

mini'app'les

apple computer user group newsletter

VOLUME VII No 12

DECEMBER 1984

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

WHICH	WHEN	WHERE	WHAT
St. Paul Branch Note 3	Tue Dec 4 7pm-10pm	Mahtomedl Fire House Hallam & Stillwater.	
Pascal & Apple /// Note 1	Wed Dec 5 7:30pm	Minnesota Federal 9th Ave S Hopkins	Pascal & Apple /// Special Interest Group Meeting.
Geneology CLUB Note 11	Sun Dec 9 2:00pm	Minnesota Historical Society Library St Paul MN	
Dakota County Branch Note 7	Tue Dec 11 7pm-10pm	St. John Neumann Church 4030 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan	Modem demo.
St Cloud Branch Note 15	Thur Dec 13 7:30pm	Walte Park City Hall 5th Ave & 3rd St N.	
Business Sig Note 10	Thur Dec 13 7:30pm	Edina Community Center 7 blocks S. of 50th St.	Telecommunications and using Information Services.
Macintosh SIG Note 9	Mon Dec 17 6:30/7pm	Southdale Branch Hennepin County Library 70th & York	Demo of Microsoft Word if available
REGULAR MINI 'APP'LES Note 5 Map Inside	WEDNESDAY December 19th Prgm-7:30pm SIGs-8:30pm+	Edina Community Center 5701 Normandale 7 blocks S. of 50th St..	MultITech IJ Modems by Jan Hubbard
Education SIG	Wed Dec 19	After Regular Mtg.	Demo of PrintShop.
Investment SIG Note 4	Thur Dec 20 7-9:30pm	Henn Cty Lib at Southdale 7001 York Ave S.	On-line demo of Dow Jones News Retrieval Service.
NorthWest Branch Note 16	Tue Dec 25	Rockford Road Library New Hope	No meeting MERRY CHRISTMAS
Minnetonka Branch Note 8	Wed Dec 26	Glen Lake Community Ctr 14300 Excelsior Blvd room E	Meeting Cancelled Happy Holidays to everyone
St. Paul Branch	Tue Jan 1	Mahtomedl Fire House	Note 3 - No meeting, Happy Holidays!
Pascal & Apple ///	Wed Jan 2	Minnesota Federal	Note 1
Dakota County	Tue Jan 8	St. John Neumann Church	Note 7
Board Meeting	Wed Jan 9	Call Dave Laden	General club business.
Business	Thu Jan 10	Edina Community Center	Tax Packages
St Cloud Branch	Thu Jan 10	Walte Park City Hall	Note 15
REGULAR MINI 'APP'LES Note 5 Map next month	WEDNESDAY January 16th Prgm-7:30pm SIGs-8:30pm+	UNIVERSITY MINNESOTA ST. PAUL Room B45 Bldg 412 Near State Fair Ground	80/160 Column Card - by Checkmate Technology - Tentative.
Education SIG	Wed Jan 16	After Regular Mtg.	Note 12
Investment SIG	Thu Jan 17	Henn Cty Lib at Southdale	Note 4 - Focus on technical analysis.
Northern Farm Show	Jan 18-19	Minneapolis Auditorium	
NorthWest Branch	Tue Jan 22	Rockford Rd Library	Note 16 - Word Processing night.
Minnetonka Branch	Wed Jan 23	Glen Lake Community Ctr	Note 8
MacIntosh SIG	Mon Jan 28	Southdale Branch Hennepin	Note 9 - Mike Carlson on new Mac stuff.
Strictly Business	Feb 25-27	Hyatt Regency	250 booths!

Notes: (See page 2 for telephone numbers)

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. John Schoeppner | 5. Mark Abbott | 8. Dick Peterson | 11. Bill DeCoursey | 14. Steve George |
| 2. Dave Laden | 6. Dan Buchler | 9. Mike Carlson | 12. Jane Chatterjee | 15. Frank M. Ringsmuth |
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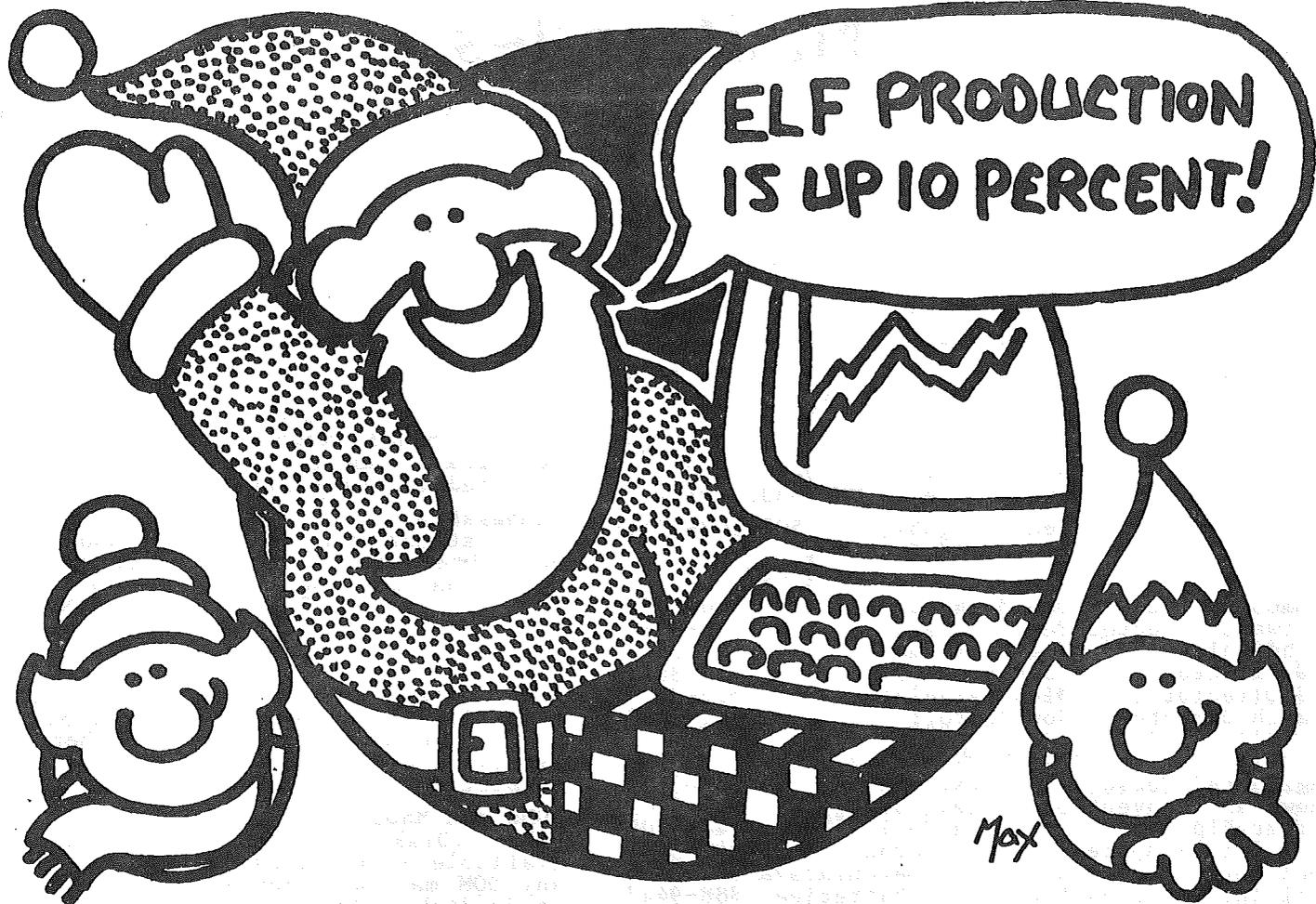
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Mini'app'les

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* To provide contact with non-Mini'app'les SIGS

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INFORMATION

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Questions

Please direct questions to appropriate board member or officer. Technical questions should be directed to the Technical Director.

