



DYNAMIC MEMORIES.

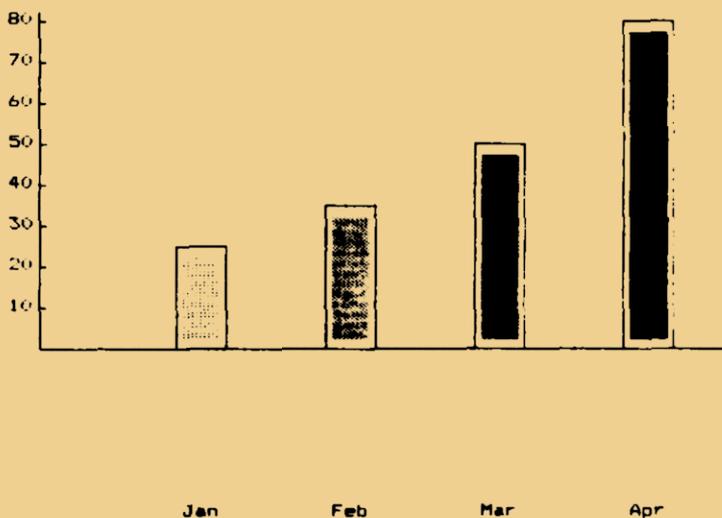


MAY 1987



1987 Membership

SRUG
Membership
in
thousands



SBUG STEERING COMMITTEE

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

THE EDITOR'S BYTES AND BITES

Have you ever met one of those obnoxious fellows who is always promoting something, (usually himself along the way)? He knows everyone, he has to because he introduces himself to everyone. He knows where to get everything wholesale, he may not know the governor nor the mayor but he always knows people who can get things done that the mayor and the governor sometimes cant.

This type of fellow is sometimes sly and silent, sometimes loud and brassy, in either case you can be sure that he is always pushing and for that reason most people don't like to be around him and are always surprised to find that they tolerate him and even invite him sometimes.

Why am I writing about such people in a computer club newsletter? Because we need just such an obnoxious fellow to help us out in our time of need. We need a pushy person, a gadfly, a hustler (small h). With our membership dropping like a stone we need one. If you are an obnoxious fellow please get in touch with any of the steering committee as above. There's no money in it, but you can make a lot of acquaintances and that's a large part of your stock in trade. You also like to have people obliged to you, and we would be.

SOUTHBAY USERS' GROUP DYNAMIC MEMORIES

SBUG Financial Statement
April 20, 1987

Receipts:	April	Y-T-Date	% Used	Budget
Members dues	40.00	270.00	27.00%	1000.00
Disk Library	0.00	18.00	12.00%	150.00
Load80	92.00	188.00	62.67%	300.00
Documentation	0.00	.00	.00%	24.00
Interest	0.00	2.90	29.00%	10.00
Total Receipts	132.00	478.90	32.27%	1484.00
Disbursements:				
Phone	8.53	25.59	25.09%	102.00
Utilities	15.00	75.00	41.67%	180.00
Printing	43.82	187.87	34.79%	540.00
Postage	22.00	44.00	30.56%	144.00
P O Box	0.00	.00	.00%	26.00
Bank charges	4.00	16.00	66.67%	24.00
Disk Library	0.00	.00	.00%	120.00
Documentation	0.00	10.00	20.00%	50.00
Load80 Subscription	149.95	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
Total Disbursements	243.30	602.41	37.39%	1611.00
Beginning				
Cash Balance	302.10	314.31	100.00%	314.31
Net Receipts	-111.30	-123.51	97.25%	-127.00
Ending Balance	190.80	190.80	101.86%	187.31

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST
SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP
APRIL 1987

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Steve	Workman		(408)	258-8461	88/87

MODEL 3/4 CORNER

Recently a new member of our club has confessed an attachment to the Models 3/4. As I have said before, for the vast majority, even one might say, the entirety of home/small business users, they need go no further in computing than these models. What I write here is a complement to the republished article below.

There are really only three basic programs in computing (something like sex?), all the rest are only variations. I mean word processing, data bases and spreadsheets. There are first rate word processors for the III and the 4. There is at least one very fast and easy data base for the III/4. Visicalc for the III is pretty poor, it's excellent on the 4.

When you run at 8 or 10 Megahertz you don't really get a great increase in speed unless you're running a spreadsheet correlating the U.S. national debt with the Soviet arms expenditure for 1985. A number of the TRS-80 programs can also go supersonic by using ramdisk if you have a 4 with 128K. ALLWRITE is a good example of this.

The real difference in speed comes with the hard disk. They're available for the TRS 3/4 but they're expensive. Now let me turn you over to the eloquent defender of TRS-80, Mr. Cliff Richards.

