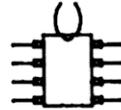


# South Bay Users Group

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## DYNAMIC MEMORIES

VIVA  
COMPUTERS

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LOOK AND PAY ATTENTION!

Our next SBUG Meeting will be held at the Saratoga Library. The address is 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga, CA.

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13th  
TIME: 7:15 P.M.

Our November meeting will be on Tuesday, the 10th. The last meeting of 1987 will then be in December. The date will be on Tuesday, the 8th. So make a note of these dates and we hope to see you all at these meetings.

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER

This is a continuation of last month's topic about REBS. This month Chris Oman will talk about up- and downloading of files. Frank Vanslager will give a short demo of 3 utility programs: WAITASEC; DR; & KEYFAKE  
BRING YOUR DISK (MS DOS FORMAT) FOR A TAKE HOME COPY.

\*\*\*\*\*

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you wish to become a member of SBUG and start receiving our newsletter DYNAMIC MEMORIES then send a \$20 check or money order to the following address:

SOUTH BAY USERS GROUP  
P.O. BOX 60116  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Or come to one of our meetings. We also perpetrate a bulletin board to which you will have access as a member of SBUG.

\*\*\*\*\*

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SBUG STEERING COMMITTEE

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OTHER KEY INDIVIDUALS

Host computer: SBUG ALL (408) 249-8259

If the need arises, feel free to give anyone of us a call.

THE TEMPORARY EDITORS REMARKS

Well, our illustrious Editor, Joel, went on another well-deserved vacation for a few weeks and therefore it's up to us to fill the void, again. At least it's only for this one issue. Anyway, we hope Joel had a good time and will be all rested and anxious to take over his old "duties".

At the upcoming meeting we will have a lecture about uploading and downloading of files on the bulletin board. In addition to that we possibly may get a demonstration of an integrated program called "VISI ON". This program will also be available for purchase by our members for a very reasonable price. More information about this elsewhere in this issue.

SBUG Financial Statement  
September 20, 1987

Receipts:	September Y-T-Date		% Used	Budget
Members dues	40.00	450.00	45.00%	1000.00
Disk Library	0.00	52.00	34.67%	150.00
Load80	40.00	381.00	127.00%	300.00
Documentation	0.00	.00	.00%	24.00
Interest	3.61	13.21	132.10%	10.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	209.80	104.90%	200.00
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
Total Receipts	83.61	1106.01	65.68%	1684.00
Disbursements:				
Phone	9.04	68.99	67.64%	102.00
Utilities	0.00	90.00	50.00%	180.00
Printing	0.00	231.69	42.91%	540.00
Postage	0.00	66.00	45.83%	144.00
P O Box	0.00	29.00	111.54%	26.00
Bank charges	6.00	38.00	158.33%	24.00
Disk Library	0.00	.00	.00%	120.00
Documentation	0.00	10.00	20.00%	50.00
Load80 Subscription	0.00	149.95	74.98%	200.00
SBUG BBS Repairs	0.00	.00	.00%	100.00
Misc. Expenses	0.00	94.00	75.20%	125.00
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
Total Disbursements	15.04	777.63	48.27%	1611.00
Beginning Cash Balance	574.12	314.31	100.00%	314.31
Net Receipts	68.57	328.38	449.84%	73.00
Ending Balance	642.69	642.69	165.94%	387.31

Complete copies (some labled demo) of 4 VISI CORP items are available for just \$5.00. They are Applications Manager, Graph, Calc and Word full documentation and disketts in binder. Requires a hard disk and mouse for proper operation.

Excess of unmatched disketts and empty binders will be later available at an extreemly low cost. Place you order for sets to be at the meeting with Chris Oman. The \$5.00 donation will be used for meeting club expenses.

SUPERMEM/SUPERDRIVE IN MODEL III

by Frank Gottschalk

I had two Model III's and recently acquired a Model 4 to keep the Model III's in the office and back them up with the Model 4 at home. Increasing volumes of work in Superscript with its dictionary, along with the Invoicing Program in Profile III+ meant too much time wasted saving to disks, swapping disks, and reloading Superscript files, programs and invoicing in between.

