.5-inch 720K

disk drive. The 1000 TL has the same expansion and built-in features listed for the SL, except that the TL comes with a real-time clock and battery backup, and you can add one more 3.5-inch PLUS a 5.25-inch drive in front slots. The optional math coprocessor is an 80287.

TANDY 3000 NL

Replacing the Tandy[R] 3000 and 3000 HL computers is the new 3000 NL. This $1,699, 10 Mhz, 80286-based computer has been enhanced in several ways. It now has four front-accessible disk drive slots, two of which will accept 5.25-inch drives. The on-board controller supports two floppy drives. ST-506 or SCSI controllers may be added. The NL is supplied with a single 3.5-inch 1.44Mb drive.

Seven internal expansion slots are provided. Four are AT-compatible, and three are XT-compatible. There is also one additional high-performance memory expansion slot running at 10 Mhz for near zero-wait state performance.

Standard memory is 512Kb, expandable to 16Mb via the hi-speed memory slot and card slots. A bidirectional parallel port and RS-232 port are standard. A 10 Mhz 80287 coprocessor may be added.

The Tandy 3000 NL computer has a 16-bit data path. It is OS/2-ready, and makes an excellent network workstation.

TANDY 4000 LX

In addition to the 16Mhz 80386-based Tandy[R] 4000 computer (which continues in the line at $2,599), we introduced the new high-performance Tandy[R] 4000 LX computer. This new PC

uses a 20 Mhz 80386 and 32-bit data path to provide minicomputer performance, at a base price of only $3,999. The 4000 LX is MS[R] OS/2 ready, and it is an ideal platform for the SCO[R] XENIX[R] 386 multi-user operating system. It is supplied with 2Mb RAM, expandable to 16Mb.

Three front drive slots support either 3.5-inch or 5.25-inch devices. One 3.5-inch, 1.44Mb drive is standard. A fourth device may be mounted internally (on either the 4000 or 4000 LX.) 4000 LX internal expansion includes six AT and two XT slots, plus a 32-bit high-speed dedicated memory slot. Optional 80387 math coprocessor is optional. Bidirectional parallel and RS-232 ports are standard. (In case you're wondering why bidirectional parallel ports, it's so you can input parallel information from devices like page scanners.)

For comparison purposes, the Norton Computing Index benchmark speed (based on 1 for the IBM PC XT[TM]) for the 4000 is "17" and for the 4000 LX it's "22."

A very wide variety of options including CGA, EGA, and VGA adapters and monitors is listed in this year's catalog.

In keeping with our strategy of letting you configure the storage options you want (instead of the ones the hardware vendor wants to sell you), there are four floppy disk drive options, hard disk kits from 20 to 70 Mb, and SCSI hi-performance hard disks range from 40Mb to 344Mb, and a selection of controller types. There are disk and tape cartridge system options for backup and transportability of data between computers or locations.

PC-LINK

If you like the idea of on-line communications, you will love PC-Link[SM]! This new on-line service, co-developed by Tandy, is provided by Quantum Computer Services, Inc.

Of course there are many available types of information like stock quotes, encyclopedia, news, weather, movie reviews, sports, Easy SABRE for travel planning and bookings, and more which are included in the base charge for the standard service. Tandy computer users will be able to ask questions of our support folks, and get quick answers.

In addition, there's a ten cent per minute surcharge PC-Link Plus service which includes special event forums, conferences, electronic mail, on-line homework tutors, electronic shopping and more.

But that's where the similarity ends. PC-Link is like nothing you've ever seen. It uses the DeskMate interface. You move around inside the service through color pull-down menus (which change to suit the area you're in... all downloaded by the system), and even with your mouse!

PC-Link treats your computer like the intelligent workstation it is, not like a dumb terminal. When you ask for news headlines, there's a slight hesitation, and the first screen is displayed... complete. No character-by-character scrolling as with most on-line services.

Ask to read one of the stories, and the first page appears complete. Now, think about the services you've used. If, after reading page one, you decide you'd like to download the story, what do you do? You open a buffer, and

sk the on-line service to start over
t the beginning of that story,
ight? Not with PC-Link. While
ou were reading page one, the
emaining pages were downloaded
nto your computer's memory. All
ou have to do is tell your
omputer to save the file and give
t a filename. It's over in a couple
f seconds.

You can truly forget you're
connected to another computer.
The illusion is that everything is
happening between you and a
database on your own local disk.
And as you're telling me, the last
hing I want to do is forget I'm
connected to an on-line service
hat's costing me money, I'll give
ou the punch line. The cost of
PC-Link's basic service is a flat
$9.95 per month! That's right, for
en bucks per month, you can
spend as much time on-line as you
want, between the hours of 6 pm
and 6 am weekdays, plus holidays
and weekends! (Weekday service
during business hours is available
at commercial rates.)

DESKMATE

Yes, we've enhanced
DeskMate, our popular graphical
interface. Effective with this
version (3.0), there will be only
one version. It will sell for $99.95,
and the cover off of any previous
version's manual will get you a
$50 credit toward the purchase.

When DeskMate powers
up now, there is some empty space
on the desktop, and there's a box
called AUTOCONFIG. If you insert
a DeskMate application disk in
your drive and re-draw the screen,
AUTOCONFIG changes to a
desktop box for that disk
application. This function requires
a 55-byte file on the disk which
will be there on most
DeskMate-based applications, or
you can add it yourself.

