

SOUTH BAY TRS-80® Users Group

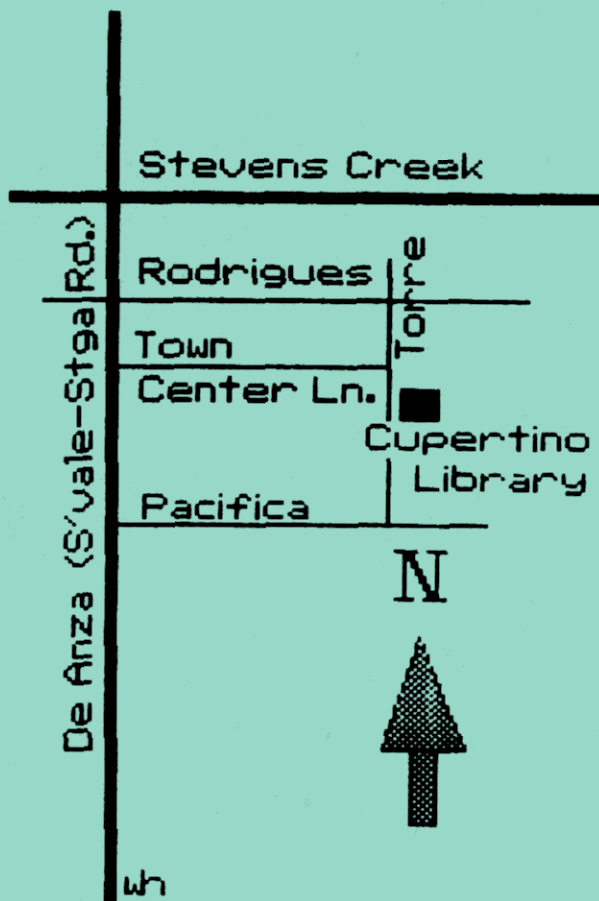


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DYNAMIC MEMORIES™

* Tandy Corp./Radio Shack Inc.

JULY 85



SOUTH BAY TRS-80 USERS GROUP

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SBUG meetings are held in the Cupertino library at 10400 Torre Ave.

Time: 7:15 - 9:30 PM

July 16, August 20, September 17.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKERS: Roger Anderson on new and inexpensive programs for the 1000. Eric Brewer on bulletin boards. Eric's presentation will be in two parts. The termination will given at the August meeting. (In a suitable august manner one trusts.)

LOOKIOJOIREGARDEZ!::Owing to the loss of the Dyan auditorium, we are still trying to revitalize the 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 to get these going.

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

THE EDITOR'S BYTES AND BITES

Currently there are two developments in the micro world that attract the attention. The first one a number of us have taken advantage of, the nose diving cost of drives. This includes all drives, single sided, double sided, and Winchester. At the swap meet, Panasonic double sided drives were selling for \$79.00. Others amongst our membership can probably tell even more inspiring stories of bargains begging to be picked up. Ian Webb once said that it was silly not to have 128K on a 4. Now it's also silly not to have a megabyte of space on disks.

The next big news going 'round is boards. What boards? Expanded memory boards, that's what. They're selling like hot cakes for the IBM. Apple is promising grandeur to humiliate the Himalayas. Other companies are coming out with up to 2 megabytes for the Apple IIe. Have we been left behind? No. Look in your July 80MICRO, and you will discover a promise of a megabyte for the Models I, III, and 4-4P. An additional board will give you 192K on a ramdisk. I spoke to them by 'phone and have also requested brochures. Hold your breath, and I will let you know what I know, as soon as I know it.

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THREE FOR THE ONE THOUSAND

by
Roger Anderson

WORD PERFECT JUNIOR, PRINT MASTER, and TALLSCREEN are three inexpensive programs written to run on the IBM PC, but they perform well on the TANDY 1000, fortunately for us, strivers in the TANDY vineyard.

WORD PERFECT JUNIOR

from
SATELLITE SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL

WORD PERFECT JUNIOR is a low priced, very basic word processor written for those who don't need the more expensive models with gobs of features. (And who don't want to spend a week in intensive therapy to get rid of the headache that learning the gobs of features gave them).

WPJr allows TYPING, EDITING, FORMATTING, FILING and PRINTING of your documents.

In the TYPING mode, you can move through the text, erase characters, capitalize, bold, underline, center, paginate, tab, hyphenate and enter special characters.

