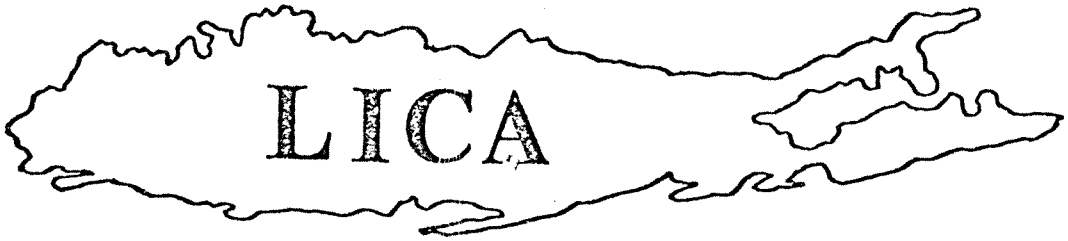
LONG ISLAND COMPUTER ASSOCIATION



Volume 3 Number 10 THE STACK October, 1979

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Vice-President Albert Harrison
Secretary Alan McRae
Treasurer Aileen Harrison

STACK Editor:

Al Stone

STACK Address:
3788 Windsor Drive
Bethpage, NY 11714

MONTHLY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Long Island Computer Association is held on the third Friday of each month at the Old Westbury campus of the New York Institute of Technology. Please join us at 8:00 p.m. in Room 508, Building 500.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The summertime is now behind us. Enough of relaxing and working on a suntan! Let's take a look at all the new areas in computers, or better yet...first complete the projects still clutting the place!

Don't forget to have a modem in your plans for a future message and data exchange system.

For this month's general meeting, we are fortunate to have Jeff Kravitz as our principal speaker. His theme will be:

Computer Operating Systems and Languages
-Differences and Advantages-

This should prove to be a most interesting subject. We have had many requests for information in these areas, and even I have some unclear notions in reagard to these subjects.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 19th. Hans

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Two major subgroups meet on our regular monthly meeting night, one hour prior to the fall of Hans' gavel. They are Hal Adkins' TRS-80 Users' Group, and Steve Perry's 6502 Users' Group. Hal reminds us that newcomers are most welcome, and that the interchange of information can save Tandyites considerable time and money. By the way, other 8080/Z-80/8085 "appliance-type" computer users such as Compucolor can most certainly benefit from joining with the TRS-80 people. We are told that a considerable amount of software is available for interchange among the usual attendees. Steve is working on building up the membership of his subgroup, and asks us to mention here that he'd like to receive information from other computer clubs that receive The STACK and have active KIM users. How about it, Pittsburgh? Any takers, San Diego?

The 8080 Users' Group, under the able leadership of Augie Schwab meets one week prior to our regular meeting night, at 8:00 P.M., also at the NYIT. As of this writing, no specific speaker has been announced, but if possible your editor will present a case study of a most successful business application with which he has become involved.

LOOKING BACKWARD

The September General Meeting was well-attended, with about 50 members present on a very rainy night. The guest speaker was delayed for a time, and a very spirited discussion of club goals, member needs, participation and feedback was held. One topic that stirred much interchange and general agreement was that of the growing importance of our club newsletter- The STACK.

The featured guest speaker was Tom Gibson, the father of Tiny C- a new structured programming language for microcomputers.

A breakdown, by subject area, of the meeting's agenda follows:

1) LICA Goals: The club should serve the long-range needs of both the computer hobbyist and the EDP professional by serving as a forum for the exchange of ideas, technical information, hardware and software, engineering assistance, job opportunity information, and just plain f-u-n. Most importantly, the club should give a warm welcome to new computer enthusiasts, so that they can learn to paryicipate in the agonies and extasys of personal computing. We must never forget that we were all beginners at one time, and now that we have a chance to extend a helping hand to others, we might as well set a good example for those newcomers.

2) Member Participation and Feedback: Our editor spoke to the point when he said "this is your club, and you've got to make it work." Don't be afraid to ask questions; speak up and be heard; write and we'll print it. Bring a friend who is "just interested"- we'll show him what its all about. Let us know what is on your mind; maybe we can help. Most of all, bring something with you to each meeting to share with your friends: an article, a program, some hardware, or just an idea. But bring something to contribute - you'll like yourself better if you do.

3) The STACK: Our club newsletter is evolving into a sophisticated publication. Note that the September issue featured a General Meeting Report, Classified section, a fictional "masterpiece" by George Hawkins (which is being reprinted in several other clubs' newsletters this month, and in the months to come), as well as a full-page advertisement by Synchro-Sound Enterprises (a good place to do business!). Club members and friends should send their favorite articals original works and reprints to Al for inclusion in upcoming issues of The STACK. Perhaps our STACK will evolve into a magazine format with lots of paid advertising, color pictures, and a circulation in the thousands, rather than hundreds. I guess it all depends on what we want.

