VOLUME VII
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Dakota County Branch Note 7

Board Meeting Note 2
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Medical SIG
Note 13
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Note 2
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Educational SIG
New Hope Branch
CP/M SIG
Minnetonka Branch

NO 5
C ALENDAR
WHERE

Minnesota Federal
9th Ave S Hopkins
St. John Neumann Church
4030 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan
Norwest Bank
S lst St., Hopkins
St Paul Vo-Tech
Health Associates Ctr. 2221 University SE, Rm 115
Edina Community Center 5701 Normandale Road Room 103

Waite Park City Hall
5th Ave \& 3rd St N.
The Science Museum of MN
30 E 10 th, St Paul
UNI VERSITY MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL
Room B45 BIdg 412
After Regular Mtg.
Henn Cty Lib at Southdale 7001 York Ave S.
Rockford Rd Library
County Road 9
Minn Fed Hopkins
Hopkins MN
Glen Lake Community Ctr
14300 Excelsior Blvd room E
State Falrgrounds
Mahtomed I Fire House
Hallam \& Stillwater.
Minnesota Federal
9th Ave S Hopkins
St. John Neumann Church
4030 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan
Edina Community Center
5701 Normandale Road Room 103
Lincoln Center
(old Lincoln High)
88th \& Sheridan Ave.
Bloomington
After Regular Mtg.
Rockford Rd Library
Minn Fed Bank
Glen Lake Community Ctr

MAY 1984
CALENDAR
WHAT
Pascal \& Apple /// Special
Interest Group Meeting.

New Board Night. All
members are welcome!
Note 12: Educ. Lab by Daryl Dewar

Demo: BPI General Ledger by Henry Lewis Discussion of Spreadsheets
Demo: GPLE, DOS BOSS, Micro Wkbk, Apple Graphics. No meeting JUN, JUL or AUGUST
Adm. $\$ 2$ Members of Club/Museum
$\$ 3$ All others
If the hardware arrives;
Apple llc Demo by Mike Carlson (PBS)
Otherwise just a great presentation!
Note 12 Demo: "Read \& Underline...."

MN's largest swap show. See ad inside!
UNIX by Len Munson

Pascal \& Apple /// Special
Interest Group Meeting.

Note 7

Program to be determined

Note 12
Note 16
Note 5
Note 8

## Notes:

1. John Schoeppner
2. Scott Ueland
3. Fred Woodward
4. Eric Holterman
(See page 2 for telephone numbers)
5. W. Scott Ueland
6. Martin Thames
7. Dan Buchler
8. Bob Pfaff
9. Bill DeCoursey
10. Jane Chatterjee
11. Stewart Haight
12. Steve George
13. Frank M. Ringsmuth
14. Jere Kauffman

# Mini’app’les 

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc. P.O. Box 796

Hopkins, MN 55343

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Hugh Kurtzman

This is the Newsletter of Mini'app'les, the Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc., a non-profit club. Articles may be reproduced in other User Groups' publications except where specifically copyrighted by author.

## Questions

Please direct questions to officer. Technical questions should be directed to the Technical Coordinator.

## 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
The 3 most recent DOMs (Disk of the Month) are available at meetings for \$5/disk or any DOM may be ordered by mail for $\$ 7.50 /$ disk. MSDs are \$15/disk at meetings or $\$ 17.50 /$ disk by mail. Contact

Terry Schoeppner,
Box 241 , Inver Grove Heights
MN, 550广5 (455-8613)
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

Piease 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 ist 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:
PO Box 21-425
Eagan, MN, 55121 612-454-5628

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# aptebsavice and patris 

REPAIRS: 9 Yrs. Experience, 24 Hr . Service Avail., Flat Rate, Contracts Too!
POWER SWITCH: Replaced with Pro Mini-Toggle, only $\$ 15.00$
PARTS: Every IC Instock; Dealer and Club Inquiries Invited 64K RAMS, 16K + 64K STATIC RAM, Call for Immed. Quote

CABLES: 4 Foot Disk Cables, 3 M Gold Connectors $\$ 15$ Ea., 2 for $\$ 25$ Printer Cables Too - WE MAKE ANY CABLE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

buSIness sig meeting news<br>by Dick Marchiafava<br>MAY MEETING: BOOKKEEEPING WITH bPI GENERAL LEDGER AND SPREADSHEETS

## Election Results

The following were elected Directors per the new bylaws.
accounting professional. The second part of applications on spreadsheets. If you are having difficulty with a spreadsheet application, bring it along. There will be help available at the meeting.

Everyone is welcome, and bring your questions!

## Mac Users

How about forming a MAC SIG? Mike Carlson of PBS (who is currently also the VisiCalc SIG coordinator) has offered to help start up this important SIG. Mini'app'les can provide an excellent umbrella for a MAC Special Interest group: organizational support, newsletter, distribution system, IAC support, etc., etc. If you think you might come to a MAC SIG meeting or participate in the running of such a SIG meeting, please call Mike at 929-4120. A start-up meeting will be held on Monday, June 11 th, with the intent of continuing to meet on the 2nd Monday of each month!

## KSTP Computer Talk

Tune in to KSTP (1500 AM) every Saturday at 5PM to hear Computer Talk. Mini'app'les will supply an 'expert' for this show on the 2nd Saturday of each month. If you have an Apple related question, here's your chance to get on the air! usiness SIG has moved! The Business SIG meetings will be moved from downtown to Edina for May 10th and will be held at the Edina Community Center, 5701 Normandale Road (the cross street is Southview Lane). Directions: Hiway 100, exit at 50 th Street. Turn east, then turn south on the frontage road which is east of Perkins.

The meetings are in Room 103, which is on the first floor, west. Meetings start at 7:00 PM with RANDOM ACCESS, the question and answer session where members seek solutions and share experience. The program starts at 7:30 PM .

The May program is about Bookkeeping and Accounting. A demo of the BPI GENERAL LEDGER, the most popular accounting package for the Apple computer will be presented by Henry Lewis, of Henry T. Lewis \& Associates, an accounting professional. The second part of ,

| President | Dave Laden |
| :--- | :--- |
| Vice-President | Scott Ueland |
| Treasurer | John Hansen |
| Secretary | Ken Slingsby |
| Cormunication | Dan Buchler |
| Software | Pete Gilles |
| Technical | Hugh Kurtzman |
| SIG Director 1 | John Schoeppner |
| SIG Director 2 | Subir Chatterjee |
| Branch | Ron Androff |

## 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!

- GOTO 5


Announcements Continued from page 4

## Educational SIG

by Jane Chatterjee

## May Meetings:

Extra Meeting: Wednesday, May 9th, 7.30pm.
Room 408, St Paul Vo-Tech, 235
Marshall Ave, St Paul.
Hands-on educational software lab. Arranged by Daryl Dewar, math instructor at the college.

