

SOUTH BAY TRS-80® USERS GROUP

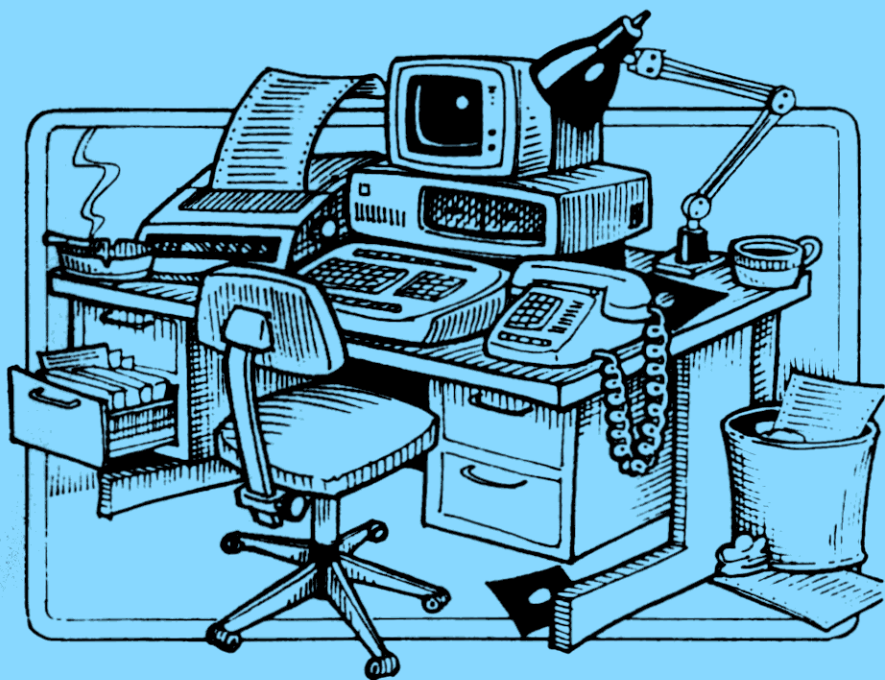
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DYNAMIC MEMORIES™

* Tandy Corp. / Radio Shack Inc.

MARCH



SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

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SBUG meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the north-east corner of Dysan's building at;

Time: 7:15 - 9:30 PM 5401 Patrick Henry Drive
Santa Clara, Ca.

March 19, April 16, May 21

7:30 to 8:00 will be for new members and to resolve questions asked by the nonexperts amongst us. Led or followed by the editor as the case may be.
PRINCIPAL SPEAKER: Your Editor on ALL WRITE—A first class word processing program.

LOOK!OJOIECARDEZ!:The first Wednesday of every month will be for SIGS. Specifically, we wish to have a model 100 group, a CP/M group, and a MSDOS group. Gather your brethren around you and **do your thing on Wednesday**.

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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MARCH, 1985

# YOUR STEERING COMMITTEE

| MEMBER                 | SBUG-80<br>USERNAME | PHONE          |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Discussion Leader:     |                     |                |
| Wright Huntley         | (HUNTLEY)           | (408) 248-5905 |
| Treasurer              |                     |                |
| Don Rhodes             | (DON)               | (408) 996-1008 |
| Secretary              |                     |                |
| Eric Brewer            | (BREWER)            | (408) 252-9332 |
| Newsletter Editor      |                     |                |
| Joel Lee               | (EDITOR)            | (408) 926-3999 |
| Librarians:            |                     |                |
| (disc) Bernie Thompson | (BERNIE)            | (408) 867-7455 |
| (tape) Gary Dixon      | (GDIXON)            | (408) 262-6937 |
| (docs) 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

The club is much smaller than it was. Is this bad? Do we wish to have 500 members or 50? To some extent, that will be decided by the times. It will also be decided by the membership.

A small, vital group could in many senses be the ideal club. There is a greater sense of intimacy than is possible with the Boston Computer Club. So let's get intimate. In such an atmosphere, new members feel less constraint, and their interests and concerns can be more closely listened to and addressed.

Of the members who are gone, some were active participants in the club, more were only occasional attendees at the meetings. The several new members have impressed me with their interest and desire to participate in discussions.

If you really want to get a lot out of your club, bug the SYSOP, bug the librarians, bug the EDITOR. While you're bugging the editor, slip him an article for DYNAMIC MEMORIES.

## SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group  
CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS  
For the Month of February and Year-To-Date Cumulative

|                       | Month of<br>February | Cumulative<br>Year-To-Date | %<br>Used | Budgeted<br>1985 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>CASH RECEIPTS:</b> |                      |                            |           |                  |
| Dues: SBUG            | 342.00               | 891.00                     | 49        | 1,800.00         |
| Dues: SBUG80          | 50.00                | 50.00                      | 8         | 600.00           |
| Documentation         | 0.00                 | 0.00                       | 0         | 264.00           |
| Disk Library          | 0.00                 | 0.00                       | 0         | 120.00           |
| Interest earned       | 1.92                 | 2.35                       | 5         | 40.00            |
| Tape Library          | 0.00                 | 0.00                       | 0         | 5.00             |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>393.92</b>        | <b>943.35</b>              | <b>33</b> | <b>2,829.00</b>  |

**ADMINISTRATIVE DISBURSEMENTS:**

|                        |               |               |           |                 |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Print / Copy           | 141.17        | 283.52        | 28        | 1,000.00        |
| Postage                | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0         | 500.00          |
| Disk Library           | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0         | 300.00          |
| Electricity            | 0.00          | 40.00         | 16        | 240.00          |
| Telephone              | 0.00          | 9.70          | 4         | 200.00          |
| SBUG80 Repairs         | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0         | 200.00          |
| Miscellaneous          | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0         | 100.00          |
| Docum. Library         | 0.00          | 0.00          | 0         | 80.00           |
| Post Office Box        | 0.00          | 26.00         | 50        | 52.00           |
| Bank charges           | 4.00          | 8.00          | 26        | 30.00           |
| <b>Total Disburse.</b> | <b>145.17</b> | <b>367.22</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>2,702.00</b> |
| <br>Beginning Cash     | <br>556.65    | <br>229.27    |           | <br>229.27      |
| Recpts - Disb.         | 248.75        | 576.13        | 453       | 127.00          |
| End Cash               | 805.40        | 805.40        | 156       | 356.27          |

## SPECIAL SBUG BULLETIN

## COURTESY OF CASEY PARKER

...Having trouble getting answers to questions about TRS-80? Many answers can be found in back issues of "80-MICRO". Now, back issues of this and related magazines are available through the periodical library. To fully utilize LOAD 80 programs you should have the accompanying technical article in 80 MICRO magazine. Soon we will have a disc index of articles for perusal. See Casey Parker for more details on the library. We are missing a few out of the 62+1 issues of 80 MICRO in print. Please help by donating (or trading for) these below:

MARCH

| Number | Date  | Number | Date  |
|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| 3      | 3/80  | 14     | 2/81  |
| 6      | 6/80  | 54     | 7/84  |
| 7      | 7/80  | 55     | 8/84  |
| 8      | 8/80  | 56     | 9/84  |
| 9      | 9/80  | 57     | 10/84 |
| 10     | 10/80 | 58     | 11/84 |
| 11     | 11/80 | 59     | 12/84 |
| 13     | 1/81  | 60     | 1/85  |

Thanks to Ernie West for filling out the collection!! Call Casey if you have donations at: (415) 793-2715

#### TECHNICAL NOTE

By CASEY PARKER

How to make a printer cable to connect your TRS-80 to an Okidata!! I was able to make a functional printer cable for less than half the \$40 Radio Shack charges.

Buy insulation displacement connectors (for ribbon cable) -one 34 pin edge card connector for the Model 3 end, and one 36 pin Centronics connector for the Oki 83A end. (CAUTION: Do not let them sell you solder-type connectors. Much too much work.) Buy a length of 34 conductor ribbon cable, 5 feet is about right. Slip the first conductor (usually red). Clamp in vice. Slip Centronics connector over the other end so that it is on the opposite side of the ribbon, pin one is out toward end of cable and oriented over the first conductor. clamp in vice. Check with ohmmeter for continuity (and no shorts) between:

Edge card pin    Centronics pin

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1 | 1  |
| 2 | 19 |
| 3 | 2  |
| 4 | 20 |

etc. NOTE: TWO PINS ON CENTRONICS UNUSED.

Yes Virginia, there are tiny numbers on the connectors. Look real good now before you go to bed.

#### COMING EVENTS

One of the best meetings of 1985 will undoubtedly be the April meeting, featuring **DAS DOS VARS** (Pat. Pending Ian Webb). There will be a panel of most of our best and brightest to explain, defend, and attack various operating systems that run on Tandy machines. Included will be: MSDOS, TRSDOS 1.3, NEWDOS, CP/M 80, TRSDOS 6.X, LDOS, and DOSPLUS. If you don't see your favorite DOS on this list, get in touch with Wright Huntley so that you may defend your adored with saber (or epee') in hand.

## SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

### COMPUTER LANGUAGE GROUP SAVINGS

This offer comes from a magazine entitled, oddly enough, COMPUTER LANGUAGE. According to Eric Brewer, our ravin' maven (language department), this is a good deal, a good magazine. See him if you're interested.

### SOFTWARE INQUIRY

The club will be making ongoing purchases of software. Make your wishes, desires, aspirations, fantasies, known to Bernie Thompson, or to the Editor. If you're shy, you may whisper in our respective, receptive ears, or pass us a crumpled piece of paper when no one is watching. Remember, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. If you don't ask, you probably won't get it. Someone who asked will be playing Tarzan (TM) On The Sands of Mars, while you soak your pillow with tears, pining for Lotus 1-2-3-9. (No TM)

### ON THE ETHICS OF PROGRAM COPYING AGAIN ONCE AGAIN FINALLY?

In the many discussions and articles on the ethics of individual copying of software, there is one major component that I have never seen mentioned. The hypocrisy on the part of the producers, and of the users, is too thick to be stirred with a spoon. The producers weep huge tears about the money they are losing. In most cases, they are promoters, who are profiting from a programmer's labor, brains and knowledge, making enormous profits (in many cases) from a minimal investment.

The user says he copies software because "they charge too much, it isn't right". Twaddle. He copies because he can get away with it without punishment. They charge too much for shampoo also, but very few people are stealing it off the drugstore counter.

There are some other defenses for the user-pirate. Computer software is the only product sold without any kind of warranty, specifically as is. The amount of money to be made from a single program (Visicalc, Lotus 1-2-3), is staggering. It is doubtful if any law is being broken by copying software for individual, nonprofit use. That can change if the states pass punitive laws, specifying a penalty for such copying. (Louisiana has done so). The Louisiana law is mainly for effect, for propaganda purposes. I have a mental picture of the software police entering thousands of homes searching for pirated programs. "Do you solemnly swear, madam, that this copy of 'Rice Recipes' was not given to you by your very best friend in all the world, Doris Delaney?"--- "No? Well, that's what she told us."

In the foreseeable future, the software entrepreneurs (read profiteers) will continue to rant and rave, and the users (read pirates) will continue to copy.

Forthwith my disclaimer before machine gun fire rattles in the plaza. There are of course users like you dear reader, who never, but never, stoop to piracy. There are software companies, Borland and Bruce Tonkin spring to mind (but are not by any means the only ones) who turn out good software at prices

the average consumer can afford. None of this invalidates what I said in previous paragraphs.