I considered new machines for lots of money, new programs for some more money, and lots of time to learn them all, (cost me \$1,000 and several months to try Wordstar a couple years ago). I decided to stick with the Model III's and 4.

The goal was to speed up the operation, minimize disk swapping, and keep their operation simple, without lots of money.

The first step was to expand the drives to double sided and a DOS to run them. Between the assortment I had collected, some good fortune at work, and lots of help from many club members, I accumulated a third Model III for \$50 to experiment on, eight double sided drives for \$100, the 5.3 update to LDOS to drive them for \$25.

I subsequently learned I needed a different version of Superscript and the Profile III+HD version to run in LDOS. The copy of Profile III+HD I had had garbage in one file and wouldn't run. After many phone calls, trips, and lots more help from club members, I learned how to install the drives (really easy now), got corrected files and versions of needed programs and even ended up with a Superscript program that will run DOS commands without having to Exit and reload it!

Best of all, after stripping unneeded files, it all fit on the two double sided drives and left more working space for user files than I had before. The Key Stroke Multiplier in LDOS is a big help and TED (text editor) makes it easy to modify the various JCL files now set up.

This all cut down on the disk swapping required, but still wasted lots of time loading and unloading all the programs. Still needed a fast large drive. Buy three or four hard drives for \$300-600 each plus controllers for another \$500 each from Radio Shack? And have more add-on boxes? No thanks, decided to try these Supermemory boards and make a Superdrive in RAM.

I bought two for the Model III's and one for the Model 4 along with Memory Test program, as well as the Superdrive program, everything complete for \$720 plus some Utility Programs I haven't used yet.

Now the tricky part. After reading the instructions and getting serious advice from several club members, all warning me that if I did the trace cutting involved, Radio Shack would no longer service my machines if it didn't work or I messed up. Well for the cost of one memory set and a \$50 experimental Model III, I thought I'd try it.

The instructions were very clear, but I would change the order a little. The hardest part was lifting one leg of some 30 tiny capacitors around the memory banks. I decided to this, rather than cut them out, in case I wanted to put them back. Even then I busted some of them. I kept the trace cutting to a minimum (4 or 5) by using the alternate method of installing the memory chips, thanks to the advice of another club member. The alternate method is to bend up all pin 9's on the chips and buss them all together above board. I practiced on some old chips first, and felt confident before I started. It worked just fine, using adequate static protection.

The mounting of the piggyback memory board was simple, except for getting the Z-80 in the new socket without bending any pins, but it went okay. The soldering of the ten leads was a little tricky in spots, but next time I'll change the order a little to avoid having to solder in between previous joints and/or solder them all on the solder side of the board and tape them all down good for vibration protection.

Well it was time for the first step test. I cautiously plugged in the machine and turned it on expecting a puff of smoke. Hurray, NO SMOKE! Booted up the system and it worked! Put in the test program and it spit out the numbers just like the instructions said it should!

Next step is to add the balance of the memory chips, bending up all the #9 pins, and bussing them together with the first bank. It all went fine. Now the ultimate full memory test. Again NO SMOKE! and the test went through all 768K bytes (current limit in Model III) four times without a hitch. It was working!

Now to install the Superdrive. Well I plugged in the disk and called it up but it stopped and told me it required LDOS 5.1 or TRSDOS 6, even though the label said it would work with LDOS 5.3. A phone call the next morning, after little sleep, to the program developers brought a surprised "don't know why" response. Made arrangement to send them my disk with LDOS 5.3 on it and the Superdrive program copied on to it. A week or so later, I got it back with a note that I neglected to tell them I had converted to double-sided drives. They also fixed it up so it would automatically copy my files into Superdrive and then make it drive :0 system drive. Now I was all set.

