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THE #1 MAGAZINE FOR ATARI® COMPUTER OWNERS

FINE COMPUTING

IN THIS ISSUE:
June CES report
Magic Spell
La Machine
Moonlord



SI-LOG

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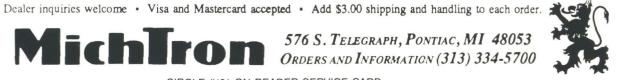
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THE #1 MAGAZINE FOR ATARI® COMPUTER OWNERS

FINE DE

FEATURES

- Counting without fingers Paul R. Robinson 11 A brief history lesson on the origin of computers.
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(Micro League Sports Association)

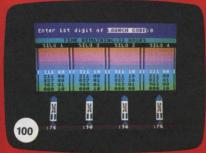
Is this the premier baseball simulator or just another arcade game?

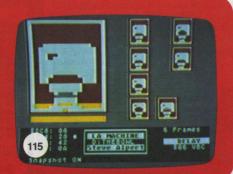
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Design pages for ads, signs, or anything else requiring a custom layout.

COLUMNS







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Due, however, to many requests from Atari club libraries and bulletin board systems, our new policy allows club libraries or individually-run BBSs to make certain programs from ANA-LOG Computing available during the month printed on that issue's cover. For example, software from the July issue can be made available July 1.

This does not apply to programs which specifically state that they are not public domain and, thus, are not for public distribution.

In addition, any programs used must state that they are taken from ANALOG Computing magazine. For further information, contact ANALOG Computing at (617) 892-3488.

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AUTHORS

When submitting articles and programs, both program listings and text should be provided in printed and magnetic form, if possible. Typed or printed text copy is mandatory, and should be in upper- and lowercase, with double spacing. If a submission is to be returned, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



BOOK I + DISK: (The Original) Thoroughly explains the techniques used by advanced software pirates, and the copy protection methods used to stop them. It offers clear and understandable explanations sophisticated enough for software writers of any scale yet easy enough for a beginner just wanting to learn more about Atari® computers. A <u>MUST READ</u> FOR ALL ATARI® OWNERS.

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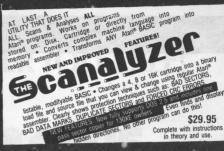
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CIRCLE #102 ON READER SERVICE CARD



Editorial

As an **ANALOG Computing** reader, you may have noticed—and, we hope, have used—our "reader service card." There's one in the back of every issue.

If you've never used the card to request information from one of our advertisers, give it a try. Now, perhaps you don't need any materials from the advertisers. If that's the case, then I'd like to ask you to take the time to fill out the small survey section on the card.

This information helps us determine what you readers like or dislike about any given issue. The survey results also help advertisers determine the responses their ads are getting.

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NO	
NO ANSWER3%	
MODEL TO BE PURCHASED:	
ST41%	
1040 23%	
500 1006	

Naturally, we think it would be great if all our readers filled out this card, every month. But what I'm really asking is that those of you who don't normally use the reader service card take a few minutes and fill it out this month. The previous information was tabulated from the most recent batch of reader service cards received. It would be most interesting to see if these percentages change, should we get a larger number of cards returned.

Our last two issues ran the ANALOG Computing on Delphi ad, and the response has been very good. As readers, I hope that most of you who are active in telecommunications will also join us on Delphi's Atari SIC.

When you come into the Atari Users' Group, you'll be able to choose from over 2,000 downloads. Best of all, you'll get to talk to most of the editorial staff. It's a good channel for you to let us know what's happening out there in the Atari user's world. We want to stay in touch, and this seems to be the best way.

And, speaking of telecommunications, take a look at the new column, **Database Delphi**, by Matthew Ratcliff. He'll keep you up to date on what's new with our Delphi SIG and touch on other topics relating to telecommunications.

ST-Log has been getting easier to fill lately, what with more articles and advertisers. Many of our regular ST-Log readers have by now noticed that we're putting an additional "bonus" program on the disk version.

Last month, it was an ST version of the ever-popular 8-bit **Solid States**. This issue, we have a very useful disk menu labeler, which is an extension of the **Dx Lister** program on page 57ST.

Next month's bonus is going to be something special (I love making people go nuts waiting for something). Don't miss it—it's unbelievable!

One last thing: any ST owners who'd like to pocket an extra \$5,000.00, become a household name and have their faces plastered all over these pages for the Atari world to gawk at...take a look at the details of our ST programming contest in the ad on page 84ST.

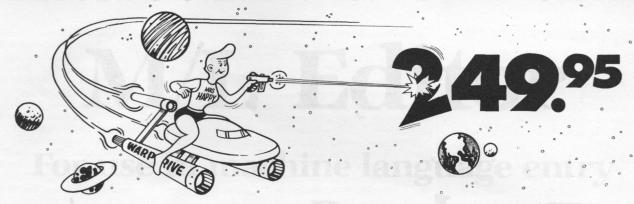
We hope you'll enter any programs you may be working on. Even if you don't win, you may still qualify for publication and reap the profits that way.

Michael J. Des Chenes

Michael J. Des Chenes Publisher ANALOG Computing

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Reader Comment

Words for the Home Shopper.

I would like to submit the following update to the **Home Shopper** (issue 43). In the article, I stated that your store database could contain twenty-three aisles of information. True, but the browse screen will scroll if all twenty-three aisles are defined. Lines 500 and 540 should be updated as follows:

500 FOR I=0 TO 22 540 ? " ";AISLE\$;:IF I <22 THEN ?

Also, in the "Using the USR routines" section of the article, it was indicated that POKE 711, NEWCOLR2 would change the bottom half of the screen, to allow a new color when using my two-color DLI utility. This should have been:

POKE 1711, NEWCOLR2

The editors thought I'd made a typo, since 711 is a common SETCOLOR location. It should be 1711, however, where my DLI routine stores the bottom half of the screen color.

I gave you another goodie at the last minute, but forgot to update the article. I stated that you should "always execute a graphics 0 command just before this USR call" for the double screen colors.

In the first version of **Shopper** I did, this was true. But I updated, so it wasn't necessary. You can use this to your advantage in creating certain special effects. Quit the **Shopper**, then try this tricky one-liner:

F.X=1 TO 99:F.I=1 TO 22:A= USR(1620,I,255*RND(0)):N.I :F.I=22 TO 1 STEP -1:A=USR (1620,I,255*RND(0)):N.I:N. N. is the Atari BASIC abbreviation of NEXT, F. is FOR (necessary to fit the one-liner into one Atari BASIC program line.

You can create some less obnoxious special effects with this routine in your own programs. If you're working on a **Shopper** update, you may wish to try the following immediate mode command, to look at all the aisle topics (not aisle data) at once:

FOR I=8000 TO 8440 STEP 20 :LIST I:? CHR\$(28);:NEXT I

I hope this helps you get even more use out of the **Shopper** and its USR routines. Sorry for the mix-up.

Sincerely, Matthew J.W. Ratcliff St. Louis, MO

I am using the **Home Shopper** from your June magazine.

I think that the program is very good, but I ran into a little problem using it. I ran it and set up a shopping list, only to discover that I hadn't turned on the printer. I found it's not easy to leave the program to enter the printer codes.

To avoid having a loyal **ANALOG Computing** subscriber kick his dog, I have added two lines to end this problem.

20 ? "K":DIM RET\$(1):POSIT ION 2,2:? "DO YOU WANT THE PRINTER ON [Y/N]";:INPUT RET\$:IF RET\$(>"Y" THEN 50 30 LPRINT CHR\$(27);CHR\$(24); 40 REM UP TO 23 AISLES, 19 ITEMS PER AISLE

The printer codes in Line 30 are for an Olympia electronic compact NP, but I think

that other printer codes can be substituted, making that line compatible with most other printers.

Ronald M. Green Roy, UT

Switching the Flip Switch.

I am writing in regard to your article **The 810 Flip Switch**, by Steve Schelb, in issue 44. Mr. Schelb wrote a very detailed article, but he left out one very important fact. That is, which jack one is supposed to solder the wires to!

The correct jack number is "J101," located on the side board near the rear of the drive. Connections can easily be made to the red and black wires on the lower part of the connector.

Also, instead of a slide switch, I would recommend a subminiature toggle switch (Radio Shack No. 275-612). This switch will fit nicely on the front panel, about ¼ inch to the left of the "BUSY" light.

Sincerely, Robert C. Stoll Sawyer AFB, MI

In **ANALOG Computing** issue 44, Steven Schelb authored **The 810 Flip Switch**—how to wire a switch into the Atari 810 disk drive so the back of disks can be written to without punching out the sides of the diskette.

I have three 810 drives which I modified over a year ago, and was really surprised at Mr. Schelb's choice of a switch. The slide switch which he uses would be very difficult to mount, since it requires a rectan-

(continued on page 8)



M/L Editor

For use in machine language entry

by Clayton Walnum

M/L Editor provides an easy method to enter our machine language listings. It won't allow you to skip lines or enter bad data. For convenience, you may enter listings in multiple sittings. When you're through typing a listing with M/L Editor, you'll have a complete, runnable object file on your disk.

There is one hitch: it's for disk users only. My apologies to those with cassette systems.

Listing 1 is M/L Editor's BASIC listing. Type it in and, when it's free of typos, save a copy to disk, then run it.

On a first run, you'll be asked if you're starting a new listing or continuing from a previously saved point. Press S to start, or C to continue.

You'll then be asked for a filename. If you're starting a new listing, type in the filename you want to save the program under, then press RETURN. If there's already a file by that name on the disk, you'll be asked if you wish to delete it. Press Y to delete the file, or N to enter a new filename.

If you're continuing a file, type in the name you gave the file when you started it. If the program can't find the file, you'll get an error message and be prompted for another filename. Otherwise, M/L Editor will calculate where you left off, then go on to the data entry screen.

Each machine language program in ANA-LOG Computing is represented by a list of BASIC data statements. Every line contains 16 bytes, plus a checksum. Only the numbers following the word *DATA* need be considered.

M/L Editor will display, at the top of the screen, the number of the line you're currently working on. As you go through the line, you'll be prompted for each entry. Simply type the number and press RETURN. If you press RETURN without a number, the default is the last value entered.

This feature provides a quick way to type in lines with repetitions of the same number. As an added convenience, the editor will not respond to the letter keys (except Q, for "quit"). You must either enter a number or press RETURN.

When you finish a line, M/L Editor will compare the entries' checksum with the magazine's checksum. If they match, the screen will clear, and you may go on to the next line.

If the checksums don't match, you'll hear a buzzing sound. The screen will turn red, and the cursor will be placed back at the first byte of data. Compare the magazine listing byte by byte with your entries. If a number's correct, press RETURN.

If you find an error, make the correction. When all data's valid, the screen will return to grey, and you'll be allowed begin the next line.

Make sure you leave your disk in the drive while typing. The data is saved continuously.

You may stop at any time (except when you have a red screen) by entering the letter Q for byte #1. The file will be closed, and the program will return you to BASIC. When you've completed a file, exit $\mathbf{M/L}$ Editor in the same way.

When you've finished typing a program, the file you've created will be ready to run. In most cases, it should be loaded from DOS via the L option. Some programs may have special loading instructions; be sure to check the program's article.

If you want the program to run automatically when you boot the disk, simply name the file AUTORUN.SYS (make sure you have DOS on the disk).

That's M/L Editor. Use it in good health.

The two-letter checksum code preceding the line numbers here is *not* a part of the BASIC program. For further information, see the *BASIC Editor* (issue 45) and its update on page 9.

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

AZ 10 DIM BF(16), N\$(4), A\$(1), B\$(1), F\$(15)

0 340 IF ((A=RETRN AND NOT EDIT) OR A=B ACKSP) AND L=0 THEN 320 350 IF A=RETRN THEN POKE 752,1:? " ":R ETURN 4/SBACKSP THEN 400 370 IF L/1 THEN MS-MS(1,L-1):GOTO 370 380 MS-" 370 CHRS(BACKSP);L=L-1:GOTO 320 400 L=L+1:IF L/L1 THEN A-RETRN:GOTO 35 RE 390 ? CHR\$(BACKSP); LL-1:60T0 320
BB 400 LL-1+1:IT L\l1 THEN A=RETRN:GOTO 35
WX 410 M\$(L)=CHR\$(A):? CHR\$(A); :GOTO 320
WX 420 GRAPHIC5 0:END
Y1 430 GOSUB 440:POSITION 10,10:? "NO SUC
H FILE!":FOR X=1 TO 1000:NEXT X:CLOSE
M2:GOTO 30
FD 440 POKE 710,48:SOUND 0,100,12,8:FOR X
=1 TO 50:NEXT X:SOUND 0,100,12,8:FOR X
HY 450 GRAPHIC5 23:POKE 16,112:POKE 53774
,112:POKE 559,0:POKE 710,4
XR 460 DL=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561)+4:POKE
DL-1,70:POKE DL+2,6
HM 470 FOR X=3 TO 39 STEP 2:POKE DL+X,2:N
EXT X:FOR X=4 TO 40 STEP 2:POKE DL+X,8
:MEXT X
ZM 480 POKE DL+41,65:POKE DL+42,PEEK(560)
:POKE DL+43,PEEK(561):POKE 87,0
C 490 POSITION 2,0:? "analog M1' editor":
POKE 559,34:RETURN
Z 560 DPEN M1,4,0,"K:":GET M1,A:CLOSE M1
:RETURN

Reader Comment continued

gular hole for the tab and two small screw

I used a miniature on/off toggle switch, which can be mounted on the front panel by drilling a hole through the Atari logo directly above the LEDs. A 1/4-inch diameter hole is large enough for most miniature toggle switches.

The heat generated by the drill bit may cause the Atari logo to come loose, since it's on a small piece of aluminum that is glued in place; however, it can be put back on and held in place by the switch's holding nut. This location is much more convenient than on the side, top, or back.

Persons who open up their drive to make this modification may run into another problem-not all Atari 810 drives are the same. One of the drives I modified uses a microswitch to detect the presence of the write-protect notch, instead of the light

source and detector.

Drives of this type have only two wires connected to the side board, not five, as in the other model drives. After you mount the toggle switch, the wires can be routed between the side board and drive mechanism.

Charles A. Cole Sierra Vista, AZ

Helper help.

In his article Function Key Helper in the July issue of ANALOG Computing's ST-Log, Matthew Ratcliff described the "annoying" way the screen flips between output and command screens when using the a\$=input\$(1) command.

If you run the BASIC program while the edit window is open, the windows don't open and close, and a key is grabbed instantly. I run all my programs from the edit

window now.

You can use the mouse to run from the drop-down menu, or just type RUN on any empty line (as in no line number) in the edit window and hit RETURN. When you stop the program, it returns to the edit window.

Sincerely, Gordon Billingsley Murphysboro, IL

> More on the 256K XL RAM upgrade.

I would like to clear up a couple of points made in the review of the Newell Industries 256K memory upgrade for the Atari computers (issue 44). Although it was not known to you at the time of the review, instructions for installing the memory upgrade in the 1200XL are now included (by popular demand).

You mistakenly had the price as \$28.00. The prices are \$39.95 without RAM, and \$69.96 with RAM. Both of these include MYDOS, which supports the extra mem-

ory and can be configured to a RAMdisk of up to 192K.

You mentioned that total cost to install the upgrade approaches \$150.00. In fact, this figure is much less. At retail, the cost would be \$69.95 plus \$30.00 for installation, for a total of \$99.95. Add \$10.00 if you have the old ANTIC and want it replaced. If you look through the ads in ANALOG Computing, you can find it for less.

For those who do not have an 800XL, we sell the whole computer, with the upgrade

installed, for \$149.95.

I would also like to mention that the other upgrade reviewed (ICD RAMBO XL) does not support memory protection or ANTIC control, which you pointed out can cause compatibility problems. It also does not include the DOS to support it.

When you add the cost of \$39.95 for the DOS and \$49.95 for the kit without the RAM, it totals up to \$89.90, as compared to \$39.95 for the Newell upgrade—which has the additional support for the memory protection and ANTIC control, and comes with the DOS.

Thank you for the space to express my views.

Wes Newell Newell Industries Wylie, TX

Foreign subscriptions and BoulderDash for the 810.

I have been an avid reader of ANALOG Computing for the past three years...I would like to subscribe, if only you did not demand an eleven-dollar surcharge for foreign readers...You have to package the magazine whether its destination is inside the U.S. or abroad. Whatever your answer, it will not deter me from buying and enjoying ANALOG Computing for many years to come.

I have recently purchased BoulderDash 2 on disk and found that it would not load properly most of the time in my 810 drive. I wrote to Databyte in London, and they told me that the duplicating house that they use could not cure the problem of loading on an 810, even though it worked all right on a 1050.

Databyte also told me that they were doing their own duplicating for the 810. They said it was proving successful, and that they would replace my disk. I mention this in case anybody else has had a problem, either in the U.K. or the States.

Yours faithfully, Vaughan Pitman South Humberside, U.K.

Thanks for all your comments. We did, in fact, realize that we were penalizing foreign readers and have changed our policy. Starting with issue 45's subscription cards, you'll see that our foreign rates are now flat fees, which include all charges. We hope that the drop in price will encourage U.K. and Continental readers to subscribe. -Ed.

Art for art's sake.

Without a doubt, ANALOG Computing publishes some of the highest quality software ever found in a magazine, but an often overlooked fact is that ANALOG Computing is also a showcase for an excellent artist—namely, Gary Lippincott.

His high quality, and sometimes bizarre, fantasy art is a heck of a lot better than the simple line-drawings found in other magazines. All of Mr. Lippincott's work is excellent, but the watercolor masterpieces included with the Fire Bug and Adventurous Programming articles are my personal favorites.

I was pleasantly surprised to find one of his drawings accompanying my Electroids program, as well. Let's give credit where credit is due. To both ANALOG Computing and Gary Lippincott—keep up the incredible work!

Sincerely, James Hague Richardson, TX

Gary Lippincott lives and works in Spencer, Massachusetts, a quiet country town where his fantasies take shape. He studied at Maryland Institute College of

Art as a painting major.

He's been using his talents with watercolors and other media professionally for eleven years now. For the past year and a half, he's been busy working on textbook illustrations for grade school materials. His ANALOG Computing work lets him live out the fairy tales he imagines - for all of us. He also does commissioned works for many varied individuals-Ed McMahon, for one.

You can see his works at the Boskone science fiction convention every year.

More Action!, please.

ANALOG Computing is one of the highlights of my computing reading, and I look forward to receiving the magazine each month.

This month (issue 44), your article D:CHECK in Action! is a special treat. First, it will surely make typing in the Action! coding a great deal more fun, with less chance of error. Second, I hope that inclusion of this program means we'll see more space devoted to Action! articles and programs in the future.

My conversion to Action! has been slow and, at times, a bit painful, mentally. I realize that the number of people programming in Action! is quite small when compared to those programming in BASIC, but I would appreciate your consideration of either some strong, comprehensive tutorials, or some suggestions as to where one might find additional hard copy on Action! programming.

I should also like to encourage you to provide more tutorials on programming. Some of your readers, if they're like me, depend on your magazine as an educational tool. Most of what I've learned about programming (BASIC, Logo, Action!) has been gleaned from the popular publications that have supported Atari computers.

Computers are not required in my profession, they provide no financial rewards for me, but they are my escape from the world during the evening hours, providing me with peace of mind.

Thank you for publishing your fine magazine. Please consider my request for more

tutorials, especially in Action!

Sincerely, Donald Sexauer Greenville, NC

We try. You might check out our Special Issue, due out this fall. A separate publication for 8-bit users, it will give you quite a few Action! programs. — Ed.

Help keep the 8-bits strong.

I have been the faithful owner of an 800 for four years, and was sincerely looking forward to many more years, until recently. The death of new software for the 8-bits has me worried.

I use my 800 for games, word processing and some database work for my job. Many of the best new programs came out only for the Commodore 64 and Apple.

I especially refer to The Newsroom by Springboard. They apparently have no intention of publishing this for our computers. I could really use it as an effective sales tool in my business. I urge all your readers to write Springboard (7808 Creekridge Circle, Minnapolis, MN 55435)—and other software houses not bringing out their best programs for Atari. Ask them to reconsider, or we'll all be buying new, non-Atari computers. The peripherals we buy won't be Atari's, and the magazine won't be ANALOG Computing. That would be a sad epitaph for the best home computers ever made.

Sincerely, Joseph H. Bode Jupiter, FL

At the risk of repeating ourselves again, we urge our readers to do something about piracy—it is what's killing the 8-bit software industry. Please take a look at Matt Ratcliff's report on the June CES (on page 127). We hope you'll see the seriousness of this issue.

Please do write to software developers. But remember, they won't publish programs they can't sell.

—Ed.

Atari excitement.

Okay, people, I think it's about time someone wrote who defends ANALOG Computing's opinion about Atari computing! Except for Mr. Scratch (issue 41's STLog), which disturbed me because of my religion, I have found ANALOG Comput-

ing to be one of the "big three" magazines I currently buy, along with *Antic* and *COMPUTE!*.

I'm sorry Mr. Mosher, but I live, eat and breathe Atari. In fact, only God ranks higher in my life. And to those griping about "gee, you're abandoning us 8-bitters," I have something to say. Hey, people, I own a 600XL and a 130XE. I love them both. And soon I will have a 520ST.

The people at Antic and ANALOG Computing have been using Atari 8-bits for years, so no wonder they're ready for reliving Atari excitement. You all know the excitement of having a brand-new computer for the first time.

I totally agree with the attitude the magazines have: "still support the 8-bits, but enlarge ST support." I'm sorry, Mr. Mosher, but I agree on letting people know about Atari computers in a positive way when I have the chance.

Also, Atari isn't stupid. Jack Tramiel's move to put the 520ST in Toys 'R' Us, Sears and K-Mart is a smart idea.

As for piracy. . . I have to admit I own some (pirated programs). When I first got my 130XE, I didn't realize how badly we users could hurt the industry. We have to totally reject piracy, or it will spell the end of the Atari.

One last thing: EOA is planning to market **Marble Madness** for the STs, right? Please confirm this.

Sincerely, Terry Miller Allen, TX

In the words of a wine-cooler company, "Thank you for your support." As for Marble Madness, EOA does have plans to get it out...when and for how much is uncertain at press time. —Ed.

Home Inventory fix.

The following lines should be added to the **Home Inventory** program listing from our issue 43.

4880 GRAPHICS K0:POKE K710
,K4:POKE K709,K255:POKE K1
6,K64:POKE K53774,K64:POKE
K752,K1:X=K0:I1=K0
4890 POSITION K13,K19:? "R
eading File"
4900 FILE1\$="D:INV.DAT":FI
LE2\$="D:INV.TMP":CLOSE #K1
:CLOSE #K2:OPEN #K1,K4,K0,FILE
2\$
4910 INPUT #K1,DESC\$,DATE\$
,ID\$,COST
4920 IF DATE\$="XXXXXX" THE
N 5000
4930 COST\$=STR\$(COST)
4940 IF LEN(COST\$) K10 THE
N COST\$(LEN(COST\$)+K1)=""
:GOTO 4940
4950 REC\$(K1,K20)=DESC\$:RE
C\$(K21,Z6)=DATE\$:REC\$(27,4
1)=ID\$:REC\$(42,51)=COST\$

(continued on next page)

BASIC Editor II UPDATE

Yes, friends, you're absolutely correct. It is, of course, impossible to type in **BA-SIC Editor II** (issue 45) using the old **BA-SIC Editor** (issues 43 and 44). Don't bother to ask how these things happen—you wouldn't believe it, anyway.

You should use **Unicheck** (issue 39) to check your typing after entering **BA-SIC Editor II**. Checksums for the **BASIC Editor II** listings are given below.

CHECKSUMS FOR LISTING 1.
32600 DATA 6,665,923,757,8
09,171,225,898,532,499,910
,267,912,144,735,8453
32638 DATA 97,358,230,693,
706,878,317,127,36,597,238
,258,182,430,168,5315
32668 DATA 864,953,472,385
,887,724,72,687,908,736,62
5,612,672,184,891,9672
32698 DATA 8,856,85,949

Add :GOTO 60 to the end of Line 40 of Listing 2.

CHECKSUMS FOR LISTING 2.

10 DATA 203,265,465,844,29 4,973,652,270,978,797,278, 275,835,209,301,7639 160 DATA 355,94,254,420,93 5,840,580,419,974,564,5435

We hope to publish the full, corrected version in our next issue, for your convenience. Sorry about that.

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Reader Comment continued

4960 I1=I1+K1 4970 X1=X1+K1 4980 ALL\$(I1*51-50,I1*51)= REC\$ 4990 GOTO 4910 5000 PRINT "N":GOSUB 5710: GOSUB 5690 5010 KX=64:GOSUB 2770:GOSU 5020 POKE 708,196:POSITION K5, K2:? SORT" 5030 I1=I1+K1:ALL\$(I1*51-5 0, I1*51) =PAD\$

Double density demanded.

I've been subscribing to ANALOG Computing since issue 13 and have always been impressed with the quality of your programs. However, I have some complaints about type-in utilities, specifically Load*It and Formatter from issue 39.

I spent approximately three hours typing in these two programs, only to find they don't suit my needs. For instance, the object file loader portion of Load*It will only work with DOS 2.0. The Load *It article did not stress strongly enough that the program makes a call to a portion of RAM where DOS 2.0 is assumed to be. The Formatter FMT.COM file was supposedly written for DOS XL, a double-density DOS. The file will not perform any of its functions in double-density format.

It has been an unfortunate practice of many software authors to assume that all persons taking the time to type in the program would be using the antiquated DOS 2.0 or the slightly upgraded DOS 2.5, neither of which directly support double density. There are many subscribers who own third-party drives or modified 1050 drives that support double density, and we are tired of spending time typing in programs that aren't compatible with our favorite hardware and software.

I am of the opinion that additional testing should be done on type-in utility programs. I would like to see tests under at least three entirely different versions of DOS and all possible density configurations. This may not always be possible, but I think the very least you could do would be to print the type of DOS utility was written for and the density configurations it was tested under.

In summary, please do not assume that

all Atari owners own an 810 or unmodified 1050 drive, and use only DOS 2.0 or 2.5. And please put the term "double density" in your vocabulary. There are thousands of readers and subscribers who would appreciate it.

Sincerely, Kelly K. McMillin Oceanside, CA

P.S.: I was able to get Load *It to work in double density in DOS 2.0, by writing DOS 2.0 to a disk formatted for double density. I believe that two drives are required to accomplish this feat. The DUP. SYS for DOS 2.0 will also work this way. Pretty neat, huh?

An omission.

ANALOG Computing inadvertently omitted mentioning that some of the program routines in the Calendar Printer by David Plotkin (issue 43) were first published by Allen Macroware. We apologize to Allen Macroware for any confusion.

Reader Comment

P.O. Box 23, Worcester, MA 01603





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Too many titles to list

Write for complete list.

Counting without fingers

A fractured history of digital computers

by Paul R. Robinson

It all began with fingers and toes. With their digits, cavepeople counted the bison trampling their crops, the rapacious pillagers waiting in line outside their caves, and the fang marks slashed across their backs by friendly neighborhood sabertoothed tigers.

The first computing device was the abacus, used by Oriental wise men to keep track of dynasties, and to count the heads lopped off by insatiable warlords hungry for conquest. To this day, an experienced abacus user can multiply faster than many electronic calculators—faster, even, than Silicon Valley girls at a Jordache sale.

Dull-witted Occidentals, in contrast, couldn't count past ten without taking their shoes off until 1642, when Blaise Pascal, lazy son of a French merchant, built an adding machine to figure his father's accounts.

Mathematician Gottfried Wilhelm Leibnitz was even lazier than Pascal. He dawdled for twenty-three years—from 1671 to 1694—while building his calculator. And, while it could multiply, divide and take square roots, it was based upon binary, rather than decimal, arithmetic. Binary computers are especially useful to butchers, war protesters and other people with only two fingers.

Too lazy to build a calculator, George Boole instead wrote an 1859 treatise on symbolic logic. His ideas about gate switching provided the foundation for modern digital computing. They also became quite popular in affluent suburbs throughout America.

Herman Hollerith, American statisti-

cian, was perhaps the laziest man of all time. In 1886, he was *still* working on the 1880 census! To give himself even more time to waste, he invented an electrical device that read the holes punched in data cards. When the 1890 census rolled around, this machine helped Hollerith and his cohorts compile the results in less than one year.

By 1911, Hollerith had so much free time that he helped establish a company with the unlikely name: Computing Tabulating Recording Company. Typically, Hollerith fired of writing out this pompous appellation time after time, so he eventually changed it to International Business Machine—IBM for short.

Conceptually, Boole and Hollerith owed much to Charles Babbage, inventor of the cow catcher. Babbage described mechanical "analytical engines" as early as 1834, but he never managed to finish building one. Despite his indolence, people still credit Babbage with several important ideas, including feedback loops, the storage of numbers on punched cards, and conditional transfers. A conditional transfer is, of course, one which depends upon whether the boss's son wants the job.

It's remarkable that Babbage didn't even think of electronic microcomputers—or electronic mainframes, for that matter. His defenders excuse this blunder by pointing out that we didn't even have electric can openers back then. The fact remains that, in Babbage's time, electrical phenomena had been known for centuries.

Modern electronics began when 12thcentury English merchants devised magnetic compasses to keep their ship captains from getting lost every time the fog rolled in. Soon afterward the French crusader Petrus Peregrinus de Mariourt—who carried a compass with him—got lost anyway near Warsaw, while on his way from Madrid to Paris. During his aimless wanderings, he noticed that samples of naturally magnetic lodestone had two poles, a North Pole and a South Pole. The abundance of pole-possessing lodestones around Warsaw eventually gave the region its modern name—Poland.

Meanwhile, back in England in 1600, William Gilbert published *De Magnete Magneticisque Corporibus et de Magno Magnete Tellure*, a romance novel in which he coined the term "electric field." Inspired by Gilbert's racy prose, Steven Gray discovered electrical conductors in 1729.

Back across the Channel, Charles Francois de Cisternay Dufay, gardener for the King of France, announced the existence of "attractive" and "repulsive" electrical forces, after long years of observing the King's various concubines.

Benjamin Franklin was one of the luckiest of early key experimenters with electricity. He was also one of the stupidest. After seeing (no doubt several times) how lightning bolts scorched trees, tall buildings and unprotected livestock, he sallied forth to fly a kite in the midst of a ferocious thunderstorm. Franklin's 1752 adventure confirmed that lightning is electrical in nature. It also set an example that leads to the electrocution of luckless imitators every year.

In 1767, English chemist Joseph Priestly found that an electrostatic charge obeys an inverse square law: by doubling the distance between himself and Benjamin Franklin, he quadrupled his chances of staying alive.

E Counting continued

Italian scientists finally learned about electricity in 1791. In that year, Luigi Galvani, anatomy professor from Bologna, wrote his most famous harlequin thriller, De Viribus Electricitatus in Motu Musculari Commentarius, in which he confessed to getting his kicks by making frog legs twitch with electrical sparks. (Twentyseven years later this same theme made big bucks for Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, author of Frankenstein.)

In 1800, Count Alessandro Giuseppe Antonio Anastasio Volta constructed his voltaic pile, the first useful battery. He used it to give even bigger shocks to frogs and other unfortunate small creatures.

Theoretical advances came from Andre-Marie Ampere, who showed in 1825 that electricity and magnetism could relate; and by Georg Ohm's irresistible wife, who on their wedding night coined the phrase, "Ohm, my!"

Michael Faraday, yet another Englishman, demonstrated the first electric motor in 1831. It operated on the Principle of Magnetic Induction, a concept somewhat related to Interest on a Tax Deduction.

When the Germans got into the act, things really started to roll. Wilhelm Eduard Weber, Rudolf Kohlrausch and Gustav Kirchhoff (who was really an American) showed in the 1850s that electricity and magnetism can relate not only to each other, but to light as well.

The English got the final say on this matter when James Clerk Maxwell (who was really a Scot) published equations which described this ménage à trois mathematically, and proved that coffee brewed in his house was good to the last drop. Maxwell's work completed classical electromagnetic theory.

Subsequent experiments with subatomic particles shed new light on electromagnetism. Sir Joseph John Thomson and Sir John Sealy Edward Townsend discovered electrons in 1896-1898. And, in 1911, Robert Andrews Millikan measured the charge on electrons with his famous "oil drop" experiment. Recently, you'll recall, ARCO emulated Millikan by dropping its gasoline charge cards, and the Arabs of OPEC dropped what they charge for whole barrels of oil.

In 1900, Max Planck excited the Catholic Church by proving that light had mass. In 1909, Hendrik Antoon Lorentz rewrote Maxwell's equations in nonclassical terms, leaving out the part about the coffee. Now the theoretical stages—both classical and pop—were set for the impending Age of Computers.

So what? What good is theory if you can't sell it? Leave it to the Americans to ask that. They scoffed at Faraday, who started building electric motors in 1822, but never sold a single one of them. They scoffed at Volta, too. He told the world about his piles in 1800, but it wasn't until

1836, when Daniell built the Daniell cell, that batteries went commercial. So, short on theory, perhaps, but long on greed, Americans proceeded to invent (and sell) the following electrical gadgets:

Telephone A.G. Bell, 1876
Phonograph . . . T.A. Edison, 1877
Microphone . . . T.A. Edison, 1877
Switchboard

Light bulb T.A. Edison, 1878-9
Electric flat iron . . H.W. Seely, 1882
Dictating machine . C.S. Taintor, 1885
Transformer W. Stanley, 1885
Gramophone E. Berliner, 1887
AC motor N. Tesla, 1888
Electric stove

......P.C. "G-Spot" Hewitt, 1901 Radiotelephone

Automatic toaster C. Strite, 1928
Electric shaver J. Shick, 1928
FM radio . . . E.H. Armstrong, 1933
LP records P.C. Goldmark, 1948
And, of course.

The zipper W.L. Judson, 1893

By the mid-1930s, there existed both a theoretical basis and a compelling need for computers—the need for rich American inventors to keep track of all their money.

During World War II, Harvard's Howard Aiken and Hollerith's IBM succeeded where Charles Babbage failed. They constructed the Harvard Mark I computer. Fifty feet square and eight feet high, it was somewhat larger than today's wristwatch calculators.

J. Presper Eckert and John W. Mauchley completed what some sources say was the first all-electric computer in 1946 at University of Pennsylvania. They named their beast the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator. But their greatest contribution came when they shortened the name to ENIAC, thereby inventing the acronym. Without acronyms, the computer industry as we know it today could not exist.

Eckert and Mauchly then helped build UNIVAC I, the computer that rendered voting obsolete by correctly predicting Eisenhower's victory over Stevenson in 1952.

But in 1945, long before UNIVAC, a significant event occurred in (of all places) New Jersey: Bell Telephone Laboratories hired a physicist named John Bardeen to study semiconductors. At Bell Labs, scientists would sit and think—left leg crossed over right, right elbow on left knee, right hand stroking beard. They'd thought about semiconductors for years, to no avail. But Bardeen thought differently—right leg crossed over left, left elbow on right knee, left hand dangling off to one side. This new

way of thinking led him to invent the transistor in 1947, for which he shared the 1956 Nobel Prize in physics with Walter H. Brattain and William B. Shockley. (Bardeen has won only one Nobel since. He shared the 1972 Prize for a theory of superconductors, through which—in contrast to semiconductors—electrons flow like quarters through a video arcade.)

The first transistor gave birth to solidstate electronics. Transistors began replacing vacuum tubes in 1950 when Shockley unveiled the "p-n-p" junction transistor.

Bell Labs built early transistors from germanium, a relatively rare element. In 1954, Gordon Teal and his group at Texas Instruments made the first silicon-based junction transistor. Since silicon is cheaper and more durable than germanium, this innovation greatly enhanced the practicality of solid state electronics.

Five years later, Jack Kilby of TI filed for a patent on integrated circuits, in which transistors and other electrical components of all races, colors and creeds live together in harmony on a single silicon chip. That same year, Robert Norton Noyce of Fairchild Semiconductor filed for a similar patent. To this day, historians are still trying to decide who was really the first to file. Meanwhile, both companies continue to make millions from integrated circuits.

Noyce, with Gordon Moore and Andrew Grove, established Intel Corporation in 1968. And, by inventing the RAM chip and the microprocessor in 1970, Intel gave birth to pocket calculators, digital watches and **Donkey Kong**. The rest will be history.

From fingers and toes to microchips, people from many cultures contributed to the Computer Revolution now sweeping the world. This revolution daily changes the way we play, the way we work and the way we make war. These people were motivated by laziness, sadism, stupidity and greed. It's a tribute to the American way of life—as practiced by the Japanese—that, in the end, greed triumphed over all.

Paul R. Robinson, with a Ph.D. in Chemistry, has served as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana; as a staff scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and as a research chemist for Unocal Corporation (formerly Union Oil Company of California). In the past two years, he has earned almost \$40 as a free-lance writer.

An earlier version of this "history" was published in the February Chemtech.

Database Delphi

News and updates about the ANALOG Computing Atari Users' Group on Delphi

by Matthew J.W. Ratcliff

Welcome to **Database Delphi**. This is where you'll be hearing the latest from the world of telecommunications. **ANALOG Computing** (as most of you already know) has moved its TCS to Delphi, where it's known as the Atari Users' Group.

Delphi's an on-line information service similar to CompuServe, but has much lower rates—and no surcharge for 1200 or 2400 band

2400 baud.

Most people will be able to connect via Uninet or Tymnet—a local call in most large cities. The hourly rates for Delphi are higher than they were for ANALOG Computing's TCS, but I'm sure that your phone company was hitting you up for more money in long distance fees.

What's in store.

Once into Delphi, just enter GROUP ATARI to get into our SIG (Special Interest Group). Your next menu will be the main control center.

You may look at Announcements on various topics, posted by SYSOPs (System Operators) and other users. You may get into the Member Directory to post information about yourself, or find data on others with similar interests. Or, in Conference, you can page other members who are on-line at the same time and have a meeting of two or more. It's like having a "typo-phone" connection with people who share your interests—a great way to make new friends.

You may enter the Poll section to read or participate in on-line surveys. We'll update this with new questions and topics of interest regularly. Poll results will be summarized here and used to improve the features of the SIG and of **ANALOG Computing**. You may even create your own polls.

Databases offer many different programs and information files for your downloading pleasure. Programs and documentation on the current issue will be available, along with information about upcoming issues, classic XE and ST programs, graphics, **DE-GAS** pictures, and much more. You'll even have your own workspace—on-line disk storage space for your personal use.

A Shopping Service is reserved and will probably be made available for renewing subscriptions, purchasing back issues of ANALOG Computing magazines and

disks, and more.

Delphi Mail is your electronic postal service, for sending and receiving private messages, to and from others on the system. Whenever you log in, you're alerted to any pending mail.

Topics Available gives you a list of the subjects you can expect to see in different areas of the SIG. You can use the Entry Log to find when your friends were on last, or you can check to see Who's On right now,

for possible conferencing.

The Forum is where most of the action is. You can participate in ongoing discussions about Atari computers and software. For programming problems, you'll find help from experts. An almost direct line to ANALOG Computing editors and some Atari notables (like Neil Harris of Atari Corp.) is available through the Forum and Mail, so you can take your questions and ideas "right to the top."

The Set Defaults function is used to tell the Delphi computer system how to talk to your particular computer, modem and terminal software combination.

Nosy polls.

LP1 (a user on Delphi) wants to know the name of your favorite terminal software.

Of almost 100 responses, there were three clear winners. AMODEM 7.1 (and variations on that theme) was the most popular, at 28%. There was no room in the selection list for AMODEM 7.2. It was preferred for its autodial capabilities, superior to most any other terminal software. At 27%, the runner up was "Your Own." Many users prefer to code their own terminal software to meet specific needs.

HomeTerm came in third, with 24% of the vote. Some complain that HomeTerm has too small a capture buffer, but others simply capture to RAM disk on their 130-XE. I like HomeTerm for its split-screen feature—great for conferencing on Delphi. There wasn't much mention of ST terminal software in the poll; we should probably run a separate one for that, in the future.

Another user, RAMBO, asks if we should not "consider both the ST and Amiga as progressive computers and quit bickering about which is best, so we can concentrate on the real 'enemies,' namely the lame IBM and Macintosh computers."

Well, most strongly agree, but I think the poll may have been a bit biased. The consensus is that we needn't consider any machine—or company—as an enemy. Let the price-to-performance ratio speak for itself (as did that of the 1040ST, in the March 1985 issue of Byte).

DGG wants to know what programming

Database Delphi continued

language (if you have but one to choose from) you would most prefer in developing software for the ST. Almost 30% say Modula-2, with an even 14% split for OSS's Personal Pascal, Lattice C, and Megamax C. Only 9% would want to write in ST BASIC, and no one polled wants to develop software in ST Logo or Hippo C.

GEMIGENE asks us which printers are most popular among the SIG members. It's no surprise to see Epson at the top of the list, with a 42 percent share of the vote. Gemini follows, with 28 percent, and third

is Okidata, at 10 percent.

One poll just started is a question about whether an ST SIG should break off from the Atari SIG. We'll leave this open for a while and give newcomers a chance to

make their thoughts known.

I would think most 8-bit users would like to keep up with the ST world. And ST owners may still learn or derive ideas from those with 8-bit machines. I hope this doesn't become a rivalry (beyond a friendly one), to split the Atari SIG.

The most valid comment I've heard thus (which works both ways) far is, "I'm paying for connect time and am not interested in 8-bit stuff, or paying to scan through it looking for ST-specific material." The problem with having two separate SIGs is that it may spread the resources of ANA-LOG Computing editors (who do double duty as SYSOPs) a bit thin, adversely affecting overall support of all members.

SYSOP connections.

If you'd like to leave comments or suggestions to editors of ANALOG Computing or SYSOPs, you can send us EMAIL on Delphi. I'd welcome any ideas for polls, improvements to the SIG's features, or topics of discussion for the On-line Conferences we'll be holding in the future.

Our first will probably be On-line with ANALOG Computing, where you can chat

with any of the editorial staff.

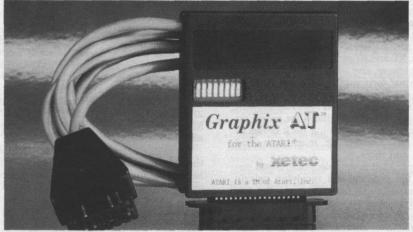
You can send mail to me by addressing it to MATRAT-what else? The main SYSOP, Charles Bachand, can be contacted via ANALOG2, and our prolific Clayton Walnum is ANALOG4. Art Levenberger is username NJANALOG.

If you see us in the Who's On list, feel free to give us a Page. We'll be glad to chat with you if we aren't too busy.



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Now you can create your own, specialized spelling checker in 32 or 48K of memory

by Angelo Giambra

Magic Spell is a machine language program to locate spelling errors in documents produced by word processors (such as AtariWriter), which allows you to make immediate corrections. It can process files created by any word processor, provided they're in standard Atari 2.0S DOS format.

The design philosophy behind Magic Spell is unlike that of other speller programs. The average person's working vocabulary is only several thousand words. Magic Spell capitalizes on this fact. Instead of a huge dictionary containing words you'll probably never use, Magic Spell lets you customize a dictionary to fit your personal needs. When the program begins, the entire dictionary is loaded into memory. Since Magic Spell doesn't have to access the disk to look up words, the checking is incredibly fast.

With 48K, Magic Spell can fit up to 6,500 words in memory; with 32K, about 3,900 words. As you continue to use the program, you'll discover that it will mold itself to your needs.

Keying in Magic Spell.

Listing 1 is the BASIC data used to create your copy of Magic Spell. Please refer to M/L Editor on page 7 for typing instructions. You should call the file SPELLER. Listing 2 should also be typed with M/L Editor, under the name SPMAINT.

To run the program, remove all cartridges and boot your system from the disk containing the SPELLER file. When the DOS menu appears, use the L option to load the file. Press L, then RETURN.

The system will ask LOAD FROM WHAT FILE? Key in SPELLER and hit RETURN. Magic Spell will load and begin executing.

To load the SPMAINT program, use DOS's L option as above. When the system asks LOAD FROM WHAT FILE?, kev in SPMAINT and RETURN.

Instructions.

After Magic Spell loads into your computer, a title screen will appear, displaying the program name. Press the START key to begin your spell-checking session. The first time you use the Magic Spell, there'll be no dictionary on your disk. When the program discovers this, it will create a new dictionary of twenty-six words in memory.

When a dictionary exists on the disk, the message LOADING DICTIONARY displays. Later, you'll see that it's possible to have many dictionaries, on different disks. Any disk containing a dictionary will be referred to as a "dictionary disk."

When Magic Spell finishes loading the dictionary, it displays a message to show how many words there are in that dictionary. You then see the prompt ENTER FILENAME. If you have only one disk drive, remove the dictionary disk and insert the disk containing the document whose spelling you wish to check. If you have two drives, insert the disk with the document in the drive designated as drive 2. Do not remove the dictionary disk from drive 1.

The document file must be in standard Atari 2.0S DOS format. Most word processors produce such files. At this writing, the only ones I know of which Magic Spell can't process are those from the Letter Perfect word processor, by LIK Enterprises.

Key in the document name (including the file extension, if applicable) and press RETURN. Filenames can be entered in several ways. Here are some examples.

> SAMPLE 1 D:SAMPLE D1:SAMPLE.DOC D2:SAMPLE

(Defaults to Drive 1) (Defaults to Drive 1)

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Magic Spell continued

If **Magic Spell** can't find the named file on the disk, it displays the message *FILE NOT ON DISK*. If this happens, key in the correct filename, or check to ensure that you've inserted the correct disk.

Magic Spell then begins to read the document and check the words for correct spelling. As it does, it displays the current word count on the screen. This count is approximate and increments by 5s. Only when Magic Spell completely finishes checking the document does it give you the exact number of words found within.

When the program encounters a word not in its dictionary, a message like the following is displayed on-screen: NO MATCH: meticulus. The word displayed, of course, is the one Magic Spell couldn't find.

In addition, a 36-character context line appears at the bottom of the screen, to show you the context in which the word was used. **Magic Spell** now positions the cursor directly below the word and waits for a response from you.

There are two possibilities at this point: (1) the word's correct, but isn't included in this **Magic Spell** dictionary; or (2) the word's incorrectly spelled.

If the first is the case (the word's correct, but not in the dictionary), just hit RETURN at this point. **Magic Spell** will display the message ADD WORD TO DICTIONARY?

To insert the word in the dictionary, key in a Y and press RETURN. If you don't wish to add this word, merely press RETURN. **Magic Spell** always interprets RETURN as a no. That way, it's almost impossible to accidentally add a word to your dictionary.

In the second instance (where the word was incorrectly spelled), type in the correct spelling. Magic Spell will replace the incorrect word with the one you've keyed in, so enter it exactly as you wish it to appear.

Magic Spell places the keyboard in lowercase mode at this point. If you want capitals, use the SHIFT CAPS-LOWR key. Remember, make sure the word you key in is spelled correctly. If it's shorter or longer than the word it's replacing, Magic Spell will adjust your document accordingly.

Keep in mind that the first few times you use Magic Spell, it will stop frequently on words—the dictionary's small. But you'll be surprised how quickly it builds up. Soon, Magic Spell's dictionary will reflect your personal writing style, and the program will become extremely effective in spotting misspelled words.

Be very careful when adding words to a dictionary. Magic Spell is only as precise as its dictionary. If you insert words incorrectly, Magic Spell can no longer be relied on to keep your documents literate.

After you key in a correct word and RETURN, Magic Spell checks to see if the word's already in its dictionary. If it is, spell checking resumes. If not, Magic Spell displays the message ADD WORD TO DICTIONARY? Key in the letter Y and press RETURN to add the new word. Otherwise, just press RETURN.

When Magic Spell finishes checking the document, the final exact word count displays on-screen. Then you'll see ANOTHER FILE? Y/N. If you wish to look over another

document, hit Y and RETURN. In this way, multiple files can be checked during one session.

If you're finished (N), replace the dictionary disk in drive 1 and press RETURN. If you didn't update the dictionary, Magic Spell returns you to the DOS menu.

When you're using only one drive and have updated the dictionary, **Magic Spell** will ask you to *INSERT DICTION-ARY DISK PLEASE THEN PRESS RETURN*. Once you've done so, the program writes out a new copy of the dictionary to the disk.

If you're using two disk drives, Magic Spell doesn't display the above prompt. Instead, it immediately writes the update to the dictionary disk in drive 1.

When Magic Spell finishes, there'll be two copies of the original document on your disk. Let's assume your word processing document was called LETTER.DOC. After processing, you'll find the files LETTER.DOC and LETTER.BAK on your diskette. LETTER.DOC is the updated version with corrected words. LETTER.BAK is your original.

If, for some reason, you decide to return to the original and discard the corrected document, simply delete LETTER.DOC, then change the name of LETTER.BAK to LETTER.DOC. Both functions can be performed using the DOS menu.

