

BYTE BANDITS

OF AMERICA

Newsletter

TRS-80

April-86

A GREAT BIG WELCOME to these new members:

Jim BAHLS	L. T. ZILISCH
Gene & Ruth COUCH	Derek HYPs
Mary MOORE	Jerry BEIN
Mark N. FILICE	

DISKETTES AVAILABLE THROUGH CLUB:

The club invested some of it's money and bought 20 boxes of D.S.D.D. Diskettes. We will sell them at \$10.00 per box. You can obtain them at the meetings or stop by the house. The diskettes are Holmes & Co. and are boxed with all the trimmings too!

1985 INCOME TAX PROGRAM (IBM FORMAT):

We downloaded an Income Tax 1985 Program (Freeware) that is quite complete. It includes all the forms and documentation. This is an IBM Format Program so it's only usable on the larger Tandy machines.

UPCOMING EXPO'S

There are a few EXPO'S coming up this Spring. They will be held in S.F. and Oakland. Are they worth visiting? To someone who never visited one, yes. To go to more than one is a waste of your time and money. A few suggestions to assist you:

1. Plan to start early in the morning so you can obtain parking close by (within 6 blocks).
2. Plan your day to include something else other than the EXPO. It gets very boring walking around the same aisles seeing the same equipment, etc.
3. If you plan to buy equipment, do it on the last day of the EXPO and preferrably in the late afternoon. The dealers will cut their prices

so they do not have to bring their wares back to their stores.

If you plan to see Tandy equipment there, forget it! The only T.R.S. represented will be in the Computer Club's Section. There should be at least two Northern Bay Area Clubs present.

MODEL III KEY CAP REPLACEMENTS:

Lolir Lectronics Corp. (214/234-8032) is the company to call should you need to replace key caps on your Model III. They also have surplus motherboards and things for the Model III.

LNW COMPUTER PARTS & SERVICE:

If you own a L.N.W. computer or interface unit, you should know that service and parts are available at:

ERB's COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Ph. 213/699-6684
Whittier, CA.

HYPERCROSS:

There were a few persons who wanted to know what "Hypercross" was. Well, it is a transfer program. You can cross the barrier between computers, you can copy FILES between TRS-80 Disks and CP/M Disks as well as IBM-PC type Disks. You can transfer your text files (Basic-Fortran-Pascal-"C" and COCO, Visicalc, General Ledger, Accounting, Data Bases, and Binary files). You can FORMAT and COPY Disks on your TRS-80's without using cables. The club has Hypercross and the COCO transfer program.

MULTITASKING WITH MODEL 4 & TRSDOS 6.2:

Be careful how you attempt multitasking using the Model 4 and TRSDOS 6.2. It steals time away from your programs in order to keep the clock properly updated. Some applications that access a disk will turn off this multitasking before they begin to prevent system crashes, etc. If you read the manual under SYSTEM command, you will see the "smooth option" explained. This makes it possible for you to continue typing while the DOS accesses the disk, without losing characters. Some drives might lose characters every once in a while when transferring to the CPU. This could lead to lost characters when you do your printer functions. A real hard problem to solve when you have the disk drive set up defferently than what TANDY specifies. I heard of

this problem before on a few Model 4 machines. I do believe that you shall have to observe the stepping rate drives when you change them in your machine's set-up.

TANDY 1000 INFO:

The Tandy 1000 has a new upgraded DOS and the changeover from 1.01.00 to 2.11.22 will be MANDATORY! R/S will no longer support 1.01.00 DOS. Take your original back to a computer center and they will copy the new DOS to your disk. WARNING! Make sure you keep a copy of the old DOS! The new DOS had BASIC and a bunch of new and efficient commands and files. They say it's almost IBM compatible.

TRSDOS 6.2.0 SOURCE CODE:

Anyone interested in the source code for TRSDOS 6.2.0? It's being offered at \$100.00 by MISOSYS (703/450-4181). This is a 3 Volume Set: the System, the Libraries, and the Utilities.

NEWDOS/80 "M DRIVE" FOR MODEL 4/4P USERS:

For the NEWDOS/80 Model 4/4P users, "M DRIVE". This problem enables NEWDOS/80 to utilize the upper 64K of 128K memory as a ultra high speed drive. It requires MODEL III NEWDOS 2.0-2.5 AND \$17.00 % LARRY J. AHR, P.O. BOX 25807, Colorado Springs, CO. 80936.

RADIO SHACK & COMPUTERS (PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE):

Radio Shack introduced the world of computers in 1977. The results of nearly 10 years (1977 to 1986) show that the computer is slowly conquering its goals of 1977. The acceptance by the population has been expensive and slow. Applications in the home and at the office and schools have changed. Refinement of the machines has been successful but the people have not been educated sufficiently to warrant the computer as a successful "wonder of the world."