I quickly plugged it in and it worked beautifully. I loaded in all my programs and removed my disks. It flashed back and forth between programs and proofread documents quickly instead of all the disk grinding. A quick writing of an auto load program now makes booting simple. Put boot disks in both drives and reset. It comes up eventually with all my needed programs in a fast 720K System Drive :0 and goes right into Superscripts.

I said eventually because it takes 11 minutes to load my 520k of programs and get to Superscripts. It takes so long because all the loading is done file by file because LDOS won't make a mirror image backup because my boot disks are double sided and Superdrive is formatted as single sided with the directory on track one. Anyone know how to speed this up?

All in all I'm happy as a clam. For \$300 each, six hours of work, no relearning time, and lots of help from several club members, I've got a 720K system RAMDRIVE that is FAST and does all I need it to do with Superscripts, fast dictionary, and an Invoice program. At the end of the day, two keys and two minutes run time backs up all new and modified programs worked on during the day. This is A MUST! If shutdown without saving to disk, all will be lost! Likewise, unfortunately, all is lost during a power failure if more than a short flicker. There is a Supermemory recovery command if the power outage is short enough or the reset button is depressed quickly enough if required after a system hangup.

I've since done the second Model III, which turned out to have a bad PAL chip that they replaced, but ultimately with equally good results and will soon modify my Model 4 which will be two to three times as fast with the speedup kit also installed.

## SBUG BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM

RBBS-PC VERSION CPC14.1D OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS BY CHRIS OMAN  
PART 2 FILE UPLOADING AND DOWNLOADING PROCEDURES

This is a follow-on article that was published in the Aug. 87 issue of SBUG Newsletter. In the first article, I covered the basics of using the SBUG Remote bulletin Board System (RBBS). In this article, I will cover some of the advanced features of SBUG which concentrate on uploading and downloading files to the SBUG RBBS. I will start this with a bit of refresher from my previous RBBS article just in case you don't know where your August newsletter is. That way you can pick this up and start running with it on the SBUG RBBS system. I will repeat some of my previous information due to it's importance in getting your computer software configured correctly for the downloading and uploading process. During the next few paragraphs, I will try to briefly describe how the latest version of the SBUG Club RBBS software works. I will also try to provide in these instructions, the user menus that will appear on the screen as you "log onto the SBUG RBBS System". Some of these user menus will differ a little from what you will see on the screen, but it should at least get the idea across of how the SBUG RBBS system works. Hopefully, this will assist the club members in their use of SBUG. Also it should provide the SBUG users with some "telecommunications" experience. Please remember, if you don't try using the system, you will not learn how to use it effectively. Give it a try and you will be "up and running" in short order.

Additional features of the SBUG RBBS allow the following. A telecommunications system that will allow you to call the Remote Bulletin Board System (RBBS), read any pertinent messages to you as a SBUG Club member, and leave messages for any other SBUG member to read at a later date. It will also allow you to "upload and download" software (computer programs and data files) to the RBBS system. This is a very handy feature and is used by the SBUG Club membership to provide inputs for the newsletter, leave messages for other club members, and discuss other club related events. This message function is often known as "Electronic Mail".

To get started with SBUG RBBS system, perform the following steps. You should turn on the computer, load the operating system, and configure your communications software for your particular system or equipment. This configuration process should be listed in the communications software manual. You will need to also set your communications parameters in your software to take full advantage of SBUG RBBS features. These settings include 300 or 1200 Baud, 8 bit work length, no parity, 1 stop bit, 1 start bit if requested.

### NOTE:

If you set 7 bit word length, even parity, and 1 stop bit, the SBUG RBBS software system will detect these parameters, allow message handling but will not allow the "Xmodem" upload / download

features for file transfer with error detection / correction. If you want to upload and download files, make sure that you use the 8 bit word, no parity, 1 stop bit parameters. The baud rate may be either 300, 1200 or 2400 baud (available in the near future). If you can use 1200 baud capability with your modem, the RBBS system will respond 4 times faster than 300 baud. \*\* Some of the previous listed software, (LCOMM, TRSDOS COMM), will not support "XMODEM" file transfer without improved communications software. Modem-80 and MicroLink II will work fine for file transfers. Logical Systems Incorporated has a communications package called "HOST / TERM" which supports all these features with TRSDOS 6 on the TRS-80 Model IV Computer.

