

SOUTH BAY TRS-80® Users Group

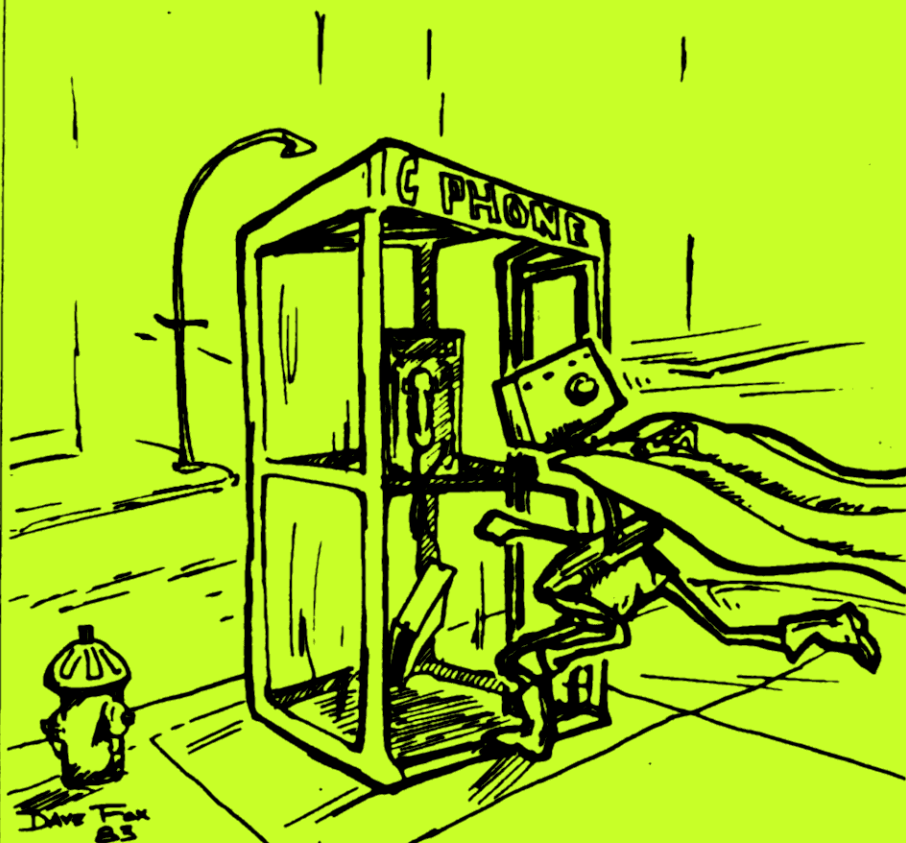


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DYNAMIC MEMORIES™

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MARCH 1983



COMMUNICATIONS...

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SBUG meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the north east corner of Dyan's building at:

Time - 7:15 to 10:30 PM 5401 Patrick Henry Drive
Santa Clara, Ca

March 15, April 19, May 17

Topic of the month:

Communications and the TRS-80

Features: The meeting will be chaired by Eric Brewer.

- 1) Richard Patrick will give a talk on how to interface your TRS-80 to an IBM mainframe.
- 2) Barbra Fox will review local area computer networks.
- 3) Eric Brewer will tell us about the past and future of our bbs (SBUG-80)
- 4) If there is any time left, we will finish with Random access...

NEW!! SBUG now meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at Dysan. This meeting is open for classes, discussions and work shops. Bring your computer, and show other members some tricks you have conjured up with your TRS-80.

Send Newsletter articles to:

c/o Robert Byrd, Editor
South Bay TRS-80 User Group
P.O. Box 60116
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088

Deadline for the April newsletter is; 25 March 83. Please, send articles via modem, or saved on disc/tape. I will see that your media is returned to you. Thanks . . .

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

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THE EDITOR'S TWO BYTES

AN IMPROVED EDITOR

I have finally enrolled in a technical writing class at San Jose State University. This class is teaching me many techniques in writing a complete and expressive sentence. Please, don't start looking though my article with the intent of hacking it, because I'm still not perfect, and errors still slip past me. Every month I say, "Ahhhh, this is my first perfect newsletter." Then, I get the newsletter back from the publisher, peel open the cover, and there's a blatant error staring me in the face! "Augh, why do I put myself through this agony?" For those who complain, I invite you to become SBUG's newsletter editor. Hey gang, you must admit, my price is right!

