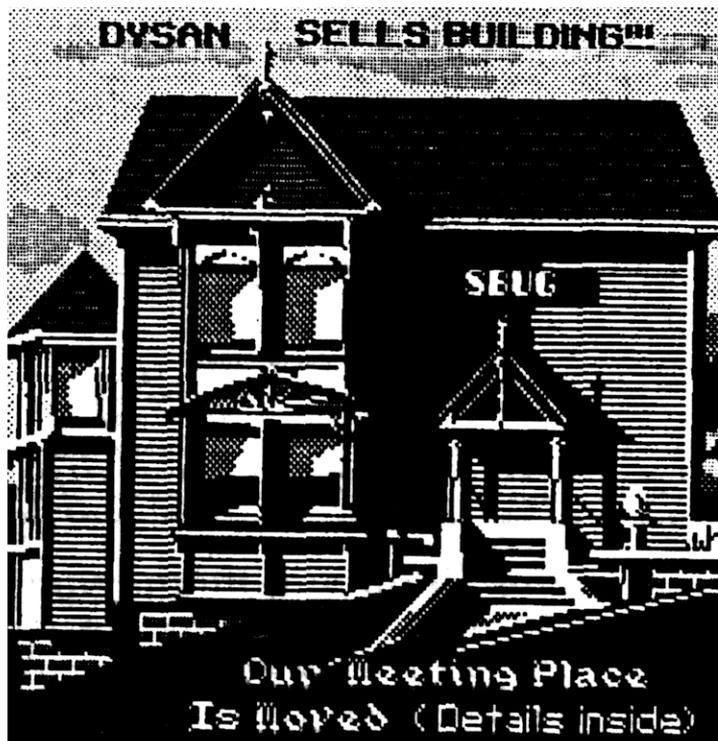




DYNAMIC MEMORIES

* Tandy Corp / Radio Shack Inc.

APRIL, 1985



SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

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The next SBUG meeting will be held the 3rd Tuesday of APRIL ONLY in the Grace United Methodist church at 19848 Prospect in Saratoga. See page 3 for more details. Time: 7:15-9:30 PM.

April 16, May 21, June 17

SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR APRIL MEETING

DAS DOS WARS Symposium featuring a brilliant panel of experts.

LOOKIOJOIREGARDEZ!:: SIG MEETINGS are on hold until meeting arrangements can be confirmed.

MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member of SBUG and start receiving our newsletter "DYNAMIC MEMORIES", then send \$18 (check or moneyorder) to the following address:

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca.94088

or come to one of our meetings. If you also wish to communicate with our bulletin board system (SBUG-80) then include an additional \$25 (a one time fee) for an account on the system. You must be a member of SBUG to have an account on the system. Please include your address and phone number.

!!

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APRIL, 1985

YOUR STEERING COMMITTEE

MEMBER	SBUG-80 USERNAME	PHONE

Discussion Leader:		
Wright Huntley	(HUNTLEY)	(408) 248-5905
Treasurer		
Don Rhodes	(DON)	(408) 996-1008
Secretary		
Eric Brewer	(BREWER)	(408) 252-9332
Newaletter Editor		
Joel Lee	(EDITOR)	(408) 926-3999
Librarians:		
(disc) Bernie Thompson	(BERNIE)	(408) 867-7455
(tape) Gary Dixon	(GDIXON)	(408) 262-6937
(docu) Pete Fratus	(FRATUS)	(408) 258-8389
SBUG-80 Sysop:		
Robert Byrd	(SYSOP)	(408) 945-9990

OTHER KEY INDIVIDUALS

Cover Artist:
 Wright Huntley (Hooray)

Host Computer:
 SBUG-80 (EVERYONE) (408) 946-2286

If the need arises, feel free to give any one of a call.

THE EDITOR'S BITES & BYTES

So a message came from on high, let there be sweetness, contentment, and mellow light. Then the streams bubbled and chuckled over the speckled rocks, the beehives were full of honey, flowers bloomed the year around, and the fruit trees hung heavy with ripened fruit.