When you have configured the communications software for the above parameters, you are ready to place the call to SBUG. If you follow the instructions in your communications software manual, you should be instructed to place the call to the communications Host (SBUG RBBS) . The following instructions will provide "log-on" information for SBUG.

You should see the follow information on your computer screen:

You should see the word "connect" displayed on your computer screen. This tells you that your computer has detected the carrier signal produced by the "Host" computer modem (SBUG RBBS), after it answers the phone call from you. If this is the case, press the [ENTER] key 2 or 3 times. This will allow the SBUG RBBS system to detect what baud rate, etc. that you have setup on your computer system. Next, you should see the following prompts appear on you screen. I have also entered the appropriate "log-on" information for myself to access the SBUG RBBS system. These are my unique "log-on" parameters. You should enter your name and password information that apply to you as a club member.

DISPLAYS ON SCREEN  
SBUG RBBS PROMPTS

YOU NEED TO TYPE OR ENTER  
INFORMATION AS REQUESTED!

What is your FIRST Name?

Chris (lower case-OK)

What is your LAST Name?

Oman (lower case-OK)

Checking Users....

Enter Password (dots will echo)?..... type your assigned password

Granted access level 4

This gives your access level for use. You do not enter any response for this (access level controlled by SYSOP OP.)

Logging CHRIS OMAN

This means the System has allowed you access to the SBUG RBBS.

If this is the first time that you have log onto the system, it will also ask (Prompt), you for some additional information like address and phone number. This is so the System Operator (SYSOP) can contact

## Late Breaking News,

On 13 Oct., yes the same day as the club meeting, the Radio Shack computer center in San Mateo is having a warehouse clearance sale.

The clearance sale will be publically announced to start on the 15<sup>th</sup> but will be open to Radio Shack customers starting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

The address is 329 S. Ellsworth. If you take 101 north, take the 3<sup>rd</sup> ave. exit. Proceed straight for 3 stop lights. Then turn left on Ellsworth. Proceed to 329! This may be a chance for some excellent buys.

Chris

you to assist in resolving problems you may be having or other SBUG Club related information. The information will be treated as private data and will not be given out or sold for junk mail advertising purposes.

The SBUG RBBS System will then provide the following display:

```
RBBS-PC VERSION *****  NODE 1
OPERATING AT 1200 BAUD,N,8,1
```

This may be different depending on the communications parameters you set up on your software.

\* <Ctrl K> or <Ctrl X> aborts <Ctrl S> suspends \* Controls Display advance

```
-----
|  SYSOP: "JIM GONSALVES" |
|  SANTA CLARA           |
|                        |
|  SBUG RBBS             |
|                        |
|  CLONE PC/XT           |
|  MOUSE EPSON FX 85    |
|                        |
|-----|
```

MORE: [Y]es, (N)o, (NS) non-stop? y Select one of the items in parentheses.  
Last time on was: 07-30-87 22:58 Time you were last on SBUG

Would you like to skip the 20 bulletins? n Enter either y or n

----- SBUG BULLETIN MENU-----

- |    |                                |    |                          |
|----|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1  | WHAT DOES .ARC MEAN            | 11 | RBBS FIXES or REPAIRS    |
| 2  | Description of this system     | 12 | DISK DRIVE SALE BULLETIN |
| 3  | Local bulletin boards list     | 13 | REGISTRATION INFORMATION |
| 4  | National BBS list (01/17/87)   | 14 |                          |
| 5  | QUBIE' modems and RBBS-PC      | 15 |                          |
| 6  | ALL NEW IC PURCHASE            | 16 |                          |
| 7  | "On the topic of 450 BAUD"     | 17 |                          |
| 8  | Conferencing on RBBS-PC        | 18 |                          |
| 9  | The story of the "second ring" | 19 |                          |
| 10 | Gov't Bulletin Boards          | 20 |                          |

Bulletin # 1 thru 20, L)ist, Press [ENTER] to Cont. Select ##

You are now prompted to enter which bulletin that you would like to see. If you do not care to select one of the bulletins, just press [ENTER] and SBUG will advance from the Bulletin Menu to the SBUG Main Menu. If you had selected "yes" to skip the Bulletins, the SBUG system would have advanced to the Main SBUG Selection Menu.