In the EDITING mode, you can move through text, move page by page, erase characters, erase words, erase to end of line or to end of page, replace characters, move text and search.

In the FILING mode you can name files, save documents, retrieve documents, replace files, list files, erase files and rename files.

In the PRINTER mode, you can print a document, print a page, print a file, print on single sheets and set up the printer.

Commands are entered by use of the CONTROL key, or by use of the FUNCTION keys. Moving through the text is done with the arrow keys.

WPJr. was developed to run on the IBM PC and PCjr but it appears to run well on the TANDY 1000.

Priced at \$60.00 the WPJr is a very good buy.

I have not as yet had underlining working on my printer.

PRINT MASTER

from
UNISON WORLD INC.

To quote the manual, "PRINT MASTER is a versatile graphics program that will turn you into a graphic artist." It lets you use your computer and printer to design personalized greeting cards, signs, stationery, calendars and banners. Best of all, you do not have to know how to program a computer or know how to draw to be creative. All you

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have to do is turn on the computer; make selections from border, graphics, layout and font menus; enter your message and print.

PRINT MASTER sells for \$59.95, and runs well on the 1000. I am using an Epson printer, but I have seen banners produced on th TANDY dot matrix printers.

TALLSCREEN
from
QUALITAS INC.

TALLSCREEN extends DOS to give you more flexibility, convenience, information and power. It is specifically designed to be easy to install and learn.

With TALLSCREEN you can scroll the screen to see previous DOS output, retrieve multiple DOS commands with the touch of a key, recall previously used paths on your hard disk with the touch of a key, enter multiple DOS commands on a single line and edit DOS command input and other text on the screen with a full screen editor.

TALLSCREEN is active until you enter a DOS command and becomes active again after the DOS command is complete.

TALLSCREEN replaces the services of the ANSI.SYS program on your DOS disk. Thus, applications which require use of these services work automatically under TALLSCREEN.

TALLSCREEN sells for \$49.95

I am told there is a public domain program called "CED" that has many of the same facilities as TALLSCREEN.

DAUNTLESS DON
or
THE HARD DRIVING 1000

by Don Rhodes

***A continuing saga.....(How long O Lord?)*

TANDY 1000 and hard disk drive - Is it possible? I have been using an external hard disk drive with my TANDY 1000 for the past 4 months. For about five weeks I had a ten megabyte setup. No trouble. My illusion, my fantasy, was 20 megabytes. I was forced to content myself with the ten because no driver (software) existed for the 20Mb

Then in May the driver for the 20Mb became available, and I was in business. All was not well in my 20Mb fantasy, however. I was getting FATs and scrambled files about every 3 or 4 days. I constantly had to backup files in order to avoid losing them. Bugs (the IBM fruit fly?) had invaded the 20Mb driver.

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Now instead of a realized fantasy, I had a dilemma. Scylla and Charybdis confronted me. Should I go back to the 10Mb and wait for TANDY's hard drive system, or should I continue with my buggy driver?

The 1000 has another problem aside from the hard disk dilemma. I had exhausted all the plug-in board slots with:

1. The memory expansion board for 384K
2. An AST clock/serial port board.
3. The hard disk controller board.

There were no more slots available for additional memory, and I needed 512K.

The solution came this week, but not via the 1000. At least, I hope it's a solution. I am having a computer built for me. It will have 8 (eight!) plug-in board slots, dual floppy drives, color and graphics boards, clock/serial port, 512K ram and a keyboard with lamps for all the toggle type keys. The mother board is a duplicate of the IBM mother board, and will be completely compatible.

Anyone interested in purchasing a TANDY 1000 at a good price? If the new computer works out (as on my knees I have implored Highest Memory) my 1000 will be available.

Do not yet close this book and heave a sigh of satisfaction. There may be more to follow in the 1000 AND ONE TALES OF COMPUTER RHODES.