Note: Magic Spell opens a temporary file, DOCU-MENT.TMP, on your disk during the spell-checking session. Your entire document's rewritten to this file. When Magic Spell ends, it changes your filename to <filename > .BAK, then changes DOCUMENT.TMP to the original filename.

Because of this, there must be at least as many free sectors on your disk as there are in your document. If not, Magic Spell will abort, with the message DISK FULL ABORTING. In addition, the source document must not be locked, since Magic Spell changes its name. If it's locked, Magic Spell aborts with FILE LOCKED ABORTING.

Creating a new dictionary.

You may decide to build several custom dictionaries with specialized words, such as medical or computer terms. This is easy with Magic Spell.

When you press START to begin a spell-checking session, Magic Spell looks for the file WORDS on the disk in drive 1. If it finds this file, it loads the dictionary into memory.

If can't find the file, it creates a brand new dictionary in memory. This new dictionary contains only twenty-six words, each beginning with a different letter of the alphabet.

To create a new dictionary, follow this procedure.

- (1) Prepare a blank disk, by formatting it with option I of the DOS menu. Use option H to write the DOS files to this disk. Next, remove the disk from the drive and label it Custom Dictionary.
- (2) Load the Magic Spell program in the usual manner.
- (3) Remove the Magic Spell disk and insert the blank, formatted disk from step 1.

(4) Press START. Magic Spell will create a new dictionary in memory. The disk in drive 1 now becomes your dictionary disk.

(5) Remove the "custom dictionary" disk and insert the disk containing your document. Proceed as you

normally would from this point.

After you finish checking your document for spelling errors, be sure the drive 1 disk is your new custom dictionary disk.

SPMAINT instructions.

SPMAINT is a maintenance program, designed to let you view and delete words from the dictionary. You may see all the words, or selected portions of the dictionary.

SPMAINT is loaded in much the same way as Magic Spell. Use the L (binary load) option from the DOS menu. When prompted to LOAD FROM WHAT FILE?, key in SPMAINT and press RETURN. SPMAINT will load into memory and begin execution.

After it's loaded, the program displays PRESS START on-screen. Insert your dictionary disk in drive 1 and hit START. You'll see the message LOADING DICTIONARY.

Once the dictionary's been loaded into memory, a menu screen appears. It contains: (1) List Dictionary; (2) Delete Word; (3) Free Memory; and (4) End.

Listing the dictionary.

To list words in the dictionary, choose option 1, by keying in the number 1 and pressing RETURN. SPMAINT displays LOW LIMIT.

Key in the word (or portion of a word) where you wish to begin listing words. For instance, to view all words be-

ginning with AL, key in AL and RETURN.

Now SPMAINT will display HIGH LIMIT. Key in the upper limit. If you want SPMAINT to stop at words beginning with BA, key in BA and press RETURN.

SPMAINT will then give the message PRESS ANY KEY TO START AND STOP LISTING, PRESS X TO CANCEL LISTING, PRESS RETURN WHEN READY. When you RETURN, SPMAINT can begin to list the words in the ranges specified, in alphabetical order.

You may stop the screen from scrolling by pressing any key. Pressing any key again restarts scrolling. If, howev-

er, you wish to abort the listing, press X.

When SPMAINT finishes listing the words you wanted, it displays PRESS RETURN WHEN READY. Hit RETURN to go back to the main menu.

To view all the words in the dictionary, don't give a lower or upper limit. Press RETURN at these prompts. Here are some other examples:

List all words beginning with B.

LOW LIMIT = B HIGH LIMIT = C

List all words in the dictionary, starting with words beginning with *MAR*.

LOW LIMIT = MAR

HIGH LIMIT = ress RETURN>

List all words from beginning of dictionary up to words that start with GH.

LOW LIMIT = cpress RETURN>
HIGH LIMIT = GH.

Because of the method **Magic Spell** uses to efficiently utilize memory, all words will be in alphabetical order, except for the pronoun *I*, which will be treated as if it were spelled *II*. This isn't an error; it's just due to the way the dictionary's maintained by the programs.

Deleting words.

To delete words from the dictionary, key in option 2 and press RETURN. SPMAINT will display ENTER WORD TO DELETE. Do so, remembering that you must spell the word exactly as it appears in the dictionary. If it's misspelled in the dictionary, you must misspell it the same way.

SPMAINT will then scan the dictionary for the word. If it can't be found, SPMAINT displays this message: WORD NOT IN DICTIONARY. PRESS RETURN WHEN

READY.

If this happens, hit RETURN. SPMAINT will take you to the menu again. Choose option 1 to list the dictionary. Perhaps you spelled the word wrong.

If SPMAINT locates the word you're deleting, it displays WORD DELETED. Press RETURN to go back to the menu

screen.

Free memory.

This option allows you to see how much RAM is still available. You can then calculate how many more words will fit into memory, before exceeding your computer's capacity. Divide the RAM amount by 6 to get an approximate count of the number of words which may be added. For instance, if there are 12,000 characters of free memory available, you can get approximately 2,000 more words in your dictionary.

Ending SPMAINT.

To end your maintenance session, choose option 4 by typing 4 and pressing RETURN. If you haven't updated the dictionary, you'll immediately return to the DOS menu. If you deleted any words, SPMAINT writes the dictionary to disk, then returns you to the DOS menu.

Helpful hints.

If you write a lot of letters to friends, it's a good idea to add their names to the dictionary, to prevent Magic Spell from thinking they're spelling errors. You can add names of places or streets, too.

Magic Spell recognizes hyphenated words and possessives, such as butler's. You can add these to your diction-

ary, if you wish.

Sometimes you may run two words together in your document—soonafter. Magic Spell thinks this is one word and stops on it. Key in the correction: soon after. Your document will be corrected. When Magic Spell asks ADD WORD TO DICTIONARY?, make sure your response is not a Y. You'd be adding two words at once, which is a no-no.

When deleting words from the dictionary with SP-MAINT, you may accidentally take out the wrong one. If this happens, you may abort the maintenance session by pressing SYSTEM RESET. You'll return immediately to the DOS menu, without having updated the dictionary.

Remember, **Magic Spell** and SPMAINT work with a copy of the dictionary in memory. The actual file isn't updated until the dictionary gets rewritten to disk.

Magic Spell continued

Table 1.

MAGIC SPELL ERROR MESSAGES

FILE NOT ON DISK — The requested file does not exist. DISK FULL. ABORTING — There isn't enough room on the disk to write out the temporary file.

FILE LOCKED. ABORTING — Source document is locked; **Magic Spell** is aborting.

MEMORY FULL. CANNOT ADD WORD — There's no more room left to add words to the dictionary.

SPMAINT ERROR MESSAGES

WORD NOT IN DICTIONARY — SPMAINT could not find the word in the dictionary.

FILE NOT ON DISK. ABORTING — SPMAINT could not find the dictionary on the disk.

Final note.

Your dictionary is valuable. Always keep a backup copy. You don't want to lose it after building it up to 6,500 words.

Magic Spell can be a great aid if you create a lot of documents. You'll never again have to pore over each and every word, looking for misspellings. I hope you find it efficacious.

Angelo Giambra's been in data processing for eight years. He's been an avid Atari hobbyist since buying his computer three years ago. An incessant tinkerer, he enjoys writing machine language utilities and extensions to the OS and DOS.

Listing 1.

1300 DATA 16,169,3,157,66,3,169,133,15
7,68,3,169,43,157,69,3,2880
1310 DATA 169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,
3,169,12,157,74,3,169,3039
1320 DATA 0,157,75,3,32,86,228,165,16,
41,127,133,16,141,14,210,4762
1330 DATA 169,146,141,198,2,141,200,2,
169,1,141,240,2,169,0,133,5760
1340 DATA 85,133,86,169,21,133,84,169,
11,157,66,3,169,193,157,68,6241
1350 DATA 3,169,43,157,69,3,169,31,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,1777
1360 DATA 3,169,43,157,69,3,169,31,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,1777
1360 DATA 32,86,228,169,0,133,84,133,8
5,133,86,32,165,41,169,11,4229
1370 DATA 157,66,3,169,135,157,68,3,16
9,43,157,69,3,169,32,157,4364
1380 DATA 72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,22
8,173,31,208,201,6,208,7730
1390 DATA 249,162,32,169,3,157,66,3,16
9,195,157,68,3,169,42,157,5739
1400 DATA 69,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,15
7,73,3,169,4,157,74,2773 9,195,157,68,3,169,42,157,5739
1400 DATA 69,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,15
7,73,3,169,4,157,74,2773
1410 DATA 3,169,0,157,75,3,32,86,228,4
8,3,76,75,65,169,12,1773
1420 DATA 157,66,3,169,0,157,68,3,169,0,252,64,247,65,157,69,6477
1430 DATA 3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,7
3,3,32,86,228,160,0,3230
1440 DATA 169,77,133,136,169,43,133,13
7,165,136,153,151,0,165,137,153,8989
1450 DATA 152,0,200,200,192,54,240,24,152,72,160,0,177,136,201,128,9274
1460 DATA 176,6,32,118,40,76,42,65,32,118,40,104,168,76,22,65,1460
1470 DATA 169,26,141,27,5,169,1,141,24
7,6,76,11,30,162,16,169,3249
1480 DATA 11,157,66,3,169,167,157,68,3,169,43,157,69,3,169,26,3469
1490 DATA 157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,169,77,133,136,169,7244
1500 DATA 43,133,137,162,32,169,7,157,66,3,169,157,73,3,32,86,1335
1520 DATA 228,76,145,29,169,9,133,85,133,84,169,0,133,86,162,16,4476
1530 DATA 169,11,157,66,3,169,4624

A Magic Spell continued

2320 DATA 160,0,169,26,133,85,169,0,13
3,86,169,12,133,84,32,8,3022
2330 DATA 41,173,160,6,153,101,5,200,1
92,7,208,242,76,11,30,173,7577
2340 DATA 247,6,208,3,76,78,35,169,1,1
41,240,2,165,209,208,92,9426
2350 DATA 32,111,35,162,16,169,11,157,66,3,169,56,157,68,3,169,4681
2360 DATA 5,157,69,3,169,33,157,72,3,1
69,0,157,73,3,32,86,2064
2370 DATA 228,169,12,133,85,169,0,133,86,169,37,157,68,3,169,6,4319
2380 DATA 157,69,3,169,6,4319
2380 DATA 3,32,86,228,169,7,157,72,3,169,0,228,70,223,71,157,73,7200
2390 DATA 3,32,86,228,169,7,157,66,3,1
69,160,157,68,3,169,6,5059
2400 DATA 157,69,3,169,1,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,4404
2410 DATA 32,111,35,162,16,169,11,157,66,3,169,54,157,68,3,169,30,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,4404
2410 DATA 228,32,165,41,169,12,157,66,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,2107
2420 DATA 6,157,69,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,4439
2450 DATA 157,69,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,4439
2450 DATA 162,48,169,3,157,66,3,169,19
5,157,68,3,169,42,157,69,6134
2460 DATA 3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,169,8,157,74,3,2654
2470 DATA 169,0,157,75,3,32,86,228,169

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,11,157,66,3,169,151,157,7375
2480 DATA 68,3,169,0,157,69,3,169,54,1
57,72,3,169,0,157,73,4237
2490 DATA 3,32,86,226,56,165,203,229,1
51,133,136,165,204,229,152,133,135
151,433,136,165,204,229,152,133,135
151,432,238,137,162,48,169,117,259
2510 DATA 137,24,165,136,165,2,133,135
1520 DATA 157,66,3,169,76,157,683,169
43,157,69,3,165,136,157,6137,657,633,32,86,228,76,8,35,169,63,169,8674
2530 DATA 72,3,165,137,157,73,3,32,86,228,76,8,35,169,63,169,8674
2530 DATA 33,157,66,3,169,8574
2530 DATA 33,157,66,3,169,8157,73,3,32,86,228,71,21,29,72,23,169,0,157,73,3,32,86
2550 DATA 90,33,169,0,290
2540 DATA 157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,8
2550 DATA 90,33,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86
2550 DATA 90,33,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86
2550 DATA 16,60,96,169,6,133,85,169,0,157,73,3,32,86
2550 DATA 173,169,6,141,29,5,32,202,35,173,169,0,157,73,3,32,86
2550 DATA 186,10,8,169,6,133,85,169,0,157,73,3,3,28,6
2550 DATA 186,10,8,169,6,133,85,169,0,157,73,3,3,28,60,288,4559
2550 DATA 173,168,6,141,29,5,32,202,35,173,169,6,157,73,3,3,28,6,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,133,86,169,20,134,173,160,6,8521
2580 DATA 173,126,141,10,289,20,20,235,173,160,6,141,160,6,73,128,153,11,547
2600 DATA 4,152,72,32,95,41,184,168,20
2160 DATA 4,152,72,32,95,741,184,168,20
2160 DATA 4,152,72,32,95,741,184,168,20
2160 DATA 4,152,76,132,130,40,173,161
2610 DATA 4,152,76,132,133,137,169,6,131,133,136,185,154,0,133,137,3698
2630 DATA 144,151,6,153,11,141,243,6,132,131,154,166,169,171,173,160,177,136,201,703
2600 DATA 185,152,0,141,243,6,132,131,154,166,166,165,131,133,136,185,154,0,133,137,3698
2650 DATA 142,176,6,322,130,40,173,161
2670 DATA 185,152,0,141,243,6,122,34,193,4,193,137,160,0,177,136,201,703
2600 DATA 165,137,141,243,662
2670 DATA 165,137,141,243,662
2670 DATA 165,137,141,243,662
2670 DATA 165,137,141,141,245,6,96,56,165,166,166,196,191,193,113,113,193,243,113,193,243,113,134,166,169,113,133,134,166,192,208,208,226,2938
2700 DATA 19,133,133,134,1560,119

5,49,2,240,5,144,55,76,180,7728
3260 DATA 39,165,133,205,48,2,144,45,1
69,10,133,85,169,0,133,86,6140
3270 DATA 169,20,133,84,162,16,169,11,
157,66,3,169,248,157,68,3,7015
3280 DATA 169,42,157,69,3,169,28,157,7
2,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,2918
3290 DATA 86,228,76,129,40,177,131,145
,133,56,165,131,233,1,133,131,193
3300 DATA 176,2,198,132,56,165,133,233
,1,133,133,176,2,198,134,165,1029
3310 DATA 137,197,132,144,224,240,3,76
,14,40,165,136,197,131,144,213,1938
3320 DATA 240,211,185,130,6,145,136,20
0,196,206,208,246,152,72,173,29,3616 3320 DATA 240,211,185,130,6,145,136,20 0,196,206,208,246,152,72,173,29,3616 3330 DATA 5,201,97,144,3,56,233,32,56,233,65,10,168,200,200,24,8879 3340 DATA 185,151,0,101,206,153,151,0,185,152,204,76,199,77,0,105,8922 3350 DATA 0,153,152,0,200,200,192,54,208,233,104,168,136,177,136,73,2904 3360 DATA 128,145,136,173,248,6,72,173,249,6,72,24,173,27,5,105,5805 3370 DATA 1,141,27,5,141,248,6,173,28,5,105,0,141,28,5,141,3386 3380 DATA 249,6,32,7,42,104,141,249,6,104,141,248,6,96,24,165,7621 3390 DATA 136,105,1,133,136,144,2,230,137,96,160,255,152,72,173,29,725 3400 DATA 5,141,160,6,32,43,41,192,128,144,7,192,255,240,3,76,9341

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3410 DATA 37,29,165,206,201,1,208,12,1
73,29,5,205,100,6,208,4,6317
3420 DATA 104,160,0,96,76,186,40,185,1
00,6,141,160,6,152,72,32,5713
3430 DATA 43,41,192,128,144,8,192,255,240,4,104,76,37,29,104,168,8186
3440 DATA 200,196,206,208,226,96,72,16
9,0,141,254,6,104,201,39,240,1911
3450 DATA 27,201,45,240,23,201,65,144,12,201,91,144,15,201,97,144,9517
3460 DATA 4,201,123,144,7,72,169,1,141,254,6,104,96,162,1,160,7683
3470 DATA 0,189,253,3,153,253,3,232,22
4,14,240,3,200,208,242,96,4289
3480 DATA 152,72,162,16,169,11,157,66,3,169,160,157,68,3,169,6,5782
3490 DATA 157,69,3,169,1,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,5494
3500 DATA 104,168,96,165,129,201,125,2
08,36,169,200,77,195,78,0,133,171
3510 DATA 129,162,48,169,11,157,66,3,1
69,158,157,68,3,169,4,157,6887
3520 DATA 69,3,169,125,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,169,11,157,66,3,1
69,158,157,68,3,169,4,157,68,87
3520 DATA 129,170,173,160,6,157,158,4,230,129,96,165,128,201,125,208,3345
3540 DATA 44,169,0,133,128,162,32,169,7,157,66,3,169,33,157,68,6139
3550 DATA 3,169,4,157,69,3,169,125,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,169,72,3,208,3,76,151,41,165,128,170,205,104,470

3570 DATA 3,208,5,169,1,133,130,96,189,33,4,141,160,6,230,128,8590
3580 DATA 96,162,16,169,11,157,66,3,16
9,0,157,68,3,169,6,157,5278
3590 DATA 69,3,169,37,157,72,3,169,0,1
57,73,3,32,86,228,96,5895
3600 DATA 160,0,185,100,6,201,97,144,3,56,233,32,153,130,6,200,8415
3610 DATA 196,206,208,238,96,162,48,16
9,11,157,66,3,169,158,157,68,9217
3620 DATA 3,169,4,157,69,3,165,129,157
,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,4686
3630 DATA 32,86,228,96,24,173,248,6,10
5,1,141,248,6,144,3,238,9273
3640 DATA 249,6,96,32,154,42,177,243,2
01,128,144,5,73,128,76,27,7568
3650 DATA 42,153,51,5,200,16,239,153,5
1,5,169,10,133,85,169,0,16106
3660 DATA 133,86,169,10,133,84,162,16,169,11,196,78,99,79,157,66,7470
3670 DATA 3,169,30,157,68,3,169,5,157,69,3,169,26,157,72,3,4138
3680 DATA 169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,96,32,248,41,230,205,165,205,3264
3690 DATA 201,5,208,69,32,154,42,177,243,201,128,144,5,73,128,76,9151
3700 DATA 104,42,153,101,5,200,16,239,153,101,5,169,26,133,85,169,8649
3710 DATA 0,133,86,169,12,133,84,162,16,169,11,157,66,3,169,12,133,84,162,16

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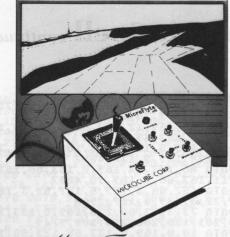
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Listing 2.

1000 DATA 255,255,0,64,251,64,169,0,13
3,178,133,177,133,207,169,125,569
1010 DATA 133,176,169,252,133,208,169,
28,133,209,169,161,133,203,169,65,1554
1020 DATA 133,204,160,0,177,203,145,20
8,200,208,249,230,209,230,204,165,7839
1030 DATA 209,201,38,144,239,240,237,162,16,169,3,157,66,3,169,198,8275
1040 DATA 157,68,3,169,38,157,69,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,74,3,169,0,1
57,75,3,32,86,228,165,4397
1060 DATA 16,41,127,133,16,141,14,210,169,146,141,198,2,141,200,2,6715
1070 DATA 16,41,127,133,16,141,157,66,3,169,42,157,68,3,169,3710
1080 DATA 37,157,68,3,169,3710
1080 DATA 37,157,68,3,169,3710
1080 DATA 37,157,68,3,169,3710
1080 DATA 38,157,69,3,169,46,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,894
1090 DATA 228,169,21,133,84,169,11,157,66,3,169,57,157,68,3,169,3927
1110 DATA 38,157,69,3,169,30,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,819
1110 DATA 228,169,0,133,85,133,86,169,12,133,84,162,16,169,11,157,4942
1120 DATA 66,3,169,226,157,68,3,169,38,157,69,3,169,22,157,72,3,388
1130 DATA 3,169,0,157,73,3,32,86,228,1
73,31,208,201,6,208,249,9814
1140 DATA 162,32,169,3,157,66,3,169,4,157,68,3,169,37,157,69,3003
1150 DATA 3,169,0,157,72,3,169,0,157,7

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57,73,3,32,86,228,169,5379
1940 DATA 5,157,66,3,169,36,157,68,3,1
69,6,157,69,31,169,30,157,73,3,32,8
6,228,173,36,6,141,3,2860
1960 DATA 157,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,32,8
6,228,173,36,6,141,3,2861
1960 DATA 37,56,232,69,227,70,233,65,1
1970 DATA 211,35,133,209,32,171,32,160
1970 DATA 211,35,133,209,32,171,32,160
1980 DATA 217,36,6,144,22,240,27,741
1980 DATA 217,36,6,144,22,240,27,741
1980 DATA 217,36,6,144,22,240,27,747
1980 DATA 222,169,155,217,12,37,240,74
200,169,155,217,36,6,22,880
1,290 DATA 232,169,155,217,12,37,240,74
260,20,133,169,167,7208,201,9428
2010 DATA 232,169,155,217,12,37,240,74
2610 DATA 35,144,193,240,3,76,158,33,1
65,288,205,6,36,144,193,240,3,76,158,33,1
65,288,205,6,36,144,181,240,645
2020 DATA 128,162,16,169,111,157,66,3,1
63,137,157,66,3,169,26,157,72,3,169,0,1
57,73,3,52,86,222,76,337,2
2040 DATA 23,34,173,132,2,201,1,240,3,
206,132,6,24,165,208,109,7488
2050 DATA 132,6,133,203,165,209,105,0,
133,204,160,0,177,203,145,200,1862
2060 DATA 24,165,203,155,133,23,203,144
2,2230,204,165,204,205,7,36,9564
2070 DATA 144,12,240,3,76,134,165,203
2080 DATA 142,240,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,22,40,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,123,203,165,209,105,0,
133,104,164,134,6,160,52,4218
2090 DATA 144,12,240,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,12,240,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,12,240,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,12,240,37,6,134,165,203
2080 DATA 144,154,6,160,52,4218
2090 DATA 152,6,7217,33,173,36,6,56,233
240,165,165,176,6,32,1198,530
2100 DATA 169,115,766,3,169,36,157,69,3,169,211,157,766,3,169,36,157,69,3,169,211,157,723,169,4369
2110 DATA 169,157,723,3,169,4369
2120 DATA 152,166,69,11,157,66,3,169,36,157,69,3,169,21,157,723,3,169,4369
2120 DATA 169,157,66,3,169,157,73,3,32,86,228,169,1,141,135,6,5266
2130 DATA 165,176,63,1169,165,177,73,3,32,86,228,169,1,157,66,3,169,157,73,3,32,86,228,169,1,157,66,3,169,157,75,3,32,86,228,169,1,157,66,3,169,157,75,3,32,86,228,96,173,157,66,3,169,91,157,76,3,169,91,157,723,3,169,91,157,723,3,169,91,157,766,3,169,157,753,32,266,228,169,11,157,66,3,169,1157,766,3,169,1

230,177,96,165,176,201,125,208,3112
2330 DATA 44,169,0,133,176,162,32,169,
7,157,66,3,169,8,157,68,4819
2340 DATA 3,169,36,157,69,3,169,125,15
7,72,3,169,0,157,73,3,3498
2350 DATA 32,86,228,189,72,3,208,3,76,
184,35,165,176,170,205,104,148
2360 DATA 3,208,5,169,1,133,178,96,189,8,36,141,96,6,230,176,7754 2370 DATA 96,24,165,208,105,1,133,208, 144,2,230,209,96,0,0,4569 2380 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,2380 2390 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,2390 2400 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,

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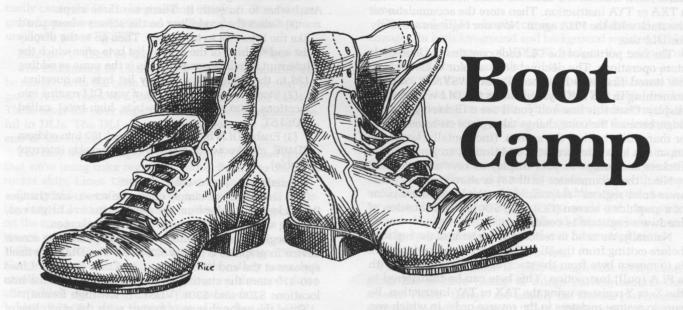
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CIRCLE #113 ON READER SERVICE CARD



by Karl E. Wiegers

Last time out, we ended up with the title screen to what promises to be a very silly program, "Attack of the Suicidal Road-Racing Aliens."

This is a mixed graphics mode screen, containing segments of graphics modes 1, 2, 7 and 0. We created the screen by setting up our own "display list." This tells the computer which graphics mode to use for each horizontal line on the TV, and where in RAM to find the information to be displayed.

Our title screen is nice, but it just doesn't have the colorful pizzazz of real games. We need some way to get around the usual five-colors-at-a-time limit. Fortunately, just such an mechanism exists: the display list interrupt or DLI. Today we'll explore the DLI—and spice up our title screen in the process.

Display list interrupts.

An introduction to DLIs always begins with a review of the TV display process. The TV's electron beam begins writing on the screen at the upper left corner. It draws one horizontal line, then is turned off just long enough for the electron beam to move back across the screen and down one line.

During this brief period, while the gun's doing a horizontal retrace, we have just enough time to run a tiny machine language program. Such a program, my friends, is a DLI, sometimes called a "horizontal blank interrupt." The execution time may be short, but the possibilities are many.

Depending on the graphics mode, the horizontal blanking period is between 15 and 60 machine cycles long. This gives us time to run a program containing five to ten load-and-store operations. It's plenty of time to change the contents of color registers, point to a redefined character set, change the positions of players or missiles, alter the contents of sound registers, and so on.

These changes will be in effect as soon as the electron gun begins to draw the next scan line on the TV screen. Many amazing special effects can be produced using DLIs. We'll concentrate mostly on color changes this month.

Writing a DLI.

There are just a few things to keep in mind as you write a DLI. The most important is that it must be short. If the DLI is still executing when the electron gun comes back on, there may be distortions in the screen display. Let's examine the DLI routine that appears in Lines 620-670 of Listing 1, reproduced here:

0620	DLI	PHA
0630		LDA #68
0640		STA WSYNC
0650		STA COLPF2
0660		PLA
0670		RTI

The first instructions in your DLI must save the contents of any registers (accumulator, X, Y) used in the DLI. In 6502 lingo, the PHA instruction is used to push the contents of the accumulator onto the program stack. This is a good place to briefly stash the accumulator.

Our load-and-store operations use only the accumulator, so that's the only register saved on the stack (Line 500).

Boot Camp continued

To save the X- and Y-registers requires a two-step procedure. First, transfer the contents to the accumulator with a TXA or TYA instruction. Then store the accumulator on the stack with the PHA again. Now our registers are ready for DLI use.

The next portion of the DLI code contains the load-andstore operations. The decimal 68 is a color value for red. It's stored first into location \$D40A (WSYNC). Storing something in WSYNC synchronizes the DLI with the TV display. Omit this line and you'll see a flickering, jagged edge, because the color change takes place on-screen, rather than tidily behind the scenes. (Incidentally, keyboard input can also interfere with DLI timing, so you may see flickers and jumps in your display as keys are pressed.)

Next, the accumulator (still 68) is stored in the "hardware color register" responsible for the background color of a graphics 0 screen (COLPF2, \$D018). A discussion of hardware registers is coming up.

Naturally, we need to restore the contents of the registers before exiting from the DLI. The converse of saving them is to move a byte from the stack to the accumulator with a PLA (pull) instruction. This byte can be transferred to the X- or Y-registers using the TAX or TAY instruction. Be sure to restore registers in the reverse order in which you saved them.

The final instruction of the DLI routine must be to "return from interrupt" (RTI). This is similar to the return from subroutine (RTS) instruction, but don't get them confused!

Chasing your shadow.

I'm sure you remember the five color registers at addresses \$2C4-\$2C8 (COLOR0-COLOR4) that we've manipulated in previous columns. These are "shadow registers" for a corresponding group of "hardware registers" at addresses \$D016-\$D01A (COLPF0-COLPF4).

The real computer action takes place in the hardware registers. However, the hardware registers are "write-only"; we can't read them and find out what they contain at any time. Hence, the corresponding read/write shadow registers were created.

Most programs make color register changes in the shadow registers, as we have. Every sixtieth of a second, during the vertical blanking period, contents of the shadow registers are written into the corresponding hardware registers, thus implementing any color changes in the next TV frame drawn.

DLI routines are executed in between vertical blank intervals. Thus, copying to a shadow register does us no good. The solution is to write directly into the hardware registers in our DLI routines. The playfield color registers are not unique in this regard. Table 1 lists some other hardware/shadow combinations useful for DLI routines.

Table 1. — Hardware and Shadow Registers.

Hardware	Shadow	Purpose
\$D016-\$D01A	\$2C4-\$2C8	Playfield colors
\$D012-\$D015	\$2C0-\$2C3	Player/missile colors
\$D409	\$2F4	Character set base address
\$D01B	\$26F	Player priorities

DLI setup.

Besides writing the DLI routine itself, we have to tell the Atari what to do with it. There are three steps:

(1) Select the mode line on the screen where you'd like the interrupt to take place. Then go to the display list and set bit 7 of the display list byte after which the interrupt is to be executed. This is the same as adding 128 to the value of the display list byte in question.

(2) Store the starting address of your DLI routine into locations \$200 and \$201 (low-byte, high-byte), called VDSLST.

(3) Enable DLIs by storing a decimal 192 into address \$D40E, also known as NMIEN (nonmaskable interrupt

Example 1 — Just a color change.

This short example simply opens the screen and changes the background color from the default blue to a bright red, starting with the ninth mode line on the screen.

We begin with the familiar process of opening the screen device in graphics 0 (Lines 320-430). The DLI code itself appears at the end of the listing, in Lines 620-670. Lines 440-470 store the starting address of the DLI routine into locations \$200 and \$201 (VDSLST, low/high format).

Since the color change is to start with the ninth line of graphics 0, we must set bit 7 of the display list byte for the eighth mode line. But where's the display list?

The open screen procedure lets the Atari create a display list wherever it likes. Fortunately, it stores the address of the first byte of the display list in locations \$230 and \$231, referred to as SDLSTL. I'm going to copy these values into a couple of spare bytes in page 0, called TEMP in this example (Lines 480-510).

Now, why did I do that? I want to access a byte in the display list, and an easy way is to use the 6502's "indirect indexed" addressing mode. An indirect indexed instruction for loading the accumulator looks like this:

LDA (\$CD),Y

This procedure begins with an address in a 2-byte page 0 location (\$CD and \$CE, low/high). It then points to that address, offsets by the value in the Y-register, and loads the contents of the resulting location into the accumulator.

Going back to Listing 1, we have the address of the display list in locations TEMP and TEMP+1. Now think about what the display list looks like, based on last month's discussion.

It begins something like this (in decimal form): 112, 112, 112, 66, xx, xx, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, ... (The xs refer to some unknown location for the start of screen memory; it's not important now.) This portion of the display list goes down through the first nine mode lines of graphics 0 (ANTIC 2) on the screen. The DLI is to be executed after the eighth mode line. Count down the display list, starting at 0, and the magic number is 12 bytes from the start. So load the Y-register with a decimal 12 and load the accumulator using indirect addressing mode, as in Lines 520-530 of Listing 1.

To set bit 7 of whatever's in the accumulator, we can use the ORA instruction. Bit 7 corresponds to decimal 128 (\$80 hex), so Line 540 does the trick. Store the result right back where we found it initially (Line 550), and our display list has been properly activated for one DLI. Lines 560-570 actually cause the DLI to begin being executed. Run this program from address \$5000 and you'll see the two-tone screen until you press RESET.

Example 2. Back to the aliens.

The statements in Listing 2 are numbered, so they can be merged with the code from last month's title screen program. A new block of equates is inserted in Lines 441-448. These cover the color registers and some other registers useful in DLIs. The DLI routines themselves are at the very end of the listing.

The only other change in this program from last time is that we're using color register 2, rather than 1, to draw the rocket ship; Lines 1300-1380 contain some alterations.

Our goal is to enliven the title screen to "Aliens" by using four DLIs to create several regions of different colors on the screen. For kicks, we'll also throw in a little character set manipulation.

Please examine the custom display list in Lines 510-560. Notice that several bytes are larger than they were last month—by the quantity of 128. These are the mode lines after which our four DLIs will be executed.

Lines 621-624 place the address of the first DLI (DLI1, naturally) into VDSLST. But wait! There's only the one DLI address pointer, yet we have four DLIs. Whatever shall we do?

I suggest that DLI1 load the address of DLI2 into VDSLST, DLI2 load the address of DLI3, and so on, with DLI4 pointing back to DLI1 for the next time the screen's drawn. This is one cumbersome feature of using multiple DLIs in a single display. Alternatives that sometimes work are "table-driven" or algorithmic DLIs, which we may encounter in future columns.

The code at Lines 921-931 enables DLIs and sets some initial values in the color registers. Notice that we're using the playfield color registers here, not the hardware registers.

Look now at the DLI routines, starting at Line 3480. DLI1 simply changes the background of the top part of the screen to gray (color 4). Then it loads the address of DLI2 into VDSLST (Lines 3530-3560).

DLI2 uses both the accumulator and the X-register, so you can see how to save both on the stack and restore them later. The X-register is used for color change, but I got more creative with the accumulator. It actually selects a different character set to be used.

You'll recall that the normal character set used for graphics 1 and 2 shows only uppercase letters in four different colors. In effect, only half of the standard Atari characters can be displayed in these modes. The hardware register called CHBASE (\$D409) can be loaded with the decimal value 226, to show lowercase and control characters from the other half of the standard character set (the default value in CHBASE is 224). Unfortunately, this half of the character set contains no blank character; a heart is printed instead. This explains the funny-looking display you see from DLI2.

My point is to illustrate how a DLI can be used to change character sets in the middle of the screen. Many character set editor programs use this feature to show both the normal characters and your redefined characters at the same time.

DLI3 and DLI4 simply cause some additional color changes, in both foreground and background registers. DLI4 also sets the contents of VDSLST back to the address of the first DLI on this display, DLI1.

Notice that there's no relationship between DLIs and the "segments" in our custom display list. The DLIs can be placed anywhere on-screen. This feature permits niceties such as the two-tone graphics 0 segment at the bottom of the display.

I encourage you to experiment with different values in the color registers of these four DLIs, to make sure you understand the effects each one is causing. Play with them until you get the look you like. Don't fiddle with the character set address in Line 3630, or you could get some very bizarre displays. Handling redefined character sets in assembly language will be one of our future topics.

Sneak preview.

I think our title screen is spiffy enough now. Every Atari game has to have plenty of things moving around the screen. These "things" are usually the famous players and their sidekicks, the missiles. Next month, we'll talk about how to define the shapes of some players and have them move around the screen under their own power. Moving them around under your control with a joystick will come after that. Do check back...

Karl E. Wiegers provides computer support for photographic researchers at the Eastman Kodak Company. This means he's wasting his Ph.D. in organic chemistry, but he has a lot of fun. He also writes commercial educational chemistry software for the Apple II.

Listing 1. Assembly listing.

```
;DLI Listing 1
0100
     by Karl E. Wiegers
0120
          OPT NO LIST, OBJ
0140
               $0230
0180
     SDLSTL
0200
     ICBAL
     CIOV
0280
     NMIEN
0300
         LDX #$60
                       ; open screen
         LDA #3
         STA
             ICCOM, X
0350
         LDA #SCREEN&255
             ICBAL, X
0360
         STA
         LDA
             #SCREEN/256
             ICBAH, X
0380
```

Boot Camp continued

```
0390
           LDA #12
0400
           STA ICAX1,X
           LDA #0
STA ICAX2,X
JSR CIOV
9419
0420
0430
           LDA #DLI&255 ;point to DLI
STA VDSLST
LDA #DLI/256
0440
0450
0460
           STA VDSLST+1
8478
           LDA SDLSTL ;copy DL address
STA TEMP ;to page zero
LDA SDLSTL+1
0480
0490
0500
9519
           STA TEMP+1
               #12 ;set DLI bit on
(TEMP),Y ;line 8
0520
           LDY #12
9539
           LDA
9549
           ORA #128
9559
           STA (TEMP), Y
                        ;enable DLI
0560
           LDA #192
           STA NMIEN
JMP END
0570
0580 END JMP
                          ; wait for reset
0590
0600 SCREEN .BYTE "5"
0610
                         ;save A on stack
;color is red
0620 DLI PHA
0630
          LDA #68
                          ;synchronize
0640
           STA WSYNC
0650
           STA COLPF2
                          ;background reg.
                         ;restore A
;all done
0660
          PLA
0670
           RTI
```

Listing 2. Assembly listing.

```
0100 ;DLI Listing 2
0110
0120
       ;by Karl E. Wiegers
0130
0225 ÚDSLST = $0200
0441
0442
        color & charset registers, etc.
0443
0444 COLOR0 = $02C4
0445 COLPF0 = $D016
0446 CHBASE = $D409
                                  ;shadow register
                                  ;hardware reg.
;hardware,charset
;synchronize
0447 WSYNC = $D40A
0448 NMIEN = $D40E
                                   ;enable DLI
0470 ;
              *= $3F00
0490
0500 DLIST
              .BYTE 112,112,112,70,0,$40

.BYTE 134,7,7,135,7,7,7,13,13

.BYTE 13,13,13,13,13,13,13

.BYTE 13,13,13,13,13,13,13

.BYTE 13,13,13,13,13,13,13

.BYTE 13,13,13,13,13,13,13

.BYTE 141,2,130,2,2,65,0,$3F
0510
0520
0530
0540
0550
0560
0561 ;
              LDA #DLI1&255 ;set address
STA VDSLST ;of first DLI
LDA #DLI1/256
0621
0622
0623
               STA UDSLST+1
0624
                                  ;enable DLI
               LDA #192
0921
0922
               STA
                    NMIEN
                                  ;set initial
0923
               LDA #152
               STA COLORO ; colors
0924
0925
               LDA #86
0926
               STA
                     COLOR0+1
0927
               LDA
                    #14
               STA COLOR0+2
0928
0929
               LDA #26
               STA COLOR0+4
0930
               LDA #34 ; turn screen on
LDA #REG2&255 ; color reg. 2
0931
1300
               STA ICBAL,X
LDA #REG2/256
1310
1320
               STA
                     ICBAL+1,X
1330
```

```
1340 JSR PLOTPOINT
1380 LDA #3
3105 REG2 .BYTE "C"
3470
              LDA #4 ; save accum.
LDA #4 ; color gray
STA WSYNC ; synchronize
STA COLPF8+4
LDA #DI 1280-
3480 DLI1
3490
   3500
  3510
3520
              LDA #DLI2&255
   3530
                                ;point
              STA VDSLST ; next DLI
LDA #DLI2/256
STA VDSLST+1
   3540
3550
   3560
               PLA
                              restore accum.; all done
   3570
              RTI
   3580
   3590 DLI2
  3600
              PHA
                              ;save registers
   3610
               TXA
   3620
              PHA
                   #226
   3630
              LDA
                              ;change charset
                            ;color is red
;for foreground
  3640
              LDX #70
                    COLPFO
   3650
               STX
   3660
              STA
                   WSYNC
   3670
              STA CHBASE
                              ;change charset
              LDA #DLI3&255 ;point to
STA VDSLST ;next DLI
LDA #DLI3/256
   3680
   3690
   3700
               STA
                   VDSLST+1
   3710
                         ;restore registers
              PLA
   3720
               TAX
   3730
   3740
                   ;all done
   3750
              RTI
  3760
   3770
3780
        ĎLI3
              PHA
   3790
              TXA
  3800
              PHA
              LDA #14 ; more colors...
LDX #18 ; you've seen
STA WSYNC ; it all before
   3810
   3820
  3830
              STA COLPF0+1
  3840
   3850
              STX COLPF0+2
              LDA #DLI4&255
   3860
   3870
              STA VDSLST
              LDA #DLI4/256
   3880
                    UDSLST+1
              STA
   3890
              PLA
   3900
   3910
              TAX
   3920
              PLA
   3930
              RTI
   3940
3950
        DLT4
              PHA
3960
3970
              TXA
              LDA #0
   3980
              LDX #198
   3990
              STA WSYNC
4000
              STA COLPFO+1
   4010
              STX COLPF0+2
LDA #DLI1&255
   4020
   4030
              STA VDSLST
   4040
              LDA #DLI1/256
   4050
                    VDSLST+1
   4060
               STA
   4070
              PLA
   4080
              TAX
   4090
   4100
```



Soft Touch

A Touch Tablet tutorial to help you use AtariArtist

by Jack Morrison

The **AtariArtist** cartridge that comes with the new Atari **Touch Tablet** is a marvelous piece of software, but the **Tablet** itself has many uses besides picture drawing.

Since the manual doesn't explain how to jump in with user-written software, I did some experimenting, in BA-SIC. This article will show you how to read **Touch Tablet** input, control a cursor and load **AtariArtist** pictures into your own programs.

If you have an Epson or compatible printer, you'll also find out how to make a hard copy of your masterpieces!

Use as directed.

Touch Tablet plugs into the controller jacks on the front of your Atari and acts as if it were two paddle controllers. It provides an electrical resistance, which the computer digitizes into a numeric value sixty times per second. You can read these values from BASIC by using the PADDLE function. If the Tablet is plugged into the first controller jack, PADDLE(0) reads the horizontal or X-coordinate value, and PADDLE(1) reads the vertical or Y-coordinate value.

If nothing's touching the **Tablet**, both values are at their maximum, 228 (all values are in decimal, unless noted).

When the stylus (or any other pointing object) is within the red border line of the **Tablet**'s surface, the X-coordinate ranges from about 10 (left border) to 210 (right

border). The Y-coordinate is from about 12 (bottom) to 215 (top).

The left control button can be read with the PTRIG(0) function, which returns a 1 normally, or 0 if the button's pressed. The right control button can be read in a similar way, using PTRIG(1).

The button on the stylus works like the joystick's "forward" switch. From BASIC, STICK(0) returns a 15 normally, 14 if this button's pressed. Figure 1 (created with AtariArtist!) summarizes for you.

A sound beginning.

Listing 1 is a short example, to start you thinking about other uses for the versatile **Tablet**. Type in and run the listing.

Whenever you touch the **Tablet**, you'll create a sound; moving right on the **Tablet** raises the pitch, while moving up raises the volume. Pressing the stylus button changes the distortion value.

I like the effect produced by "walking around" the **Tablet** with your fingers—try it! (Notes on all the listings are provided at the end of this article.)

Cursors—foiled again!

The most common **Tablet** use is as a pointing device. Apple Macintosh folks like to say that

everyone knows how to point, so pointing programs tend to be easy to use.

The **AtariArtist** feature menu is an excellent example. A menu in a computer program is like a one in a restaurant—it lists what's available, and you can get what you



want by pointing at a selection. In order to see what you're pointing at, programs usually display a cursor, a small symbol that moves around the screen, mimicking motions of the stylus on the Tablet. The Atari's player/missiles are perfect for displaying cursors, since they're so easy to manipulate on-screen. Below are two example programs controlling a cursor with the Tablet.

The first cursor example (Listing 2) uses an "absolute" cursor, which just means that coordinates read from the Tablet are used for the cursor's absolute position.

This works like the drawing cursor in AtariArtist—it appears when you press down on the Tablet, in a screen position corresponding to that on the Tablet.

Note that the cursor blinks rapidly. This is because the player data must be erased when the cursor moves, since it could pop up anywhere. Some extra programming could prevent this, but I wanted to keep the example simple.

The second example (Listing 3) uses a "relative" cursor position. This means that, when you move on the Tablet, what matters is the direction you take (not where you are). It demands a bit more programming, but has some advantages. You can get much finer control over the cursorand still be able to cover a large area, by "walking" the cursor in repetitive movements.

The AtariArtist cursor in magnify mode is a variation of relative cursor control. Notice that the cursor stays onscreen. Since it can't take any sudden jumps, it doesn't have to be completely redrawn, so the flickering is gone.

Now that we have control of a cursor, we can use it to select items from a menu. Listing 4 is a tongue-in-cheek example.

Up against the wall.

Listing 5 is a BASIC program, which reads a compressed picture and displays it, illustrating how you might use your AtariArtist creations in your own programs.

This program will also create a black-and-white hard copy plot of the picture, suitable for framing. If you have a printer other than an Epson MX-70, you'll need to figure out how to modify the plotting portion (or find an appropriate screen dump utility).

By the way, Listing 5 is quite slow—a good candidate for use in polishing your assembly language skills (which

I leave as an exercise for the reader).

Another note: since each pixel is 2 bits wide, the plot ends up with the same half-height pixels that ANTIC mode E has. The proportions come out correctly—automatically!

Program notes.

Listing 1 - A simple tablet control example.

Line 60 turns off the sound, if nothing's pressing on the Tablet.

Line 75 calls a subroutine to change the distortion val-

ue, if the stylus button's pressed.

Lines 80 and 85 read the Tablet coordinates. Pitch is reversed from the X-coordinate, so that the right edge of the Tablet gives the highest pitch (smallest pitch value). The Y-coordinate is scaled to provide a volume setting, ranging from 0 to 15.

Lines 110 and 120 modify the distortion and display the

new value.

Line 140 waits until the stylus button's released, so the distortion changes only once per button click.

Listing 2 — Cursor control with absolute coordinates. Lines 110 to 2090 set up the player/missile graphics area and cursor image data. I've used a couple of BASIC stringhandling tricks to simplify and speed up this program. Lines 2040 to 2090 fool BASIC into thinking string A\$ is stored where the cursor graphics area actually is, so that storing into A\$ causes the cursor to change.

Line 3010 reads the tablet coordinates and reverses the

V-value

Line 3020 makes the cursor disappear (by setting the horizontal position to 0), if nothing's touching the Tablet.

Lines 3030 to 3060 limit the range of X- and Y-values. You might prefer to "wrap around" from left to right and top to bottom.

Line 3080 erases the old cursor data with another string-

handling trick.

Line 3100 plots the new cursor.

Listing 3 — Cursor control with relative coordinates. Lines 110 to 2090 set up the player/missile graphics, as in Listing 2. The cursor area is erased only once, in Line

Line 3010 reads Tablet coordinates; Line 3020 waits until something's touching the surface.

Line 3022 uses the SGN function to increment or decrement the cursor X- and Y-position, depending on the difference between current and previous tablet coordinates.

Line 3026 saves the current tablet position for the next

time around.

Listing 4 — Menu input example.

Lines 110 to 2090 are the same graphics setup used in the previous two programs.

Lines 2110 to 2130 display the menu options. Make up

your own menu, if you wish.

Lines 3010 to 3110 move the cursor, using absolute tablet coordinates. Line 3025 was added to check for any of the three buttons being pressed.

Lines 4000 to 4500 perform menu decoding when a button's been pressed. Since each menu item has its own line, only the Y-coordinate is needed. If this coordinate's close to a displayed menu item, that item is displayed; otherwise, the button press is ignored. By the way, the easiest way to figure out what coordinate limits to use for your menu is to write a dummy subroutine like this:

4000 POSITION 3,17: ? XT, YT; " ": RETURN

Then, just note the coordinates printed when the cursor's at the boundaries of your menu items.

Listing 5 — Read and plot packed pictures.

Lines 30 and 32 get the picture device and filename. For example, "D:ROBOT.PIC".

Lines 35 to 50 read the file header and extract the important data. The call to Line 400 sets up the graphics screen, while Line 50 POKEs in the color register settings.

Lines 60 and 65 start the picture unpacking, determining whether vertical or horizontal decoding is required.

Line 70 starts the hard copy plot if requested.

The subroutine starting at Line 100 is called from the

vertical and horizontal decoding routines when they're ready for the next picture data byte. Line 100 checks to see if any repetitions are left for the current decoded data run. If not, the next run is read and decoded. For a long run (first byte of 0), Line 120 computes the 2-byte run length. For a direct run, Line 130 adjusts the run length and sets the DIRECT flag. Lines 150 and 160 get the next byte and decrement the run length before returning.

Lines 400 to 480 set up the ANTIC mode E graphics display list. If you have an XL, you can replace these lines with:

400 GRAPHICS 15+16 410 DISP=PEEK(88)+256*PEEK(89) 420 RETURN

The rest of us need to build the display list ourselves. Since the display takes more than 4096 bytes of data, two "load memory scan" instructions are needed to cross the 4K boundary. Line 470 tells the OS to use the new display list.

Lines 600 to 650 decode a vertically-compressed picture. For each vertical column, two passes are made, filling in every other byte of the column, calling the unpack routine at Line 100 for each data byte.

Line 710 decodes a horizontally-compressed picture, by

sequencing straight through the display area addresses.