Membership

Applications for membership should be directed to the Membership Co-ordinator: Ann Bell 544-4505
8325 39th Avenue N.
New Hope,
Minnesota, 55427

\$12 buys membership for one year. New members and persons renewing after letting membership expire, pay a \$5 administration fee. Members receive a subscription to this newsletter and all club benefits.

DOMs and MSDs

DOMs (Disk of the Month) are available at meetings for \$5/disk or any DOM may be ordered by mail for \$6.00/disk. MSDs are \$15/disk at meetings or \$17.50/disk by mail. Send orders to Mini'app'les at above address attention DOM Sales.

Members may have DOMs copied to their own media. Contact Chuck Thiesfeld - details within this newsletter.

Dealers

Mini'app'les does not endorse any specific dealers but does promote distribution of information which may help club members to identify the best buys and service. Consequently, the club does participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications on behalf of its members.

Newsletter Contributions

Please send contributions directly to the Newsletter Editor. Hard copy binary or text files are preferred, but any form will be gratefully accepted. Deadline for publication is the 1st Wednesday of the month preceding the month in which the item might be included. An article will be printed when space permits if, in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor, it constitutes suitable material for publication.

Advertising

Direct Advertising inquiries to our co-ordinator Eric Holterman at:
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Editorial

by Dan Buchler

It is not the intent of the editorial department to monopolize the newsletter with Macintosh material. We are simply not receiving much input from the membership. Your newsletter editor does plead guilty to an excessive interest in the Mac, having just bought one. By the way, it's a marvelous machine! Naturally, if you have a new toy, and are inclined to writing, you are going to write about the new toy. But that doesn't mean that the 90% or so of the club members who own][s,][+s, //es, //cs, Franklins, etc., can't write about their favorite tools and toys. So come on boys and girls, start pounding on that keyboard.

Back to the Mac... I am planning to eventually publish the whole newsletter on the Mac. If anyone has any suggestions on layout, tools, page-make-up automation, etc., I'd like to hear from them. Don't worry, we won't compromise the quality with an inferior print-out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stolen equipment

The following items were stolen from the residence of the Newsletter Editor:

- Apple][with][+ Mother board #A2S1 3957
(power supply) #A2M030 58408
- Apple Drive][
- Quentin Drive
- ALS 16K Board #902239
- Passport Design keyboard #1150
- Mountain Computer music boards #5319-15-07
#4904-14-04

December Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting of Mini'app'les will be held on Wednesday, December 19, at the Edina Community Center, 5701 Normandale Blvd. Jan Hubbards of MultiTech will speak about that company's modems.

The January meeting will feature Checkmate Technology talking about their 80/160 column cards. That card draws about 1/3rd of the power used by a Videx Ultraterm!

MacSIG by Dan Buchler

The next meeting of the MacSig will be held on Monday, December 17th (one week earlier than usual) at:

Hennepin County Library
7001 York Avenue South, Edina

We hope to have a demo of MicroSoft Word, assuming the product is out by then. It is supposed to be released around Dec 1. We will also have some new holiday software.

Next year we will try to alternate meeting places as we do for the main Mini'app'les meetings. January will be in the Southdale Library, but February will be at the TIES offices in the PCA building, on County Road B2 near Rosedale. Watch the calendar!

MacDom by Steve Baker

I'm looking for any contributions in the following areas:

- MS Basic programs
- Stand alone Mac programs
- MacPaint Masterpieces
- Multiplan Templates
- Tips and Techniques articles
- Clipboard art
- Software and Hardware reviews and experiences
- Anything else you might like to share

Please mail or give your contribution(s) to:
Steven E. Baker
c/o Advantek, Inc.
7750 West 78th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55435
Home Phone: 935-1192

WWTC Computer Talk

Tune in, not to KSTP, but to:
WWTC (1280AM).

It happens Sunday morning, 9AM-10AM, not Saturday night.

Mini'app'les will supply an "expert" for this show on the second Sunday of each month. If you have an Apple-related question, here's your chance to get on the air! Note: Scott Ksander was our representative for November. Tom Edwards will be on the air in December.

GOTO 8



Announcements Continued from page 7

Strictly Business Computer Show
by Dan Buchler

The **Strictly Business Computer Show** will come again to Mini'app'les in February. Approximately 270 booths are expected (contrasting with 100 at the Twin Cities Computer Show). We will have a booth there, if we can generate enough interest in organizing and staffing the show (see below). Admission to the show is restricted to senior citizens over 21 years in age! If you are under 21, and really want to go, come in a suit and with a vendor pass, and they probably will let you in!

Membership Support at Exhibitions
by Steve George

I neglected to mention Tom Edwards in last month's "Thank you's". Tom's handiwork was readily visible at our Compu-SHOW booth: he created the VERY nice hand-painted signs! So, belatedly, thank you Tom.

This month's gratitude goes out to four more of our members who volunteered to staff our display at the Science Museum/Computer User's November 24th User Group Fair. The theme for this latest show was: new technologies/equipment. Dayton's contributed a //c and a Mac for the day. Our thanks this month go to Mark Howes, John Holt, Milan Sedio, & Jules Goldstein for their help.

We have received invitations to 4 more "shows" over the next few months, including the "Strictly Business" show described above, so Mini'app'les needs YOU again. The next show is Jan 18 & 19, and the "Strictly Business" show is on Feb 25-27. To volunteer, simply call me and I'll reserve a time for you. We need someone to organize the Mini'app'les booth at the "Strictly Business" show.

Business SIG News
by Dick Marchiafava

The Mini'app'les Business SIG will meet at the Edina Community Center located at 5701 Normandale Road for the months of December and January. The meetings start at 7:00 PM with "Random Access", a question and answer session. The program starts at 7:30 PM.

The dates of these meetings and the subjects are:

- December 13: Tele-communications, Using information services.
- January 10: Tax packages.

The Business SIG has been meeting on the second Thursday of each month. Due to the five week month, the newsletter had just begun arriving when the date for the November SIG meeting was upon us. Due to the short time the newsletter was available before the meeting, the attendance at the meeting was poor.

Since we seem to be dependent on the newsletter announcement of meeting topic and place for attendance at meetings, the following change will take effect:
Business SIG meetings will be on the THURSDAY BEFORE THE MAIN MEETING.

This should allow adequate time for members to read their newsletters and plan their meeting attendance.

The SIG is looking for another meeting site. Keep an eye on the calendar for any changes (after January).

GOTO 9

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Announcements Continued from page 8

Investment SIG
by Eric Holterman

The next meeting of the Investment SIG will be on **Thursday, December 20**, at our regular meeting place at the Hennepin County Library near Southdale. The focus will be on the **Dow Jones News/Retrieval Service**. We will feature an online demonstration of the service and some of the programs published by Dow Jones such as the **Spreadsheet Link**. The demonstration will be handled by their regional representative from St. Louis, **Pat Jandro**. He also has the equipment to project the monitor screen on the wall, which will be a nice change from our usual monitor set up.