I think we are too mute in our everyday activities to learn new concepts. We show modernization because we must adapt ourselves to whole new environments that are hard to develop (sort of like giving up a bad habit). Also, you might ask; is it really necessary? Look around you; workplaces are changing, autos and other consumer items are advancing into modern technology. Yet we think we don't need to keep pace- that is until we have to repair something or find a different job. Anyway, here is how Radio Shack perceived our goals back in 1977:

Personal:

"A micro can be used to control home appliances and lighting-programmed to conserve energy. There is personal budget balancing - keeping track of recipes - creating food menus - inventory groceries, and math review for students at home."

Boy, I didn't know you could do all that with a personal computer. Maybe someone can expound on those applications some day. Has anyone been able to balance their home budget yet? I think getting a student to put a math review into their computer would be a major shock to any parent.

Business:

"In business a micro reduces tedious, time-consuming clerical functions to automatic, error free, lightning fast operations. All records can be permanently stored for later use."

No way! This hasn't been the case since the first computer salesperson got fired! Those wonderful office timesavers have created havoc in every office from scrapyards to super businesses. Each newer, faster, time saving computer requires a 6 month office lag to get it functionally coordinated with office routine. Maybe they need to sell a computer operator with each office machine?

Educational:

"Teachers and students already use computers for reading skills, test, math and many forms of learning - even computer programming - all with the micro computer."

Now this I can agree with. Students and their teachers are among the best when playing the games or cracking program protections. Have you visited our schools lately? The computers sit like spare basketballs on a shelf. A nice item to have around, when we get caught up with everything else first. They don't have to teach computers in school - the contract says that. And what with the variety of computers in the schools - a computer course cannot be formatted for a school district. Thus, you have a few teachers making do with the industries worst collection of junk. Thus you can see the attitude of teaching computers in the schools.

I'm sure we can count on the population slowly modernizing and computers becoming more practical for everyone. But, why wait til you get caught with the crowd? Put your home life in a progressive move toward modernization, slowly - but positively! Maybe you can even try to understand your automobile system? Life styles will continue to go forward

- and so can you.

"PORTABLE" MAGAZINE:

I placed an order for a magazine for the Portables 100 - 200 - 600 & NEC. It's called "PORTABLE" and it is dedicated to the TANDY portable computers. I do have the January, 1986 issue. You can look it over at the meetings.

CORDLESS TELEPHONE & PORTABLE COMPUTER

There is an article on using your cordless telephone with your portable, or I guess any other machine you want. That's putting computing right along side your swimming pool.

M-100 PORTABLE & TANDY 1000, 2000, & 3000 INTERFACING:

Radio Shack will be selling the M-100 very cheap next month. So for those who wish to take advantage of tying a portable to a larger machine (like the Tandy 1000, 2000, 3000, Compaq, or AT&T). The whole MS-DOS world will connect to the M-100 using a program called "Telecommuter." It is produced by SIGEA SYSTEMS Inc. (617/647-1099). It produces file transfers quickly using the same word processing and communications commands on both computers.

COMPUTERS FOR THE SEVERELY DISABLED (CFSD):

Any donation of equipment for CFSD should be made thru the Easter Seal Society, P. O. Box 626, Santa Cruz, CA. 95061. The CFSD needs equipment and money for modifying computers for the severely disabled people. What with Radio Shack having a sale on their M-100 portables, it would be a good way to donate a computer that can be adapted so the severely handicapped would be kept active. Your donation would be tax deductible thru the Easter Seal Society.

MODEL 4'S AVAILABLE (\$500.00)

I have found a good source for used Model 4 computers at \$500.00 each. The money must be up front but a very reliable person has the ability to obtain them. These are the older Model 4 machines with 2 Disk Drives.

JAN.	PROGRAM " OPERATING SYSTEMS" FOR YOUR COMPUTERS
FEB.	BASIC PROGRAMMING
MARCH	PROGRAMS "INSTALLATION" IN YOUR COMPUTER
APRIL	CARE AND CLEANING OF COMPUTER ACCESSORIES
MAY	COMPUTER BOOKS AND MAGAZINES
JUNE	TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND YOU
JULY	COMPUTER SCHOOLS
AUG.	-COURSES- CLASSES
SEPT.	COMPUTER UTILITY PROGRAMS
	COPY PROTECTION-COPYING PROGRAMS
OCT.	PROGRAMMING ERRORS AND REPAIRS
NOV.	COMPUTER CLUB REVIEW
DEC.	PRINTERS-PATCHES-PROTICOLS