The Model 4 has carved a solid niche for itself, a fact not to be denied even by the ineffable scion of the Dvorak line, writing in INFOWORLD. There are fine programs for the "4". I will state flatly that there is no better word processor than ALLWRITE. VISICALC for the "4" is excellent; it was kind of a klutz for the III. AIDS+, written in machine language for the III cannot be beaten at an \$80 price.

When you buy a MSDOS machine you get some things you don't get with the "4". Amongst them is the privilege of paying 5 to 8 times as much for the software.

I checked out prices on the APPLE IIE. If you buy an APPLE IIE, with 128K, 80 column display, CPM board and two drives, you are close to the \$2000 mark. You can get the Model 4 with all that for \$1050, mail order. You can run over 2000 programs on your APPLE. It will take you a while, but you can run 2000 programs.

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NEW MEETING PLACE FOR SBUG

Pay attention, now, or you'll find yourself all alone in the Dysan auditorium. The next meeting will be held ****ONE MEETING AND ONE ONLY**** in Grace United Methodist Church which is at 19848 Prospect Road in Saratoga. It is between Blaney and Miller. This is through the good offices of Bernie Thompson, who is quite obviously nearer to God than are most of us.

It appears that the permanent meeting place will be the Santa Clara Library, starting in May. Less holy, but more literary.

CUPERTINO

SUBMISSIONS TO DYNAMIC MEMORIES

Submissions must be in by the Monday following the general meeting. For those who have something to say but are not accustomed to swelling soliloquies or polished periods, just turn your stuff in, and let me worry about the gem cutting. You may be a 20 carat diamond needing only a little buffing to reveal your true value to the world.

DOS DAS WARS

(Note: This title is copy righted, patented, and otherwise protected by Ian Webb, and may not be used in any magazine, newspaper, cassette tape, motion picture or conversation, without express, written permission of the Ian Webb Corporation.

A panel of our most revered pundits will take up the subject of DOS'es at the April meeting. This will be a whizzer, so don't miss it. Do you (love/hate) CP/M, TRSDOS 1.3, MSDOS, NEWDOS, LDOS, (or other). Be at the meeting to learn, to criticize, to wonder at the expertise of the grand masters.

The May meeting will take up utilities. More on that later.

A POSSIBLE BUG IN MODEL 4 BASIC or CURSE THAT CURSOR

by CASEY PARKER

Run this program:

```
Ready
list
1 CLEAR 1000
100 FL=25
110 PRINT "123456789012345678901234567890";
120 PRINT STRING$(FL,CHR$(136));STRING$(FL,CHR$(24));
130 PRINT CHR$(14);:PRINT CHR$(15);:GOTO 130
Ready
run
```

```
123456789012345678901234567890.....
Break in 130
Ready
```



CURSOR

The cursor flashes at the starting position of the entry line as it should. Now extend the string in quotes by one character and rerun the program, as below. The cursor now flashes at the end of the string instead of at the beginning as it should. I ran across this bug while trying to convert Business Mailing List to Model 4 Basic. It appears that if the number of characters in the line, including backspace characters (CHR\$(24)) exceeds 80, the backspace starts from the right margin instead of the last print position (per) as it should. This bug does not occur in Model III (LBASIC), as you can carry the dashed line to column 64 if desired. I solved this by programming around it, i.e., I shortened the quoted string enough to get the cursor back at the start. Note that you can't use the full 80 columns though, you will have to leave as many blanks to the right as the length of the backspace string.

NOTICE!!!

```
Ready
list
1 CLEAR 1000 100 FL-25
110 PRINT "1234567890123456789012345678901";
120 PRINT "STRING$(FL,CHR$(136));STRING$(FL,CHR$(24));";
130 PRINT CHR$(14);PRINT CHR$(15);GOTO 130
Ready
run
1234567890123456789012345678901.....
Break in 130
Ready
```

CURSOR!?

USING SCRIPSIT TO CONVERT BASIC TO MODEL 4 MODE by CASEY PARKER

EDITOR'S note: The following is analogous to starting a fire by rubbing two sticks together. In this case matches (Conv3to4 and other similar programs) will cost you from \$50 to \$130. If you can't afford the matches here is your salvation from the night's biting cold.)