One of our members, **Dick Seng**, and **Chris Galle**, a representative of the Minneapolis Grain Exchange, gave an interesting meeting on the operations and objectives of the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. I found their comments to be quite informative and enjoyed the meeting. The exchange is encouraging qualified people to try floor trading and to learn more about the exchange. Feel free to call the exchange and ask for Chris to get more information.

Harold Hoffman, the author of **Cyber-Scan** (demonstrated at one of our meetings last year) was also be on hand to help field questions. He has advised us that during the months of December and January he will offer Mini'app'les members a **40% discount** on his programs. They range in price from \$195 (\$117 with 40% discount) for **Market-Aid** to \$1,695 (\$1017 discounted) for **Cyber-Scan** including Mini and Super-Tic intra day data analysis systems. The most popular packages are **Cyber-Scan** for commodity traders and the **Stock Market Analysis** package (Cyber-Scan plus additional programs for the stock and options markets), each listing at \$595 and available at \$357 to members. There are more features, studies, charts, etc. than I have space to cover here. The club does have demo disks and tapes that can be borrowed for short time periods or you can get further information from Harold at (612) 485-4233 or PO Box 250, Winsted, MN 55395. He will also be on hand at our January meeting.

The January 17th meeting will focus on **technical analysis**. Check your January newsletter for more details.

The promised review of **VALUE/SCREEN** and **Stockpak II** will appear next month. If you want some thoughts on them in the meantime, feel free to give me a call.

Public domain software and demo disks (except for **Cyber-Scan**) will not be available at the December meeting. If you want more information on our public domain library before the January meeting, give me a call.

Our meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at the at the Hennepin County Library at Southdale in the Helen Young Room, 7001 York Avenue South. It is on the east side of the street, across from Target. Plenty of free parking. Doors open at 7 PM and the meeting starts at 7:15 PM, adjourning by 9:15 PM. Also, please be aware that the Library is being remodeled and we may have to change meeting times, dates or places on relatively short notice. Check each newsletter for the latest info.

GOTO 10

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Announcements Continued from page 9

Educational SIG
by Jane Chatterjee

Meetings:

Wednesday, December 19th, after the regular Mini'app'les meeting. Demonstration of the Apple II software package - **Print Shop**. This program allows easy design and printing of cards, posters and other decorative artwork. I hear the package is already very popular with the schools and it sounds ideal for holiday season use. Al Peterman will demonstrate the package.

Info:

The third annual MECC (Minnesota Educational Computing Corporation) conference was held from November 28 to 30th. As usual, we expect it to be packed with every kind of presentation on educational computing and include an extensive exhibition. I will be reporting on the conference for the next newsletter. The Science Museum held a computer fair, on November 24th, to allow people the opportunity to try different machines and ask questions of users. These fairs are held periodically, so watch out for

the next one. The free Twin Cities Computer User newspaper publicizes various local computer events and is a good source of information. Apple related events are publicized in this newsletter.

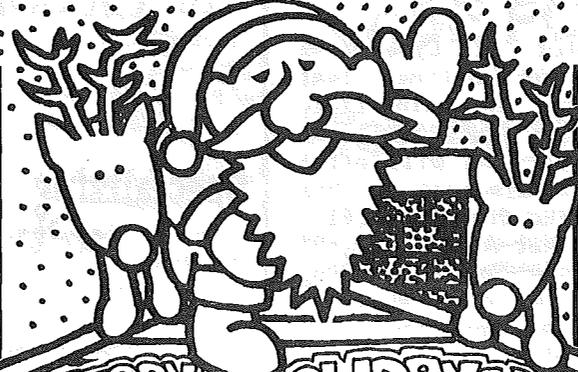
Magazines:

Creative Computing has published a 10th Anniversary November issue, containing a wealth of fascinating articles about the development of the microcomputing industry and predictions for future directions. A useful section on computers in education is included. Creative Computing's December issue offers extensive advice on purchasing word processing software and contains an article on robotic toys. Personal Computing's December issue offers advice on software gift-giving. For those of you asking about software for the Macintosh, there is an extensive article discussing and listing current software. Incidentally, although the educational software for Mac is scant as yet, one cannot ignore the fact that the computer itself, with MacWrite, MacPaint etc. offers an excellent learning environment.

GOTO 11

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Announcements Continued from page 10

NorthWest Branch News
by Jere Kauffman

On January 22nd we will demonstrate several word processors: Word Handler, Super Text, Apple Writer and Bank Street Writer. At our February 26th meeting we plan to have a demonstration of AppleWorks by Daniel Berks of Zim Computers. March 26th will find us watching a demo of Home Accountant by Chuck Johnson. Future topics on our agenda will be a discussion of legal concerns regarding computers and demos of the Koala Pad, joysticks, light pens, etc. All friends in the NorthWest suburbs are encouraged to join and participate in our Branch meetings held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. Watch the calendar in the newsletter for specific topics and meeting locations.

NorthWest Branch Calendar

January 22: Word Processing Night
Rockford Road Library
Word Handler Stevie Johnson
Super Text Greg Carlson
Apple Writer //e Jerry Gustafson
Bank St. Writer Ellie Peploe

February 26: AppleWorks Demonstration
Rockford Road Library
Daniel Berks of ZIM Computers

March 26: Home Accountant Demonstration
Rockford Road Library
Chuck Johnson

DOM Sales

DOMs (Disks of the Month) may be ordered by mail. Apple][,][+, //e and //c DOMs are \$6 including postage. MacDOMs are \$9 including postage. Send checks to:

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If you are ordering MacDOMs,
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Calendar Announcements

Please submit all calendar dates, changes, etc., to Ron Androff. Ron has volunteered to be the calendar-maker for the newsletter. As for all newsletter items, timely submission helps us all!

DOMs by Mail

Continuing Service for Mini'app'les Members

by Chuck Thiesfeld

Now members can order DOMs (not Mini'app'les Software or MacDOMs) using their own diskettes. Here is the procedure:

Make up a package containing the following:

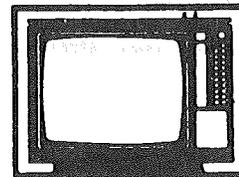
1. Blank diskette (or diskettes if more than one is desired).
2. Mailer. Diskettes will be returned in same protective device used to send the diskettes, provided such will fit in the mailer.
3. Send correct postage in stamps — do not send money in lieu of stamps.
4. Self-addressed return label.
5. \$1.00 copying fee per DOM or disk.
6. A note indicating which DOMs are desired.

GOTO 12

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Announcements Concluded from page 11

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Please allow 60 days for delivery in USA. Incomplete packages will not be returned. DOMs 1 thru 26, except 18, EAMON #3, and 8 Pascal disks are currently available. Mini'app'les Software disks (MSD) are not available! General questions about DOMs should be addressed to Peter Gilles.

Please note that DOMs may also be purchased on club-supplied media by sending \$6.00 to the software sales coordinator. See page 4. The first 3 Mini'app'les Software Disks (MSD): #1 - Mini'scrip, #2 - Micro Mailer, and #3 - Higher Print/Higher Word Processor/Message Maker are available by mail from software sales for \$17.50. Or, most DOMs, EAMON disks and some other public domain software are available at regular meetings, and at some Branch meetings, for sale to members at \$5 each, and the MSDs for \$15 each.