Meeting Scheduling:

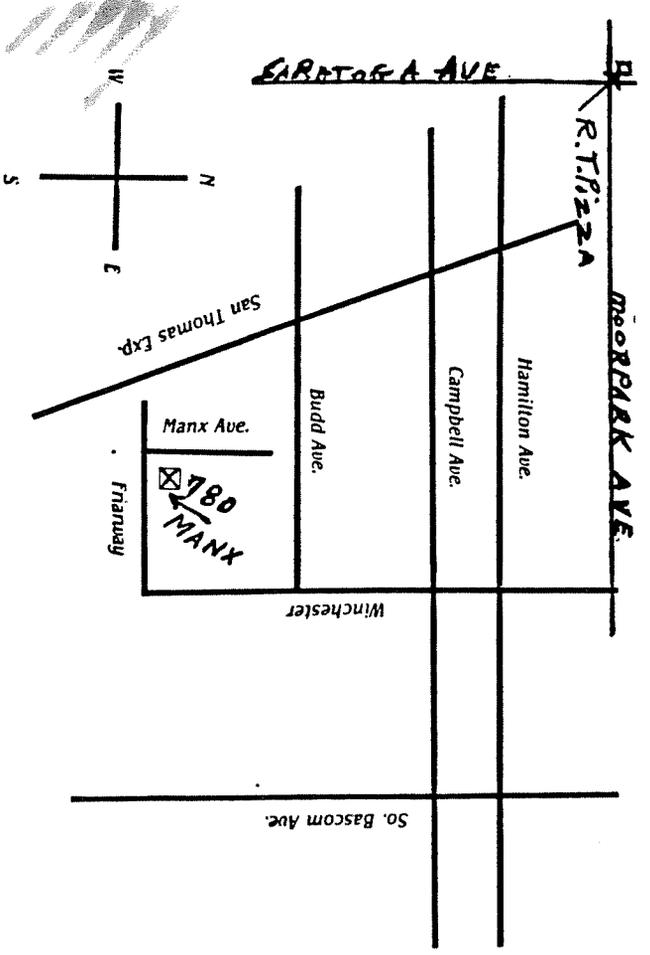
2nd Sat 1 p.m. Our House.
 Workshop <Bring Computers>

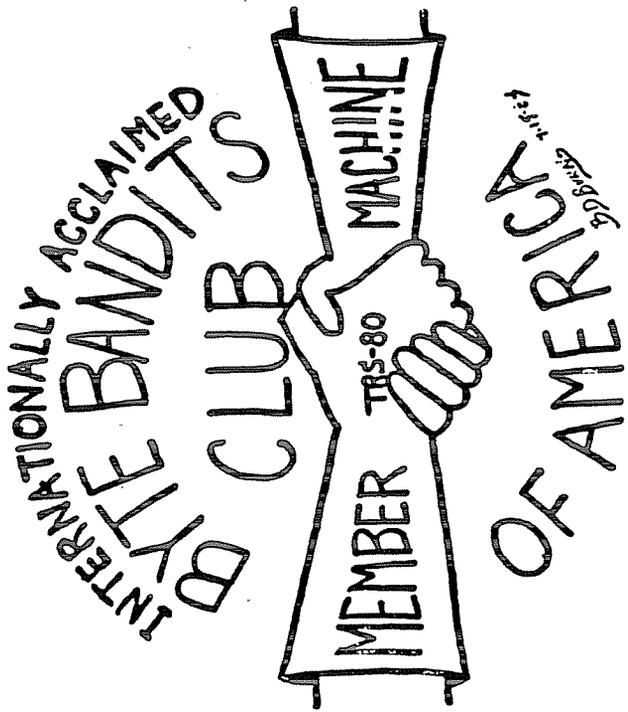
4th Wed. 6 p.m. Round Table Pizza
 Formal Lectures etc.

1. Membership Card Required
2. Guests : By Appointment only

INFO: 408-379-2774

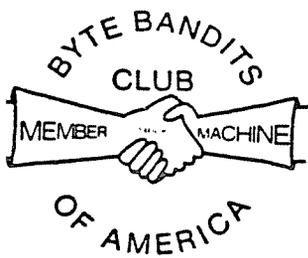
B.B.S.: 408-374-3974





This club has been established to provide its members total computer knowledge using "hands-on" application during the meetings. For better understanding of existing hardware and software in an informal—social club atmosphere.

We hope to provide members close contact between novice and amateur home computer enthusiasts; young and old, male and female, school, home, business and hobbyist.



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