Global replace and the repeat command makes an easy job of inserting blanks around keywords. Save your Model 3 BASIC program in ASCII with ...A trailer. Load this into Scripsit, set W=132 to avoid unwanted C/R within a line. (I didn't have any lines longer than 132, but lines up to 250 are possible) during Save. **Caution**--GOTO, GOSUB, and DEFINT are not split. Also, do not attempt automatic spacing on OR since it is part of FOR and RESTORE--use Find command to find OR and manually insert blanks as required. I find that it is safer to put blanks before and after each key word at the expense of slightly longer programs. A typical sequence is @ and R to repeat, RETURN to indicate maximum

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count (255), then BREAK for command line, and "R)FOR)\$FOR\$)" (quotes not entered). Note the terminating right arrow to show that you have a trailing blank (\$ indicates blank). When you are all done be sure to SAVE in ASCII by command "S,A,filename/SCR:drive" model 4 tokens are different. Common keywords--CLEAR,DEFINT,DIM,ON ERROR,CLS,DATA,END,CHR\$,FIELD,ELSE,FOR,NEXT,GET,PUT,LSET,RSET,IF,LIST,LLIST,LPRINT,PRINT,OR,PEEK,POKE,REM,RESTORE,TO,THEN,USING,READ. For more information see pages A-75 TO A-79 in Model 4/4P Disk System Owner's Manual (I have 6.1 version). Now RUN the program under Model 4 BASIC (OOPS, I forgot you poor unwashed non-LDOS users may have to CONV first) to find other corrections. (I ran into problems with poor display where PRINT@ was used.) Maybe it would be easier to buy CONV3TO4-- if there's \$50.00 available!!!

OPERATING THE LAREDO HARD DISK IN THE MODEL 4 MODE The Flakey Drive Caper by CASEY PARKER

Below is the final appearance of the drive in high memory. This took a lot of work!

EDITOR'S note: As this is copyrighted, I have printed only the first row. Those interested may contact Casey for specifics.

FE50 26 46 45 35 18 09 CF FF 06 4C 53 49 48 44 78 &FE55...LSIHDx

As I explained at the last meeting, the only way the hard disk would work would be to pre-boot with LDOS 5.1.4, the re-boot with TRSDOS 6.2 (power still on) which had been properly sysgenned. What most Hackers know, and what I had forgotten, was that memory is not erased when you re-boot. What was going on was that the driver was making two low-RAM calls, and luckily they were left in memory, and not overwritten by 6.2.

The two calls in question were multiply and divide. After reviewing other options such as @SVC and re-assembling, I simply moved these two short routines to high memory at the end of the driver.

Procedure: 1-Protect memory under LDOS at FF00; 2-Enter DEBUG and move the two routines from low memory (multiply at X'4B6B' and divide at X'4B7A') to FF00 and FF00 respectively; 3-Load driver by the usual JCL; 4-DUMP this as a CIM memory image file; 5-Turn off power and re-boot under 6.2; 6-LOAD the image file and protect memory at FE55--note that the 6.2 puts a header on; 7-Modify the DCT down at 0400 and SYSGEN this configuration. Voila! It re-boots from power off every time and hard disk is there using DEVICE command. OOPS!! I forgot one very important step. >>>2A- Modify the two call addresses underlined on line FF90 above to call the new locations--note they are in the format LSB, MSB.

A POSITIVE VIEW of 80MICRO by Pete Fratus

Even as we see many computer magazines folding, there is still a positive force in the TRS-80 world. 80MICRO. What 80MICRO represents is the last of the early pioneers of the system specific magazine arena. It represents a still substantial market place for products we want to hear about.

But first few words about us.

The TRS-80 user is not like other computer users. For us, owning a TRS-80 demonstrates our appreciation of a fine hardware product and user-oriented operating systems. We have given careful thought to being outside the main stream of the computer market -- we know the real money in software development is not with the TRS-80. We have committed ourselves to a limited source of software -- Radio Shack stores and mail order.