Checking messages.

Mail may be for YOU (\*=Private)

\*21 Message Number

-----SBUG RBBS MAIN MENU-----

PERS. COMM.	UTILITIES	ELSEWHERE
B)ulletins	O)perator H)elp	D)oops N/A Yet
C)omments	P)ersonal mail	L)ines per page
E)nter message	Q)uick scan X)pert on/off	F)iles system
I)ntial welcome	R)ead messages	G)oodbye
J)oin Conference	S)can messages	? )Functions
K)ill message	V)iew Conference	U)tilities
	W)ho's on other node	

Main Functions <B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K,L,O,P,Q,R,S,U,V,W,X,??> \_\_ F

In this case, the letter "f" is selected. this will now take me to the Files section of the RBBS system. This will allow the options to "upload" (send) or "download" (receive) a file to SBUG. From the "Files Menu", I have the options not only to upload and download, but to also list what files are on the RBBS. Also I can get a brief description of what the files are for. I will step you the proper process of "downloading" a file. There are several ways that a file can be uploaded or downloaded. The below listing includes the most common ways with a brief description of what each method is for.

**ASCII** This is a straight upload or download of text information. It does not include error checking so some errors may occur during the data transfer. This should not be used to transfer any files other than maybe text for documents.

**Xmodem** This allows for file transfer with error checking. It is used with most communication software packages. During the file transfer, the file is sent one line (128 bytes) at a time. At the end of each line, a check sum count is sent to the receiving computer. The received line is processed for a check sum value and is compared with the check sum that was transmitted by the sending computer. If the two check sums are equal, then the receiving computer tells the sending computer to send another line of data. If the check sums do not match, the receiving computer tells the transmitting computer to resend the line of data. this is repeated until the complete file is transmitted or ten transmission attempts on the same line of data. If the line of data cannot be sent correctly after ten attempts, the file transmission is terminated. This method usually works well unless the transmission lines or modem signal processing circuitry is noisy.

Xmodem CRC            This method is similar to above but uses improved methods to ensure data transmission integrity. It is also a faster method of data transmission but not all communications software supports these functions. This method is preferred over plain Xmodem if it is available.

Kermit                This is one of the latest methods of data transmission. Because it is new, only the most current communications software support this method. It is regarded very highly in the telecommunications industry due to some advanced features and data transmission accuracy.

Now that I have briefly discussed the file transmission methods, I will now show what the "Files Menu" looks like.

```
-----FILE MENU-----
D)ownload a file    H)elp            L)ist files      N)ew files
U)pload a file     S)earch          X)pert           ?)Xfer info
```

```
-----ELSEWHERE-----
G)oodbye            Q)uit to main menu
```

File Function <D,G,H,L,N,Q,S,U,X,>    L    list file sections

You are now taken to the file type section. This will now show the different areas that contain different types of files that may be available for downloading. The reason that I say "may be available" is due to what access level that you now hold on SBUG. If you have just logged in as a new user, the SYSOP may not have had time to upgrade your access level for file downloading. If you have logged on to SBUG in the recent past, then chances are that the SYSOP has set your access to the proper level for access. If you do not have proper access, you may need to wait a day or so for the SYSOP to upgrade your access level. It would be a good idea to leave the SYSOP a message so he will know to upgrade your access. One other stipulation to access is that you must be a valid member of SBUG. That means that you have paid your dues and they are current for this year.

