

Byte Bandits Of America  
TRS-80's Computer club  
780 MARK AVE.  
Campbell, ca 95008

Newsletter

June 1986

TRS-80's

Meetings:

There does not seem to be very much interest in the formal meeting . The 4th Wednesday of the month. That means it should be changed to a different format or we should cancel it. Since it doesn't cost us anything but our time, I find it foolish to eliminate it. So I am open to Suggestions? One Idea I Had would be to promote a new program at each meeting. That is, Buy a program and operate it at each meeting. Discuss it and pass it around for evaluation . If we keep the cost around \$50.00 it should keep up active during the Summer months. I'll order out these three programs and hope to have them at this next meeting . Fairytale - Wonderland - Dream World Adventures . Try to make the meetings too! Trs-80's support is leaning out in the Bay Area!

Micro to Mainframe:

Bridging the Synchronous protocols to link up Trs-80's to mainframes using Trsdos has been a dream for many Tandy users. Finally there is an emulation program available. "Telexpress Inc." has an emulator program that allows communications for most types of mainframe computers. Call 609-877-4900 and ask about "TeleTerm" Also ask for the price (They did not advertise it!)

Self Training Media:

I found a use for the ole cassette recorder, No!, not for data storage. For listening to instruction tapes, for your MS-DOS programs . All you need to do is load the tapes into your favorite tape recorder and listen and learn.

This company also sells disks for the person that wishes to learn or practice on their computer. Both types of courses cost less than \$100.00 each . Should you wish more information , look at the catalog called "R and R direct" when you are at the meetings . The company also sells video training VCR tapes, too. Call 1-800-654-PLUS for prices and programs selections . Note : These training courses are for the more popular MS-DOS programs.

Swap Meets :

1. May 31 Saturday 10-6 pm 1 day  
Santa Clara Fairgrounds
2. June 7 Saturday 10-5 pm 1 day  
San Jose Conventions Center Exhibit Hall

CP/M programs:

I was wanting to use a few CP/m programs last weekend. I found that those who have CP/M do not have any programs for the CP/M.

So I'm going to change that quickly. Fill the memory banks with an assortment of CP/M selections! Yes, I will attempt to obtain the club a fair selection of practical CP/M softwares.

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 \*\*\* KAY\*FOG \*\*\*  
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GOLDEN GATE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

THE "KAY\*FOG" RBBS Bond Shands, System Operator  
 P.O. Box 11135 | San Francisco, CA 94101 | Modem (415)285-2687

KAY\*FOG CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION AS OF 5/20/86

*THE ONLY LOCAL  
 C. P. M. b.b.s.*

User Name: AVAILABLE AT  
 Password: THE CLUB TRS  
 System ID: MEETINGS.

— FREE —

Dear SAM

==\*- KAY\*FOG MESSAGE SYSTEM COMMAND SUMMARY -==\*

-----ACTION COMMANDS-----      -----MAIL and MESSAGE COMMANDS-----

BYE = Log-off. No comment option  
 CPM = Public Domain File Area  
 CH = CHAT with Sysop (if available)  
 EX = EXPERT mode temporary on/off  
 G = GOODBYE with Comment option  
 J = JUMP to CPM File Area  
 U = User Profile/Terminal Options

APP = APPLY for System Registration  
 COM = COMMENTS (private) to the Sysop  
 E = ENTER a new message (send mail)  
 KI = KILL (erase/delete) a message  
 M = Mail list (Use R or RS to Read)  
 Q = QUICKSUMMARY of Message Topics  
 R = READ mail (or messages)  
 R;? = Read/Search Help Information  
 REP = REPLY to specific message number  
 RES = RESTORE a deleted message  
 RN \* = Read New (BEST READ COMMAND)  
 RP = Read Previous (same as RN)  
 RR = Read Reverse Order  
 RR;? = Read Reverse Order with Help  
 RS = Read Sequential Order  
 RS;? = Read Sequential/Search Help Info  
 S = SUMMARY list of Topic, Date, etc.  
 S;? = Summary/Search Help Information  
 UN = UNKILL (same as RESTORE)

-----INFORMATION COMMANDS-----

A = ARTICLES, Calendar, Features  
 W ~~B~~ = Bulletin Board Instructions  
 CA = CALLERS listing (since 6pm)  
 L = List/Locate another User or City  
 N = NOTES - System Information/Help  
 O = Other BBS System phone listing  
 ST = STATS - redisplay logon stats  
 T = TIME (date, time and time used)  
 D ~~#~~ = Directory of Registered Users  
 I = Help

Enter the command NOTES for detailed information and help using the system.