FILENAME EXTENSIONS  
REPRINTED FROM VOICE OF THE '80 NEWSLETTER  
BY ALAN ABRAHAMSON

| EXT | EXECUTION AREA  | EXECUTION SYNTAX    | MEANING.....              |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| BAS | BASIC           | RUN"filename/bas    | BASIC program file        |
| BA  | BASIC           | RUN"filename/BA     | BASIC program file        |
| BAK | **NONE**        | **NONE**            | Backup of any file type   |
| TXT | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/TXT   | TEXT file usually ASCII   |
| TEX | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/TEX   | TEXT file usually ASCII   |
| DOC | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/DOC   | DOCumentation file        |
| DO  | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/DO    | DOCumentation file        |
| PCL | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/PCL   | Electric Pencil file      |
| SRC | EDTASM          | LD=filename/SRC     | SouRce Assembler file     |
| ASM | EDTASM          | LD=filename/ASM     | SouRce Assembler file     |
| EDT | EDTASM          | LD=filename/EDT     | Source EDTasm file        |
| DAT | BASIC or Memory | OPEN"mode"file      | DATA file                 |
| DTA | BASIC or Memory | OPEN"mode"file      | DATA file                 |
| SEQ | BASIC or Memory | OPEN"mode"file      | SEQuential data file      |
| CMD | DOS             | filename            | Executable CoMmand file   |
| COM | DOS             | filename            | Executable COmmand file   |
| CIM | DOS             | LOAD filename/CIM 2 | ore Image file            |
| OBJ | DOS             | LOAD filename/OBJ   | Memory OBJect file        |
| CMP | DOS             | filename/CMP        | CoMPiled object code      |
| COM | DOS             | filename/COM        | COMpiled object code      |
| ASC | BASIC/Word Proc | LOAD"filename/ASC   | ASCIi file                |
| JCL | DOS             | DO filename         | Job Control Log file      |
| BLD | DOS             | DO filename         | BuILD batch process file  |
| IDO | DOS             | DO filename         | BuILD "I"DO process file  |
| DVR | DOS             | LOAD filename/DVR   | DrIVR object file         |
| PAT | BASIC           | RUN"filename/PAT    | Basic PATch file          |
| DCT | DOS             | LOAD filename/DCT   | Drive Code Table object   |
| FLT | DOS             | LOAD filename/FLT   | FILTer object code        |
| FIX | DOS             | PATCH filename/FIX  | Patch FIX files           |
| JBL | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/JBL   | JoB Log text files        |
| KSM | DOS             | LOAD filename/KSM   | KeyStroke Multiple files  |
| OVL | DOS             | **NONE**            | DOS OVerLays              |
| OV  | DOS             | **NONE**            | DOS OVerLay number #      |
| REL | ASSEMBLER       | LOAD filename/REL   | RELocatable object file   |
| SCR | Word Processor  | LOAD filename/SCR   | SCRipsit files            |
| SPL | DOS             | PRINT filename/SPL  | SPOoler files (ASCII)     |
| SYS | DOS             | **NONE**            | DOS SYStem files          |
| SUB | BASIC           | MERGE"filename/SUB  | Basic SUBroutine          |
| SUB | DOS             | **NONE**            | System SUBmit file CP/M   |
| ORC | Orchestra 80/90 | G filename          | ORChestra 80/90 files     |
| HEX | **NONE**        | **NONE**            | HEXadecimal ASCII files   |
| FOR | FORTRAN         | LOAD filename/FOR   | FORTran source file       |
| LST | **NONE**        | **NONE**            | Basic Compiler LIST file  |
| LIB | Macro Assembler | **NONE2**           | LIbrary file/Macro Assem. |
| SYM | **NONE**        | **NONE**            | SYMBol file (table)       |

# SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

| EXT | EXECUTION AREA | EXECUTION SYNTAX   | MEANING.....            |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| TBL | **NONE**       | **NONE**           | Table of data file      |
| REF | Word Processor | LOAD filename/REF  | Reference table file    |
| XRF | Word Processor | LOAD filename/XRF  | Cross reference file    |
| HLP | Word Processor | LOAD filename/HLP  | Help files (ASCII)      |
| RPT | Word Processor | LOAD filename/RPT  | Report file (ASCII)     |
| LTR | Word Processor | LOAD filename/LTR  | Letter file (ASCII)     |
| VC  | Visicalc       | LOAD filename      | VisiCalc template       |
| DIF | Visicalc       | LOAD filename/DIF  | Data Interchange File   |
| HIS | Games          | **NONE**           | High Score data file    |
| GRF | Graphics       | **NONE**           | Graphics data file      |
| INX | BASIC          | OPEN"mode"file     | Index file              |
| IND | BASIC          | OPEN"mode"file     | Index file              |
| TST | BASIC          | RUN"filename/TST   | Test Basic program file |
| DEM | BASIC          | RUN"filename/DEM   | Demo Basic program file |
| ADV | BASIC          | RUN"filename/ADV   | Adventure Basic Game    |
| CFG | DOS            | **NONE**           | Configuration DOS file  |
| CHN | DOS            | RUN filename       | BASCOM Chain file       |
| M1  | DOS or BASIC   | filename or RUN    | Model I version         |
| M3  | DOS or BASIC   | filename or RUN    | Model III version       |
| M4  | DOS or BASIC   | filename or RUN    | Model 4 version         |
| K32 | DOS or BASIC   | filename or RUN    | 32K version             |
| K48 | DOS or BASIC   | filename or RUN    | 48K version             |
| PIC | DOS            | PRINT filename/PIC | Picture ASCII file      |
| BAT | DOS            | filename           | Batch file (MS-DOS)     |
| LC  | DOS            | filename/LC        | Lower Case Scripts      |
| UC  | DOS            | filename/UC        | Upper Case Scripts      |

NOTE: On executable object code the extension may be omitted when called from DOS. The CMD extension is assumed and added. If the extension is other than CMD, it must be typed; i.e. SCRIPSIT/LC.PP

## MAIL

Read command :

<Message from GOLDBUG at SBUG-80 02/20/85 21:26:32>

Read command :

FOR SALE....MODEL I 48K..GOLD CONTACTS....ALL MANUELS  
BOOKS SOFTWARE GOODIES ETC. ....408 265 6419.(GOLDBUG)

Read command :

<Message from HARRY at SBUG-80 02/22/85 17:53:08>

Read command :

Hey all I got Hyperzap for the model one and I think I  
solved the use for model III. It goes as follows...

|           |         |           |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| . ADDRESS | MODEL I | MODEL III |
| . 586E    | 4419    | 4046      |
| . 5882    | 44A9    | 42B0      |
| . 5895    | 4463    | 4419      |
| . 589C    | 4405    | 4299      |
| . 5889    | 4405    | 4299      |

Well use debug or rsm3d or any good disk editor. With



the 5 changes, magically it goes from model I to HX3/CMD that will work on the model III.