Lines 800 to 870 plot the decoded image from screen memory to an Epson MX-70 printer. A few strange tricks are needed here, since the Atari printer interface doesn't know about raw binary data (only about character data). It simply outputs data in 40-character blocks, unless a carriage return comes first. Meanwhile, the Epson stores 80 bytes of image data at a time, then stops receiving characters while it plots this data. Lines 830 and 835, therefore, start each graphics line with exactly 40 characters, ending with spaces for a margin and commands to set the line height and bit graphics mode.

Line 845 provides a delay between each 80 bytes of graphics data, while the Epson's doing its thing. Lines 850 and 852 get the next byte and convert carriage return characters (13 ASCII, 155 ATASCII) into similar bytes that don't cause premature buffer output. Line 855 outputs the data to the printer.

Drawing conclusions.

I hope **Soft Touch** has given you some useful techniques and ideas for getting more from your Atari **Touch Tablet**. Together with **AtariArtist**, the **Tablet**'s a powerful graphics tool.

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With these techniques, it has many other intriguing uses. Here are two examples to get you thinking.

Try a programmable touch keyboard. Take the menu concept one step further, perhaps with printed overlays on the surface of the **Tablet** itself. Your **Tablet** can become a piano keyboard, a calculator keyboard, a telephone keypad, even a spacecraft control panel.

Perhaps you'd like to see character recognition. Imagine word processing without a typewriter keyboard. Be warned though, this is *not* a simple project.

Jack Morrison is president of SoftCenter Industries, a company specializing in microcomputer games, while he also works as an aerospace consultant. A graduate of UC-LA's Computer Science department, his other interests include music and a Great Dane called Rufus.

The two-letter checksum code preceding the line numbers here is *not* a part of the BASIC program. For further information, see the BASIC Editor II (issue 45) and its update on page 9.

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

AX 10 REM Touch-Tablet Controlled Sound VE 20 REM 3/84 J. Morrison BA 30 REM ZW 40 DIST=10 MJ 50 REM ** main loop **
00 60 REM turn off sound if stylus up ZP 70 IF PADDLE(0)=228 THEN SOUND 0,0,0,0;GOTO 50
TN 75 IF STICK(0)=14 THEN GOSUB 100:REM S tylus button pressed HM 80 PITCH=228-PADDLE(0) LY 85 VOL=INT(PADDLE(1)/229*16) FA 90 SOUND 0,PITCH,DIST,VOL:GOTO 50 BQ 95 REM II 100 REM ** change distortion **
IX 110 DIST=DIST+2:IF DIST>14 THEN DIST=0 HF 120 ? "DISTORTION = ";DIST 130 REM wait until button is released VY 140 IF STICK(0)=14 THEN 140 ZH 150 RETURN

Listing 2. BASIC listing.

10 REM ** Cursor Control with Tablet 20 REM ** (absolute cursor) 30 REM ** 3/84 J. Morrison 100 REM ** setup P/M cursor ** 110 DIM A\$(512),B\$(12):GRAPHICS 0 120 FOR I=1 TO 12:READ A:B\$(I)=CHR\$(A) :NEXT I PH 130 DATA 0,0,128,192,224,240,224,176,2 130 DATA 8,8,122, 4,8,0,0,0 140 A\$(512)=" ":POKE 752,1:? 2000 POKE 559,62:POKE 704,255 2020 I=PEEK(106)-16:POKE 54279,I VI QD POKE 53277,3 UTAB=PEEK(134)+256*PEEK(135) ATAB=PEEK(140)+256*PEEK(141) OFF5=I*256+1024-ATAB EU 2030 2040 NM CX 2060 ΔN 07 2070 HI=INT(0FF5/256):L0=0FF5~256*HI LU 2090 POKE VTAB+2, LO: POKE VTAB+3, HI 2900 REM 3000 REM ** main loop **

ID 3010 XT=PADDLE(0):YT=228-PADDLE(1)
UB 3020 IF XT=228 THEN POKE 53248,0:GOTO
3000
HR 3030 IF XT>198 THEN XT=198
BR 3040 IF XT<49 THEN XT=49
RB 3050 IF YT>213 THEN YT=213
TD 3060 IF YT<33 THEN YT=33
NO 3080 A\$(2)=A\$
UJ 3100 A\$(YT,YT+11)=B\$:POKE 53248,XT
NR 3110 GOTO 3000

Listing 3. BASIC listing.

KG 10 REM ** Cursor Control with Tablet
DQ 20 REM ** (relative cursor)
HW 30 REM ** 3/84 J. Morrison
BB 40 REM
EZ 100 REM ** setup P/M cursor **
XX 110 DIM A\$(512),B\$(12):GRAPHICS 0
HV 120 FOR I=1 TO 12:READ A:B\$(I)=CHR\$(A) : NEXT PH 136 DATA 0,0,128,192,224,240,224,176,2 4,8,0,0,0 DE 140 A\$(512)=" ":POKE 752,1:? VI 2000 POKE 559,62:POKE 704,255 QD 2020 I=PEK(106)-16:POKE 54279,I 2030 POKE 53277,3 2040 VTAB=PEEK(134)+256*PEEK(135) EU NM CX 2050 ATAB=PEEK (140) +256*PEEK (141) OFFS=1*256+1024-ATAB HI=INT(OFFS/256):L0=OFFS-256*HI ΑO 2060 2070 2090 POKE VTAB+2, LO: POKE VTAB+3, HI 2800 A\$ (2) =A\$ 2900 REM 2700 REM ** main loop ** 3010 XT=PADDLE(0):YT=228-PADDLE(1) 3020 IF XT=228 THEN 3000 3022 X=X+5GN(XT-XTOLD):Y=Y+5GN(YT-YTOL EJ ID CN 3026 XTOLD=XT:YTOLD=YT IF X>198 THEN X=198 IF X<49 THEN X=49 3030 3040 BT 3050 IF Y>213 THEN Y=213 MR 3060 IF Y<33 THEN Y=33 FA 3100 A\$(Y,Y+11)=B\$:POKE 53248,X NR 3110 GOTO 3000

Listing 4. BASIC listing.

PT 10 REM ** Menu Demonstration
WW 30 REM ** 3/84 J. Morrison
BB 40 REM
EZ 100 REM ** setup P/M cursor **
FW 110 DIM A\$(512),B\$(12),ITEM\$(20):GRAPH
ICS 0
HV 120 FOR I=1 TO 12:READ A:B\$(I)=CHR\$(A)
:NEXT I
PW 130 DATA 0,12,62,115,126,252,248,124,1
27,62,12,0
DE 140 A\$(512)=" ":POKE 752,1:?
VI 2000 POKE 559,62:POKE 704,255
CD 2020 I=PEEK(106)-16:POKE 54279,I
EU 2030 POKE 53277,3
NM 2040 VTAB=PEEK(134)+256*PEEK(141)
A0 2060 OFF5=I*256+1024-ATAB
CZ 2070 HI=INT(OFF5/256):LO=OFF5-256*HI
LU 2090 POKE VTAB+2,LO:POKE VTAB+3,HI
IP 2100 REM ** setup Menu **
CM 2110 ? " RESTAURANT ATARI":? :?
EE 2120 ? :? " Roast Beef"

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Soft Touch continued

BO 2122 ? 1? " Fried Chicken" 17 11 CS 2124 Tuna Fish Salad" ? :? " Cheeseburger"
POSITION 1,20:? ">>POINT TO SELEC ZĐ 2126 KL. 2130 AND PUSH BUTTON (TION 2900 3000 REM ** main loop ** 3010 XT=PADDLE(0):YT=228-PADDLE(1) 3020 IF XT=228 THEN POKE 53248,0:GOTO 3000 3925 IF PTRIG(0)=0 OR PTRIG(1)=0 OR ST ICK(0)=14 THEN GOSUB 4000 3030 IF XT>198 THEN XT=198 3040 IF XT<49 THEN XT=49 3050 IF YT>213 THEN YT=213 BR RВ IF YT <33 THEN YT=33 TD 3060 3080 A\$ (2) =A\$ MO 3100 A\$(YT,YT+11)=B\$:POKE 53248,XT 3110 GOTO 3000 U.I NR JB 3190 REM 4000 REM ** button pushed - find item 4010 IF YT>64 AND YT<76 THEN ITEM\$="RO 5 X FO 4010 IF Y1764 AND Y1676 THEN TIEMS="RU AST":GOTO 4500 4020 IF YT781 AND YT693 THEN ITEMS="CH ICKEN":GOTO 4500 4030 IF YT797 AND YT6109 THEN ITEMS="T RH UNA FISH": GOTO 4500 4040 IF YT>113 AND YT<125 THEN ITEM\$=" BURGER": GOTO 4500 4100 RETURN :REM out of range 4500 POSITION 3,17:? "ONE ";ITEM\$;" CO MIN' UP! ":RETURN

Listing 5. BASIC listing.

FG 10 REM ** Read and Plot Packed Picture Data 12 REM ** 3/84 J. Morrison 14 REM ВG 20 DIM F\$(20),A\$(10),HDR\$(32)
25 REM ** get file to display **
30 GRAPHIC5 0:? :? "Enter Device:Filen ame for picture":INPUT F\$
32 ? "Plot image on hardcopy (Y/N)";:I KX ШΤ nΗ NPUT AS 35 REM ** process file header **
40 OPEN #1,4,0,F\$:INPUT #1,HDR\$
45 FOR I=LEN(HDR\$) TO 25:GET #1,A:NEXT 5 H ШL 47 GOSUB 400:REM setup graphics 50 A=708:FOR I=14 TO 18:POKE A, ASC (HDR \$(I,I)):A=A+1:NEXT I NG 55 REM ** read and unpack picture **
60 IF ASC(HDR\$(8))=1 THEN GOSUB 600:GO QI TO 70:REM vertical GOSUB 700:REM else horizontal IF A\$(1,1)="Y" THEN GOSUB 800 65 70 80 END YH BG 90 REM 100 REM ** get next packed byte ** 105 IF COUNT>0 THEN 150:REM no read ne cessary SD 110 DIRECT=0:GET #1,COUNT:GET #1,B QT 120 IF COUNT=0 THEN GET #1,COUNT:COUNT =COUNT+256*B-1:GET #1,B:RETURN GV 130 IF COUNT>127 THEN COUNT=COUNT-128: DIRECT=1:GOTO 160 LH 150 IF DIRECT THEN GET #1,B COUNT=COUNT-1: RETURN KΑ 160 RC 180 REM 400 REM ** setup Antic mode E display 405 D=PEEK(106):DL=(D-1)*256:DISP=(D-3 1)*256 410 FOR A=DL TO DL+4:READ B:POKE A,B:N **EXT** ZN 420 DATA 112,112,112,78,0

430 POKE DL+5,D-31 440 FOR A=DL+6 TO DL+198:POKE A,14:NEX 450 POKE DL+101,78:POKE DL+102,0:POKE DL+103.D-16 460 POKE DL+199,65:POKE DL+200,0:POKE HO DL+201,D-1 470 POKE 560,0:POKE 561,D-1 480 RETURN 70 RH 490 REM 600 REM ** vertical decoding **
610 FOR COL=0 TO 39:D=DISP+COL
620 FOR A=D TO D+7600 STEP 80:GOSUB 10 RD MY 0:POKE A, B:NEXT A A=D+40 TO D+7640 STEP 80:GOSUB IK 630 FOR 100: POKE A, B: NEXT A 640 NEXT COL ZM 650 RETURN RD 660 REM PG 700 REM ** horizontal decoding **
710 FOR A=DISP TO DISP+7679:GOSUB 100: MI POKE A,B:NEXT A 720 RETURN 730 REM 0 Y LO 800 REM ** Hardcopy plot to MX-70 **
FT 810 CLOSE #1:OPEN #1,8,0,"P:"
RH 820 FOR COL=0 TO 39:D=DISP+COL
YP 830 FOR B=1 TO 20:PUT #1,0:NEXT B
RK 835 ? #1;" ";CHR\$(27);"A"; CHR\$ (8) ; CHR\$ (27) ; "K"; CHR\$ (192) ; CHR\$ (0) AJ 840 FOR A=7640 TO 0 STEP -40 CC 845 IF INT(A/3200)*3200=A THEN FOR B=1 TO 200:NEXT B ZH 850 B=PEEK(A+D):IF B=155 THEN B=154 QF 852 IF B=13 THEN B=12 FM 855 PUT #1,B:NEXT A:? #1:NEXT COL LQ 860 CLOSE #1 870 RETURN

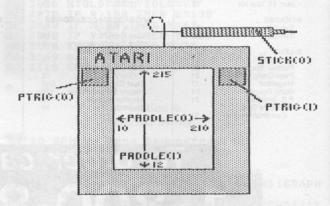


Figure 1.

48K Disk GAME

Moonlord

by Clayton Walnum

Moonlord Planetinsky was a bitter man.

You couldn't blame him. With a moniker like that, you had to take a lot of guff. His first name sounded so much like a title of office, people could rarely resist bowing when introduced (most people thought the action extremely amusing; Moonlord hated it). And his last name...well, he didn't even like to think about that.

As a child he was picked on incessantly, was always the one with the cootiumphaloids (imaginary creatures about the size of a temphibootawep, used as an excuse to remove undesirables from the youngsters' social environment). It was hard to take at first, but humans are known throughout the universe for their extraordinary adaptability, and Moonlord had been an extraordinary child. As he grew to adulthood, he learned to cope in the simplest manner possible: he became tough.

If he'd ever taken the time to sit down and think it out, he'd have realized that, even though he may have led a disastrous childhood, those early years were solely responsible for the man he was today—a starfighter of heroic proportions, dedicated to the protection of his home, the Saturnian moon, Titan.

And now the aliens were back.

They were first sighted circling Epimetheus, but when they learned of their discovery by the Titanian fleet, they spread themselves thinly across the galactic milieu to gain time for the finalization of their attack plans.

To ordinary recruits of the Titanian Territorial Guard, the intruders had slipped into nonexistence, vanished beyond any hope of reprisal. The Guard's helplessness in the face of this strange defense tactic was understandable. After all, each of them had boring, normal names, like Regant Loppydock, Corlental Riddgobber, and, the most common of all, Tilogartingham Philopeeperton. They had had happy childhoods, had been readily accepted by their peers, had never had to struggle with a mocking society.

They weren't tough.

"Ah, Moonlord," said Leeryup Coddldoop, Commander-in-Chief of the TTG, "Glad to see you again." The commander began to bow, then snapped upright, cursing himself for getting caught in old habits. The last thing he wanted was to alienate Moonlord Planetinsky now. But, hey, he must be used to it. Even Moonlord's best friend Yupyup Manghat utilized the bow once in a while for a little fun.



"How's your buddy Yupyup doing?" Coddldoop asked. "Haven't seen him around in a while."

Moonlord's eyes narrowed. "He's in the hospital, recovering from a severe beating." His meaning was as clear as a starship porthole.

The commander cleared his throat. "Uh...ahem... yes...well." His face flushed. He felt a little dizzy.

"Communications problem?" Moonlord queried, lighting up a Hyperion brand smokyngstickolungolator (the original settlers from Earth had used the silly name "cigar"). "Don't worry about it. I know why you sent for me."

"You do?"

"Sure. The aliens were sighted a couple of days ago, and now they've made themselves scarce. You need someone with the skills to track them down and blast them into asteroid dust before they attack the moons. I was briefed before I got here."

"You were?"

"Relax, Commander. I've made all the necessary arrangements."

"You have?"

"I'm your man."

"You are?...Uh, yes! You are! There's just a couple of minor problems."

Moonlord frowned. "And what might those be?"

The commander blinked, sniffed. "Well, first of all, our compudigibinotometer-XE says there's a maximum of 100 galactic standard days until the alien invasion. You have to complete your mission by then."

Moonlord shrugged. "No problem."

"And . . . there's just one other tiny detail."

"Yes?"

"It seems nobody will go with you, except your own crew. It's just too dangerous."

"What! You expect me to knock off an entire alien invasion single-handedly? How many ships in the alien fleet?"

"A few," the commander squeaked.

"Three?" Moonlord asked.

"Well, a bit more than a few."

"Ten?"

"Closer." Coddldoop was beginning to fidget.

"How much closer?"

"A little."

Moonlord sighed, cracked his knuckles, glared. "I'm going to ask this one more time. Get the picture?"

"How dare you talk to the commanding officer of the . . ."

"Stow it!"

Coddldoop's mouth snapped shut. The fact was that nobody, nobody, wanted to be on the wrong side of Moonlord Planetinsky. Besides, Moonlord was it, their only hope.

"How many?" Moonlord asked.

"About fifty," Coddldoop mumbled.

"FIFTY! You want me to get rid of fifty alien craft?" "If it wouldn't be too much trouble."

Moonlord thought for a minute. "What the heck. I'll do it. I need a good challenge."

The commander's eyes glowed. "Thank you, thank you!

I knew we could depend on you." In the course of these expressions of gratitude, it was a natural thing to bow. Coddldoop learned to enjoy hospital food.

Typing Moonlord.

The instructions below should be followed exactly to create your copy of **Moonlord**.

1) Type in Listing 1, using **BASIC Editor II** (issue 45) and its update (page 9 of this issue) to verify your work. Be sure to save a backup copy.

2) Place a disk containing DOS in drive 1 and run the program created from Listing 1. A character set file and a machine language file will be written to your disk. These files (MOONLORD.FNT and MOONLORD.ML) must be present when you play the game.

3) Type in Listing 2, using the updated BASIC Editor

II to verify your work.

4) Save this program to the same disk containing the files MOONLORD.FNT and MOONLORD.ML.

5) To play **Moonlord**, run the program created from Listing 2.

Playing Moonlord.

When you run the program, the first thing you'll see (after the title screens) is the galactic map, represented on your screen by a 18 × 8 grid. Each square in the grid is 1 sector of the galactic milieu. Hidden within these 144 sectors are the 50 alien craft you must locate and destroy. Relax. It's not quite as bad as it seems. The aliens always travel in pairs, therefore only 25 sectors actually contain the enemy.

To make your job a little easier, there are two starbases you may dock with, allowing you to stock up on supplies and make repairs. There's one base at each end of the galaxy, and, just like the aliens, they're randomly placed at the beginning of each game, forcing you to explore.

To win the game, you must locate and destroy all 50 alien craft. You have only 100 galactic standard days in which to complete your mission. It'll take careful conservation of supplies and planned movement, so those who like to leap into the fray without a strategy will find failure a constant companion.

Though there's only one way to win the game, there are many ways to lose (natch). The first is running out of time. You've got 100 days. No extensions. All begging will be ignored.

The second way to lose your hero status is to allow your energy to run out. Keep your eye on it; when it's gone, so are you. Don't forget to check up on the status of your weapons, either. If you should be in the heat of battle and find that both your weapons systems are down...well, the aliens are pretty ruthless. They won't destroy you; they'll just disable your engines and leave you floating helplessly in space. The result? End of Game.

Finally, use of your ship's jump capabilities is a risky venture indeed. Each time you decide to utilize them, you're taking a 1-in-10 chance of destroying your engines.

The bridge.

Below the galactic map, you'll find the bridge. This is where you'll gain access to the ship's main functions.

There are four systems available to you here: scanners, cruise engines, a status display and jump engines. Use your joystick to select the system you wish to activate, then press the trigger.

To move your ship from one galactic sector to another, select the "cruise" command. You're allowed to move in only four directions, but may move as many sectors as you wish. Use the joystick to enter the cruise vector (the direction you want to move), then press the trigger. You may then enter the length of the cruise by pushing your joystick forward or backward. When the number of sectors you wish to move has been selected, press the trigger. Your ship will appear in the target sector.

If you should enter invalid cruise data (such as trying to move off the edge of the map), the computer will insist that you try again. Each sector of movement uses ten units of energy and one day of time.

Throughout the game, it's important to keep close tabs on your ship's condition and supplies. You can't afford to be stuck far from a starbase when your energy's almost depleted, and it helps to know what weapons are functional before you spring into battle. All this information is available in the status display. To view the status display, select the "status" option from the bridge menu, and press your fire button.

Your ship's six systems are displayed on the left, each followed by a number indicating how many days are needed to repair that system. A 0 means the system is fully functional.

On the right, information can be found on supplies, as well as the time remaining and the alien count.

Damaged systems must be repaired before they can be used. Damage is measured by the number of days the crew requires to complete repairs. If you won't use a damaged system right away, you need do nothing. The crew will automatically get to work, applying their best efforts to the restoration of your ship. Remember: one sector of movement on the galactic map consumes one day. A system that requires three days to repair will be operative after a move of three sectors.

If you find you must make repairs immediately, before continuing with the game, you may do so by selecting the "repair" option from the status subsystem menu. Use the joystick to tell the ship's computer how long you wish to wait for repairs, then press the trigger. The repairs will be made, and the status screen updated.

If more than one system needs repair, the times are not added together. Each system has its own crew. For example, if your photon launchers require four days to repair, and your short-range scanner needs two days, it'll take only four days to fix both systems. Given the above circumstance, if you should select only two days of repair time, the short-range scanner would be operational, while the launchers would require two additional days of repair before you can use them. Logical?

Don't forget that the time you spend waiting for repairs will be subtracted from the time available to your mission. Sometimes it's better to continue crippled than to waste a lot of time sitting around.

Should you find that you must move a long distance in a minimum amount of time, the jump engines may fill your need. Unfortunately, the jump engines are still experimental; their safety and reliability cannot be guaranteed. You have no control over where you'll end up, and each jump carries a 1-in-10 chance of leaving you engineless, helplessly afloat in the timeless void of space. In other words, the game could come to an abrupt ending.

Each jump consumes one day and thirty units of energy. Due to its undependability, you may have to jump several times before you get where you want (or at least in that general area). Is it worth the risk? That depends on how desperate you are.

Scanners and such.

When you activate the scanners, you'll be moved to the scanner subsystem menu, allowing you to choose between long- or short-range scanners.

The long-range scanners examine sectors adjacent to your position and mark the galactic map appropriately. They do not indicate the status of your current sector. You must use your short-range scanners to get this information (or move to a different sector, in which case your old sector will be marked with the proper icon). Empty sectors are indicated by a white dot; aliens are represented by a red cross; and starbases appear as a blue square.

The short-range scan allows you to see your current sector in greater detail. Each sector of the galactic map is divided into thirty-six smaller sectors. Suns, aliens, starbases and your own ship are represented by icons on the SRS display (see Figure 1). Four systems commands are available from the "Short-range scan subsystem" (SRSSS) menu: bridge, cruise, phaser and photon. To return to the bridge, select the bridge option.

Once you enter the SRS, you must destroy all aliens in the sector. You won't be allowed to return to the bridge until you do so. And, of course, the aliens aren't going sit around polishing their antennae while you remove them from the galaxy. Each time you complete an action, the aliens will fire on you. If you get hit, you'll hear a low buzzing sound. Each hit causes up to six days' damage to one of your systems.

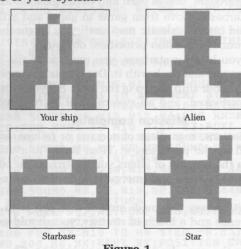


Figure 1.



You may move about in the short-range display in much the same manner as in the galactic map. Select the cruise option from the SRSSS menu, press the trigger, then enter your cruise vector and distance.

Unlike the galactic map, your movement here is somewhat restricted. You can't move through a sun, an alien, or a starbase. If anything is in your way, you must maneuver around it.

Movement on the short-range display consumes no time, but costs you 3 energy points per sector.

The phasers are the first of your weapons systems, and your most powerful. When activated, they release a burst of electromagnetic energy in every direction, damaging any alien craft on your scanners. The amount of damage done depends on the number of alien craft present and their distance from your ship. Damage is cumulative. You may have to fire more than once to get the job done.

To activate the phasers, select the phaser option from the SRSSS menu, then use your joystick to tell the ship computer the amount of power to allocate. Each power point will be subtracted from your remaining energy, so be stingy, allocating just enough to get the job done. That, of course, is the trick. It'll take you a few games to figure out the magic numbers.

Photon torpedoes (globes of compacted light energy) can be used to fire on alien craft which are in alignment (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) with your ship. Their range is sufficient to strike any ship on your scanners, and a strike is always fatal. To fire a photon, select the photon option from the SRSSS menu, then enter the torpedo's vector. Firing a photon consumes no energy.

But nothing comes for free. In order to fire photons, your launchers must be working, and you must have photons on hand. (Can't fire something you don't have, can you?) At the start of the game, you're given ten photons. You'll be restocked only when you dock with a starbase. Obviously, you're going to have to use them judiciously.

When you set out from Titan Base, your ship is carrying all the supplies it can hold. It'll be necessary, at certain points in the game, to stock up. For this reason, there are two starbases, one at each end of the galactic milieu.

The starbases move from game to game and will not be marked on the galactic map until you locate them—one of your top mission priorities, obviously.

Once you locate a starbase, you must go to the short-range scanners and dock with it. Docking is accomplished by moving your ship on top of the base. All your supplies will be restocked, and all systems will be repaired.

Mission complete.

All missions, regardless of success or failure, will be evaluated by the personnel at Titan Base. Your score is based on the number of aliens you destroyed, as well as the amount of time and energy you used (the less, the better).

It won't be easy. I've made sure of that. But with some perseverance and a touch of strategy, you should get the hang of it.

Oh, by the way, don't tolerate any bowing.

The two-letter checksum code preceding the line numbers here is *not* a part of the BASIC program. For further information, see the *BASIC Editor II*, issue 45, and the update on page 9.

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

```
FA 10 DIM XFR$(28),A$(1):FOR X=1 TO 28:RE
AD A:XFR$(X)=CHR$(A):NEXT X
AD A:XFR$(X)=CHR$(A):NEXT X
HO 20 POKE 106,PEEK(106)-4:GRAPHICS 0
FY 30 ? "PRESS RETURN TO BEGIN":INPUT A$:
GRAPHICS 0:POKE 710,0:POKE 752,1
EJ 40 POSITION 4,10:? "Creating character
set data file"
GP 50 POKE 203,N0:POKE 204,PEEK(106):D=US
R(ADR(XFR$))
VB 60 CHR-PFFK(106)*256
R(ADR(XFR$))

XP 60 CHB=PEEK(106)*256

SF 70 READ A:IF A=-1 THEN 90

GY 80 FOR Z=0 TO 7:READ J:POKE CHB+A*8+Z,
    J:NEXT Z:GOTO 70

XO 90 OPEN #1,8,0,"D:MOONLORD.FNT"

II 100 FOR X=0 TO 1023:A=PEEK(CHB+X):PUT
    #1,4:NEXT X:CLOSE #1

UB 110 POSITION 4,10:? " Creating machine
    language file "
language file "
BL 120 OPEN #1,8,0,"D:MOONLORD.ML"
NE 130 FOR X=1 TO 100:READ A:PUT #1,A:NEX
T X:CLOSE #1
VI 140 POSITION 4,10:? "
                                                                                                                       ALL
          DONE!
NI 210 DATA 5,0,31,120,89,89,89,89,89

QB 220 DATA 6,0,248,30,154,154,154,154,15
MC 230 DATA 7,89,89,91,91,91,120,31,0
NF 240 DATA 8,154,154,218,218,218,30,248,
CP 250 DATA 10,16,40,56,40,124,198,198,0
AD 260 DATA 15,0,0,0,24,24,0,0,0
50 270 DATA 16,0,126,102,110,118,118,126,
FZ 280 DATA 17,0,120,120,24,24,24,126,0
AZ 290 DATA 18,0,126,102,12,56,112,126,0
NI 300 DATA 19,0,126,14,24,12,118,126,0
LV 310 DATA 20,0,28,60,124,108,126,14,0
KR 320 DATA 21,0,126,96,126,6,118,126,0
DA 330 DATA 22,0,124,96,126,102,118,126,0
QL 340 DATA 23,0,126,6,14,14,14,14,0
TM 350 DATA 24,0,126,102,60,102,118,126,0
RQ 360 DATA 25,0,126,102,60,102,118,126,0
RQ 370 DATA 33,0,124,108,108,254,198,198,
         380 DATA 34,0,124,108,126,102,102,126,
         390 DATA 35,0,126,102,96,112,118,126,0 400 DATA 36,0,124,102,102,118,118,126,
AJ 410 DATA 37,0,126,96,126,112,112,126,0
TZ 420 DATA 38,0,126,96,126,112,112,112,0
```

CY 430 DATA 39,0,126,102,96,110,118,126,0 BV 440 DATA 40,0,102,102,126,230,230,230, UC 450 DATA 41,0,48,48,48,56,56,56,0 KA 460 DATA 42,0,12,12,14,14,110,126,0 JT 470 DATA 43,0,108,108,124,126,102,102, 480 DATA 44,0,96,96,112,112,112,126,0 490 DATA 45,0,119,119,127,107,99,99,0 500 DATA 46,0,126,102,102,102,102,102, CI 510 DATA 47,0,126,110,110,102,102,126, BH 520 DATA 48,0,126,102,118,126,96,96,0 TZ 530 DATA 49,0,126,102,102,102,126,28,0 CB 540 DATA 50,0,124,108,108,126,118,118, RC 550 DATA 51,0,126,96,126,6,102,126,0
TU 560 DATA 52,0,126,24,24,28,28,28,0
II 570 DATA 53,0,102,102,102,102,118,126, AJ 580 DATA 54,0,102,102,118,126,60,24,0 590 DATA 55,0,99,99,107,127,119,119,0 NI 600 DATA 56,0,118,118,60,60,118,118,0 GM 610 DATA 57,0,102,102,126,24,24,24,0 ZF 620 DATA 58,0,126,14,24,112,112,126,0 RQ 630 DATA 64,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 HJ 640 DATA 65,24,24,28,31,31,28,24,24 GU 650 DATA 67,24,24,56,248,240,0,0,0 JZ 660 DATA 68,24,24,56,248,240,0,0,0 JZ 660 DATA 69,0,0,0,240,248,56,24,24 NN 680 DATA 71,0,3,3,7,31,31,3,3 FP 690 DATA 72,0,192,192,192,192,192,192,192,192 192 700 DATA 73,3,3,3,3,15,31,0 710 DATA 74,192,192,192,192,192,240,24 MI 720 DATA 81,0,0,0,15,31,28,24,24

UM 730 DATA 83,24,24,60,255,255,60,24,24

RK 740 DATA 87,0,0,0,255,255,60,24,24

IR 750 DATA 88,24,24,60,255,255,0,0,0

CL 760 DATA 90,24,24,28,31,15,0,0,0

HW 770 DATA 97,16,40,40,40,108,238,214,21 Y8 780 DATA 98,24,24,60,24,60,231,195,0
T0 790 DATA 99,0,24,102,255,129,255,0,0
H0 800 DATA 100,74,1,84,19,164,1,168,34
BB 810 DATA 101,66,102,60,255,60,102,66,0
BM 820 DATA 102,0,0,0,24,24,0,0,0
DL 830 DATA 103,0,0,60,36,36,60,0,0
ZI 840 DATA 104,0,60,66,66,66,66,60,0
RE 850 DATA 105,126,129,129,129,129,1 29,126 GP 860 DATA -1 870 REM *****MU\$ DATA*****

Listing 2. BASIC listing.

EV 10 GRAPHICS 0:POKE 559,0 AL 20 N0=0:N1=1:N2=2:N3=3:N4=4:N5=5:N6=6: N7=7:N8=8:N9=9:N10=10:N11=11:N12=12:N1 3=13:N14=14:N15=15:N16=16:N17=17

HM 30 N18=18:N19=19:N20=20:N21=21:N22=22: N87=87:N88=88:N89=89:N559=559:N752=752 :N756=756:ST=N0:GOTO 2350 KI 40 FOR X=N1 TO 432:L=INT(RND(N0)*36):S EC\$(X,X)=CHR\$(L):NEXT X PM 50 FOR X=725 TO 747:POKE PMB+X,255:POK PM 50 FOR X=725 TO 747:POKE PMB+X,255:POK E PMB+X+128,255:NEXT X:RETURN HC 60 FOR X=N1 TO 25

SP 70 C=(INT(RND(N0)*N18)+N1)*N2:R=(INT(R ND(N0)*N8))*N2+N1:P=((R+N1)/N2-N1)*N18 +C/N2:IF BRD\$(P,P) <>"/" THEN 70

WF 80 BRD\$(P,P)=CHR\$(34):NEXT X:RETURN UO 90 FOR X=N1 TO N15 STEP 0.1:POKE 709,X:NEXT X:FOR X=N 15 TO N1 STEP -0.1:POKE 709,X:NEXT X 100 DETIIDN YX 100 RETURN LR 110 RESTORE 2940:FOR X=N0 TO 44:READ A :POKE 1536+X,A:NEXT X
EE 120 FOR X=N1 TO 40:READ A:CL\$(X)=CHR\$(
A):NEXT X:RETURN A):NEXT X:RETURN
130 GRAPHICS N0:POKE 710,N0:POKE 709,N
0:POKE N752,N1:RETURN
R0 140 FOR X=N1 TO N6:ST5(X)=ST5(X)-U:IF
ST5(X)(N0 THEN ST5(X)=N0
SL 150 NEXT X:RETURN
SR 160 SY=INT(SSEC/N6):SX=SSEC-SY*N6:AY=I NT(04(4)/N6):AX=04(4)-AY*N6:DIS=INT(50 R((5Y-AY)^2+(5X-AX)^2)+0.5):RETURN 170 ST=STICK(NO):IF STRIG(NO)=NO THEN RETURN CA 180 IF ST=N13 THEN RW=RW+N4:IF RW>MAX THEN RW=MAX
UR 190 IF ST=N14 THEN RW=RW-N4:IF RW<MIN THEN RW=MIN BD 200 FOR X=N1 TO 50:NEXT X:A=USR(PMV,N0,PMB,ADR(P0\$),112,RW,N6):GOTO 170
JN 210 IF BRD\$(SEC+N1,SEC+N1) <> CHR\$(34) T HEN RETURN 220 POKE N87, N0:POKE N88, N20:FOR X=N9 TO N12:POSITION N13, X:? " RQ ":NEXT X PZ 230 FOR X=NO TO N1:IF OP(X)>NO THEN GO SUB 250 SK 240 NEXT X:RETURN JI 250 POSITION N16,N10:? "ALIEN ";X+N1:P OSITION N15,N11:? "ATTACKING" HW 260 FOR Z=255 TO N0 STEP -N10:SOUND N0 ,Z,N10,N4:SOUND N1,Z+N2,N10,N4:NEXT Z HU 270 SOUND N0,N0,N0;SOUND N1,N0,N0,N 0:DAM=INT(RND(N0)*N6)+N1:IF DAM>N1 THE N RETURN NG 280 DAM=INT(RND(N0)*N6)+N1:DP=INT(RND(N0)*N6)+N1:5T5(DP)=ST5(DP)+DAM AX 290 FOR XX=N1 TO N6:50UND N0,100,N12,N 8:G05UB 440:50UND N0,N0,N0,N0:G05UB 44 0:NEXT XX

KN 300 IF (5T5(N5)>N0 AND ST5(N6)>N0) OR
(5T5(N5)>N0 AND ST51(N4) (N1) THEN 2170

ZB 310 RETURN

KP 320 IF STRIG(N0)=N0 THEN 320 ZF 330 RETURN

30 340 SOUND NO,N15,N12,N2:SOUND N1,150,N

12,N8:FOR X=N1 TO 150:NEXT X:SOUND N0,

N0,N0,N0:SOUND N1,N0,N0;N0:RETURN

20:FOR X=N1 TO N16 STEP N3:POKE 711,X:

SOUND N1,X,N12,N8:NEXT X:NEXT XX

SOUND N1,X,N12,N8:NEXT X:NEXT XX

260 SOUND N0,N0,N0,N0:SOUND N1,N0,N0,N

0:POKE 711,154:RETURN

Z70 SOUND N0,N10,N10,N8:GOSUB 440:SOUND

D N0,N0,N0,N0:RETURN

370 SOUND N0,75,N10,N8:GOSUB 440:SOUND

N0,N0,N0,N0;RETURN

370 POKE N87,N1:POKE N88,N0:POSITION C

*N2+N4,R*N2+N2:? #6;"D"

L8 400 FOR XX=N16 TO N0 STEP -0.03:SOUND

N0,200,N0,XX:NEXT XX:POSITION C*N2+N4,

R*N2+N2:? #6;"" ZF 330 RETURN



Y5 410 POKE N87,N0:POKE N88,N20:ST51(N2) = ST51(N2)-N1:IF ST51(N2)=N0 THEN 2170 420 IF OP(N0)(N1 AND OP(N1)(N1 THEN BR D\$(SEC+N1,SEC+N1)="/"
ZG 430 RETURN 440 FOR Z=N1 TO N10:NEXT Z:RETURN 450 SOUND N0,50,N12,N8:FOR X=N1 TO N20:NEXT X:SOUND N0,N0,N0;N0:RETURN FH 460 R=INT(SSEC/N6):C=SSEC-R*N6:POSITIO N C*N2+N4,R*N2+N2:? #N6;"E"":RETURN OJ 470 IOCB=848:ICCOM=IOCB+N2:ICBAL=IOCB+N4:ICBAH=IOCB+N5:ICBLL=IOCB+N8:ICBLH=I

- N4:ICBAH=IOCB+N5:ICBLL=IOCB+N8:ICBLH=I OCB+N9
- 480 POKE ICCOM, N7: AH=INT (A/256): AL=A-A HC
- H*256:NH=INT(X/256):NL=X-NH*256 490 POKE ICBAL,AL:POKE ICBAH,AH:POKE I CBLL,NL:POKE ICBLH,NH 500 A=USR(ADR("hhh@LVO"),N16):CLOSE #N
- 1:RETURN
- MT 510 REM *******MAIN SCREEN*******
 ZA 520 GRAPHICS NO:POKE N559,NO:POKE 5428
 6,255:POKE 710,NO:POKE 82,NO:POKE N752
 ,N1:POKE N756,CHBASE/256
 NH 530 DL=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561)+N4:POKE

- DL,N0:POKE DL+N1,GMAP:POKE DL+N17,130
 :POKE DL+23,130
 540 POKE N88,N0:POKE N89,GMAP
 550 POKE 512,N0:POKE 513,N6:POKE 1580,
 N0:POKE 54286,192:POKE N559,46:POKE HP
 05P1,96:POKE HPOSP2,128:RW=N87
 560 FOR X=N18 TO N21:POSITION N13,X:? ND
- M1\$((X-N17)*N14-N13,(X-N17)*N14):NEXT
- YC 570 R=INT(SEC/N18):C=SEC-R*N18:R=R*N2+
- N1:C=C*N2+N2:POSITION C,R:? "*":OCH=AS C(BRD\$(SEC+N1,SEC+N1)) 580 POKE 77,N0:MIN=N87:MAX=99:GOSUB 17 0:ON (RW-83)/N4 GOTO 600,1860,1650,210 1118
- HP 590 REM **************************
 ZI 600 GOSUB 320:POKE HPOSP0,N0:FOR X=N18
 TO N21:POSITION N17,X:? " ":NEXT
 X:POSITION N13,N18:? " SCAN RANGE "

 XR 610 POSITION N17,N20:? "SHORT":POSITIO
 N N17,N21:? "LONG":RW=95
 YU 620 MIN=95:MAX=99:GOSUB 170:ON (RW-90)
- /N4 GOTO 640,1540 630 REM ******SHORT RANGE******
- 640 IF STS(N3)>NO THEN GOSUB 340:GOTO ΕO
- 650 GRAPHICS N0:POKE N559,N0:POKE 5428 6,255:POKE N756,(CHBASE/256)+N2:DL=PEE K(560)+256*PEEK(561)+N4
- ZD 660 POKE DL-N1,70:FOR X=N2 TO N16:POKE DL+X,N6:NEXT X:POKE DL+N17,134:POKE D L+23,130
 HY 670 POKE DL+25,65:POKE DL+26,PEEK(560):POKE DL+27,PEEK(561):POKE 1580,N0:POK
- E 54286,192
 SI 680 POKE N88,N0:POKE N89,SMAP:POKE DL,
 N0:POKE DL+N1,SMAP:POKE 708,52:POKE 70
 9,N8:POKE 710,44:POKE 711,154
 RZ 690 POKE N87,N1:POKE N752,N1:POKE 77,N
- CZ 700 FOR X=N4 TO N14 STEP N2:FOR Y=N2 T O N12 STEP N2:POSITION X,Y:? #6;" ":NE XT Y:NEXT X
- 710 FOR X=NO TO N2:L=ASC(SEC\$((SEC+N1) XF *N3-X)):R=INT(L/N6):C=L-R*N6
- HE 720 POSITION C*N2+N4, R*N2+N2:? #N6;"["
- :NEXT X:GOSUB 460 730 IF BRD\$ (SEC+N. BRD\$(SEC+N1, SEC+N1) (>CHR\$(34) T **HEN 780**
- 740 FOR X=N0 TO N1
- MB 750 L=INT(RND(N0)*36):0A(X)=L:0P(X)=N5 760 R=INT(L/N6):C=L-R*N6:LOCATE C*N2+N 4,R*N2+N2,A:IF A<>ASC(" ") THEN 750 MD
- PH 770 POSITION C*N2+N4, R*N2+N2:? #N6;"B"

- :NEXT X UF 780 IF BRD\$ (SEC+N1, SEC+N1) (>"#" THEN 8
- QH 790 L=INT(RND(N0)*36):R=INT(L/N6):C=L-R*N6:LOCATE C*N2+N4,R*N2+N2,A:IF A<>AS C("") THEN 790
 MK 800 POSITION C*N2+N4,R*N2+N2:? #N6;"C"
 FT 810 RW=N87:POKE N87,N0:POKE N559,46
 FJ 820 MIN=N87:MAX=99:GOSUB 170:ON (RW-83

-)/N4 GOTO 830,860,1050,1250 CX 830 IF OP(N0)/N0 OR OP(N1)/N0 THEN GOS UB 340:GOTO 820
- OF 840 GOTO 520 AZ 850 REM *******SHORT CRUISE*******
- PR 860 GOSUB 320:IF STS(N2)>NO THEN GOSUB 340:GOTO 820
- 870 MAX=N5:055EC=55EC:POKE N87,N0:POKE N88,172:POKE N89,PEEK(N89)-N2 BK 880 GOSUB 1940:SSC=SSEC-U*N6*(DR=N1)+U
- *(DR=N2)+U*N6*(DR=N3)-U*(DR=N4) 890 IF 55C(N0 OR 55C)35 THEN GOSUB 450
- SB 890 IF SSC(N0 OR SSC)35 THEN GOSUB 450 :GOTO 880 AH 900 IF (DR=N2 AND INT(SSC/N6))INT(SSEC /N6)) OR (DR=N4 AND INT(SSC/N6)(INT(SS EC/N6)) THEN GOSUB 450:GOTO 880 YA 910 POKE N87,N1:POKE N88,N0:POKE N89,S MAP:R=INT(OSSEC/N6):C=OSSEC-R*N6:R1=R:
- C1=C
- JK 920 IF U=N0 THEN 1020 WA 930 C1=C1+X0F:R1=R1+Y0F:LOCATE C1*N2+N 4,R1*N2+N2,A 940 IF A()ASC("c")
- **THEN 990**
- YG 950 POSITION C*N2+N4,R*N2+N2:? #N6;" "
 :POSITION C1*N2+N4,R1*N2+N2:? #N6;" "
 BE 960 FOR X=N1 TO 30:SOUND N0,50,N10,N8:
 GOSUB 440:SOUND N0,N0,N0,N0;GOSUB 440: NEXT X
- 970 FOR X=N1 TO N6:STS(X)=N0:NEXT X:PS =P5+600-ST51(N3):ST51(N3)=600:ST51(N4) =N10
- 980 POSITION C1*N2+N4,R1*N2+N2:? #N6;"
 C":GOSUB 460:GOTO 1220
 990 IF A<>ASC(" ") THEN POSITION C1*N2
 +N4,R1*N2+N2:? #N6;CHR\$(A):GOSUB 450:G OTO 870

- ET 1000 IF R1*N6+C1=SSC THEN 1020
 RP 1010 GOTO 930
 XW 1020 POSITION C*N2+N4,R*N2+N2:? #N6;"
 ":STS1(N3)=STS1(N3)-U*N3:IF STS1(N3)(N

- XR 1050 IF STS(N5)>NO THEN GOSUB 340:GOTO 820
- Z0 1060 POKE N88, N20:FOR X=N9 TO N12:POSI TION N17, X:? "":NEXT X:POSITION N16, N10:? "POWER=0":PHP=N0 GC 1070 POKE HPOSP0, N0:GOSUB 320 CI 1080 IF STRIG(N0)=N0 THEN 1130 ZC 1090 ST=STICK(N0):IF ST<>N

- THEN 1080 VE 1100 PHP=PHP+N1*(ST=N14)-N1*(ST=N13):I
- F PHP(NØ THEN PHP=99 LR 1110 IF PHP>99 THEN PHP=NØ
- FX 1120 POSITION 22, N10:? PHP;" ":GOTO 10
- 1130 ST51(N3)=ST51(N3)-PHP:IF ST51(N3) **(N1 THEN 2170**
- 1140 GOSUB 350:IF OP(N0) (N1 AND OP(N1) (N1 THEN 1220
- 1150 IF OP(NO) (N1 OR OP(N1) (N1 THEN 11 90
- RK 1160 FOR A=N0 TO N1:GOSUB 160:DAM=INT(PHP/N6/DIS+0.5):OP(A)=OP(A)-DAM:IF OP(
- A)>NO THEN 1180 1170 POKE N87,N1:POKE N88,N0:L=OA(A):R · =INT(L/N6):C=L-R*N6:GO5UB 390
- 1180 NEXT A:GOTO 1220

- MO 1190 A=N0:IF OP(N1)>NO THEN A=N1
 RR 1200 GOSUB 160:DAM=INT(PHP/N3/DIS+0.5)
 :OP(A)=OP(A)-DAM:IF OP(A)>NO THEN 1220
- VW 1210 L=0A(A):R=INT(L/N6):C=L-R*N6:G05U B 390
- 1220 GOSUB 210:POKE N87,N0:POKE N88,N2 0:POSITION N15,N9:? " BRIDGE ";:POSI TION N15,N10:? " CRUISE "; 1230 POSITION N15,N11:? " PHASER ";: POSITION N13,N12:? " PHOTON ";:G
- OTO 820

- 1:G05UB 300
- 1270 POSITION N16,N9:? "VECTORS":POSIT ION N17,N10:? " nin ":POSITION N17,N1 1:? " ← → "
- 1280 POSITION N17, N12:? " 44 14:X0F=N0:Y0F=-N1 GD
- VU 1290 D1\$=DD\$:ST=STICK(N0):IF STRIG(N0) =NØ THEN 1400
- 1300 IF ST=N15 OR ST=05T THEN 1290 1310 IF ST=N14 THEN D1\$(N2,N2)="0":XOF CQ
- =N0:Y0F=-N1:05T=N14
- 1320 IF ST=N6 THEN D1\$(N3,N3)="1":XOF= N2:YOF=-N1 1330 IF ST=N7 THEN D1\$(N6,N6)="₽":XOF=
- N2:YOF=N0
- 1340 IF ST=N5 THEN D1\$(N9, N9)=""": XOF= N2:YOF=N1
- 1350 IF ST=N13 THEN D1\$(N8, N8)="□":XOF =N0:YOF=N1
- 1360 IF ST=N9 THEN D1\$(N7,N7)="":XOF= -N2:YOF=N1
- 1370 IF ST=N11 THEN D1\$(N4,N4)="G":XOF -N2:Y0F=N0
- 1380 IF ST=N10 THEN D1\$(N1,N1)="F":XOF =-N2:YOF=-N1
- 1390 FOR X=N1 TO N3:POSITION N18,X+N9: ? D1\$(X*N3-N2,X*N3):NEXT X:GOSUB 370:0 ST=ST:GOTO 1290 Kò
- 1400 R=INT(55EC/N6):C=55EC-R*N6:R=R*N8
- 1400 K-1N16+80:X-N0 +23:C=C*N16+80:X=N0 1410 A=USR(PMV,N3,PMB,ADR(P3\$),C,R,N6) :C=C+X0F:R=R+Y0F:X=X+N2:S0UND N1,X,N8,
- MU
- 1420 H=PEEK(53255):POKE 53278,N1:IF H >N1 AND H 1430 POKE HPOSP3,N0:SOUND N1,N0,N0,N0: C=INT((C-80)/N16+0.5):R=(R-23)/N8:L=R* N6+C:IF H=N4 THEN 1470 1440 IF OA(N0)=L THEN OP(N0)=N0:GOTO 1
- MII 469
- ZU 1450 OP(N1)=N0
- 1460 GOSUB 390:GOTO 1520 1470 C=C*N2+N4:R=R*N2+N2:POKE N87,N1:P ΙP OKE N88, NO
- OKE N88,N0
 1480 SOUND N0,180,N10,N8:POSITION C,R:
 ? #6;"]":GOSUB 440:SOUND N0,100,N10,N8
 :POSITION C,R:? #6;"[]":GOSUB 440
 MZ 1490 SOUND N0,60,N10,N8:POSITION C,R:?
 #6;"[]":GOSUB 440:SOUND N0,N20,N10,N8:
 POSITION C,R:? #6;"[]":GOSUB 440
 RE 1500 POSITION C,R:? #6;"[]":GOTO 1520
 ON 1510 IF C(170 AND C)70 AND R(68 AND R)
 18 THEN 1410
 MD 1520 POKE HPOSP3.N0:SOUND N0,N0,N0,N0;