Insurance Botched

by Gordon Hamachi

via Multics forum INFO-MAC transaction #1234
on 10/28/84

There has been a massive foul-up in the Apple endorsed computer insurance. I discovered this when, a month after sending in my application, I called to find out why I had not received my insurance policy from Emmett & Chandler, Inc. Over the phone I was told (** SURPRISE **) that my system was NOT currently insured. Furthermore, Emmett & Chandler is swamped with applications which it is unable or unwilling to honor.

Emmett & Chandler has been advertising low cost insurance for "your entire Apple system—hardware, software, and accessories", at \$25.00 per year for \$5,000 coverage, or \$50.00 per year for \$25,000 coverage.

The problem is the interpretation of "system". Many applicants thought that meant any number of CPUs, while Emmett & Chandler thought that meant only one. Since I was trying to insure three Macintoshes on the same policy, they rejected my application but didn't get around to telling me. Their brochure states that, "Equipment and software purchased during the term of your policy is automatically covered up to the \$25,000 limit at no additional cost". An additional CPU (or two) evidently is not considered to be "equipment".

In any event, if you bought this insurance and thought you were insured, you may be wrong on both counts! Call 818/792-5666 to determine the status of your application.



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Gleanings in Hardware

Software & Supplies
by Dick Marchiafava

Glean: to collect or gather anything little by little or slowly. I used to get a trade magazine called "Gleanings in Bee Culture", and somehow that title seemed appropriate.

Printer Cover Database
Animation Software Computer Forms
Static Protection

The above items, which are described herein, have been gathered from product releases, catalogs and magazines.

Printer Cover

I have seen acoustical printer covers on occasion, but I am very impressed by the PARSONS PRINTER COVER Model 80-01 described and illustrated in a product release from PARSONS Manufacturing Corporation of 1055 O'Brien Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

It is described as "affordable" at a list price of \$98.00, and is said to reduce printer noise up to 80%. The cover is a combination of printer stand and acoustical enclosure which is made to fit 16 different 80 column printers. The cover is made of molded ABS, is almond over brown in color, has acoustical padding, a viewing window and two position stand.

The PRINTER COVER stand allows operation in a horizontal position, or may be tilted 40 degrees with bottom or top paper feed. In the tilted position, a ridge on the cover becomes a copy holder. The stand raises the printer up, and paper may be placed under the printer. The cover opens or lifts off to allow access to the printer. The manufacturer claims that "slots and vents provide continuous air flow for normal printer operation."

This looks like a good product, and I am going to investigate it further.

Database

An ad in PERSONAL COMPUTING (Dec. 84) from APPLIED SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY, 170 Knowles Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95030 is offering VersaForm, a database for invoicing, inventory, purchasing, etc. for \$69.00. This package has sold for over \$300.00 in the past.

This package has too many features to describe here, but it is powerful, flexible and versatile. This package is sold with a 30-day refund guarantee, and the provision to upgrade to the VersaForm XL multi-file system for 1 year with full credit. There are seven Application Templates available also.

Requires Apple II, 64K & 2 drives. Also available for IBM at \$99.00.

If you have considered this database software, this could be a buy.

Animation Software

TAKE 1, an Animation Graphics package from BAUVILLE, 100 Medical Park Drive S.E., Grand

GOTO 14

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Gleanings Concluded from page 13

Rapids, MI 49506 makes "stunning animation that's fast, smooth, and flicker free." With TAKE 1 "you define animation shapes & movements, 'Shoot Scenes' frame-by-frame, add text at any time, and then combine the scenes to make a complete movie. Perfect for presentations and demos."

I think that this package will be very exciting if it can do what it promises. Ad price is \$59.95. Apple II family, 64K required.

Computer Forms

I have seen hundreds of catalogs for computer forms and supplies, as have many of you. I usually discard them unread as they do not meet any need for me that I can not fill locally at a lower cost.

I was handed a "COMPUTER OUTPUT SUPPLIES CATALOG" from DELMART DIVISION of DELUXE CHECK PRINTERS, a Minnesota firm that probably printed your checks if you have a checking account locally. This not too thick catalog of 16 pages describes a product line of supplies for the small system user.

I was impressed by the selection of tractor feed forms, stationary, labels, post cards, index cards, colored papers, carrier-mounted envelopes and other items in the way of printing stuff. Their "Universal" multi-part forms are the carbon-less type and allow the user to print what ever is needed in the various shaded boxes, bars and sections. Similar products that I have seen seem to require that the user buy some pre-printing on the forms. This is not practical for the small user as it locks one in to having too many of a single item. The "Universal" form lets one get multiple use from the same stock form by using one's word processor to "tailor" the copy and appearance of a form.

DELMART will accept orders for a single case of any form, and ship UPS. The prices seem to be reasonable for these kinds of supplies.

DELMART COMPANY is located at 2199 N. Pascal St., St. Paul, MN 55164-0495. If you would like a catalog, I am sure they would be delighted to send one. In Minnesota call 612-483-7888; in other states call 1-800-328-9697.

Static Protection

We are in the winter heating season and the STATIC SEASON also. Soon people will feel that familiar sting as they here the "SNAP" of static discharge. I don't think that computers and data disks have any sense of feel as we comprehend it, but they can be affected by those static nips and bites also, even at voltage levels below what we can feel.

I have been using an effective solution to the static problem for the last year. It is a static discharge material molded around an ergonomic wrist rest which fits in front of my keyboard. The product is called TouchBase. The material is the same as is used in some static discharge mats. I find that it is more effective than a mat under the computer, since it is "out front" where human engineering design makes it simple to use, and it is not likely to be obstructed with the clutter that we generate around us when we work at our computers. I also appreciate the wrist rest aspect of the product when typing.

Since I began using the TouchBase, I have not been "zapped" by static around the computer. Any charge that is built up is safely drained away, eliminating the annoying shocks and protecting the computer too. This is a simple, clean method of static control, and beats spraying suspicious, dirt catching substances about. I wouldn't want to spray them on the computer anyhow.

TouchBase Static Control Wrist Rest is available in models for low, medium and high profile keyboards. It is manufactured by Omnium Corporation, 315 South Third Street, Stillwater, MN 55082. Cost of the TouchBase is \$40.00 to \$50.00, depending on model. The manufacturer also has TouchMats at \$50.00 to \$60.00. (I think Dick must be discharged by now - Ed.)

If you are interested in any of these items, you may use the contact information provided, or call me at (612) 572-9305.

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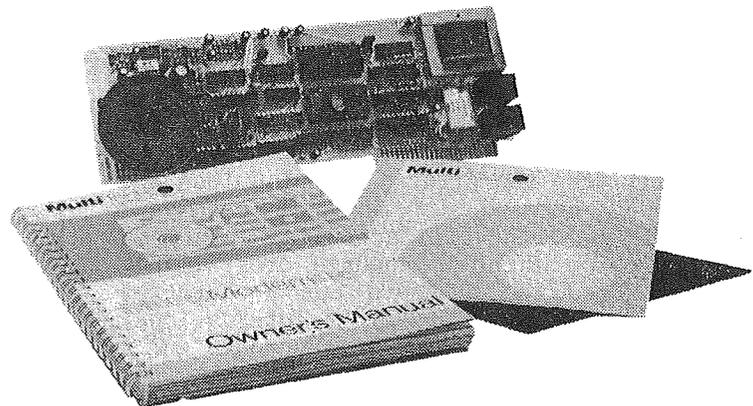
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- A modem that bears comparison!