It's easy to present rumors that depict a failing market and magazine. The size of 80MICRO has gone from a fat 466 pages to a mere 128. The list of advertisers has dropped from a high of 500 to the 110 today. Other TRS-80 magazines are gone; it's just a matter of time before 80MICRO goes, too. Everyone is following IBM; who needs, or wants, 80MICRO anymore. TRSDOS is a dead operating system, 8-bit machines are dinosaurs, nobody is writing any new TRS-80 software, it's been over a year since the Model 4 was introduced and the number of packages is still far behind those for Commodore, Apple, or Atari. It's easy to present the bad side. The hard part is recognizing what is right and what is wrong.

One nice thing about our TRS-80 world is that it has cleansed itself! Gone are the multitudes of trashy, get-rich-quick software that turned out to be a waste of time and money. Gone are the four pound magazines filled with page after page of junk ads and junk articles. Where did all that stuff go? Most of it died. We became too sophisticated for it. Some of it went to other magazines. Part went to Co-Co and Rainbow. But most of it died!

Let's look at some of the facts. In early 1983, 80MICRO was averaging over 400 pages each month. Of the 45 articles and departments usually present, about one fourth were Color Computer or II/16 oriented. Ads for games, CoCo, and II/16 far outnumbered those for the Model I or III. It seems that almost half the magazine was not for us. Half of the magazine is about 200 pages. Today's 80MICRO contains no articles and almost no ads for the CoCo. Even the C-notes section for the Model 100 has been dropped. 80MICRO is not vanishing. It's just streamlining and stabilizing.

We all know other magazines have failed. Computer User, 80 U.S., and the LSI Journal all failed. But, how much room is there in a market the size of the one for the TRS-80? Conversely, do we expect all computers to vanish just because Osborne and the PCJR did? Of course not.

On another point, is everyone really following IBM? No, IBM is following everyone else. We rarely see innovation and pioneering from IBM. What we see is marketing! MS-DOS is not an IBM invention. It came from Microsoft -- as a replacement for IBM's worthless PC-DOS. IBM did not invent the personal computer, it merely cashed in on the market with its corporate strength. Is Tandy joining the IBM world if they sell PC-clones? No, they are cashing in on the market. Has Tandy left us out in the rain? If that were true, why is the Model 4 selling at the same rate as the Model 1000?

It's probably time for 8-bit computers to begin to fade away. But, if sales of 8-bit computers stopped today, the TRS-80 would not suddenly stop working and gather dust. The Model 4 has years of useful life. What about software? There is plenty of new software. Try keeping up with all the names of the new

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Model 4 software packages; it's not an easy task. And what makes an operating system dead? It's dead when no one uses it anymore. Logical Systems is still going strong. LDOS 5.1.4 was just completed in August. There is even talk that there will be a 16-bit version of LDOS. Even 80MICRO wants to know if there is interest in MS-DOS by its readers so it can provide material to us.

That is enough of the comparisons. Look at the current state of 80MICRO:

80micro has a monopoly on world-wide TRS-80 advertising.

80micro circulation is up in the last year.

80micro has stabilized around 112 to 144 pages.

80micro is the first system specific magazine and is still around.

80micro caters to users of TRS-80 Models I, III, 4, 1000, 1200, and 2000.

80micro is in the better financial shape than it was a year ago.

80micro has a larger percentage of Model 4 readers than Model III readers.

In view of all this, 80micro can still get better and we can all help. The editorial staff wants to hear from readers. Tell them what you like and don't like. Tell them what you want. Fill out the reader response cards. (Advertising rates are determined by circulation and response.) Reader response cards are sources of information for the editors. The current response card has a question about interest in MS-DOS.

I have been told that I am a fool for believing in 80MICRO and the TRS-80. I guess that makes us all fools, doesn't it? Well, this is one smart fool who is glad he bought a real computer... and is staying with it.

UNSORTED RAMBLINGS

by Editor

The news of the demise of the PC Junior will of course provoke a myriad of reactions amongst those interested in computers.