- WR 1520 POKE HPOSP3, NO: SOUND NO, NO, NO, NO:
- 1540 GOSUB 320:IF STS(N4)>NO THEN GOSU B 340:GOTO 560 LG
- FOR X=N1 TO N8:IF X(N4 THEN 55=5E C-N20+X
- 1560 IF X=N4 OR X=N5 THEN SS=SEC-(X=N4)+(X=N5)

- FG 1570 IF X>N5 THEN 55=5EC+N18-(X=N6)+(X =N8)
- 1580 R=INT(55/N18):C=55-R*N18:R=R*N2+N 1:C=C*N2+N2:P=((R+N1)/N2-N1)*N18+C/N2
- XH 1590 TRAP 1630:A=ASC(BRD\$(P,P)):IF (IN T((SEC+N1)/N18)=(SEC+N1)/N18) AND (X=N

- JE 1660 POKE N89, STS:POKE N752, N1:POKE DL
 -N1,70:POKE DL,0:POKE DL+N1,STS:POKE D
 L+N17,130:POKE DL+23,130
 EY 1670 POKE 512,N0:POKE 513,N6:POKE 1580,N0:POKE 710,98
 HR 1680 FOR X=N1 TO N4:POSITION 30,X*N2:?
 STS1(X);:IF STS1(X)(10 THEN ? " ":GO

- TO 1700
- TO 1700
 HT 1690 IF STS1(X) <100 THEN ? " "
 BE 1700 NEXT X:POKE 77,N0
 HJ 1710 FOR X=N1 TO N6:POSITION N15,X*N2N1:? STS(X):NEXT X:POSITION N13,N17:?
 "BRIDGE":POSITION N13,N18:? "REPAIR"
 SC 1720 POKE 54286,192:POKE N559,46
 ML 1730 RW=91:MIN=RW:MAX=95:GOSUB 170:GOS
 "BR 320:ON (PW-86)/N4 GOTO 520,1750

- GN 1750 GOSUB 320:POKE HPOSP0,N0:POSITION N13,N17:? "DAYS=0":POSITION N13,N18:? ":DAYS=NO
- HY 1760 IF STRIG(NO)=NO THEN 1810 10 1770 ST=STICK(NO):IF ST<>N13 AND ST<>N
- **THEN 1760**
- LN 1780 DAYS=DAYS+N1*(ST=N14)-N1*(ST=N13) GOSUB 440:GOSUB 440:IF DAYS (NO THEN D AYS=N9
- TP 1790 IF DAYS>N9 THEN DAYS=N0
 HA 1800 POSITION N18,N17:? DAYS:GOTO 1760
 BU 1810 STS1(N1)=STS1(N1)-DAYS:IF STS1(N1)
)(N1 THEN 2170

- UV 1820 FOR X=N1 TO N6:STS(X)=STS(X)-DAYS :IF STS(X)(N0 THEN STS(X)=N0 XQ 1830 NEXT X:GOTO 1650 MA 1840 STS(N1)=STS(N1)-DAYS:IF STS(N1)(N 1 THEN 2170
- NU 1860 GOSUB 320:IF STS(N2)>NO THEN GOSU B 340:GOTO 580 OF 1870 MAX=N17:GOSUB 1940:SC=SEC-U*N18*(
- DR=N1)+U*(DR=N2)+U*N18*(DR=N3)-U*(DR=N
- TN 1880 IF SC(NO OR SC)144 THEN GOSUB 450
- UL 1890 IF SC(NO OR SC/144 THEN GOSUB 450 :GOTO 1870

 UL 1890 IF (DR=N2 AND INT(SC/N18))INT(SEC /N18)) OR (DR=N4 AND INT(SC/N18) (INT(S EC/N18)) THEN GOSUB 450:GOTO 1870

 DT 1900 POSITION C,R:? CHR\$(OCH):SEC=SC:S T51(N1)=ST51(N1)-U:ST51(N3)=ST51(N3)-U
- *N10
- JO 1910 IF ST51(N1)(N1 OR ST51(N3)(N1 THE N 2170
- HW 1920 GOSUB 140:GOTO 560 LD 1930 REM ******CRUISE SUBXXXXXXX



- NØ THEN U=NØ:GOSUB 380:GOSUB 320:GOTO 2030 ZU 1970 IF (ST<>N14 AND ST<>N7 AND ST<>N1 3 AND ST<>N11) OR ST=0ST THEN 1960
 E5 1980 IF ST=N14 THEN D1\$(N2,N2)=""|":DR= N1:XOF=N0:YOF=-N 1990 IF ST=N7 THEN D1\$(N6,N6)="0":DR=N 2:X0F=N1:Y0F=N0

 BA 2000 IF ST=N13 THEN D1\$(N8,N8)="["":DR= N3:XOF=N0:YOF=N1 2010 IF ST=N11 THEN D1\$(N4,N4)="G":DR= N4:XOF=N1:YOF=N0 KH 2020 FOR X=N1 TO N3:POSITION N15,X+N17 :? D1\$(X*N3-N2,X*N3):NEXT X:GOSUB 370: OST=ST:GOTO 1960 2030 GOSUB 320 2040 ST=STICK(NO):IF STRIG(NO)=NO THEN GOSUB 380:RETURN 2050 IF ST=N14 THEN U=U+N1:IF U>MAX TH EN U=NØ VI 2060 IF ST=N13 THEN U=U-N1:IF U(NO THE U=MAX Mg 2100 IF STS(N1)>NO THEN GOSUB 340:GOTO 580 OP 2110 STS1(N1)=STS1(N1)-N1:STS1(N3)=STS 1(N3)-30:IF ST51(N1) (N1 OR ST51(N3) (N1 THEN 2170 KW 2120 SEC=INT(RND(N0)*143)+N1:POSITION C,R:? CHR\$(OCH):XX=48
 QA 2130 FOR X=N0 TO N16:SOUND N0,XX,N10,N 8:XX=XX-N3:POKE 710,X:NEXT X:SOUND N0,N0,N0,N0:U=N1:GOSUB 140
 PF 2140 IF INT(RND(N0)*N10)+N1=N1 THEN 21 0.0 2150 GOTO 520 2160 REM ******GAME OVER****** QQ 2170 X=(50-5T51(N2))*50-P5+5T51(N1)*N2 0*(ST51(N2)=N0)+1000*(ST51(N2)=N0) 2180 POKE HPOSPO, NO: POKE HPOSP1, NO: POK 3.1 E HPOSP2,N0 2190 GRAPHICS NO:POKE N559,N0:POKE N75 6,CHBASE/256:POKE 752,N1:POKE 708,54:P OKE 710,N20 NE 2200 DL=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561)+N4:FOR Z=N4 TO N16:POKE DL+Z,N6:NEXT Z:POKE DL+N20,N6:POKE DL+21,N6
 CB 2210 POKE 82,N0:POKE N559,34:T\$="INCOM ING MESSAGE FROM TITAN BASE":C1=N2:R1=N1:GOSUB 2330:FOR Z=N1 TO 75:NEXT Z DI 2220 IF ST51(N2)(N1 THEN 2260 RU 2230 T\$="DO NOT ATTEMPT TO":C1=N0:R1=N 4:G05UB 2330:T\$="RETURN. THE MOONS":R1 =N5:G05UB 2330 FJ 2240 T\$="HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY":R1=N6:GOS UB 2330:T\$="THE ALIENS. YOUR":R1=N7:GO **SUB 2330** 2250 T\$="MISSION HAS FAILED.":R1=N8:GO SUB 2330:GOTO 2290
 ZW 2260 T\$="CONGRATULATIONS!":C1=N1:R1=N4
 :GOSUB 2330:T\$="YOUR MISSION HAS":R1=N 5:GOSUB 2330 LH 2270 T\$="BEEN COMPLETED.":R1=N6:GOSUB 2330:T\$="YOU WILL RETURN":R1=N7:GOSUB 2330 2280 T\$="HOME A HERO.":R1=N8:G05UB 233 2290 POSITION 28, N10:? "MISSION EVALUA TION: ";X:POSITION 30,N14:? "PLAY AGAI N [Y\N]"; DS 2300 POSITION N6, N15: INPUT AS: IF AS()" Y" AND A\${\>"y" AND A\${\>"N" AND A\${\>"n" THEN 2300 2310 IF A\$="Y" OR A\$="y" THEN 2440 JC 2320 GRAPHICS NO:END
- AV 2330 FOR C=N1 TO LEN(T\$):GOSUB 380:POS ITION C1+C,R1:? T\$(C,C);:NEXT C:RETURN XO 2340 REM *****INITIALIZE******* AN 2340 REM ******INITIALIZE********
 AN 2350 DIM BD\$(38),BD1\$(38),BD2\$(N13),BR
 D\$(144),P0\$(N6),SEC\$(432),CL\$(40),M1\$(
 56),M2\$(240),M3\$(56),D\$(N9),D1\$(N9)

 \$1 2360 DIM ST5(N6),OA(N2),OP(N2),ST51(4)
 ,P3\$(N6),DD\$(N9),A\$(N1),N\$(N10),T\$(40)

 HF 2370 M1\$=" SCAN CRUISE STATUS JUMP 2380 M2\$(N1,80)="F 7.5 2390 M25(81,160) =" | MOON%&LORD | | | | MOON%&LORD | | 2400 M2\$(161,240)="| 11 | || |BEARING||UŅIȚS" 2410 M3\$=" 1 00 2420 BD\$="} ":BD1\$="|| 111 2) =BRD\$ 2450 SEC=81:55EC=21:5T51(N1)=100:5T51(N2) =50:5T51(N3) =600:5T51(N4) =N10:0P(N0) >=N0:0P(N1) =N0:0A(N0) =N0:0A(N1) =N0 2460 FOR X=N1 TO N6:5T5(X)=N0:NEXT X 2470 PS=N0:HPOSP0=53248:HPOSP1=53249:H POSP2=53250:HPOSP3=53251 2480 GOSUB 130:POSITION N11,N8:? "ANAL OG Computing":POSITION N15,N10:? "Pres ents":GOSUB 90
 2490 IF NOT ST THEN RTOP=PEEK(106)-37
 :POKE 106,RTOP 2500 GRAPHICS NO:POKE N559, NO:POKE 82, NO:STS=RTOP+N1 2510 GMAP=RTOP+N7:SMAP=RTOP+N11:CHBASE =(RTOP+N17)*256:PMV=(RTOP+21)*256:PMG= RTOP+25:PMB=PMG*256:G05UB 110 2520 POKE N88, NO: POKE N89, STS: A=USR (AD 10 2520 POKE N88,N0:POKE N89,515:A=USR(AD R(CL\$),36)

 NX 2530 GOSUB 130:POSITION N11,N9:? "A C1 ayton Walnum":POSITION N11,N11:? "Production of...":GOSUB 90

 HJ 2540 OPEN #N1,N4,N0,"D:MOONLORD.ML":A= PMV:X=100:GOSUB 470 2550 OPEN #N1,N4,N0,"D:MOONLORD.FNT":A =CHBASE:X=1024:GOSUB 470 TI 2570 POKE 53256,N3:POKE 53257,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 53257,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 53259,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 53259,N3:POKE 53258,N3:POKE 623,N1 2590 GRAPHICS N2:POKE 710, NO:POKE N756 CHBASE/256:POSITION N5,N4:? #N6;"MOON "&lord" 2600 POSITION N9, N5:? #N6;" (":GOSUB 4 2610 GRAPHICS NO:POKE N559, NO:POKE N75 2,N1:POKE N87,N0:POKE 88,N0:POKE N89,G HM 2620 POSITION N1, NO:? " 2630 FOR X=N1 TO N15:POSITION N1, X:IF INT(X/N2)=X/N2 THEN ? BD\$:GOTO 2650 2640 ? BD1\$ 2650 NEXT X: POSITION N1, N16:? " 5X 2660 C=(INT(RND(N0)*N3)+N1)*N2:R=(INT(

RND(N0)*N8))*N2+N1:P=((R+N1)/N2-N1)*N1 8+C/N2:IF BRD\$(P,P)(>"/" THEN 2660 SV 2670 BRD\$(P,P)="#" HQ 2680 C=(INT(RND(N0)*N3)+N15)*N2:R=(INT (RND(N0)*N8))*N2+N1:P=((R+N1)/N2-N1)*N
18+C/N2:IF BRD\$(P,P) \(\sigma \s 2700 POSITION N10,23:? "SELECT YOUR CO MMAND";:POKE N87,N1:POKE N89,5MAP:POKE NT 2710 POSITION N3, N1:? #N6;" HJ 2720 FOR X=N2 TO N12:P05ITION N3,X:IF INT(X/N2)=X/N2 THEN ? #N6;BD1\$(N1,N13):G0T0 2740 KK 2730 ? #N6;BD2\$ 2770 POSITION 37, N12:? "PHOTON";:POSIT ION 30, N14:? "SELECT YOUR COMMAND"; 2780 POKE N87, N0:POKE N89, STS:POSITION N7, N0:? "STATUS" 2790 POSITION N22, N1:? " POSITION N22, N2:? 2810 POSITION N22,N3;? Z820 POSITION N22,N4:? KM 2830 POSITION N22, N5:? ALIENS: 2840 POSITION N22, N6:? DX 2860 POSITION N22, N8:? XH 2870 POSITION N22,N9:? 2880 POSITION N22,N9:? "

2880 POSITION N22,N10:? "

2890 POSITION N22,N11:? "

":POSITION N22,N12:? "

NCHERS: ||"

2900 POSTON UO. KЦ 2900 POSITION N22, N13:? " 2910 FOR X=N1 TO N6:POSITION N20,X+N15
:? M2\$(X*40-39,X*40);:NEXT X
2920 POKE N88,N20:POSITION N17,N18:? "
BRIDGE":POSITION N17,N19:? "REPAIR"
2930 POSITION N10,N22:? "SELECT YOUR C
OMMAND";:OCH=ASC(BRD\$(SEC+N1,SEC+N1)): **GOTO 520** 2940 REM **** DLI ROUTINE **** 3030 DATA 0,0,24,24,0,0

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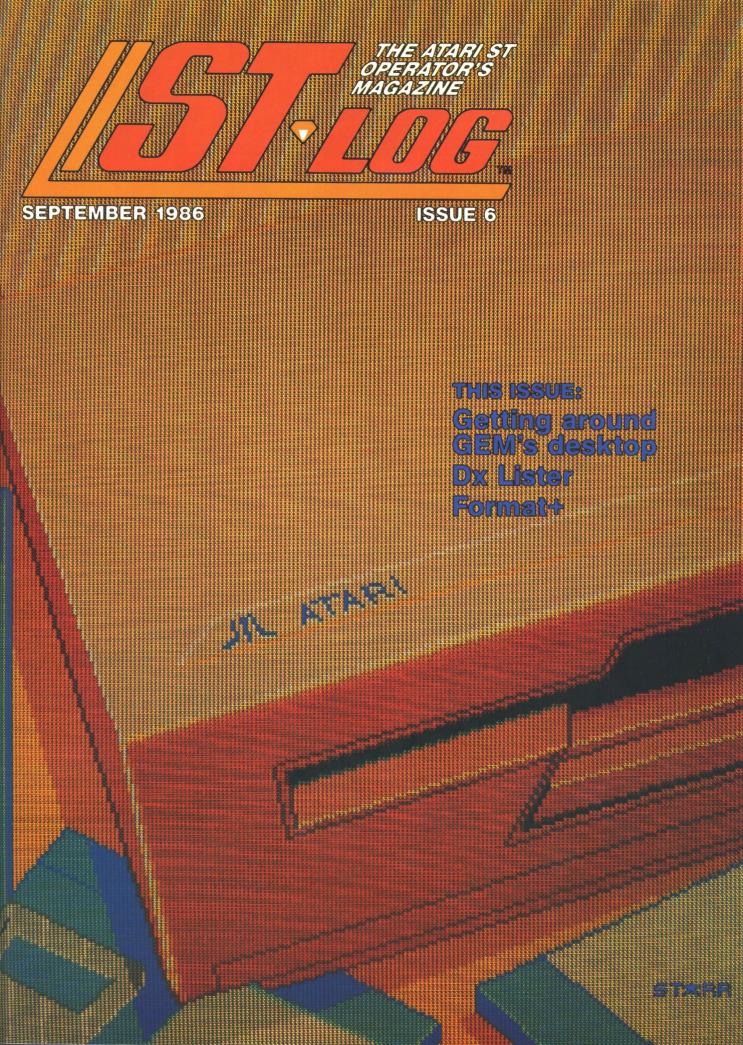
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Getting around GEM's desktop

Some tips for the beginning ST user

by Philip S. Gallo, Jr., Ph.D.

Some six weeks ago, my ST arrived. The next day, I found a brand new IBM clone in my office, compliments of the university at which I work.

As a dedicated 8-bit Atari user, I had no prior experience with either machine. To-day, the ST seems like an old friend, whereas the clone remains a mysterious and cantankerous adversary. It rarely, if ever, does what I want, in the way I want it done.

The challenge of trying to learn two new machines at once has certainly convinced me that the ST is a marvelously friendly, easy computer to use.

Nevertheless, a lot of ST users seem to be doing things the hard way, possibly because of the lack of information in the somewhat skimpy owner's manual. It's also probably this deficiency which has led reviewers to mistakenly complain about the difficulty of certain "housekeeping" operations (e.g., the transfer of files into and out of folders).

Before we get into that subject, let's begin with the basics. I'll assume you've read the owner's manual and are familiar with elementary operations, such as resizing windows, selecting options by "clicking" on them with the mouse, opening disk drives and "dragging" things with the mouse.

On the color system, a newly formatted disk will boot into the machine in the lowresolution mode, with all windows closed. Since most of your work will be in medium resolution, this isn't usually desirable.

I like to keep all my disks in a similar format, so I've prepared a master disk to

use as a template for all my newly formatted disks.

In creating the master disk, I used the "set preferences" option of the desktop to call up medium resolution. With the mouse, I dragged the trash can to the lower right corner of the screen and the two floppy disk icons to the lower left corner. I opened a window to drive A and sized the window so it has about a quarter-inch margin at the top and sides, while extending downward to about one-half inch from the top of the disk icons.

By doing this, I can view two complete rows of eight file icons each. The next step was to call the "save desktop" option and save this configuration to disk.

Now, when I format new disks, I boot up with this master. After each disk has been formatted, I save this desktop on it. All my disks look alike and all boot up with the window to drive A open showing the first eight file icons.

I can scroll up and down to see more icons, and they'll always be displayed in two neat rows. I'm sure all of you know by now that, if you place a new disk in drive A and press the ESC key, the new disk's icons will be displayed in whatever desktop configuration's showing. If you didn't know it...well, you do now.

Since each disk holds a considerable amount of information, it's possible to have literally dozens of programs on a single disk. Scrolling through them to find the one you want becomes a chore. GEM has conveniently provided us with subdirectories, called "folders."

To create a folder, you merely go to the file menu and click on the "create new folder" option. If you had six different games on the disk, as well as a number of other programs, you might want to create a folder and name it GAMES.

You can, of course, drag each file to the folder, copying the files in one at a time. But it's much simpler to drag all of them at once and copy them. The easiest way to do this is to hold the SHIFT key down and use the mouse to click each file you want transferred.

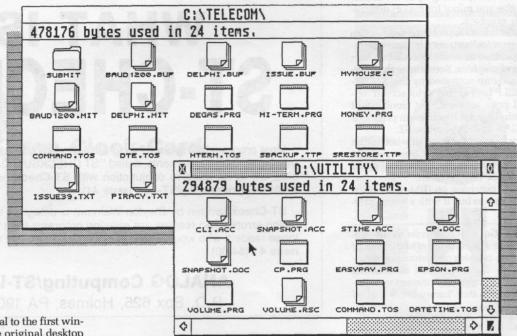
Each file will turn black when clicked. Release the SHIFT key and click on any of the files you've selected. When you start to drag that file to the folder, all the selected files will come along. Thus, the whole set can be copied into the folder at one pass.

Once they're safely copied into the folder, use the same SHIFT-click procedure to drag them to the trash can and delete them from the desktop in one fell swoop.

Moving right along...

The real problem, presumably, crops up when you want to copy a file from a folder to the desktop, or into another folder. In the January issue of Byte magazine, Jon Edwards and Phillip Robinson wrote "...to move a file out of a folder, matters are further complicated by the fact that the folder opens to take over the window from which it derived. You would first have to move the file to a different disk, delete the original file from the folder, then copy the file back to the original disk, but not within the folder, and then delete the first copy you made. It sounds difficult because it is." Wrong, gentlemen!

GEM has a feature that allows four windows to be open simultaneously. When you opened up your folder, you used only two windows. Your next move: click on drive A to open it again. A third window will



appear on-screen, identical to the first window opened, namely, the original desktop of drive A.

You may have to move this third window down toward the bottom of the screen a bit, so it won't obscure the contents of your folder. Now, simply click the item you want to move from the folder to the desktop, then drag it down to the window just opened. When you copy it, the item will be on the desktop.

If you want it out of the folder permanently, you'll have to click it again in the folder and drag it to the trash can. Maybe this isn't as elegant as the Macintosh's procedure, but it's a lot better than copying it to a completely different disk and back again!

Remember, you still have only three windows open. If you want to move a file from your GAME folder into the PUZZLE folder, locate the PUZZLE folder in window three and click it open. Now your fourth window's open, and your screen shows the contents of the GAME and PUZZLE folders.

From here, it's no great trick to copy a file out of one folder into another. When you're through, click the fourth, third and second windows closed—and you're back to the original desktop.

Of course, these tricks will only work if you have enough empty disk space to temporarily hold both copies of the file (or files) you wish to transfer. If you don't, the use of a RAMDISK will solve the problem. Read on.

How do you spell "relief"?

The only really tedious GEM operations occur when you've only one disk drive and wish to copy whole disks or individual files to a second disk. GEM does require an in-

ordinate number of disk swaps for these operations.

The first fix is to get the TOS ROM chips installed. Not only do ROM chips yield an additional 200K of program space, they provide enough free RAM to read an entire disk's contents at once. For \$25.00 to \$35.00 installed, they have to be the biggest bargain in town.

The second fix is to obtain two special, invaluable programs for your library. The first is a copy program; the second is a RAMdisk. Such programs are inexpensive, and are now being published by several companies. If you have a modem, public domain versions can often be found on ST BBSs.

All the copy programs have two things in common...They copy faster than GEM's built-in routines and require only one disk swap. These programs read the disk in one pass, prompt you to insert the destination disk and write to it in one pass.

By contrast, even with ROM chips, GEM makes you swap disks three times. Copying individual files to another disk is really a headache. GEM makes you swap disks several times for each file to be copied.

If you need to copy seven files from one disk to another, you'll get dizzy swapping disks—and quite confused. Here's where a RAMdisk can save the day.

A RAMdisk sets aside a portion of memory, then "tricks" the computer into thinking this memory is another drive. When you "install" the RAMdisk, its drive icon will actually appear on the desktop. This

icon can be opened to a window, just as a real disk drive icon would be.

By defining the RAMdisk with enough space for all the files to be transferred, you can SHIFT-click the files and copy them all at once to the RAMdisk.

Put the destination disk into your drive, press ESC to get a directory of your new disk, then SHIFT-click the files again, copying them from the RAMdisk to the destination disk. Since the RAMdisk operates virtually instantaneously, the whole process hardly takes more time than it would with two drives.

If you're trying the trick mentioned earlier for copying a file out of a folder and don't have disk space for two copies of it, open the RAMdisk instead of opening drive A again. Copy the file to the RAMdisk and delete it from the folder. Then close the folder and copy the file from the RAMdisk to the desktop, or into another folder.

Use your GEM in good health.

I hope these tips will prove helpful to you. They'll certainly reduce the time you'll need to devote to disk housekeeping chores—and give you more time to explore what has to be one of the most enjoyable computers ever designed.

One final word. If you're about to buy a new printer for your ST, try to avoid any printer advertising itself as "IBM compatible." The ST wants its printer to be Epson compatible. . .which isn't the same thing at all. An IBM-compatible printer will probably produce text with no prob-

lem. However, depending upon the brand, it could give you minor (or major) difficulties with graphics.

The most common problems are random garbage or misalignments in your graphics dumps, and/or white spaces between each line of graphics. Sometimes the builtin screen dump activated by the ALTERNATE-HELP keys or the "print screen" option will print all right. But trouble will occur with the print functions in programs like DEGAS and Typesetter ST.

Be sure to ask the salesman whether the printer you're considering is Epson or IBM compatible. Even many ST dealers aren't fully aware of this problem.

If you do purchase an IBM-compatible printer, be sure to buy it with a return privilege.

Philip S. Gallo, Jr., a professor of psychology, is researching the effectiveness of computers in training and educating autistic children. He's dedicated to extolling Atari's virtues in an environment committed to the notion that "computer" is spelled IBM.

WHAT IS ST-CHECK?

Most program listings in **ST-Log** are followed by a table of numbers appearing as DATA statements, called "ST CHECKSUM DATA." These numbers are to be used in conjunction with **ST-Check** (which appeared in **ANALOG Computing/ST-Log** issue 41).

ST-Check (written by Clayton Walnum) is designed to find and correct typing errors when readers are entering programs from the magazine. For those readers who would like copies of the article, you may send for back issue 41 (\$4.00).

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ST APPLICATIONS. Jan.-Feb. 1986

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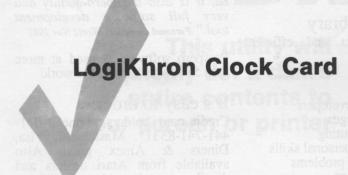
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by Matthew J.W. Ratcliff

I really like time- and date-stamping on my disk files—when I remember to set the time, that is. If the time isn't correct, those stamps are of no use to anyone.

With it set properly, the stamps provide a valuable reference. They're helpful in keeping track of the last time files were updated. This is especially true for hard disks, where you can afford the space for many archive copies of a program under development.

The problem with maintaining a record on the ST is that you must boot up a disk with DESK1.ACC on it, pull down the desktop, and click on the control panel. Then you have to click on the time line and type the correct time. Ditto for the date line. This is a major drag—and usually doesn't get done. Thank goodness for the LogiKhron Clock Card!

The **LogiKhron** plugs into the ST's cartridge port, extending the width of the computer's "footprint" another 2 1/4 inches.

The package comes with a disk containing two files, DESK5.ACC and CLOCK. RSC. If your TOS allows it, I suggest renaming the DESK5.ACC to CLOCK.ACC. (Some older versions of TOS looked for DESKx.ACC, where x was a digit from 1 to 6.) This will help you associate the files, when copying your timing accessories to other disks. There's no copy protection on the disk.

With these files on your boot disk (with

TOS in ROM or RAM), your system clock is set automatically. You can pull down the desktop and select the CLOCK. The current time and date will be displayed. If you wish to set either, the process is the same as when using the control panel.

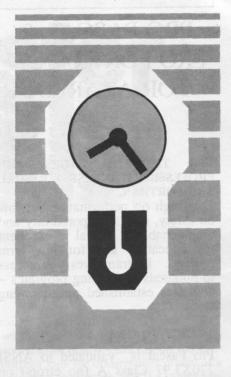
Sometimes the control panel clock won't be automatically updated when the **Logi-Khron** is loaded. There's a time lag, which may range from 1 to 59 seconds. This is documented in the manual and is not a problem. The correct time is *always* written to disk, even if the control panel doesn't show it yet. The **LogiKhron** accessory displays the proper time.

The brief manual adequately describes setup and use of the **LogiKhron** card. Files for it will only cost you about 5K of disk space. (And you ROM/TOS owners will want these files on just about every disk.)

When loaded, the accessory actually takes about 11K of RAM. The additional RAM is due to operating system overhead, for installing an accessory. It's true for all accessories. You can probably do without DESK1.ACC on most of your disks, however, saving 19K of RAM.

The DESK1.ACC contains the control panel and install printer functions. Once these are set to your specific needs, you can just save your desktop (only about 500 bytes) to your disks and forget about that accessory. And, with **LogiKhron**, you can forget about the time—it's already taken care of

I have only two minor complaints about the **LogiKhron**. The cartridge has battery



backup which will last from three to six years. The problem is that it can't be replaced. The "cartridge" is actually a circuit board, sealed in plastic resin. When the battery wears out, the **LogiKhron** must be replaced.

Product manager Shawn Fogle of Soft Logik informs me that the cartridge will be replaced free of charge, if the battery fails within six months after purchase. Any time after that, it may be replaced for a reasonable \$15.00.

My second complaint about the clock card is that it doesn't have a "piggyback" slot for other cartridges. When other cartridges become available for the ST, the LogiKhron must be removed to use them —you lose your automatic time setting.

Both of these limitations are minor... and understandable. This product is being delivered at a very affordable \$49.95. The only reason this cartridge doesn't have a removable case for battery replacement is because none are available.

Once ST ROM cartridge cases are available, the **LogiKhron** may well be modified to make battery replacement quite simple. With a battery life of three to six years, you won't have to worry about it for a while, anyway.

The **LogiKhron** has performed flawlessly for me. Being the lazy sort of programmer, who hates typing any more than necessary, I found the **LogiKhron** an absolute must. I highly recommend it.

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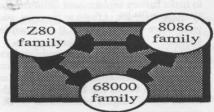
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DX

This utility will quickly list a disk's entire contents to your screen or printer



by Douglas Weir

According to a possibly apocryphal story, Digital Research originally intended to include routines in GEM and TOS that would get directory listings from the disk drives and send them to a printer. Specifications were scribbled out during a project meeting and a programmer hastily assigned. Unfortunately, he misread the name of a data structure called "drive block" as "livestock" and wrote a cattle-sorting program instead (watch for "HerdStar," soon to appear on local software shelves).

This is a two-in-one feature: "Dx.ttp" is a ready-to-run program included on this issue's ST disk version, briefly described below. The bulk of this article, however, gives a listing and explanation of a set of routines from **Dx** which you can use in your own assembly language programs. You don't need the subscription disk to use this article.

Dx lists the entire contents of a disk either to the screen or to a printer. Unless told to do otherwise, it will recursively search the entire disk and give the contents of all subdirectories. If you have a Star SG-10 or Okidata 192 printer, you can tell **Dx** to print its output in a special reduced format, suitable for disk labels. (The normal-size print option will work on any printer.)

The full pathname of a subdirectory is printed before its contents, in order to make clear just "where" the subdirectory is. If the disk has a volume name, this will be printed at the top of the listing. You can also define a title string to be printed before everything else, if you wish. Details of these and a few other options will be found below.

The program will handle about 400 separate pathnames (subdirectory names) and a total of about 3000 filenames. It does not check for conformance to these limits.

Now for a discussion of the set of subroutines listed below. I use these routines to interpret single characters typed

after the program name, before RETURN. With a "TTP" application, you would type these characters in the dialog box GEM presents, after double-clicking on the program icon. The routines look for occurrences of any of a set of programmer-defined characters, and if a valid character is found, a corresponding flag is set to "true." Otherwise, it remains "false."

The nice thing about these routines is that, in order to add, delete or change flags and codes, all you have to do is change the data declarations. Everything else is automatic; you never have to alter the routines themselves.

The characters (separated by spaces) can be typed in any order and may be upper- or lowercase. The number of characters is limited by the value of ARG_SIZE (argument size), which is the number of bytes reserved by check_c_args for parse_word to copy the next word into. For our purposes, these words will always be one character long, but you can use parse_word to return any size string of blank-terminated characters. Of course, you can change the value of ARG_SIZE, if you wish. (Warning: changing anything may result in an increase in argh_size, a mysterious debugging constant.)

An explanation of how these routines work ought to serve as a nice introduction to 68000 assembly language programming. But where should I start? Beginners will find the 68000 easier than most other chips, simply because the 68000 does so much more. Still, brief comments are almost doomed to appeal only to those with some previous assembly language experience. For this I apologize.

With this disclaimer in mind, let's take a look at the routines. The first section should be the very first in your program. When an ST program begins execution, the stack pointer is pointing to the return address used at the end of the program to return to the caller (i.e., the operating system). This address is a longword.

Next on the stack is another longword, the "base page"



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// Dx Lister continued

address of the executing program. This marks the beginning of a memory area with useful facts about the program. We're interested only in what was on the program's command line when it was typed in. A location 128 bytes from the start of the base page contains the address of the command line.

So the program does the following in its first four lines:
(1) Gets the base page address from the stack and

puts it into register a5.

(2) Computes the address of the command line pointer by adding 128 (hexadecimal 80) to the base page address, and puts the result into a2 (lea—"load effective address"—calculates an address and puts it into the designated register; pea—"push effective address"—also calculates an address, but pushes the result onto the stack).

(3) The contents of a2 now point to a byte holding the number of characters on the command line; this is followed by the actual characters. So the character count is put into d0, and after the post-increment, a2 points to the start of the command line.

I should mention that the string of characters made available to the program as the command line includes all characters typed after the program name, terminated by a *null* (binary zero).

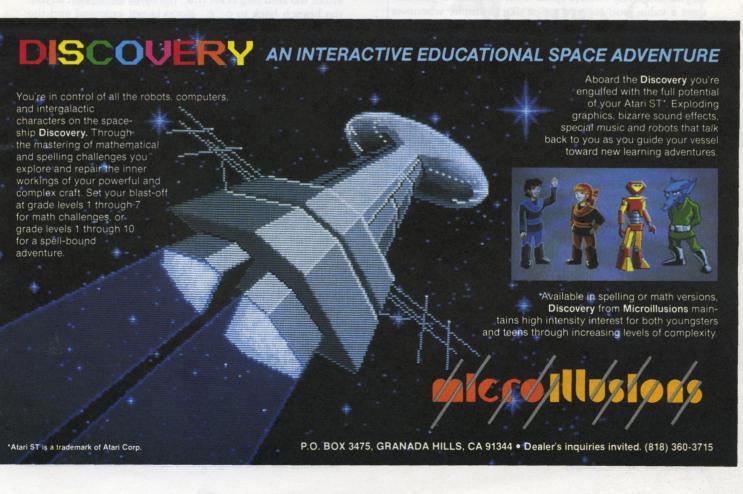
If running as a .PRG application from TOS, the program will find a blank at the start of the string (this is the space separating the program name from the rest of the line). But the command line received by a .TTP application won't have that first blank. Usually this makes no difference at all, but it's worth pointing out.

The next four lines put a couple of parameters on the stack, call init_flags and clean up the stack afterwards; then check_c_args is called in the same way, only with five parameters on the stack. After this call, the flags in your data area are set to true or false, depending on which characters were typed on the command line, and you can continue with the rest of your program.

As for the subroutines, I'll discuss only a couple of interesting points. The header information found at the beginning of each gives a synopsis of the function.

I chose to pass parameters to these subroutines via the stack. This is slower than simply using registers, but it's much easier to maintain register integrity within subroutines this way. Let's take a closer look at how it's done.

To pass two values to init_flags, I push the values onto the stack and branch to the subroutine. At the beginning of the subroutine, a link instruction is executed, specifying an address register and an immediate value. This is what happens:



// Dx Lister continued

(1) The contents of the designated register (here, a6) are saved on the stack. Naturally, this is always a 32-bit

(2) The new value of the stack pointer is loaded into the designated register.

(3) The specified immediate value is added to the stack pointer.

The net result of all this activity is that the address register you specify in the instruction now points to a constant location in the stack.

When a subroutine begins, the stack pointer is pointing to a 32-bit (i.e., 4-byte) return address. Above this address is whatever data was pushed on the stack before the routine was called. After the link, the specified register points to its old value; 4 bytes up from that is the return address; and 4 bytes from the return address is the data.

So by adding 8 to the value of a6 in init_flags, you get the address of the last data put on the stack before calling the routine. By adding 12, you get the address of the nextto-last data, etc. Suppose code__nr was word-size (2 bytes) instead of a longword; then you would only add 10 to a6 to get the stack address of "flags."

What about the immediate value that's added to the stack pointer by link? Remember that the 68000 stack grows downward in memory. If you add a value to the stack pointer, you effectively remove space from the stack. If you subtract a value, you reserve space. For example, whenever parameters have been passed on the stack to a subroutine, a value equal to the combined size of all the parameters should be added to the stack pointer after the subroutine completes. In this way, the stack pointer is restored to its original value before the parameters were pushed.

Look at the beginning of check_c_args. Here the negative immediate value ARG_SIZE is added to the stack pointer. A section of the stack ARG_SIZE-bytes large is now reserved. But how do you access it, and what do you use it for?

This is where the register specified in link becomes doubly useful. Just as you add values to a6 to access data higher up in the stack, you can subtract values from a6 to access memory lower down. By subtracting the same immediate value specified in link, you get the base address of the stack memory area which you reserved. This memory can now be used for whatever purpose you want.

The beauty of this system is that the area thus reserved is completely private to the subroutine which uses it. While the routine is active, the variables in this area are active; when the routine completes and unlk is executed, all this space is de-allocated from the stack, and the variables go away.

An area allocated on the stack in this way is called a stack frame, and the register used to access it is called the frame pointer. Languages like C and Pascal implement local variables with stack frames.

Thus, link has a double function. Sometimes it's used only to set up a frame pointer, to retrieve parameters pushed on the stack before the subroutine was called (in this case, an immediate value of 0 is added to the stack pointer, as in init_flags).

Sometimes it's used to allocate space for variables local to a subroutine. Or it can be used to do both at once. Whenever link is used, unlk must be used at the end of the subroutine, to restore the stack situation before you attempt to return: Link a6, #-local_size

movem.l d0-d3,-(sp) .(code). movem.l (sp)+,d0-d3 unlk a6

set up frame pointer save registers

restore registers restore stack and return

The space between the parentheses was originally occupied by my new Koala Pad-driven version of the ST operating system, K-OS.

You can use any register (except a7, of course) as the frame pointer; by convention, it's usually a6.

Finally, I'd like to discuss the bit of code in check_ c_args between the labels c_c_scan and c_c_s001. Here the 68000 "decrement and branch" instruction is used to loop through all the valid character codes and compare each one with the character returned by parse_word, until a match is found or the valid codes are exhausted.

Most of this work is done by the two instructions:

code found? c_c_stest: dbeq d2,c_c_sloop if not and more codes . . .

Here, the byte pointed to by a1 is compared to the byte in d4. The dbeg instruction takes care of everything else: either the zero flag is set (i.e., the bytes are equal), so that the branch back to c_c_sloop is not executed and the loop ends. Else if the bytes are not equal, then register d2 is decremented: if d2 contains a non-negative value (including 0), then the branch to "c_c_sloop" is executed and the loop continues; otherwise, the loop ends.

In other words, dbeg means: unless the equal condition is met (i.e., the zero flag = 1, meaning that a comparison has been successful), decrement the indicated register and branch if the result is not -1.

There are two ways to get around this: either load the loop counter with a value one less than the intended count value, or label the dbra instruction and jump to it on the first iteration, thereby decrementing the counter once, before doing anything.

I use the latter method, but it has a pitfall. You must make sure, when you first jump to dbeq, dbmi, or whatever, that the 68000's status bits are not by coincidence set in such a way that the terminating condition is already true-and the loop never executes at all.

This can be a very hard bug to track down. If you make sure the last thing you do before the jump is load the count register, you won't have to worry. Move sets the status bits according to the value moved, and if the count is 0 to start with, the loop won't execute—which is what you want. But one can't always arrange things this way.

Remember, too, that move's to address registers have no effect on the status bits. Of course, with the dbra form, you don't have to worry about the status bits.

Note that, at the end of the check_c_args section, I test the count register to see if it was counted down to -1. If so, no valid match was found. The important thing to remember is that you must check the register as a word (16 bits), not as a longword. The dbra family decrements the count register as a word value and leaves the upper 16 bits untouched. So, if I were to test d2 as a longword, I would never detect an error condition. This also means, of course, you can't have a count value greater than 32767 when using the "decrement and branch" instructions.

A government official was recently quoted as saying that "friends come and go, but enemies linger on." The same could be said of assembly language. Despite the experts' predictions, it's still there, lurking underneath C, BASIC and Pascal, like the old plumbing in a remodelled house. I hope these routines prove useful tools for those who want to learn to work at this level.

How to use the program.

Options.

Options can be in upper- or lowercase. They must be separated by spaces. They can be in any order, as long as those requiring strings are immediately followed (with a space separator) by the string.

o - okidata printer (with r).

t — star/gemini printer (with r).

v — verbose mode (print file size, type, creation date, etc.).

p - print listing, normal size.

r — print listing, label size (with o or t).

a - specifies drive a:.

b — specifies drive b:.

c - specifies drive c:.

d-k - specifies drives d:-k:.

n - include a title string in listing (+ string).

s — set stack size (+ string) (maximum stack size is approximately 200K; minimum is 1K.)

| ("ell") — set search level pathname (+ string).

> - redirect output to a disk file (followed with no intervening spaces by filename. The filename is not terminated by a quote.)

Note: all strings are terminated by a single quote ('). Here are some examples, to help clarify the usage:

dx a p. . . print a short-form listing of the directories and their contents on disk a.

dx v c s 4000' p...print a long-form listing of the directories and their contents on disk c (hard disk), and set the stack size to 4K.

dx n disk contents' b v t s 3000' r. . . print a longform listing in reduced size of the directories and their contents on disk b, with a title "disk contents" at the top of the listing, and set the stack size to 3K; SG-10 printer is specified.

dx | \stuff\nonsense' v c. . . display the contents of the directory \stuff\nonsense on disk c, long form, on the screen only.

dx a v > b:blip.dir b...output the directories and their contents from disk a (long form) to a file on disk b named blip.dir.

The slight inconsistency in the syntax for output redirection occurred because this was not a feature of the program as written, but rather of the operating system. I discovered it by accident(!) as I was testing the program, and am simply passing it on.

DISK CONTENTS				
ADADEBUG. LDX	00	04152	10/18/85	32034
ADXBASIC. TRN	00	18:04	05/29/85	32034
ADAPASS6. PRG	00	04:44	10/18/85	3898
ADA68000, RUN	00	01:13	10/18/85	32034
ADAPASSA. PRG	00	00:38	10/18/85	32034
TINYTOS, IMG	00	00:46	10/18/85	64
ADAPASS2. PRG	00	01:09	10/18/85	32034
ADAPASSI. PRG	90	01:24	10/18/85	32034
ADAPASSS. PRG	99	18:24	05/29/85	32034
ADAPASS3. PRG	00	17:55	05/29/85	32034
ADADOCS	16	21:10	05/29/85	0
ADAID	16	21:16	05/29/85	0
\ADADOCS\				
README	00	21:11	05/29/85	6144
TUTORIAL. DOC	00	21:11	05/29/85	11711
IMP. PRG	00	21:11	05/29/85	13687
LIB. PRG	00	21:12	05/29/85	17389
ADAIO\				
KEYBOARD. INC	00	21:18	05/29/85	333
BCREEN. INC	00	21:18	05/29/85	6144
BEM1. INC	00	21:18	05/29/85	1952
BEM2. INC	90	21:18	05/29/85	3627

I included a large number of drive designators because of the possibility that users might have hard drives partitioned into several logical drives. The original selection (which can be seen in the sample data section above) would not have allowed access to drives beyond c.

(Listing starts on next page)

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Listing 1. — Assembly listing.

Note: in the comments to the following code, the symbol " -> " means "pointer to" or "contains a pointer to".

```
*****************************
*** This version is compatible with the AS68 assembler included in the *** Atari Developer's Kit.
*** INITIALIZATION: these should be the first instructions in your
***
        program...
sys_start:
                         4(a7),a5
$80(a5),a2
            move.1
                                                  a5 == base page address
                                                  point to command line
clear for byte size value
            lea.1
            clr.1
                         dø
            move.b
                         (a2)+,d0
                                                  get byte count
      a2 -> command line
d0 == byte count of command line
move.1 #flags,-(sp)
move.1 #code_nr,-(sp)
XXX
XXX
                                                  base of flags area
nr of flags in table
initialize flags
                         init_flags
            bsr
            addq.1
                         #8, sp
                                                  pop args
*** process command line codes
                        #code_scale,-(sp)
#code_nr,-(sp)
#codes,-(sp)
            move.1
            move.1
                                                  number of codes possible
                                                  table of codes
            move.1
                         d0,-(sp)
a2,-(sp)
            move.1
                                                  byte count
                                                  address of command line
            move.1
                         check_c_args
            bsr
                                                  set flags
            add.1
                        #20, sp
                                                  pop args
*** ... the rest of your program follows here...
*** SUBROUTINES: these are called from the main program (above).
XXXXX
*
*
 init_flags-- initializes a standard table of (byte-size) flags to
                  FALSE.
*
      at entru:
                  a6 + 8 -> size of table.
a6 + 12 -> base of table.
*
      at exit:
                  table is initialized.
                  all registers preserved.
*
****
init_flags:
                        a6,#0
a0/d0,-(sp)
12(a6),a0
            link
                                           set frame pointer
            movem.1
                                           save registers
base of table
            movea.l
                                           size of table
                        8(a6),d0
initf_test
            move.1
```

XXXXX

initf_loop:

initf_test:

bra.s

move.b

movem.1

dbra

unlk

rts

```
parse_word-- returns a word (delimited by a space or end of string)
                from a string.
               the word must be <= 76 chars (ARG_SIZE, == size of local
                area reserved by caller).
at entry:
              a6 + 8
                          address of string.
              a6 + 12 -> byte count of string.
a6 + 16 -> area into which to copy word (null-terminated).
at exit:
              a0 -> next word of original string.
```

#FALSE, (a0)+

d0, initf_loop

(sp)+,a0/d0

a6

now start

go till end

and return

initialize a flag

restore registers deallocate frame



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// Dx Lister continued

```
d0 == updated byte count (0 if string exhausted).
                       a1 -> word returned (terminated by 0).
d1 == byte count of word.
if error, d0 == -1 ('BAD').
all other registers preserved.
*
*
×
*
****
parse_word:
                                a6,#0
8(a6),a0
12(a6),d0
p_w_001
                                                       set frame pointer
get string address
get byte count
if count > 0, continue
else return error
                link
                movea.1
                move.1
                bqt.s
                                #BAD, d0
W_f_002
                move.1
                                                        and leave
                bra
P_W_001:
                                                        point to copy space
save it and count register
clear word count
                                16 (a6), a1
                movea.1
                                a1/d2,-(sp)
                movem. 1
                clr.1
                                d1
                                #ARG_SIZE-1,d2
                                                           start control count (-1 for null)
                move.1
parse_loop:
                                #BLANK, (a0)
P_1_001
#1,d0
                CMP.b
                                                        blank?
                bne.s
                                                        if not
                                                        else decrement string count
point to next char
and return word
                subq.1
                addq.1
                                #1, a0
                bra
                                p_w_exit
P_1_001:
                                                        else decrement string count
continue if string not exhausted
else count this last char...
copy last valid char...
                                #1,d0
p_1_002
                subq.1
                bne.s
                                #1,d1
                addq.1
                                (a0)+, (a1)+
                move.b
                                p_w_exit
                                                        and return final word
P_1_002:
                                (a0)+, (a1)+
                move.b
                                                        copy char
                                                        count this one
                addq.1
                                #1,d1
                                #1,d2
p_1_003
#1,d0
                                                        decrement control count
                subq.1
                                                        if > 0, continue
else decrement string count
                bne.s
                subq.1
                                p_w_exit
                                                        and leave
                bra
P_1_003:
                                parse_loop
                                                        keep going
                bra
p_w_exit:
                                                        terminate word with null
                move.b
                                #0, (a1)+
w_f_001:
                                                        point back to start of return word and restore d2
                movem.1
                                (sp)+,a1/d2
W_f_002:
                                                        deallocate frame
                unlk
                                a6
                rts
                                                        and return
****
  check_c_args-- checks one-letter command-line arguments and sets
                           internal flags as appropriate.
   at entry:
                        a6 + 8 -> address of command line string.
a6 + 12 -> byte count of command line string.
a6 + 16 -> base address of array of char codes to
                                                     look for.
                        a6 + 20 -> nr of char codes in array.
a6 + 24 -> code table scale factor.
   at exit:
                       d0 == completion code (returns GOOD if there's
anything else on command line-- even only spaces).
flags will be set TRUE or FALSE as appropriate.
all other registers preserved.
***
*
****
check_c_args:
                                a6,#-ARG_SIZE
                link
                                                               set frame pointer
                                                               save registers
                movem.1
                                a0-a2/d1-d4,-(sp)
                                                               command line byte count
if count > 0, continue
else load error code
                                12 (a6), d0
                move.1
                                c_c_a001
                bgt.s
                move.1
                                #BAD, d0
                bra.s
                                c_c_exit
                                                                and leave
c_c_a001:
                                                               command line address
                movea.1
                                8 (a6), a0
```

```
24 (a6), d3
                                                                 scale factor
-1 to allow for address reg inc
holds byte for comparisons
                move.1
                                #1,d3
                subq.1
                clr.1
c_c_word:
                tst.1
                                                                 anything left in command line?
                                                                 if so, continue
else load success code
and leave
                                C_C_W001
                                #GOOD, do
                move.1
                bra.s
C_C_W001:
                                                                 local space address
current command line count
rest of command line
                                 -ORG STZF(a6)
                DPA
                                d0,-(sp)
                move.1
                move.1
               move.1 a0,-(sp) rest of command line
bsr parse_word get next word
add.1 #12,sp pop args
-> code to check; d1 == count; (a0) -> rest of cmdline;
d0 == bytes left
cmp.1 #1,d1 one-char arg?
beq.s c_c_scan if so, continue
*** (a1)
***
                                                                 one-char arg?
if so, continue
else skip this one
                                c_c_word
c_c_scan:
                                20(a6),d2
16(a6),a2
c_c_stest
                                                                 nr of codes to check
base of codes table
start checking
                move.1
                movea.1
                bra.s
C_C_5100P:
                move.b
                                (a2)+,d4
(a1),d4
                                                                 next byte code found?
                CMP.b
c_c_stest:
                                                                 if not and more codes to check
                dbeq
                                d2, c_c_sloop
                                                                 really a match?
                tst.w
                                 C_C_5001
                bmi.5
                                #TRUE, 0 (a2, d3.1)
                                                                 else set flag = TRUE
                move.b
C_C_5001:
                bra.s
                                c_c_word
                                                                 and get next word
c_c_exit:
                movem.1
                                 (sp)+,a0-a2/d1-d4
                                                                 restore registers
                unlk
                                                                 deallocate
                                                                                  local space
                                                                 and return
                rts
```

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Dx Lister continued

0 32	== C "false" co ascii space ==	
even equ	*	base of codes table
list of t dc.b dc.b dc.b	he characters you wa 'O','G' 'V','P','R','A','B', 'N','S','D'	
equ dc.1	*-code_base code_nr	size of table save it index between codes and flags base of flags table
he flags w des are ch a one-to-o hose liste ding flag	anged, then the flacence corrspondence. It does not be above) is found or will be set to "true	the characters listed above. Is must also be changed to follow a valid character code to the command line, then its after the routine
	even equ list of t dc.b dc.b dc.b dc.b ur lines d equ dc.l equ equ equ he flags w des are ch a one-to-o hose liste ding flag args' is c ds.b ds.b ds.b ds.b ds.b ds.b ds.b ds.b	even equ * list of the characters you wa dc.b 'O','G' dc.b 'V','P','R','A','B', dc.b 'N','S','D' ur lines do not change! equ *-code_base dc.l code_nr equ *-code_base equ *-code_base equ *-code_base equ in the flag a one-to-one corrspondence. If hose listed above) is found or ding flag will be set to "true args' is called; otherwise it ds.b 1

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After reformatting your disks with Format+, you'll experience a large increase in I/O speed, plus a corresponding increase in your ST's value for business use. How large an increase? Well, hold on to your hat, this is not a misprint...Read/Write will now take place at the raw rate of 23,000 bytes/second. This is at 5 tracks/second—double the present rate, it's the theoretical maximum for a floppy disk.