No guarantees, but Bernie Thompson, tried it, and so far so good. C U, Harry

Read command :

<Message from MANGR at SBUG-80 02/22/85 20:02:48>

RE: MODEM80 DFT

Read command :

I SEEM TO HAVE PROBLEMS USING THE

DFT IN DOWNLOADING CMD FILES.

USING DFT S "filename" <cr>.

Break to modem80 menu, select "R" <cr>.

and get a garbage bag of chars!???

Operator error is definite in this case.

Just need the proper sequence of events.

appreciate any help.

.....Mangr (Jim)

.....(408) 246-5286

Read command :

<Message from DAKOTA at SBUG-80 02/22/85 22:33:46>

RE: MODEM

Read command :

TO ANYONE:

I HAVE A "RS MODEM II" FOR SALE.

IT'S BRAND NEW WITH DOCUMENTATION ...

CATALOG NUMBER 26-1173.

NEW .... IS \$199.95

MY PRICE IS \$175.00.

ANYONE INTERESTED PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE HERE WITH

NAME AND PHONE #.

ADDRESS MESSAGE TO "DAKOTA".

.....HOPE TO HERE FROM YOU SOON!

....."DAKOTA"

Read command :

<Message from MSILLS at SBUG-80 02/24/85 15:07:04>

RE: Modem for SALE

Read command :

I have a Radio Shack Modem II (autoanswer/autodial)

for sale. Box, instructions, software included. A

good modem for any model Radio Shack computer.

Asking \$150.00....

Call evenings at 408-225-0607

Mark Sills (MSILLS)

Read command :

<Message from GMCKEE at SBUG-80 02/24/85 20:53:51>

RE: CP/M Test Interest Group

Read command :

Like to get together with the group who are in

the process of (or as interested as I in) trying out

Montezuma CP/M. Leave E-Mail here for GMCKEE.

Read command :

<Message from GMCKEE at SBUG-80 02/24/85 20:56:42>

RE: ADDED

Read command :

SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

Share the burden in getting my CP/M Library  
up on line and useful. GMCKEE

Read command :

<Message from EDITOR at SBUG-80 02/24/85 23:45:48>  
RE: DYNAMIC MEMORIES

Read command :

If some of you don't get some articles in soon  
you will all be condemned to reading my piffle  
for 14 pages. When it gets to the Supreme Court  
it will be declared unconstitutional, but by  
that time you will have suffered a thousand  
deaths.

Read command :

<Message from HARRY at SBUG-80 02/25/85 13:01:07>

Read command :

Hey do any of you have LESCRIPT out there. I got a  
demo from them and it only leaves 16k for text. I  
wonder if it isn't addressing the full 48k. Any  
ideas. The DEMO looks neat, but if all the file  
I can use is 16k then a lot of fortran and 'C'  
can't be used by the wordprocessor. I does support  
my Tally printer, Yea Yea, so if any of you know  
let me know..

. Harry

Read command :

<Message from GMCKEE at SBUG-80 02/25/85 19:32:45>  
RE: SALE OVER

Read command :

I HEREBY DECLARE THE MODEL III SALE OF THIS WEEKEND  
OVER=NULL VOID!

I will, however sell are Model III shells (cassette)  
versions for \$300.00 with mounting tower & 48K in  
place. NO-DRIVES-NO DISK POWER SUPPLY-NO CONMTROLLER  
NO-CABLES FOR DRIVES-NO RS-232. JUST \$300.00 CASH!  
GMCKEE

Read command :

<Message from IANWEBB at SBUG-80 02/25/85 20:47:20>  
RE: SALES

Read command :

Perhaps we should rename our BBS the "Let's Make  
a Deal BBS" what with all of us trying to sell  
different pieces of equipment!!!

Read command :

<Message from HOOVER at SBUG-80 02/26/85 19:34:58>

Read command :

Hello everyone. I'm finally able to communicate with  
the BB with the VIDTEX program I just got for my Model  
2000. I'm still learning how to use it but it should not  
take long to get completely familiar with it.