SNIPPETS AND SNAP ATS FROM COMPUTER USER NEWSLETTERS

From the CABRILLO COMPUTER SOCIETY NEWSLETTER "MICRO INFO EXCHANGE"

MODEL 1,III,4 CORNER

MODEL 4 CPU RUNS SLOW! by the Editor

It was hardware night at our last meeting. Soldering irons and kbitizers were everywhere. The big news was the earth-shattering announcement by Dave Owen and Jim Harbold that the Model 4 microprocessor does not run at 4.0 Megahertz, as Radio Shack's literature asserts. Using expensive test equipment, they found that the CPU actually operates at an average speed of only:

3.37MH

This is almost 16% too slow, a relatively large error for an electronics device and actually not good for the machine either, since most programmers design their work to mesh with rated 4.0 speed. Dave and Jim found an inexpensive cure, too. Dave opened up my Model 4, bent back 2 pins on an IC chip, and PRESTO! Less than 15 minutes later my machine was blasting along faster than ever. And better too, as some minor idiosyncracies simply vanished. For example, on a finicky double

sided 40 track drive, I'm able to format about 3 more tracks than formerly. Dave has written up these findings, and next month we'll publish his step-by-step directions on how you can soup up your RS Model 4. For tools, all you will need is one Phillips screwdriver to remove the cover. So who needs IBM?

LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE WALKING

Later that same evening, one member, who requested anonymity, was unable to find the bug in a pc board he was soldering. After about an hour doing the bit with test meters, to no avail, Hank Johnson, a local kbitzer, lightly touched one of the board's capacitors. It nearly burned his finger! Seems it was a tantalum capacitor. Unlike most others, these capacitors have polarity, which means they must be installed according to the +- markings on the leads, which nowadays are barely visible at best.

Our anonymous kluger had installed several tantalums backwards. The excessive heat was the sign that they were shorting to ground. That weekend, Bob Gannoway's S-100 system failed him. Bob, who is our Associate Editor and a former electrical engineer, found his trouble by lightly and carefully touching various components on his pc boards. In his case it was an integrated circuit that had shorted itself to ground and was giving off excessive heat. The point is, that when all else fails, you can let your fingers do the walking, but you must use precautions. You MUST keep those fingers away from the power supply, for example.

Editor's note: This concurs with a brochure I have from ALPHA TECHNOLOGY INC. I quote from their brochure

SUPER 4

Thank you for your interest in our Super4 speed-up board for the TRS-80 Model 4. We at Alpha think the Model 41 is one of the best computers in the price range. We also think our speed-up board makes it an even better computer. The older Model 4's are not running at 4 MHZ. Instead they are running at 3.37 MHZ. This can be verified by using a frequency meter at the clock input of the Z80 CPU. Our speed-up board provides a 5.06 MHZ to the CPU.

Editor again: More from the same brochure, this time with information on the ALPHA memory board. I quote what seems to be the most pertinent part.

The system can be made up as (16) 64K banks, (32) 32K banks, or (64) 16K banks. Firm ware for 32K banks is standard. If you want a different system, please let us know. We can provide up to 4 Meg systems for special applications. We can even program your system to switch in 1K banks if desired. The Model 4 system will power up using the first 64K as it does now, with extra bank zero selected. You can use it this way as a normal 128K Model 4, or the extra memory banks can be switched in and out as desired. Our RAMDRIVER software allows you to use all of the extra memory for the RAMDRIVER, or let the system use some of it.

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The present power supply of the Model 4 is sufficient for the extra memory. No additional cooling or power is required.

SOUTH BAY TRS 80 USERS GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENT JUNE 25, 1985

	Last Month	Year-To-Date	Budgeted
Cash Receipts			
SBUG dues	54.00	1,233.00	1,800.00
SBUG80 fees	25.00	125.00	600.00
Disk Library	71.00	105.00	120.00
80 Micro	17.00	88.00	0.00
Documentation	0.00	0.00	264.00
Tape Library	0.00	0.00	5.00
Interest earned	4.51	14.53	40.00
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Total receipts	171.51	1,565.53	2,829.00

Disbursements:			
Copy / printing	118.45	554.17	1,000.00
Phone	0.00	19.31	200.00
Postage	0.00	30.00	500.00
Disk Library	5.00	15.00	120.00
Electricity	0.00	80.00	240.00
Post office box	0.00	26.00	52.00
Bank charges	0.00	8.00	30.00
SBUG80 repairs	0.00	0.00	200.00
Misc	0.00	0.00	100.00
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Total disburse.	133.45	732.48	2,702.00

Receipts over disbursements	38.06	833.06	127.00
Cash at beginning of period	1,024.26	229.27	229.2
Cash at end of period	1,062.32	1,062.32	356.27

Editor's note: At a time when many users' groups are simply disappearing, we are progressing. A great deal of the credit has to go to Don Rhodes for his competent handling of the treasury. It is worth mentioning, that when he started there was no treasure in the treasury. I invite you to bask in, even to roll over and over in the above report. We are healthy.

M-A-I-L

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