TEXT now includes a spell
checker, mailmerge capability for
form letters, and more.

MUSIC and SOUND
programs especially for (and
bundled with) the Tandy 1000 TL
and SL computers take advantage
of their new Digital to Analog
Converters and sound capabilities.
MUSIC even prints sheet music on
your printer.

ADDRESS is a new and
simple but powerful address card
file system which allows one data
base to be subdivided into discrete
mailing lists such as business
contacts, fishing buddies, PTA, etc.
One entry can be a member of one
or several lists. Believe me, it is
such an elegantly simple idea,
you'll wonder why you didn't think
of it!

CALENDAR is an
appointment calendar which now
allows for Annual Occasions like
birthdays and anniversaries. It
also accepts Reminder entries,
which appear every day until you
remove them your own personal
TO-DO list! And to make it easier,
you can specify a desktop box
called TO-DO, which lists the
current day's events as well as
reminders. As your day
progresses, events whose time has
past disappear from TO-DO when
the screen is updated.

DeskMate Workgroup
Companion is an add-on package
which provides network support
and the shared functions of the
previous Professional DeskMate
package.

SCHOOLMATE

Another outstanding new
package which uses the DeskMate
interface is SchoolMate. It is a
classroom networking system
based on DeskMate, MS-DOS, and

TandyLink™ network or
industry-standard 3Com[R] network.
It is a highly-integrated,
easy-to-use collection of
applications to help students,
teachers and administrators.
Applications include Roster, Grade
Book, Lesson Scheduler, and Exam
Maker. If you're an educator, you
really must see it!

1989 CATALOGS

Our new catalogs are hot
off the presses. The 1989 Tandy
Computer Catalog is 52 pages of
hardware, software, printers,
peripherals, supplies and
accessories, many of them new for
1989. Remember when a
1200-baud modem would set you
back $400 or better? Well there's
an internal model for under $100,
and an external for $129.95. For
the music lovers, there's a MIDI
interface board available on
special order. Alternative input
devices include scanning devices, a
bar code reader, light pens, voice
mail and FAX boards, drawing
tablets and mice... or is it mouses?

A 32-page 1989 Radio
Shack Educational Products Guide
features SchoolMate, learning
systems from ESC, Control Data,
and Wasatch, along with page
after page of educational software.

And there's a new twist on
an old favorite the Express
Order[SM] Software Buyer's Guide.
"Express Order" is no longer a
service. It is a division of Tandy
Corporation. This guide lists over
850 programs from leading
software publishers, many of
which are priced 10, 20, 30% or
even more below the
manufacturer's suggested retail
price!

The guide lists quite a few
programs designed to run under
Tandy's DeskMate interface, and
each is tagged with the new

DeskMate logo.

As always, you can order directly from any Radio Shack[R] outlet for fast delivery. But now those who prefer can order direct by calling a toll-free 800-number. Orders are accepted on most popular credit cards, and your selection is shipped direct, freight prepaid.

Of course the Radio Shack consumer catalog is available, too. As always, it's an enticing wish book for an electronics junkie like me. Take, for example, the new TANDYFAX™ 1000 which my department has been using for a couple of months now or our cellular phones that have now been upgraded to the new 832-channel capability.

There's a new Flux-Gate hi-accuracy automotive compass for your car, which obsoletes ordinary compasses, compensates for stray magnetic fields, and has a full-color illuminated graphic display of direction. There's a new FM Walkie-Talkie (49 Mhz) in which your voice is picked up and transmitted not by a microphone, but through the earpiece! Ideal for noisy environments and it works!

There are new scanners, radios, and phones. There's even a 2-line cordless telephone.

If you saw our 8-in-one Universal Remote Control last year, but didn't have 8 remote controlled devices, you'll love the new and very compact 4-in-one version, at half the price.

One of my favorites is a new Appointment Directory Calculator with 32Kb of memory. It stores phone numbers and addresses, appointments, memos,

and there's even a secret area reachable only through your designated password. A nice LCD display and QWERTY (typewriter layout) keyboard make it a pleasure to use.

I'm over my limit, so will stop here this month. Check with your nearest store for your copies of these new catalogs. They should arrive about the time you read this. If you're like me, they'll keep you busy, until next month...

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING DOUBLE SIDED SYSTEMS
DISKETTS FOR LS-DOS 6.3 etc.

Because you want the SYSTEM files centrally located about
the directory, some special steps are needed.

FIRST: Format a disk for double sided with revised name
         in drive 1.

SECOND: Enter the command exactly as shown to reserve
         the required space early in the disk.
         MEMORY (A="A",B=17)   and press ENTER.

THIRD: Perform the following Backup commands exactly
         as shown to put the system and invisible files
         on the double sided disk which you just
         had formatted.
         BACKUP /SYS:0 :1 (S)   and press ENTER
         BACKUP -/SYS:0 :1 (I)   and press ENTER

Take the created disk from drive 1 and place it in the booting
drive 0, and press the reset button. The double sided disk
be booted and ready to use. Make a backup of this using
the patched DISKCOPY program (or it may not work) and keep
one in a safe place with your original single sided system.

Patch for DISKCOPY is for Relative Sector 04 Byte 83
     from: CA7F2ACD532BC20C26
     to: 2816FDCB03A6CD532B
NOTE: This patch was incorporated by 1-JUL-87 dated version.

Using the command FREE :0 you will see that the disk is full
from cylinder 17 thru 36 except for the initial boot area.

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