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General Features:				
Value of Free Database Time	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$381
Program Control Mode Features:				
User Help Feature	No	No	No	Yes
Automatic Log-On	No	No	No	Yes
English Commands	No	No	No	Yes
Firmware (ROM) Features:				
Menu Driven	No	No	No	Yes
80-Column Compatible	Most	No	No	Yes
Compatibility:				
DOS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BASIC	Yes	No	Extra Option	Yes
CP/M®	Partial	No	No	Yes

- MultiCom II communication software provides some of the most advanced features available:

- Auto dial and redial
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- Display and edit files on screen
- Uses rotary, pulse or touch tone dialing
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- Basic program interface
- Fully Hayes compatible. Runs the most popular programs, like ASCII Express and Data Capture.

- Sale ends December 24th!
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Think Jet

A review of the HP Think Jet Printer
by Ken Slingsby

My employer recently bought a Hewlett Packard model 2225C Ink Jet printer. The Think Jet, as HP calls it, is like using the familiar Epson MX-80 with a new twist.

Instead of using a ribbon and a bunch of screaming pins to drive the ribbon into the paper, there is almost no noise as the printing goes on. During printing the only noise heard is that of the motor driving the printhead forth and back. There is no ribbon. The printhead contains a liquid ink supply that is literally squirted onto the paper.

The printer works by using a glycol based ink (which is stored in a bag in the printhead). The ink is fed by capillary action into each of twelve chambers. Each chamber has a small piezoelectric transducer. As the transducer is pulsed it changes shape and ink is forced out of the chamber, thru a small nozzle and on the paper. The printhead is passed forth and back the same as almost any other dot matrix printer. Standard sized characters are formed in a 12 X 7 matrix, 6, 10, 12, or 21 characters per inch horizontally, and 6 or 8 lines per inch vertically. The ink is glycol based to retard the drying time although one cannot smear the ink once it is on the paper as the fibres absorb it. HP recommends the use of ink jet paper, which has a slightly smoother finish. This does produce a sharper image but ordinary 20 pound paper works quite well at much less cost.

The Think Jet is a good emulation of the MX-80. The commands follow those of the Graftrax+ version with minor changes. For most applications no changes will be required after the Think Jet is connected. One difference I found is that if a program (in Applesoft) is alternating between screen and printer as in an interactive dialog, the screen will echo the printed output unless the CHR\$(9)"80N" command is repeated each and every time the printer is activated. This is no problem for machine language programming. In addition to the standard Epson character set, the Think Jet prints eight international character sets (not while in Epson mode) and a few other characters such as the one-half symbol. To get these other character sets, one must flip "dip" switches on the back panel and cycle the power switch.

There is one set of eight configuration switches on the back panel - in easy reach. The first four switches control carriage return definition and line feed definition, perforation skip, and page length. Three

switches select the alternate character sets (one of eight). The eighth switch selects HP mode or Epson mode. This switch has an effect on the three character set switches. Along side of the configuration switches is the power switch and a power supply fuse. The top panel has line feed, form feed, and top of form buttons. The Think Jet has no controls inside the cabinet. There are also two tiny light emitting diodes to indicate power on and a problem such as printhead jam or paper out. The printer has no alarm buzzer, which I miss. There is no "off-line" mode. The printer is always ready unless the alert light is lit.

In case you haven't seen the advertisements for the Think Jet, you might feel I'm talking about a large machine. This is the suprising feature. The printer weighs six pounds and is smaller than an 8" X 11" sheet of paper. I doubted that it could take a full sheet of paper when the box was first opened. It does. The paper may be fanfold, cut, or roll.

GOTO 17

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ThinkJet Concluded from page 16

I haven't been able to find much wrong with the printer. When we first opened the box and connected it to the Apple, it would not print. The manual suggests wiping the face of the printhead with a tissue. That did not work. Finally after several tries we found that a paper clip gently pushed in the rear of the ink bag would cause ink to come out the nozzles. This "primed the pump" and the printer has worked ever since. Each new printhead so far has needed this treatment. After about 2" of paper have been printed some of the characters look smeary. The tissue seems to help this. Maybe the ink jet paper does have other advantages.

are printed with a single pass. When finished, the graphics are good. An all black picture shows little variation from black. By the way, the Epson emulation is complete here. Alternating text and graphics on the same line causes multiple carriage returns with line feeds.

Hewlett-Packard does not supply an interface cable with the printer. There are four models available each having a different interface connector. Apparently there are no conversion kits to change from one to another. The parallel version uses the familiar Centronics connector. It works with both the Epson APL

These dot matrix utility printers use HP's disposable ink jet printhead to provide **fast, quiet, affordable** text and graphics hardcopy. The 2225 handles single sheet and z-fold paper in U.S. (8.5 x 11") and European (A4) sizes. Every member of the ThinkJet family has the following features:

Bidirectional, logic seeking text

Dot-addressable graphics at two densities

96 x 96 dots/inch

96 vertical x 192 horizontal dots/inch

Four print pitches

Compressed (142 characters/line)

Normal (80 characters/line)

Expanded compressed (71 characters/line)

Expanded (40 characters/line)



HEWLETT
PACKARD

One-pass underline and one-pass bold (no slowing down!)

Example of ThinkJet Printout

The default character size is 12 per inch. Indeed all output is proportionally smaller than the Epson character set. This makes the printing seem sharper but it is a smaller font. By using expanded-compressed mode, you can get 10 characters per inch. The smallest print size gets 143 characters per line.

Graphics really slow down the usually fast 150 character per second printing. Graphics are printed with one or two passes per line. The first pass prints alternating vertical stripes. The second fills in with another alternating set. The "low density" graphics

card and a Microtek Dumpling card. The serial version is plain-jane RS-232 (is there such a thing?) and should work with most serial boards. The IL interface model printer can be purchased with an internal battery pack. Also available is a model with the IEEE-488 bus connector. These last two models are of little use to Apple users but are supplied for HP calculators and some other computer manufacturers.

The Think Jet is a winner. At \$495 it is not cheap but is definitely state of the art. Its super quiet printing makes it a joy to have in an office or wherever silence is golden.



ProPrint

A Review of A
 Macintosh Daisywheel Printer Program
 by Daniel B. Buchler

This program was first reviewed in the November edition of MacWorld where it was compared to the "Mac DaisyWheel Connection" and another package called "LetterWare". From my prospective, that review was very poor in that it dealt only with the user interface and relegated capability and performance to one table. That table was very incomplete, and implied some capabilities which are marginal at best.

As detailed herein, there are serious problems with justified proportional spacing, tabbing, MacWrite generated page-breaks, top/bottom margins and underscores.

Mac users should of course be very concerned with the the user interface. But, if the package does not do the right job, the best user interface in the world is worthless. However, I think ProPrint did an excellent job at the user interface, and if you want to know more about it, read the referenced article. Now to the problems.