Certain juvenile minds (mine included) will feel an irresistible urge to stick their tongues out and make a derisive face at the stern-visaged blue giant. Some of the fawning sycophants who purchase IBM because IBM is huge, all wise, all enveloping, and above all because IBM is IBM, may do a little more thinking and a little less fawning. It will no longer be lese majesty to suggest to them that the Model 4 is flat out a better machine than the PC Junior. (What's Charlie Chaplin going to do now?)

Judging from the past, IBM will support the P.C. Junior for a decent period of time. That inspires me to rate the major computer makers as to their records as regards user support.

Commodore has a poor record. They have always looked at the immediate bottom line, without thinking about the possible effect of user loyalty versus disenchantment with a company that shows no loyalty to them.

IBM has a mixed record. In the personal computer field they have made no effort to compatibilize their machines from one upgrade to another. Worse, they seem to ignore any user input or criticism. Do you criticize God?

On the other hand they supplied free keyboards for the Junior. No other computer company has ever made such a giant gesture. No other computer company has ever made such a giant gaffe.

Apple. Simply terrible. They have not attempted to maintain compatibility from machine to machine. Their treatment of the buyers of the 128K MacIntosh has no parallel in its disregard for computer users. The MacIntosh doesn't run well with 128K. If you bought the 128K version, it costs more to upgrade than it would have to wait for the complete 512K version. If Apple users are still loyal after that one, they must be certified masochists. They aren't using the MacIntosh, they're smoking it.

Hewlett Packard always enjoyed a tremendous reputation for responsibility to its users as a producer of scientific and engineering machines. Now that it has gone into the business world, there have been no reports that they have changed the policy.

Tandy. Tandy made a very considerable effort to maintain an acceptable compatibility from the I to the III to the 4. Aside from the fact that Tandy has always built good, reliable machines, that probably explains the user loyalty, almost a mystique, so prevalent with Radio Shack computer users.

It is to the point to ask why, if Tandy was producing better machines and behaving in a more responsible manner, did they lose out in sales to Apple?

Greed is the largest part of the answer. Producers of Tandy software were jostled and discouraged. Producers of Tandy hardware peripherals were given an icy shoulder. If Tandy had known any Lebanese skilled in the matter, they probably would have sent car bombs to what they considered their competitors. Apple encouraged the same type of people, (open architecture), and that is the reason why they have left Tandy way, but way behind.

Now we see IBM going down the same trail. They began in micros with an open policy. Every sign indicates that now they want to grab it all. They were successful at this in mainframes. They cannot do it in micros. If the bright innovative people cannot do it on an IBM, they will do it somewhere else, and IBM will be the loser. As Tandy was, Apple too, has veered. They have not begun to produce their own software, but they have become more exclusive, they have forgotten their beginnings. If you work out of a garage, you are not Apple's kind of people. Tandy also has veered, but in the other direction, and is somewhat more receptive to outside purveyors. Nevertheless, like a decent, middleclass girl while she may have lost her virginity, she has no intention of becoming promiscuous.

It appears that your editor is not alone in his opinions. ***Pause** (That may be either a software or a hardware pause.) Please contemplate the following. It is from INFO WORLD, March 25, and is entitled "The Fallacy of Cheerleading", by Joseph Bourque.

"Worse yet, user groups dominated by cheerleaders never seriously discuss developments in the field of microcomputers except to the extent that their own 'side' seems to have put one over on the competition. Users in such environments sometimes convince themselves that they are satisfied with inadequate software

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rather than concede that the other team has produced a package that does the same job better.

"The business of product-oriented magazines and user groups should be to provide information that will help us use more effectively the computer we have bought. Cheerleading is a waste of time and undermines the faith we would like to have in ourselves and in those whose judgments we'd like to trust."

MAIL

<Message from SYSOP at SBUG-80 03/13/85 12:06:45>

RE: Bad disk crash...

Read command :

Sorry Gang,

We lost our mail disk...I tried to recover the mail, but the disk is unrecoverable. If you had placed an important ad or message, please resend the message. I will replace the mail disk more frequent to prevent this from happening in the future.

Rob...