Does anyone read this stuff???? Is it worth my time and effort???? How do you feel about Dynamic Memories???? Let's see more participation. Get out your favorite word

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processor, and write a review, anything. You would be surprised at what you know.

SBUG-80 OUR OWN BREED!

At the last computer swap, Computer Swap America, I had the opportunity to talk with one of SBUG's members, whose name I won't mention, about SBUG-80. He complained about SBUG-80, and said that the software wasn't as good as some he knew was available. He mentioned a few packages as alternatives, which was thoughtful (at least he had an alternative suggestion) but he never gave me a chance to explain my philosophy. So, just in case there are other members of SBUG who feel the same way, read on.

SBUG-80 is ours! SBUG members wrote every line of code... We took the opportunity to custom tailor a system to our own needs, and we believe it fits our needs perfectly. Sure, it has a few loose ends, and given sufficient opportunity all of these ends will be tightened up. These points of detail are minor though, and there is no other BBS like our own SBUG-80. What an insult! Who wants to use software developed by someone else? We have enough talent to write our own... We feel that SBUG-80 has given many members a chance to use their talents in a giving way. How could anyone put this down?

Let SBUG-80 speak for itself. Did you know that SBUG-80 has collected almost \$2,200 in contributions? After we purchase a power supply and case, for the 8" drives, we will have a complete system--all ours! What other BBS has done that? To all the members who made SBUG-80 possible, I'm sure I can speak for the majority of the group, SBUG THANKS YOU VERY MUCH!!!!!!
GO, G O , G O , S B U G - 8 0

SBUG'S WEDNESDAY MEETING

Our first Wednesday meeting was a good success. Four members brought their computers, and others brought good ideas or questions. The meeting was a free-for-all. Most members asked questions with hopes of finding reasonable answers, or at least a source where they might find the answer. I demonstrated Editor Assembler for a few members who were new to machine language programming.

This meeting is an excellent opportunity for beginners to help each other, so we'll see you at the next Wednesday gathering.

SBUG-80 AND DUES

Do you have an account on SBUG-80? Have you paid your club dues? If you have an account on SBUG-80, and you have not paid your 1983 dues, remember, you stand to forfeit your \$25 account fee. For members who may not remember the

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arrangements, to maintain an account on SBUG-80 the following is necessary: there is a one-time \$25 account fee with the understanding that you maintain, in good standing, your SBUG membership. If you wish to continue participation in the club, get your dues to Larry Gunderson, our treasurer, or send it to SBUG's PO Box ASAP!

OUT OF STATE MEMBERS & SBUG-80

A new agreement has been reached for out of state members of SBUG. Now that SBUG has their own electronic bulletin board system (SBUG-80), out of state TRS-80 users may be interested in our group. Because of this, your steering committee had to make a decision as to what would be a fair fee for out of state members? Our conclusion: out of state members will get SBUG's newsletter, along with an account on SBUG-80, for an annual fee of \$25.

We came to this conclusion, because it is not possible for out of state members to use the club's libraries or attend meetings; therefore, a smaller fee for out of state members seemed appropriate. The fee breakdown is as follows:

SBUG newsletter	--	\$10.00
SBUG-80 (BBS)	--	\$15.00

Total annual fee	--	\$25.00

If you have any TRS-80 friends who live out of state who might be interested in communicating with you on SBUG-80, pass the word.

THE WEST COAST COMPUTER FAIRE

SBUG will be represented at the computer faire this year. Ron Carpenter has arranged for SBUG to be at booth number L14. The West Coast Computer Faire is the largest gathering of computer goods on the west coast. We hope to make many TRS-80 users aware of SBUG's existence.

If you go to the Faire, you might stop by SBUG's booth, and say hi!

Your steering committee has set a membership goal of 300 members for 1983. Give SBUG a hand in reaching our goal, and encourage your TRS-80 friends to join our group. Currently, SBUG has approximately 160 members. Who said the TRS-80 is a dying breed?

Robert Byrd
EDITOR @ SBUG-80

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HARDWARE MODIFICATIONS FOR MODEL III
Switches - Power line filter

It is not unusual to see a Model I with several switches across the back of the keyboard. On that machine, it is a very logical place to put "custom" additions.

The Model III presents a different problem due to its single piece case and the lack of a logical location for additional switches. The sloping front above the keyboard seemed to me to be a clumsy and unsightly place to put switches. It would add the problem of wires connecting the lower half of the case and the upper and make it difficult to separate the two halves.