Regular Meeting: Wednesday May 16th, after the regular Mini'app'les meeting, at the same location. Demonstration of the program 'Read and Underline to Comprehend', a reading program written and demonstrated by Dave Wark, U of M psychology professor. This program is in the final stages of development and will be available later in the year. Dave also has news of an educational computing conference he attended recently at New York University.

## Minnesota State Software Evaluation Project:

The director of this project is interested in contacting classroom teachers who would like to participate, with their students, in evaluating software submitted to the project. The evaluation will take a few hours and there is a small fee involved. Also, your school can be put on the project's mailing list through which you will receive copies of the evaluations, every few months. I have the application forms available, or you can obtain them directly from: Harold MacDermot, Project Director, Minnesota State Dept; phone 297-2534. They are also interested in machines other than the Apple- there, I said it! (Jane, do you mean the Mac? - Ed.)

Magasines / Journals, April issues:

- Twin Cities Computer User: Regular and timely listing of local computer classes; levels from literacy to programming.
- Creative Computing: This is the biannual issue focussing on education. It contains a number of articles on educational software and is definitely worth looking at.
- Softalk: Schoolhouse Apple feature article on educational computing projects for the handicapped.
- Computing Teacher: Theme Issue on Computer Equity, including use of micros by girls, minorities, disadvantaged etc.
- Classroom Computer Learning: As usual, full of educational computing articles for all levels. If you are looking to subscribe to an educational computing magasine, this is a good one to start with. (Address- 5615 W . Cermak Rd, Cicero, IL 60650)
- Computing Teacher, March issue: Update and software listing of project Softswap largest collection of public domain educational software.


## Networker Bulk Purchase by Steve George

As stated in the front cover, we do not endorse any retail computer-related stores. But we do have an obligation to members to pass on information which you will find beneficial.

I recently had the opportumity to evaluate the Networker Modem and software. (See review elsewhere in this newsletter.) This is a great package and the retail prices are very reasonable. However, a "bulk purchase" has been offered to Mini'app'les members by a local retailer: Diskcover Software.

Diskcover Software normally offers Mini'app'les members a $10 \%$ discount on everything they have. But, a special price has been worked out so that you can save even more: Networker Modem with Networker software (reg $\$ 129$ ) now $\$ 100$ and NetMaster Combo (Networker Modem and NetMaster Software, reg \$179) now \$135!!

As bulk purchases go, they need a minimum of 12 orders to do this. When 12 orders have been received they will be filled and the next 12 requests collected. So, give them a call, as they are handling all the details.

GOTO 6

## Professional Service

Get it done right the first time!
We give quality service on all Apple products and Epson printers.

## Need on-site repair?

Call us-- on site and maintenance contracts available.

## hagen

OFFICE ECUIPMENT, INC.
801 WEST 77\% STREET
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA 35423 866-3441

Announcements Continued from page 5

New Hope Branch
by Jere Kauffman
The New Hope Branch will meet on May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Rockford Road Library, County Road 9 in Crystal. Dick Hreha will demonstrate his robot "Hero". All interested Apple users are welcome to attend and take part in our discussions.

> MECC Disks
> by Dave Nordvall

We are sorry to announce that the club will no longer offer MECC disks to members. MECC will not provide them to us for sale at the special club prices. You may of course order MECC disks directly from MECC at their advertised catalog prices.

## April Classified Mix-up

The newsletter staff apologies to those who had classified ads to be run in the April issue. Somehow we managed to rerun the March classified. This issue includes those classified ads submitted April.

## Computer Fair

The Science Museum of Minnesota in conjunctionwith the Twin City Computer User is sponsoring a computer fair at the museum on Saturday, May 12. You will be able to see a bulletin board functioning, a variety of PCs and other related items. Mini'app'les will be there too!

## Stolen Equipment

The equipment listed below was stolen from Augsburg College. Each piece has ID NMO27111147 engraved on bottom.

Apple //e SN 1A2S2-360356 with 80 col. card and Super Serial card. Has circular hole in back for cable.

Apple Disk Drives SNs $1202161 \& 1204387$.
Apple ][ Monitor SN 739725821
Please call Larry Copes at 330-1064 or 451-3720 if you have any information which might lead to the recovery of the equipment or identification of the thief.

GOTO 7

## Supplies For Your Computer

The Computer Supply Store in St. Paul, Minnesota stocks the supplies you need. Specializing in P.C. supplies, The Computer Supply Store is dedicated to serving your needs with the right product, quick service and very competitive prices. Call 612-646-9412 for our catalog.

> The Computer Supply Store
> 1603 University Avenue
> St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

## Dick West



## Announcements Concluded from page 6

## Investment SIG <br> by Eric Holterman

The next meeting of the Investment SIG will be on Thursday, May 17 at the Hennepin County Library near Southdale. We plan to spend part of the meeting looking at a demo disk of Omega Microware's Chart Trader Plus. The remainder of the meeting will include a demo of another program program not yet selected.

As we did last year, we will suspend our meetings during the summer, so May will be our last meeting until September.

We will be in the Ethel Berry Room. Doors open at 7 PM and the meeting starts at $7: 15 \mathrm{PM}$, adjourning by $9: 15 \mathrm{PM}$. The library is located at 7001 York Avenue South. It is on the east side of the street, across from Target. Plenty of free parking.

## Mini'app'les Software Disks MSDs

3 Great Disks:

- Mini'Scrip Checkbook Financial System - MSD \#1. A home and small business checking and accounting package by Leighton G. Siegel.
- Micro-maller - MSD \#2. Mail list program by Juris and Paula Ozols of Prairle Microsystems Inc. Magic Window though not required works well in conjunction with Micro-mailer.
- Higher Text Extensions - MSD \#3. Contains Higher Print by Dan Buchler, Message Maker by Charles C. Boody and Higher Word-processor by Don Hagberg.

Higher Print provides a high density print capability with a selection of fonts and more if you own Higher Text from A.P.P.L.E. The newsletter headers and logo are printed with Higher Text.
Message Maker requires that you own HIGHER TEXT. It serves as a tool to create and display, on your screen, messages which scroll up and down, left and right and do other useful things.
Higher Word Processor is a easy to use line oriented text editor suited to letter writing and everyday home use. It integrates with Higher Print.

All MSDs are available at meetings, to members only, for $\$ 15$, or by mall from Terry Schoeppner for $\$ 17.50$. See classifled ads.

DOMs by Mail<br>Continuing Service for Mini'app'les Members by Chuck Thiesfeld

Now members can order DOMs (not Mini'app'les Software) 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.

Send to:
C. Thiesfeld

8416 Xerxes Avenue S. Bloomington, MN 55431
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 Terry Schoeppner. Questions on DOM content should be addressed to A1 Peterman, our DOM editor.