I enjoy reading the mail that is left for all. I've  
missed reading it since I loaned my Mod I.

Ed Hoover

Read command :

<Message from GMCKEE at SBUG-80 02/27/85 22:43:58>

RE: LET'S MAKE A DEAL

Read command :

FIRST DEAL- GET-UM-UP 1200 BAUD (WE-USE-UM!

NEXT DEAL- FREE DUES SIX MONTHS FOR COVER?

DEAL OF THE DAY- RETURN HOOVER'S MOD I-

HE WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP UP W SBUG MAIL!

AN THE WINNER IS?????????

Read command :

<Message from GOLDBUG at SBUG-80 02/29/85 21:02:14>

Read command :

ONE MORE TRY.....MODEL I FOR SALE....ANY REASONABLE OFFER

ALL COMPONENTS IN GOOD SHAPE....GOLD CONTACTS ETC.,ETC.

CALL 408 265 6419.....!!!

<Message from DAKOTA at SBUG-80 02/29/85 22:59:45>

RE: "SALES"

Read command :

ANYBODY INTERESTED IN SEEING "ALL" OF THE SALES --

KEY IN ON THE DATE OF "02/22/85"

THE LIST IS GETTING "LO-O-O-O-O-O-O-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-G"

IT'S ALMOST LIKE GOING TO THE "FLEA MARKET"

HAVE FUN

DAKOTA

Read command :

<Message from JIBBYTRM at SBUG-80 02/30/85 06:40:45>

RE: WHATS GOING ON ??

Read command :

HELLO OLD TIMERS

What's going on in Santa Clara now days. Hows

the economy down there ?? When is 1200 Baud going

on-line ?? This costs money on 300 Baud. I'll

be able to say alot more when 1200 comes on-line.

Read command :

<Message from PHANTOM at SBUG-80 03/03/85 12:13:50>

RE: FOR SALE 19" COLOR T.V.

Read command :

Hi All,

There seems to be so many sales going on that I thought I would put my T.V. up for sale. I just recently purchased a color console and because I live in such a small apartment I thought why not. It is a G.E. 19 color in excellent shape. Has real pretty picture. It has been used very little and I will sell it for the first \$175.00. Serious inquires only at 984-8779 or 993-8444 ask

<Message from DON at SBUG-80 03/04/85 16:08:59>

RE: STEERING COMM

Read command :

\*\*\*\*\* ATTENTION STEERING COMMITTEE \*\*\*\*\*

\*

See DFT file: SNOTE.xxxxx

\*

( The password is same as BYLAW's

\*

\*\*\*\*\*

## SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

Read command : <Message from SAMBROWN at SBUG-80 03/05/85 22:49:25> Read command : HI GANG, I JUST BOUGHT ONE OF THOSE GALVIANS....\$650.00 AND ITS A POOR MANS WAY TO HAVE IBM PC WITH A A PORTABLE INCLUDED. THE THING IS ABOUT 85% COMPATIBLE WITH THE PC PROGRAMS AND COMES WITH AN ASSORTMENT OF REAL TIME PROGRAMS. THE EXTERNAL MONITOR IS A MUST. THE MODEM PROGRAMS WORK WELL AND ARE EASY TO USE. THE PRICES ARE FOR A FULL 160K AND MODEM AND SOFTWARES. THE THREE AND A HALF DRIVE MAKES THE PROTABLE REALLY USEFULL AND A 5 AND A HALF EXTERNAL IS AVAILABLE TOO. SERIAL PORT FOR THE PRINTERS AND A 56K RAM DISK IS ONLY 75.00 MORE. THE THING IS 9LBS. BATT OPERATED LIFE OF 8 HRS AND FAST CARGES IN ONE HOUR. CONNECTS TO THE R/S WITH NO PROBLEMS AND OPERATES THE 1000 AND UP SOFTWARES. THE UNITS ARE BEING SOLD ALL OVER TOWN AND ITS POSSIBLE TO GET A BAD ONE IF YA DONT KNOW SOMEONE THAT HAS ONE...CAUTION.... IF YA NEED ANY MORE INFO CALL ME...408-379-2774 AND ILL HELP YA OUT.....  
BOB BROWN

## MAGAZINES--SOME RAMBLINGS AND SOME CONCRETE

Most of us read computer magazines, some more, some less. I have subscribed over the past three years to at least ten. That would make me some more, wouldn't it?