Read command :

<Message from GMCKEE at SBUG-80 03/13/85 13:12:53>

RE: SYSOP/CRASH/1200

Read command :

BOB< WE KNOW YOU'RE TRYING, but crash the mail disk? my, my, what one has to go thru to get 1200 baud up and running!!!

I do have an mx-80 i'de kinda like to sell so I cd get an fx-100. someone need one for some reasonable amount of cash??? how about a model iii or even a model i? or a modem, or a doubler or an rs232 for either one? or a 128k button, or a 64k or 48k for that matter??? also looking to share cost of ham radio program said to copy, print, or send code radio code that is, from 2 to 256 words per minute! call (or better yet) leave message for gmckee if you're interested in any of these items.

Read command :

<Message from MAC at SBUG-80 03/13/85 17:28:04>

RE: BROKEN MODEL I

Read command :

MY RS232 BOARD IS NOT WORKING.

CAN ANYONE HELP TO FIX IT?

PLEASE GIVE ME A CAL.

NICAHHAEL 415-964-9181, OR CALL COLLE CT.

AGAIN HELPIII!

THANKS MAC

Read command :

<Message from MAC at SBUG-80 03/13/85 17:41:31>

RE: SORRY

Read command :

Sorry, I'm using a Nec PC-8201A to write this message and the one before. Please forgive the mistakes.

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Again if anyone can help fix my Model I

Please call me

415-9181xxxxxxx 415-964-9181. MAC

pP.S. SORRY AND HELP!!!!

Read command :

<Message from IANWEBB at SBUG-80 03/16/85 10:45:06>

RE: One rumor - One fact

Read command :

The fact first:

DON'T connect a Tandy 1000 to a Microline 92 printer without first checking with RS Computer center. Some T-1000 machines will have their main board damaged due to the presence of voltage on a line from the printer. Must have a Tandy mod to fix this.

Rumor:

A non-Tandy oriented magazine says that Tandy is about to come out with an "Adam like" system complete with printer for about \$800.

They were speculating whether or not it would be 8088 based or if it might be another Z-80 machine.

Read command :

<Message from DAKOTA at SBUG-80 03/17/85 23:12:15>

RE: PHONE MODEN

Read command :

HI EVERYBODY!

I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT SENDING FOR A PHONE MODEN ADDON CALLED "BLACKJACK".

IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS -- IT WORKS ON THE HAND RECIEVER OF HOTEL PHONES WHERE YOU CANNOT PLUG INTO THE WALL OR THE BACK OF THE PHONE ITSELF.

THERE IS A PICTURE OF IT ON PAGE 52 IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF "PORTABLE 100" MAGAZINE. HAS ANYBODY USED IT IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR REGULAR MODEN--AND DOES IT WORK WELL FOR THAT TYPE OF SITUATION???

I DO A LOT OF TRAVELING AT TIMES AND SOMETIMES I NEED TO HAVE A PHONE LINE ACCESABLE.

IT SEEMS VERY REASONABLE PRICE FOR WHAT IT IS SUPPOSED TO DO.

COMMENTS PLEASE!

DAKOTA

Read command :

<Message from KURT at SBUG-80 03/19/85 18:21:14>

RE: FOR SALE

Read command :

I HAVE AN RCA MOD. #001 COLOR CAMERA FOR SALE OR TRADE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CALL CURT SCHILD AT 408-448-0448 PRICE ASKING \$300.00 OR TRADE FOR A 1200 BAUD MODEN OR MAKE AN OFFER.... THIS CAMERA IS MANUAL OPERATION IE...NOT AUTO FOCUS OR F STOP...BUT IT DOES HAVE TH AC SUPPLY FOR VCR'S THAT DON'T SUPPLY POWER. IT HAS BEEN USED VERY LITTLE, AND WOULD APPRECIATE A GOOD HOME...TECH. MANUAL IS INCLUDED.

KURT

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Read command :
<Message from DON at SBUG-80 03/20/85 12:32:23>
RE: Meeting Place Change

Read command :
***** NOTICE *****

* DYSAN AUDITORIUM *
* is no longer ... *
* available !! *
* *
* New meeting Place *
* for April to be *
* Announced next week *
* or so... *
* *
* *****

Read command :
<Message from DAKOTA at SBUG-80 03/20/85 19:12:17>
RE: MODEM II

Read command :
THE MODEM II THAT WAS FOR SALE FOR \$175.00
HAS NOW BEEN SOLD!