-----==\*- END OF COMMAND SUMMARY -==\*-----

OTHER COMMANDS (ALIAS NAMES FOR THOSE NOTED IN THE SUMMARY).

F = FEATURES (same as ARTICLES)      H = HELP (same as '?')  
 WH = WHO am I?      - = (same as WHO command)  
 Y = YELL (same as CHAT)      X = XPERT (same as EXPERT)  
 Z = (same as CALLERS command)      # = (same as STATS command)

NOTE: The easiest way to log into the system is to do so utilizing your secret "SYSTEM ID". Your "SYSTEM ID" is the combination of your USER NUMBER plus your personal password (i.e. if your user number is 711 and your password is DOGGY, then your "SYSTEM ID" would be 711DOGGY). When the system asks that you enter your name, enter your "SYSTEM ID" instead and logon should proceed very quickly.

#### Checksum:

As I picked up the June 86 Issue of "80 micro" I wondered what it had to offer that the other issues didn't have? "Special Issue" I'm still wondering! I did find a short program that you can use to verify programs (That you create or type from a listing) Operations - functions - etc. for typos or errors all are verified. This program is the Highlight of this Issue of "80 micro" . The rest of the book is filled with junk from the MS-DOS world.

#### Model 4

It was brought to my attention that finding a model 4 (any type) in the Radio Shack stores, is getting very hard to do. "Powersoft" says "The Dealers won't stock them, Tandy isn't going to continue them, either!" Did Tandy screw the model 4 up by changing to new roms? Incompatibility Kills the market quickly! maybe Tandy got MS-DOS fever? (big bucks for computers with visual softwares on the shelves.)

The new model 4 computers have only CP/M programs to run so far . Probably the third party support isn't there to support the new roms? Well it is comforting to know the model III side can bank select all the memory . At least its not all lost.

#### Schools Out:

With the schools closing for a much needed rest, It would be practical to discuss with your children, their interests in the use of computers at school . Will they be changing schools next year? Will your child be going to summer school? Do the schools offer computer classes along with other courses? Would a home summer computer course be practical when vacation starts to get boring? How about a few computer games instead of those Cartoons?

There are many primer programs- Typing - Speed Reading - Math - Spelling - etc. These could enhance your child's education for the next school year.

#### Summer Camp

Have you inquired about the summer camps that offer computers too? They cost alot more money but a higher level intellectual setting would be surrounding your child. The camps offer complete summer fun, plus computer knowledge ,too.

#### Lockheed Swap meet:

The Byte Bandits of America was represented at Lockheed's private (employee's only) swap meet. It was held May 8, 4 pm - 6 pm. The club's appearance was requested. So we went with out computer-banner and club literatures.

#### Laser Jet Printer:

The ability to connect a laser jet printer to the model I-III-IV computers is awesome . The printers cost much more than the computers ,but like all good computers, we can now plug one in and use it efficiently. There is this add on program from "Prosoft" that operates with "Allwrite" word processor and it contains a variety of fonts . The cost of the program is \$50 - 100 and it can be ordered with "Allwrite" or as a seperate program.

#### BBS .

The Club has a few good selections of programs in the download section . Call 408-374-3974 And test your skill at transferring programs through the telephone lines. I know, Its hard to get on the bbs, it's very popular. Bring your modems and computers to the meetings (2nd sat) They are capable of connecting computer to computer for transferring of Programs. Try it.

#### Trs-80 World:

Ever get the feeling that Tandy's world is slowly disappearing? The retail market for our computer has dried up locally. The shows and swap meets are void of Radio Shack computers. Should we be ashamed of our computer? Where is our public Image? Are the trs-80 clubs letting down their Public Images? Is there something we should do? Hello Tandy! We still need you!!

# Transfer Points

Build your own null modem adapter for moving files between computers.