4) Guest Speaker: Mr. Gibson braved the elements and came over from his home in New Jersey to speak to us about his Tiny C language. Tiny C was invented at Bell Laboratories and is now widely used in universities and in industry for Systems and Applications programming. It is similar to PASCAL, but closer to machine languages. It is easy to learn, as Tom taught his children structured programming (see Creative Computing Jan. and Mar. 1979; Byte Magazine Nov. 1978; or Dr. Dobb's Journal)and it possesses many advantages over several other languages: it is interactive, modular, recursive, executes quite fast, uses both global and local variables, permits both character and integer arrays, and is fun to use Those interested in pursuing Tiny C further should contact Tiny C Associates at (201) 671-2296.

5) Special Events: Several LICA members will be manning booths at the HOBBY EXPO 79 at the Nassau Coliseum Oct. 5-8. We should be well-represented, and hopefully will be able to attract some other "kindred souls" to our ranks.

6) 8080 Users' Group: An interesting lecture on distributed processing and data communications was presented by Hal Adkins. We hope that he can be prevailed upon to repeat this talk at a General Meeting so that we may all benefit from his knowledge and experience.

7) TRS 80 Users' Group: Is there anyone out there who is aware of an interface between an IEEE 488 bus and the TRS-80? If you do, contact Hal Adkins at (516) 289-9682.

Alan McRae

CLASSIFIED NOTICES

Business Opportunities: Anyone interested in starting or staffing a computer store should call Alan McRae at (516) 499-5308

SHUGART Disk Drive Units: Alignment & repair by Steve Metal (516) 499-1135

Accounting, Recordkeeping, Tax Services: Contact Aileen Harrison at (516) 938-6769

Job Opportunities: Anyone interested in part-time programming, systems analysis, systems engineering, or operations assignments please call Alan McRae (516) 499-5308

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING POLICY

In an effort to cover our costs of duplication and mailing, and to provide a more extensive monthly edition of The STACK, commercial display ads are accepted in 1/4, 1/2, and full-page sizes. Minimum participation is for three months, and the 3 month rates are $45, $65, and $100 respectively. Copy need not be the same each month. Camera-ready material, together with checks payable to the Long Island Computer Association, must be received prior to the last business day of the month before publication.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY/LIST

The first annual edition of this important statistical presentation and analysis will be included with your next issue of The STACK. I think you'll be surprised at the mix of equipment, and the degree of sophistication that is represented by our membership.

KIM USER NOTES

We are informed that Eric C. Rehnke, P.O. Box 33093, N. Royalton, OH 44133 publishes an authoritative bi-monthly called Kim User Notes. Subscriptions are $13 per year or $2.50 per issue. His phone # is (216) 237-0755.

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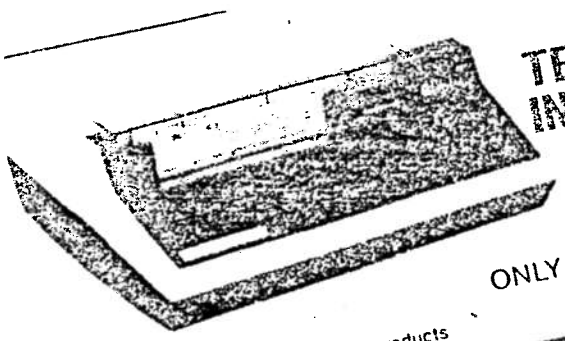

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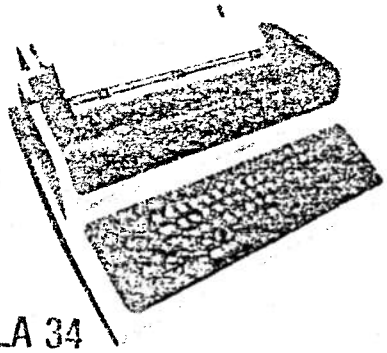

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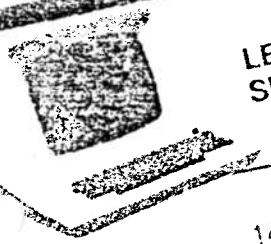

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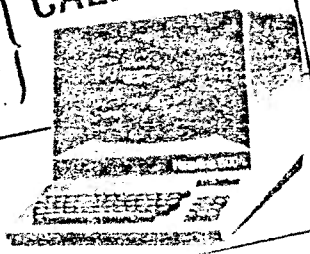

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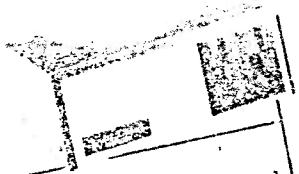

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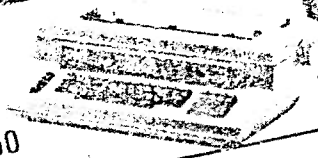

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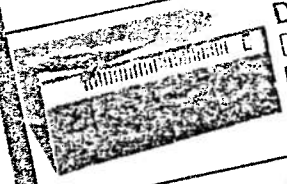

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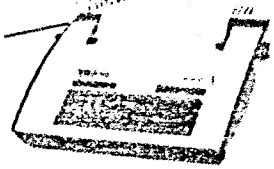

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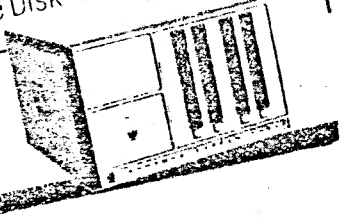

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