In fact, all disk access rates are doubled. Even writing to the disk with Verify on (the default on the ST) is doubled to 11,500 bytes/second or 2.5 tracks/second. This is also the theoretical maximum speed, as it takes one turn of the disk to Write and one turn to read back and verify.

If you're not experiencing any soft errors and are using work disks, you can write with reasonable safety, having verify off, and enjoy the full 23,000 byte rate. By the way, the disk copy utility will always automatically perform a verification, whether the verify flag is set or not.

No changes, just more.

Format + doesn't change the present 9-sector format of

the disk in any way (except for a slight squeezing of the spacing between sectors, from 40 to 36 bytes). What's changed is the "dead" space on each track.

This is the space after the last sector and before the index mark, which signals the start of the track's first sector. Extra formatting information is put there in three small "pseudo" sectors, numbers 10, 11 and 12.

These supply the 8-MHz 68000 CPU and the DMA Controller with sector and track information they need to perform the low-level housekeeping required for a move to the next track to take place. They're so quick that they can reset the disc controller, get the new track and read/write commands from DOS, step the disk head to the next track and verify the head movement... All in the time it takes for the "dead" space to pass by the disk head—and before the next index (or start) mark appears.

This permits a continuous read/write—something that's impossible for 8-bit computers, and for the IBM PC. This is the vaunted "68000 power."

The extra format information on the disk is completely transparent to GEMDOS, which knows nothing about sectors 10,11 and 12. Only the lowest level XBIOS knows about them, and it (being a drone) just takes and executes orders. It doesn't question the orders.

If you have any concern about overworking the stepper motor, this is on for 3 in every 200 milliseconds (one disk rotation), a duty factor of only 1.5 percent. In fact, since the raw disk read rate is now consistently doubled at all times (no matter what the program or DOS does, unlike the write rate), drive head wear is also pretty much halved — which greatly extends both drive and disk life.

To the keyboard.

Format+ has been kept as simple as possible. Instead of writing a lengthy stand-alone assembly language utili-

// Format + continued

ty, difficult to type in and debug, I've taken advantage of having TOS available in RAM and used BASIC to modify it, shuffling the barest modicum of bytes. Type it in, save it to disk, and then let's **Format+** some disks.

Ready? Boot TOS into RAM (the original 5-29-85 or 6-20-85 version is needed and will be checked for), reload BASIC and run the program. It will modify the XBIOS format routine of TOS. Quit BASIC and format several disks. TOS has now been "corrupted," so remember to reboot after you finish formatting.

Test the results using the disk copy utility, by copying BASIC to one of the newly formatted disks (single disk copy should take about 17 seconds less). Erase everything from the disk except BASIC and its RSC file. Load BASIC (it should now take 11 or 12 seconds, instead of 18) and POKE &H444,0. This turns off the write verify flag (POKEing 255 will turn it back on).

Now, time how long it takes for BASIC to do a BSAVE "Test",100000,100000. If everything has gone well, BASIC will write 100K to the disk in 10 seconds flat, a net write rate of 10K/second.

Quit BASIC and "trash" the test file. You can now check and test the system file copy and file read utilities by copying BASIC to itself. Click on and move the BASIC icon down on the desktop. Then click on the copy box when it appears. You will get a Name Conflict Warning...Type in any name you like (I used BASICA), then time how long it takes for the system utilities to read and copy BASIC back to the same disk.

It should've taken 20 seconds to read and write the 140K file—only 2 or 3 seconds longer than it takes just to load (read) BASIC in the normal format! With verify off, reading and writing are now taking about equal times (10 seconds in, and 10 seconds out). So, net read and net write rates are about equal, at 14,000 bytes/second each.

Who ate the rate?

By this time, you might be wondering whatever happened to the 23,000 bytes/second. What's slowing down the net disk read/write rate? If you guessed GEMDOS, you're right. GEMDOS is very slow. Including head movements, it took GEMDOS 8 seconds to do its high-level file search work, while the low-level XBIOS made the actual transfer in 12 seconds (60 tracks at 5 track/second).

The business or power user who uses disk-sized databases and compilers will find that the ST can now load (without searches) an entire 350K disk into its memory in 18 to 20 seconds. And it performs a memory-to-disk dump at a comparable rate. This is about 19,000 bytes/second despite DOS overhead, which comes close to the theoretical maximum, and is even comparable to some hard disks.

What to expect.

Reads will be performed at a constant 23,000 or 5 tracks/second rate, with a net read rate of 14 to 16,000+bytes/second for large files (i.e., **STWriter** loads its STWMAN file—90K—at 15.5K in 5.8 seconds and, by the way, will also copy it to a new name at 12K in 7.5 seconds.

For small files of less than 40K, GEMDOS will now take as much or more time than the actual read itself. A 20K file loads in less than 1 second (at 5 tracks/second), while GEMDOS putters around taking 2+ seconds to do whatever it does.

Writes are completely at the mercy of the program. A well-behaved program, writing with verify off, can run at or near the speed of the read cycle, as **STWriter** does. This is up to a net 14,000+ rate for larger files, with GEMDOS and the program determining the small file time. It's still less than 6 seconds for a 40K file.

Writes with verify on will take longer, at the raw 11.5K rate. However, 20 to 40K files still will only take 6 to 8 seconds to complete, even then. All this permits rapid fire PC/user interaction—a real boon in business use.

Misbehaved programs with small (<16K) and/or nondisk track-sized I/O buffers will tack on an extra 30 to 100 percent overhead. With verify on, they can drag the write rate to its knees, down to 1.3K/second. You now know where the blame lies for poor output performance times!

Enjoy using your "super" 16-bit computer, with its 23,000 byte I/O rate. Listen to that little disk drive give its all for you! Now, if someone would optimize those slow GEMDOS routines...

Brian P. Duggan is a graduate chemist who's a new Atarian. He got into computing back in 1981, with a TRS-80. The power of the ST has now made his writing, programming and cerebral recreation all pleasure with no pain!

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

' Format Plus: Copyright 1986 by Brian Duggan 0 Fullw 2: 20 Clearw 2 Gotoxy 24,2: ? "* * * FORMAT P L 30 U 5 * * * "

40 Gotoxy 27,5: ? "TO5 Version: "

50 Gotoxy 26,3: ? Chr\$(189);" 1986

by Brian Duggan"

60 Txt =9 : Gosub Effect: Gotoxy 14

10 : ? "REMINDER:";

70 Txt =0: Gosub Effect: ? " For 2

3,000 bytes/sec WRITE rate"

80 Gotoxy 24,11: ? "Poke &H444,0 (

255 to restore Verify)"

90 'TO5 Version check *********

100 Def 5eg = &H5000: A = Peek(&H18):

B =Peek(&H19) * * * 11 B =Peek(&H19) 110 120 Gotoxy 41,5: ?"Not 5-19 or 6-20-130 85 TOS" 140 Color 2: Goto Finish 50 Modify: If A =6 Then Adjust =-2 Else Adjust =0 150 Gotoxy 40,5: ? "O.K.":F\$ ="***** O M P L E T E D--Ready To Format 160 ** C ***** Color 3: Goto ChangeTO5 170 180 Effect: Def Seg =0
190 Poke Contrl,106: Poke contrl+2,0
: Poke contrl+6,1:Poke intin,Txt
200 ydisys(1): Return FINISH: Gotoxy 14,8: ? F\$: Color 210 220 Sound 1,8,10,4,55: Sound 1,0,0,0 , 0: End

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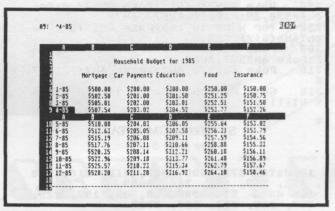
Professional also includes sophisticated macro programming commands. With several special macro commands, the user can actually *program* Professional to be dedicated to a specific task such as accounting.

Just Minutes to Learn

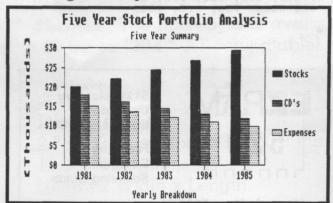
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SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Amiga with 512K; One disk drive; Monochrome or color monitor; Works with printers supported by the Workbench.

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// Format + continued

230 ChangeTOS: ' **** Original TOS ne eded in Ram ****
240 Def Seg = &H100+ Adjust
250 Poke &H56c,0: Poke &H56d,&H0c
260 Def Seg = &H6000+ Adjust
270 Poke &H563,&H22:Poke &H582,2:Pok
e &H583,&H18
280 Poke &H57c,&H61:Poke &H57d,0:Pok
e &H57e,&H1F:Poke &H57f,&H78
290 for x = 0 to 300:Poke &H24f6+x,Pe
ek(&H4f6+x):NEXT
300 Poke &H2571,&H01:Poke &H254f,&H6
F:Poke &H2573,&H6C
310 Poke &H2576,&H4e:Poke &H2577,&H7
5
320 Goto Finish: ' Ready to run Forma
t Utility

ST-CHECKSUM DATA.

(see page 54ST)

10 data 377, 606, 987, 418, 616, 780, 482, 965, 462, 366, 6059
110 data 510, 980, 50, 86, 197, 225, 567, 325, 222, 620, 3782
210 data 445, 603, 779, 814, 391, 858, 194, 629, 730, 970, 6413
310 data 738, 928, 1666

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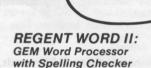
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by Matthew J.W. Ratcliff

Typesetter ST is the first in XLent Software's "printware" series for the new Atari 520ST systems. This is a graphics and texteditor package, suited to designing small newsletters or business advertisements.

Unlike **NEO-Chrome** or **DEGAS**, **Type-setter ST** allows you to edit within an area equal to one page on your Epson or NEC (or compatible) printer. A page on the printer works out to 960 by 672 pixels, as opposed to the ST's 640 by 400 (monochrome).

Typesetter breaks the picture into quadrants, which overlap for editing. It isn't a full-blown drawing program, like NEO-Chrome or DEGAS, but Typesetter ST has a few advantages over both of these.

Typesetter seems to be suited more for use as a utility, to supplement the drawing programs mentioned above. It comes with routines that will convert picture files into different display formats. Several character set files are contained on the unprotected disk, as well as both versions of the program—monochrome and color. The color version was tested for this review.

When **Typesetter** is run, you're presented with the "graphics card" menu of functions. Behind it is your graphics work area. The usual drawing functions are available, to plot points, draw lines, and so forth. Objects like rectangles, pies and ellipses may be drawn with different pattern and hatch fills. Pen width and color may be changed as you draw.

Typesetter can automatically create shapes which the current version of NEO-

Chrome (0.5) can't handle. But you can't dynamically resize them, as in **DEGAS**. The objects may be more accurately thought of as icons, whose size you can adjust.

It uses the trial-and-error method—you change size from the graphics card, entering a value from 1 to 10 and drawing the new sized shape. Your best bet is to start small and work your way up. There are no cut-and-paste features in **Typesetter**.

Although you use a mouse to draw and place shapes on the screen, all program commands are accessed through function keypresses. Most are from the graphics card menu, but many are submenus. You're constantly reaching from the keyboard to the mouse, and back again.

If you get confused and type while in the mouse edit mode, all the keys are buffered. Then, when you do get back to the menu, the keyboard buffer isn't cleared all your accidental keystrokes are treated as commands.

Also, whenever you select a menu function, you're returned to the graphics screen as your command is processed, then again to the menu. You must press the SPACE BAR to get back to your picture. The most logical interface would be to go directly to the graphics screen.

Each time you go to a different menu or mode of editing, all the functions take on different meanings. Aside from being very confusing, this doesn't take advantage of the elegant mouse interface used in most other programs (DEGAS, for instance). The function key interface makes using Typesetter during a long editing session a tedious chore.

You will have great fun playing with all the pattern and hatch fills, thirty-six in all. Examples are given in the brief manual.

If you wish to experiment with different patterns, you'll find the "user interface" a real pain. While drawing, you click the right mouse key to get back to the graphics card. Press F for the fill style, then type in the fill value (1 through 24) and press RETURN.

After the graphics card comes back again, you must hit the SPACE BAR to go back to the graphics screen.

The primary advantage of **Typesetter** is that it can load, edit and print a screen larger than the ST can display. Typically, you'll load a **DEGAS** or **NEO-Chrome** picture and add to it. Once the picture's loaded, you can easily add text, shapes and patterns to the extra "white space" at the bottom of the original.

NEO-Chrome supports text, and **DEGAS** also supports custom character sets. But custom characters have long been a hallmark of XLent's products.

You can load and edit with different character sets, placing letters anywhere on the original, or in the "extra white space" at the bottom. Text may be rotated in increments of 90 degrees (sideways and upside down). **DEGAS** comes with a character set editor; **Typesetter** does not.

Several "border texts" are provided with one of the custom character sets. With it, you can create fancy borders around an entire screen, or any portion of it.

I've run into a minor problem here. As mentioned in the documentation, while entering text at any angle of rotation other than 0 degrees, you don't have a cursor. It's

very difficult to accurately set up a text border this way.

Once in text entry mode, you may choose from 24 font sizes, the smallest giving you 106 characters across the display. Pressing the F1 key yields a menu of common text entry parameters you can change, such as underline or outline mode. While editing in text mode, you have several other function keys at your disposal, none of which appear in menus. You'll find these only in the documentation.

Pressing F2 gets you to yet another function menu, where inverse or normal video characters may be chosen. Character height and width can be adjusted, as well as overlay mode. Text adjusts to many heights and widths. This gives you much more control over text sizing than does either NEO-Chrome or DEGAS.

The F7 and F8 keys allow you to define margin widths, to make columnar text entry easier. And finally, from the text entry mode, pressing F10 will send control to the disk input/output options.

Here's my biggest gripe about **Typesetter**. If you forget how to spell a filename, you're out of luck. There's no way to get a disk directory—an absolute must in any applications program. I hope future versions will incorporate this feature. At any

rate, from the disk I/O submenu, you can load or save **Typesetter** screens in many different formats.

While editing in graphics mode (with the mouse), you may press SHIFT keys for one of two differently scaled overlay grids. These tell what quadrant you're in and show an overlay of the exact pixel areas on the display, in terms of the printer's output. This is very helpful in keeping track of where you're editing "on the paper." While in text entry mode, these grids are accessed through the F4 and F5 keys.

You can also shrink a picture vertically by 25% or 33%, which can bring your images into better proportion. **Typesetter** can't "stretch" a picture, however, to make it fill a printed page. Height to width ratios of icons are adjustable, and the screen may be cleared—by page, quadrant (one-fourth of the current display), or current cell (portion of the entire picture filling the display).

Once you have your finely tuned document saved and ready to print, select the print option from the graphics card menu. This is where **Typesetter** truly shines.

I've been disappointed with my Gemini 10X printer, since getting the ST. The ALTERNATE-HELP-key picture dumps look sloppy, with about one-half dot of

white space between each line of graphics. Contrast was poor, as well. I was about ready to trade up, until I started dumping pictures with the **Typesetter**. These have an excellent gray scale, with tighter line spacing, and fill the page nicely (if you edit in all the quadrants).

If you want pictures to take up the entire page and need a better graphics dump facility for your ST, Typesetter may suit your needs. It has many features lacking in NEO-Chrome. XLent's documentation highly recommends DEGAS to create pictures, with a Typesetter-performed final edit. No, Typesetter ST can't replace DEGAS or NEO-Chrome, but it will serve as a useful companion utility.

Matthew Ratcliff is an electrical engineer in St. Louis, Missouri. When not using his spare time to write articles, he's president of ACE St. Louis and a remote SYSOP on Gateway City BBS, (314) 647-3290.

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Matthew R. Singer

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 Seive of Eratosthenes
 10
 21
 5.3

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 —

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Pascal and Modula-2 source code are nearly identical. Modula-2 should be thought of as an enhancement to Pascal (they were both designed by Professor Niklaus Wirth).

Regular Version: \$79.95 Developer's Version: \$149.95

The developer's version supplies an extra diskette containing a symbol file decoder, link and load file disassemblers, a source file cross referencer, symbolic debugger, high level Windows Module, and the Resource Compiler.

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CES Scene

A look at the June show tells us... "The STs are all right!"

by Arthur Levenberger

"Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore. . ." (Glenda, the Good Witch of the North arrives in a marvelous sphere). Dorothy, upon seeing Glenda: "Now I know we're not in Kansas."

These immortal words from The Wizard of Oz kept going through my mind, as I entered the Atari booth (the largest seen since the Tramiels took over) at the June Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Chicago. After the last few shows, nothing here looked like what I was used toeither in the video game glory days or in the vacuum that had followed ...

The video game and home computer industry had taken a nose dive two years earlier, and each succeeding exposition gave evidence that the golden days had passed. I entered the largest annual trade show, amidst Dixieland bands and 100,000-plus attendees, I was prepared to report on yet another gloomy show.

Then I saw the Atari booth—thirty-odd software vendors, showing off their wares in what was easily the most exciting, overcrowded booth in West Hall. Kansas, indeed!

We bring you the new, the exciting, the technically astounding ST software that was being exhibited at the twentieth annual Summer CES. From what I saw at this four-day electronics, hardware and software bazaar, the remainder of 1986 will be very good for Atari ST users. The ST is an unqualified success, and the floodgates have opened wide to let forth a rush of software.

Software forever.

With the STs beginning to enjoy national popularity, you might ask how many programs are currently available? As of the start of CES, I could count over 200 titles on my local dealer's shelves.

The following companies announced or demonstrated ST software in Chicago. Some of the information here was obtained while viewing demos in the hectic Atari area; other tidbits were gleaned from the vendors' booths. For this reason, the detail presented here varies from one publisher to another. Companies are presented in alphabetical order.

Abacus Software was showing their CAD-like program, PCBoard Designer. It provides interactive layout of PC boards, component listing, automatic routing of traces and camera-ready printout. PC-Board Designer was demonstrated on a monochrome monitor and appeared to be a sophisticated program. It's currently shipping and retails for \$395.00.

Abacus also announced a number of new titles. ST TextPro is a professional word processor that features multi-column output, automatic indexing and table of contents, fast text input and scrolling, definable function keys, and the ability to

print sideways-for \$49.95.

ST Text Designer is a page-making package, to create layouts from word processing files. The program can read files from TextPro or other ASCII files, then add lines and merge graphics with text. Available this summer, Text Designer will retail for \$49.95.

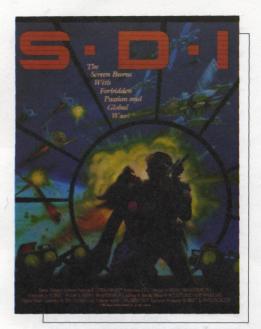
ST DataPro is billed as a simple yet versatile database program for the ST. Screen templates are used, to make database design and data input easier. Unlimited record length is possible, with a maximum of 64000 records. Available by the time you read this, it will list for \$49.95.

ST PaintPro is a drawing and design package. Multiple windows allow you to copy and paste between them; rotation and a wide range of text formats and options are offered. Available now for \$49.95.

Abacus also displayed three new ST books. Atari BASIC Training Guide is a functional, educational introduction to ST BASIC. From problem analysis to commands to algorithms, the book provides fundamentals of programming in an easyto-understand format.

Another new Abacus book is Atari ST Graphics and Sound. It teaches you how to create graphics and use the ST's builtin sound facilities. Examples are in BASIC, C, Logo and Modula-2, so there's something for every programming taste. Some of the topics are: mirror and rotation, graphics under GEM, coordinate transformations, raster and vector graphics, plotting and 2- or 3-D functions, waveform generation, the sound chip, and the ST as a synthesizer. Of course, there's far more information than space allows me to mention here.

The third new Abacus book is entitled Atari ST Tricks and Tips. Chapters cover: using GEM from BASIC, combining BA-SIC and machine language, creating a RAMdisk and print spooler, automatically starting TOS applications, and much more. If you'd like to learn more about programming your ST, this and the two books mentioned above can help. All have sample



One of the Cinemaware offerings, SDI.

programs and tips for the new or expert programmer.

The Abacus books are currently available for \$20.00 each, except *BASIC Training Guide*, which is \$17.00.

Activision shared a booth with several other publishers. The most exciting news from these folks is that their **Music Studio** has recently been released for the ST computers.

This music composition program, designed by Audio Light, allows the user to create music interactively and control up to fifteen instruments in one song, or up to eight voices at once. **Music Studio** has four tracks and can be interfaced with a MIDI instrument, though it also works with the built-in, three-voice sound chip of the ST.

When using a synthesizer keyboard, via the MIDI interface, **Music Studio** does not function as a sequencer or multi-track tape recorder. It is, rather, a composing program and uses standard music notation to edit and compose. Although real-time keyboard input is not accepted, the program can send output to a MIDI keyboard. Dropdown menus and mouse control make the **Music Studio** easy and enjoyable to use.

With this program currently selling for \$50.00, work is already beginning on the next version. The latter *will* have real-time keyboard capture, as well as a MIDI patch librarian capability.

Activision also showed the Paint Works (formerly N-Vision), by Audio Light. This easy-to-use painting program is also available now, for \$49.95. Look for ST-Log reviews of both these Activision programs soon.

Artworx demonstrated Strip Poker for the ST within Atari's exhibit area. This is basically the same program released for the 8-bits a few years ago.

Now, however, the program's completely mouse driven, and the graphics are substantially improved. Interestingly, the 8-bit graphics were uploaded to the Amiga, and **Deluxe Paint** by Electronic Arts was used to improve the pictures.

Resolution was increased to about four times the previous capacity, and colors were added. As a last step, the graphics were ported to the ST. Talk about a round-about trip to the ST!

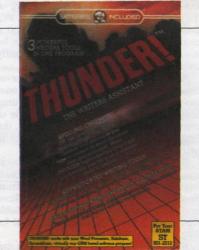
Strip Poker for the ST will be selling for \$39.95, with optional data disks at \$19.95 each. The original game-playing algorithms were used for the ST version, so it's neither easier nor more difficult than its predecessor. Future data disks will use digitized graphics for, um...added realism. Strip Poker will be available by the time you read this article.

Artworx is already shipping Compu-Bridge for the ST, at \$29.95. A backgammon variant will also be out by the time we're in print. And a new game called Hole-In-One Golf will be available soon, too. Artworx is solidly behind the ST and will continue to offer programs for it.

Batteries Included, a longtime supporter of 8-bit and now 16-bit Atari users, showed several new products at their booth. One of these was **Thunder!: The Writer's Assistant**.

As a spelling checker for the ST, **Thunder!** is unique in a number of ways. One is its ability to correctly check a word which has a number within it. No other currently marketed spelling checker for any computer can handle this type of spelling error.

Another unique aspect of **Thunder!** its dictionary has 50,000 real words. Other products claim as many or more words, but count derivatives separately. For example, walk, walks, walked and walking could be counted as four separate words in some



Batteries Included's Thunder!

spelling checkers. In **Thunder!**, they're considered one word. Of course, you can create your own supplemental dictionaries, as well.

Two versions of **Thunder!** are provided on the distribution disk. One is a desktop accessory, to be used whenever accessories are normally available. It works only with GEM-based word processors (actually, with any GEM-based program). What's especially useful is that, when **Thunder!**'s been loaded as a desk accessory, consuming about 100K of memory, it can be disabled at any time, freeing up that memory — without rebooting. Nice touch!

The other version is a stand-alone program to be used with any file. It's handy in checking files created by non-GEM programs, or an entire GEM-created file. This program runs from the desktop and, when finished, returns you to the desktop. In addition to doing a spelling check, it provides you with a range of statistics, like character, syllable, word and sentence counts, and two types of readability indices.

In addition to a spelling checker accessory, **Thunder!** provides a word expansion feature. If I want, for example, I can define CES as "Consumer Electronics Show." Then, whenever I type CES, "Consumer Electronics Show" would be entered . . . a very useful feature.

Thunder! retails for \$39.95. It's quality ST software, clearly one of the most impressive ST programs at CES.

According to President Michael Reichmann, Batteries Included has sold over 25,000 copies of **DEGAS**. In discussing the fact that **DEGAS** has done so well while not copy protected, Reichmann said copy protection is no longer an issue. All BI's products are sold without copy protection, a policy they intend to continue. The industry is slowly realizing: this is the way application software should be marketed.

I had a sneak preview of the next-generation **DEGAS**, **DEGAS** Elite. Scheduled to be released by August, it will sell for \$79.95. Current **DEGAS** owners will be able to upgrade for half the price and their original **DEGAS** disk.

DEGAS Elite has significant improvements, too many to state here. Eight screens are now provided, and colors, objects, clip art, and so forth can be copied easily from one screen to another. Another powerful feature is the ability to specify a starting and ending color—and have the program fill in all the colors between for your palette.

Drives from A to P are now supported, and folders can also be used. Regardless of what resolution you're now in, any picture type—low, medium or high—can be loaded into the current screen. **DEGAS Elite** automatically does the conversion as it brings in the program.

NEO-Chrome and Koala pictures can be

loaded directly, too. And the current onscreen picture can be saved in any of these file formats.

You can use four different animation speeds, in four different directions, in four different ranges of colors at once, on one screen. In addition, any portion of a picture can be grabbed and copied to another screen, or even used as a brush. Very impressive!

The new **DEGAS** will automatically do anti-aliasing of a picture. The concept of anti-aliasing is that, if you put a complementary color along the edge of another color, it will seem to smooth the original's jagged lines. It's truly amazing to watch all the corners being magically rounded off. The effect is a marked improvement in your image.

One of the cleverest aspects of the program is that you'll be able to save a **DE-GAS** picture as an ST icon. Also, you can grab a corner of a picture and stretch it in any direction. Eight levels of magnification are available in **DEGAS Elite**, for fine detail work, and both manual rotation and rotation by degrees are provided.

All in all, **DEGAS Elite** is state-of-theart software for the ST, a significant improvement over its excellent original. Batteries Included also showed their IS*Talk ST telecommunications program. It's a full-scale terminal program, based on the GEM graphics interface. IS*Talk is easy to use, with a host of sophisticated features—spelling checker, macros, replay, auto log-on, and much, much more. It's retailing now for \$79.95.

Also coming from Batteries Included: an upgraded version of the popular 8-bit HomePak; PaperClip Elite, which will allow the inclusion of DEGAS Elite files within text; BTS The Spreadsheet; a personal diary program called Time Link; and another 8-bit upgrade, B/Graph, the graphics charting and statistics package. No question about it—BI is solidly behind the ST, with a wide range of products.

Batteries Included also announced a merger with ITM Corp., a Canadian holding company. BI will retain its autonomy, but will now have a parent company, to provide greater financial strength for growth. Basically, this deal means they'll be able to publish more software in the months ahead.

Broderbund, parent company of Synapse, brought two previously released 8-bit titles for the ST, Essex and Brimstone.

Essex puts you in the realm of science

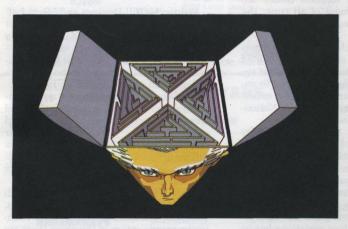
fiction, playing the part of a tourist aboard the starship *Essex*. What began as a peaceful vacation turns into an intergalactic rescue mission, led by the one person who can thwart the insidious Vollchons threatening all planets in the Sirius sector.

Brimstone is a fantasy, wherein you help Sir Gawain of the Round Table find the five mystical words which will release him from Ulro, the netherworld. Beyond the moat and massive door to the castle, you must outwit deranged white apes and defeat the Underdemons—or be trapped for eternity. Sounds pretty tough to me.

Both text adventure games feature 1500word vocabularies and are played in real time. If you linger making a move, the action continues. **Essex** and **Brimstone** are available now at \$44.95 each.

Electronic Arts shared a distributor's booth with other software publishers. The views of its president Trip Hawkins, concerning the Atari ST and Amiga computers, are well known. Briefly, he feels the Amiga is the better machine, while the ST has no future. Therefore, he won't develop ST software, but has heavily supported the Amiga.

The company does, however, have one ST program: Financial Cookbook. This is



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CES Scene continued

an updated, improved version of the 8-bit title. We hope, as the ST's success is seen, EA will develop software for it.

Epyx Software, the folks who brought you **Rescue on Fractalus** and **Ballblazer**, two great Lucasfilm games for 8-bit computers, among others, were proudly showing two titles for the ST.

A new, enhanced version of **Temple of Apshai**, called **The Trilogy**, is available now. This role-playing adventure features 1400 separate chambers, multiple dungeon levels, improved graphics and faster action play. **The Trilogy** lists for \$30.00 and includes **Temple of Apshai**, **Curse of Ra** and **Upper Reaches of Apshai**.

Epyx's **Rogue** has been a popular game at colleges for years. The goal is to find your way through a maze of ever-changing dungeons and magical places, recover the Amulet of Yendor and return to level 1. Of course, spending time in the underground world sounds a lot easier than it really is. Available now for \$34.95.

Winter Games, enjoyed on a host of systems, now comes to the ST. Seven true-tolife sporting events, from bobsledding and ski jumping to figure skating, challenge the user. The Biathlon and four other events are included, and skill and stamina are required to succeed. An opening ceremony complete with national anthems greets up to eight players. Winter Games, available now, sells for \$34.95.



Epyx's Winter Games.

World Games is a continuation of Epyx's "Game" series. In this one, eight events allow you to compete with up to eight other players. Cliff diving, sumo wrestling, barrel jumping, bull riding, weight lifting, giant slalom, pole vaulting, and hop, skip and jumping should keep you busy for quite some time. World Games will be ayailable in the third quarter for \$34.95.

Infocom announced three new interactive fiction titles for the ST this time around. **Leather Goddesses of Phobos**, by veteran author Steve Meretzky, is Infocom's first entry in the comedy category.

This product, geared for the standardlevel player, combines comedy and sex, and takes the genre to new heights (or depths, depending on how you look at it). Three different playing modes are provided—Tame, Suggestive or Lewd—corresponding to P, PG and R movie ratings.

The saga begins in 1936 in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, where you've been boozing it up at a sleazy bar (Lewd)—or where you're enjoying an evening with your friends in a local lounge (Tame). You get the idea, right? Anyway, you're kidnapped by space creatures and carried to the Martian moon Phobos. There you learn that the Leather Goddesses are planning to turn Earth into their private sexual playground (L)—ahem, use Earth for their own indiscreet purposes (T).

Your goal is to get what you need in order to build a special Anti-Leather Goddesses Machine. Included with the program are a 3-D comic book, an intimate map of the catacombs and a sensuous scratch 'n' sniff card. All this fun, and the three different naughtiness levels, can be had for \$39.95 this fall.

Another new Infocom ST title is **Trinity**, written by Brian Moriarty. A cross between the "Twilight Zone" and Alice in Wonderland, **Trinity** leads you to an alternate universe, where magic and physics coexist—and every atomic explosion that's ever occurred is inexplicably connected.

The story's chilling climax takes place in the New Mexico desert on July 16, 1945, where you'll arrive minutes before the most fateful experiment of all time: the world's first atomic explosion, code-named **Trinity**.

This is the first Infocom story to recreate actual locations and events. It begins in London; you're a tourist on a budget vacation. Where it ends is up to you. To ensure accuracy, Moriarty conducted extensive research, visiting Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Trinity site.

To get you started, the package includes a copy of The Illustrated Story of the Atomic Bomb, in the famous Classic Comics style. **Trinity** will be retailing for \$39.95 by the time this issue's out.

The third title announced was Moonmist, by Stu Galley and Jim Lawrence. This introductory-level game has a Gothic setting. Each of the four variations has its own puzzles, treasures, hiding places and solution. As a result, Moonmist has more replay value than any other Infocom title to date.

You play a famous young sleuth ready for adventure. A friend declares, "I know it sounds dramatic, but I think someone is trying to kill me," and you dash into action. Arriving at Tresyllian Castle, you're about to be in a treasure hunt, meet eccentric characters (including a ghost or two), and otherwise be put upon to solve the mystery. **Moonmist** will sell for \$39.95 this fall.

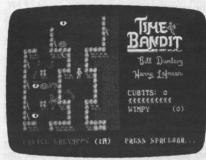
Metacomco, the systems software house specializing in the 68000-based computers, announced a couple of new products for the ST.

No details were forthcoming, but it was

learned that Metacomco's redoing Atari ST BASIC. The improved implementation will be out in the third quarter of 1986.

The company also announced MCC Pascal for the ST. This is an ISO Pascal compiler with a screen editor, linker, libraries and user manual. This version conforms to the ISO 7185 international standard Pascal. A company spokesperson told me that, compared to OSS's Personal Pascal, MCC Pascal has a faster compiler, slower linker and produces code that's almost identical.

MichTron was showing many existing products in their stall at the Atari booth. One of the most popular programs there was **Time Bandit**.



Time Bandit from MichTron.

Written by Bill Dunlevy and Harry Lafner, **Time Bandit** is billed as the most detailed video game ever designed for a home computer. And it's not hype—anyone who's seen, played or been within 10 feet of the screen when the program's running can attest to that.

In it, you're the **Time Bandit**, an animated adventurer travelling through time and space in search of treasure. From a land called Timegates, you can choose to enter one of sixteen portals, each leading to a different "land" and a distinct time period. The future, ancient Egypt, deep space and the old West await your visit.

Once in, you must fight off the Evil Guardians—and search for scrolls, books, computer consoles, or even people. Within the arcade action of the game there are three graphics-activated text adventures. To get out of the current land, you must find the key to the lock blocking your exit. This is one exciting game.

There's much more to it, but suffice it to say that **Time Bandit** demonstrates the power, speed and graphic beauty of the Atari ST. The program's written entirely in machine language and consumes 350K of memory. You can buy it now, for \$39.95.

Another major title shown by Gordon Monnier, president of MichTron, was Cornerman, a Sidekick-like multiple desk accessory. It can be purchased now for \$49.95 and gives you no less than ten functions, all under one accessory name.

Here's what you get: a complete ASCII

(continued on page 78)

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reference table, with decimal, hexadecimal, character and mnemonic information for all 256 ASCII codes; a 16-digit calculator containing binary, octal, decimal and hex modes, three summing memories, printing tape display and more; a notepad with full editing, word wrap and automatic date and time stamp; a phone dialer with autodial capability; a phone log which automatically transfers information from the dialer; a fifteen-puzzle game; two clocks (one digital, one analog); a complete setup module to customize dialer, RS-232, clock, calculator and window position parameters; a print utility; and (gasp) a DOS window for use with MichTron's DOS Shell. Cornerman is one big bargain.

Microprose was demonstrating their nearly complete version of **Silent Service** for the ST. Here, you command a World War II submarine in the depths of the Pacific—and must sink enemy ships without being destroyed. Written by **F-15 Strike Eagle** author Sid Meier, the game will ship

almost immediately.

The most notable difference between the ST and previous 8-bit versions lies in the graphics. Far more detail is evident in the ST program. For example, only four ship sizes could be seen through the periscope of an 8-bit, whereas there are now 128 different ship sizes. This adds greatly to the realism of the game.

Another major difference: the game has been entirely reconfigured, to be played via mouse icons. Periscope, throttle, game speed, zoom, etc., are now controlled by

pointing and clicking.

In addition, varied screens appear in response to moving Captain Bob. The damage screen shows problems separately, as the instrument screen shows a set of ana-

log gauges.

The third big change in the ST Silent Service is that the game's been made more historically accurate, wherever possible. More authentic convoy routes, behavior of the Japanese and additional Japanese warships have been added. Now you can run into Japanese convoys that are fast, dangerous and make for juicy targets.

Three different games are provided: training, convoy with heavy cruisers and carriers, and war patrol. The most challenging is war patrol, where you try to sink as much tonnage as you can before you: run out of ammunition, are too damaged

to continue, or are sunk

Silent Service for the ST is scheduled for the end of June at \$39.95. Like all Microprose products, it's well conceived, well

implemented and fun to play.

One of the more impressive software products of the show was Migraph's Easy Draw. Billed as a professional ST drawing program, it's object-oriented, allowing you to create custom business graphics, presentation materials, multi-dimensional illustrations and line drawings.

The program offers many features to make drawing easy—multiple windows, full GEM interface with drop-down menus and mouse action, zooming, clipboard art, predefined patterns, object rotation, and multiple font selection. Available now, it sells for \$149.95.

The news at Mindscape was an ST product line being developed independently, Cinemaware. The idea here is to have products with movie-oriented themes. All are played in real time and are, for the most part, decision-making games of strategy.

For example, **King of Chicago** finds Al Capone in jail; you're one of the young gangsters fighting to take over the city. Another title, **Sinbad and the Throne of the Falcons**, brings up memories of Tyrone Power and the Arabian Nights. The third title is **Defender of the Crown**, a kind of Robin Hood tale.

The initial ST title, scheduled for release this fall, is SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative). This science fiction adventure puts a young, beautiful Russian cosmonaut and a handsome American scientist in the midst of global war. It's billed as a story and flight simulator in one package. At least twenty-seven screens will accompany the story line, requiring two disks for the entire game.

Each product in the series will have at least 700K (really over a megabyte, due to the company's proprietary data compression technique). All the graphic adventures are mouse driven, with several action sequences—a sky battle, jousting, a sword fight with skeletons—controlled interactions are several actions.

tively by you.

These arcade sequences require a certain amount of expertise for completion. Moreover, the games are nonlinear in nature; you can find yourself in any part of the story.

The designers of **Cinemaware** are striving for interactive movies. The games combine arcade action, the depth and interest of text adventure and the appeal of graphics and sound (all will feature original music scores). From the sample screens I saw, they all look like hits.

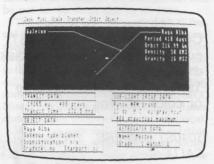
All four will be available by the end of the year.

Omnitrend Software demonstrated Universe II in Atari's section. This is a science fiction role-playing game for one, in which you're an undercover agent for the Federated Worlds Special Forces.

While operating a merchant vessel, you're called to perform covert missions within the United Democratic Planets—still earning a living, organizing a crew, upgrading your equipment from the 98 available parts, and exploring planets first-hand, to solve object-oriented puzzles.

As the game progresses, the long-range goal is gradually revealed; it's something about an ancient alien artifact, known only as the hyperspace booster.

Omnitrend's **Universe II** is selling now for \$69.95.



Universe II from Omnitrend.

Optimized Systems Software (OSS), long supporters of Atari 8-bit computers (with products like Action!, BASIC/XL and BASIC/XE), also had a booth within the Atari area. The ever-congenial Bill Wilkinson demonstrated their first ST product: **Personal Pascal**.

The programming language runs under GEM and contains drop-down menus for editing, linking and compiling. Of course, the mouse makes creation all the more

simple.

OSS decided to create their own GEM AES and VDI calls in this version of Pascal. The program editor uses a text-based design, with cut and paste capability, and help screens similar to those of the Action! editor. Automatic file backup, automatic indenting, English language error messages and debug tracing are included.

Personal Pascal retails for \$75.00 and has been shipping for a few months. The language is disk-based and comes with an almost 300-page manual. OSS plans to support the Atari ST, as it has the 8-bits.

One of the most exciting software programs at this year's CES was **The Pawn** from Rainbird, a British publisher. It had been available for almost two months and was demonstrated by Anita Sinclair, one of the authors.

The Pawn is an ST graphic text adventure startling in both its sophistication and implementation. If you've gotten used to parsers in text adventures from Infocom and others, you'll be amazed at the level of this one.

One attractive feature of the game is that its pull-down menus, in the shape of scrolls, are used to issue commands. Another remarkable feature of **The Pawn**: when you pull down on one of these scrolls at the top of the screen, you bring a low-resolution color picture over your medium-resolution text. The pictures, by a noted British artist, are excellent.

The entire adventure is written in machine code, rather than C or Pascal, so it runs a lot faster than others you're used to. **The Pawn**, at \$45.00, can be purchased provided in the part of the part

I was privy to a glance at The Pawn's se-

quel, **Guild of Thieves**. Though sworn to secrecy, I can tell you the graphics are even better than those of **The Pawn**!



Sophisticated — The Pawn from Britain's Rainbird.

Another product shown by Rainbird was Starglider. It's an all-action, air-to-air and air-to-ground combat flight simulator that uses fast-moving, 3-D vector graphics. Extensive development went into the smooth vector graphics, to create the experience of low-level flight.

Pilot of the sole surviving ground attack vehicle left to oppose invaders from the planet Novenia, you have defense, attack and maneuver capabilities. But you must plot strategy while flying, refueling in flight and entering rotating missile depots. Your mission: destroy the alien's powerful flagship, Starglider. The game will be available in the third quarter, at \$44.95.

Shanner displayed a variety of products in their booth. Recently recovered from the mess with VIP, Shanner's ready to move ahead—with software, hardware and accessories—according to James Copland.

At CES was their full-color, GEM-based word processor, which allows four documents to be edited simultaneously. Priced at \$79.95, it will be available by the time this issue hits the stands.

Shanner also showed the **LogiKhron Clock Card**, acquired from Soft Logik. The manual's been rewritten and the cartridge modified, to allow access to the internal battery. See the review on page 55ST. It's currently retailing for \$49.00.

ST-Key is a \$20.00 macro key program for the ST. It lets you assign up to twenty macro functions to the ST's ten function keys. This program is said to work in conjunction with any other ST program.

Sound Wave One is a single-track, sevenoctave ST MIDI sequencer. On the shelves now, it lists for \$50.00.

Sound Wave Eight, an eight-track "professional" MIDI sequencer, will accept and control up to sixteen synthesizers. It's supposed to duplicate the functions of a professional recording studio, at \$180.00.

Shanner has recently acquired two products from Blue Moon Software, Macro Manager and Macro Desk. The first is a Sidekick-style program, with a scientific calculator, alarm clock/calendar, event log

and card file. In addition, it has project time recording and scheduling functions.

Macro Desk is not as feature-laden; it gives you everything but the project functions. Macro Manager retails for \$70.00, and Macro Desk is \$40.00.

Shanner also displayed the complete line of accessories from ITC. The **Shanner Planner** comes in $3\frac{1}{2}$ - and $5\frac{1}{4}$ -inch disk versions, each with space for a notepad, disks, pen, calculator, software manual, business cards and ruler. The zippered portfolio comes gift boxed, for \$39.95.

On the hardware side, Shanner displayed the **SD-2000**, a \$429.00 dual disk drive for the ST. It has two double-sided, double-density drives in one fairly small enclosure, and a beefed-up power supply accompanies the unit.

Sierra On-Line brought their new ST chess game, **Kemplin Chess** (Kempelen is thought to be the father of game-playing machines).

This soon-to-be-released, \$34.95 program is said to be one of the most powerful chess games on any microcomputer. Besides being a phenomenal chess game, it takes advantage of the ST's unique features. The board can be rotated or tilted, in order to be seen from another perspective (including 3-D), and colors can be set to your preference.

Sierra On-Line also showed the first in their business product series. Called **ST OneWrite**, its main target is the small businesses—storefronts and single doctor's or lawyer's offices.

Most accounting programs for computers expect the user to do General Motors' accounting on a micro. **ST OneWrite** goes the other way.

14 3/18/86 Misc Office Supplies 670

13

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It follows the pegboard binder metaphor of the cash disbursement accounting module, but goes a step further—it replaces the traditional manual system with the ST's power and graphics. Once a check's written, the information is kept for future use. Whenever another check's made out to the same payee, all you have to enter is its amount.

Checks can be printed on a dot-matrix or daisy-wheel printer, with notes on the stub. Your cash account is automatically credited, so you need only specify the account to debit. If you're unsure of your chart of accounts, pull it up in a window at any time. Expenses can be split over several accounts, if need be.

Once the account is specified and RE-TURN is pressed, the program will cross check numbers entered. Then the bank balance is automatically adjusted and the transaction posted to all necessary accounts. It's also posted separately into a vendor record—to keep track of how much business is done with individual vendors. Finally, all numbers are entered on the balance sheet and income statements.

Basically, the drudgery (in which errors often occur) is eliminated by this system. Especially useful: the income statement is accurate right up to the last check written.

ST OneWrite is a three-module system: cash disbursements, receivables and general ledger. Suggested retail for each module is \$130.00. Sierra's currently working on a payroll system, although no firm shipping date has been announced.

This is the first major small-business software I've seen. As this program and others like it become available, the Atari ST can fulfill its potential—as the powerful computer for "most of us."

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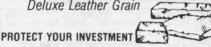


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CES Scene continued

Sublogic had hoped the **ST Flight Simulator** would be out in April. At the June CES, though, I was curtly told it would be available real soon. Those of you holding your breath for it may now exhale.

Supra Corporation (formerly MPP, Microbits Peripheral Products) showed a 3½-inch, 20-megabyte hard disk for the ST. Actually, they weren't showing it, but had provided other companies with demo units for CES. What better way to advertise?

Anyway, the disk will retail for \$799.00, by the end of June. A 10-megabyte hard disk is sold directly from the factory at \$549.00 (reduced from its earlier price). The 20-megabyte drive will be available from dealers, and a 60-megabyte drive is in the prototype stage. All Supra ST hard disks connect to the DMA port and come with a boot program.