ATTENTION:
IF ANYBODY IS IN THE MARKET FOR A SET OF
TRAILER AXLES I HAVE A SET FOR SALE.
1 AXLE IS EQUIPED WITH BRAKES.
1 AXLE IS NOT EQUIPED WITH BRAKES.
I WOULD LIKE TO JUST FIND A HOME FOR THEM.
I WILL LET THEM GO FOR \$75.00 FOR THE PAIR.
ANYBODY INTERESTED LEAVE A MESSAGE HERE FOR
"DAKOTA"

C U
DAKOTA

Read command :
<Message from EDITOR at SBUG-80 03/22/85 01:31:14>
RE: IBM & OTHER SMALL THINGS.

Read command :
The PC Junior has been discontinued. Only a company the
size of IBM could make a mistake like that: pretend
that the egg on its face is a reflection of the gold
epaulettes on its shoulders. Apropos, there is a two
part article currently running in "Connecticut Computer
User" alleging that there is no such thing as a home
computer. If you think about it, they're right. No one
this side of Rockefeller needs a computer to balance his
checkbook, no one this side of Julia Child needs a com-
puter to keep track of recipes, no one making under
\$50,000 really needs a computer just to keep track of
taxes. So what do you need a home computer for?

Read command :
<Message from KURT at SBUG-80 03/23/85 15:18:22>
RE: FOR SALE ABOVE

Read command :
C O R R E C T I O NTHE COLOR TV CAMERA LISTED

APRIL, 1985

ABOVE IS AN RCA MODEL #002..IT HAS THE VIDEO VIEWFINDER
THAT HAS PLAYBACK CAPACITY.... SORRY ABOUT THE MIS-
LABELING "KURT" CURT SCHILD

Read command :

< Message from DON at SBUG-80 03/23/85 20:34:30

RE: New Meeting Place

Read command :

- * * *
- * New SBUG meeting place! *
- * April: Grace Methodist *
- * Church - Cupert. *
- * May : Cupertino Library *
- * June : Cupertino Library *
- * Details will be in March *
- * Newsletter.... *
- * * *

Read command :

< Message from DAKOTA at SBUG-80 03/24/85 08:29:51

RE: "DON"

Read command :

DON!

DID YOU READ THE MESSAGE SENT TO YOU?

COURIOUS?

DAKOTA

Read command :

< Message from MANGR at SBUG-80 03/24/85 09:34:16

RE: LOAD80 MAILLIST

Read command :

I HAVE TRIED TO TRANSFER THE MAIL LIST
PROGRAM FROM THE FEBRUARY LOAD80, NO
SUCCESS YET. ALSO I WAS ABLE TO TRANSFER
ALL THE NECESSARY FILES EXCEPT FOR ONE -
BACKUP/CMD, I DO NOT HAVE THE CORRECT
PASSWORD (THOUGHT IS WAS LSIDOS, BUT NO GO).
ANY POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS ----- HA.

.....MANGR (Jim)

.....(408) 246-5286 (Eve)

Read command :

< Message from MANGR at SBUG-80 03/24/85 09:39:21

RE: LAST MESSAGE

Read command :

I FAILED TO SAY I AM TRYING TO
CONVERT THE 1.3 TO TRSDOS 6.X
AS EXPLAINED IN THE ARTICLE.
HAS ANYONE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING
THAT MAIL LIST TO WORK?