For starters, the most read magazine amongst SBUG members, has to be 80-MICRO. For a captive magazine, it's not bad, it's even good. It doesn't slobber over Tandy products, it even criticizes them at times. Occasional slobbering seems to be an individual writer's thing, not editorial policy. An example was John B. Harrell III's review of Tandy's CP/M+. It was a rave that broke into a scream. Sliced bread was a flop, the cheeseburger a happenstance. WOW. Draw a deep breath, CP/M+ was IT. He had a similar reaction in a review of Multiplan. I hope only the odd numbered Harrells are like this. Every generation would be too much to deal with.

Fortunately for us SBUGGERS (one g or two?), other reviewers in 80MICRO are capable of saying a poor product is a poor product. We will miss 80-MICRO when it goes, and that can't be long. Sigh. The advertisers aren't there because the Model I-III-4 owners don't spend like a new Apple or IBM owner does. While the Model I-III-4 users may not be able to resist an occasional upgrade, the odd utility or program that catches their fancy, they cannot be compared to the Macintosh buyer, starting from scratch. As more and more Tandy purchasers buy the 1000, 1200, 2000, they will have joined the MSDOS world, they have no need of, or interest in, 80-MICRO.

Ah-h-h, let us turn to happier thoughts. COMPUTER SHOPPER. It's a wierd idea that works just fine. I have subscribed to it for almost three years, and it just keeps getting better and better. The editor, Stan Veit has been around micros from their beginning. He writes with substance, and doesn't try to kid the troupes. The myriad of advertisements will turn any hobbyist on. But wait, there's more! There are always a couple of excellent articles in each issue. What pleases me particularly is that COMPUTER SHOPPER has not allowed itself to be carried away by the raging IBM torrent.

There is a section devoted to Tandy, to Commodore, to Atari, Texas Instruments, and to Timex Sinclair amongst others. They have to have made

themselves a ton of readers by not shunting aside the minorities. After 80-MICRO the most important magazine for me.

Next in line is BYTE. It is undeniably the magazine-bible of microcomputers. Their reviews vary in quality. They have recognized that themselves by changing policy. It is simply a huge magazine, I know of no other in any field of its size. I don't believe there is any venality in the ownership or in the editorship. It has simply grown so fast that control has been difficult to maintain.

If you're into hardware, Steve Ciarcia is simply one of the best around. Jerry Pournelle is into as many things as one man can get into. He's easy to disagree with, but at least he keeps you interested. He's not above admitting his not infrequent mistakes, either. Articles come from all over representing the widest possible spectrum. An example, a few months back was a very flattering article on the LNW computer, a Tandy clone, since deceased. That the LNW may have vanished doesn't invalidate the opinion of its owner-user who wrote the article.

The voluminous ads cover just about everything imaginable in micros. I picked up the information to buy my power backup from BYTE. It was a bargain at the price. Reading BYTE gives you in depth information on what's going on in micros, and indeed, in the entire electronic information field.

INFOWORLD is a weekly. Once again, you get a wide range of input on computers. As a weekly, there is less depth than in BYTE. There is less balance too, which need not be true, even if it is a weekly. There are clear biases expressed by the editors, frequently on the basis of little information. They make an ongoing attempt to keep their reviews honest, but they have never achieved anything like an equilibrium. It appears that the thumb doesn't know what the pinky is doing.

I bought my printer on the basis of an INFOWORLD review. It's a great printer, just like the review said. Again, I feel that they make an honest attempt to be honest, but they sure can get confused. Part of that may come from the pressure of being a weekly. Their heavy emphasis on IBM can be very wearying unless you're an IBM stockholder. Their principal columnist, John Devorak has a heavy contempt for TANDY and all its works. His comments on Tandy computers are worth just about the paper they are printed on. Nevertheless, if micros fascinate you, as they do me, and you want to know what's going on in the micro world, INFO WORLD is another must, simply to keep up to date.

These are the four magazines I intend to continue to subscribe to. I also subscribe to Bruce Tonkin's newsletter, and shall continue to. If you haven't heard of Bruce Tonkin, he's in a class with Ward Christenson. His CREATOR program, selling for \$20 is a classic. You'll get some angles from reading his newsletter, that you'll get no where else. I sent Tonkin \$5 extra to cover shipping costs, and he sent me a \$10 program. Not exactly money hungry.

And now to the magazines I will not renew. First, and with considerable regret, DR DOBBS' JOURNAL. It's a solid, scientific, completely legitimate magazine, BUT, it's directed at the programmer. I think there are perhaps a dozen members of SBUG capable of really taking advantage of DR DOBBS' JOURNAL. Once in a while I catch a squib or two, but the price is too high for

## SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

what I extract. I know quality when I see it, DR DOBBS has it, but goodbye DR DOBBS, goodbye.