The following shows how the ProPrint actually behaves. This article was written using MacWrite and printed on an Apple LQP using ProPrint. The ProPrint **Printer Selection** was **Apple DaisyWheel**. Identical results were obtained by changing the selection to **Qume Sprint 11**. Everything that you have read, so far, was set up in Monaco (Monospaced font) at 12 point, and then printed on the paper using a standard 12 pitch Prestige Elite font with a ProPrint dialog box selection of 12 pitch. The MacWrite left margin was set at 5/8" and right margin at 3 1/2 + 5/8" to achieve a 3 1/2" column width. Even that part didn't work like it should. The ProPrint added another 3/16" to the above margin settings.

You will notice that the text above has spaces between words which are always exact multiples of character spaces (1/12"). This paragraph has even spaces between words and was typed on the][+

with PieWriter. When PieWriter prints, it optionally produces the **incremental** or even spaces, which is exactly the way the text appears on the Mac screen in all fonts including **Monaco**. Pity!

Now let's see what happens when we select a large point size from the **Style** menu - 24 point, for example. The 24, above, marked the beginning of 24 point, but this text still looks the same. On the screen we are seeing the big 24 point letters which if reduced would look like the following.

"24 point, for example.
 The 24, above, marked the

What this means is that the line length is entirely controlled by the ruler setting, ProPrint "filling" the line as needed. Still - so far so good.

GOTO 19

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ProPrint Continued from page 18

The real problem starts when we attempt to use proportional spacing with the printer in justified mode. As one would expect, if any of the proportional fonts are used on the screen, and 12 pitch specified on the ProPrint dialog, then ProPrint simply "fills" the line to the length of ruler selected. If we select proportional from the ProPrint print dialog box, and mount a proportional print wheel on the printer, what happens?

I have now switched to Geneva at 12 pitch. Because the ruler width is still 3 1/2 inches, ProPrint is maintaining the 3 1/2" line width and "filling". The trouble is that ProPrint doesn't seem to know what character widths the Apple LQP (Qume Sprint 11) printer needs. The problem is compounded by the fact, that Geneva is printed in what, MacWrite calls, bold. This is, in fact, a shadow printing technique that makes the words longer than the program thinks they are. If we use what MacWrite calls Shadow, we get what you see for Shadow in this sentence - that is, no change.

Superscript and SubScript work OK as shown below.

$$a_i = 34^2 = 1156$$

If we switch to another font such as Chicago, there is no difference, except that the "fill" may make what you see on the screen per line different than what you see on the paper. This sentence was written in Chicago.

Maybe some of you will think that I am making a mountain out of a molehill. The point is that the Mac is a proportional typing tool, and without proper capability here, you sacrifice much of the reason d'etre behind the Mac. The only effective way one can use proportional spacing is to forgo the right column justification as shown in this paragraph.

If one goes to right column justification, and retain the proportional spacing, look what happens. This sentence was typed in Geneva 12 point at 3 1/2" line width, with right column justification turned on.

As you can see, not only is the line length messed up, but so is the ability to line up on the right column.

Now if we go back to monospaced Monaco, and set right column justification, then the columns come out OK. Because, of ProPrint can't do proportional properly, column work also gets messed up in proportional as shown below.

We are back in Geneva 12 point plain text, Proportional selected on the ProPrint Dialog box. You can see what happens. Both the left and right edges are messed up.

GOTO 20



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ProPrint Concluded from page 19

Finally let us look at columnized information. Again, in Monaco at 12 pitch and the ProPrint dialog at 12 pitch.

The table looks like the following on the screen. Tabs are shown as ">". In the printed tables, several of the tabs have been lost.

```

We >      set>      tabs>      at
>         one>
>>
>>                two
and a decimal tab at >      three
inches>      relative> to>      left
margin.>      The decimals show>      1.1
>>>
>>>                2.25
>>>                30.3

```

When printed in 12 pitch with the actual tabs, it comes out correctly as follows:

```

We      set      tabs      at
      one
      two
and a decimal tab at      three
inches      relative to      left
margin.      The decimals show      1.1
      2.25
      30.3

```

With proportional selected for printing with ProPrint, two problems appeared:

1. The tab setting went haywire as shown below.
2. The underscores used to separate the tables above, caused the printer to start spewing forth paper at a fantastic rate! After deleting the underscores from the file, the following was the resultant table.

```

We      set      tabs      at
      one
      two
and a decimal tab at      three
inches      relative to      left
margin.      The decimals show      1.1
      2.25
      30.3

```

One more thing: ProPrint provides no way to control the overall top and bottom page margin settings. Regardless, of what is in the header or footer, you get a one inch top and bottom margin added on. Also, the print-out ignores MacWrite generated page-breaks. Only user-specified page breaks are recognized. All of the above makes it difficult to lay out a document.

The MacWorld review identified the fact that ProPrint is supplied on a copy protected disk. This means that you can't make MacWrite disks configured for a daisywheel printer. However, you can copy MacWrite onto the ProPrint disk. Also, ProPrint is designed to work with MacWrite files. Printing documents from other programs, such as MultiPlan, requires the creation of an intermediate MacWrite file - a real nuisance.

Well that is about all we can do. So until we can test the "connection" - happy image writing!



Is your Apple fyreproof?

Well...here's your chance to find out! All you need is the new adventure game developed by TRISOFT called FYREQUEST! FYREQUEST will give you hours of challenging fun and excitement...as you're searching the castle of over 250 rooms to slay the evil dragon, ALSANTZ. But, beware: There are many dangers lurking in every shadow ready to confound your assault on ALSANTZ. If you're ready to try a HOT one like FYREQUEST just send \$20 or contact: TRISOFT, 1292 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117. But act now!

TRISOFT

MacPlace

or Current Mac Rumors
by Dan Buchler



s stated last month, this is the Mac Rumor column - although most of what is said below is to the best of my knowledge true!

Foreign Printers - Summarized last week; article on ProPrint published herein.

I received my program and cable from B. K. Enterprises of California, 209-686-7850, who sell Mac MX for \$49.95 with cable, or \$29.95 without cable. The product is basically a software driver, a driver installation program and a cable to plug your MX-80 printer into the Mac. It works, though the MX is much slower than the ImageWriter. I'll report on it more next month!

Jazz - from Lotus has been announced. The IBM PC version has the more mature **Symphony** product. But to really swing you need **Jazz**. Price is \$100 lower than Symphony at \$595! Will be out in March according to the Jazz brochure (Feb - according to InfoWorld). The following information has been extracted from the Lotus brochure which was distributed at Comdex in mid-November.

Jazz offers the usual Mac features of font selection and style.

Word Processing includes: wordwrap, forward and backwards search and replace, mailmerge with database, integrate data from worksheet, integrate pictures, page formats, headers, footers, page numbers and date.

Spreadsheet includes: 8192 rows by 256 columns; removable grid; more than one worksheet open at a time; lock cells; transpose, sort, distribution analysis; formats such as fixed, currency, percent, scientific and date; labels justified left, center or right; individual column widths; mouse control for ranges of cells and lots of functions.

Database includes: data entry, edit and query; sorting on 3 fields, ascending or descending; query with wild card parameters; provides for multiple databases; and powerful report generator.

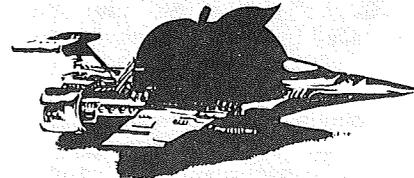
Forms includes: organizing database fields; user definable entry prompts; Display-Only form for data input; and query database by entering criteria on form.