MARVELOUS TRS 80

Boards which add Megabytes of memory to the Models 4, III or I appeared during the past year. The year Tandy torpedoed this line of computers, leaving Model 4/4P buyers with a DOS which ended at the end of 1987 and no future.

This same year marked the arrival of the 1mb RAM chips enabling boards with memories up to 64Mb inside the smallest (4P) computers. Alpha produce quantities of 64Mb RAM boards for USA government use in schools. (For the life of me, I cannot guess why.)

Another development during the year was a CPU Superchip. Developed by HITACHI, the HD64180 is fully compatible with the Z80 in your TRS-80, runs at twice the speed and addresses up to 512K of dynamic memory. Because of these developments, our TRSDOS TRS-80s may have a unique and useful future.

Put all these developments together, and it could be that Tandy have shot themselves in the foot.

The TRS-80 runs the most advanced and practical word processing programs of all operating systems. Lazy Writer Version 3.5, Le Script 1.7, Typitall and Allwrite leave the accepted world standard, Wordstar, far behind. All TRS-80 WP programs are far ahead of Lotus, The Word, and Open Access.

WP programs have long been my special interest. Six years detailed study of WP programs on various computers is the basis for my statement. It is interesting that LeScript has an MSDOS version which does not perform nearly as well as on the TRS-80.

Assembly source code is easier to write on our TRS-80 which can be a plan for MSDOS operation. I know of a successful international programmer who works out his major programs this way. These are some of the many reasons why our machines will be around for many years.

Supermem boards make the TRS-80 load programs faster, execute smoother and in a tenth of the time. It works the same as if LS-DOS's MEMDISK accessed not 3, but 32 memory banks. Instead of 64K ram, you Memdisk has 896K. Supermem is not dynamic, and software houses may develop their established software to use big buffers. LeScript already has a buffer of 999,800K.

The luck is that all these three developments appeared at the eleventh hour. The HITACHI CPU can be installed with Supermem or on its own. In Adelaide the HITACHI (H.I. Tech SLR8 board) is up and running, the feed backs is that it is amazingly brilliant.

The HITACHI chip is fully compatible with the CT180 high resolution and colour graphics board giving specifications comparable to the IBM PGA and enhanced Graphics Adaptor, the McIntosh and Amiga. The GT180 display resolution is 640 by 480 with 16 of 4096 colours. Guess what you could do with your old model 4?

This will mean new programs such as Desktop Publishing and more, next year will see wonderful things.

I have 1024K in my Model 4 and use Supermem as Drive :0. With 894K available, some space is taken by System files

but I have never yet filled my Ramdisk in nearly a year's daily use.

This gives me five drives, all within the computer, 3x80tk double fast, using DiskDisk, I can create a rD or *0 track disk on Ramdrive and back it up as a mirror image faster than using two other drives.

I often use both Superlog 4 and Pronto at the same time. After I learned to use the board, not once has it faltered or failed. Some early troubles were from the software by Security and Software of Houston, Texas. The author died leaving a legacy of bugs. There is a new program by Anitek (LeScript) which is simple and covers both LDOS and LS-DOS 4.

I sysgened Supermem and Superlog 4 into the booting drive (:1). On cold boot, hold down the <CLEAR> key, install the Memdrive and transfer wanted files to it. I can run Newdos, Ldos, Multidos, CP/M, Super Utility, the Arranger, etc., and while I do not turn power off of Install Newdos, Ldos or CP/M (RAMDRV/CPM) as a Ramdrive, all the files remain intact. I can even crash the machine, when I re-boot Ramdrive (warm) it is still there, not a byte out of place.

My board was developed by Alpha Technology Inc., 1127 S. Patrick Dr., Suite 24 Satellite Beach, FL 32937-3739, USA. There are 30 1 Mb Alpha boards in use in Australia and so many on order that they are now behind in deliveries. Treat yourself to one, you will never regret it.

THIS MONTH'S BARGAIN

Back issues of 80 Micro available; great for new members to complete library of early issues! Would like to sell 54 issues from #1 which is 01/80 to 04/85 as a set. 80 Micro sells them for \$4.50 plus postage each. Make me an offer I can't refuse. Please smile when you say that.

Casey Parker
(415) 793-2715

LOAD 80

Are you interested in Load 80. Please let us know on the bulletin board. This is necessary if we are to conserve this species for posterity (and you).

AFAIREING

I report from San Francisco for those of you too interested in your multiplex affairs to faire.

This year's prices, \$12 for one day, \$20 for four day admission. I went on Saturday, arrived early, there was a crowd already waiting.

Keytronic keyboard. My keyboard has never given me any problems, the feel is not bad, but I don't like the key placement and miss the exclusive number pad of the 4. As are MSDOS keyboards, mine is switchable from numbers to word processing functions via NUMLOCK. The Keytronic KB101 has a separate cursor pad, and number pad. The shift and Alt keys are better placed too. \$149.00 at show prices. Keytronics is not found heavily discounted.