CREATIVE COMPUTING is not really as bad as I have heard some of our members say it is. It's not very good, either. A few issues back, they did an indepth report on the Japanese computer industry. Not bad, but you'll do better reading BYTE's column from Japan every month. For CREATIVE COMPUTING there are no bad computer products. Nothing ever gets a bad review. No renewal for CREATIVE COMPUTING.

COMPUTE. I have nothing much to say about COMPUTE, because it had nothing much to say. One subscription is enough.

BARRONS. Really a newsletter, not a magazine. I subscribed to it on the basis of its fame as a financial magazine. It turned out to be overpriced, and I have yet to see anything in it that I was not getting somewhere else. Back to the barony.

## TASTY NEWDOS NUGGETS from FCUG via MCTUG

Reading Model 4 TRSDOS 6.X, Model III LDOS or Model III DOSPLUS diskettes is just a matter of setting the right Pdrive

Single density LDOS/DOSPLUS/TRSDOS 6.x.

TI=A,TD=A,TC=40,SPT=10,TSR=3,GPL=2,DDSL=20,DDGGA=2,A

Double density, LDOS,DOSPLUS,TRSDOS 6.x.

TI=A,TD=E,TC=40,SPT=18,TSR=3,GPL=6,DDSL=12,DDGA=2,A

This will also allow you to run programs directly from these disks without having to copy the files to your NEWDOS disks. One more tidbit for the NEWDOS crowd. When formatting NEWDOS80 disks with the default parameters, the disk name used is always NOTNAMED. This can easily be changed with SUPERZAP to any eight characters you want. Use the DFS command to modify the SYS6/SYS file, relative sector 12, starting at address 3d hex. You can now have all your disks personalized during the formatting process.

## SOME TRSDOS 1.3 PATCHES also from MARIN COUNTY USERS GROUP NEWSLETTER

I'm sure there are plenty of you out there still using TRSDOS 1.3 to warrant printing these patches. They came to us from many sources, too many to list. Thanks to all the hackers responsible.

First patch bypasses the date question, second gives long error messages.

PATCH \*0 (ADD=4EB5,FIND=CD1B02,CHG=B72846)

PATCH \*4 (ADD=4E28,FIND=20,CHG=18)

Alters stepping rate of TRSDOS 1.3 from 6 milliseconds to 10 milliseconds. Use OF & 1F for 20 milliseconds

PATCH \*0 (ADD=423E,FIND=0C,CHG=0E)

```
PATCH *0 (ADD=4516,FIND=0C,CHG=0E)
PATCH *0 (ADD=4544,FIND=1C,CHG=1E)
PATCH *0 (ADD=4EF1,FIND=0C,CHG=0E)
```

Alter TRSDOS 1.3 from 40 to 80 tracks.

```
PATCH *0 (ADD=4926,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *0 (ADD=499B,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *0 (ADD=4B29,FIND=29,CHG=51)
PATCH *2 (ADD=4F61,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *6 (ADD=5C06,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *6 (ADD=5D53,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *7 (ADD=5203,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *7 (ADD=53FF,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *7 (ADD=5504,FIND=28,CHG=50)
PATCH *7 (ADD=5C4F,FIND=29,CHG=50)
PATCH *7 (ADD=5C4D,FIND=29,CHG=50)
```

Changes the "SYS" to "S" and the "INV" to "I" for shorter parameter input in the DIR command

```
PATCH *6 (ADD=5CC4,FIND=5953,CHG=2020)
PATCH *6 (ADD=5CCC,FIND=4E56,CHG=2020)
```

Allows DEBUG in TRSDOS 1.3 to inspect and modify addresses in the copyright and ROM code areas.

```
PATCH *5:0 (ADD=4EDF,FIND=38E6,CHG=0000)
PATCH *5:0 (ADD=4F004,FIND=D0,CHG=C9)
PATCH *5:0 (ADD=506E,FIND=38E3,CHG=0000)
```

#### FROM THE EDITOR'S HOVEL(SQUALID HOVEL?)

I have some new print wheels on order, and expect to have some new and exciting typefaces (if you're easily excited, that is) in DYNAMIC MEMORIES. Exhaustive research (I took the print wheel into Peninsula office supply) revealed that my printer uses BROTHER print wheels. Brother has a huge selection, and I hope to make your newsletter a little dressier in April.

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