I wished to add switches to electrically change the speed of my Holmes speed-up unit from 3+ MHz to 5+ MHz. I also needed switches to electrically lock on the speed-up and control whether the disk I/O was at normal or fast speed. I wished to control the modem which I was building in by using a switch to turn on and off the telephone line connection and to change from originate to answer. An additional switch was put in to control a power latching relay to prevent a brown-out from turning the computer back on and damaging disk data.

By carefully drilling holes through the lower edge of the case so that their handles stick through the edge HORIZONTALLY, it is possible to mount single or double pole mini toggle switches through the lower case. They will be too short to put on a nut, but a large glob of regular white woodworking glue put around them and the case below them will harden sufficiently to make the switch semi-permanent.

I mounted five switches along the left edge behind the contrast and brightness controls. The telephone line switch toggles vertically so it is difficult to accidentally connect the telephone. The others easily toggle horizontally.

At the right, immediately behind the power rocker switch I mounted a toggle switch VERTICALLY so that the power failure relay could be locked on. I used a regular toggle switch so that this feature could be locked out for unfamiliar users, but a spring loaded normally open toggle would be more logical. Use the scheme suggested in the newsletter in the past, but an internally mounted relay only needs to switch a couple of amperes and really only needs two sets of contacts. It mounts easily to the CRT side of the disk drives with a single screw through the bottom of the case (through a vent slot). You can reroute the power wires (black and white) to the power supplies so they pass to the CRT side of the disk mounting frame rather than under them.

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I was also successful in gluing a modular phone jack to the edge of the lower case using super glue. I used a small hole to feed the wires through the lower case. This is near the left rear of the computer and goes to the toggle switch next to it to a direct connect modem board, fastened to the floor of the Model III with double-sided tape.

Like the keyboard unit of the Model I, there is no danger of cracking the case, as it drills quite easily with a conventional electric drill. I do suggest a small pilot hole to make sure the larger drill goes where it should.

While you are making modifications, you might want to add power line filtering and make the power cord removable. I removed the metal bracket holding the cassette and power cord feedthroughs. You can remove the unit with the cassette wiring intact if you take off the connector at the far side of the CPU unit.

By cutting the power cord, you can then carefully mount this unit in a vise and using a file enlarge the hole to any size you want.

I found a power line filter with 3 ampere capacity and a three pin type connector which fits the types of power cords used on older HP equipment. Some filters with blade type connectors are also available and seem to be in much of the newer equipment. The filter was \$2.50 at one of the surplus stores. I mounted this to the plate and put 130 VA varistors from each leg to ground and between legs and remounted the plate and soldered on the old power cord wires. Now the power cord can be taken off for easy portability with no dangling cords.

Ian Webb
IANWEBB @ SBUG-80

=====

LIFE AFTER DEATH FILE RECOVERY

PART I

One of the greatest problems encountered when using the TRS-80 Model I with SCRIPSIT involves unwanted and unexpected re-booting or "crashes" to DOS. When and if this occurs, it is possible to recover the text which has already been entered. The following utilities describe methods of recovering from an unwanted re-boot and returning to a "warm re-start" of the program.

Method I (Save the file in memory to disk)

1. When at DOS level, type SUPERZAP

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2. When SUPERZAP Menu appears, type DM (Display Main Memory Block).
3. Answer 7F62H to the query MAIN MEMORY ADDRESS. This should be the beginning of the lost text file. If this is not the beginning (yours may be different) use the +; key or the -= key to page forward or backward until the beginning of the text is located. Once this address is found, write it down and press the +; key to page forward until the end of the text is found. Write it down so you won't forget it.
4. Press X to go to SUPERZAP Menu.
5. Type EXIT to return to DOS
6. Type DUMP,<filename:dn>,<start address>,<end address>,ÿÿH
7. The DUMP command will execute and create a new file <filename> and place it on the disk in drive specified by <dn>.
8. Re-enter SCRIPSIT and load the <filename> file. When the text loads to the screen, there might be some unwanted characters (garbage) which will need to be deleted from either the beginning and/or end of the file. This bother, however, is a small price to pay for recovery of the text which may have taken many minutes to enter.