Please note that DOMs may also be purchased on club-supplied media by sending $\$ 7.50$ to the software sales coordinator. See inside front cover. 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 Terry for $\$ 17.50$. Or, the latest DOMs are available at regular meetings, and at some Branch meetings, for sale to members at $\$ 5$ each, and the MSDs for $\$ 15$ each.


## DOES TRYING TO FIND THE BEST PRICES ON COMPUTER PRODUCTS SEEM LIKE TRYING TO NAIL JELLO TO A TREE?

We handle over 15 different computers, over 20 makes of printers, disk drives, modems, more than 200 software vendors with 3000 + titles, 10 makes of monitors, 12 top selling diskettes and lots more. If you need it, we can get it for you.

## Try Us and Save Your Money

We sell at absolutely, positively the lowest prices in town, bar none. Call for a quote, or come in and see us.

| Here Are Some Examples Retail |  | CBS List |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Gemini 10X Printer | $\$ 399$ | $\$ 275$ |
| Okidata ML92P Printer | $\$ 599$ | $\$ 449$ |
| Epson RX-80 Printer | $\$ 499$ | $\$ 289$ |
| Panasonic KXP1090 |  |  |
| Printer | $\$ 499$ | $\$ 289$ |
| Amdek 300 Monitor | $\$ 179$ | $\$ 135$ |
| Columbia Desktop |  |  |
| $\quad$ Computer | $\$ 3170$ | $\$ 2460$ |
| Mitsuba Super 5 Drive | $\$ 299$ | $\$ 209$ |
| Sentinel 51/4 ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ Disks (10) | $\$ 45.00$ | $\$ 21.00$ |
| PFS Series Software | $\$ 125$ | $\$ 85$ |
| Hayes Smartmodem 1200 | $\$ 699$ | $\$ 489$ |

DOM \#30 is a compilation of programs submitted by the members of the Green Mountain Apple Club (GMAC) via the International Apple Corps (IAC). Most of the programs appear exactly as we received them; however, a few have had very minor changes made to them. The minor changes include things like: resetting the Applesoft pointers after exiting from a hires drawing routine, etc.

And now, on to the specifics!! The GMAC HETivo program is a nicely executed hires animation (automatically RUN when the disk is booted). SUPERDRAN continues the hires theme and is a program for creating and editing hires pictures. Initially you can load in a hires pic or start-off with an empty palette. Color choices include the standard ones: white, black (erase), violet, green, orange, and blue. Modes of drawing include: sketch (like an Etch-a-sketch), line, moveshape, paint, type, and edit. Input is through paddles or joystick, although a Koala-type pad should work very nicely. One thing that looks especially promising is the ability to type onto a saved hires business chart. From the menu you can then save your composite graphic, complete with titles. Further details are available on disk.

ALPBANOMERICS is an interactive demonstration of how you can type directly to the hires screen. <Esc> is used to toggle between upper and lower case lettering.

CHARACTER CODE is an instructional program which shows you how to create your own characters to be used when printing to the hires screen (as in ALPHANUMERICS above).

Illustrating the technique of moving a program up in memory from its normal location is SCREKN 2. The purpose here is to reserve some room for additional "text pages" which could be used as Help screens for a program. Designed for use with Applewriter I files. Add this method to your own programming if you wish.

Do I hear $\$ 1,000,000$ ?? You just might if you get involved with AUCTION. This program allows you to keep track of legitimate bidders, their bids, and payments received. Specifics on the program are documented on disk. Another file, AJCTIONSTARTOVER appears to be an emergency re-start (use with Caution). A short subroutine which Auction uses is TRAP RESET KEY and could easily be adapted for your programs. It "traps" the reset key and causes the program in memory to re-run.

A little trav'lin' music if you please! SOFTWARS is an Applesoft plus machine language program to create the Star Wars theme music. Thorough documentation of pitches and timing is within the program's body.
DISK COMMAND EDITOR lets you change a portion of the DOS verbiage we've all grown to love so dearly. Such as DISK VOLUME 254 and * for a locked file. Now you can make them "GAME DISK \#" and \# for locked! Changes are memory resident until the next boot. If you'd like to keep your changes, exit the program and INITialize a blank disk with your altered DOS. Finally, it lists the DOS Commands to screen or printer.

CAPECAN'APPLE' is a lores game that teaches about orbiting a space vehicle. You input velocity and orbit height. With the right combinations you will achieve orbit. Too little thrust - you crash ' n burn. Too much you escape the pull of the Earth.

Bees in your bonnet? Got bats in your belfry? SPEILING BEK III is a "flashcard" format to learning the correct spelling of words. You can make up your own list to teach/test others. (Or if you're really BATTY, input them YOURSELF and then test YOURSELF!!) The file 'OFTEN MISSPELLED' includes some real humdingers! Go for it.
MISTER MATH 3 appears deceptively simple! You choose the arithmetic function ( $+,-, *, /$ ) and the difficulty level (easy, hard, very hard) and the number of problems. If you choose division and very hard, some of the problems are real sticklers to do in your head. Appropriately titled, 'cuz I MIST several of 'em.
Ever had to really jam on the brakes? (Ok ok, I hear you, you put jam on bread. Hrumph!) But seriously, STOP III lets you input a rate-of-travel with paddles/joystick and then measures your reaction time to a semaphore which changes from green to red. It then tells you how long that took, who far you would have traveled at your designated speed, and how much farther before you actually stop (and on 3 different road-surface conditions)!!
Eat EAT EEAATT!!! Tired of all those diet programs? Want to indulge? Well here's a data base program dedicated to food! RECIPE FILE $X$ allows you to selectively retrieve recipes, add new ones and generally pig out! Screen displays are very nicely done and the Help file sure comes in handy. Output to screen or printer.
There you have it: a full smorgasbord of programs on DOM \#30!


Your best buy in modem history. The Networker"', a plug-in single-slot direct connect modem for the Apple II family of computers. Send electronic mail to a friend or business associate, use your school's computer, access hundreds of computer bulletin boards or thousands of data bases for up-to-the-minute news, sports, weather, airline, and stock information.

There's absolutely nothing else to buy. You get the modem board, communication software, and a valuable subscription to America's premier information service, THE SOURCE ${ }^{3 \mu}$. For $\$ 129$ it's an unbeatable value.

This is the modem that does it all, and does it for less. The Apple Communications Card is on board. so no other interface is needed. It's 300 baud, the most commonly used modem speed. And it comes complete with Networker Communications Software on an Apple-compatible disk, giving you features no modem offers.

Like the ability to lock on-screen messages into your Apple's RAM, and then move the information onto a disk for easy reference and review. A terminal program that turns your computer into a communications command center, with onscreen "help" menus, continuous updates of memory usage, carrier presence, and communication status.

The Networker supports both originate and answer modes, so you can send and receive information, in full or half duplex modes. Just plug it into any slot in your Apple computer, and then into your phone jack. Now you're part of a vast network of computers.