Unison World, makers of **PrintMaster**, exhibited **The Newsletter Program** on an IBM PC. It should be available for the ST

by the end of the year.

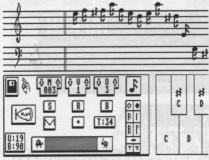
It will let you mix text and graphics on the same page, in a newsletter format. Fonts can be changed dynamically anywhere on the page, and multiple column printout is supported.

The Newsletter Program works with the QSL laser printer, as well as dot-matrix printers. Price will be under \$100.00 (or, more likely, closer to \$50.00).

XLent Software had several ST products out. **Rubber Stamp ST** is a combination of several graphic utilities, to let you create custom printouts for labels, index cards, logos and letterheads.

You can use graphics from NEO-Chrome and DEGAS, or create your own within the program. Complete control adds text, shrinks, rotates, copies sections, inverts and otherwise manipulates images. Rubber Stamp ST can also use custom character sets designed with the DEGAS font editor. The program, available now, sells for \$39.95.

Another new XLent program is Megafont ST. This, too, is a port of an existing 8-bit program. With it, graphic files from DEGAS, NEO-Chrome, Rubber Stamp and others can be printed, in a variety of sizes. In addition, 1stWord, ASCII and program files can be printed in varied character



ST Music Box.

styles, including those used by the **DEGAS** font editor. The program supports a number of printers and will be going for \$39.95 by the time you read this.

ST Music Box is a MIDI package to let you compose for a MIDI keyboard or the ST console speaker. Compositions can be entered via mouse or keyboard, and a range of editing features (insert, delete, key signature and many more) are provided. The ST Music Box should be selling for \$49.95 at this issue's release.

The End.

The amount of software now available for the Atari ST is simply amazing, all the more incredible when you realize the ST appeared thirteen short months ago now. There was still more from others like Hippopotamus, but we just couldn't include it all.

To all skeptics out there (publishers, dealers and users): the ST is real; ST software is real; and I personally welcome back a healthy computer industry.

As Dorothy said, clicking her heels, three times, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home, there's no place like home" For an ST user, the 1986 Summer CES was a hell of a show.

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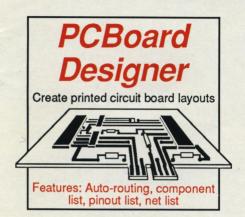




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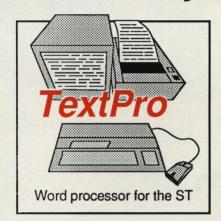
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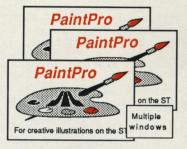
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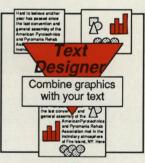
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RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE ST-LOG ST PROGRAMMING CONTEST

- 1. All entries must be original creations and cannot be submitted, or be under consideration, anywhere else. This includes any other contests or competitions currently underway.
- 2. Feel free to submit as many entries as you like, as often as you like. The deadline for submissions to the contest is December 31, 1986. All entries must be in by that date to qualify for the contest judging (however, programs received after this date will be considered for regular ST-Log publication).

There is no limit to what types of programs we are looking for. Business or educational, graphics oriented or musically inclined, we want to see them all.

3. The entries can be in any programming language of your choice, on 3½-inch single- or double-sided disk, with both run-time and source code. It's quality that counts, not format. If your program is in a compiled language, the compiled object or run-time code must be a free-standing program—one which can be run by someone without a copy

of that language. This rule does not apply to programs written in ST BASIC and Logo, which come with the ST. Also, we need to be able to distribute the program legally, without licensing fees or obligation to the language's maker. Contact the manufacturer to

find out if the language you're using has distribution requirements.

- **4.** Please make sure that all entries have accompanying documentation, and that all written materials pertaining to the entries (including articles) are submitted as standard double-spaced typewritten manuscript. Please try to make the text as informative as possible, as it pertains to the usage of the program. This accompanying piece could be in the vein of a "making of" the entry, and could include some of your personal programming hints, etc.
- **5.** Any submissions that do not qualify for prizes will be returned only if you supply us with a stamped, self-addressed envelope or mailer. Please do not send originals of your program—make sure you keep a copy for your own use.
- **6.** Contest judging will be done by the staff of **ST-Log**. The decision of the judges in all contest categories will be final. Contest winners will be announced in **ST-Log** during the first quarter of 1987.
- 7. This contest is void where prohibited by law. Full-time employees of ANALOG 400/800 Magazine Corp. are ineligible for this contest.

8. Send your entries to: ST-Log, c/o ANA-LOG 400/800 Magazine Corp., P.O. Box 23, Worcester, MA 01603.

Good luck!







by Andy Eddy

I've always rooted for small, independent software producers to overcome their size handicaps and become successful in a volatile marketplace. With so much to lose, should a product not meet the public's approval, the ones out there who try should be commended for their unseen battle.

Orion Software is one such company. They've introduced their first product, **Blackhawk**. I had hoped for a bigger thrill, but it seems they have a bit of work ahead of them before challenging the major software manufacturers.

Your main plan, as the mission leader in Blackhawk, is to guide your helicopter deep behind enemy lines, to rescue the forty hostages held captive there (reminiscent of the bestselling Choplifter) and bring them back to the safety of your aircraft carrier. This takes you and your chopper through the rocket-infested jungle lands of your hostile opponent—the computer.

Along the way to the American Embassy (now in enemy control and where the captives are being held) you can opt to destroy the many oil tanks, buildings and battle tanks that your limited arsenal can obliterate. This weapon cache consists of airto-ground rockets (for blasting the abovementioned land-based targets) and automatic cannons, which come in handy when battling the occasional enemy helicopter straying into your path.

The updated "status window" at the top

of the screen will constantly keep you abreast of supplies remaining, as well as vital information about fuel quantity, altitude and range to the embassy.

Excessive rocket strikes on your ship will lower the crew total, and, should the crew's number reach zero, your helicopter will crash. You must also exceed a minimum altitude over the terrain—or risk a crash that will bring a quick end to the scenario.

Unfortunately, there are a few things that prevent you from enjoying this game to the fullest. While it's Orion's intention to provide inexpensive programs to Atari users (and indeed they've succeeded at that task) it appears that **Blackhawk** lacks the necessary polish to make it an exciting battle.

It's a mixed blessing that the game can be controlled through the use of two joysticks. Without the ability to hold both of them comfortably, there are problems. While functions handled by the second stick are still keyboard controllable, it reminds me of my experiences with the arcade game **Defender**; there were simply too many buttons to keep track of.

My main complaint with games of this type accompanies their increases in difficulty. Consideration has to be made for differences in player ability, and, unfortunately, most programmers make the game more intense just by increasing speed of play or the mileage you must cover. Without the incorporation of fresh challenges into the contest, play quickly becomes runof-the-mill.

Blackhawk is a promising start for this freshman company, and I'd hate to see their talents go for naught in the eyes of wary consumers. No one wants to spend money on a lackluster product, so when someone comes along offering performance and a good price to boot, they can expect to go through greater-than-normal scrutiny.

Blackhawk, with its somewhat blocky artwork and hardly innovative theme, is a mediocre introduction—but, at \$15.00, it shines a little more than it normally would. Computers and software have come a long way in the last few years, and we've come to expect a great deal from the industry. Let's hope Orion tightens things up for the next go-round. We'll see if they can live up to the promise they show.

Andy Eddy works as a cable TV technician in Connecticut, but has been interested in computers since high school. While his family's Atari 800 is three years old, he's been avidly playing arcade games since **Space Invaders** and is a former record holder on **Battlezone**.

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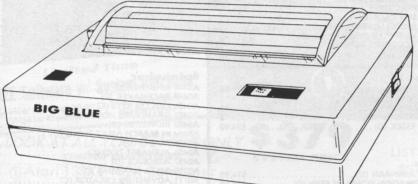
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Reviews of the latest software

by Steve Panak

We've hit it again, loyal readers: the midsummer drought. Software seems to evaporate, and the few new games which appear do so like small islands on the horizon, viewed by the sailor lost at sea optimistic mirages. My frenzied mind, groping for anything to play, seems to seize upon and enjoy what hindsight tells me are the worst-games I've ever seen.

Fortunately, such is not the case this month, for I'm just entering the drought. Its most acrid fruits will reach these pages in early autumn. To help you get through those dreaded days, I've selected these games for your perusal. Enjoy.

Fooblitzky

by Michael Berlyn INFOCOM, INC. 125 CambridgePark Drive Cambridge, MA 02140 48K Disk \$39.95

This new program proves that success belongs to those who take chances. Let me explain.

Most companies, when they have a good thing going (are selling at least enough to nudge themselves into the black), tend to become complacent. They stick to their tried and true formula. They may change some minor variable ever so slightly, but are otherwise stagnant.

For the past few years, Infocom has been following this pattern, issuing a chain of top-notch text adventures consistently among the best I review in these pages. That's stagnation I can live with.

But the geniuses who have given us such

classics as Zork and
Deadline have apparently, and surprisingly,
diverged from their usual
course. They've released a
product which might very well
be the most talked-about game
this year...Fooblitzky.

Having skillfully accomplished the remarkable task of merging computer and novel, they've taken on a possibly greater challenge—fusing board game and computer. Gaming may never be the same.

A strange mixture of games like Clue, Mastermind, and Trouble (as well as a number whose names I no longer remember), Fooblitzky will supply board game fans with hours of pleasure. The concept is simple: up to four players each secretly select one of eighteen items; the object of the game is to deduce the four selected items (if less than four play, the computer selects the remainder).

The items are available in and around various shops in the town of **Fooblitzky**. You move about the board (displayed on a highly detailed screen), using up your available moves and foobles (money).

You might have to buy something, or work to earn more cash. You might call a store to see what it has, or bump into another player and pick up his dropped items. Since you can only carry four items at once, you might want to hide something in your locker, or sell it, or give it away. And, if you're not careful in the crosswalk, you'll land in the hospital. I could go on

REVIEW

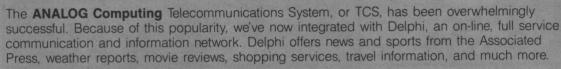
All moves and choices are made with one joystick, which must be passed around. After setting up the game and choosing the items, play progresses just as in any other board game. Each player, in turn, spins the wheel of fortune, moves a few squares, then performs some action.

The game is easy to learn and even easier to play. But, like all Infocom games, it requires you to think. When you believe you've deduced the four items, take them to a checkpoint. If you're right, you're the winner. And if not, you'll be told how many are right (although not which are right). Using these clues, as well as careful observations of the other players' actions, you'll soon have the four items.

The package continues Infocom's tradition of superb documentation and game paraphernalia. The game is completely explained in a rules and regulations manual, supplemented by a "bare essentials" pamphlet, which lets you get right into the game. Both are well written and easy to understand.

To support the game, there are large

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On Delphi, we'll give you a variety of services, including a Forum, where you can send and receive messages from Atari users worldwide. The Atari database consists of hundreds (soon to be thousands) of programs you can easily download and use right away. .. even those from the pages of **ANALOG Computing**. You can also upload your own programs for others.

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ANALOG Computing has set up some of the most knowledgeable people in Atari-dom. Matthew Ratcliff will handle your 8-bit questions, while Arthur Leyenberger will keep you posted on what's hot (and what's not).

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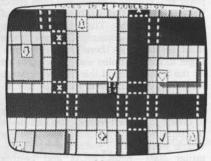
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plastic-coated worksheets and magic markers, to keep track of everything which occurs along your journeys. The worksheets are continuously used and erased, and exist perpetually.

This being Infocom's first foray into graphics, you might very well ask how they were. I might very well answer, "Great." The various caricatures were whimsically drawn and entertaining. The board is nicely detailed and scrolls smoothly among the four gaming quadrants. The only problem lies in the disk loads necessary to display them, which slowed play somewhat.



Fooblitzky.

Another problem was in design. Often, when you're stuck in the hospital, or working in the restaurant—with no desire to spin-you must spin anyway. This, too, slows play down. But we're nitpicking. Your biggest problem will be getting three other players to join you in the quest.

Fooblitzky does for board games what the other Infocom works did for booksrevolutionize them...computerize them ... and bring them into the 21st centuryand beyond. Like all great games, it's a merger of chance, luck and skill, which will perplex and entertain you for hours. If you like board games, and the comradery that accompanies them, then Fooblitzky is for you.

Racing Destruction Set ELECTRONIC ARTS 2755 Campus Drive

San Mateo, CA 94403 48K Disk \$29.95

Once upon a time, there was a company whose games you could count on as being consistently worthwhile. Then they forsook Atari, to develop software for the wondrous Amiga.

However, now that the Amiga's floundering, the company has come back to publishing software for the Atari machines. Unfortunately, if this new game is the best they can do, Commodore can have them.

Racing Destruction Set (RDS) is the newest Electronic Arts game. In the past, they've blessed us with such classics as One on One and Pinball Construction Set. However, those consumers who will buy EA's games sight unseen are surely going to curse this one.

While RDS may not be the most abysmal thing I've ever seen, it wins hands down for being the most disappointing. This is both because of the company it came from and because of its failure to live up to the promise implicitly made.

The concept is exciting and immediately grabbed my interest. I really looked forward to trying this game. But, unlike Pinball Construction Set, the quality is just

As you might expect from the title, the program allows you to design racing tracks, then race on them. Again expectedly, you can race against the computer, or against a human opponent.

Unexpectedly, you can choose from a number of cars, as well as motorcycles, dune buggies, jeeps and even lunar rovers. Further, RDS lets you vary the tires and engines, and add a number of specialized features for the destruction mode, including armor and land mines. The variety I like to see in software is certainly available here.

Alas, there seems to be a little too much for the program and computer to handlethe graphics suffer. To say the graphics were atrocious would be a compliment. The lack of control is frustrating. Although a standard joystick control pattern is used (right/left to turn, forward to accelerate, back to brake) and is thus learned quickly, even with a lot of practice it's not likely that you'll ever be satisfied with your performance.



Racing Destruction Set.

Setting up tracks is fun and simple. Using the joystick, you select and move preshaped segments, placing one against the other, building your dream track.

Unfortunately, for the reasons I've mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs, racing on it is a nightmare. I hesitate to tell you much more, for fear you'll be tricked into actually buying the RDS. The track editor is powerful, and, if you could satisfactorily race on RDS, the game would be a must. But you can't, and it isn't.

As a result of these problems, the Racing Destruction Set's not going to be played much. But relax, there are other uses; personally, I'm always in need of blank disks.

Monday Morning Manager TK COMPUTER PRODUCTS P.O. Box 9617

Downers Grove, IL 60515 48K Disk \$39.95 ST Version \$50.00

Computer Baseball by Charles Merrow and Jack T. Avery SSI

883 Stierlin Road, Building A-200 Mountain View, CA 94043 40K Disk \$39.95

With baseball season just about over, I thought it might be a good time to appease the baseball fanatics out there, who are currently buckling down to prepare for withdrawal. My heart goes out to you poor, demented souls. So, in an uncharacteristic act of mercy, I've taken a look at a couple of simulations, which should tide you over until next April.

Of the two games reviewed here, Monday Morning Manager (MMM) was the cheapest looking. But, though its looks imply a low standard, hidden inside the simple plastic portfolio is an adequate simulation.

After booting the disk, you choose your teams and decide whether or not the computer will manage. All choices are made with the joystick. The version I tested, last year's, had thirty-six teams on the game disk. It offered the chance to order, by mail, any additional teams from 1901 to the present. The 1986 version contains sixty-four teams from 1905 to 1985.

Next, you set batting order and fielding positions, and select the starting pitcher. Since the players may only take certain positions, you can encounter problems if you run out of eligible players. You'll have to start over when you fall into this trap. This slight problem aside, setup is speedy. You can have teams on the field within three to four minutes after booting up.

A message area at the bottom of the screen displays a commentary on action on the field. Other readouts provide stats on the batter, batter on deck and team lineup. To the right is a graphic representation of the field, which shows plays dynamically, as they occur. Both games tested had



Monday Morning Manager.

this feature, to differing extents. A prompt requests you to input your strategy.

The offensive player has four choices: hit, bunt, pinch hit and run, or steal. The defensive player's choices are: pitch, walk, attempt a base runner pickoff, or to go to the bullpen.

In addition, after a hit, the offense may choose to tag up and run, while the defense chooses where to throw the ball. The joystick input method allows players to lean back and enjoy the game, although it also tends to limit the available options.

With the computer controlling both teams, it takes about eight minutes to complete a game. Once done, you may save the game stats for later use, storing them on disk. These stats may also be viewed. What's more, they can be sorted (as to top ten in various categories) and printed. You can also print team rosters. Other specialties of MMM allow you to trade players and draft free agents.

The manual for MMM was truly a bargain job-four pages printed on a dotmatrix printer. Fortunately, although it's not overly attractive, it does explain the game thoroughly. The reference cardsuseful to remind you of the commands until you master the program-are equally spartan, but, again, they do the job.

So as I see it, Monday Morning Manager is the minor leaguer of these games. Even though it offers the fan the most use of his printer to document his own league,



Computer Baseball.

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and even though the joystick control allowed the easier play, I can't recommend it highly.

Since SSI is tops in the field of simulation software, I expected their Computer Baseball would be the closest to the real thing possible inside a scant 48K. And it was. Like many SSI games, you'll need a BASIC cartridge for this one. What you'll also need is a lot of spare time. . . because, like the real thing, this game drags on endlessly.

Once again, you start out by picking the teams to play, and whether or not the computer will control a team. You then select batting line-up, fielding positions and, of course, the pitcher. The method of selection is very time-consuming. Every choice must be input, as there are no defaults. Eight to nine minutes were needed to set up the teams. I found this to be simply too long. However, to offset this, SSI has included a number of unique features.

Probably the best feature is the ability to create your own teams. You can make up computerized versions of any team for which you can find statistics. All the familiar stats-RBIs, ERAs and batting averages—are used, so there should be little problem computerizing your favorite major league team, or any minor and little leagues you come across. Again, the time problem appears. It takes guite a while to create a single player, much less a team, so you've got to be really committed to use this feature.

Two stiff cards remind you of the sixteen defensive and ten offensive options. These are as varied as how tightly you hold the runners on base, how the infield and outfield play and, of course, pitching options. Each choice is made with a twoletter code selected via the keyboard. It takes about thirty minutes to play a game. Slowing down play are the frequent disk loads necessary when you change players.

Finally, graphically, the screen is the worse of the two games. Further, the action on it moves very slowly. The 10-page manual is complete, especially at explaining how to estimate abilities to help you accurately create your own teams. It also gives some background on legendary world series match-ups.

Despite its potential, Computer Baseball is a strikeout.

The author wishes to express his appreciation to The Magic One Computer Shop of Barberton, Ohio for their constant support in the creation of this series.

For a review of MicroLeague Baseball, see page 95.

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MicroLeague Baseball

MICRO LEAGUE SPORTS ASSOCIATION 2201 Drummond Plaza Newark, DE 19711-5711 48K Disk \$39.95

by Bob Curtin

Tony Armas takes a few steps off second as the batter sets himself, waiting for Guidry's pitch. Marty Barrett managed to fend off the previous pitch, a blistering fastball, which just caught the inside corner. The count still remains at three and two. It's the top of the ninth with one out, and the Yankees are leading the Boston Red Sox three to one.

Guidry stretches and delivers a vicious slider to the outside. Barrett reaches for it and hits a towering fly ball to shallow right field. Dave Winfield trots in, gets under it and hauls it in for the second out.

Well, folks, it looks like it's up to Dewey Evans. No, wait! The manager's pulling him out! There's going to be a pinch hitter! It's Bob Curtin! Guidry pales as he stares, slack-jawed, at the figure stepping into the batter's box. Steeling himself against the inevitable and trying to ignore the sudden, deathly silence from the stands, Guidry winds up and throws...

Wait a minute! Hold it! Time out. Bob Curtin doesn't play for the Boston Red Sox! Well, true. But with the Micro League Sports Association's MicroLeague Baseball (MLB), you may put him or any other player on the team of your choice.

MLB is a computer simulation of major league baseball, using the statistics from real players—both past and present. The game comes boxed with a disk containing the game program and twenty-five historical teams, two reference manuals (Manager's Rulebook and Team Rosters), and two double-sided quick reference cards.

Be aware that MLB is not an arcade game, nor is it a dry statistical simulation devoid of graphics. Quite the contrary. The graphics are beautiful and detailed, right down to occasional head-first slides and the manager's stomping out to the mound.

Unlike an arcade game, which oftimes requires frantic manipulation of a joystick to play the game, MLB requires simple (and leisurely) one-touch keypresses. You take the part of the team manager, not that of a player.



MicroLeague Baseball.

Once you've booted up, you'll be asked to choose the two teams and who'll play them (computer or human). You may play against the computer or another human, or even have the computer play itself. This last option would come in handy for anyone ambitious enough to try to recreate an entire season.

At this point, you choose the starting pitchers and set the lineups. A full roster of fifteen players and ten pitchers is provided for each team, and the lineup defaults to that most commonly used by each team historically.

You may, of course, shuffle the team around at will and set the batting order to whatever you want. You may even change position assignments, though putting a player in a position he's not "rated" for will likely produce a flurry of errors from the poor soul, since his defense rating drops as low as is possible.

Just as in the real thing, you may warm up relief pitchers in the bullpen, replace pitchers, bring in pinch hitters or runners, and even go out to the mound to settle down your pitcher. Failing to warm up a pitcher before he's brought in for relief raises the chance that he'll be a bit shaky at the start of his stint.

Also, as in the real game, your pitcher can lose his stuff. I've had a pitcher coasting along, the game well in hand, only to have him start getting hammered. A trip to the mound sometimes works (for a while), but generally it's time to give him the hook.

This is where your expertise comes in, especially in a series of games, where pitching rotation comes into play. It's difficult to pull your ace starter in early innings in an important game; there's always the chance he'll settle down, but then again...

MLB gives you all the same ammunition enjoyed by real major league managers. You're equipped with a full range of pitching, running and batting options. Squeeze plays, sacrifice and surprise bunts, steals and double steals, pitchouts, bringing the infield in (or just in at the corners), inten-

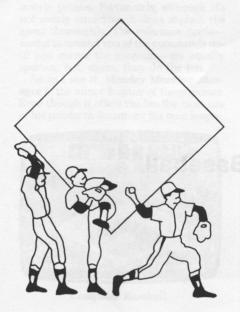
tional walks, and hit and run plays-all are at your disposal.

The MLSA offers a General Manager/ Owner disk for an additional \$39.95. If you're a baseball fan, it's worth every penny

With the GM/O disk, you can load team rosters from any team disk or the game disk, then trade and draft players, alter statistics, create new players (now you know how Bob Curtin infiltrated the Red Sox), or create entire new teams.

I formed a league with some friends of mine and, after a preliminary session of setting up the pitching rotation rules and updating the 1985 rosters to 1986 status. we proceeded to play a fifty-game "season.

The competition was fierce, and we even had some mid-season trades go on. (In case you're wondering, the KC Royals took the pennant.) This game is ideal for league play. It usually only takes 30 to 40 minutes for a 9-inning game, so a number of games can be played in a single evening.



One thing that struck me was that players whose teams weren't scheduled to play on a particular night would show up anyway, just to watch the games. I toyed with the idea of selling beer and hot dogs, but my wife glared me down.

The game is a masterpiece and, with the optional disks, its shelf-life borders on the infinite. It's a game with enough subtleties to satisfy the most demanding baseball fan, yet simple enough to be played enjoyably by anyone. I recommend it highly.

Oh, one last note. The ST version of MicroLeague Baseball is due for release in September, with additional features and even more superb graphics. I, for one, will not hesitate to buy it.

Huh? Curtin? Oh, he struck out.

Bob Curtin is a machinist who got into computing in 1982, when he bought an Atari 800. He uses it for writing, programming and telecommunications. He prefers the more cerebral computer games.



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THE END USER

THIS MONTH:

A wealth of information, replies to readers, ST notes and copy software for honest folks.

Arthur Leyenberger is a human factors psychologist and free-lance writer living in New Jersey. He has been an Atari enthusiast for four years. When not computing, he enjoys playing with robotic toys.

CompuServe — 71266,46 Delphi — NJANALOG

by Arthur Leyenberger

"Why did the computer user throw the clock out the window?"

"I dunno."

"To make time fly." Hey, I don't invent these jokes, I just report them. Seriously, is time flying for you as it is for me? Does it really seem like two years since Jack Tramiel and family rescued Atari? A lot has happened in those two years—to the computer industry, to Atari and to me. Read on, my friend.

Assuming you got this issue recently, it's been a year and a month since the 520ST became available. It took Atari six months to develop (from June 1984, when Jack and friends bought the company), and another six months after that to get it on the street. Not only is this remarkable, but many so-called experts in the computer industry predicted it couldn't be done.

Free enterprise.

The United States was founded on free enterprise: some normal citizens got tired of paying tribute to England, so they got together and started a revolution. Granted, there was a little more to it than that, but, basically, some folks had a good idea...and did something about it.

That story's been retold dozens of times in the world of computers. From Wozniak and Jobs, who started Apple in their garage when Hewlett-Packard declined to take them seriously, to Dan Bricklin, one of the authors of VisiCalc—a little hard work never stopped anyone with a good idea. Such is the case with William Brandt, Jr.

Who's William Brandt, Jr., you ask? His name or picture will surely not be on the cover of Time this year, but he's one of many Atari users who put their money where their computers are.

Like a lot of new users, he found needed, useful information in various Atarioriented magazines. But it seems, when he finally realized he needed information, he could never remember where he'd seen it. He therefore did the only logical thing—he started an index of magazine articles.

Little did Bill know that what he began for his own use would eventually become a major tome, handy for other Atarians. I happened recently across a copy of Bill's 69-page index, and I wanted to pass the information along. It's available for \$15.00, postage paid, from: Article Index, c/o William Brandt, Jr., 27 Mohawk Trail, Westfield, NJ 07090.

The index is broken down by topics—fifty-five in all. Within each topic, entries are categorized by article, game, review, or utility. Each entry consists of title, author, magazine, volume, number, issue, date, page and programming language (if appropriate).

The current version covers ANALOG Computing, Antic, Atari Connection, Atari Explorer, COMPUTE! and Home Computing. Bill hopes to include other publications (such as Creative Computing, Byte and Family Computing) in a future edition.

Bill Brandt's done an excellent job. He invested the time for a thorough job and took the risk of publishing it on his own. I've no financial interest in his endeavor, but I'm proud that I encouraged him.

THE END USER continued

No other publication I know of puts all this information in one place and is so easy to use. My advice is to buy a copy—support Bill Brandt, Atari computerists and free enterprise. Nice work, Bill.

The mailbag.

I don't know about your cat, but mine likes to sleep on papers, magazines and software. Actually, I have three cats—and sometimes feel like Fred MacMurray. Anyway, Raggs is sleeping on some old papers...Oops! That's reader mail. Thanks, Raggs, for reminding me: I need to catch up.

Some interesting mail has arrived in the last month or so. Much of it chastises me (and ANALOG Computing) for spending too much time on the ST and "neglecting" the 8-bits. Interestingly, an almost equal number complain about not enough ST coverage. The rest is a mixed (mail)bag.

Gordon Billingsley of Murphysboro, Illinois writes to tell me about the new 1st Word for the ST. Its version 1.04 (and later) overcome two flaws of the original: the lack of double spacing and the idiotic form feed that occurs before every printout.

The latest **1st Word** contains a new option, "spacing," in the drop-down style menu. When it's checked, you're in double spacing, both on-screen and in your printout.

Gordon also says the form feed can be eliminated, by editing the printer description file. Load the printer driver appropriate for your setup into 1st Word and change the line that reads 20, C * Vertical Initialization. Change the C (or whatever's there) to a 0 (zero), save the file, then run INSTALL.PRG again. Select the recently edited file when prompted. The .DOT file created will no longer cause a form feed each time you print.

Thanks for the update, Gordon. It's good to know these changes have been made to an otherwise good program. My only problems: a more descriptive term than spacing could have been used, and two options might have been presented—"single space" and "double space." Also, the method used to get rid of the initial page eject is more hokey than the concept of "write only memory."

Whether or not the printer page ejects ought to be an option in a drop-down menu, or in the setup procedure. Why do we have to become programmers to get things to work properly?

The next letter comes from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It must have been a long, cold winter for Kenneth Jennings to write such a tome. To reply cogently required me to first take my blood pressure pills. Next, I had to study his tirade and pick out the salient points. Having done this, I thought I'd share a few of his comments—and my response—with you.

Kenneth says, "Do not give up your 8-bit

computers in favor of the ST." He cites two main reasons: public domain software for the 8-bits won't run on the ST, and your peripherals won't work. *Of course* they won't work. The ST is a different computer; it uses different hardware and software. Why should they work?

Next he talks about Atari really being Commodore and vice versa, referring to the fact that Jack Tramiel was Commodore for many years. Now, with Jack as head of Atari, the ST seems to really be a Commodore computer, in terms of price and the way it's advertised, whereas the Amiga has a chip set by Jay Miner, designer of the Atari 800. So the ST is a Commodore, and the Amiga is truly an Atari. Sigh. I think we've been over all this before. Where have you been, Kenneth Jennings?

There are other ironic comparisons between Commodore and Atari. For example, 8-bit Atari owners have used the Commodore 1701/02 color monitor for years. It was, simply, the best monitor for the job. Now we find many Amiga owners using the Atari ST RGB monitor, because it's superior to the washed-out look of the Amiga's color monitor.

Kenneth then asks: "Why did you buy an 8-bit Atari computer in the first place? If you bought it because it was cheap, then go buy an ST—it's cheap, too, not powerful. If you bought your Atari 8-bit because it was the most technologically advanced computer, then buy an Amiga because it is the most advanced." I won't bore you with the details of the two machines, most of which have already been printed, in ANALOG Computing and elsewhere.

What Kenneth fails to realize is that people purchased 8-bit Atari computers because they were (and are) good computers and a good value, not because they were the most expensive, or the least expensive, or whatever. Atari's hallmark has always been value. Sure, I bought a 48K Atari 800, two 810 disk drives and a printer for \$2000 in 1981. I did so because it was the best value around.

The same is true for the Atari ST. It happens to be less costly than the Amiga. Both are good machines, but the Atari is simply the better value. Looking at all aspects of the two—graphics, sound, memory, disk drives, amount of available software, and, yes, price—the ST wins, hands down. It ain't just my opinion, either.

Kenneth goes on to chastise ANALOG Computing for not covering the Amiga. We "don't run full-page, 4-color ads for the Amiga," he says. He claims that ANALOG Computing is an "Atari house organ." Give

me a break, Ken!

We don't cover the Amiga, because we're a magazine for Atari users. We don't run Amiga ads, because Commodore doesn't place their promotional material in an Atari-only magazine. As for being a "house organ" for Atari Corp.... Have you been

reading the magazine with your eyes open lately?

Consider this: several times I've written about what I consider a "mushy" keyboard on the ST. In addition, the keys are too wide and too sculpted, causing me to continually make typing errors. Reread the issue 39 End User and see what I had to say about the way Atari does business. In bed with Atari? Hardly!

As far as the hype you spoke of in your letter, **ANALOG Computing** is not (and has never been close to being) the leader in this area. If you want to see hype, check out Amiga World or Mac World.

Finally, Kenneth Jennings tells us, "If **ANALOG Computing** courageously decides to print all or even part of this obviously anti-Tramiel letter, I urge everyone reading it to compliment them on not being a house organ for Atari. Maybe I was wrong." Q.E.D.

The 8-bit scene.

Until a few days ago, I thought a chipmunk was a cute, furry, outdoor version of a hampster. Now I know: a **Chipmunk** is an ingenious 8-bit backup program from Microdaft.

Chipmunk offers Atari 800, 1200, XL and XE owners the ability to copy complete disks, without expensive disk drive hardware modifications.

The catch is, since **Chipmunk** isn't as sophisticated as the hardware boards, it can copy only the software for which it has parameters. Not to worry, though, the initial release can copy over 250 programs.

Here's how it works: the original program is first sector copied, with the one provided or with any sector copier. Then, the parameter menu's brought up onscreen, and you select the name of the program you wish to back up. **Chipmunk** loads the parameters and writes them to the destination disk. No fuss, no muss.

What you end up with is an unprotected copy of the original boot disk—not a binary file. That is, if you were to make a copy of the copy, you could do it with Atari DOS.

The program works with any disk drive available for the 8-bit Ataris. In addition, one or two drives can be used. There's also a utility to list BASIC programs that can't otherwise be listed, plus an undelete utility.

Under Federal copyright laws, you can make backups of software for your own use. Some software companies copy-protect their programs, to prevent illegal duplication. Unfortunately, this prevents software owners from making legitimate backup copies. **Chipmunk** is provided only for the copying of disks you own, not for illegal purposes.

Ironically, **Chipmunk** will not copy itself, in order to "prevent widespread piracy of our product." At least, though, a backup copy's included with the package.

If you want the ability to backup your software for archival reasons, but don't want to spend big money for the drive modification, check out Chipmunk from Micro-

It sells for \$35.00 and is available from: Microdaft, 19 Harbor Drive, Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849. If you send a selfaddressed, stamped envelope, Microdaft will return a free list of programs that can be copied by Chipmunk.

ST notes.

Three new ST books have found their way to my desk. Actually, they've been there for a while, buried with my 1977 tax return. But that's another story. All three books are from COMPUTE! Books and are described briefly below. Each of the trio sells for \$15.00.

The Elementary Atari ST by William Sanders is, as the title suggests, a beginner's guide to the ST. It's meant to prepare the novice to use the ST's sound, graphics and other features. Detailed setup and step-by-step instructions for ST BASIC are provided. It, like other COMPUTE! Atari books, gives plenty of examples to help you understand all the nuances of each topic.

The Elementary Atari ST has tutorials on disk and file usage, printer access, drawing and animation graphics, Logo and FORTH. Most of the book is spent discussing how to program in ST BASIC. In this its goal as an ST BASIC primer is accomplished.

The second title, Elementary ST BASIC, is written by C. Regina. It picks up with ST BASIC where the first leaves off. As usual, program examples are frequent, to aid the reader.

With the book is information for ordering a disk of the programming examples. Elementary ST BASIC is a very complete treatise on the language.

The third COMPUTE! Books ST title is Introduction to Sound and Graphics on the Atari ST, by Tim Knight. It takes you through the process of creating impressive graphics and sound, and shows you how to get the most from your ST. Examples are provided in three languages: ST BASIC, Logo and FORTH

ST Sound and Graphics is heavily illustrated with sample screen photos. Because of the book's organization, it seems a tutorial, rather than a reference guide approach. In other words, the fundamentals of programming sounds and graphics are learned in a step-by-step fashion.

All three books are available from COM-PUTE! Books, P.O. Box 5406, Greensboro, NC 27403 — (919) 275-9809.

Cloning?

I get excited when I receive a Federal Express package. It occurs infrequently, and there's a certain element of "big business pizzazz" associated. Often, no one's home during the day to accept the parcel, so it's usually left with a neighbor. This heightens the excitement-I must wait a little longer before discovering its contents.

I recently got such a package from Central Point Software. Inside was Copy II ST, a disk-copying program for the ST. It can make backup copies of most copy-protected (and unprotected) programs. Copy II ST can handle even the most sophisticated protection schemes. Of course, it's designed for archival copies only, for your

Many software manufacturers copy-protect their products, to physically prevent people from making and giving away or reselling copies. Under the law, as above, you have a right to make copies only for your use, to back up the original. This is the only right afforded you under the law. Making disk copies with this or any other program, for any other purpose, is strictly illegal and a Federal offense.

Copy II ST comes with a short, wellwritten instruction manual and over sixty programs tested with it. You'll find programs like VIP Professional, Final Word, Haba and Hippo products, and more, can be successfully backed up.

Copy II ST provides a fast sector copier and a bit copier utility, to make "carbon copies" of disks. The procedure usually requires sector copying a disk, then bit copying a specific track. One or two single- or double-sided disk drives can be used.

The program's easy to use and completely mouse driven. Information about progress of the copy is displayed on-screen in a two-dimensional grid called the "Copy Status Box."

As Copy II ST reads a track, the letter R appears in each cell of this box. As the program writes a track, the letter W appears. Then, for every track copied successfully, a dot is left behind in that position. If there was an error copying the track, a R or W is left behind, referring to either a read or write error.

Some people question the legitimacy of disk copy programs like this one. I typically answer with an example... If you have any Hippopotamus Software products, such as Hippo Disk Utilities, with their copy protection technique which occasionally trashes this or another disk, you'll want to back up the program before you use it. There's a need for the copying programs, and I'm glad to see that Central Point has decided to fill the void with their product.

Illustrating that their intent is: (1) for the program to be used only in making personal backup copies of disks, and (2) to inform people about their rights under the law, Central Point has included ADAPSO's "Thou Shalt Not Dupe" flyer.

ADAPSO is an industry group spreading the word: pirating software is not only a crime, but is wrong. For more information, contact ADAPSO, at (703) 522-5055.

Copy II ST is retailing now for \$39.95 (plus \$3 shipping, if purchased direct from the company) and is not, itself, copy protected. Check your local dealer, or order from: Central Point Software, Inc., 9700 SW Capitol Highway, Suite 100, Portland, OR 97219.

There isn't much to say about a copying program, other than whether it works or not. This one works as advertised and represents the first professional disk backup program for the ST. My advice: buy the program and use it-don't abuse it.

Calling it a day.

That's it for this installment of The End User. It's time to pack up and move on down the road. See ya next time.

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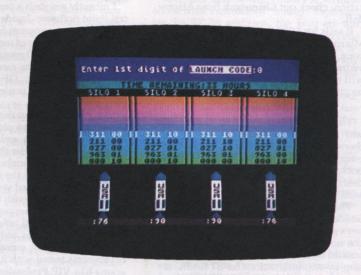
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Launch Code

Only you can save the day by cracking the enemy's code



by David Schwener

You've got thirty-six hours to disable the twelve ICBM's enemy spies have tampered with. After locking your Atari into the scrambling circuits of the defense computer, you must discover the launch code for each of these twelve missiles, in time to abort launch.

Using your joystick controller, you enter a three-digit launch code. The number's then evaluated for accuracy. If the entered code is incorrect, the computer will give clues which can be used for another try.

Unfortunately, the enemy spies were clever enough to add a tamper-sensing device. Becoming careless with your attempts causes the missiles to enter the immediate-launch mode—giving you less than two minutes to stop their takeoff.

Each group of four missiles, with their single launch code, is more difficult to disable than the last. If a mission is completed by disabling all twelve, you'll receive a message of congratulations.

Entering launch codes.

To enter the first digit of a launch code, push or pull the joystick, to increase or decrease the number in the launch code indicator window. When you've reached the number you wish to enter, press the trigger button. A tone will sound, and you'll be ready to enter the second digit. Continue using your joystick and trigger for the second and third digits.

After pressing the trigger button for your third, the entire code will be entered for computer evaluation. You may abort this process by pressing the SELECT key, instead of the trigger button.

Clues.

Clues are the key to success in winning **Launch Code**. The concept may seem difficult at first, so pay attention!

Each time a launch code is entered, the computer compares it to the four missile launch codes hidden inside your Atari. Above each missile is displayed the code that was entered, plus a two-digit number to the right. The two-digit number is your *clue*.

Its first digit indicates how many numbers are correct—and in the correct position. Its second digit indicates how many numbers are correct, but in the wrong position.

Confusing? Let's try some examples.

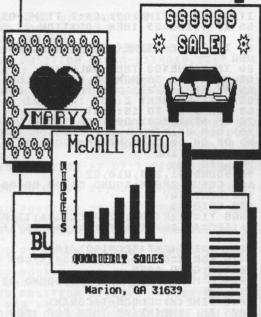
The first column below is the secret launch code, the second column is a number we've entered, and the third is the clue the computer would give. All possible combinations of clues are shown.

SECRET LAUNCH CODE	ENTERED LAUNCH CODE	CLUE	Control of bold a
123	145	10	
123	415	01	
123	135	11	
123	023	20	
123	230	02	
123	132	12	
123	456	00	
123	123	30	Missile Disabled!!!

Notice a 30 clue means a perfect match; this will, therefore, disable the missile.

A 00 clue means none of your three numbers match the secret launch code. Beware: the 00 clue is the triggering mechanism for the immediate launch mode.

When you get this one, depending upon which group of missiles you're working on, two or three of the 00 clues



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will start the missiles into countdown. The countdown time also varies, as shown below.

SILO #	NUMBER OF 00 CLUES	COUNTDOWN
1-4	Attache 13 mm	90 seconds
5-8	2	90 seconds
9-12	2	60 seconds

When the immediate launch mode is triggered, the green bar at the bottom of the screen will begin flashing red, with a warning tone. The timer below the silo that triggered the immediate launch mode will begin counting down.

Don't despair! You can still abort the launch and continue with the game—if you can discover the secret launch code in time. If you do, and no other missiles are counting down, the red bar will turn green again, indicating that no missiles are in the immediate launch mode. Any timer, however, that reaches :00 seconds will cause the game to end.

Game over.

The game is over when: (1) you disable all twelve missiles; (2) a silo timer reaches zero; or (3) the main countdown clock reaches zero.

If (2) or (3) occurs, the missiles are put into the launchready position, and the correct launch codes for each silo are displayed. You can then play again by pressing the START key.

Happy launching!

David Schwener has been programming on an Atari for two and a half years, mainly in BASIC with some assembly. All his royalties now go into a "Jackintosh" fund. He hopes to get an ST with as little outside income as possible. His wife has the same hopes.

The two-letter checksum code preceding the line numbers here is *not* a part of the BASIC program. For further information, see the *BASIC Editor II* (issue 45) and its update on page 9.