The Files section directory contains files in the following areas. The Files area directory is listed below.

```
=====SBUG BBS FILE DIRECTORY=====
DIR CONTENTS    DIR CONTENTS    DIR CONTENTS    DIR CONTENTS
-----
1    GENERAL      6    COMM.           11   FOR SALE      16
2    UTILITIES    7    GRAPHICS       12   RBBS-PC       17
3    MS-DOS       8    DATA BASE     13   TAX PGMS.     18
4    TRS-80       9    WORD PROC      14               19
5                10   TIPS/INFO      15                20
```

To view these directories use a command of:            L;X

Where X is the directory number you wish to review.  
This command may be stacked L;X;X;X;X

Now get a directory listing printout by turning on the "print echo" function of your communications software. Most communications software packages allow the function.

Once you have a listing of the programs available for downloading, you have a reference to pick from for actual use. Now that you have found at least one file to download, you are ready to setup your system for the download process.

You should be in the current menu (files) to start the process. I have included the proper menu below for your reference.

Before we actually start the download process, I want to list the actual steps involved. Also I will include some "food" for thought to help you through the process. During the download process, the host computer (SBUG), will read the file to be sent from it's secondary storage (hard disk), then it will send your computer the file for storage. Your computer will first accept the file in parts (blocks), into main memory and then after it has received so many blocks of the file, it will save the file blocks out to a disk file. Therefore, you need to have some disk space available for storage of the incoming file. I recommend that you have a empty formatted disk in the drive that you plan to save the incoming file to. It is always better to have some extra disk space left over than to run out during the file transfer.

During the selection process you tell the host computer what file you want sent, the host checks to see if the file is actually available for transmission. Once this is done, the host system will prompt you for what method you want the file to be sent to your system. This will be one of the transmission types that I have described earlier. Examples of this include: ASCII (text), Xmodem, Kermit, etc. I recommend that you use Xmodem CRC, if your communications software supports it. If not, your next choice is plain Xmodem. Be careful if you select Kermit for transmission. Some of the Kermit programs don't have all the bugs worked out yet so it may terminate in the middle of the transmission. Now that you have selected a transmission method, the host computer will wait for your computer to send it a signal to start the transmission. This is where you give your computer the proper commands to tell it to get ready to receive a file. Your computer will also prompt you for the transmission method, it should be the same as what you selected on the host system. Then your computer will tell the host to start sending the file data. When your computer accepts the file blocks for storage to disk, it must tell the host computer to stop sending while your computer is storing the data it has received. Once your computer has written the data to disk, it tells the host to resume the file transmission. This process is repeated until the complete file is process.





### Exerpts prepared by Bernie Thompson

---

From an article by Lewis Perdue in Computer Currents, the following guidelines will assist in setting up a system with with an AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files.

In the root directory there should be a file CONFIG.SYS which has:

```
FILES=24      (up to 255, DOS default is 8)
BUFFERS=24   (up to 99 permitted)
DEVICE=MOUSE.SYS (if you have a mouse)
DEVICE=EMM.SYS M3 I6 (for extended memory Intel
                    board where 'M' and 'I' define system details)
DEVICE=LS300.SYS (for Princeton LS300 graphics)
DEVICE=ANSI.SYS (for enhanced keyboard and
                screen ! required by Superkey from Borland)
STACKS=64,128 (fixes a bug in DOS 3.2)
```

In your AUTOEXEC.BAT you can set appearance of the prompt, ROM resident software, date & time, and any other desired options. Lewis uses:

```
PATH ----;\ (where ---- is the DOS directory)
PROMPT $p$g (displays the current directory)
VER         (displays DOS version)
CHKDSK     (shows file or cluster problems)
TIME       (set)
DATE       (set)
SK         (a batch within a batch) where
           SK.BAT is:
             CD\sidekick
             SK
             CD\
```

Note: DOS format command does not work when Sidekick is in memory.

Requests for information or previous articles may be addressed to Lewis Perdue, 1200 Mt. Diablo Blvd #303, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (provide SASE for replies) (415-935-1950) Compuserve 72446,2646

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