## EXTRA BONUS:

FREE Telephone
w/Each Modem Purchased!
Compliments of : DISKCOVER SOFTWARE

## NETMASTER'" COMMUNICATIONS SOFTWARE

For $\$ 179$ we include with the Networker the Netmaster Communications Software for advanced users. Netmaster will let you transfer games, computer graphics, programs, sales reports, documents-in fact, any Apple file of any size-to another computer, directly from disk to disk, without errors, even through noisy phone lines.

For transfering information between computers, Netmaster's superb error checking and high speed are an unbeatable combination. With a Netmaster on each end, you can transfer information three to five times faster than other communications packages like Visiterm'- or ASCII Express'". Error free.

But Netmaster's not stuffy. It will talk to those other communications packages, but they don't work as fast and they don't check errors like Netmaster. And Netmaster doesn't only work with the Networker modem. Even if you already have another modem for your Apple, Netmaster is an outstanding value in communications software, so we sell Netmaster by itself for $\$ 79$. Netmaster requires 48 k of RAM, one disk drive, and the Networker or another modem. It can also be used without a modem when two Apples are hard-wired together.

## WE EVEN GIVE YOU SOMEONE TO TALK TO!

Your purchase of the Networker with or without Netmaster comes complete with a membership to THE SOURCE, with its normal registration fee fully waived. THE SOURCE will put a world of electronic information and communication services at your fingertips-instantly. Electronic mail and computer conferencing. Current news and sports. Valuable business and financial information. Travel services. A wealth of information about personal computing. Even games. All fully compatible with your equipment. and ready to use at once.

## DISKCOVER



# ULTRAPLAN 

A Review
by Scott L. Ksander

Afew months ago I reviewed the latest video board from VIDEX, the ULTRATERM. This board provides up to 160 column video on an APPLE ][+ or //e in addition to the normal 80 column mode. After several months of using the ULTRATERM, I am still very pleased with its performance. A key challenge of the ULTRATERM has been to explore uses of the "greater than 80 column" capabilities and spreadsheets seemed a natural place to start.

Initially, VIDEX provided a "pre-boot" for VISICALC which configured it to use the ULTRATERM. This seemed to work well, but I never really liked the pre-boot concept (too much disk swapping and inconvenience) and many previous articles have documented the shortcomings of VISICALC compared with other spreadsheets on the market. The problem was that no other package supported the expanded capabilities of the ULTRATERM until VIDEX introduced ULIRAPLAN.

Although ULTRAPLAN is packaged under the VIDEX label, the documentation indicates it was produced for VIDEX by ARTSCI, Inc. (distributors of the "MAGIC" series of software) and written by William G. Graves. The author, and in fact almost the entire manual, is the same as THE SPREADSHEET Version 2 except for the unique ULTRATERM enhancements. For this reason, I won't spend a lot of time describing the spreadsheet aspects of the package since they have been presented before. I think it is worth reviewing, however, that ULTRAPLAN is menu driven, provides variable colum widths, protected and "locked in" data, automatic support of APPLE IIe, Titan, and Legend extended memory cards, and most importantly, reads existing VISICALC data files in addition to DIF format files. This means no conversion if you are currently a VISICALC user. ULTRAPLAN also provides full upper and lower case support via the APPLE IIe keyboard, VIDEX ENHANCER, the ever famous one-wire shift key mod, or even using CNTL-L to toggle the case on an upper case only keyboard.

Before I go on any further, I should answer the question "What if I don't have an ULTRATERM?" Well, ULTRAPLAN can still be very useful to you. It will support most other 80 colum cards, normal 40 column mode, and a special 70 column mode using the hi-res graphics display. Even in these modes, I believe it is a superior product to VISICALC. As I said before, however, there are other
packages available by the same author and you should compare prices if you don't need the ULTRATERM hardware support. ULTRAPLAN lists for $\$ 189$ but $I$ have seen it available mail order for $\$ 130-\$ 140$, so shop around.

The ability to produce 128 column spreadsheets on the screen and then print them either on a full 132 column printer or in "condensed" mode on my EPSON is extremely valuable. ULTRATERM makes composing them easy and the page formatting capabilities of ULTRAPLAN makes printing them easy. Unfortunately, ULTRAPLAN does not support the 132 and 160 colum modes of the ULTRATERM.

I don't quite understand this, but I suspect it has something to do with the fact that these modes cannot be displayed on all monitors due to the full screen scan requirements. Even so, it would seem that the package built explicitly for the ULTRATERM should support all its modes.

This is probably a good place to repeat the caution that the ULTRATERM requires a monitor with high persistant phosphor, such as the APPLE III monitor or the AMDEK 300A. The APPLE II monitor is not recommended. When in doubt, test before you buy!

A very strong plus for ULTRAPLAN in my case is that it uses standard DOS. This means that it can take advantage of any DOS "enhancements" such as file dating and hard disk support. Unfortunately (very unfortunately) the ULTRAPLAN program itself is copy protected. Data files can reside on any device supported by your DOS. As a hard disk user, I really dislike not being able to put both the program and my data files on the hard disk. A backup copy of ULTRAPLAN is also not provided in the package. A backup may be ordered for $\$ 20$ (shipping included) from VIDEX.

In summary, ULTRAPLAN is a very good product for ULTRATERM owners who use spreadsheets. ULTRAPIAN is compatible with VISICALC data files while providing advanced commands not found in VISICALC. Even if you don't own an ULTRATERM, the ULTRAPLAN/SPREADSHEET product is a big improvement over VISICALC. I certainly feel I have found the solution to my spreadsheet needs. The next challenge is to find a word processor that will support the extended features of the ULTRATERM. But more on that some other time.

# Cermetek Info-Mate 212A 

A review<br>by Tom Vanderpool

via IAC Bulletin board for newsletter exchange
from an unknown Apple user group.

It was quite a step for me to get my modem. Several years ago I decided that I wanted to be able to talk on the telephone with my computer and hoped that I could find someone that wanted to talk back to me. Maybe I could find someone once in a while and then see what all this telecommunications talk was all about.....

Now I know how wrong you can really be! At this point there are between 15 and 20 LOCAL bulletin boards that allow you to 'talk' with a computer over the phone. With this knowledge we can find new friends, who has the latest software, how can I whip this programming problem that I am having? All this can be done with a modem and one of the local bulletin boards. Then you can get into one of the time sharing systems and really 'get some things done!'

Now that I have gotten comfortable with my original modem, I have been looking around to go faster and faster. Isn't this always the case? Well, my most recent acquisition is a new 1200 baud modem. It is the Info-Mate 212A from Cermetek. I have heard about 'smart modems' for a long time, but this is the first time that I have really run into one!

First the basics:
The modem will support the general 'run of the mill' stuff like auto dialing, auto answer, 100-300 baud and 1200 baud. This is a direct connect type of modem and requires an RS-232C type of interface for your computer.