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

```
### 1 REM HAUNCH CODE Ver 5.1

2 REM David Schwener Mar 85

3 REM ANALOG COMPUTING

VU 5 Q1=1:Q2=Q1+Q1:Q3=Q2+Q1:Q4=Q2+Q2:Q5=Q
3+Q2:Q6=Q3+Q3:Q7=Q4+Q3:Q8=Q4+Q4:Q9=Q4+Q5:Q10=Q5+Q5

JJ 10 GOSUB 15000:GOSUB 27400:GOSUB 30000
:GOSUB 20000

UX 12 POKE 712,Q0:POKE 708,12:POKE 752,Q1

LM 19 GOSUB 28000:POKE 559,34

JA 20 FOR TRY=Q1 TO Q10

VM 21 POSITION 32,Q1:? ";

UE 30 FOR NUM=Q1 TO Q3

NM 32 VALUE=Q0

IM 33 POSITION Q7,Q1:? DIGIT$(Q3*NUM-Q2,Q3*NUM);

QD 35 ST=STICK(Q0):IF ST(>15 THEN POKE 77,Q0:SOUND Q3,VALUE*Q10,Q10,Q8:SOUND Q3,Q0,Q0

IM 40 VALUE=VALUE+(ST=14)-(ST=13)

MP 50 IF VALUE>Q9 THEN VALUE=Q0

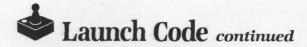
LN 55 TTIME=INT((256-PEEK(19))/7.111):POS
```

```
ITION 24-(TTIME)Q9),Q3:? TTIME-OTIME
56 IF TTIME=Q9 THEN POSITION 23,Q3:?
      57 IF TTIME-OTIME (=Q0 THEN GOSUB GAMEO
HY
      VER
     60 IF VALUE (QO THEN VALUE = QO
62 POSITION 30+NUM*Q2,Q1:? VALUE
65 IF PEEK (53279) = Q5 THEN FOR Z = Q1 TO
Q3:C(Z) = Q0:NEXT Z:POP : GOTO 21
IJ
     65 IF PEEK(53279)=Q5 THEN FOR Z=Q1 TO Q3:C(Z)=Q0:NEXT Z:POP:GOTO 21 68 FOR D=Q1 TO 15:NEXT D 70 IF STRIG(Q0)=Q0 THEN SOUND Q0,PEEK(20),Q10,Q0;Q0:NEXT NUM:GOTO 95 80 GOSUB TIME 90 GOTO 35 95 SOUND Q1,254,Q10,Q2 100 GOSUB CHECK:SOUND Q1,Q0,Q0,Q0 110 NEXT TRY
 KX
      110 NEXT TRY
120 GOTO 20
      1000 T1=PEEK (20) : T2=PEEK (19) : T3=PEEK (1
      8):SEC=(4.267*256*T3)+(T2*4.267)+(T1/6
      1001 T=INT(INT(SEC*100)/100)
      1010 FOR X=Q1 TO Q4:IF CON(X)=Q0 THEN
      NEXT X:GOTO 1050
1015 M=M+Q1:POKE 1735,68:SOUND Q2,200,
     Q10,Q6
1020 TIME(X)=CLOCK-T+CON(X)
1025 IF TIME(X) (=0 THEN POP :FOR I=Q0
TO Q3:SOUND I,Q0,Q0,Q0:NEXT I:GOSUB GA
      MEOVER
     1030 IF TIME(X)=09 THEN POSITION Q4+(X -Q1)*Q10,23:? "0"; 1040 POSITION Q4+Q1*(TIME(X) (Q10)+(X-Q
     1)*Q10,23:? TIME(X);:NEXT X
1050 IF M=Q0 THEN POKE 1735,196:SOUND
Q2,Q0,Q0,Q0:M=Q0:RETURN
1060 M=Q0:POKE 1735,Q0:SOUND Q2,Q0,Q0,
      Q0:RETURN
     1500 REM
1505 POKE 1707+24+20-TRY,14
1506 POKE 1707+24+20-TRY+1,2
1507 IF TRY=1 THEN POKE 1707+24+10,2
      1508 POSITION Q0,15-TRY:? "|
      1509 FOR A=Q1 TO Q4
1510 RP=Q0:RN=Q0:CX1=Q0:CX2=Q0:CX3=Q0
      1520 IF DISABLE (A) = Q1 THEN NEXT A: GOTO
        1625
LM 1530 IF CODE(A,Q1)=C(Q1) THEN RP=RP+Q1 :CX1=Q1
     1540 IF
:CX2=Q1
                     CODE (A, Q2) = C(Q2) THEN RP=RP+Q1
     1550 IF
                     CODE(A,Q3)=C(Q3) THEN RP=RP+Q1
      :CX3=Q1
     1560 IF CX1=Q0 THEN IF CODE(A,Q1)=C(Q2)
OR CODE(A,Q1)=C(Q3) THEN RN=RN+Q1
1565 IF CX2=Q0 THEN IF CODE(A,Q2)=C(Q1)
US.
     1505 IF CX2=00 THEN IF CODE(A, 02)=C(01)
1 OR CODE(A, 02)=C(03) THEN RN=RN+01
1570 IF CX3=00 THEN IF CODE(A, 03)=C(01)
2 OR CODE(A, 03)=C(02) THEN RN=RN+01
      1580 IF RP=Q0 AND RN=Q0 THEN FLAG(A)=F
      LAG(A)+Q1
      1600 IF FLAG(A)=LVL THEN COUNTER=COUNT
GG 1610 POSITION Q2+(A-Q1)*Q10,15-TRY:? C (Q1);C(Q2);C(Q3);" ";RP;RN;
VE 1615 IF RP=Q3 THEN GOSUB SHUTDOWN
HR 1620 GOSUB TIME:NEXT A
PA 1625 IF COUNTER>Q0 THEN GOSUB LAUNCH
     1630 RETURN
2000 T1=PEEK(20):T2=PEEK(19):T3=PEEK(1
8):SEC=1092.352*T3+T2*4.267+T1/60
2001 SEC=INT(SEC*100)/100:MIN=INT(SEC/
      60):M=M*60:T=INT(SEC):IF T=Q0 THEN 200
     2005 FOR A=Q1 TO Q4:IF FLAG(A)=LVL THE
      N CON(A)=T:FLAG(A)=FLAG(A)+Q1
```

2007 NEXT A:COUNTER=Q0 2010 POKE 1735,68 2020 RETURN ЦΗ 2500 DISABLE (A) = Q1: CON (A) = Q0 POSITION Q1+(A-Q1)*Q10,23:? "DISA 2510 BLED" 2550 TDISABLE=TDISABLE+Q1:IF TDISABLE= 4 THEN POKE 1707+24+20-TRY,2:POP :GOTO NB. CMPLT 2560 RETURN 4000 GRAPHICS Q0:POKE 16,64:POKE 53774 ,64:POKE 710,4:POKE 709,12:POKE 752,Q1 4005 FOR I=Q0 TO Q3:SOUND I,Q0,Q0,Q0:N ĐΥ :10 EXT 4010 POSITION 12,02:? "CONGRATULATIONS 4020 POSITION 12,Q5:? "Mission complet LU 4030 POSITION Q5,Q9:? "You have succes sfully disabled"; 4040 POSITION 11,11:? "the twelve ICBM JТ 4050 POSITION 09,13:? "with ";TTIME-OT IME;" hours remaining"
4060 POSITION 03,20:? "Press START f another Mission 4070 POSITION 02,22:? "Press OPTION if you've had enough"; 4080 IF PEEK (53279) = Q3 THEN NEW : GRAPH 81 ICS Q0:END OU 4090 IF PEEK(53279) (>Q6 THEN 4080 NN 4100 GOSUB 8010:GOSUB 30000:GOSUB 2002 5:GOTO 12 BK 8000 FOR D=Q1 TO 300:NEXT D:POKE 53248 ,Q0:GOSUB 8010:GOTO 8015 EA 8010 GRAPHICS Q0:POKE 16,64:POKE 53774 ,64 8012 POKE 710,00:POKE 752,01:POSITION 15,12:? "Standby...":FOR I=01 TO 200:N YD I:RETURN EXT OE 8015 POKE 559,00 LP 8020 GOSUB 30000:GOSUB 20025:GOTO 12 KB 9000 FOR I=Q1 TO Q8:POSITION Q0,16:?" O": NEXT I 9010 FOR N=21 TO 28:POKE N+DSTART,130: POKE 1707+N,68:POKE 1707+N+24,14:NEXT 9020 POKE 1707+25+24,Q0 9030 POSITION 14,16:? "BIRD'S AWAY!" 9040 POSITION Q8,18:? "The correct cod were: 9050 FOR A=Q1 TO Q4:POSITION Q3+(A-Q1) *Q10,20:? CODE(A,Q1);CODE(A,Q2);CODE(A Q3) : NEXT A 9070 POSITION Q6,22:? "Press START t o try again."; 9210 IF PEEK(53279) <> Q6 THEN GOTO 9210 GP 9210 IF PEEK(53279) (>Q6 THEN GOTO 9210 XK 9215 GOSUB 8010:POKE 559,Q0 LK 9230 GOSUB 30000:GOSUB 20025:GOTO 12 EI 15000 GRAPHICS Q2:POKE 16,64:POKE 5377 4,64:POKE 752,Q1:POKE 712,166:POKE 709,14:POKE 710,166:POKE 708,186 KH 15002 SOUND Q0,Q0,Q0;POKE 53768,Q4:POKE 53761,170:POKE 53764,150:POKE 53763.170 63,170 15005 M=Q1:L=Q0 15010 POSITION Q4,Q2:? #Q6;"launch cod JC 15020 POSITION Q8,Q6:? #Q6;"^^^"
FG 15030 POSITION Q8,Q5:? #Q6;"000"
PP 15050 ON M GOSUB 15100,15120,15140,151 50,15160,15180 15055 GOSUB 15500 15060 IF L>75 THEN L=Q0:M=M+Q1:GOTO 15 RI 050 LK 15065 IF M>Q5 THEN M=Q0 FE 15070 GOTO 15055 KR 15100 ? :? "Can you discover the launc

h code...":? :RETURN 15120 ? :? :? " ...in time?" 1 6 :? :RETURN 15140 ? :? ":? :RETUR By David Schwener K 64 :RETURN 15150 ? :? " For ANALOG Computing":? :RETURN
15160 ? :? " Press START to begin yo ur mission":? :RETURN 15180 ? :? " out":? :RETURN Hurry! Time is running 15200 GOSUB 15500 15250 GOTO 15200 15500 A=INT(RND(0)*999):POSITION Q8,Q5 :? #Q6;A:L=L+Q1 15503 IF LL THEN POKE 711,74:LL=Q0:GOT 15510 15505 POKE 711,154:LL=Q1 15510 IF PEEK(53279)=Q6 THEN POP :SOUN D Q0,Q0,Q0,Q0:SOUND Q1,Q0,Q0,Q0:GOTO 1 6999 15520 IF L>37 THEN POKE 53760,(75-L)+9 0:POKE 53762,(75-L)+91:RETURN 15530 POKE 53760,L+90:POKE 53762,L+91: Z(0)38 RETURN RETURN 16000 RETURN 20000 DIM CODE(Q4,Q3),FLAG(Q4),TIME(Q4),CON(Q4),C(Q3),DISABLE(Q4),DIGIT\$(Q9) 20020 DIGIT\$="1st2nd3rd" 20025 LEVEL=Q0 80 20030 CLOCK=90:LVL=Q3 20100 VALUE=Q0:TIME=1000:CHECK=1500:RE START=20100:SHUTDOWN=2500:LAUNCH=2000: CMPLT=25000:GAMEOVER=9000:ME55AGE=4000 20105 OTIME=Q0:TTIME=Q0 OF 20110 C(Q1)=Q0:C(Q2)=Q0:C(Q3)=Q0:TDISA BLE=Q0 20120 FOR A=Q1 TO Q4:FOR B=Q1 TO Q3:CO DE(A,B)=A*B:NEXT B:NEXT A 20150 FOR A=Q1 TO Q4 20160 FOR B=Q1 TO Q3 pр 20170 CODE(A,B)=INT(RND(Q0)*Q10) 20180 IF CODE(A,Q1)=CODE(A,Q2) OR CODE (A,Q2)=CODE(A,Q3) OR CODE(A,Q1)=CODE(A,Q3) THEN 20170 20190 NEXT B 20200 FLAG(A)=Q0:CON(A)=Q0:DISABLE(A)= F٨ Q0210 NEXT A
20210 POKE 20,Q0:POKE 19,Q0:POKE 18,Q0
20240 POSITION Q1,Q1:? "Enter digit of TAUNCH CODE:";
20280 POSITION Q8,Q3:? "TIME REMAINING CC 1 ME HOURS"; 20290 FOR I=Q5 TO 14:POSITION Q0,I:?" FB "; I+LEVEL*Q4; 20297 NEXT I 20300 RETURN 25000 LEVEL=LEVEL+Q1:IF LEVEL=Q3 THEN GOSUB MESSAGE 25005 A=PEEK(19) 25010 POSITION 12,00:? "CONGRATULATION E"; 25020 POSITION Q0,Q1:? " for the next 4 silos "; 25030 POSITION Q9,Q2:? "press START wh en ready" 25035 FL=00 25040 FOR P=201 TO 250 25042 IF PEEK(53279)=6 THEN FL=1:POSIT VЦ P5 KP ION 6,1:? "

ZP 25043 POSITION 7,2:? "*****Please Stan



dbyxxxxxx 25045 K=PEEK(1717) 25050 SOUND Q0,P,Q10,Q8:SOUND Q1,P+Q1, Q10,Q8:SOUND Q2,P+Q2,Q10,Q8:SOUND Q3,P Q10,Q8:SOUND Q2,P+Q2,Q10,Q8:SOUND Q3,P+Q3,Q10,Q8

OY 25051 POKE 1717,PEEK(1718):POKE 1718,P
EEK(1719):POKE 1719,PEEK(1720):POKE 17
20,PEEK(1721):POKE 1721,PEEK(1722)

JT 25052 POKE 1722,PEEK(1723):POKE 1723,P
EEK(1724):POKE 1724,PEEK(1725):POKE 17
25,PEEK(1726):POKE 1726,K:NEXT P

JH 25053 IF FL(Q1 THEN 25040
FO 25055 FOR P=Q0 TO Q3:SOUND P,Q0,Q0,Q0: NEXT P NEXT P
1 25060 LVL=Q2
YZ 25070 IF LEVEL=Q2 THEN CLOCK=60
YY 25080 POKE 559,Q0
BY 25085 POKE 19,A
TQ 25090 OTIME=36-TTIME+OTIME
TP 25120 ? "K":GOSUB 20110:GOTO 19 BC 27400 POKE 106, PEEK(106) -Q5:START=(PEE K(106)+Q1)*256:POKE 752,Q1 HJ 27402 GRAPHICS 17:POKE 16,64:POKE 5377 4,64

QR 27405 POSITION Q4,Q4:? #Q6;"LOCKING IN TO":POSITION Q5,Q7:? #Q6;"SCRAMBLENG": POSITION Q6,Q9:? #Q6;"GURGUITS"

FO 27406 POSITION Q3,15:? #Q6;"Please sta ndby" 27407 POKE 712,70:POKE 710,156:POKE 70 8,206 27409 DIM M\$(38):RESTORE 27415 27410 FOR I=1 TO 38:READ A:M\$(I,I)=CHR \$(A):NEXT I \$ (A) : NEXT XK 27415 DATA 104,169,0,133,203,133,205,1 69,224,133,206,165,106,24,105,1,133,20 4,160,0,177 GJ 27416 DATA 205,145,203,200,208,249,230 ,204,230,206,165,206,201,228,208,237,9 27420 E=USR(ADR(M\$)):RESTORE 27510 27430 READ X:IF X=-Q1 THEN RESTORE :RE THRN 27440 FOR Y=00 TO Q7:READ Z:POKE X+Y+5 TART,Z:POKE 709,64+Y*Q2:NEXT Y 27450 GOTO 27430 27510 DATA 520,0,0,0,0,0,3,3 27520 DATA 528,3,15,15,63,255,255,255, 27530 DATA 536,192,240,240,252,255,255 ,255,255 27540 DATA 544,0,0,0,0,0,0,192,192 27550 DATA 552,15,63,63,255,85,85,85,8 27560 DATA 560,255,255,255,255,85,85,8 5,85 27570 DATA 568,255,255,255,255,85,85,8 MR 5,85 27580 DATA 576,240,252,252,255,85,85,8 5,85 27590 DATA 584,85,85,85,85,85,85,85,85 27600 DATA 592,89,89,89,89,90,85,90,89 27610 DATA 600,101,101,101,101,165,85, 165,85 27640 DATA 608,90,85,90,85,90,89,90,89 27650 DATA 616,165,101,165,85,165,101, 165,101 27700 DATA 624,89,85,85,105,105,105,10 5,105 27710 DATA 632,101,85,85,125,125,125,1 ΖP 25,125 27720 DATA 640,105,105,105,105,105,85, 85,85 27730 DATA 648,125,125,125,125,125,85, 85,85 65 27750 DATA 656,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,3 DY 27760 DATA 664,3,3,15,15,63,63,255,255 DC 27770 DATA 672,192,192,240,240,252,252

,255,255 CQ 27780 DATA 680,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,192 HC 27790 DATA -1 HI 27999 REM <u>ROCKET DRAWING</u> US 28000 FOR I=Q1 TO Q4 SC 28010 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,16:? CHR\$ (2); CHR\$ (3) GZ 28020 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,17:? CHR\$ (6); CHR\$ (7) 28030 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,18:? CHR\$ (10); CHR\$ (11) XII 28040 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,19:? CHR\$ (12); CHR\$ (13) 28050 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,20:? CHR\$ (14); CHR\$ (15) 28060 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,21:? CHR\$ (16); CHR\$ (17) 28070 POSITION Q4+(I-Q1)*Q10,22:? CHR\$ (19); CHR\$ (20) 28080 NEXT I 28090 RETURN 30000 RESTORE 30170:FOR N=Q0 TO 99:REA 5Z D X:POKE 1664+N,X:NEXT N

JB 30005 GRAPHICS Q0:POKE 16,64:POKE 5377

4,64:POKE 756,5TART/256:POKE 559,Q0

XV 30010 COLTAB=1712:LUMTAB=COLTAB+24 30014 X=USR(1693) 30030 POKE 512,128 30040 POKE 513,06 30060 DSTART=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561) 7/1 30070 FOR N=DSTART+6 TO DSTART+20 30080 POKE N,130 30090 NEXT N 30092 FOR N=DSTART+21 TO DSTART+27:POK TG 15 E N,132:NEXT N
KG 30095 POKE DSTART+28,130
JU 30100 POKE DSTART+Q3,194 RG 30120 POKE 54286,192 HQ 30125 ? "K" 30140 POKE 710, PEEK (COLTAB) 30150 POKE 709, PEEK (LUMTAB) EA 30160 RETURN 30170 DATA 72,138,72,174,156,6,189,176 ,6,141 30180 DATA 10,212,141,24,208,189,200,6 0.0,141,23 30190 DATA 208,238,156,6,104,170,104,6 RB 4,1,104 SW 30200 DATA 169,7,160,168,162,6,32,92,2 28,96 UX 30210 DATA 169,1,141,156,6,76,98,228,1 00,100 AQ 30220 DATA 100,166,0,56,72,88,104,120, 136,152 SN 30230 DATA 168,184,200,0,148,148,148,1 48,148,148 RY 30240 DATA 148,196,14,14,14,2,12,2,2,2 RX 30250 DATA 2,2,2,2,2,2,58,68,68 NG 30260 DATA 68,68,68,68,68,14,0,0,0,0



Bits & Pieces

A hardware utility series

by Lee S. Brilliant, M.D.

If imitation is the highest form of flattery, then Jonathan Buckheit should be very flattered. "Who?" you ask. Well, go back to **ANALOG Computing**'s issue 31, June 1985. You'll see he authored the article **Atari Clock**.

I found this one of the most imaginative programs I'd seen in a long time; it was original, novel, useful, simple, elegant and just about the same as a program I'd written, **Atari Time**. In fact, about the only difference is that **Atari Clock** forgets the time when the power's off; **Atari Time** won't forget!...and it also knows the date and day of the week.

C'mon now, how can the computer remember anything once the power's off? If you haven't guessed yet, it involves the joystick ports. If you did guess, then go to the head of the class!

Atari Time started while I browsed through a local electronics shop, where I saw a clock chip for only \$15—and it was a 4-bit clock chip. "So what!" you say? Well, that's 4 bits for addresses and 4 bits for data; 4+4=8. Perfect: it fits into two joystick ports. Now, if you were wondering what you could do with all the trivia of the last three Bits & Pieces articles, this is for you!

The heart of the matter.

Atari Time uses an MSM5832 clock chip manufactured by Oki Semiconductor and sold by several sources (see parts list). If you remember from the first in this series, we said that computers have

address and data buses. This chip is like a 16-byte memory on a 4-bit address and a 4-bit data bus.

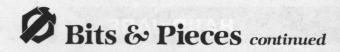
We'll use joystick plug 1 for the data bus and 2 for the addresses. The set-up will be almost exactly the same as the simultaneous I/O experiment we rigged up in the last **Bits & Pieces** (issue 44). Instead of LEDs and wire jumpers, we'll output an address through plug 2, then read the data from that address through plug 1.

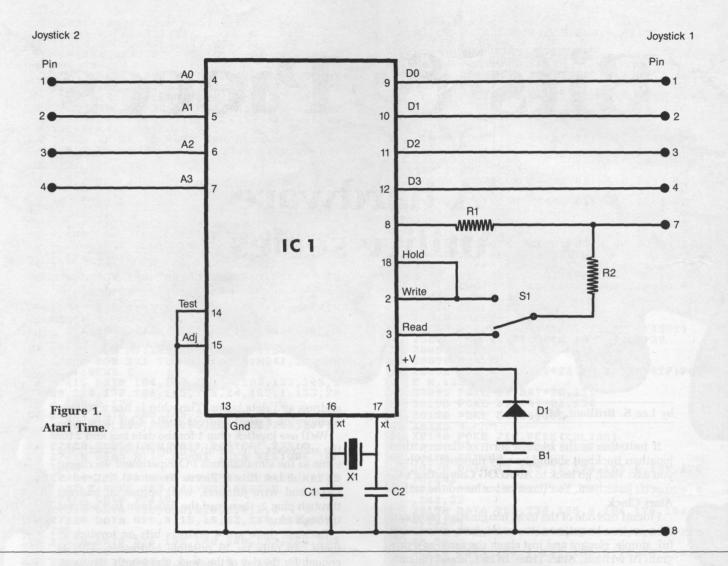
Because there are 4 address bits on joystick 2, there can only be 16 possible addresses. This is enough for the day of the week, the month, day, year, hours, minutes and seconds. Joystick 1 also has only 4 bits, so each address or register must store a number between 0 and 15. Each part of the time must be stored in low/high bytes in decimal form.

So, if the clock time is 24 seconds, then address 0 contains the number 4, and address 1 contains the number 2. Counting all the registers in Table 1, you'll see that you only need thirteen, so we only need addresses 0 to 12. The rest are nonfunctional. The addresses hold data according to Table 1.

The clock keeps time with a crystal that oscillates at 32,768 cycles a second. Dividing this base frequency by 2 fifteen times yields pulses once a second. This pulse drives the seconds register, while the other registers trip when the lower ones overflow.

Reading the clock isn't too difficult. You start with the first register's address, send it out over the four joystick pins connected to the address bus, then read the contents of that register on the data bus connected to the other joystick pins. Simple, right?





ADDRESS	FUNCTION
0	SECONDS LO
1	SECONDS HI
2	MINUTES LO
3	MINUTES HI
4	HOURS LO
5	
	BIT 3:0=12 HOUR 1=24 HOUR
6	DAY OF WEEK
7	DAY LO
8	DAY HI BIT 2: 0=LEAP YEAR
	1=NORMAL
9	MONTH LO
10	MONTH HI
11	YEARS LO
12	YEARS HI
13	NONE
14	NONE
15	NONE

Table 1. — Registers.

The other pins on the chip have functions, too.

Write: A 1 on this pin allows you to send time data to the registers, to set the proper time.

Read: A 1 here allows you to read the registers. Chip Select (CS): A 1 here enables all the functions of the clock. A 0 disables everything, but the clock internally keeps time.

Hold: A 1 here stops the clock from counting. This must be 1 to write the time to the registers.

The rest don't concern us here.

You can build **Atari Time** on the breadboard from the last **Bits & Pieces**, or use the printed circuit shown in Figure 2.

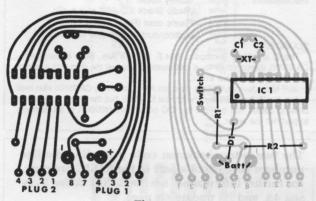


Figure 2.

Solder two joystick cables to the pads on the edge as labeled, and connect to two 9-pin "D" plugs. Although the parts list calls for solder-type plugs, I use solderless IDC plugs. They're more expensive and harder to find (you might have to order them by mail, or go to a computer parts store), but they're easier to use and don't require a hood or any modifications to fit into the joystick ports.

If you use the solder-type plugs, you'll need to break off the tabs on the hoods and use small flathead screws to join the hoods to the plugs. If you use manufactured joystick cables, be sure of your color codes for each cable, because the colors used for each pin may differ.



Figure 3.
Photo of completed *Atari Time* unit.

House the circuit board and batteries in a plastic case large enough to hold them. Note that, even though there's no direct connection between the IC's + voltage and the computer power, no current is drawn from the batteries when the computer's on. In fact, the diode, D1, is needed to keep power from flowing from the computer into the batteries. Using a good quality alkaline battery should allow a year's continuous operation.

Got the time?

Using Atari Time isn't very complicated; there are three programs. Listing 1 is in BASIC and lets you set your Atari Time. Type it in and save it to disk, then plug in Atari Time. Now run it.

You'll be prompted to input the time, date, and so forth, but not seconds—writing anything to the seconds registers only sets them to 0.

When prompted, open the clock case and move the SET/RUN switch to SET, then press RETURN. As soon as the screen says the time is set, move the switch to RUN; otherwise, the clock won't start keeping time.

The addressing in BASIC may seem a little complex, because the time data must stay stable while the address changes. Changing the address and the time data at the same time causes new data to be written to the old address, since the clock is slower than the computer.

Listing 2 is simply a BASIC demo program to show how the clock works. Note that the addresses are multiplied by 16, to give the correct bit values for joystick 2.

For example, if the address is 9, you multiply by 16 to give 144. Again, this is like the experiment in issue 44. Remember, the pins are viewed in the reverse of the order that binary numbers are written.

PLUG 2	PLUG 1
0000	1 0 0 1 = 9 0 0 0 0 = 144 × 16
1 0 0 1	0 0 0 0 - 144 × 16

This is similar to calculating low-byte/high-byte addresses, except you multiply by 16 instead of 256.

Listing 3 is a BASIC loader for a machine language program that works like the **Atari Clock** mentioned earlier. The initialization routine sets up joystick ports and alters the display list, to create an extra screen line in graphics 0.

The program reads and displays the time during the vertical blank interval (VBI), and is both auto-loading and reset-proof. It also uses a display list interrupt (DLI) to keep the display set to the border color, regardless of how you change color registers. Without this, you could cause the display to disappear, if you set COLOR1 and COLOR2 to the same value.

If you use a 400 or 800, there'll be a flicker whenever keys are pressed. My 800XL doesn't have this problem. If you want to get rid of it, delete the DLI routine in the assembly listing and reassemble as AUTORUN.SYS.

Atari Time loads and runs in memory above the DOS buffers. If you increase the number of default buffers (or use a different DOS), you'll need to reassemble to a different starting address. The source code is included.

You'll notice there's a loop called DELAY, which seems to have no function. This loop compensates for the 8 microseconds it takes the clock to stabilize data outputs.



This is necessary because the CMOS circuits in the 5832 chip are very slow—but use very little power.

Your computer uses TTL circuits. While they're fast, they consume a lot of power. I measured the actual power consumed in standby mode at 12 microamperes, as opposed to the approximately 1,500,000 microamperes eat-

en up by a typical 800XL.

The rest of Listing 3 acquires time data and converts it to the Internal Code needed by the ANTIC display hardware, then formats it in the display buffer. Note that two registers also contain data for 12/24-hour display, AM/PM and leap year. These must be handled before the time is displayed.

If you want to write your own program to read time from the clock-perhaps to put time stamps onto disk filesyou need to be aware of a minor potential problem. Let's say it's 10:59:59 when you start reading the time.

You have read the the hour, but, before you can read the next register, the seconds increment—the rest of the registers now contain 0. Thus, while the actual time is 11:00:00, you've read 10:00:00!

To avoid this, you can either add some circuitry, or simply loop until you detect the seconds register increment, then read the time.

Now you know: lighting little LEDs isn't all the joystick ports are good for. There are many useful devices which

can be interfaced through joystick ports.

I like making little gadgets and writing short, cute programs; I don't like writing DOS patches. But the most immediately useful application I can think of for Atari Clock is a DOS which records the time and date whenever a program or file is written to disk. Someone out there, please write a program to do this.

Another practical use would be for the security system considered in our last segment, to turn lights or radios on and off at specific times. A BBS would find this clock useful to keep accurate time, or to power-up knowing the time.

You can read the hardware clock and use it to set the Atari's internal real-time clock. That way it would come up smart-knowing the correct time and date. This could be a real blessing if you live in an area subject to power

In our next installment, we'll consider a few more aspects of the joystick ports, including optical sensors, light pens and timer programs. Until then, keep tinkering. And please write. If you have any great applications or any topics you'd like to see discussed, please let me know.

An obstetrician-gynecologist by day, Lee Brilliant, M.D. turns into a bug-eyed computer monster by night. He started on computers in August 1983 with TI 99/4A and rapidly graduated to Atari. He's programmed Apple, TI, Commodore and IBM, but prefers his old 800. His favorite pastime is tearing computers apart to see how they tick. Of course, he uses a scalpel!

	PARTS LIST
B1	Size AA alkaline batteries
C1,C2	20 picofarad capacitors
D1	Any small signal diode (Radio Shack 276-1122)
IC1	MSM5832 clock chip (see sources below)
P1,P2	9-pin female "D" plugs with hoods (Radio Shack 276-1538 & 276-1539; see text)
R1,R2	100K ohm 1/4-watt resistors
S1	
X1	32.768 kiloHertz crystal (see sources below)
Miscellaneous	Battery holder (Radio Shack 270-383) plus a clip
	Plastic case (Radio Shack 270-230)
	Multiconductor cable (like ribbon cable)
SOURCES	

The IC is sold by Teknopak, 1534 E. Edinger Ave., Suite 8, Santa Ana, CA 92705, through their local distributors. They sell the chip with a microsized crystal for about \$15.00.

JDR Microdevices, 1224 S. Bascom Ave., San Jose, CA 95128 also mail orders the IC for \$3.95 and the crystal for \$1.95, but they have a minimum order of \$10.00 You can get the IDC plugs here (#IDB9S at \$3.25 each) to pad out the order.

The two-letter checksum code preceding the line numbers here is not a part of the BASIC program. For further information, see the BASIC Editor II, issue 45, and its update on page 9.

Listing 1. BASIC listing.

ac	10 OPEN #1,4,0,"K:":? "K"
619	20 TRAP 1000
IT	30 T=54016
UD	40 DIM DAY\$(2), AP\$(2)
D.H	50 DATA SU.MO.TU.WE.TH.FR.SA
5.0	100 ? " *** CLOCK SETTING ***"
QL.	110 POSITION 2.3:? "ENTER YEAR (last 2
	digits only) 4444"::INPUT YR
ИF	11E TE UDIGG THEM 110
80	120 POSITION 2.5:? "ENTER MONTH:
	44"::INPUT MO
LS	125 IF MO>12 THEN 120
81	130 POSITION 2,7:? "ENTER DAY: 1111
	"::INPUT DAY
80	175 TE NAVATI THEM 170
0.1	148 POSITION 2.9:? "WHICH FORMAT:
	1) 12 HOUR";? ")) 2) 24 HOUR";
11.1	140 POSITION 2,9:? "WHICH FORMAT: 1) 12 HOUR":? ">> 2) 24 HOUR"; 150 GET #1,AMPM:IF AMPM<49 OR AMPM>50
	THEN 170
XI.	160 AMPM=AMPM-49
630	170 POSITION 2,12:? "ENTER HOUR: 44
	44" · · TNDIIT HD
YM	171 IF HR>AMPM*12+12 THEN 170
CT	172 IF AMPM=1 THEN 180
U R	174 ? "CHOOSE 1) AM OR 2) PM:";
FN	175 GET #1, AP: IF AP(49 OR AP) 50 THEN 1
	75
277	176 AP=AP-49:IF AP=0 THEN AP\$="AM"
	177 IF AP=1 THEN AP\$="PM"
M5	180 POSITION 2.15:? "ENTER MINUTES:
	((("::INPUT MIN
YG	185 IF MIN>59 THEN 180
0.0	190 POSITION 2,17:? "CHOOSE THE DAY OF
	THE WEEK!"
PΒ	195 ? " 1, 5U 2, MO 3, TU 4,

	WE":? " 5. TH 6. FR 7."
PJ	200 GET #1, W: IF W(49 OR W) 55 THEN 200
UE	210 W=W-49
YQ	220 POSITION 2,21:? "IS THIS A LEAP YE
	AR (Y/N)";
ZN	230 GET #1,LY 240 IF LY=78 THEN LY=0:GOTO 270
PU	240 IF LY=78 THEN LY=0:GOTO 270 250 IF LY=89 THEN LY=1:GOTO 270
NK	260 GOTO 230
RO	265 REM
GM	266 REM CONVERT INPUTS TO BINARY CODED
	DECIMAL
RU	267 REM
AT	270 TRAP 40000:HRH=INT(HR/10):HRL=HR-1
	0*HRH:MINH=INT(MIN/10):MINL=MIN-10*MIN H:SECH=INT(SEC/10):SECL=SEC-10*SECH
CR	280 YRH=INT(YR/10):YRL=YR-10*YRH:MOH=I
W.R.	NT(MO/10):MOL=MO-10*MOH:DAYH=INT(DAY/1
	0):DAYL=DAY-10*DAYH
MM	300 ? "K": RESTORE 50: POKE 182, W: READ D
	AY\$
TB	310 ? DAY\$;" "; MOH; MOL; "/"; DAYH; DAYL;"
	/"; YRH; YRL:? :? "TIME (HR:MIN: SEC)":? :
8457	? HRH;HRL;":";MINH;MINL;":";SECH;SECL; 320 IF AMPM=0 THEN ? " ";AP\$
ME BY	320 IF AMPM=0 THEN ? " ";AP\$ 330 ? !? !? "IS THIS CORRECT? (Y/N)";
GR	340 GET #1,K
HN	750 TE V-78 THEN DIIN
ШR	360 IF K=89 THEN 380
OI	370 GOTO 340
GH	380 P=PEEK (54018) : POKE 54018, P-4:POKE
	54016,255:POKE 54018,P
EF	400 HRH=HRH+4*AP+8*AMPM:DAYH=DAYH+4*LY
YR	410 ? "KIT":? "SWITCH CLOCK TO THE STATE T MODE THEN":? "PRESS ANY KEY TO WRITE
	THE TIME TO":? "THE CLOCK."
MO	420 POKE 764,255
ΕĀ	430 IF PEEK(764)=255 THEN 430
HY	435 REM ********************

UR	436 REM THIS PART ACTUALLY SETS THE TI
ΙE	ME 437 REM ***********************************
TL	***
BN	440 POKE T,192+YRH:POKE T,176+YRH
CV	450 POKE T,176+YRL:POKE T,160+YRL
5H	460 POKE T,160+MOH:POKE T,144+MOH
DR	470 POKE T,144+MOL:POKE T,128+MOL
JL	ARR DOVE T 128+DAVH DOVE T 112+DAVH
JM	490 POKE T,112+DAYL:POKE T,96+DAYL
NN KZ	500 POKE T,96+W:POKE T,80+W 510 POKE T.80+HRH:POKE T.64+HRH
VR	510 POKE T,80+HRH:POKE T,64+HRH 520 POKE T,64+HRL:POKE T,48+HRL
FΚ	530 POKE T,48+MINH:POKE T,32+MINH
MC	540 POKE T.32+MINL:POKE T.16+MINL
5F	550 POKE T,16:POKE T,0
XC	600 ? :? :? "MIRESET CLOCK TO READ AND
	YOU ARE":? "DONE."
PR	999 END
FG	1000 L=PEEK(186)+256*PEEK(187):TRAP 10 00:GOTO L
	00.4010 L

Listing 2. BASIC listing.

	10 T=54016:TC=54018
KX	20 P=PEEK(TC):POKE TC,P-4:POKE T,240:P
	OKE TC,P
I5	30 DIM DAY\$(10),AP\$(2)
OG	40 POKE 752,1:RESTORE 50
SH	50 DATA SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDA
	Y, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY
MU	90 ? "K":? " ***** THE CORRECT TIME I
	S *****
PB	100 POKE T,96:W=PEEK(T)-96:POKE T,112:
	DLO=PEEK(T)-112:POKE T,128:DHI=PEEK(T)

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65 XE	
1050 Disk Drive	
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KX-P3151 L.Q. Daisy, 136 col	THOMPSON Amber W/Audio 90
KX-P110 Ribbon, Blk	
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FX-85 (80 col)	
FX-286 200 cps (135 col)	
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SG-10 (80 col)	
SG-15 (135 col)	time claret mouth but, the program
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VOLKSMODEM 1200 189	Die Labela 1 7/16,4" White per EOO E
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CABLES - We've Got 'Em	
U CALL (For Hayes, etc.)	Pastels (5 colors). 50 sheets of ea
U PRINT A	
U PRINT A-64 with 64K Buffer CALL	
APE FACE XLP	Matching Envelopes, 20 of each
SUPRA/MPP MICROPRINT	ALL 13 colors, 50 sheets of each
SUPRA/MPP MICROSTUFFER (64K Buffer) 69	Matching Envelopes. 20 of each 14
SUPRA/MPP 1150	(Deduct 10% for 100/color paper packs)

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	(80 col) (80 col)				ST-				
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-128:POKE T,144:MOL=PEEK(T)-144 110 POKE T,160:MOH=PEEK(T)-160:POKE T, 176:YL0=PEEK(T)-176:POKE T,192:YHI=PEE K (T) K(T)-192
120 POKE T,80:HHI=PEEK(T)-80:POKE T,64
:HLO=PEEK(T)-64:POKE T,48:MHI=PEEK(T)48:POKE T,32:MLO=PEEK(T)-32
130 POKE T,80:HHI=PEEK(T)-80:AMPM=(HHI
)7):HHI=HHI-8*AMPM:AP=(HHI)3):HHI=HHI4*AP:AP\$="":POKE 182,W:READ DAY\$
140 POKE T,16:SHI=PEEK(T)-16:POKE T,0:
5LO=PEEK(T) YH 13.53 150 IF AMPM=0 AND AP=1 THEN AP\$="PM"
170 POSITION 4,3:? DAY\$;" ";MOH;MOL;"
/";DHI;DLO;"/";YHI;YLO;" ";
180 ? HHI;HLO;":";MHI;MLO;":";SHI;SLO;
" ";AP\$;" " 55 MII 200 GOTO 100

Listing 3. **BASIC** listing

XM XS KSUM DATA": STOP
150 ? "MINSERT FORMATTED DOS DISK. ANY
FILE": "NAMED AUTORUN.SYS WILL BE OV 77 3 150 ERWRITTEN" ERWRITTEN"
160 ? :? "PRESS RETURN TO WRITE FILE:B
REAK TO":? "ABORT":POKE 764,255
170 IF PEEK(764) <> 12 THEN 170
180 POKE 764,255:OPEN #1,8,0,"D:AUTORU
N.SYS":? #1;BUFF\$(1,483):CLOSE #1:END
1808 DATA 255,255,252,28,289,29,173,48
,2,281,172,288,7,173,49,2,281,29,249,3 8 5 0 8 2527 1010 DATA 32,241,29,216,160,4,162,6,32,123,29,133,203,10,24,101,203,170,189,180,2247 ΩB 180,2247 1020 DATA 29,153,201,29,232,200,192,7, 208,244,200,200,162,10,32,159,29,169,1 5,133,2604 1030 DATA 204,153,201,29,200,162,8,32, 123,29,41,3,32,162,29,162,12,32,153,29 EC 1040 DATA 200,200,169,26,133,204,162,5
,32,123,29,133,203,41,3,32,162,29,32,1
53,2071
LM 1050 DATA 29,32,153,29,200,200,165,203
,41,8,208,18,169,17,166,203,224,4,208,
2,2279 EH 1060 DATA 169,32,32,140,29,169,29,32,1 40,29,76,98,228,138,10,10,10,10,141,0, 1522 1070 DATA 211,32,149,29,173,0,211,41,1 5,96,202,24,105,16,153,201,29,200,96,2 34,2217 0.5 1080 DATA 234,234,96,165,204,153,201,2 9,200,32,123,29,32,140,29,32,123,29,32 ,140,2257 1090 DATA 29,96,112,240,66,201,29,129, 1090 DATA 29,96,112,240,66,201,29,129, 0,0,51,53,46,45,47,46,52,53,37,55,1387 1100 DATA 37,36,52,40,53,38,50,41,51,3 3,52,241,29,246,30,173,48,2,24,105,138

OC 1110 DATA 3,141,178,29,133,203,173,49, 2,105,0,141,179,29,133,204,169,172,141 ,48,2232 1120 DATA 2,169,29,141,49,2,160,0,177, 203,200,192,0,240,13,201,65,208,245,16 9,2465 TT 1130 DATA 172,145,203,200,169,29,145,2 03,169,54,141,0,2,169,30,141,1,2,169,1 92,2336 1140 DATA 141,14,212,96,72,169,78,141, 0,2,169,30,141,1,2,173,200,2,141,24,18 GI 1150 DATA 208,169,10,141,23,208,104,64 ,72,169,54,141,0,2,169,30,141,1,2,173, 1881 MN 1160 DATA 198,2,141,24,208,173,197,2,1 41,23,208,104,64,162,0,138,157,201,29, 232,2404
HR 1170 DATA 224,40,208,248,173,2,211,72, 41,251,141,2,211,169,240,141,0,211,104,141,2830
EF 1180 DATA 2,211,160,252,162,28,169,7,3 2,92,228,96,0,0,32,103,30,32,147,30,18 BB 1190 DATA 169,205,141,231,2,169,30,141,232,2,96,173,142,30,133,10,173,143,30 XM 1200 DATA 11,173,148,30,133,12,173,149