Would you like an Apple II-GS with a tiny screen, toy like keyboard and 250K memory for \$1800? Thousands of people do. I don't criticize them and I don't criticize the lemmings either. We all do what seems best to us, but aren't some of us strange.

Budweiser was selling at \$2.40 the 12 oz. bottle. There are places in Philly you can get crack cheaper than that. If one is vicious one must pay for one's vices. Especially at the faire.

There were a number of the new multisync, multiscan monitors on display. The Sony had to be the best of the lot. Its display can only be called stunning. \$645. Beauty has no price.

There were a lot of bargains at the show.

Impressions of the IBM exhibit. Impressive, low key, very luxurious, very IBM and very unexciting.

For me the bargain of the show was PAGER, a page printing program which I am now using to make up the cover of DYNAMIC MEMORIES in conjunction with PRINTMASTER a graphics program. PAGER was on sale at \$44.95. A real bargain and bound to be of use in some fashion to anyone who works with a computer.

The show was very well attended, certainly a success. Probably the most important new thing was the laser printer. I

should have looked them over better. Their price puts them out of my reach and I was slaving with jealousy of the people who can afford them.

Megaflight hard disk expansion software increases your hard disk capacity 50%. Their dealer installs it. I presume it's RLL.

Tandy as usual made no appearance. This has to be a mistake. These are the shows attended by the people who are Tandy customers. If there's no Tandy presence they can certainly be lost.

The IBM AT/XT CLONE USER GROUP. Of course there should be one. Or a lot of them. They meet at Fort Mason in San Francisco, their bulletin board number is (415) 552-9070.

Storage System Engineering Service advertises its Trio Accelerator 286 as follows:

Speed card+Turbo+V20
Norton "SI"=9.4

You may call (408) 554-0841 if you're interested. No price given.

FOG "The International Nonprofit Computer Users' Group. 17000 members. So, a few more than SBUG. "One of the world's largest collections of public domain software programs-- more than 5000 files ---" They support CP/M, MSDOS and Commodore. You may call (415) 755-2000.

The PRESIDENT. "The PRESIDENT is a universal printer interface program that lets you use every feature built into your printer with any application program or utility program that you have.

The PRESIDENT works with any printer." Call (415) 930-9470.

INNKEEPER a complete hotel program. \$1,495. I remember when you could buy a hotel for that kind of money.

My other purchase was diskettes from National Diskettes @ \$.28 each. I've used several of them with no problems.

The faire seems to change a little bit every year. It started out as a hacker/enthusiast affaire. Two years ago it

was so stiff with starch it creaked. People without ties were looked at oddly. Just barely tolerated. This year it was more heterogeneous. I tolerate IBM and they tolerate me. No cordiality but no animosity.

Synthesis. It was worth going to. Nothing really startling appeared. As I said above, the stars of the show were the laser printers and the multisync, multiscan monitors. If you can afford either one you should underwrite SBUG.

CHEAP SPEED UP FOR THE MSDOS COMPUTER

by Steve Thraen

If you are interested in a simple way to add some increase in speed to your machine, pop out that slow old 8088 or 8086 and put in a NEC V20 or V30. I've heard different things from around the computer world, but there's no cheaper way to speed up you PC or XT.

At first the speed gain may seem rather miniscule, in fact, the V20 and V30 (which replace the 8088 and 8086, in that order) are rated by NEC at about a 6% faster chip than the Intel chips. According to some tests if you recalculate long spreadsheets or perform other processing-intensive operations, you will find that your speed gain may increase as much as 25%.

The primary difference between the V20 and V30 is a similar one to between the 8088 and 8086: The V30 is a 16-bit processor, while the V20 is the same as the V30 but is surrounded by an 8-bit shell. Not only are the V20 and V30 fully pin compatible with the Intel chips, they're software compatible too!

If you look hard, you might find some older software that won't run properly with the V20, Lotus 1-2-3, DBase III and even the program Jet runs without a hitch.

Why are the NEC chips faster than the Intel processors? Easily stated, the V chips have roughly two times the number of transistors of the Intel chips, and two internal buses instead of one. These enhancements, plus excellent code, make the V chips able to process the same number of instructions in fewer clock cycles.

The practical result for PC users is a modest but noticeable increase in processing speed. Using the V20, recalculating a 2800-cell 1-2-3 spreadsheet took 20 seconds compared to 23 seconds with an 8088. A DOS SORT command on a 60k text

file produced output on the screen within 8 seconds, while the 8088 came in at 16 seconds. Batch-file processing time was also accelerated: A 14 line batch file that ran at 25 seconds on the 8088 took only 21 to complete on the V20.

The V20 and V30 come in 5-Mhz, 8 Mhz and 10 Mhz styles. Determine the clock speed at which your machine is set to run at and match it with the appropriate6appropriate chip. If you have a Turbo-PC that runs at several speeds, get the chip that matches your highest clock speed, the machine will still run at lower speeds just fine.

To replace the 8088 or 8086 CPU, first locate the chip, a 40 pin chip usually located at the center rear of the motherboard. Before removing the old chip, note the location of the semicircular groove cut into the side of the processor. You want to install the V chip with its semicircle facing the same direction, making sure not to install it backward.

To remove the old, use a IC puller, or if you don't have one, you can extract the Intel chip with a screwdriver; gently pry up the processor from each end not bending the pins. Before touching the V chip touch grounded metal to discharge any static electricity you have. Then line up the legs of the new processor with the hole in the socket and press firmly until the chip is all the way in.

Once your new V chip is installed, don't wait for a sudden rush of speed -- remember this -- your PC's brain is about the cheapest replaceable part. The increase in speed will definitely be noticeable. And for about the same price as a box or two of diskettes, you can't go wrong!

Prices: V20 - 5Mhz \$12.25
 8Mhz \$14.50
 10Mhz \$18.00

V30 - 5Mhz \$14.50
 8Mhz \$16.75
 10Mhz \$20.00

LATEST MAIL

Msg # 1 Dated 03-28-87 20:09:09
From: SYSOP
To: ALL
Re: WELCOME !!!

All in excellent condition, all functioning perfectly.

20 MByte HD, WD Controller, Tandon 3 1/2 inch (plated media in 5 1/4 inch frame), Everex System complete \$250

Tall Tree J-RAM 3, 2 Megabyte EMS board. Fully populated with 150 ns RAM. Software, manuals, etc. \$250

Tall Tree J-Diskette controller with software AND Tandon 1.2 MByte disk drive. (Allows a multiplicity of formats and diskette sizes to be written and read.) I used it

for

backing up the hard drive AND for 80 tk DS (720K or 800K) on regular inexpensive diskettes. \$175

I am selling my XT Clone without above and have no need for them as I now have an AT Clone. The J-RAM board ran at 6 MHz in my AT, but wouldn't run at 10 MHz reliably!

Ian Webb, (408) 867-9533

Msg # 5 Dated 12-31-99 00:20:54

From: JOEL LEE

To: JIM CAMPBELL

Re: (R)ALLWRITE /DEF TABLES Last read at 19:56:28 on 04/22/87

Jim, I have the manual which has considerable information on the tab tables, as well as a letter from ALLWRITE with something on the subject. Get in touch with me at (408) 926-3999 and we will see what can be done. Joel, Editor

Msg # 6 Dated 12-31-99 00:36:52

From: JOEL LEE

To: ALL

Re: NEW BOARD SYSTEM MOSTLY Last read at 19:56:48 on 04/22/87

I like the new system. It gives me no trouble. Gerry, whip up your failing spirits, flog your weary flanks, don't let me pass you by to the eternal shame of the McKee family up to and including McKee Road in all its length and breadth. About the clock/calender, why not take it out, put it on any given computer belonging to any club member (given or not). If it works, then we have to look at the computer (we know it is not the software) and that can be isolated with a little poring over technical manuals. Your turn to pore, I do it once a month for the newsletter.

Joel (AKA THE FIXER)

----- Message Read Help File -----

- The messages can be read with a stacked read command now. For example `r;10;14;32+` will cause messages 10, 14 and 32 plus all messages beyond 32 to be displayed one at a time. This command format must be used from the main menu.

After an `r` or `R` has been input at the main menu, the stacked read can still be used just by separating message numbers with a semicolon. For example, input `10;14;32+` to do the same as described above.

- The stacked read command can have an "m" imbedded in it to read only messages sent to or from yourself. For example, from the main menu you could enter `r:10;14;M;32+` to cause messages 10, 14, and only messages to or from you beginning with message 32 to be displayed one at a time.

- While reading messages the "More" prompt indicates the replies N (for no more), Y (to continuing with the next message requested. This is the default when scanning messages forward or backward), RE (to enter a response to the current message without having to go to the main menu), K (to kill a message, before continuing. This occurs only for messages to or from you), and NS (for non- stop scanning of messages).

- To read messages backwards, use a minus sign after the last message you wish to read. For example, input `r;32-` to start reading messages in reverse chronological order beginning at message 32.

- An asterisk (*) can be used in place of a message number on the R, S, and Q functions to start from the next message after the highest one you have read during this or previous sessions.

- Using these brief instructions, try experimenting. Please leave me a message if you feel I should expand this help file.

South Bay TRS-80 Users Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

FIRST CLASS MAIL