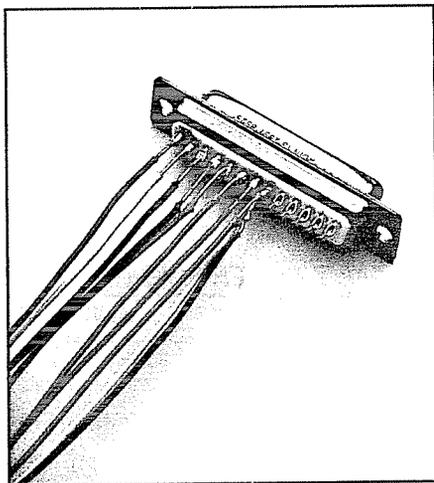


Photo. Null modem adapter.

Many owners of Tandy MS-DOS computers face the job of transferring Model I/III/4 files to their new machines. Some transfer methods require extra hardware or software that can cost serious money. But for a few dollars, we built a null modem device, which allowed us to move files from a Model 4 to a Tandy 1000 via their serial ports (see the Photo). Since TRS-DOS 6 has a COMM utility and the 1000 comes with DeskMate, we didn't need additional communications software. You could, of course, use a similar setup to move files between any two computers.

## Making the Connection

To port files, your Tandy 1000 must have the RS-232C upgrade sold by Radio Shack (stock number 25-1006, \$99).

The null modem is an adapter that you connect to one of the computers—it crosses send and receive lines so the two machines can communicate. To build your own, you'll need male and female 25-pin D-subminiature connectors (part numbers 276-1547 and 276-1548 respectively) or the equivalent. The Table shows the wiring configuration. We tied pins 6, 8, and 20 together and the device still worked.

## System Requirements

All systems

### Male Connector

- 1 Protective ground
- 2 Transmit data
- 3 Receive data
- 4 Request to send
- 5 Clear to send
- 6 Data set ready
- 7 Signal ground
- 8 Carrier detect
- 20 Data terminal ready
- 20 Data terminal ready

### Female Connector

- 1 Protective ground
- 3 Transmit data
- 2 Receive data
- 5 Clear to send
- 4 Request to send
- 20 Data terminal ready
- 7 Signal ground
- 20 Data terminal ready
- 8 Carrier detect
- 6 Data set ready

{ other pins not required for this function }

Table. Pin configurations.

### Current Status:

- Autodial Modem . . . . . No
- BAUD Rate . . . . . 300
- Data Word Length . . . . . 8 BITS
- Parity . . . . . NONE
- Number of Stop Bits . . . . . 1 BIT
- XON/XOFF Flow Control . . . ON
- ASCII Character filter . . . . . OFF
- Line Feed Filter . . . . . OFF
- Echo (Half Duplex) . . . . . OFF
- Redial (# of Retries) . . . . . 0

Figure 1. The screen display of DeskMate protocol parameters.

Only nine pins have to be wired on each connector. Don't use ribbon cable, which is awkward for crossing connections. Use solid wire instead of stranded for better support. The wire path should be flexible so the connectors won't dislodge if the computers are accidentally bumped. Figures 1 and 2 show the protocols you should use to configure DeskMate and SETCOM. Pressing the clear and 8 keys together gives you a menu showing the COMM settings. ■

Dan Keen and Robert Murray can be reached at RD 1 Box 432, State Highway 83, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210.

### RS232 parameters:

- Baud = 300
- Word Length = 8
- Stop Bits = 1
- Parity = NONE
- Break Value = X'03'

### Output control line status:

- DTR = OFF
- RTS = OFF

### Input control line conditions observed:

- RI = IGNORE
- DSR = IGNORE
- CD = IGNORE
- CTS = IGNORE

Figure 2. The screen display of SETCOM parameters.

### Related Articles

Dixon, Bradford N., "You Can Get There from Here," September 1985, p. 36. A tutorial on transferring files between computers.

Rowell, Dave, "Have Data, Will Travel," October 1985, p. 52. A tutorial on data file compatibility.