Method II (using a 19 byte program to re-start SCRIPSIT)

Using DEBUG or EDTASM enter one of the following machine language programs and save it to disk under the name SCRIPFIX/CMD

2. For DEBUG entry:
 - a) Enter DEBUG and type S and press ENTER
 - b) Type D7BED
 - c) Type M7BED
 - d) Type the following numbers:

21 C052

E5FD 212F 7CFD 3634 00FD 3635 3CC3 7D5D
 - e) Press ENTER
- f) Press Q (to return to DOS)
 - g) Type: DUMP,SCRIPFIX/CMD<:dn>,7BEDH,7BFFH,7BEDH
 - h) Press ENTER. The file will be written to disk <dn>.
 - i) Test SCRIPFIX/CMD by typing a short text in SCRIPSIT and press the reset button or <BREAK> END. Type SCRIPFIX and press <ENTER>. The file should be displayed on the screen.
3. For EDTASM entry:
 - a) Type EDTASM.
 - b) Type I (to insert the following code):

ORG 7BEDH
LD HL,52C0H
PUSH HL
LD IY,7C2FH
LD (IY+34H),00H
LD (IY+35H),3CH
JP 5D7DH

- END 7BEDH
- c) Type A to assemble the code.
 - d) EDTASM queries OBJECT TO DISK OR TAPE (D OR T)
reply D
 - e) EDTASM queries OBJECT FILESPEC? Answer
SCRIPFIX/CMD<:dn>
 - f) EDTASM displays FILE NON-EXISTENT. REPLY "C" TO
CREATE IT
 - g) Type C and the following will appear:

7BED	00100	ORG	7BEDH
7BED	21C052	LD	HL,52C0H
7BF0	E5	PUSH	HL
7BF1	FD212F7C	LD	IY,7C2FH
7BF5	FD363400	LD	(IY+34H),00H
7BF9	FD36353C	LD	(IY+35H),3CH
7BFD	C37D5D	JP	5D7DH
7BED	00170	END	7BEDH

00000 TOTAL ERRORS
<XXXXX> TEXT AREA BYTES LEFT (the XXXXX will vary)
 - h) Test the program as above.

PART II

To recover a "killed" file

I am certain that I am not alone in mistakenly "killing" files which I really didn't mean to eliminate! Some versions of SCRIPSIT allow the user to kill a file by typing BREAK K filename. To load a file, it is necessary to type BREAK L filename. Isn't it strange that a tiny slip of the right hand could mean the difference between loading a file and destroying it completely!!! The following will allow you to keep your cursing to a minimum, because when a file is "killed" it is really still on the disk (until you write a new file over the old one) only the "pointers" have been changed. If only we could bring it back to life. If only there were CPR and a Heimlich maneuver for disk files. There is. Resurrection here we come!

1. While at DOS level, type SUPERZAP.
2. *When the SUPERZAP Menu appears, type DNTH.
3. SUPERZAP will next query FILE NAME? Type the name of the file you wish to recover.
4. SUPERZAP will then query FILE TYPE? (name extension). If the file name contains an extension (/ext) type it here (without the /), else simply press ENTER.
5. SUPERZAP will then give you the HASH code for the file. WRITE IT DOWN. Example: UNDELETE/PCL HASH code=E0.
6. Press <ENTER> to return to SUPERZAP menu.
7. Type DFS.
8. SUPERZAP will query FILESPEC? Type DIR/SYS:<dn> (where dn is the drive number.)
9. SUPERZAP will query RELATIVE-SECTOR-WITHIN FILE #? Type 2.
10. If your "killed" file is not in the displayed sector,

use the +; key to advance to the next sector, etc., until the <filename> is located.

11. Make a note of the value appearing at the lower left of the screen:

FRS

8 <--- (this number under FRS indicates which relative 8H sector of the file is being displayed) WRITE DOWN THIS NUMBER!

12. Make a note of the byte line number where the <filename> appears. In Table 1 below the file UNDELETEPCL is located at line 00. WRITE DOWN THIS NUMBER!
13. The first digit on the "killed" file line will be a zero. Change it to 1 by typing MODnn (where nn is the first relative byte of the line where <filename> appears.) In the example below, the relative byte is 00. A large flashing block cursor will appear at the position of the byte to be modified. Type 1 and press <ENTER>. SUPERZAP will then display: REPLY 'Y' IF OK TO WRITE MODIFIED SECTOR TO DISK. Type Y and the change will be made. SUPERZAP will then state:

MODIFICATION COMPLETED
PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE.