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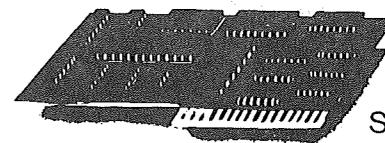
GOTO 22

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MacPlace Concluded from page 21

Requires: Fat-Mac and external disk drive. Works with Hayes or Apple Modem.

Those of you familiar with Symphony will notice one major difference - there are no macros. The reason is that it's hard to capture mouse clicks and coordinates. So, Lotus came up with the "Form" feature. Having developed a few macros on Lotus 1-2-3, all I can say is that it should make life a lot easier!

In Jazz, if you move a graphic into the word processor, but do not "freeze" it, then, if one subsequently changes the data in the spreadsheet from which the graphic is derived, the graphic will change accordingly. Whenever one wants, the graphic can be frozen, so that the change in data does not change the graphic.

Subir Chatterjee (see below) was very impressed by the speed of sorting within Jazz.

Maybe it's the only program you'll ever need! It will certainly help sell Macs, particularly to Fortune 500 companies who are still dominated by IBM think.

A.P.P.L.E. is distributing instructions on upgrading your 128k to 512k. Besides 16 of 200 nanosecond 256k bit chips, you need a 74F253 I.C., a soldering gun and some guts. Chuck Thiesfeld is thinking about taking the plunge!

Over-Vue sounds like an interesting database manager. Its straightforward in that it handles fields set up in columns. Information is stored efficiently on disk (and in memory), so that space is not wasted by long field definitions only partially filled. Just as we were going to press, Chuck Thiesfeld called me to say that we probably could put a program on a MacDOM which allows Mac System catalog information to be dumped into an Over-Vue file.

Problem is that there are more and more database managers appearing every day!

Subir Chatterjee, past Mini'app'les Business SIG Coordinator, just came back from Comdex. He was kind enough to share some information he picked up about Mac products from that show, including some of the Jazz details above.

ThinkTank, 512k, was shown at Comdex. It has significant enhancements over the 128k version. These include:

- Word Processing
- Slideshow. This feature lets you create screens corresponding to slides, and then to actually display them by clicking the mouse or by setting time intervals. What's more, the slides may incorporate items pasted from MacPaint or MacWrite. This results in a very effective presentation package. ThinkTank 512k is scheduled for release in February. It was demonstrated at Comdex.

MacLion sounds like a super database program for those who want to be a little creative. The program is something like Quick & Easy or dBase II. There is a sort of procedure generator which is then compiled into an intermediate language which can be executed. The language is called (I'll give you one guess) - Leo! Later next year, there will be a special run-time package without the rest of MacLion so persons generating an application with MacLion can create run time disks with appropriate license. MacLion supposedly sells for less than \$379!

Sometime in the future, all Macs will have a video connector with logic that creates a video signal to any standard composite-video type monochrome monitor (maybe this part of the color Mac too, for that machine is unlikely to have a built in color monitor - too expensive).

On a related subject, Subir was very impressed with a new light-weight green screen video projector, not made by ElectroHome. These new machines sell for around \$3000 and produce excellent quality of display.

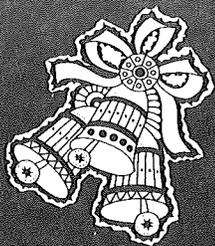
Also seen at Comdex, was a British-made 3-pen plotter with Mac driver software, that sells for \$399.

Subir thinks that Helix has a place in the database world for persons who don't want to learn complicated selection criteria techniques. Everything is done graphically. The tiles, a sort of domino like Ikon, define how items are selected and other parameters about the database. All one has to do is to select and position the tiles.

Well that's enough for this month.

Hey, anyone say there's no software for the Mac? That's all for now!





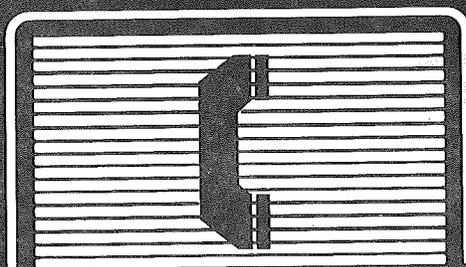
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MacPaint Bitmap Format

by P. Rowley
University of Toronto

via Multics forum INFO-MAC
trans. #765 on 7/23/84

The following Mac MS-BASIC program reads a MacPaint document and puts it up on the Mac's screen. It is written, not so much as a useful program, but to illustrate the format of MacPaint documents. I wrote it to be sure I understood the format before writing a C program to allow the printing of MacPaint documents on the raster output devices on our VAX (a Versatec plotter and Symbolics laser printer). I'd be interested in hearing from anyone doing the same.

Editor's note: We try to avoid printing programs in the newsletter unless they are educational. This one is both educational and well documented.

```

10 REM: MacPaint file dump program
20 DEFINT A-Z:S$=SPACE$(75):CLS:
  INPUT "Name of file to dump"; A$:CLS
30 OPEN A$ FOR INPUT AS #1
40 REM: read (and ignore) 512 byte header
50 FOR I=1 TO 4:A$=INPUT$(128,1):NEXT I
60 REM: read the 720 scan lines, each in
  compressed format
70 REM: and display on the screen
75 REM: X is the horizontal position, Y the
  vertical
80 X=7:Y=0:CALL MOVETO(1,250):PRINT Y;
90 CALL MOVETO(1,230): IF EOF(1) THEN STOP
100 REM: read the count byte, correcting for
  sign
110 A$=INPUT$(1,1): A=ASC(A$): IF A>127 THEN
  A=A-256
120 REM: + numbers: a run of raw bytes, -
  numbers: a repeated byte
130 IF A>=0 THEN 220
140 REM
150 REM: run of (-count + 1) identical bytes
160 A$=INPUT$(1,1):B=ASC(A$):
  PRINT -A+1;"copies of";B;S$;
170 REM: Don't call the pixel printing routine
  for a run of 0's. Update X.
180 IF B=0 THEN X=X+8*(-A+1):GOTO 290
190 REM: Call the pixel printing routine
  (-count+1) times
200 FOR I=1 TO -A+1: D=B:GOSUB 320:NEXT I:GOTO
  290
210 REM
220 REM: sequence of (count+1) raw bytes
230 IF A=0 THEN PRINT " 1 byte:";:GOTO 250
240 PRINT A+1;"bytes:";
250 FOR I=1 TO A+1:A$=INPUT$(1,1):
  D=ASC(A$):PRINT D;:GOSUB
  320:NEXT I
260 PRINT S$;
270 REM
280 REM If we've reached the end of a scan
  line, go to the next one
290 IF X=583 THEN Y=Y+1:X=7:
  CALL MOVETO(1,250):PRINT Y;:
  IF Y=720 THEN END
300 GOTO 90
310 REM
320 REM: display the byte as pixels on the
  screen, high bit is leftmost pixel
330 IF D=0 THEN 360
340 FOR J=0 TO 7:IF D AND 1 THEN PSET(X-J,Y)
350 D=D\2:NEXT J
360 X=X+8:RETURN

(We hope to have this program on a future
MacDOM - Ed.)