Now for the frills!
This modem is smart enough to tell whether you are connected to the phone line or not! Even though this sounds like a small item, there are times that you think that you have a phone line and do not. The example being at the club meeting last month before the demonstration we were trying to test the modem. It kept telling me that there was no dial tone. Sure enough, we had a bad connection in the phone line extension cords coming in to the modem. I have also forgotten to connect the line and then it is QUITE embarrassing to see the error show up on the screen when you just KNEW that all was well!

ASCII strings from the computer or terminal to control the different functions of this modem. The control (or wake up) code can be changed to suit what your needs may be. On power up the modem recognizes control-N as being the controlling sequence but if you are comfortable with the MicroModem II and like the control-A sequence you can change to that with a simple command such as CONTROL-N N CONTROL-A. This will set control-A as the new 'wake up' code.

You can also force the modem to answer a call even if the phone is not ringing. This comes in handy if you are on the phone with someone and decide to transfer some information (programs) over the modem. On the other hand, if you need to originate a call the modem can handle that also.

Some services require that you send a BREAK code to their system to accomplish certain tasks. This is built into the modem and can be accessed using the control code and a B.

You also have control over how many times to let the phone ring before answering the phone. This also has a bearing on how long to let the phone ring when you are calling out to another system. If you are set up to answer the phone on the first ring, then the Info-Mate will wait for the 5th ring when calling another system before giving up.

That brings us to the dialing commands. Are these fun! You can tell it to dial a number. Ok, maybe that is not so great, BUT the modem decides for itself whether you have a dial or touch tone line! OR you can tell it which you have OR you can switch while the dialing is in progress. An example of this would be having to pulse dial 9 to get an outside line and then being able to touch tone from there, say through a Sprint number. The dialing command line will allow up to 32 characters so that it can accommodate most (if not all) of the different common carrier control sequences. Now a 32 digit phone number is not something that is easy to remember, so Cermetek decided to build a memory into the modem. It will remember up to 52 of these 32 digit numbers! And it will remember which one you called last

## Cermetek Concluded from page 12

ifif it is busy you can redial without much trouble. The nice thing about all this is that the numbers that are stored in the modem can be accessed by using the control code, D, and the letter that they are stored under $A-Z$, and $a-z$.

Now about that busy signal you just got.... The modem is smart enough to know if the line was busy or not and if you do get a busy signal, you can tell it to redial. There are two ways to do this. Number one is to do a control code D and the firmware will cause the modem to redial the last dialed number. The other easier way is to give the modem a number between 1 and 14 after you give it the number to dial (in the same command string) and it will automatically redial the number up to the number of times that you have told it or until it gets an answer! Now that you have gotten all this done, what if you have two numbers that you want to try? Almost as easy. You can type in the telephone numbers that you want it to try and, once again, give it a number of times to try them if they are both busy. But the easiest way to get this done is to have the number stored in the modem and tell the modem control code D A B 14. This will dial the number stored in $A$ and if it is busy then dial the number stored in $B$ and if it is busy go back and try A. This will continue until one of them answers or we have tried each number 14 times. The limit to this command line is 32 characters so you can try almost all the bulletin boards in the area until one answers!

Maybe you don't know 52 numbers that you can call on the modem (or at least do so regularly enough to warrant saving the numbers) then you can use the extra space in the modem memory to store passwords to the systems that you do call. Here again, you can store tp to 32 digits in this string and when you call the system we can then send it with a control code to the modem. Now that you have all this information stored in the modem, how do you remember what is where? There is a command to show all the numbers/passwords that are stored in the modem. I can see that you are getting one step ahead of me. You don't want anyone seeing your passwords so you can start them with the 'at' sign and then that is the only thing that will show when the numbers/passwords are listed. The information is still there, it just doesn't show. How about when you send the password to the system that you are calling? Nope, it doesn't show then either!

You also have the option of telling the modem to not listen to any of the information that it is passing if it is possible that it might contain the control code and get things all
confused. There are three levels of this command. The one is to listen for commands. The next is not to listen until the modem receives a 'break' character from the computer. The last level is don't even listen to the break character. The only way to reset this mode is to turn the modem off and then back on.

Now that you have given the modem all these commands, you may have gotten yourself lost, so there is a command to restore everything to the way it is on power up.

Now for the more technically inclined, the modem even has 8 internal diagnostic test modes that can be activated if you feel better checking things once in a while. These range all the way from self-test to testing the modem on the other end and the lines in between!

Sure it's a nice modem, but it must cost a fortune! Not so! The closest COMPARABLE modem is priced at $\$ 795$. The Cermetek goes for $\$ 595$. This turns out to be even cheaper than some of the 'other guys' that don't do nearly as much! So if you are in the market for a modem or are looking to upgrade to 1200 baud, I would suggest that you take a close look at the Cermetek modem. I think that it is quite a lot of value for the money.

## Keep that Card

by Dave Nordvall
f you have put put your Integer or Applesoft ${ }^{\text {m }}$ card away when you got a language or RAM card, get it back out. It can be used in any slot, saving your Ram card for other uses. Boot up your system and do the appropriate POKES.

## POKE 42424, xxx POKE 42432 , $x \times x$

## Slot \#

| 1 | ,144 | ,145 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | ,160 | ,161 |
| 3 | ,176 | ,177 |
| 4 | ,192 | ,193 |
| 5 | ,208 | ,209 |
| 6 | ,224 | ,225 |
| 7 | ,140 | ,241 |

Now initialize a disk. Whenever this disk is boooted your ROM card will be used, leaving the RAM card free.


# BIT Twiddling 

An Assembly Language Technique by Steve George

This article is but one example of a method of solving a specific problem. Several methods might have been utilized, but this is a recount of the thought process leading to problem solution.

Each month the club receives several newsletters in an exchange with other user groups. One columnist recently posed an interesting question, which I will relate to you. He had the need to reverse the order of the lower 7 bits of any given byte (presumably, the 8th bit should be preserved).
Samples:

| INput | OUTput |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DEC HX B\|INARY | B $\mid$ INARY | HX DEC |
| 10100000001 | $\Rightarrow 0 \mid 1000000$ | 4064 |
| 50500000101 | $\Rightarrow 0$ 1010000 | 5080 |
| 80800001000 | $\Rightarrow 00001000$ | 088 |
| 90900001001 | $\Rightarrow 01001000$ | 4872 |
| 10 0A 00001010 | $\Rightarrow 00101000$ | 2840 |
| 126 7E 01111110 | $\Rightarrow 0011111$ | 3 F 63 |
| 254 FE 1 1111110 | $\Rightarrow 10111111$ | BF 191 |

My initial reaction was Why in the world... But my second was, Hmm, sorta sounds like hi-res screen tweaking... And my final reaction was to try to find a reasonable solution. (The article stated that Applesoft, multiple divide routines, etc., were too slow.)