14. Press <ENTER> and K to return to the RELATIVE-SECTOR-WITHIN-FILE #? query.
15. In answer to this question, type 1.
16. To determine the 2 digit HEX value of the byte to modify, take the 1st number of the byte line number (found in #12 above) as the left-most number, and the relative sector number (found in #11 above.) Subtract 2 from the relative sector and this will become the right digit of the 2 digit HEX number. In the Table 1 example, the byte line number is 0; the relative sector is 8. Subtract 2 from 8 and the remainder (6) is the right digit of the 2 digit HEX value.
17. Type MODnn (the number from #16 above) and press <ENTER>. Next enter the HASH code (see #5 above) in the appropriate byte. To resurrect UNDELETE/PCL in the example in Table 1, one must type: MOD06 <ENTER> and type E0 (the HASH code found in #5 above) <ENTER>. Example=E0. Press <ENTER>. SUPERZAP will once again state REPLY 'Y' IF OK.... Press Y, <ENTER>, X, and type EXIT to return to DOS.
18. Typing DIR will confirm that the file has been restored.

* If your SUPERZAP doesn't have the DNTH option, you may find the proper HASH code by saving a "dummy" file of the same name on ANOTHER disk and examining the HASH code which will be located at the appropriate relative byte in sector 1 of the DIR/SYS file.

March 1983

William Ramsey & Allen Glesser
BILLRAM @ SBUG-80

Note: Due to the limited 60 column width of Dynamic Memories, the last 5 columns of code have been deleted in the tables to follow.

TABLE 1

DRV	00	0020	0068	0055	4E44	454C	4554	4550	434C	...h.UNDELE
l	10	9642	9642	2400	0D20	1406	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	.B.B\$.....
1H	20	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	30	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
DRS	40	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
178	50	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
B2H	60	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	70	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	80	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	90	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	A0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	B0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
FRS	C0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
l	D0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
1H	D0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
P	F0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....

DIR/SYS Relative Sector 8 with "killed file"

DRV	00	A2C4	C2E3	6C8D	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	....l.....
l	10	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
1H	20	68B1	0000	7C5D	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	h...{].....
	30	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
DRS	40	0100	0000	CC00	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
171	50	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
ABH	60	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	70	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	80	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	90	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	A0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	B0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
FRS	C0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
l	D0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
1H	E0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
P	F0	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....

DIR/SYS Relative Sector 1 with "killed file"

TABLE 2

DRV	00	1020	0068	0055	4E44	454C	4554	4550	434C	...h.UNDELE
l	10	9642	9642	2400	0D20	1406	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	.B.B\$.....
1H	20	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	.....
	30	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
DRS	40	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000

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```

178 50 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
B2H 60 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    70 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    80 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    90 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    A0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    B0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
FRS C0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
l  D0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
1H D0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
P  F0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....

```

DIR/SYS Relative Sector 8 with "restored file"

```

DRV 00 A2C4 C2E3 6C8D E000 0000 0000 0000 0000 ....1.....
l  10 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
1H 20 68B1 0000 7C5D 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 h...[].....
    30 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
DRS 40 0100 0000 CC00 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
171 50 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
ABH 60 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    70 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    80 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    90 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    A0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
    B0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
FRS C0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
l  D0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
1H E0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
P  F0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....

```

DIR/SYS Relative Sector 1 with "restored file"

```
=====
```

SPEED TESTS

Here are some timings for some of you who may be interested in program speed. These tests were run on a Model I, 48K, with no speedup additions. Model III times would no doubt be faster. First is the Basic version of a program which gives the sum of the squares of all numbers from 1 to 1000. The whole process is then done a 2nd time (FOR K=1 TO 2).

```

5 DEFDBL A
10 DEFDBL X
20 PRINTTIME$
30 FOR K=1 TO 2
40 X=0
50 A=1
60 X=X+A*A
70 A=A+1
80 IF A<=1000 THEN 60

```

```
90 NEXT
100 PRINTTIMES
110 PRINTA,X: END
```

Elapsed time = 64"

If the 1st line is taken out:
Elapsed time = 48"

When the program is compiled with ACCEL3/CIM:
Elapsed time = 32"

If the 1st line is taken out:
Elapsed time = 16"

The following similar FORTRAN program was tried.