Listing 4. Assembly listing.

```
SYSTEM EQUATES
INTRAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             $02E2
$D300
$B302
$E45C
$E462
$CB
$CC
$02230
$02E7
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             SOA
SO2C5
SO2C6
SO2C8
SD017
SD018
SOA
SO2OO
SD4OE
SICC ; CHANSE IF
NUN-STANDARD DOS
                      BEGIN VBI ROUTINE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         ASSEMBLE
LDA DLIST
CMP #DLDATA4255 ;BECAUSE OF
SRAPHICS CALL
BNE WRNSD ; IF YES THEN
CHANGE DL
C
     VBI
     1
     WRNSDL
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People 520 ST	١
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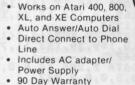
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DAYLOOP	STA BUFF. Y	X PRINT DAY		LDA #192 STA NMIEN ; ENABLE DLI'S
	INX INY CPY #7	ALL 3 LETTERS?	DLI1	RTS
	BNE DAYLODE	F ; IF NO, REPEAT		LDA &DLI28255 +CHANGE DLI VEC
	INY INY LDX #10	MONTH		STA VDSLST LDA #DLI2/256 STA VDSLST+1
	JSR GETX2 LDA #15	1"/"		STA COLPF2
	STA SEP STA BUFF, Y			STA COLPF1
	INY LDX #8	, DAY	DLIZ	PLA RTI PHA
	JSR GETIT AND #3 JSR PUTX2	MASK LEAP YR BIT	DETE	LDA #DLI1&255 ; RESET DLI VEC
	LDX #12 JSR SEPX2	, YEAR		LDA #DLI1/256 STA VDSLST+1
	INY INY LDA #26			LDA COLORZ IRESET SCRN CLRS
		1"1"		STA COLPF2 LDA COLOR1 STA COLPF1
	LDX #5 JBR GETIT	HOURS		PLA
	STA TEMP	MASK HOUR	1	
1	JSR PUTX2	MASK HOUR	INITIAL	IZE PORTS
	JSR SEPX2 JSR SEPX2	MINUTES SECONDS	INIT	LDX #0
	INY		CLRLOOP	STA BUFF. X . CLR SCRN BUFF
	LDA TEMP	; 24HOUR CLOCK?		INX CPX #40
	BNE END	LOAD "A"		BNE CLRLOOP
	LDX TEMP	IAM?		AND #255-4 SET DATA CTL
	LDA #32	;AM? ;YES ;IF NO, LOAD "P" ;PRINT IT		PHA STATE OF THE S
NEXT	JSR PUTIT			
END	JER PUTIT	PRINT IT		PLA STA PACTL RESTORE CTL REG LDY #VBI&255 RET UP FOR
CLOCK 8	UBROUTINES			LDX WVBI/256 ; VBI INIT
BETIT	TXA	SET REGISTER ADR		JSR SETVBV ; SET VBI
	ASL A ASL A	JAUTTELY BY 10	MEMORY	AND DOS MANAGER
	ASL A STA PORTA	CALL REGISTER		THE POST PHANTOCK
east blood	JER DELAY	WAIT FOR	TEMPDOS RESET	.WORD O JER INIT , INCLUDE IN
no alcas	LDA PORTA	MASK ADDRESS	BOOTDOS	JSR BOOTDOS RESET CHAIN
PUTIT	RTS		la ballqu	STA MEMLO LDA NEWMEM/256
- Doubling	CLC	NEXT REGISTER		RTS
	ADC #16 STA BUFF, Y	CONVERT TO ICODE PUT IN SCRN BUF NEXT COLUMN	XITDOS	LDA TEMPDOS RESTORE DOS
4314	INY			LDA TEMPDOS+1 STA DOSVEC+1 LDA BOOTDOS+1
DELAY	NOP NOP NOP	,8 USEC.		STA DOSINI
SEPX2	RTS	12 DIGITS		LDA BOOTDOS+2 STA DOSINI+1 LDY XITVBV+1 RESET STOCK VBI
451	STA BUFF, Y	PUT TO SCREEN NEXT COLUMN GET 2 AND PUT 2 GET 1 AND PUT 2		LDX XITVBV+2 LDA #7
GETX2 PUTX2	JER SETIT	SET 2 AND PUT 2		JSR SETVBV LDA #ASSEMBLE&255
GETX1	JSR PUTIT JSR GETIT JSR PUTIT	IGET I AND PUT I		STA MEMLO REBET LOMEN LDA #ASSEMBLE/256
DLDATA	RTS BYTE 112,	240,66 IDL DATA		STA MEMLO+1 JMP (DOSVEC)
00.25	. BYTE 129	JUMP WITH DLI	NEWMEN	
DTABLE		-/.45%7%#4"		RT ROUTINE
BUFF	.BYTE " (5%2	SCREEN BUFFER	PWRUP	LDA DOSINI ; CHANGE DOS VEC STA BOOTDOS+1 ; TO SET UP RESET CHAIN
INTTIAL	IZATION ROUT	THE AND LINES	PP DB OTRUB	LDA DOSINI+1 THIS SECTION SELF DELETES
	TZATION NOO	Theo inclinated in	Commission of the	STA BOOTDOS+2 LDA #RESET&255
PLCHNE	LDA DLIST	CHANGE DISPLAY		STA DOSINI LDA @RESET/256
	ADC #3	na tone, and		STA DOSINI+1 JSR INIT
	STA TEMP	tage of a symmetry gift		LDA DOSVEC STA TEMPDOS
	STA OI DDI 41			LDA DOSVEC+1 STA TEMPDOS+1
	STA TEMP+1	0.255 POINT TO NEW DISPLAY LIST		LDA #XITDOS&255 STA DOSVEC
Prince of the Pr	STA DLIST	DISPLAY LIST		STA DOSVEC LDA #XITDOS/256 STA DOSVEC+1
				JMP ADJMEM
NEXTDL	LDA (TEMP),	TO NEW DLI		. WORD PWRUP
	BEQ DLIBET			bles, itselects seel on the Sid of
	BNE NEXTDL	ha bosic moves.	•	
FIXJMP	BTA (TEMP)	Y		
	LDA #DLDATA	/256		
1	STA (TEMP),	was to being neward.		



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by David N. Plotkin

Page Designer (PD) is a versatile new package for your Atari from XLent Software. With it, you can design pages for use as signs, ads, or anything else requiring a custom layout. High-resolution graphics and multiple typefaces are simple to incorporate, giving a great deal of creative freedom.

When you first boot up PD, you're presented with a main menu. The first choice is to run the PD package itself. When you do so, you see a screen which is blank, except for some status notes on the first line. Through various combinations of the CNTRL and letter keys, you may: load a graphics 7.5 or 8 picture from disk; place text on the screen in either 40 or 80 columns; load one of the fifteen alternate character sets; clear the screen; switch into graphics mode; or switch between the top and bottom half of the page.

The last option, toggling between the top and bottom half of the page, is necessary because you can only see half the page you're designing on the screen at any time.

This increases the resolution of the page, enabling you to do some very fine detail work. You may load a picture to either half of the page. Once it's loaded, you can overlay it with text. Putting text onscreen before loading a picture doesn't work, as the picture will erase the text when it is loaded.

Pictures to be loaded must be in uncompacted form, thus screens generated with the Koala Pad won't work directly. How-

ever, a choice on the main menu is the one to uncompact your **Koala Pad** file, so that it can be used with **PD**.

PD supports both a 40-column and an 80-column text mode. In the 40-column mode, you can use one of the supplied alternate character sets, or create your own from the multitude of commercial packages. The supplied character sets include such goodies as Serif, Archaic, Adventure, Script and Stylish.

Also included is an alternate "borders" character set. This consists of fifty-two designs which can be useful in making up borders (among other things).

The graphics mode is a sketchpad, which can be used to generate simple designs or to modify pictures loaded from disk. It doesn't incorporate many fancy options, but does support the basics, such as point plotting, line drawing, and some automatic shape generation.

It's handy to have and very easy to use. The cursor is controlled by your joystick, and moving the cursor up to the top line of the screen enables you to select a different option. The sphere-drawing routine is especially evecatching.

Once you've completed your design, you may save it to disk and, of course, print it out. **PD** supports a multitude of printers, including the Epson and Epson compatibles. It works well on the Star printers, as well as on HP Thinkiet.

PD comes with a manual, which is, unfortunately, the weakest part of the package. The names of the fonts included on the disk aren't given anywhere, nor are print samples of the different fonts shown.

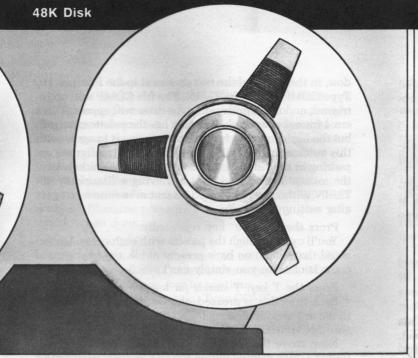
The characters which make up the borders set are also not shown, making selection of the appropriate design a rather hit-or-miss affair. The manual could use some improvement in these respects.

All in all, **PD** is a well written and useful package. Comparisons to Broderbund's **Print Shop** are inevitable.

While not as much of a "cookbook" as **Print Shop**, **PD** offers more freedom in page layout. Further, for those who, like this reviewer, aren't artists, XLent offers four disks of graphics by Jennifer Brabson, whose considerable talent can be seen in XLent's advertisements. At \$10.00 each, these disks considerably enhance **PD**'s usefulness.

I recommend XLent Software's Page Designer for those whose creativity is crying to get out.

David Plotkin, with his Master's degree in Chemical Engineering, is a Project Engineer for Chevron U.S.A. He purchased his Atari in 1980 and is interested in programming and game design, as well as word processing.



Machine

Let your computer do the work in creating bit-mapped animation

by Stephen Alpert

Originally, I called this program Datamaker. It was supposed to be a bare-bones effort, not very pretty or fancy, but the thing got bigger and fatter. I kept adding "attachments," as if it were a vacuum cleaner or a food processor. So, finally, I rechristened it La Machine and sent it to ANALOG Computing.

The program was written to help me with the enormous amount of work required in creating bit-mapped animated figures. Consider the figures in La Machine; they're 4 bytes wide by 30 scan lines high, totaling 120 bytes per frame. Assuming we animate this figure over 4 cyclical frames, the amount of data to be handled is 4x120=480 bytes. But the problem blooms when you attempt horizontal motion of the figure.

The reason for this is somewhat complicated. Even in graphics mode 71/2, the distance on the screen between 2 adjacent bytes is noticeable. Let's say a figure's on-screen, for instance, at hex location \$8000, and we wish to move it to the right. We could erase the figure at \$8000 and redraw it at \$8001, then continue across the screen in this manner. The figure will appear to have moved.

The problem is that the motion will appear too crude and jerky-1-byte movement is too coarse! How can you move less than 1 byte? The answer is, you can't. You must make the figure appear to have moved less than 1 byte.

The basic moves.

This is accomplished by shifting the figure's data 2 bits to the right and drawing it at the same screen location. The figure will appear to have moved right 1 pixel. Do this two more times, for a total of 6 bits shifted, before

restoring the original data and putting the figure at \$8001. You'll get the smoothest possible motion.

The bad news is that these shifts alter the data, and it has to be painstakingly calculated by hand (use a pencil). The point: the numbers involved are growing.

We now have $120 \text{ bytes} \times 4$ (counting three shifts of data) x 4 frames = 1920 bytes of data to animate and move a figure on-screen. That's just for one figure! Think of the torture involved if you're using graph paper to draw the figures before converting the data into binary then hexadecimal, and later doing shift calculations. Also, this way, the figures never come out too well the first time.

Enter La Machine.

The video game I'm writing is packed with little figures like these. So I plug in La Machine, and it really manhandles the little guys—swallows 'em up and spits out the numbers!

The program allows easy creation of shapes in four colors. It animates them, sends the data to printer or screen, calculates three shifts if desired, and stores and retrieves to and from the disk (sorry, no cassettes).

If you didn't understand all the stuff you just read, stick around anyway; you'll get a vast savings in toil and moil. Let your computer do some work once in a while. It's good for its circuits.

Listing 1 is the BASIC data used to create your copy of La Machine. Refer to M/L Editor on page 7 for typing instructions. You should create the file under the name AU-TORUN.SYS.

Listing 2 should also be typed using M/L Editor. Create this file under the name COMP. The data file this listing produces must be on the same disk as the file created from Listing 1.

The La Machine continued

La Machine is written entirely in machine language, so there are a heckofalotta¹ data statements. If you like to program, or would like to try, it'll be worth the effort.

Machining.

Now, let's take a guided tour of **La Machine**'s capabilities. This will avoid frustration, disgruntlement and a good

deal of perspiration in most Terrans.

Boot the disk. Once DOS has loaded, the 62-sector AUTORUN file will quickly load and run. After a 3- or 4-second delay for self-aggrandizement, you'll see one large and six small toilet bowls.

Press the B key. B stands for big.

The large window (hereafter called the edit window) will animate through 6 frames. To stop, press either the SPACE BAR or the trigger of joystick 1.

Press the A key. A stands for actual size.

The toilet will now wave bye-bye, in actual size. This takes place in the small window (the animation window). Now press the > key a couple times. Each press quickens the animation by 1 Vertical Blank Cycle, or $\frac{1}{100}$ second.

The delay interval between frames is displayed in the text area and changes with each keypress. The < key slows the animation. You'll find that moving the joystick left and right accomplishes the same thing (but not as smoothly). Press either the SPACE BAR or joystick trigger to exit.

Pound on the SPACE BAR a few times. SPACE BAR stands for Space Barn².

The editor indicator ball moves to indicate the frame now appearing in the edit window.

Press the 4 kev.

This changes the system to handle only 4-frame animation instead of 6-frame. See that the FRAMES number changes in the text area, to indicate 4 frames. The 4, 5 and 6 keys all function in this manner. The only other effect they have is that the edit indicator ball always moves to frame 0 when these keys are pressed. Set FRAMES back to 6 by pressing the 6 key.

Press the P key. P stands for palette.

The text area changes to green, indicating palette change mode. Press the joystick button repeatedly. A COLOR BAR beneath the edit window cycles through the palette, and the register indicator ball moves to indicate the shadow register involved. The shadow register's hex location and the hex value of its contents are displayed. Move the joystick left and right to change the intensity of the color; move it forward and backward to alter the hue. Notice that the hex values change, also. Hit any key except P to exit this mode. The text mode changes back to gray.

Press the G key. It stands for get.

The text area will turn blue to indicate file retrieval mode. You'll see a square cursor appear in the file win-

¹Heckofalotta (heck-uv-a-lot-tuh) adj. Multitudinous, very numerous. See "oodles."

²Space Barn (spayce barn) n. A place to put your cows in space; a famous dairy-products chain in the Motorola Nebula.

dow, in the center of the text area next to the Filespec D:. Type COMP and hit RETURN. The file COMP will be retrieved, and a computer with tape drive will appear. There are 4 frames of artwork. Not only has the palette changed, but the frame number indicator has been set to agree with this automatically. This is actually one of the figures appearing in my video game (though I haven't decided about the toilet). To abort without retrieving a file, press RETURN without a filename. The text area returns to gray after exiting this mode.

Press the "inverse" key repeatedly.

You'll cycle through the palette with each press. Understand that, when no bar's present at all, the background color is chosen; you simply can't see it.

Press the T key. T stands for toggle.

Each time this is pressed, the words on and off toggle in the text area, indicating the status of SNAPSHOT. Make sure SNAPSHOT is off.

Now, move the joystick around and notice the small, flashing brick moving within the edit window (the joystick won't respond to diagonal movements). Pressing the button will deposit color on that spot. The color will be the same as the COLOR BAR, and you should notice that the change occurs in the associated frame simultaneously.

To change color, use the inverse key. Now, doodle a little; make a mess on the screen. Then press R for recall. The frame will return to the condition it was in prior to your doodling. If you want, try the same thing with SNAP-SHOT on—the mess is permanent.

Hard copy.

Don't you hate programs that let you make nice pictures, but won't let you have the data? What's the big secret? Turn on your interface and printer.

Press the D key. D stands for data.

The printer will immediately begin printing the data for the frame with the ball next to it only, in 5 × 30 format (frames are numbered 0 through 5, not 1 through 6). It'll proceed to shift the data to the right by 2 bits and print this data. It will shift and print twice more, then stop. You may abort at any time by pressing the SPACE BAR.

If there's no printer on-line, the data will go to the screen, instead. I did this as an afterthought, but at least it stops after each shift, so you can copy the data or look it over. Press any key at each pause to continue. You'll need to use CTRL-1 to see the first couple of lines before they scroll off the screen, though.

Want to know why it prints in 5×30 , when the frames are only 4×30 ? Well, when you shift bits to the right, you bump bits out at the right end and 0s in at the left. You need a fifth byte to take in the rightmost bits. So, before shifting, the right column is always empty—all 0s.

Press the U key.

Hitting a U instead of a D will yield the data without performing the shifts.

Press the CLEAR kev.

The frame being edited and the edit window will fill with the palette color. This can be used to wipe the frames, by setting the COLOR BAR to the background color.

Press the S kev. S stands for save.

The text area turns red. When you've done work you want to save, press S and type in a filename of up to eight characters and numbers. All work is contained within seven sectors on the disk-one sector per frame, plus one sector for palette and "frames used" information.

Obey the rules of DOS 2.0; don't start with a number. La Machine doesn't allow wild cards or extenders. To abort, delete the filename—or, in any case, hit RETURN with no filename present. The text window goes gray again, when done.

Press the * key.

This provides a disk directory, in two columns, which comes in handy. Isn't it nice to have everything DOS 2.0 compatible? Press any key to continue.

Now, press the G key again. Type COMP and RETURN. After COMP loads, press the 6 key to switch to 6-frame animation. Now, move the ball (using the SPACE BAR) until it's at the second or third frame.

Press the C key. C stands for copy.

The test area turns violet, to indicate copy mode. Now, press the SPACE BAR repeatedly. Notice that a ball marks the COPY FROM frame, while another moves freely. Take the moving ball to one of the blank frames and press the 1 key.

The frame will instantly be filled with a duplicate of the COPY FROM frame. If you don't want to copy, you may abort by pressing any key except 1 or the SPACE BAR. The text area goes gray once more.

Go to the head of the class.

That ends the tour. . . still awake? How's this: If you'd like your own work to appear at boot-up, do some drawings, then save as described in the tour. When done, reboot your system with BASIC and a DOS 2.0 disk present. The procedure is to go to the DOS menu from BASIC, then load the AUTORUN.SYS file, using option L (binary load). Then retrieve your artwork and press RESET.

The system will return you to BASIC, whereupon you'll put **La Machine** back in the drive and return to the DOS menu, by typing DOS. Select option K (binary save) and respond to the prompt with:

D:AUTORUN.SYS,4300,60C1,,4700

This will save the whole program, latest work included, right over the old AUTORUN.SYS file. All commas are necessary. La Machine will then boot up with your work present. Neat!

Are you wondering why the animation window is out of line with the other frames? Well, originally, the program handled only 4 frames. I put the window where I felt like putting it. Later, I decided 6 frames would allow greater flexibility. I added two more windows, spacing them far enough apart that the ball would fit easily between the two rows of frames. Consequently, the animation window needs to be moved. Sadly, like many programmers, I'm far too lazy to actually carry out such a correction.

Now, what do you really do with La Machine? Use it to create characters for your programs. No need to try for

erfect animation, as in a movie; 4 frames is usually plenty. Take a look at some video game characters. A lot of them use only 2 frames.

La Machine is best used for "cyclical" animation (animation that's continuous, as a circle). This is usually best, anyway. Program logic to animate and move the figure is then easier, more straightforward. To really benefit from La Machine you'll need to do some assembly language programming. BASIC will be too slow.

Start out simply. Motion isn't always necessary; create figures that animate in place. Toilet bowls don't need to move, for example; people wouldn't appreciate it.

This can really be a useful program, good for experimenting with bit-mapping figures, to learn more about this technique of programming (which many beginners seem mystified by). Player/missile animation is great and makes life easier, but there are only four player/missiles, and color is a problem.

The multicolor character mode, ANTIC mode 4, is nice, but can be very restrictive. Bit-mapping in mode 7½ really gives you a lot of power and freedom. The price is memory, of course, but there's little you can't do in this mode.

Stephen Alpert is a free-lance programmer, working on a marketable video game for Atari computers. He worked as an electronic technician for about seven years, leaving the field after discovering that computers would better satisfy his technical and creative interests.

Listing 1.

La Machine continued

1140 DATA 10,171,234,191,250,171,234,1
91,250,171,213,117,117,87,213,255,6121
1150 DATA 253,87,255,255,255,255,255,2
55,255,255,234,170,170,171,234,170,285
1160 DATA 170,171,234,170,170,171,234,
170,170,171,234,170,170,171,234,170,66 1170 DATA 170,171,235,255,255,235,239, 255,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,175,35 13 1180 DATA 255,251,239,191,255,251,239, 255,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,250,48 28 1190 DATA 191,251,239,234,175,251,239, 170,171,251,239,170,171,251,239,234,73 4 1200 DATA 175,251,239,0,3,251,234,255, 254,171,234,255,254,171,234,255,709 1210 DATA 254,171,234,176,58,171,234,1 28,10,171,234,191,250,171,234,191,6066 1220 DATA 250,171,213,117,117,87,213,2 55,253,87,255,255,255,255,255,1359 1230 DATA 255,255,234,170,170,171,234, 170,170,171,234,170,170,171,234,170,69 1240 DATA 170,171,234,170,170,171,234, 170,170,171,235,255,255,235,239,255,11 1250 DATA 255,251,239,255,255,251,239, 175,255,251,239,191,255,251,239,255,38 18 1260 DATA 255,251,239,250,191,251,239,234,175,251,239,170,171,251,239,170,53 1270 DATA 171,251,239,170,171,251,239, 234,175,251,239,0,3,251,234,255,7103 1280 DATA 254,171,234,255,254,171,234,255,254,171,234,255,254,171,234,128,696 0 1290 DATA 10,171,234,191,250,171,234,1 91,250,171,213,117,117,87,213,255,6271 1300 DATA 253,87,255,255,255,255,255,2 55,255,255,234,170,170,171,234,170,435 1310 DATA 170,171,234,170,170,171,234, 170,170,171,234,170,170,171,234,170,67 1320 DATA 170,171,235,255,255,235,239, 255,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,175,36 1330 DATA 255,251,239,191,255,251,239, 255,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,250,49 1340 DATA 191,251,239,234,175,251,239,170,171,251,239,170,171,251,239,234,88 4 1350 DATA 175,251,239,0,3,251,234,255, 254,171,234,255,254,171,234,255,859 1360 DATA 254,171,234,176,58,171,234,1 28,10,171,234,191,250,171,234,191,6216 1370 DATA 250,171,213,117,117,87,213,2 55,253,87,255,255,255,255,255,1509 1380 DATA 255,255,234,170,170,171,234, 170,170,171,234,170,170,171,234,170,70 1390 DATA 170,171,234,170,170,171,234, 170,170,171,235,255,255,235,239,255,13 1400 DATA 255,251,239,255,255,251,239, 175,255,251,239,191,255,251,239,255,39 68 1410 DATA 255,251,239,255,255,251,239, 255,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,234,50 50

1440 DATA 10,171,234,191,250,171,234,1 91,250,171,213,117,117,87,213,255,6421 1450 DATA 253,87,255,255,255,255,6,40, 66,10,6,6,0,0,0,0,7661 1460 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,1460 1470 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,1470 1480 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,1480 1490 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,1490 1500 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,1500 1510 DATA 8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,
0,0,1510
1520 DATA 8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,0,8,0,8,0,8,0,8,0,155,83,5173
1530 DATA 8,8,83,155,69,82,82,79,82,32,45,32,78,79,84,32,86,722
1540 DATA 69,82,83,73,79,78,32,50,32,7
0,79,82,77,65,84,46,549
1550 DATA 155,32,116,42,173,244,29,201
2,246,10,169,53,162,41,32,5065
1560 DATA 176,49,76,15,33,96,169,41,32
202,48,169,69,174,158,21,4380
1570 DATA 141,158,21,224,78,208,3,206,158,21,32,191,48,32,165,21,4512
1580 DATA 124,0,240,18,224,78,208,3,206,158,21,32,191,48,32,165,21,4512
1580 DATA 32,176,49,32,146,25,76,15,33
,66,65,68,32,76,79,65,9974
1600 DATA 68,32,76,79,65,9974
1600 DATA 68,32,76,79,65,9974
1600 DATA 32,87,72,65,84,32,79,73,76,69,65,155,315,211,41,132,202,4934
1620 DATA 48,32,191,48,169,35,162,16,15,7,66,3,32,233,49,76,15,2399
1630 DATA 33,87,72,65,84,32,79,73,76,69,63,155,211,41,132,202,4934
1620 DATA 48,32,191,48,169,35,162,16,15,263,32,233,49,76,15,2399
1630 DATA 33,87,72,65,84,32,79,73,76,69,157,76,63,32,233,49,76,15,2399
1630 DATA 33,87,72,65,84,32,79,73,76,69,152,36,332,233,49,76,15,2399
1630 DATA 33,87,72,65,84,32,79,73,76,69,152,36,96,153,33,41,69,0,157,34,148,232,208,250,169,112,133,2009
1660 DATA 68,32,79,79,612
1640 DATA 67,141,132,22,4334
1620 DATA 48,32,191,48,169,62,141,47,2,169,62,141,47,2,169,66,133,244,1133,243,169,0,157,34,148,232,208,250,169,112,133,2009
1660 DATA 16,141,14,210,169,62,141,47,2,169,66,141,49,2,173,5426
1670 DATA 98,133,241,133,243,169,0,141,48,232,208,250,169,141,198,2,32,15
1780 DATA 209,69,141,196,2,173,210,69,141,72,92,169,67,141,73,92,159,69,141,779,2,169,69,141,779,2,169,69,141,70,92,169,69,141,779,2,169,69,141,779,2,169,69,141,70,92,169,69,14 1510 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,1510 1520 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,

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,0,0,2421 2410 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,2410 2420 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,2430 2440 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, ,0,2520 2530 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,

I La Machine continued

T La Machine continued

3390 DATA 157,75,3,169,91,157,68,3,169,92,157,69,3,169,3,157,6237
3400 DATA 66,3,32,86,228,152,48,80,169,162,141,48,2,169,96,141,8296
3410 DATA 49,2,169,162,141,198,2,141,200,2,169,12,141,197,2,169,8801
3420 DATA 0,133,240,169,129,133,241,16
5,17,157,72,3,169,0,157,73,7803
3430 DATA 3,169,93,157,68,3,169,93,157,69,3,169,5,157,66,3,4428
3440 DATA 32,86,228,152,48,6,32,118,82,76,58,82,169,255,141,242,1254
3450 DATA 2,173,242,2,201,255,240,249,169,2,10,10,10,10,170,169,8034
3460 DATA 12,157,66,3,32,86,228,169,0,141,48,2,169,96,141,49,6022
3470 DATA 2,104,141,40,92,141,0,208,32,102,89,96,160,0,169,93,6775
3480 DATA 133,246,169,93,133,247,177,246,24,105,224,145,240,200,192,17,4880
3490 DATA 208,244,165,240,24,105,20,144,2,230,241,133,240,96,160,0,1112
3500 DATA 132,240,169,129,133,241,169,0,145,240,200,208,251,230,241,165,9568
3510 DATA 241,201,133,208,241,96,6,169,120,141,41,41,83,169,16,141,42,7704
3520 DATA 83,169,66,133,240,169,98,133,241,160,0,173,2,92,145,240,1809
3530 DATA 200,192,16,208,249,165,240,24,105,40,144,2,230,241,165,9568
3540 DATA 200,192,16,208,249,165,240,24,105,40,144,2,230,241,133,240,4253
3540 DATA 206,41,83,208,228,32,234,72,96,169,0,141,0,208,141,241,1584

3550 DATA 2,32,233,77,173,241,2,240,3,76,18,83,173,132,2,208,8304
3560 DATA 3,76,18,83,174,41,92,232,236,212,69,208,2,162,0,142,9782
3570 DATA 41,92,32,126,74,76,238,82,17
3,40,92,141,0,208,169,0,7651
3580 DATA 141,41,92,32,177,77,32,126,7
4,173,132,2,240,251,96,0,8732
3590 DATA 0,0,32,233,77,169,255,141,24
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3600 DATA 240,71,169,37,133,244,169,11
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3610 DATA 133,240,189,9,92,133,241,160
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3620 DATA 208,247,165,244,24,105,40,14
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3630 DATA 105,40,144,2,230,241,133,240
,206,240,71,208,218,32,214,83,5053
3640 DATA 174,41,92,132,236,212,69,208
,2,162,0,142,41,92,173,132,9569
3650 DATA 201,11,208,63,2,248,83,76,55
,83,173,242,2,201,33,240,675
3670 DATA 201,11,208,6,32,248,83,76,55
,83,173,242,2,201,33,240,675
3670 DATA 202,01,55,208,6,32,226,83,76
,55,83,201,54,208,33,32,6287
3680 DATA 248,83,76,55,83,169,0,141,41
,92,32,177,77,32,126,74,5387
3690 DATA 173,132,2,240,251,173,40,92,
141,0,208,96,169,0,133,20,7623
3700 DATA 165,20,205,176,82,208,249,96
,173,176,82,24,105,255,208,2,1987

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57,68,3,169,93,157,69,7726
4500 DATA 3,169,3,157,66,3,32,86,228,4
8,54,160,0,140,127,86,7025
4510 DATA 185,64,92,157,68,3,185,71,92
,157,69,3,169,121,157,72,8539
4520 DATA 3,169,0,157,73,3,169,5,157,6
6,3,32,86,228,238,127,9497
4530 DATA 86,172,127,86,192,7,208,216,32,102,89,32,61,74,32,48,5619
4540 DATA 89,169,2,10,10,10,10,170,169,12,157,66,33,32,86,228,6138
4550 DATA 169,255,141,14,212,96,32,233,77,162,0,142,41,92,32,126,7766
4560 DATA 74,32,177,77,32,234,72,32,96,89,32,233,77,238,41,92,9183
4570 DATA 174,41,92,32,8110
4580 DATA 174,41,92,32,8110
4580 DATA 126,74,32,177,77,96,160,255,136,208,253,96,173,208,69,141,5470
4590 DATA 200,2,162,0,189,209,69,157,1
96,2,232,224,3,208,245,173,5636
4600 DATA 212,69,201,4,48,7,201,6,16,3,76,137,89,169,6,32,4085
4610 DATA 9,81,96,32,4085
4610 DATA 9,81,96,32,4085
4610 DATA 9,81,96,32,163,89,160,0,169,84,145,244,96,174,57,92,561
4620 DATA 32,163,89,169,0,160,0,145,24
4,189,31,92,133,245,189,27,1998
4630 DATA 92,24,105,3,144,2,230,245,13
3,244,96,2,170,170,170,170,3976
4640 DATA 0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,128,2,0,0,0,0,0,128,2, 4850 DATA 102,102,102,103,103,103,103, 103,103,103,103,104,104,104,104,105,89 4860 DATA 105,105,105,105,105,105,105, 106,106,106,106,107,107,107,107,107,93

4870 DATA 107,107,107,108,108,108,108, 108,108,108,108,109,109,109,109,110,96 8
4900 DATA 115,115,115,115,115,115,115,
116,116,116,116,34,38,42,46,50,5508
4910 DATA 54,58,62,66,70,74,78,82,86,9
0,94,98,102,106,110,114,7694
4920 DATA 118,122,126,130,134,138,142,
146,150,154,148,255,255,255,255,234,18 4930 DATA 170,170,171,234,170,170,171, 234,170,170,171,234,170,170,171,234,64 4948 DATA 178,178,171,234,178,178,171, 235,255,255,235,239,255,255,251,239,66 4950 DATA 255,255,251,239,175,255,251, 239,191,255,251,239,255,255,251,239,78 78 4960 DATA 255,255,251,239,255,255,251, 239,255,255,251,239,234,175,251,239,74

0,0,5250 5260 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5270 5280 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,5290 5300 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5300 5310 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5310 5320 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5320 5330 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,5330 5340 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5340 5350 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5350 5360 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5360 5370 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5370 5380 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 0,0,5380

5390 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5420 5430 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5430 5440 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5440 5450 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5450 5460 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5470 5480 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5510 5520 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5520 5530 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, 0,0,5530 0,0,5560 5570 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0, ,0,5570 5580 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,

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June CES & The 8-bit Atari

by Matthew J.W. Ratcliff

At the June Consumer Electronics Show (CES), assignments were divided. My task was to cover 8-bit Atari news for ANALOG Computing, while Art Leyenberger handled the 16-bit systems for ST-Log. At the end of the first day, I noticed that Art had three large bags of "ST goodies" (press kits and review software). All I had was one little bag of 8-bit information. It seemed to me then that the 8-bit Ataris weren't faring so well. I was disheartened, but not discouraged.

With some digging, I did find a lot of great stuff for the 8-bit Atari computers. Before continuing with the juicy details, I'd like to mention a few interesting trends in the 8-bit realm.

First, a lot of our long-time software supporters are dropping (or severely curtailing) 8-bit projects, in favor of ST developments. It's interesting to note, however, that many continue to support the Commodore 64 and 128 machines very strongly.

This is what I found most distressing. Discussions with people from Epyx, Atari, and Microprose revealed the basic reason. The word piracy came up quite often.

Bill Stealey, CEO of Microprose, stated that "Atarians are some of the most sophisticated computer users anywhere," and "they are the biggest pirates in the world." Sales figures don't lie, folks.

Bill went on to say, "I know I get about one-fourth the units I used to get from a new release" for the 8-bit machines. This problem has driven many other software companies completely out of business—or, at least, out of the Atari market.

Bob Botch, Vice President of Epyx mar-

keting, said, "Everyone has problems with piracy, on all systems that they support." The decisions Epyx (or any manufacturer) makes to support a particular computer are based on the market.

Right now, Commodore and Apple versions are their hottest sellers, followed by IBM. Epyx has decided to port some software to the ST, to break new ground and test the waters for one of the hottest-selling systems on the market. Typically, once the software's running on the three top sellers, all other conversions are a matter of priorities for their programming staff, based on demand.

While Bob Botch didn't single out any particular system as having the worst piracy problem, he did indicate that "the current lack of new titles for the 8-bits is due primarily to a significant drop in sales of the 8-bit Atari line." You'd expect sales to be increasing, when some sources say about 30,000 XEs per month are being sold. Where are consumers getting their software, if 8-bit software sales continue to plummet?

Epyx is still supporting the 8-bits, as evidenced by their new release of World Karate Championship. Their future developments are also entirely dependent on sales, and less than half of their software titles for the C64 are currently planned for the XE.

John Skruch of Atari Corp. explained to me that the company is going to disk-based software. The idea is to keep costs as low as possible and offer the product at a very reasonable price. Atari will continue to use copy protection, designed to stop the "casual copier." The company feels that providing quality software, such as **Star Raiders** II and **Planetarium**, at an affordable \$19.95

will improve sales and discourage piracy. John also stressed the importance of documentation needed to use these programs (most notably **Planetarium**). Its necessity will encourage people to purchase the software, in order to get the most out of it.

John expressed concern that prices for software are coming down, due to competition and a lack of demand. This provides more value to the end user, but results in very slim profit margins...which makes software vendors even more vulnerable to piracy.

Of course, there's a piracy problem in every facet of the computer industry. However, sources indicate more than twice as many C64s in the home as Atari 8-bits (before taking over Atari, Mr. Tramiel did a good job of selling those little suckers). Since there are so many fewer Atari home computers out there, piracy hurts us much more.

It's a simple fact of life. If software developers can't make a reasonable profit on their product in the Atari 8-bit market, they will drop that product. If you don't want Atari 8-bit computers to die, buy your software—don't rip it off. Does lack of support upset you? If you have any pirated software in your library, you have no right to complain. Enough said?

New software trends.

At the other end of the spectrum, I saw the Atari name in traditionally-Commodore software booths. Apparently, the Commodore's software market is becoming saturated. Due to the similarities between the XE and C64 (6502 microprocessor, sprites/player-missiles, similar graphics resolutions, and so on), it's relatively simple to port software from the C64 to the XE.

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Many programs are now being offered on "flippy" disks, with the C64 version on one side, XE on the other. On every flippy disk I've come across, the XE version has always occupied the "B side," but at least we're getting some new software. There are some interesting new titles for the XE, ported directly from the Commodore world, which I'll cover later.

Also interesting to note: software is no longer written by programmers only. Conflict in Vietnam was created by Ed Bever, Ph.D., a historian and former professor at Princeton. Many software developers, like Epyx and Microprose, have full-time artists to develop visual effects for their game programs. As this trend continues, software quality will keep improving. Programs are more than just the result of a hacker's many months of tedious work; they're true works of art.

There has been a push in the ST market away from software protection, primarily due to the fact that hard disks are finally becoming widely available and affordable. If a program's protected, you can't usually back it up, or install it on a hard disk for convenience. As a result, we're beginning to see a new form of "protection" for the ST and 8-bit computers.

Many new programs are very "documentation dependent." As Bill Stealey explained, MicroProse is dedicated to providing "more value and more documentation." He went on to say, "If a pirate rips off our product, he'll miss out on 80 percent of the functionality of that game without the docs." That's why Conflict in Vietnam gives you 110 pages of documentation—much more than a game-playing guide, it's an informative history lession.

We've seen the same thing in Infocom games for some time now. What started to be a unique packaging approach has become a hallmark of excellence, associated with the Infocom name. Infocom's newer products have even more unusual packaging (3-D comic books and glasses). without their printed stories and unique paraphernalia, you may play an Infocom game, but you can't win.

Awesome hardware.

ICD, makers of Sparta DOS and the US Doubler, have done it again! They were given a spot in the huge, bustling Atari display area. Several new goodies were announced, which will turn your XE or XL into a "turbo micro." Enough suspense—let's get on with it.

Hardware hackers have been trying to add more and more RAM to the XE/XL lines. Some are up to over half a megabyte in the 130XE, for some wild RAMdisks. ICD has gone one better, with their new **Multi Function Input Output Board (MIO)**. This device has from 256K to 1 megabyte of RAM.

But they didn't stop there. The MIO also

has R: and P: interfaces built in. And, by the way, you can plug standard (SASI or SCSI) hard disks into it, as well—more than 100 megabytes! You can plug in as many as eight 16-megabyte hard drives (or partition larger drives into smaller logical drives).

The MIO plugs into the 130XE, or the 600XL (64K-upgraded) or 800XL computers. (Sorry, 65XE owners, Atari forgot to put in your parallel bus connection.) It's a "parallel bus device." This means that the ROM software required to drive all these hardware goodies is built into the MIO board. When enabled, its software "overlays" the Atari floating-point ROM. In other words, these neat-o devices cost you no RAM.

You want a printer buffer? Of course! The MIO's setup software lets you configure that 1 meg as RAMdisks, or RAMdisks and printer buffer. Up to 512K may be partitioned for the printer spooler.

If you still aren't satisfied, you'll be pleased to know that the MIO board will also give your hardware 80-column capability. It will be a piggyback add-on board, to fit inside the MIO box. The box is about the same size as a 1050 disk drive, but half the height. The 80-column output will be in the form of composite video or TTL, the latter for IBM-style monitors.

What are these goodies going to cost? The MIO will cost \$199.00 for 256K, or \$349.00 for 1-meg versions. The 80-column card will add less than \$100.00 to that cost. It may be purchased separately and installed by the user.

ICD is now marketing affordable printer and modem cables. These plug directly into your 850 or P:R: connection and your modem or Centronics interface printer. The cables sell for a reasonable \$14.95.

A rather unique cable is also planned by ICD. At one end will be the 8-bit's SIO connector, and at the other a Centronics printer connector. This **Printer Connection** will retail at under \$40.00.

How does it work? Simple: all the electronics for this little gem are so small they fit inside the cable's connector! No software need be loaded to support it—it has all its smarts right in that connector.

Atari demonstrated an interesting piece of hardware, the **XEP80**, an 80-column card for Atari 8-bits. This box has about the same "footprint" as the 1050 disk drive, but is about a third as tall. It plugs into joystick port 1 or 2. You may plug an inexpensive monochrome monitor into the rear of the box, right next to its printer connector. The **XEP80** has a standard (IBM-style) printer connector, to which you can plug your favorite Centronics interface printer.

The box is driven by a handler that boots from disk, costing you some RAM. It hooks into the E: driver, so you can use it right away. Without any extra software, it will work with BASIC and most other programming cartridges. Unfortunately, it won't work with AtariWriter. I was informed that AtariWriter+ and Silent Butler are being modified to support the XEP80. I expect PaperClip and SynCalc (which have closely followed Atari's other hardware improvements in the past—like extra RAM support in the 130XE) will be modified to support it, as well.

The **XEP80** display is fast. It has sharp, crisp characters and full screen-editing capability. Its 8K of RAM, internal to the box, can be used for custom character sets or screen flipping. I was informed by ICD that they'd do their best to make their **MIO** 80-column card compatible with Atari's.

After being assured at the West Coast Computer Faire that Atari was not planning a 1200-baud modem anytime soon, I heard open talk at CES about such a device. No model number or release date has been specified, but it will sell for under \$100.00. Its SIO connector will hook up directly to 8-bit systems, and it will have a standard RS232 port for 850- or P:R:-equipped 8-bits or STs. It will support the Hayes standard command set for modem communications.

While Atari talked about new hardware, Avatex and SmarTeam delivered. The SmarTeam 300/1200-baud modem is still selling for around \$200.00. As stated in my review, it has minor communication problems at 300 baud. A SmarTeam representative told me a simple resistor change would fix that problem, but didn't say how current owners could get the update.

The Avatex 300/1200-baud modem is currently selling (very well) for under \$100.00. All reports I've heard indicate emphasize its Hayes compatibility and reliability.

Atari was still talking about its new 3½-inch drive for 8-bit machines, but no release date has been set. I think we'll hear something more definite at November's COMDEX. OSS is developing the DOS for it, and Bill Wilkinson cleared up the storage question for me. He said the disks will hold 320K, formatted.

The new ADOS will be very high speed (about twice as fast as the 1050's) and efficient. It will support subdirectories and many other sophisticated features. Bill also assured me that 1050s and these 3½-inch drives can be on the same system, with no problems.

Epyx showed off a slick new joystick, whose curved base fits neatly into your hand. With your left hand curled around the base, your index finger rests comfortably on the fire button. The short bat handle has a positive click to it and a very solid feel. No name, price, or exact release date has been set, but I'm told it's currently the hottest-selling stick in England.

Star Micronics showed several new printers at CES. Apparently, the SG-10 will

be discontinued in favor of the new NX-10 and NL-10 versions. The first has a Centronics interface, while the second can have parallel (Centronics), Apple IIc, IBM-PC (still Centronics!), serial (RS232), or Commodore 64/128 interface "cartridges." They're as simple to install as putting a ROM cartridge in the Atari computer.

These printers are rated at 120 characters per second draft mode, 30 in near-letter-quality. (The SG-10 also has NLQ capability.) I like the NLQ of the Epson FX85/185 printer; its characters have more

of a "typeset" look.

These new Star printers seem quieter and are supposed to have a 100-percent Epson-compatible mode. They sport new cartridge ribbons, too. Although much like the ribbons for Epsons, they aren't interchangeable. That means replacement ribbons for the NX/NL printers will probably be harder to find, and more expensive.

I was told by Brian Kennedy, manager of marketing services for Star Micronics, that all previous reviews of Star printers have knocked the printer for "messy ribbon spools." I feel it's one of their nicest features, however. If that's your preference, then scarf up an SG-10, if you can still find

one.

COVOX demonstrated the **Voice Master**, with improved speech recognition capabilities. I was impressed to see it recognize the demonstrator's commands, despite the din in the Atari booth. Now included with **Voice Master** is **Word Editor**, which lets you edit the amplitude values of your digitized speech.

COVOX is also marketing the Speech Construction Set, a full-blown speech editing system, with features such as "cut and paste" among different voices. This companion software sells for \$39.95.

Pacemark showed a very interesting piece of hardware technology, the Falcon ACS box. It's a Centronics printer interface unit for multiple host computers (Atari or others), with which up to eleven personal computers can share one or two parallel printers.

This intelligent box can automatically switch between host computers as they require printer services. Each is allotted a different buffer area within the **Falcon**, and is spooled to the printer as it's available. A 4-button control panel and 16-character LCD display on the **Falcon** allow complete user control of priorities and printerswitching times. The unit is selling for \$449.95 with 64K, \$589.95 with 128K of buffer memory.

Atari showed off its revamped 2600 and 7800 game machines. The 7800 also supports 2600 game cartridges. It still has a 6502 engine under the hood, similar to a 130XE, but has greatly enhanced player/missile graphics capabilities. (Up to 100 little monsters can zap around the screen at a time.)

One of the software titles I saw listed for the 7800 was Galaga. It's a far superior version of Galaxian, which didn't last long in the arcades, and was never very popular for the 8-bit systems. I certainly hope Atari releases a version of Galaga for the 8-bits. Call or write the company to ask for an one, if you want it—I do!

Zobian Software displayed The Rat (no relation to yours truly), a mouse for your 8-bit computer. It comes with a graphics program and cursor control routine. The product faces two major problems. First, it should be with a lot of software out for 8-bits. Second, at \$114.95, it costs more than most will pay for an XE computer system this year.

New software.

A company called Hi Tech Expressions demonstrated their new greeting-card software at the Atari booth. Their products, which follow the flippy trend, include CardWare, WareWithAll, HeartWare and PartyWare.

CardWare creates birthday cards on your printer, or animated "greetings" disks. At a dirt cheap \$9.95, I thought it would be a real bargain. But I found the animations were simply Movie Maker files. If you already have Movie Maker, you won't see much new here. There are only three printer graphics to choose from. The software isn't user friendly, in that you can't cancel selections. Finally, I found the worst problem while printing a greeting card.

I noticed the printer didn't feed much between graphic print lines. Close inspection revealed that the graphic dump software uses only the bottom four of eight printhead pins. "Big deal!" you say? It is

a big deal.

I wrote some graphic dump software ages ago. Too lazy to map the graphics into eight pins at a time, I let it drive only the bottom two. Within a couple weeks, all my commas looked like periods; descenders on lowercase characters were fading out on my Gemini 10X. Within a month, my graphics dumper had literally destroyed the printhead (completely threw a pin out) The replacement cost \$40.00! Using Card-Ware frequently could, potentially, do the same to your printhead.

WareWithAll, at \$14.95, is a package of colorful paper, envelopes, markers and more, to help you create unique greeting cards. The \$9.95 HeartWare is, basically, CardWare with a Valentine's theme. According to the ad, PartyWare can be used to create party decorations, start to finish. For \$14.95, it will make banners, hats, placemats, games and more.

Another company to show off its desktop publishing prowess was Springboard Software Inc. They demonstrated some extremely impressive alternatives to **The Print Shop.** Unfortunately, an Atari version is "not planned at this time." The company's number is (612) 944-3915. Give them a call if you'd like an Atari 8-bit version of The Newsroom, Clip Art Collections, Certificate Maker, or Rainbow Painter. All of these are available for the Commodore 64.

XLent Software had released **PS Interface**. A companion to **The Print Shop**, it lets you create fonts, put pictures into font characters and interface **Typesetter** graphics, as well.

PS Interface will also convert graphics from **The Print Shop** into **Typesetter** icons. It provides picture disk management features.

Also coming from XLent is David Plotkin's **Miniature Golf Construction Set**. A public domain version was published some time ago. It was very popular back then, and this updated and enhanced version should do quite well.

Broderbund had finally released The Print Shop Companion for the 8-bit Atari, formerly available only for Commodore and Apple computers. This program follows The Print Shop tradition in user friendliness and ease of use. The Companion has many features its predecessor was criti-

cised for lacking.

Epyx announced several new products, among which were the Movie Monster Game, the World's Greatest Baseball Game and Championship Wrestling. These are all in the works for the Commodore 64, but the no support is planned for Atari equipment at this time. If you want them, call or write Epyx (and, if they deliver, buy the programs).

Their Lucasfilm game Ballblazer was never the chartbuster Epyx expected, but "sold strongly and steadily for a long time," according to Noreen Lavoi, Public Relations Manager. If the graphically spectacular Koronis Rift and The Eidolon sell well, we might see more such excellent products.

Epyx has combined Temple of Apshai, The Upper Reaches of Apshai and The Curse of Ra into one package, the Temple of Apshai Trilogy. Any of the games may be selected at the outset; all are on a sin-

gle flippy disk.

Epyx continued support of the 8-bits with their new World Karate Championship, scheduled for release in July. I had an opportunity to play the C64 version at CES. Its graphics, haunting oriental melody, sound effects and playability follow the Epyx tradition of excellence. Rather than explaining its play, I suggest you head for the local arcade. Plunk a few quarters into the Karate Champ machine, and you'll get a feel for just what you can expect (it only lacks the voice synthesis).

Mastertronic, billed as the "world's fastest growing software company," had over thirty titles for Commodore and has begun to port over to Atari. Currently, four 8-bit Atari titles are available: Vegas Poker and Jackpot, Last V-8, Action Biker and Kick-

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start. The price, on flippies, is a mere \$9.99

The object of **Vegas Poker and Jackpot** is self-explanatory; their play is not. The brief documentation on the package's back refers to function keys. Most 8-bits don't have function keys, however, so you have to figure out how to play on your own.

The other three programs above all have superb, smooth-scrolling graphics. In **Kickstart**, two motorcycle riders go head-to-head on a split-screen display. The object is to beat each other (or the clock, in single-player mode) across a racetrack full of ramps, water hazards, and more. If you get through the first circuit, you know what comes next? Right...a tougher track. (This game is reminiscent of **Aztec Challenge**, but far more sophisticated.)

In **Action Biker**, you're a cycle rider in search of forty items, on your way through a 3-D screen of ramps, roadways, walls and water hazards. The 3-D effect and motorcycle controls are very well done.

I'm already addicted to this game. I find it amazing that, while scrolling along, you can actually ride up and around a ramp, and even jump fences. This is an impressive \$9.95 game. And, if you get all forty treasures, you enter the final drag race.

The Last V-8 is a race against time, to return underground before your radiation shield decays. (I wonder if the name's a statement about the current U.S. auto industry trend...) In this one, you have an overhead view of your high-speed car. The controls take a while to get used to, but play is very fast.

I have two overall complaints about these games. You can't interrupt and begin again with a START keypress. This has long been standard on 8-bit game software, but Mastertronic is a relative newcomer.

Also, none of their games handles RE-SET properly. Rather than stealing the Atari RESET vector (so you're returned to the title screen), they make you reboot. If you get stuck in a frustrating game, you have to ride it out.

Other titles coming from Mastertronic include Ninja, Speed King and Elektra Glide. In Speed King, race your motorcycle on world-class circuits against nineteen computer-controlled riders.

Elektraglide is billed as a "fantasy racing epic," where you "move at awesome

speeds through 100 percent high-resolution landscapes" on your Harley. **Ninja** is a martial arts simulation with "authentic multi combat fight routines." The Commodore 64 version at CES was lightning fast, with excellent graphics. Reminiscent of Bruce Lee movies, this promises to be a hot seller.

Several software houses are beginning to take the 130XE's extra RAM very seriously. PaperClip 2.0 now supports the extra memory with added buffer space for text, plus a built-in spelling checker called SpellPack (with a 36,000-word dictionary). You may create a supplementary file of words, too.

Not only does PaperClip 2.0 support the 130XE's four extra 16K banks of RAM, it will automatically recognize up to eleven more. It'll be great for you hardware hackoholics out there, expanding the 130XE like crazy. If you have a registered copy of PaperClip, the upgrade will only cost \$15.00. Contact Batteries Included for information on their upgrade policy.

Precision Software, a well-known company in the Commodore realm, has released its **Superscript** word processor for

ATARI USERS' GROUPS

N.W. Phoenix Atari Connection (NWPAC) P.O. Box 36363, Phoenix, AZ 85067 Meetings; newsletter: Nybbles & Bytes. President: Jeff Wood.

Modesto Atari Computer Club (MACC) PO. Box 3811, Modesto, CA 95352 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: Ray Lang.

Hooked On Atari Computer Keyboard Society (HACKS) 6055 Cahuenga Blvd., #2, North Hollywood, CA 91606 Meetings; newsletter. President: John Tarpinian.

Chicagoland Atari Users Group (CLAUG) 7454 N. Campbell Ave., Chicago, IL 60645 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: Pete Pacione.

Indiana-Michigan Atari Group Exchange (IMAGE) P.O. Box 1742, South Bend, IN 46634 Meetings; newsletter. President: Stephen Elek, Jr.

Midwest Atari Group, Iowa Chapter (MAGIC) PO. Box 1982, Ames, IA 50010-1982 Meetings; BBS; newsletter: *Runes*. President: Al Henderson.

Twin Cities Atari Interest Group (TAIG)
3342 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412
Meetings; newsletter. President: Steve Engalsbe.

The Jersey Atari Computer Group (JACG) 14 Whitman Dr., Denville, NJ 07834 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: William Martin. Duncan Area Atari Computer Users (DAACU) Rt. 6, Box 313, Duncan OK 73533 Meetings; newsletter. President: Gary Bradley.

Valley Atari Computer Club (VACC) 110 Redbud Dr., Beaver Falls, PA 15010 Meetings; newsletter. President: Tom Mahady.

Greenville Atari Computer Enthusiasts (GrACE) 508 Butler Spring Rd., Greenville, SC 29615 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: Gene Funderburk.

Randolph Area Atari Users Group (RAAUG) PO. Box 2611, Universal City, TX 78148 Meetings; newsletter. President: Dale Johnson.

Atari Computer Enthusiasts of Salt Lake City 5522 Sarah Jane Dr., Kearns, UT 84118 Meetings; BBS; newsletter: CompUtah. President: Jay Olson.

First Atari Computer Club of Spokane (FACCS) PO. Box 5121, Spokane, 99205 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: Ron Hoffman.

Packerland Atari Computer Users Societies (PACUS) (Three area users' groups)

339 S. Maple, St., Kimberly, WI 54136
Meetings held every month by PACUS, APCUS and
AAAcus; newsletter. PACUS President: Peter Schefsky.

Edmonton Atari Computer Hobbyists (EACH) 6220-111 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta Canada T5W 0L3 Meetings; BBS; newsletter. President: Rick Adelsberger.

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800XLs and 130XEs. The 130XE version gives you two edit windows; the 800XL, only one.

It supports a 20,000- to 30,000-word, user-expandable dictionary. The disk is heavily protected (my first copy never would boot on my 1050), and backup copies cost \$20.00 each. I suspect this product is too little, too late. It seems to me **AtariWriter** and **PaperClip** have already satisfied the needs of most 8-bit owners.

Bill Wilkinson manned an OSS both in the Atari display area, giving demos of BA-SIC XL/XE, Action!, and more. Both BAS-ICs continue to sell very well. OSS's sophisticated Writer's Tool has never done so, despite all its good reviews, due to its late arrival on the Atari market. Maybe we'll see it updated to support Atari's 80-column card.

If you want to learn assembly programming on your 8-bit Atari, I still contend that OSS MAC/65 is the world's fastest assembler on a micro. I highly recommend it.

Microprose continues to support 8-bits, with chartbusters like Silent Service, F-15 Strike Eagle and Conflict in Vietnam. Silent Service, with over 100,000 copies sold (all versions), is still strong. F-15 Strike Eagle has been updated with a "Libyan mission." Conflict in Vietnam's historically accurate simulation teaches you about the realities and frustrations of that war. It's not just another Rambo-style shoot-em-up.

Gunship, a flight and battle simulation of the AH-64A Apache helicopter, was due out last November, but Bill Stealey said at CES it wasn't good enough then. So, at the risk of losing over a million dollars in revinue, it's still in the works. When it does hit the shelves, you can bet it'll be a superb product.

In **Destroyer Escort**, you take on the role of convoy escort at the helm of a heavily armed destroyer, or a more lightly-equipped corvette vessel. This product is expected in the fall.

Another fall release from Microprose is code-named **Condor**. It promises to be an exciting flight and combat simulator. Although no particular aircraft model has been named, the fact sheet on this game shows a silhouette of an F-16 Falcon, the newest Air Force jet.

Incocom introduced several new products at their BYOB (Bring Your Own Brain) party. Two of these will be available for the 8-bit models.

Moonmist, by Stu Galley, is a gothic mystery set in a haunted Cornwall castle. The introductory-level game is targeted at women and men. Unlike other Infocom mysteries, this one gives clues if you get stumped. The idea is to introduce you to the joy and fantasy of interactive fiction gaming, while minimizing frustration. To ensure plenty of playtime, Moonmist has four different solutions for you.

Certainly the most unique program ever

created for the home computer is Steve Meretzky's **Leather Goddesses of Phobos**. This 1930 science fiction spoof sends you "on an erotic romp through the solar system." It can be played in tame, suggestive, or lewd modes, equivalent to G, PG, and R movie ratings, respectively. Of course, you must be 18 to enter the R-rated level.

A couple years ago, Steve put the title on a product chart just for a laugh. Since then, he reported, "hardly a week would go by without someone cracking a joke about (it)." True to Infocom's unique packaging style, Goddesses comes with a 3-D comic book and glasses, a secret map, and a "scratch and sniff" card—all integral to the game. These should help deter piracy, while adding warmth and humor.

Also shown was Infocom's earlier release, Ballyhoo. Here, the circus you've entered isn't just glitter and glamour; you're plunged into a mysterious world of crime and corruption. While meeting some of the circus's rather unusual personalities, you must try to solve puzzles to save the owner's kidnapped daughter.

Artworx exhibited their many affordable educational and action games. The Linkword Language Series lets you learn a foreign language "in just ten hours." Versions include Spanish, French, German and Italian, with a second level of Russian and French planned for future release.

Linkword teaches foreign words with imagery, associating them with similar sounding English words. An audio tape accompanies each version, to help you with proper pronunciation. Each language package sells for \$24.95.

Some other 8-bit Artworx titles, for less than \$25.00 each, include Bridge 4.0, Hole-In-One Golf, Monkeymath, Monkeynews (a program to improve reading skills), Peggammon (backgammon) and Cycleknight (an action-adventure motorcycle race).

Atari is a bit behind schedule, but Silent Butler, Star Raiders II and Planetarium are finally out for 8-bits.

Silent Butler, a personal and home finance program, was shown at the 1985 CES in 1985, but, as of this writing, is still not available. Now that the 80-column card is almost a reality, I expect the **Butler** is being held up for 80-column support.

Main Street Publishing is marketing classic Atari software, at an average price of only \$6.00. If you're a relative newcomer to the 8-bit realm, this would be a great place to stock up on software at superb prices.

Microcomputer Games, a division of Avalon Hill, announced eight forthcoming titles. Only two are planned for 8-bit models at this time.

Spitfire 40 is a World War II aircraft game and flight simulator, with a \$35.00 price tag. **Guderian** is a WWII simulation of the German blitzkrieg, due this October.

Datasoft continues to support Atari 8-bit

computers with several new titles. **Yie Ar Kung Fu** is expected by the end of the year, another in the growing base of karate and kung fu simulation games.

Three graphics-assisted adventure games coming from Datasoft include 221 Baker Street (a Sherlock Holmes whodone-it), Mercenary (with 3-D mazes and flight simulations) and Gunslinger.

A unique software product this year (maybe the most unusual hardware, for that matter) was shown in its very early test version—the **SpartaDOS** X cartridge. It's to be a 32K ROM piggyback cartridge for the 8-bits. It will plug into the computer directly, and any program cartridge will be able to go on top of it (and be stacked on the RTIME cartridge, a computing tower of power).

The complete 13K of SpartaDOS 3.2d will be incorporate many of the most useful command files. Among some of the cartridge's unique features: a combination menu and command processor. If you need the menu, you'll simply press RETURN at the prompt of the command processor. The menu will pop up, and all SpartaDOS commands may be executed from here. To help you learn the DOS, any menu selection will print to the screen—as you'd have entered it into the command processor.

The DOS works with ICD's MIO board, of course, and had no problems relinquishing control to any cartridge piggybacked on it (even the OSS super cartridges). It will support the 3½-inch drives coming from Atari, as well as the high-speed I/O feature on Indus GT drives.

This promises to the the fastest DOS ever built for the XL/XEs. At a price of \$79.95, it's expected in September.

At CES, I had an opportunity to interview the men from ICD. In that article (next issue), you'll find many more technical details about the **SpartaDOS X** cartridge and the other new products coming from ICD.

The end.

This year's CES saw many new products for the 8-bit Atari computers, with new companies providing some software. ICD and Atari Corp. are overwhelming us with powerful new hardware.

Things are faring well for 8-bit owners, overall. Just remember, if you want continued support, buy the software. It's a matter of survival for the best 8-bit computers ever built!

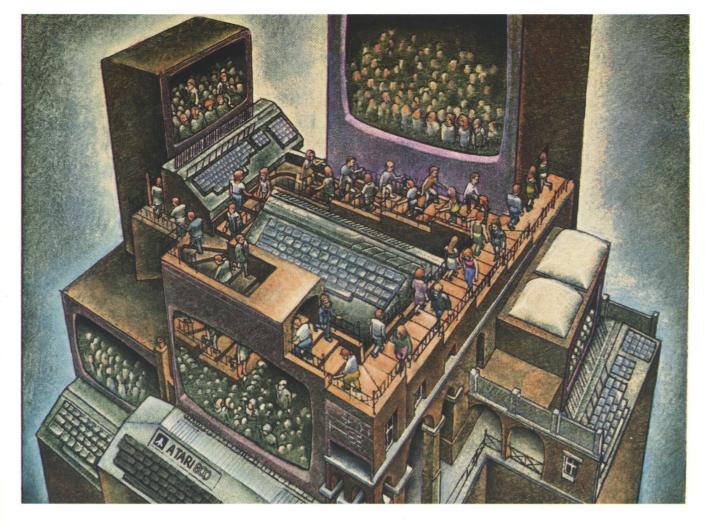
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