```

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FLASHCALC Notes

Is FLASHCALC For You ??
by Gene Hatfield

If you expect FLASHCALC to be the cheap answer to all your spreadsheet problems, you may be in for a surprise!!

Do not use FLASHCALC '@PMT' command for Mortgage payment calculations, Loan Payment Schedules or Mortgage Amortization Schedules!! The calculation is wrong when compared to a Texas Instruments BA-II Executive Calculator. The BA II has several sections on Mortgage payments and is used by Realtors. The formula used in '@PMT' is much different than that in the TI BA-II for the same type of problem!! FLASHCALC will not allow you to enter the proper formula in place of their PMT pre-set formula. The program will only allow the formulas by 'cell' A1+B4*C5 etc. and only in a 'forward' mode category and not in 'raw' form (i,pmt,pv,fv=n) or in the form $PV=PMT[1-(1+i)^{-n}/i]$ as a replacement. In the book example of 'Financial Functions' PAYMENT AMOUNT (page 9-49) the "sheet" shows:

Interest of	.1 (10%)
Periods of	36
Present Value of	8000
Future Value of	0
Payment Amount	-265.71

If you try it with their figures and formula @PMT it will come out with the answer of -258.14. Now to get their answer, use .0833 (8.33%). The formula @PERIODS will also give the wrong answer.

If you have a Spreadsheet that purports to do 'loan payments' try the following;

Interest	10%
Years (periods)	30
Loan Amount	\$ 16000

Monthly Payment ? Ordinary Annuity =\$140.41

Or turn it around and calculate for periods. do you get 360? That is the same as 30 Years. Even the examples shown in the manual do not 'compute' by the formulas that are used by the Mortgage lending companies and Realtors.

While working with another type of calculation format I needed to Init. a disk and even though the screen showed that the disk to Init. was in D2 the program started to Init. THE FLASHCALC MASTER IN D1!! Needless to say, the disk is now NG. S000— once you have used

the examples on the main disk it would be wise to WRITE PROTECT IT, or send for the back-up disk first!!!

For those who have limited needs of a spread-sheet, this may be OK but it soon runs out of memory (unless you have 64K or more in added memory cards);and does not allow you to use a "back space" key if so labled or left arrow: you must use the ESC key to DELETE A LETTER.

Even though I noted on the registration card that I found the formulas in error, Visicorp has never bothered to contact me. This is not the kind of 'support' that GENERATES SALES, rather it gets reviews like this.

I sent in for the 'back up disk' as well as sending in the defective disk for replacement (within warrantee) and have yet to get it.

On the plus side

I have used the rest of the program for a PARTS COST and PROFIT MARGIN distribution calculator and I find that if you know the 'tricks to fool it' you can even get some calculations in the backward route! Many times all you have to do is to have a cell multiply by 1 and then use the /E dit to trace over the formula. When you press RETURN, the cell will re-calculate on the basis of the formula. However, it may contain a figure BEFORE you trace over the cell formula. So do not be fooled into thinking it is correct WITHOUT tracing!!

Example:
+G31*1*.06 will calculate the State Sales Tax when you 'trace' over it even if you have it displayed at cell A20.

If you find an automatic way, let me know too!!

All in all if you are considering a spreadsheet and can TRY IT OUT BEFORE PURCHASING this might do what you want. I am more and more convinced that one needs to be able to get one's hands on a program (through a store, by renting or from a friend) BEFORE purchasing unless you have a lot of money to "play" with!! I have signed up with a Program Rent/Buy service and find that it does save money in the long run.



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Microline 80 Okidata dot matrix printer with Microtek RV-611C interface card. \$150 for both. 6 months old. Cheryl 451-1406 (after 4)

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Koala Touch Pad and software, \$50 or offer. Terrapin Logo - \$50.

Dan Buchler 890-5051

Slightly used software: Key Perfect; \$15. Megawriter; \$40. Apple Writer II; \$30. PFS File; \$30. Call after 6 pm 546-5136

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A reminder that Disks Of the Months (DOMs) and Mini'apples Software Disks (MSDs) are available by mail: DOMs at \$6.00 each; MSDs at \$17.50 each; MacDOMs at \$9.00 each. Send your order to:

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Most DOM's and all the MSDs are available at club meetings Because of the volume of disks distributed, they are not tested. Club members are asked to make every effort to get the DOM or MSD running. For example, occasionally the DOS on

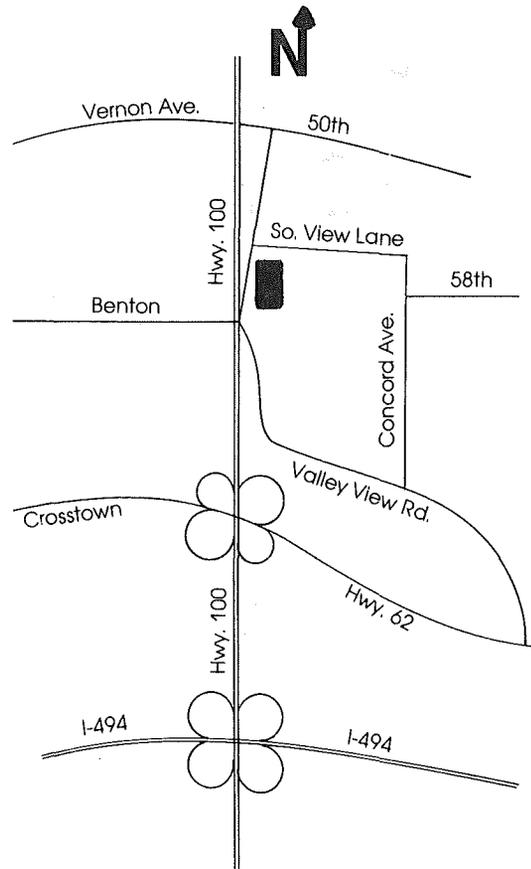
the disk will be bad, but it will catalog OK and one can run the programs. Master Create on your System master disk will fix-up the DOS. Of course, if you have a disk with bad programs, we will cheerfully replace it!

A service to copy DOMs (not MSDs) to your own media is also available. See announcements section.

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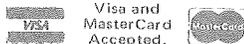
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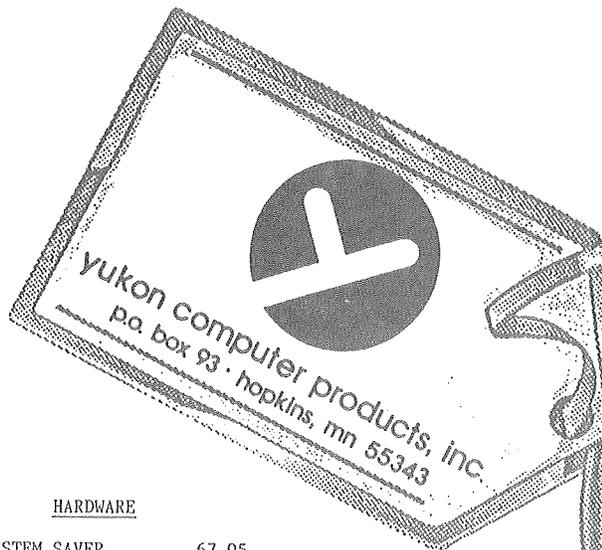
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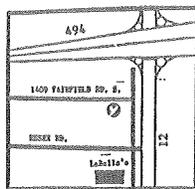


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