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
OCT.	COPY PROTECTION-COPYING PROGRAMS
NOV.	PROGRAMMING ERRORS AND REPAIRS
DEC.	COMPUTER CLUB REVIEW
	PRINTERS-PATCHES-PROTICOLES

Meeting Scheduling:

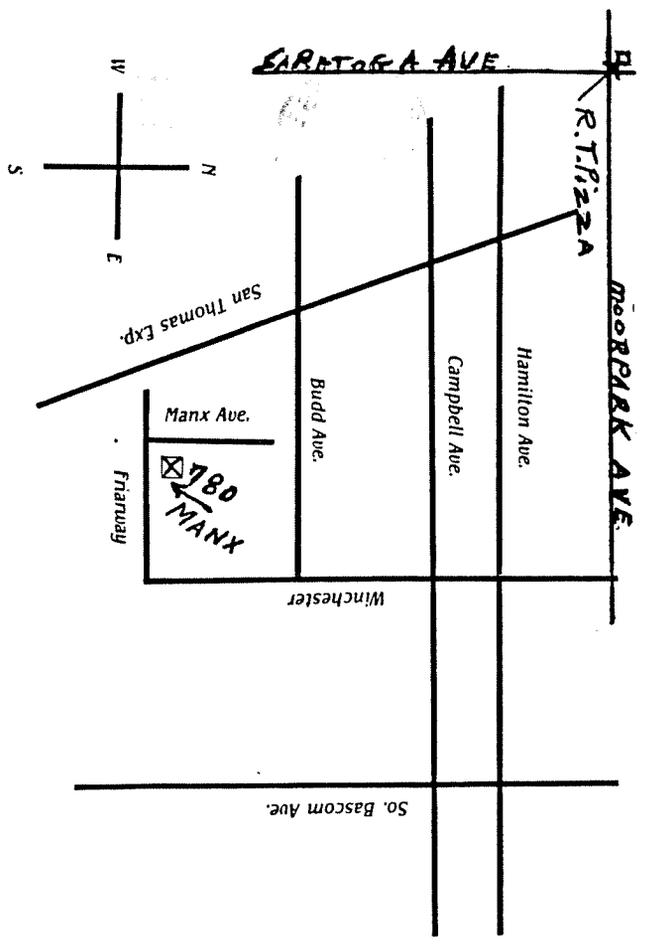
2nd Sat 1 p.m. Our House.  
 Workshop <Bring Computers>

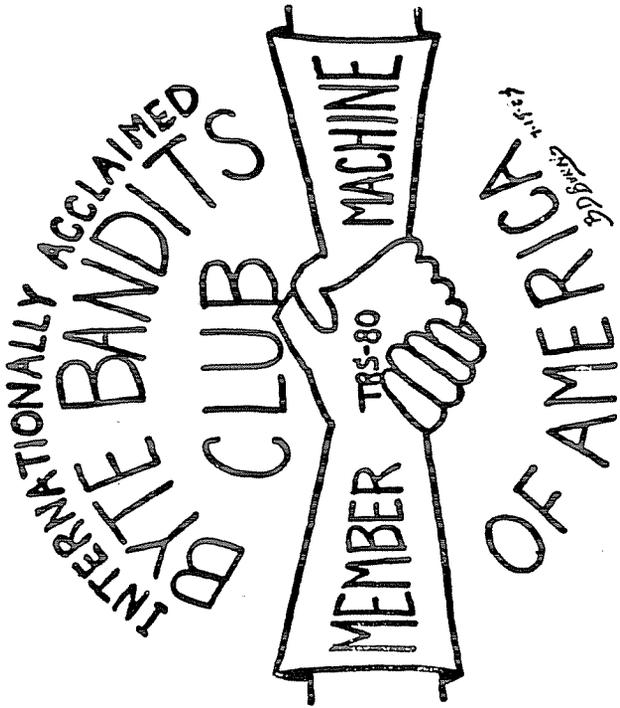
4th Wed. 6 p.m. Round Table Pizza  
 Formal Lectures etc.

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

INFO: 408-379-2774

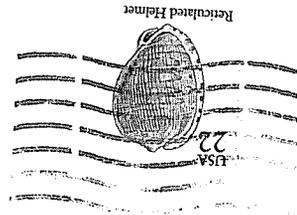
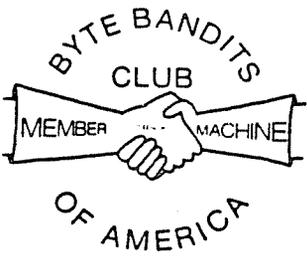
B.B.S.: 408-374-3974





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.



**780 MANX AVE.**  
Campbell, CA 95008