Hi-res screen, let's see... One of the fastest ways of tweaking the screen pixels has to do with Look-up/Offset tables. This is where my solution started. This problem doesn't specifically deal with the hi-res screen, but having thought of the technique, I proceeded with a solution utilizing the 'look-up table'. (Later in the discussion, a hi-res screen is used simply to illustrate (visually) that things are indeed changing.)

First, let's create a short (but slow) Applesoft program to create a 'look-up table' of the desired values. Because the hi-bit remains unchanged, we can limit the look-up table to translation of bytes in the $\$ 0$ to $\$ 7 \mathrm{~F}$ range.

[^0]130 REM WASTEFUL CODING/USED ONLY ONCE
140 IF I > 63 THEN $\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I}-64: \mathrm{A}=1$
150 IF I $>31$ THEN $I=I-32: B=1$
$160 \mathrm{IF} \mathrm{I}>15$ THEN $\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I}-16: \mathrm{C}=1$
170 IF I $>7$ THEN $\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I}-8: \mathrm{D}=1$
180 IF I > 3 THEN I = I-4: $\mathrm{E}=1$
190 IF I > 1 THEN $\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I}-2: \mathrm{F}=1$
200 IF I THEN G $=1$
210 OUTBYTE $=G * 64+F * 32+E * 16+D * 8+C * 4+B * 2+A$
215 REM CONSTRUCT 'BACKWARDS' BYTE
220 POKE ADDR, OUTBYTE: $A D D R=A D D R+1$
230 NEXT INBYTE
240 END
Execute with RUN
Now add these lines to create the working part of the routine adjacent in memory to the look-up table:

245 REM CREATES 'CONVERT' CODE FROM $\$ 380-\$ 390$
250 POKE 896, 169: POKE 897, 0
260 POKE 898, 72
270 POKE 899, 41 : POKE 900, 127
280 POKE 901, 168
290 POKE 902, 104
300 POKE 903, 41 : POKE 904, 128
310 POKE 905, 121: POKE 906, 0 :POKE 907,3
320 POKE 908, 141: POKE 909, 144 :POKE 910,3
330 POKE 911, 96 : POKE 912, 0
340 END
Execute with RUN 250
When disassembled, it looks as
follows:


* Location $\$ 381$ ( 897 dec.) will be poked with the value we want converted. The converted byte will be stored at $\$ 390$. It is available to Applesoft through the use of PEEK (912)

The following short Applesoft program will input all 256 possibilities and produce the resultant output in the variable OUT. To see the IN's and OUT's, replace the REM in line 390 with GOSUB 420 to display the decimal values.

GOTO 16

Bit Twiddling Continued from page 16
345 REM POKE ALL 256, GET RESULTS W/PEEK
350 FOR IN= 0 TO 255
345 REM POKE BYTE INTO ASSEM. ROUTINE
360 POKE 897, IN
365 REM PASS CONTROL TO ASSEM. ROUTINE
370 CALL 896
375 REM GET RESULT WITH A PEEK
380 OUT= PEEK ( 912)
390 REM PUT GOSUB 420 HERE TO SEE VALUES
400 NEXT IN
410 END
420 PRINT IN,OUT : RETURN
Execute with RUN 350
As I originally wrote the program (in Applesoft), it created the proper output in approx 40 seconds for all 256 possible input values. With the substitution of this short assembly program for the "working" part of the routine, the time is down to about 3 seconds.

The following uses the hi-res screen and alters its display simply to illustrate the speed at which all 1024 bytes of hi-res display can be changed using our look-up table.

The hi-res picture itself isn't reversed, just the individual bytes comprising the display. A little experimentation reveals that geometric figures and hi-res letters (if each is a single byte) work the best. Notice in the accompanying examples that the words are still read left to right but that the individual letters are reversed.

425 REM 'HI-RES BYTER':USES LOOKUP \& CONVERT
430 HGR
435 REM USE YOUR PIC IN PLACE OF 'MY.PIC'
440 PRINT CHR\$(4)"BLOAD MY.PIC,A\$2000"
445 REM CREATES ROUTINE FROM \$391-\$3B8
450 POKE 913, 169: POKE 914, 0
460 POKE 915, 133: POKE 916, 6
470 POKE 917, 168
480 POKE 918, 169: POKE 919, 32
490 POKE 920, 133: POKE 921, 7
500 POKE 922, 170
510 POKE 923, 134: POKE 924, 8
520 POKE 925, 177 : POKE 926, 6
530 POKE 927, 132: POKE 928, 9
540 POKE 929, 133: POKE 930, 10
550 POKE 931, 32: POKE 932, 130:POKE 933,3
560 POKE 934, 164 : POKE 935, 9

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Bit Twiddling Concluded from page 16

```
570 POKE 936, 145: POKE 937, 6
580 POKE 938, 230: POKE 939, 9
590 POKE 940, 164: POKE 941, 9
600 POKE 942, 208: POKE 943, 237
610 POKE 944, 230: POKE 945, 7
620 POKE 946, 198: POKE 947, 8
630 POKE 948, 166: POKE 949, 8
640 POKE 950, 208: POKE 951, 229
650 POKE 952, 96
655 REM PASS CONTROL TO $391
6 6 0 \text { CALL } 9 1 3
6 7 0 \text { END}
    Execute with RUN 430
```

If you CALL 913 again，the picture will revert back to normal．Try a short loop to illustrate the point：

680 FOR X＝ 1 TO 9：CALL 913：NEXT
690 END
Execute with RUN 680
This is what the above looks like when disassembled．It＇s a bit（hmm）convoluted because it was entirely an afterthought and I wanted to utilize the routines already entered．

| \＄0391：A9 00 | LDA $⿰ ⿰ 三 丨 ⿰ 丨 三 一$ \＄00 | ；HI－RES LO ADDR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| \＄0393：85 06 | STA $\$ 06$ | ；STORE LO BYTE |
| \＄0395：A8 | TAY | ；HI－RES OFFSET |
| $\$ 0396:$ A9 20 | LDA \＃\＄20 | ；HI－RES HI BYTE |


| \＄0398： 8507 | STA \＄07 | ；STORE HI BYTE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| \＄039A：AA | TAX | ；\＄20＝\＄2000／\＄100 |
| \＄039B： 8608 | STX \＄08 | ；NUM OF PAGES |
| \＄039D： | B1 06 | LDA（ |

The assembly routines are so quick that it is difficult to time their execution accurately． So，out came the reference books，and if the charts were read correctly，the conversion of a byte（w／o Applesoft）takes 30 clock cycles and the hi－res byter routine takes 78 clock cycles（plus 28）．Assuming your machine runs at $1,023,000$ clock cycles per second，these routines are fast indeed．

Lastly，here＇s a one－liner sure to slow down even the fastest typist：
0 GET A\＄：POKE 897，ASC（A\＄）：CALL 896： PRINT CHR\＄（ PEEK（ 912 ））；：GOTO 0

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# Puzzles and Prizes 

Carl Swartz wins!
by Ron Androff

The third puzzle proved to be a toughie. The task was to write a program that would determine which of twelve coins was defective (heavier or three tests on a balance to deduce the coin.