```
      REAL*8 A
      REAL*8 X
C The above gives Double Precision results
1      FORMAT(' TYPE "X <ENTER> ')
2      FORMAT(A2)
3      FORMAT(2F12.0)
4      WRITE(5,1)
      READ(5,2)J
      DO 6 K=1,2
      X=0
      A=1.0
5      X=X+A*A
      A=A+1.0
      IF(A.LE.1000.0)GO TO 5
6      CONTINUE
      WRITE(5,3)A,X
      GO TO 4
      END
```

Elapsed time = 29.6"

If the 1st line is taken out:
Elapsed time = 12"

Conclusion:

Double precision multiplies (A*A) are very slow. FORTRAN can be a big time saver -- HOWEVER -- compiling, loading and saving the FORTRAN version takes 1.5 minutes (mostly disk spinning) while the ACCEL3 Basic compiler takes only a couple of seconds. (Saving and running add somewhat to this.) I run FORTRAN for large programs that I plan to use fairly often. For program development, and mid-sized programs in general, ACCEL3 seems to be very useful.

Another small time saver is to use the following CHAIN file, which I call ACCEL/JCL, to activate the Basic compiler. Then I just type, "DO ACCEL" to enter Basic.

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(But remember to SAVE your Basic text BEFORE compiling!)

LOAD ACCEL3/CIM
HIMEM 59872
BASIC
SYSTEM
/59872

Leland Smith
LSMITH @ SBUG-80
=====

SBUG JOINS APCO

We are all now members of APCO, the Alliance of Personal Computer Owners. This national group of people interested in all types of personal computing offers its members the buying CLOUT available to large groups in the marketplace.

The SBUG Steering Committee made the decision to join APCO after seeing the terrific buys that some of our members made through this group. Basically a method of obtaining good discounts on almost any hardware, software, peripherals and even complete systems, APCO offers "group discount" prices to its members with no need to wait until 10 or more members decide on an item to purchase.

APCO
683 Towle Way
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(415) 856-7467 Ask for Ed Hall

APCO works through its buying organization, The Computerized Shopper. They are now dealing with several hundred product manufacturers, either directly or through distributors and are always looking for more (and cheaper) sources for their members.

There are no dues for SBUG members to join. We will all be getting our APCO membership cards and member numbers in a few weeks.

In the meantime, if there is ANY item that you have been thinking about buying, call or write to Ed Hall at APCO, and get a price quote. Their prices are usually below the best price you can find in any of the computer magazines...and will be way below anything offered locally in any computer store!

Ed Hall
EDHALL @ SBUG-80
=====

SOFTWARE REVIEW
POSTMAN FROM SOFT SECTOR MARKETING

Like many TRS-80 users, I had my first contact with a mailing list program using Radio Shack's Business Mailing List. Oh well, it was the first step. After a number of other programs, I settled on XTRA Special Delivery which I felt was good. However, as the business grew I had more names to file, and XTRA SPECIAL required you to keep files in lots of 300 names. Needless to say, I had times when I was chaining files together, and I would get lost due to a forgotten command. There had to be a better way. I also found, that I was getting a lot of duplicate names. This created another demand on my system. After time, I needed a better mail list program. Enter the POSTMAN!

While XTRA SPECIAL is a good program, if you have large files, POSTMAN is fantastic. If you want an easy program to run, POSTMAN is terrific. POSTMAN comes in a three ring binder, with both a Model I and a Model III disk. Instructions are complete, and easy to follow, BUT you must read them carefully to understand the program. You can order the program via mail; however, support a club member! POSTMAN is available locally through B & C Computervisions. As supplied, the program comes on a disk without a system. POSTMAN is compatible with both DOSPLUS and NEWDOS/80 version 2.0 in single or double density.

Once you have transferred POSTMAN to a system disk, and placed it in drive 0, put formatted disks in all of the drives you wish to use to store your data. The manual cautions you NOT to store POSTMAN files on drive 0. After loading POSTMAN, you first see their banner, followed by the POSTMAN menu. The entire program is menu driven, and is error trapped. The first time you run the program, you have to use the POSTPREP section of the menu to prepare your disks for the files. You can specify which disks you want to hold the data, or you can tell it to use all available space. All disks are chained together if you want. Once the disks have been prepared, you are ready to enter your names.