.....THANKS, MANGR (JIM)

.....(408)246-5286

Read command :

< Message from BICH at SBUG-80 03/24/85 18:09:09

RE: Job hunter needs a Daisy Wheel printer for Mod. I

Read command :

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Hi generous souls, I am a graduating college student (May 85) from San Jose State University, Majoring in Electrical Engineering. I plan to take my vacation break (April 1-7) to send out my resume to prospective employers. Owing a Mod. I, I realize that a daisy wheel printer can unload a great deal of burden in typing up cover letters which are very similar in content. However, my abject poverty of a student can't justify the buying of a daisy wheel printer. So I appeal to all generous souls, owners of daisy wheel printers, to loan to me a daisy wheel printer workable on my Mod. I for A WEEK, April 1-7. I will take full responsibility and guarantee a good care of it. You can drop a message at 255-4504 after 6:00 pm (I am not at home till 10 pm.) Any information on Electrical Engineering job opportunity (i.e. any job opening you know of) will be greatly appreciated. GOD bless you all and your good deeds will open to you a path to heaven where computers are plentiful and FREE!!
Bye, Bich Tran (408) 255-4504

SOME NOTES ABOUT YOUR NEWSLETTER

Four typefaces have been employed in this edition of your newsletter. They are Prestige Italic, 10,12, Grande, 10, Prestige, 10,12. The following are examples of these types:

PRESTIGE 10

abcdefghijklmnopqrstvwxyz---ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz

PRESTIGE 12

abcdefghijklmnopqrstvwxyz—ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz

PRESTIGE ITALIC 10

abcdefghijklmnopqrstvwxyz--ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz

PRESTIGE ITALIC 12

abcdefghijklmnopqrstvwxyz--ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz

GRANDE 10 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz--ABCDEFGHIJKLMNopqrstuvwxyz

I have Gothic on order. Do not, I repeat do not tempt me, because in my present state of abandoned euphoria (just east of Kansas) I may get into demotic Greek and Kana characters. Footnote, I was abandoned in euphoria as a child, and have never successfully made the transition to everyday. In any case, let me know what pleases you. Your newsletter can, and will be better. (Especially if you deem it worthy of you to contribute to it.)

DO YOU LIKE PARADOXES?

In dealing with random numbers on a computer, we are really dealing with pseudo-random numbers, given that the maximum number on any computer is finite, and cannot by definition be truly random. Any barroom metaphysician might reply that there is no infinite number in the universe, hence, no true randomness. Draw your guns at the count of three.

APRIL, 1985

For those whose fancy leads them down this path, here are some paradoxes that can be set up on a computer. Most would employ the parameters of Boolean logic. These are quotes from "aha GOTCHA" BY Martin Gardner, published by W. H. Freeman & Co.

Professor Smith: Here is a new game. Put your wallets on the table. Then we'll count the money in each. Who ever has the smallest amount wins all the money in the other wallet.

Joe: Hmm. If I have more money than Jill, she'll win just what I have. So I stand a chance to win more than I can lose.

Jill: If I have more than Joe, he'll win just what I have. But if he has more I'll win more than I could lose. The game is in my favor.

Who is right?

VARIATION OF ZENO'S PARADOX

A lamp on the table is turned on for 1 minute then off for $\frac{1}{2}$ on for $\frac{1}{4}$ and so on. The series ends in just 2 minutes. After it ends will the lamp be on or off?

SLIGHTLY BETTER THAN BASIC

Dr. Zeta is a scientist from Helix. One day he visited earth to gather information. His earthly host suggested that he take with him the Encyclopedia Britannica. Splendid, said Dr. Zeta except for the mass. I will just encode it all on this metal rod, one mark will do the trick. How can so much code go in one mark? said his host.

Elementary, replied the doctor. There are less than a thousand different symbols in your encyclopedia. I will assign a number from 1 to 999 to each symbol, adding zeros on the left if needed, so that each number used will have 3 digits. CAT for example will be 003001020.

Using his powerful pocket computer (from Radio Shack?) Dr. Zeta scanned the encyclopedia quickly, translating its entire content into one gigantic number. By putting a decimal point in front of the number, he made it a decimal fraction.

Dr. Zeta then placed a mark on his rod, dividing it accurately into lengths A and B, so that the fraction a/b was equivalent to the decimal fraction of his code.

On returning to his planet Dr. Zeta had the A and B measured exactly, then computed the fraction A/B . (It could have been done on a Model 4) This decimal fraction was decoded and the computer then printed out the encyclopedia.

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

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