The first and hardest part is to decide how to arrange a set of tests that will expose the defective coin where ever it is placed among the twelve coins. Obviously, we must discover a maximum amount of information with each test if we are to solve the problem because strangly enough, three tests are the minimum number needed to solve it. The following describes the procedure of tests and the conclusions.

Label the coins A through L for the sake of discussion. And for the first test always balance coins $A B C D$ on one side and coins EFGH on the other side. If the result of the first test is an imbalance, then for test two always balance coins ABE on one side and coins CFI on the other side. If, however, the result of the first test is a balance, then for test two balance the IJ coins on one side and the KA coins on the other side. The following table shows the test results and the conclusions that can be made from them. In the table "/", " $\$ " and " " " mean, respectively, scale tipped left, right or balanced.
test 1 test 2 conclusions
$\begin{array}{ll}\mathrm{ABCD} / \mathrm{EFGH} & \mathrm{ABE} / \mathrm{CFI} \\ \text { A or B heavy } \\ \text { or F light }\end{array}$
ABCD/EFGH ABE\CFI C heavy or E light
$\mathrm{ABCD} / \mathrm{EFGH}$ ABE=CFI D heavy or
G or H light
ABCD $\backslash E F G H$ ABE/CFI C light or E heavy
ABCD\EFGH ABE\CFI A or B light
or $F$ heavy
ABCD $\backslash$ EFGH ABE=CFI $D$ light or G or H heavy
$\mathrm{ABCD}=\mathrm{EFGH} \quad \mathrm{IJ} / \mathrm{KA}$ I or J heavy or K light
ABCD=EFGH IJ $\backslash K A \quad I$ or J light or K heavy
$A B C D=E F G H \quad I J=K A \quad L$ light or heavy
There are five possible tests for test three, namely A-B, C-I, G-H, I-J, or L-A. For example, take case one in the table: The conclusions drawn are " A or B is heavy or F is light". To prove which, balance A and B, and as the balance tips A or B is heavy or if it balances then F is light. If C or D coins are suspect then balancing coin C (a suspect) with coin I (known good) will prove which, etc.

The following table of tests show how a defective coin in each position can be detected.

Test 1
Test 2 Test 3 Result


| /CFI | /B |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ABE/ | A/ | A Heavy |
| ABE $\backslash$ | A) | A Light |
| ICFI | \B |  |
| /CFI | A) |  |
| ABE/ | \B | B Heavy |
| ABE $\backslash$ | B | B Light |
| \CFI |  |  |
| ABE\} | /I |  |
| \CFI | C/ | C Heavy |
| /CFI | $\mathrm{c} \backslash$ | C Light |
| ABE/ | \I |  |
| ABE--CFI | G-H |  |
|  |  | D Heavy |
| ABE-CFI | G-H | D Light |
| /CFI |  |  |
| ABE/ | C-I | E Heavy |
| ABE $\backslash$ | C-I | E Light |
| ABE\} |  |  |
| \CFI | A-B | F Heavy |
| /CFI | A-B | F Light |

ABCD/
ABCD
ABE/

|  | / H |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ABE-CFI | G/ | G Heavy |
| ABE-CFI |  | G Light |
|  |  |  |
| ABE-CFI | H | H Heavy |
| ABE-CFI | / H | H Light |

ABCD/
ABCD-EFGH
ABCD-EFGH

| /KA | /J |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| IJ/ | I/ | I Heavy |
| IJ $\backslash$ | I | I Light |
| \KA | \J |  |
| /KA | I |  |
| IJ/ | \J | J Heavy |
| IJ $\backslash$ | /J | J Light |
| \KA | I/ |  |
| IJ $\backslash$ |  |  |
| \KA | I-J | K Heavy |
| /KA | I-J | K Light |
| IJ/ |  |  |
| IJ-KA | L/A | L Heavy |
| IJ-KA | L | L Light |
|  | \A | 4 Lught |
| IJ-KA | L-A | ERROR |

Rather than try to develop a program to solve this problem, I think I will simply list the

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 OL SdIJ LI كll＂INTयd ：INIYd
 OL SdIL II ＂•品ONVTVG THI SO NVd
LHDIX THI NO VHVH $_{11}$ INI\＆d ：INI甘d ＂ONV＇ITVS＂VAVE＇ITH HO SNIOD THL GOVTdı INIYd ：JNI\＆d ＂${ }^{\circ}$ GONFTVG GHI 30 NVd
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## CP/M-Compatible

The Intertek System IV runs CP/M Microsoft ${ }^{\circledR}$ 2.20B using the Z80-A Microprocessor. This capability takes the System IV personal computer into business and professional usage.

## - Apple II-Compatible

The Intertek System IV is hardware and software compatible with the Apple ${ }^{\oplus}$ II. System IV users can choose from the enormous selection of Apple II compatible programs and peripherals.

## Computer

6502 processor, 1.02 MHZ (Apple Mode) Z80-A processor, 4.00 MHZ (CP/M Mode)

## Keyboard

64 keys including numeric pad and reset
Dedicated function keys (Apple and CP/M Mode)

## Graphics

Supports both high and low resolution grapics

## Memory

64 K bytes of RAM

## Input/Output

7 peripheral board connectors (6 available) Joystick/Game Paddle connector

## Text

40 characters per line, 24 lines $5 \times 7$ upper case characters $5 \times 7$ lower case characters Normal, inverse and flashing characters
Cursor control

## Color

16 colors

## Complete System from <br> $\$ 1149$

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## System IV Features

- 64K Memory
- Integer Basic
- Color
- High and Low Resolution Graphics
- Built-in RF Modulator (for direct TV hook-up)
- Standard Typewriter Keyboard
- Numeric Keypad
- Upper and Lower Case
- Shift Lock with Indicator
- Built-in Function Keys
- Automatic Repeat on all Keys
- Game Paddle/Joystick Ports
- Seven Peripheral Connector Outputs (six available)
- Speaker
- Power-On-Indicator
- $110 \mathrm{~V} / 220 \mathrm{~V}$ User Selectable AC Input
- Cassette Interface
- Built-in Diagnostics
- Diagnostic Test Diskette Available (optional)

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# Minutes 

Board Meeting, April 11, 1984
by Hugh Kurtzman

Reading of the minutes was waived. There were no corrections.

Treasurer's report:

| Balance March 1 | $\$ 369.77$ <br> Income |
| :--- | ---: |
| Expenses | $\mathbf{4 0 7 5 . 9 2}$ |
| Balance March 31 | $\underline{8118.05}$ |

John Hansen will be meeting with a tax accountant so we can settle with the IRS.