The screen is a "fill in the blank" format, and you have all control prompts at the bottom of the screen, the form in the middle, and a running tally at the top, also; how many names are currently on file, as well as how many names you still can enter. It is impressive to see space for over 4000 names on a single sided 40 and 80 track double density disk. All names are kept in this "one" file which you span across disks. If you add another disk, once you have prepared it with the POSTMAN command, you can add it to your current file without any problems. Names are inserted into the file in automatic zip code sequence. If you want a different sort, you can specify it using any combination, or ALL of the fields in any order you want.

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Printing with POSTMAN is very easy. Unlike XTRA SPECIAL, you don't need to have a file for each label. Before you print a file, you use the menu to set up your label form. You are allowed to run as many "dummy" labels as you want to align your printer. When you are finished, POSTMAN prints out the total number of labels printed at the bottom of your output. You can also specify the size of your labels, 3 x 5 cards, or what ever, much easier than any other program I've used. Using the supplied masking program, you can easily make a selective printout.

Like many of the current mailing programs, POSTMAN also has an additional program available, for an extra charge, which lets you merge your address file with a letter created with your favorite word processor.

When I originally purchased POSTMAN, I had one small problem in understanding one of the instructions. A call to Sort Sector Marketing not only brought prompt, and courteous help, but also a direct conversation with the author who wanted to know my feelings of the program, and how well it worked with NEWDOS/80. It should be clear that I believe POSTMAN to be one of the BEST mailing list programs available. Not only is it an easy to use, fast, and reliable program, but the "after sale" support from the author is polite, friendly and helpful. POSTMAN is a WINNER!

Ross Forbes
FORBES @ SBUG-80

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SBUG-80 MAIL CORNER

<Message from MCHENRY at SBUG-80 02/01/83 12:44:46>
RE: VARIOUS COMMENTS...

Hi:

I for one really appreciate the utilities that GLENN has written and left on the Board. Please continue GLENN!! Glenn has also volunteered to write an assembly language series for the newsletter. I don't know if you got a reply from the EDITOR, but I for one would really like to see this happen. As for RONAL's question about who the programs on the BB came from, he obviously is not using the INDEX program since it gives the DONOR and REFERENCE for each program. To run the index program type DO INDEX and press <ENTER> after the FUNCTION: prompt to get a menu. Think about what we could do with an extra night at DYSAN each month. Perhaps we could have a series of talks by our members on programming techniques in BASIC, Assembly, Database management, etc.

How many members have 1200 baud modems? Does it make sense for SBUG-80 to get one before there is a demand?

Please fill out your Survey questionnaires and send them to

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me or leave me a message on SBUG-80 with the information. I am loading all of this information into a data-base using ENB (Electric Notebook from Algorex). ENB is now in the club disk library for review. It is a fantastic program! Later....Mike

<Message from HUNTLEY at SBUG-80 02/01/83 15:25:03>
RE: HELP, Please. DTC-300 to M III Interface Problems

I got a great "bargain" on an old DTC 300 Daisy Wheel printer, but have gone crazy trying to get it to work with my system. In particular, I have no driver for any word processor, and I cannot even get proper line feeds using it to receive ASCII files from Modem80. The printer has a serial interface right now, and I would love to have it print from Scripsit, via the "P,S" command. I am not adept enough with EDTASM, nor do I know enough about the printer to write a driver from scratch.

Auto Line Feed works in Local Mode, <down arrow> gives line feeds O.K., and text prints properly (a line at a time) from the Model III in Modem80 terminal mode. In other words, it all works but I don't know where to kick it.

I have also borrowed and tried the serial outputs from Newsprint and Superscripsit with the same (null) results. Any suggestions gratefully received via Audio (408) 248-5905 or SBUG-80 <HUNTLEY>

Thanks in advance,
Wright Huntley