Dave Nordval reported that MECC has again backed out of our deal with them. It seems that we were selling disks too cheap.

There was a discussion about STARTING the main meetings on time and also about the problems with members leaving during the presentation. The suggestion was made that we have a pause during the meeting to let people leave.

Jere Kauffman suggested we ask that questions be written out for the Q\&A period. As a
counter proposal, it was agreed that Peter Gillis will try to capture those questions and answers in a form suitable for publication in the newsletter.

Dan Buchler had a discussion with Ray Douglas, the moderator of KSTP Talk, about that talk show on computers which is aired every Saturday at 5PM. He praised Pete Gillis for the great job he did on the show in March. In exchange for a small ad in the newsletter, we will be invited to the show on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Dan will be contacting people to appear on the show.

There is some question as to what is happening to the IAC DOMs and other mailings from IAC. The secretary will call IAC to find out.

A motion was passed that we, as a club, vote for Mike Carlson as IAC regional director.

The subject of PA systems was again discussed. We are still trying to borrow one of the units proposed to try out at a meeting. The Lincoln School site will have a PA system available for our use.


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# Networker 

A Discussion and Evaluation of Networker Modem \＆Software by Steve George

But first，a short digression： 3 years ago I just knew that the very first peripheral I would purchase would be a modem．Why，I wasn＇t sure．I had no experience with them．But I immediately called Ma Bell to either add call－forwarding or cancel call－waiting．It was not to be．．．For 3 years I got along swimmingly adding many peripherals－but not a modem．Then it hit，again！You KNOW that burning desire for that special peripheral！

Well， 3 weeks ago $I$ borrowed a great modem package from the local distributor．My two week evaluation period was up last Monday and I reluctantly relinquished my grasp on it． Today，Thursday，it hit me again：I have to have one！That brief taste of the communications world had whetted my appetite． Boy，what I＇d missed for the last 3 years．．．

We＇ve all seen the ads for the Networker Modem stating that for just $\$ 129$ you get a modem and software to run it．Well，I＇m here to tell you its all true，and more！

The specifics：Networker Modem，Networker software，NetMaster Software manufactured by ZOOM Telephonics，Boston．

Purpose：to allow your Applie．to communicate with other computers via the phone lines （bulletin boards，the Source，friends， newsletter editors，etc．）

Requirements：48k minimum；Apple ］［，］［＋，／／e or compatible．

The Product：Networker Modem（peripheral card which plugs into an expansion slot－normally slot 2），an external switch to select Originate or Answer mode，a 6＇modular telephone cable，a free Source membership，and one of two software disks．Networker software is included＠$\$ 129$ and NetMaster Software included＠\＄179．The Networker Modem was designed with the casual／recreational user in mind，but it offers compatibility with expensive software such as ASCII Pro，Data Capture 4.0 ，etc．

The Networker Modem card itself is Micromodem compatible and accepts direct keyboard－control of its firmare．Standard manual procedure： IN非2 〈CR〉，ctrl－A ctrl－F 〈CR〉（sets up the modem for Full Duplex reception），dial the phone number，set the Originate switch，and away you go．．．But when software＇s included， why bother？

The Networker software is sheer simplicity to use．One menu， 13 choices．Selection is with the arrow keys and a＜CR〉．The primary feature of the software is its massive 32,000 character text－trap（all in a plain vanilla 48k Apple！！）．You can easily capture your conversation or bulletin board information such as the list of commands the board supports．Also，you can capture downloaded programs！After receiving an APPLESOFT program，I simply output the received information as a TEXT file to the disk，exited the software，re－booted，and EXECed the TEXT file into memory．Voila－a workable program for free．Note that any program that is downloaded must be treated as a TEXT file．

Networker software was designed primarily for use in accessing bulletin boards．The bottom 3 lines of your screen continuously display the status of your modem／software．Besides the on－screen display，the carrier status is monitored by a red LED on the Originate／Answer switch．

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## Networker Concluded from page 26

NetMaster Software is available either with the modem package (called NetMaster Combo) or as a separate software package for use with any modem. NetMaster adds to your modem's capabilities by utilizing a 16 k RAM card in slot 0, if available. This is great, because the program has more features and it takes up more memory. But, that is 'recoverable' if you have a 16 k card, making the text buffer 43520 chars! Again, most of the general features are toggled. The NetMaster Combo includes the upgraded software and a loose-leaf manual describing its use.

Some of the upgraded features that are part of NetMaster are:

1) the Receive/Transmit Translation Tables,
2) the ability to save your system's configuration to the NetMaster or a Data disk, and
3) A 'snap-shot' screen dump. Invoked with a ctrl-@, the captured text buffer can be sent at any time to a printer for hard-copy or disk for storage and manipulation with a text processor. Alternatively, one can print the whole text-trap! There does not appear to be any way of printing at the same time the communication is arriving at the computer.

Most of the local boards I've been on send an excessive number of linefeeds (ctrl-J's). It was a simple task to redefine the Received $\ldots$ ctrl-J as a space char, which eliminated the double spacing when requesting a hard-copy. You can save your system's configuration which allows NetMaster to remember whether you have lower case capability, what translations you have defined, keyboard macros, shift-key mod, printer 'snap-shot' ctrl key, that you have a two drive system, and much much more!

The variety of prices and modems available is truly overwhelming. The decision was to get a 'no frills' lower priced modem. As it turns out, the Networker Modem does have a few frills, but more importantly, it even includes a few of the 'bells and whistles' normally passed-up at these prices. For a price much less than its competitors, you get a great modem and a very nice, easy to use piece of software whose primary feature (read: bell) is a HUGE char text capturing buffer!

This has got to be one of the best buys around: modem, software, and a Source membership; all for only \$129.

If you've been considering a modem purchase, you owe it to yourself to check out the Networker packages.


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Brother HR-1 Dalsy Wheel Printer, used 2 hrs, with card/cable, \$675.

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## OPDERING DONs or MSDs

A reminder that Disks Of the Months (DOMs) and Minl'app'les Software Disks (MSDs) are avallable by mall: DOMs at $\$ 7.50$ each; MSDs at $\$ 17.50$ each. Send your order to:

## MINI'APP'LES DOM's <br> Box 241 <br> Inver Grove Helghts <br> Mn., 55075

Usually the latest three DOM's and all the MSDs are avallable 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 wlli 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 avallable. See announcements section.

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    110 FOR INBYTE $=0$ TO $127: I=$ INBYTE:
    115 REM LOOK-UP ONLY THE LOWER 7 BITS
    $120 \mathrm{~A}=0: \mathrm{B}=0: \mathrm{C}=0: \mathrm{D}=0: \mathrm{E}=0: F=0: \mathrm{G}=0$