<Message from FORBES at SBUG-80 02/03/83 13:54:31>
RE: Software Special

Hi Everyone! I don't know if anybody else received the same advertisement in the mail, that I did, or not. The company's name is RAMparts, and they are in Greenfield New Hampshire; phone 603-924-9046. They seem to have acquired some software from a "bankrupt" company. Anyway the deal that RAMparts is offering is 9 programs worth over \$ 300.00, for just \$ 79.95. The software included in the package is:

- Personal Finance
- Dome Bookkeeping
- APL-80
- 9 games for pre-schoolers
- Tiny Comp
- Inventory "S"
- Pascal-80
- Floppy Disk Diagnostic
- Typing Tutor

I already have PASCAL-80, and I am sure most of you have seen the Floppy Diagnostic Program, so the deal seems to be real. I called them yesterday, and they confirmed the advertisement. Looks interesting!

Ross <FORBES>

<Message from BILLRAM at SBUG-80 02/04/83 05:13:42>
RE: DIRALL/CMD by Leland Smith

If you havn't tried Leland Smith's new program, DIRALL/BAS and DIRALL/CMD you are missing a real treat. It is a wonder! Brian Devendorf, Jack Egbert, and I wrote a Basic program (DIRPROG) years ago to assist us in managing our disk files. This worked rather well and it was even published in 80-Micro. The biggest problem with it was its speed (SLOW) and the fact that Garbage Collection took forever--the machine seemed to die or go into never-never land for L O N G periods of time.

Leland's program (written in FORTRAN) allows you to have information on over 100 different disks and up to 2300 different files. I now have a file which contains approximately 1500 programs. From the time I BOOT up the DIRALL/CMD program to the time it will give me the information I am seeking (Where is the XXX file that I wrote in 1978???) it takes only about 10 seconds!!!!!! I couldn't even locate my alphabetized list in that amount of time.

This is a program you have to see to believe. There are several programs I would not be without--BASIC, TIME MANAGER (Radio Shack), SCRIPSIT, SUPERSCRIPSIT, SUPER UTILITY, THE MICRO CLINIC FLOPPY DISK DIAGNOSTIC, SPECIAL DELIVERY, and Leland Smith's DIRALL/CMD.

THANKS LELAND ! !

--- BILLRAM --- (William Ramsey 408 255-2854)

<Message from DICKALLE at SBUG-80 02/05/83 19:43:23>
RE: FRICTION FEED KIT FOR EPSON MX-80 PRINTER

LAST SEPTEMBER, VIGO SMITH WROTE A REVIEW
OF THE MICRO-GRIP MODIFICATION KIT FOR
THE MX-80. DOES ANYONE KNOW OF A LOCAL
STORE WHICH CARRIES THIS KIT OR ANY EQUIVALENT?
THANKS....DICKALLE

<Message from RON at SBUG-80 02/07/83 11:10:50>
RE: SBUG BOOTH AT WEST COAST CPU FAIRE

YES, IT IS DEFINITE. BOOTH L14 IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE ROW OF 7 TABLES IN 'LARKIN' HALLWAY NEAREST THE
STREET ENTRANCE. (MY OWN LITTLE TRS80 CP/M SIG
TABLE IS L13, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NEXT-IN
GROUP OF 6 TABLES ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE 'IBM PC HALL' ENTRANCE.
LET ROB (EDITOR) KNOW IF U WANT TO HELP OUT
IN THE SBUG BOOTH FRI, SAT OR SUN. 3-18 TO 20.

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IF YOU'RE INTO CP/M, LET ME KNOW IF U WOULD
'BABYSIT' MY STUFF SOMETIME FRI OR SUNDAY.

<Message from RONAL at SBUG-80 02/16/83 00:01:54>
Re: For Sale

I HAVE 2 ORIGINAL PIECES OF SOFTWARE FROM RADIO SHACK
FOR SALE.

GENERAL LEDGER 1	25.00
DISK EDITOR/ASSEMBLER	35.00

BOTH ARE THE ORIGINAL DISKS AND ORIGINAL MANUALS.
AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE PRICE, MAKE AN OFFER.
RONAL THOMPSON (408)734-8150 WK (408)378-1723 HM
TRADES ARE ACCEPTABLE ALSO.

I ALSO HAVE A GOOD BENCH SUPPLY CHEAP.

+15 VDC , 8 AMPS
-15 VDC , 8 AMPS
5 VDC , 8 AMPS

IT IS A FERRO-RESONANT TYPE, GREAT FOR A BENCH, OR MAYBE
A HARD DISK (WHICH IT WAS FOR).
IT'S BRAND NEW WITH A MANUAL. TRY IT FOR 45\$
HAGGLE AND TRADE ACCEPTABLE.

<Message from IANWEBB at SBUG-80 02/17/83 21:17:49>
RE: BULLETIN BOARD IN GENERAL
Read command :

I think that we should all really be appreciative
of all the work that a small group of individuals
have spent working on this system. I had never been
on a bulletin board before and am really impressed
with all the features and user friendliness built into
this system. It is obvious that a lot of time and
effort has been put into this. We don't have enough
money to pay for all the work and loving care that has
obviously been contributed to this effort!
M Y T H A N X A N Y W A Y ! !

Ian Webb

<Message from PATRICK at SBUG-80 02/18/83 13:09:02>
RE: FOR SALE

1. SMART PRINTER CABLE TO CONNECT TRS_80 MOD I
TO MX-80 PRINTER ----- \$35.00

..
2. POWER SUPPLY AND CASE FOR SINGLE 5 1/4"
DRIVE ----- \$40.00

..
RICH <PATRICK> (408)997-7876

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL