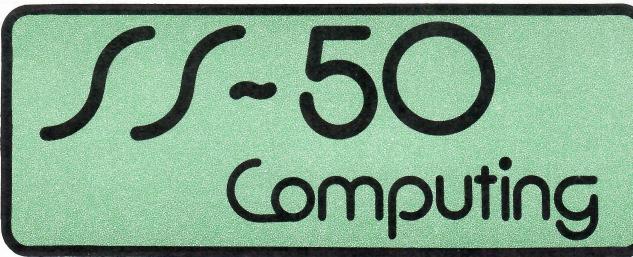
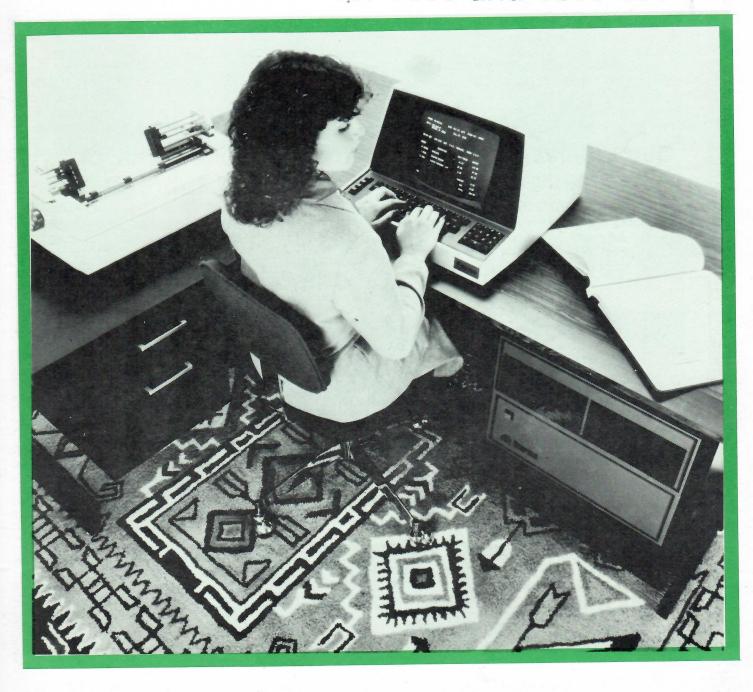
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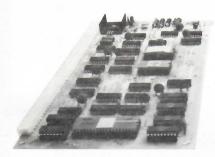
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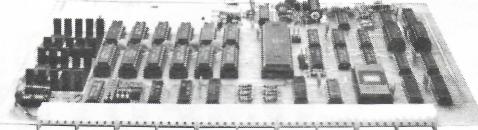
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#### by Ken Orme

The world of microcomputers to be in continual with systems new change, arriving and others leaving. The one fact that seems to remain constant is that there are those of us who are the "experimenters" and will try various interfaces, boards, and software. The S-100 experimenters are almost gone, and so that leaves our group and those who use the 6502 microprocessors. Have you noticed how many of the 6502 machines are coming around to the 6809 lately? There seems to be something about the 6809 that attracts those who would like to eventually do something besides just play.

Even though I have mentioned all this before, I still am amazed at the number of people that are jumping on the 68000 wagon. It seems that the other 16 bit machines may have one or two new systems compared to 12 or 14 of those using the 68000! That's a very good indicator of where the market will be later on.

And, just as I was saying that there probably will not be a way to get the 68000 on the SS-50 Motorola bus, announcing that they will have a version of the 68000 that will fit on a 24 address bus (such as the SS-50C). From the information we have, it will be called the 68008. If all lives up to expectations, there will probably be a 16 bit chip on the SS-50 bus by the third quarter of 1983, and possibly even sooner! That beats trying change the whole structure around just for the 16 bit machines. I'm sure that there are other problems to consider before you could "plug in and run", such peripheral speeds vs the clock speed of the 68000. Also. memory may be the biggest since limiting factor, there are a lot of different boards out there, some which will handle the extra speed and some that won't. I will not predict much more, but thought that you might be interested.

#### **NUMBERS**

Since we are still behind, the one way to make it so that some of you don't feel you are getting an old copy, is to simply number the issues and put the year along with it. We will still get the same number out per year, and you may see two issues within 35 or 40 days of each other, so don't panic about not seeing the date.

#### SUBMITTING ARTICLES

During the past two months, we have changed over to an SS-50 bus typesetting system. As you will note, we are still using the "real" typesetting, rather than iust a word processor, but we have combined the computer with the typesetter. The reason that I bring this up is to let you know that we will now prefer to get any articles from you on a FLEX 5 1/4 or 8 inch disk, as a text file. We will then copy your text, edit it, set it up for the typesetter, and output it without having to re-key all information from Also, any software such as utilites that you would like to have printed should be sent on the media for which it is That is, if it's for written. OS-9, send it on an OS-9 formatted disk. The same holds true for Smoke Signal DOS-69, FLEX, and Percom systems. The size doesn't matter, except in the case of Percom, where it should be 5 1/4 only. there, we will print out the listing so that it will uniform and so we don't have some listings that are almost impossible to read and others that are perfect.

We would like to get any articles that you would care to send in, and hope that this method makes it easier for us all. And, yes, we will return your disk. If there are disks that we have problems reading, we will notify you and have you send a hard copy.

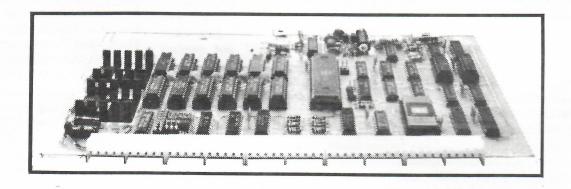
This new method will also make it possible to get articles over a modem later on as well as make it easy to distribute articles and software to you over the phone. When the modem is working, we will let you know.

Keep sending the information, and we will try to help others get the same satisfaction that you have with your program!

[SS-50]

# TOWARDS MORE PICTURES AND LESS SPEECH

# The Colorama-50



by Thomas H. Hunt 30001 Wagner Warren, MI 48093

One of the latest entries into the ever-expanding; area of graphics hardware is Percom's COLORAMA-50 board. The Colorama-50 is basically an SS-50 adaptation of their Electric Crayon color graphics system. While the Electric Crayon is

intended to be a self contained add-on to the TRS80, the Colorama-50 version plugs directly into the SS-50 buss. Designed around the Motorola 6847 Video Display Generator (VDG), the Colorama-50 brings a versatile memory-mapped color

display to the SS-50 computers.

By now every reader is probably aware that the 6847 VDG is the same chip used in the Radio Shack Color Computer. This is mentioned as a point of reference only -- this review

does not intend to pit the Colorama-50 against the Color Computer. As most of us have convenient access to a Radio Shack store, we can easily get a first-hand view of the 6847's and pixel resolution capability. Generally speaking, any static display generated by the Color Computer can be reproduced with the Colorama-50. The display differences come about only in the degree of animation capabilities that are available. Depending upon the individual application, this may or may not pose any limitations.

Understanding the Colorama-50 is primarily a matter of becoming familiar with the many functions of the 6847 VDG. With this in mind, I will present a brief overview of the 6847's operational modes. Once over this hurdle, we will be in a better position to understand the features, pros and cons, and the compromises that all combined to make the Colorama-50. Finally, a software package is included in this article that provides all the color graphics drivers necessary to use the Colorama-50. included is an applications program that will allow you to create, from the keyboard, almost any desired color image on your TV set.

#### **68-47 OR FIGHT**

The general idea behind a chip like the 6847 is quite easy to grasp. It provides an interface that takes one dimensional data in RAM and displays it as two dimensional (think of it as an X,Y grid) on a color TV set. Actually, the 6847 is intended to provide signals to another chip, the MC1372, which generates the

actual NTSC composite color signal. The output of the MC1372 is then in turn fed into an RF modulator which places the signal on some unused TV channel. So there you have it -- data in RAM equals an X,Y display on a TV set, in color no less!

Like most graphics chips, the 6847 VDG can be placed in "modes". several This accomplished by placing the appropriate binary code on the mode control input pins. 6847 has a total of 11 modes available -- one alphanumeric, two semigraphic, and eight full graphic. Do not let 11 modes deter you in any way. There are only about four of them that can be considered unique. The chip was actually designed to minimally function with as little as 512 bytes of RAM. RAM can be added in distinct increments up to 6K to obtain more resolution. The end result is that several of the modes are simply replications of each other, but at higher resolution.

#### RESOLUTION

The term "resolution", when applied to chips of the 6847 genre, is perhaps more meaningful when broken up into two parts -- color resolution and pixel (dot) resolution. Strictly speaking, a single pixel is the smallest dot on the screen that the chip is capable of generating. With the 6847 this is always 256 x 192 in all modes. However, I will define an "effective pixel" as the smallest square on the screen can be individually controlled by the user. Depending upon the mode then, an effective pixel may consist of one or more single pixels. Finally, color resolution itself has two aspects -- how many different colors can an effective pixel take on, and how many of them have to be the same color before a color change can occur. These concepts will become clearer as the individual modes are discussed.

#### **CHIP MODES**

For example, in Semigraphics-4 mode the entire screen is divided into a coarse grid of 32 x 16 blocks. Each block is further broken down into four effective pixels. Each fective pixel in turn consists of 24 (6 x 4) single pixels which cannot be individually controlled. Therefore. effective resolution to the user is 64 x 32 controllable squares. This is also the only in which mode all eight possible colors are simultaneously available. Unfortunately, only the coarse grid blocks can contain different colors. making an effective color resolution of 32 x 16 x In other words, you can turn on or off each of the four effective pixels in a block, but all four must be the same color.

Semigraphics-6 mode is the concept, but effective pixel resolution is increased by dividing each block into six parts instead of just four. Unfortunately, color resolution is also modified by breaking the eight colors up into two sets of four. Only one set can be displayed on the screen at a time. This color set division is also true for subsequent color modes.

The next eight modes are

termed full graphic modes. Four of them are color graphic modes where each effective pixel can be one of four colors. Pixel resolution goes from 64 x 64 to 128 x 192. It takes two bits in memory to map into one effective pixel. The other four provide higher pixel resolution but only two colors are available per pixel. Pixel resolutions range from 128 x 64 to the full 256 x 192. mapping is one bit for each pixel.

The alphanumerics mode is self-explanatory. In mode, 16 rows of 32 characters can be displayed. The 6847 has an internal ROM that contains a 64 character ASCII subset. Actually, there is a twelfth mode that allows the user to select an external ROM character generator instead of the internal one. However, this option is not implemented on the Colorama-50.

This, then, is the building block that dictates the performance of Colorama-50.

#### THE POSTMAN COMETH

I always have an indefeeling, scribable somewhere between uncontained excitement and utter panic, every time the postman finally presents me with "that plain brown box". Will this turn out to be a Pandora's Box, or will really give my computer the near magical abilities claimed in the brochures? So PERCOM has yet to totally disappoint me. After opening the box, the inital encounter Colorama-50 does tarnish this image.

The board layout is quite good, and that all important first impression of component

symmetry, balance, and orientation passes with flying colors. Assembly is just as good. No detectable board warpage, all components neatly in place, properly seated, and flowsoldered. Even the color bands on every resistor So far, so good -lined up! to the layout assembly line personnel.

# WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS... READ INSTRUCTIONS

Documentation included with the hardware consists of two thirty-page booklets -- a User's Manual (mostly concerned with hardware), and a supplement describing some available software. The printing of the manuals represents somewhat of a departure from Percom's usual 8 1/2 by 11 format. The two booklets are only 6 x 8, but the printing is both professional and legible.

The User's Manual presents all aspects of the hardware in a very understanding style. The average reader should have no trouble grasping the board's functions and getting it up and running. A complete schematic, board layout, and parts list are also included. I will defer comment on the Software Supplement until later.

#### **BOARD MEETING IN SESSION...**

Alas, beauty is only a flowsolder layer deep. The final outcome still depends on the quality and usefulness of the functions provided by the designers. First and foremost, all 6847 modes (except external ROM) are implemented. However 6K of RAM is required to

support this and Percom provides only 1K standard with the board. Of course, they will sell you the board with more memory, but it is probably less expensive to plug them in yourself (the RAM area is fully socketed).

For video output, Percom has provided a driver circuit that puts out a 75 ohm, NTSC compatable composite video signal. This is great if you happen to own an expensive color monitor. Most of us, however, will probably have to be content with using an ordinary color TV In this case. an RF modulator (not included because of some rather sticky government regulations) will required.

So one must now trot out to the local Radio Shack, part with an additional \$17, and return with their ASTEC RF modulator, and don't forget the cable! Colorama-50 has space board conveniently the designed to accept the ASTEC modulator. As another option, Percom describes how you can put your own parts on the board to construct an RF modulator. I do not recommend this option unless you have had some RF experience, are masochistic, or some combination thereof.

Actually I had some minor problems with the ASTEC modulator. The ASTEC puts the video on TV channel 3 or 4, which are apparently ceptable to RF interference generated by the computer. Sure enough, after firing up the board, I got a considerable amount of herringbone effect (background picture interference). I was using a SUP-R-Mod (channel 331 modulator another board and decided to the problems vanished! Then I noticed that the SUP-R-MOD output cable was

looped several times through a large (1" dia.) ferrite core. Simply using this cable with the ASTEC considerably cut down on the interference level and produced a very acceptable picture.

The Colorama-50 also includes on-board cassette I/O interface circuit for cassettes. storage on audio Ostensibly, this is to aid in a minimal system configuration. It can supply the terminal functions as well as the mass storage functions. Not a bad idea, if you have need for it.

Another nice feature is an on-card socket that will accomodate a 2716 EPROM. made a quick use of this space by placing my software drivers there. Percom was also farsighted enough to provide separate buffers for the 2716. This accessing the EPROM does not disturb screen RAM.

Miscellaneous features clude a 2-bit (no dis-parity intended) I/O port with one bit as input and the other output. Another flip-flop on the board, which can be toggled by software, feeds the audio input to the ASTEC modulator. Thus elementary audio tones can be mixed with the video signal and will be heard through the TV speaker. Finally, horizontal and vertical sync signal bits may be polled by the computer as well as strapped to provide interrupt.

# MEMORY MAPS ARE MADE OF THIS?

Being a memory-mapped video board, the Colorama-50 requires an 8K block of address space. Unfortunately, it is further restricted to any even 8K block in the upper 32K of the memory map. As the board fully supports extended addressing, this should pose little or no problems to 6809 users on the SS-50C buss. However, 6800 users may be hard pressed to find 8K of room in the upper 32K. For 6800, the board may have to be modified to address in the lower 32K.

The first 6K of the Colorama-50 memory map is the video RAM The last 2K area. bytes address the EPROM. Percom has stolen four bytes from the EPROM for use as control ports. Writing to the first control port address sets up the 6847 The next three, remodes. spectively, toggle the cassette output. Reading from any of the four control ports returns a status byte which monitors inputs and sync signals.

#### THE GOOD...

On the positive side, Percom appears to have put together some reasonably powerful graphics hardware that produces some very impressive static displays. The applications for such a display will be limited only by one's imagination. As the human mind easily responds to graphic images, almost any area of computer applications can be considerably enhanced by adding a little graphics "icing on the cake".

The most obvious application for the Colorama-50 is in the area of data presentation. Untold thousands of different graphs, plots, and charts can be dreamed up to visually represent data of all forms. For starters, make up a ten pile histogram and fill it up with random numbers to test you BASIC's RND function. Watch it

grow, you may be suprised! Plots of personal data vs time may show up some otherwise hidden aspects. This may include time plots of salary level, savings account status, food and utility expenditures, even golf and bowling scores.

Static displays, especially in the process control area, are almost becoming a necessity. How about a color status display for that Home Security/Energy Management System you have been dreaming about? Or a computer generated control panel for your model railroad?

For leisure time, the Colorama-50 can be used to make outstanding displays for certain games. Games that fall in this category include Checkers, Chess, Othello, Backgammon, and all varieties of card games.

#### THE BAD,

There is one area, however, where the Colorama-50 cannot effectively compete -- real time animation. There are two basic reasons that account for this limitation, both of them stemming from design oversights in the 6847 itself.

The first reason is the lack of an adequate solution to the memory contention problem. Remember that the 6847 must be continually accessing screen memory during active scan times to provide screen refresh. If the CPU wishes to update this RAM area, the 6847 must be temporarily prohibited access. This results in unwanted data (snow) being randomly splattered on the This is extremely annoying when one is expecting to see an image move smoothly across the screen.

the COLORAMA-50's solution is to provide the CPU access to the horizontal and vertical sync signals generated by the 6847. Memory updates during these periods will not disturb the display. This is entirely adequate for static or slowly changing displays, but hardly fast enough to meet the demands of real time animation. Design limitations in the 6847 make more amenable schemes, such as memory cycle interleaving, very difficult to realize.

Even if the memory contention problem was resolved, or just simply ignored, another more limiting factor would then prevail. It all starts with the basic incompatability between data orientation in memory vs on the screen. Memory is one dimensional while the screen is two dimensional. The ramifications of this are best visualized by looking at a specific example.

Suppose we wish to draw a small square on the screen, consisting of 8 x 8 pixels, and then move it around. On the screen this two dimensional figure appears to be continuous. In human terms, it is totally obvious that specifying the X,Y coordinate of corner is all that is necessary to define the figure's position on the screen. Unfortunately. the 64-bit pattern that makes up this figure is not located together in packet inside the video RAM. Instead, it is scattered throughout the RAM.

Just to draw the figure, the absolute address of each byte must be calculated from the X,Y coordinate. Then the particular bit is picked out and operated upon. Only then can the RAM be updated. This must be repeated 64 times -- a tremendous software burden! Now

to animate the figure, we must continually erase it and redraw it at a new position. Even a 6809 running at 2 Mhz. is hard pressed to keep this up on anything but the simplest of figures. Remember that real time animation requires that objects be smoothly moved in only a handful of milliseconds.

This type of animation. dreamed by most graphics programmers, is variously called backdrop, single-plane, playfield animation. There are, of course, techniques and modifications that can be done improve the situation -after all, the Color Computer appears to animate, doesn't it? However, I will reserve further discussion on these points as a topic for another article.

#### ...AND THE UGLY

Invariably, whenever the topic of Color Graphics comes up in a group, there are a few that can only conjure up an image of an idiot with a iovstick playing Arcade-type It games. extremely is unfortunate that these dividuals cannot seem to see beyond this minor application and look into the myriad of other applications now opening up. We had better face it -graphics is fast becoming a powerful weapon in the never ending human-computer interface battle. Busses that do not have powerful graphics hardware and software may soon be relegated to a small corner in the museum of computer his-

#### TV OR NOT TV...

Although boards designed

around the 6847 chip intended to pipe right into an "ordinary color TV", I must add a word of caution. Do not think for one moment that you can simply dust off that old color TV in the basement, hook it up, and expect to get the same results pictured in the magazine ads. The resolution of the COLORAMA-50, though modest by some standards, is still sufficient to overtax the capabilities of most TV sets.

The problem is mainly in the color convergence area. Most cannot sets converge (position) the red, blue, and green beams accurately enough the entire screen over to produce well defined color boundaries. For example, small yellow square drawn in one corner may appear very smeared and multicolored around the edges. Yellow may only be apparent in a few pixels near the center of the square.

Very careful color alignment on two of my older sets improved the picture from intolerable" "absolutely "mildly disappointing". On the positive side, a 4-year old Heathkit and a 1-year old RCA XL100 to me both produced acceptable results. However, these matters still fall into a highly subjective realm. Take heart though; users of the Color Atari, Apple, and Computer face these all problems, too.

#### **SOFT WHERE?**

One of the biggest stumbling blocks to mass usage of graphics on the SS-50 buss is the lack of a good software base. The hardware is just beginning to appear and. predictably, the software takes a while to catch up. To make matters worse, unlike Apple, al, there Atari, et is "standard" hardware/software configuration. This also implies that we lack the set of graphics powerful primative commands that are baked into ready-built our cousins. Writing a complex applications program that utilizes readily available primatives is thing. But to first have to write these sometimes not so obvious commands is often enough to turn aside even the determined most of individuals.

In the supplementary manual included with the board, Percom alludes to the availability of some 6809 software called CGOS 9.0. The first few pages describe using the dozen-plus commands that provide some very useful features. Unfortunately, the source listing is only partially included. conversations with Percom. I gathered that CGOS 9.0 was never really completed due to a manpower shift in favor of higher priority projects. well, they have to earn a living, too. However, there is of complete listing cassette loading/reading program included in the supplement.

Hopefully to help, and not to add to the confusion, I am offering a 6800 version of a graphics package. The driver package, COLOR4, allows the applications programmer easily manipulate all graphics features of the Colorama-50. All modes, except the text mode, are supported. The user views each mode as an X,Y grid of the appropriate dimensions. I have left it up to the programmer to insure that the

X,Y coordinates chosen do not exceed the limits of the particular mode. If exceeded, the programs will not bomb, but some unexpected points may be set.

COLOR4 provides subroutines for setting the color, changing graphics modes, clearing filling the screen, manipulating any X,Y point, and drawing a best fit line between any two X,Y pairs of coordinates. Lines and individuals pixels can be set, reset, or complemented (togdepending gled) upon contents of a register called PMODE. This should be more give than sufficient to everyone a good head start towards using the Colorama-50. considerably faster formance, delete the sections of code that wait for retrace times.

To illustrate using the driver package, I have also included two applications The first program, programs. SKETCH, depicts usage with an assembly language program. SKETCH is an excellent program to use to become familiar with the operation of the Colorama-Simply stated, SKETCH TVthe turns set into a keyboard-controlled drawing pad. Individual pixels lines can be drawn in any color and moved around. Any graphic or pixel mode can be selected. A H(elp) command will display a command summary on the system terminal. Those familiar with graphics will recognize this as a "rubber-band line" program.

The second program illustrates one possible way to access the subroutines with BASIC user routines. The program is called RANDOMLINES and does exactly that -- random lines of various colors are drawn using graphics mode 8.

The program was written using TSC Cassette Basic. I have also included a chart that summarizes the BASIC statements to be used to perform the most common types of graphic manipulations.

I realize that I have been a bit sketchy in describing the uses and features of this package. However, a little study of the source listings and the Percom User's Guide should fit everything together.

#### FINALE, FINALLY...

There is little doubt that computer graphics is an area of rapidly growing importance. Color graphics, in particular, is probably the most visually spectacular. In a sense. Colorama-50 should be considered a pioneering effort in this area -- and a good one at that. All things taken into account, it has substantially more viable applications than limitations.

Percom has indicated to me that the COLORAMA-50 with 1K memory will go on sale this summer for around \$95.00. At these prices, it represents excellent value received VS dollar spent investment. nothing else, the unique graphics programming experience you will gain is worth the price of the board.

Software is still sparse, and what is presented here barely scratches the surface. Although the utilities represent a minimally complete set, there is much room for improvement. Improved software will generate a demand for improved hardware and vice-versa. And so, here's to a more colorful future!

[SS-50]

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GP IX1

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\* PIXEL ROUTINE FOR GRAPHIC MODES 3, 5, 47\* 

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GP IX1

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AND SAVE IT

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74CA 74CD

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TEST FOR RETRACE TIME

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ORA LDA BIT

HSET1

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HSET3

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|                                                                                                                                                | SET DRAW FLAG XFER CURSOR TO BASE COORDINATES GET NEXT CMD GRAPHICS LINE GENERATOR                                                           | ASK FOR COLOR GET IT STRIP ASCII ECHO COLOR SET COLOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| ##FF<br>##FF<br>#MOV1<br>MODE<br>MODE<br>XXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>MODE<br>MODE<br>MODE<br>XXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>YXBEG<br>YXBEG | ### ### ##############################                                                                                                       | XBASE XREG XREG XCUR XCUR XCUR XCUR YEND VCUR YCND VCUR VCND VCND VCND VCND VCND VCND VCND VCND                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| CLDA<br>BEG<br>CLR<br>CLDA<br>CLDA<br>CLDA<br>CMPA<br>STA<br>BEA<br>BEA<br>BEA<br>BEA                                                          |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| MOV1 MOV2 *                                                                                                                                    | *DRAW L DRAW SET **CLEAR CLEAR CLEAR **PASS P                                                                                                | SETLIN COMP NORMAL NORMAL COLOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119<br>119                                                                             | 001<br>002<br>002<br>0020<br>0020                                                                                                            | 224<br>0000<br>001<br>002<br>002<br>003<br>003<br>003<br>003<br>003<br>003<br>003<br>003                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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# OS-9 MACRO TEXT EDITOR

#### by Ken Orme

The Macro Text Editor for OS-9 from Microware is a powerful editor that allows all the normal text editing of any line-oriented text editor, plus the addition of edit macros. The editor also allows some character oriented commands. It resides in appoximately 7K

of memory with the actual editor requiring about 5K of RAM.

Some of the other features that make it nice include the ability to have more than one temporary buffer area (you may have multiple read or write files open simultaneously), allowing for a lot of flex-

ibility with files. All of the OS-9 commands are able to be called from "inside" the editor, eliminating the need to exit the editor to do something else. Still another nice feature is the ability to repeat commands, either a single one or a group of commands one or more times. Included with this

feature is the ability to check on a condition before repeating.

The text editor uses some 31 single keystroke commands to manipulate the text and the pointer. The thing that makes it better than some other text editors is that the syntax used with the program is a superset Thereof the BASIC09 editor. fore in order to start using the editor, you won't have to begin another course of syntax revision. It gets bad enough knowing three or four BASIC's not to mention all the other programs. As with most good programs, this one allows more than one command to be entered on a single line. Spaces are used as delimiters for function. Many of the regular control functions are supported, such as control X to delete the whole line, a control A repeats the previous line, and a control W will halt the output to the screen so you may stop it where you want with any other key resuming the output.

A few words about numeric and string parameters should be mentioned so that you can understand some of the syntax and limitations: If there is no number given where our examples have a "n" listed, it will default to 1 (usually one line). Numbers may be from 0 to 65535 and the "\*" is used to represent infinity.

#### **EDITOR COMMANDS**

As mentioned in previous articles, OS-9 based software helps you to know what program you are using by the letter used in the prompt. The Macro Text Editor is no different. It uses the "E:" prompt which is the same as the editor in BASIC09, but normally you would know which program you called

To begin inserting text, you space once between the prompt and the beginning of your text, the same as BASIC09 when used without line numbers. Like the BASIC09 editor, you insert new text prior to the current line when doing this. There is another type of insert used, where you use the form "I n /text/". This will insert a line containing n copies of the text in the line. An example of this is where "I 40 /\*/" will insert 40 stars in one line. The main purpose of this command is to be able to insert lines in a macro because no space prior to text may be used with the macro.

Some of the other commonly used "addition" and "deletion" commands include the "D" command, used to delete a line or "D n", used to delete n lines. The "K n" command kills n characters. The form "E n/string/" will extend n lines of text with the string given. An example would be "E 3 /XX/" would add "XX" to the end of the next three lines. The "U" command will "unextend" or truncate the line.

#### **EDITING COMMANDS**

There are many edit commands used with the OS-9 editor. One of the most common used is the "L", used to "list" or display The form "L \*" lists from the current pointer to the end, and "L 5" lists the next five lines. It should be noted that the L command does not move the pointer. It is moved with pointer commands. The up arrow moves the pointer to the beginning, and the "/" moves it to the end. A carriage return will move the pointer to the next line and display it, with the "+ n" allowing you to move forward n lines and the "- n"

moving the pointer backwards n lines. Both the plus and minus commands also display the lines as the pointer moves. Since the editor is also character oriented, there are commands to move the pointer to the correct character, too. A right arrow n moves it forward n characters and a left arrow n moves it backward n characters.

Other editing commands include "S n /str/" which will allow you to search n lines for the string str. A syntax "C n /str1/str2/" will change the first string with the second string for n lines. The "A n" command sets the search anchor to a specific column number to begin searching from, if desired. The "T n" sets a tab to The shell may be column n. called directly with a ".shell text" command line. The form "M n" adjusts the workspace memory to n bytes and the .size command displays the workspace size. There is also a command for turning the verify on or off, which tells you the changes that have been made. The "Q" is used to quit editing. If you specified a file when you began, the text in the buffer will be output to that file.

#### **FILE USAGE**

There are some file commands to help work with new text from a file or to put text into a file. The ".new" command will save the current text in the output file and get new text from the input file. This is especially for the purpose of working on files larger than memory. The ".read str" command will close the current input file and open the file named str. And a nice feature to get back to the original read file is to say '.read "".

The write command works just the same, except with the output file. The "R n" command reads n lines from the buffer input file, and the "W n" command writes n lines to the buffer output file. As you can see, there are many possible file combinations available with the editor.

The buffers also have some edit commands. For instance, so that you may see the names the buffers and macros, there is the ".dir" command which will display the secondary buffer name(s) under the \$ symbol and the primary buffer under the \* symbol. The command "B n" switches to the edit buffer. alternate n'' addition, there is a command which puts n lines into the secondary buffer from the primary buffer and the "G n" command, which gets n lines from the secondary edit buffer.

#### **FAIL FLAGS**

One of the hardest things to get a handle on is the "fail flag". When the edit command cannot complete its operation, the editor sets an internal "fail flag''. After the fail flag has been set, the editor not execute any more commands until: (1 The end of a command line is reached, (2 The end of the current command loop is reached, or (3 A ":" command is encountered. One exception to this is when you use an "\*" after the command. Remember, the "\*" means infinity. fail flag will not be set with the asterisk because it means continue until there nothing more to do. You may set the fail flag with some test conditions such as test for end of file, test for end of buffer, and other such con-

ditions. There are many of them, so we won't go into them in this review. Let it suffice to say that there are enough of them to test for any condition that you will probably encount-There is also a method for conditional execution of commands. It is commanded by using a colon (:) before the command(s). It allows editor to skip commands after the colon up to the end of the current line (or loop) if the fail flag is clear, or if the fail flag is set to clear the flag and execute the commands after the colon.

As mentioned earlier, there are ways of repeating commands any number of times. This is done by placing the command(s) within the square brackets, followed by a number n which says to repeat the command(s) n times.

#### **MACROS**

Since the name of the program we are talking about is the "Macro Text Editor", now comes the macro information. You may not have a lot of use for macros, but any time you have a frequently used sequence of commands, you could make a macro containing them which can be called with a simple command and causes the editor to carry-out the commands just as though you had typed in the entire sequence of commands. The macros are created simply by calling the macro command with a name and then describing the type and order of its parameters. Any of the normal command lines may be used in the macro except the space (as mentioned earlier) or the carriage return. The macro may contain parameters that may be passed on to the commands. For instance, you could make a macro "Change \$str1 \$str2 #n"

with the body of the parameter "C /\$str1/\$str2/ #n". macro would be executed by typing the following: ".Change "this" "that" 5". The first (\$str1) would parameter passed the string variable 'this' and the second one 'that', with the number 5 being passed for the #n.

To open a new macro, simply type ".MAC //". Since there is no name given, the macro editor will make a new one. Next, you must name the macro by hitting the space and then typing the name, followed by any parameters needed (in the order needed). The body may then be typed in by giving the commands along with the parameters in the proper sequence. To end the macro try typing ".ENDM". According to the manual(s) that we have, it should end. However, typing every known way of ending does not end the macro. How about your version? Does it do the same? Maybe our version 2.00 is due for an upgrade, or there is an error in the manual.

#### **SUMMARY**

The manual is quite good in the tutorial area, with many pages devoted to helping you through the commands. There is a nice command summary in the back, and a set of error messages and their meaning as All in all, the Macro well. Text Editor is a good package, with the exception of the macro problem. For a line/character oriented editor, there are many powerful commands, and very little that could be improved on. We have used it to write files for the OS-9 Assembler (covered next issue) and it has worked out fine. - Now, where's my macro?

[SS-50]



## MEMORY DUMP UTILITY

By Carl Kreider 22305 CR28 Goshen, IN 46526

Here is my memory dump transient. This utility program will run with the boundries specified in the command line or it will prompt you if you forget. The program may also be "warm started" by entry at the org address plus three bytes.

(Editor's Note: This program came with a letter published several issues ago, and although we have tried the program which works fine, we hesitated publishing it without more comments on the operation. However, since we have room this issue we will publish it now and those of you that don't understand will soon catch on. Be sure to read the comments of the source and you will get some help there.

The program is written for the 6800, but may be modified for the 6809 with few changes. Also, the equate names given will help those who would like to run the program in Smoke Signal DOS. The OS-9 crowd will not need this

if they have debug.

Try the program, you'll like it!)

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| ING PRINT CHARS CHARS LEFT NVE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         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| INFORM OPERATOR HIS HEX VALUE WAS BAD & TRY AGAIN LVAL LDX **TBADNO TELL OPERATOR BSR PIATA BRA RSTART GO ASK FOR LIMITS PROCESS LOOP MP1 LDX **SPBUFF+2 INIT BUFFER POINTER JSR ZGETHN GET START ADDRESS BCS ILLVAL STX SADDR JSR ZGETHN GET END ADDR JSR ZGERF SKIF DOWN | PRINT START ADDRESS PRINT A SPACE GET A MEMORY BYTE PRINT IT SAVE X >ASCII? YES - PUT IN YES - PUT IN O - PUT IN BUFFER POINT TO ASCII BUFFER SAVE CHAR |
| RSTART LDX **TTOFPM GET L JSR PDATA JSR 7LINEI  *RAN DF THE MILL PDATA ROUTINE *REGUIRED BECAUSE THE FLEX STR **DOES A CR', LF FIRST!!! FDATA LDAA 0, X PDATA LDAA 0, X PDATA LDAA 0, X PDATA LDAA 0, X PDATA LDAA 84  RNE PDATAI  **FRINT A HEX BYTE AS TWO ASCII OUTHEX TAB **FRINT A HEX BYTE AS TWO ASCII LSRA LSRA LSRA LSRA LSRA LSRA LSRA LSRA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            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OF X REG STX MEMPNT LDAA ***SO BRA OUTCH                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 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                                                                                                                                                                              | ZCRLF<br>SADDR<br>SADDR<br>SADDR<br>**\$2<br>OUTCH<br>OUTCH<br>OUTCH<br>OUNTS<br>MEMPNT<br>**\$7<br>DUMP3<br>**\$1<br>DUMP4<br>**\$1<br>OUMP4           |
| LDX<br>JSR<br>BRA<br>F THE M<br>RES<br>INX<br>LINX<br>LINA<br>LINA<br>CMPA<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE<br>RNE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | AT ANDA<br>ADDA<br>CMPA<br>CMPA<br>JMP<br>CONTENT<br>STX<br>LDAA<br>BSR<br>LDAA<br>BSR<br>LDAA<br>BSR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | * * INFORM OPERA ILLVAL LDX BSR BRA * BROCESS LOOP DUMP1 LDX JSR BCS STX JSR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | JSR<br>LDAA<br>BSR<br>LDAA<br>BSR<br>CMPB<br>CMPB<br>BHI<br>CMPB<br>BHI<br>CMPB<br>CMPB<br>CMPB                                                         |
| **CUN OF **CON OF **C | *CONVERT HNDA<br>CHA ADDA<br>CMPA BLS<br>BLS<br>OUTCH JMP<br>*FRINT CONTE<br>OUTHAS SOXA<br>LDAA<br>BSR<br>BSR<br>LDAA<br>LDAA<br>LDAA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | * INFOR<br>ILLVAL<br>* PROCE<br>DUMP1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | DUMP 11<br>DUMP 2<br>DUMP 4                                                                                                                             |
| A1BF<br>A112<br>AD1B<br>3C<br>1F<br>01<br>F6<br>64<br>F6<br>694<br>F6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  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                                               | A127 8B<br>A129 81<br>A129 81<br>A120 8B<br>A12F 7E<br>A132 BF<br>A135 B6<br>A136 8D<br>A137 86<br>A13F 86<br>A13F 86                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   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# **OS-9 EXCHANGE**

#### by Gary Manning

Back in issue #1 (Jan-Feb 1980) we mentioned how to construct an interrupt timer for less than \$10 based on the MM5369 programmable oscillator boards that are widely available. (Digital Research Parts of Texas, Polypaks, etc. These boards use a 3.5MHz crystal and divide down to 60Hz output. The output can be connected to the C1 line on the "B" side of an MPLA or similar parallel I/O board to give a 60 Hz interrupt. In fact the oscillator board is so small that it can be glued to the edge of the MPLA board and take its power from it also.

This should be of interest to those who have, or are considering getting OS-9, since the system must have an interrupt timer in order to use the multiprogramming and timesharing capabilities. Besides, it sure beats the cost of a dedicated interrupt timer board or a full blown real time clock.

To use these timer boards with OS-9, there are some problems to consider, the first of which is that OS-9 expects a 10Hz interrupt whereas the timer sends them at 60Hz. the best solution is to connect a divide by 6 counter between output of the oscillator board and the C1 line. Such a counter would be inexpensive and easy to make up. would cost some in hardware but would cut down on the number of interrupts and their associated overhead by a factor of 6.

although you probably wouldn't notice the difference.

The second solution is to use a software patch which is cheap and easy and offers an example of how to modify an OS-9 memory module. I will present the second approach here.

Another problem is that if you have a parallel board in the first place, you probably have a printer on it, and wouldn't want to move it down to port 5. If you aren't using the "B" side of the board you can tell OS-9 to look up to port 7 (or some other port if need be) for the interrupt.

The module we need to change is named CLOCK. You may, and probably should, examine it by first SAVEing it on the disk and then DUMPing it to the

terminal or printer. Since the module is position independent, the listing will address each byte relative to the start of the module. These are the addresses that I will use. \$07 is the attributes/revision byte, 81. The revision must be increased so that the new module will supercede the old one. In this case an 82 will do. At \$0C is the port address of the timer, 52. If you wish to move the board to port 7 then change this byte to 72, otherwise leave it alone. At \$8D is the expected number of interrupts per second in HEX, \$0A. Change this byte to \$3C for 60Hz. At \$93 is the number of ticks per time slice, 01. Set this byte to 06 for 60Hz. Be sure that you have the timer on the correct port before you make any changes. If you turn off the system you will lose the program. If you move the board with the power on you may damage it.

Use DEBUG (the interactive debugger) to make these changes to the module (see example). Now execute SETIME to start the clock, and see if the software clock keeps proper time by executing the DATE t or DIR commands. When themodule works properly, SAVE it in the CMDS directory.

OS9: DEBUG

Interactive Debugger
DB: L CLOCK
BOOO 87

DB: ..+7 B007 81 DB: =82 B008 2F

DB: . .+0c-8 BOOC 52

DB: =72 BOOD 43 DB: . .+8D-OD BO8D OA

DB: =3C BOSE 97

DB: . .+93-8E BO93 01

DB: =06 B094 97

DB: Q

0S9:

Although the module works now if you try to load it the system will reject it because CRC and possibly the header parity will be wrong. should now update the module with the proper CRC and header parity with the VERIFY command: **VERIFY < LOCK** >clk U. This will copy clock with the proper CRC and header parity into a module called CLK. Now make the module executable: ATTRCLK and delete clock: CLOCK. Now rename CLK to CLOCK: RENAME CLK CLOCK.a you are finished with the modification.

#### Other Things To Try

If you have a disk capable of track to track access times less than 30-40ms for 5" or 15-20ms for 8" you may increase the step rate by changing byte \$14 in the Device Descriptor for the disk drives (D0, D1, etc.). This byte is set at 00 but may be set to as high as Each increase by one increases the step rate about two times or less depending on the controller and disk size. You may also wish to change other bytes in the initialization table depending on your drives, i.e. 40 track instead

of 35 (Byte \$17), double density instead of single (Byte \$16), etc. This information is listed on page 30 of the System Programmers Guide. After you make any changes, save and verify the module like was discussed for CLOCK.

The device descriptor for the parallel printer (P) was written for the MPL2 board. If you wish to use an MPLA board, change byte \$26 from 02 to 01. This will tell the system that there are four addresses on the board instead of sixteen.

As you can see, you may get several revised modules that need to be loaded after booting up. You can have the system load them for you by including the commands in the STARTUP file. Since the startup file cannot be appended, you will need to DELete the old one and BUILD a new one. You may wish to list the old one to know what to copy over if desired.

OS9:LIST STARTUP
-P
LOAD DO
LOAD CLOCK
LOAD P
PRINTERR
SETIME
P

I hope that this will help clear up some problems and help you to get over the "Modulephobia" sometimes associated These "different" with OS-9. methods can be confusing, but that's where OS-9 gets many of features. Besides, the manuals usually have answers if you can "dig them out". I find that I like the system more and more as I finally understand how things work.

[SS-50]



# TAPE BACKUP OPTION FOR WINCHESTER

SMOKE SIGNAL, manufacturers of the CHIEFTAIN Series of business computers, and PATH-FINDER Series of Development Systems, announces tape streamer backup as an option for the company's line of 8-inch and 51/4-inch Winchester-based systems. The tape streamer is now a standard option to any CHIEF-TAIN and PATHFINDER Winchester system for an additional \$1500 to list prices of the computer system. The tape streamer will store up to 20 Megabytes on ¼-inch cartridge tape.

With a tape streamer, the computer systems can now transfer 20 Megabytes of data in less than five minutes at 90 ips. The CHIEFTAIN/PATHFINDER Series also incorporate two means of backup with the streaming tape drive: file by file, or a complete backup with on single command. Drive-to-tape and tape-to-drive data transfer is provided.

The CHIEFTAIN/PATH-FINDER Series of Winchester computer systems based around 54-inch and 8-inch Winchesters ranging from 4 up to 60 Megabytes of storage and more. All systems are based around the state-of-the-art 6809 2 MHz microprocessor, and all computers come standard with 64K of RAM. CHIEFTAIN and PATHFINDER have standard options of operating Smoke Signal's DOS69D operating system of the UNIX comparable multi-user, multi-tasking operating system - OS-9 LEVEL I & LEVEL II. CHIEFTAIN computers have application software, business accounting software, data base management applications and special applications available.

For further information please contact: Deborah Conrad, Manager or Jim Allday, National Sales Manager, at Smoke Signal Broadcasting, 31336 Via Colinas, Westlake Village, CA 91362, (213) 889-9340.

#### WRITE 'N SPELL

WRITE 'N SPELL is a companion program to the SPELL 'N FIX (formerly called MAGIC SPELL). It is a spelling correction program. This program helps you to spell words right the first time before you have to resort to SPELL 'N FIX to fix them.

WRITE 'N SPELL is a dictionary lookup program which is used with your text editor. As you write your text, each time you come to a word whose spelling you are unsure of, you invoke WRITE 'N SPELL by typing a control This system allows character. you to then search through its dictionary to check on the correct spelling. Within a few seconds you're back in your editor, sure that your word is spelled right on the first try.

WRITE 'N SPELL is available now for 6800 and 6809 systems using Technical Systems Consultants' Text Editor and Flex. Other versions, including SSB and Screditor III versions as well as OS-9 and Color Computer versions, will be available soon. A disk system with a minimum of two drives and at least 40K of RAM is required.

The WRITE 'N SPELL is priced at \$75.11 with the same 10,000 plus word dictionary that is supplied with SPELL 'N FIX: SPELL 'N FIX owners who already

have the dictionary can get WRITE 'N SPELL for \$60.75. An optional super dictionary of 75,000 words is available for \$150 additional; this option requires disk storage of at least 250K bytes per drive.

This program is available from Star-Kits, P.O. Box 209, Mt. Kisco, New York 10549.

#### COMPUTERWARE INTRODUCES FINANCE PROGRAMS #1

Computerware introduces its FINANCE PROGRAMS #1 on cassette for the Radio Shack Color Computer.

Finance Programs #1 is a useful home/business software package that extends the use of the Color Computer beyond fun and games to the practical applications of finance. Divided into two categories, LOANS and INVEST-MENTS, this program package makes all of the usually laborious calculations in a matter of moments, making financial decisions faster and easier for the home user and businessman.

Finance Programs #1 costs only \$21.95 and is available directly from Computerware at Box 668, 1472 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas, CA 92024.

#### Z809 CP/M ON THE SS50 BUS

You can now run the industrial standard CP/M operating system on your 6800/6809 SS50 computer system. CP/M provides you with the ability to run ANSI Standard Basic and the large body of CP/M based software. The use of CP/M will greatly increase the software capability of your SS50 system.

The Z809 board is a combined hardware and software system for SS50 Bus Computers. With this integrated approach, bringing up CP/M is as easy as plugging in the Z809 board and booting the system.

The Z809 system is compatible with standard CP/M formatted disks so that software is easily exchanged or ported to other systems. The Z809 does not replace the CPU board presently in your SS50 system but works with it in a symbiotic relationship to enhance both the Z809 and your 6800/6809 CPU.

Contact: Meta Lab Computers, 2888 Bluff Street, Suite 106, Box 1559, Boulder, Colorado 80306.

# SOFTWARE PACKAGES FOR 6809 and OS-9 SYSTEMS

Epstein Associates announces a unified graphics I/O package for the OS-9 Operating System. GRAFPAK generates graphics displays on any video board or terminal that supports point plotting.

The coPILOT is a Pilot-like interpreter ideal for the first-time computer-user in educational and industrial training applications. coPILOT features easy manipulation of character strings, a BASIC09-type editor and a HELP command which prompts with a list of available commands and their explanations. coPILOT is a stepping stone to BASIC09.

PAINT is a multi-cursor, multi-palette, menu-driven graphics program for generating schematics, animation and other displays with simple keyboard commands. User-definable figures can be created and recalled all with single keystroke commands. Circles, lines, rectangles

and fills are also created with single keystrokes. Paint works with any video board or terminal that supports direct cursor addressing and point plotting including the GIMIX 512x512 and 80x24 video boards as well as color.

A development tool by the name of KONPROM which permits OS-9 generated object code, procedures and data files to be PROMed is also a software package from Epstein Associates. This requires a KONTRON MPP-S PROM Programmer. The package includes modem controls for downloading code over telephone lines and remote control of programmer. KONPROM can be modified by Epstein Associates for other programmers using standard protocols and having remote control features.

Prices for these packages and other worthwhile packages can be obtained by writing: Epstein Associates, 3657 Woodhead Drive, Northbrook, Illinois, 60062.

#### ANNOUNCING...68000 MICRO NEWS

A new magazine which will cover the Motorola 68000 microprocessor and related hardware and software products is being printed. The first issue will have a capsule summary of all available computers. Later issues will have more coverage of each system. A magazine that will put all the information about 68000 computers, software, and applications in one convenient place will help insure the success of these products.

Information concerning this publication can be obtained by writing 211 North Seventh Street, Allentown, Pa. 18102, or calling the President, David A. Bollmann at (215) 439-8888.

# SPELL - TEST The Easy Way to Find Spelling Errors

To help you find those deadly spelling errors, the Frank Hogg Laboratory has released SPELL - TEST (tm) for FLEX (tm) based 6809 microcomputers. It will also be available for Microware's OS-9 operating system.

SPELL- TEST is completely menu driven and is very friendly to the user. The design goal was to make SPELL - TEST so simple to operate that a secretary could run it without picking up the manual. Hogg believes that goal has been met.

SPELL - TEST lets you check your spelling interactively -- by reading each word in context. SPELL - TEST stops and points to all words that are possibly misspelled. When it stops you may Accept the word as it is, Accept it and Save it for use in an optional dictionary later, or may Replace it.

If you prefer, SPELL - TEST will also let you check your words individually -- you'll see only one word at a time and misspelled words stick out like a sore thumb. You also have the option of printing a complete list of words, either misspelled or valid. After you have checked the words, SPELL - TEST lets you Build a file of the words you want to save or Write a new -- Corrected -- text file to vour disk. Your original masterpiece is saved, errors and all, in a backup file.

SPELL-TEST sells for \$195 for the object code on a standard FLEX disk. The source code may be purchased for an additional \$100. It is available from Frank Hogg Laboratory, 130 Midtown Plaza, 700 East Water Street, Syracuse, NY 13210. Orders may be made by phone at 315-474-7856. VISA and MASTER CARD are welcomed.

# STYLOGRAPH \*\*

6809 WORD PROCESSING SYSTEM

#### STYLOGRAPH 2.0

All of the convenience and features for which Stylograph is well known plus:

- True proportional printing on specialty printers.
- Files longer than memory.
- "Help" command to aid in learning.
- New menu driven, self prompting functions.
- Left and right scrolling for pages larger than screen.
- Embedded printer control commands allowed.
- Simplified method for underline, boldface, superscript, etc.
- Supports NEC, Diablo, Qume, 737, and 739 printers.
- Can be user configured for virtually any terminal or printer.

\$295, manual \$15, updates from old versions \$180.

#### STYLOGRAPH 3.0

This version is designed for "tty" printers but is otherwise identical to version two. It does not support specialty characteristics such as superscript, subscript, incremental printing, and proportional printing.

\$195, manual \$15, updates from old versions \$90.

#### STYLOGRAPH MAIL MERGE

This program takes files of variables, such as names and addresses, and inserts them into a Stylograph text file for automated mail list generation. It will also allow a number of Stylograph text files to be appended at printout time so that page numbers and headings will be continuous in the printout.

\$125, manual \$10.

#### STYLOGRAPH SPELLING CHECKER

This is a valuable addition to any word processing application. It checks all words in a manuscript against an internal dictionary. The dictionary included has a vocabulary of over 20,000 words and is fully expandable. New words encountered in the text may be added to the dictionary making the creation of custom tailored and foreign language dictionaries a snap.

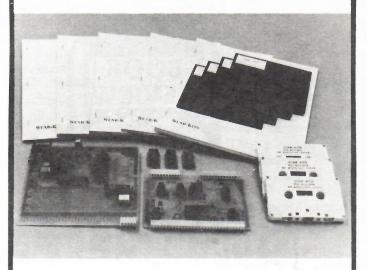
\$145, manual \$10.

When ordering specify operating system (FLEX™, Uniflex™, or OS-9™) and disk size. VISA & MC accepted. 20% discount on 3 program order.



**STYLO SYSTEMS**BOX 238 WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221 **716—634-2466** 

#### STAR-KITS



#### 6800 HARDWARE

**SBC-02** single board computer uses 6802 with RAM, ROM, I/O. Ideal controller, intelligent interface, and more. Printed circuit board is \$25, complete controller kit \$75, wired and tested \$150. Also available: HUMBUG (see below), Basic in ROM, etc.

CT-PS serial/parallel interface card. ACIA-type interface for RS-232C terminal and/or a parallel keyboard. Makes keyboard look like a terminal with absolutely no program patching. Ideal for video board based systems. Bare board \$20, complete kit \$55, wired \$100.

#### **6800 AND 6809 FIRMWARE**

**6800 HUMBUG** monitor. Totally MIKBUG compatible, plus single-stepping, multiple breakpoints, formatted memory dumps, multiple port control and more. "Fantastic!" say our customers. 2K version \$40 on 2708 or 2716 EPROM with source listing. Alternate versions, including video board versions available.

**6809 HUMBUG-09** has all the features of 6800 HUMBUG and more. Not just a compatible monitor, but a debugging package and system I/O manager as well. Two ROMs, manual and full program listing for \$75. Also available in video board versions.

#### **6800 AND 6809 SOFTWARE**

**BASIC UTILITY PACKAGE** renumbers, pretty-prints, prints variable and transfer indexes, compares, shortens Basic programs. On Percom or miniFlex\* disk for \$30.

CHECK 'N TAX balances your checkbook, finds errors, prepares income tax data. On Percom, miniFlex\*, Flex 2.0\* or Flex 9\* disk for \$40.

**SORT-MERGE**—the only one for Percom disk systems, sorts even full-disk files. \$35.

**NEWTALK** for your 6800 or 6809 system makes it talk to you. This memory dump utility outputs through a music board or any PIA port. \$30 on Percom or Flex 2/9 disk, or cassette.

**6800 CROSS-ASSEMBLER** written in Basic. Assemble 6800/6802 programs on your new 6809 (or your 370 at work!). Available on 5" disk, KC cassette, or TRS-80 Level II cassette for \$9.95.

GAME PACK with Eliza and 3-D Tic-Tac-Toe. 5" disk or KC cassette \$15.

Send s.a.s.e. for catalog. For detailed information, buy any manual for \$5 and get \$6 credit toward purchase. (\* is a trademark of Technical Systems Consultants.)

STAR-KITS, P.O. Box 209, Mt. Kisco NY 10549



# Speaking Pascal

A COMPUTER LANGUAGE PRIMER

By Kenneth A. Bowen

Hayden Book Co., Inc. 236 pages



by Ken Orme

Speaking Pascal is a book written for those who interested learning the in Pascal language. In the 236 pages of this book you are taken on a short course in Pascal that almost everyone will grasp. The author has written the text in a nonmathematical approach allows those who have never heard of Pascal to grasp the meaning and the program examples. This book is a good introductory text that does not require the reader to have any programming experience to be able to understand it.

Mr. Bowen presents this book in ten chapters with five appendix topics. Although the book is written for what is commonly the international standard Pascal, it is easily adapted to other versions if needed. There are a few examples that use other versions which are noted in the text.

Even though the ten chapters

have longer names, they may be summed up as chapters named: Introduction, Expressions, Real Numbers and Strings, Iteration, Conditionals, I/O and Files, Arrays, Procedures and Functions, Records, and Program Design. Each chapter (except chapter one), has some exercises at the end of it which allows those who are trying to learn to program a means of testing themselves. It is handy who teaches anyone

classes on introductory Pascal

programming.

Though chapter one is the chapter, introductory the author gets off to a great start by presenting a simple program to illustrate Pascal and to have you read through it to gain an understanding of what it is doing. It seems very effective and is a great way to start this kind of book. He presents most of the terms that are used in the book in a in-context short. definition. Mr. Bowen presents the idea of having conversations with the computer and continues this trend throughout the book. It seems like a good approach, especially for the novice programmer.

The second chapter is called "Money Talk" and introduces integer expressions. The way Pascal works with integers is not only introduced here, but explained in a very understandable manner. The introducton to program structure is given in this chapter. And to help with integer thinking, a program called "Change" dealing with money is used for examples.

The information dealing with real numbers and strings is covered in chapter three which helps open your eyes to the wide variety of possibilities for programs. The author includes a couple short, concise

programs which illustrate the

subject very well.

Once you start to read chapter four on iterations, you start to really see the power of the computer and how the program can do some powerful things. The FOR/DO, WHILE/DO REPEAT/UNTIL, and infinite loops are covered here. very good example programs are presented to illustrate ations.

The IF/THEN/ELSE is covered in the fifth chapter with more examples and information. Since the reader has a fairly good background of commands and syntax by this time, the author includes more exercises that are a bit more complicated than those at first.

The chapter on I/O and files gives the reader insight into organizing and reading/writing Formatted I/O is also introduced. Another point that is worth mentioning is that Mr. Bowen uses an approach of outlining the Pascal program before you actually write the final code. This outline form is not a "flowchart" or other device, but a true top to bottom approach first in English, then in Pascal.

The seventh chapter called "Table Talk" gives another nice approach by the author. Since the chapter is on arrays, the idea of a table comes to mind, such as a multiplication table. Mr. Bowen goes a step beyond this and introduces not only the array table, but the food table as the program topic. A program called Diet is introduced and worked out which illustrates the use of arrays. The string array is covered using this same approach.

Procedures and functions are shown in a nice way in chapter eight. With the approach that very long programs are hard to read and debug, the idea of using subprograms is introduced and explained. Both functions and procedures are covered in the example program. Mr. Bowen emphasizes that the Pascal program should be easy to read, and that the procedures functions should fall in a naturally occurring order.

Even though chapter nine has a rather large typo on the second page of the chapter, it

still presents the topic of records very well. Again, a well suited example helps this chapter illustrate records and their use.

The tenth chapter covers program design and gives special emphasis on the top down program development and programming style. The program developed in the chapter deals with making the comments in "prettier" Pascal by placing them in boxes. This is helpful in talking about programming style.

The appendix has five sub-Pascal iects: at a Glance. Reserved words for Pascal, Intrinsic Functions and Procedures, Character Code Tables, and UCSD Pascal. Since the book is using standard Pascal, UCSD Pascal differences covered (at least the major ones in the appendix on UCSD Pascal. The others should be self-explanatory.

Even though the comments here are on a chapter by chapter basis, emphasis as to the way the book is written should be clear. Mr. Bowen seems to have a very good overall approach and very little can be improved on. I felt that he could have kept the vocabulary somewhat. smaller, thus allowing the book to be read and understood by the high school student as well as college students. I probably go too far the other way. but there is a way to present things simply and still effectively.

Overall, the book is very good and is a must for those who have never programmed in Pascal before and are attempting to learn. There are other books on the subject, but this one is one of the best I have ever seen for beginning Pascal.

```
*DRAW A LINE BETWEEN COORDS IN XBEG, YBEG AND XEND, *YEND. SET MODES FOR DESIRED RESULT.
                                                                       INITIALIZE SOME VARIABLES
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ADD IN THE INITIAL INCREMENTS
                                                                                                                                                                                                      DRAWING WHICH WAY?
                                                                                                                            AND MAG OF Y.
SET UP DX AND DY
ALONG THE WAY
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   BMOV=BMOV+YMOVE
                                                                                                                   COMPUTE MAG OF X
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    SET 1ST POINT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    SWAP VECTORS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  IS READY, SO DRAW THE LINE
UPDATE Y
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     YINC
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BMOV+1
BOTH
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HELP -- DISPLAYS COMMAND LIST ON CRT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           /GRAPHICS MODE (0-9)?/
               UPDATE CURSOR
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    // CURSOR RIGHT
CURITE
/6/ SET GRAPHICS MODE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         /H/ HELP INFO
HELP2
/T/ SET TINT OR COLOR
                                                                                                                                                              TURN ON ECHO
                   RESTORE MODE
                                                  CLEAR SCREEN
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 COMPLEMENT MODE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             RESET SCREEN
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         /,/ CURSOR LEFT
CULEFT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       /E/ EXIT TO DOS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                       /N/ NORMAL MODE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                CURSOR DOWN
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 /COLOR (0-7)?/
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           CLEAR LINE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      CURSOR UP
                                                                                                                                                                                                   /D/ DRAW LINE
                                                                                                                                                                                                          /S/ SET LINE
SET
                                                                                                                                                                                         COMMAND LOOKUP TABLE
                                                                            #MSGTBL
TEMP
                                                                                                                #TBLEND
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INCREMENT BOTH VECTORS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                FETCH MASK
POINT TO SCREEN MEMORY
CK DESIRED PIXEL MODE
CLEAR
                                                                                                                                          NORMAL MODE
COLOR BITS IN PLACE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   FORM ABSOLUTE ADDR
SAVE IT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            MASK DESIRED BITS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          INDEX INTO TABLE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           ADD IN NEW BITS
UPDATE MEN & RTS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          FIND COLOR MASK
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            FOSS OUT X-MSB
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                                                                    SAVE COUNTER
SET A POINT
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TEMPS2
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DRAW1
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BMOV+1
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XBEG
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         /TUNE IN SET -- INPUT ANY CHARACTER
                                                                                                                                                                                                                G = CHANGE GRAPHICS MODE/
                                                                                                                                                                                 = COMPLEMENT MODE
                        ZNOW INPUT COMMANDS
                                                                                                                                                                  = SET-RESET MODE/
                                                                     = CURSOR LEFT /
                                                                                    = CURSOR RIGHI/
                                                                                                     = RESET SCREEN/
                                                                                                                                  = SET THE LINE/
                                                                                                                                                  = CLEAR CURSOR/
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                SCREEN MOTION A
                                                                                                                     = DRAW A LINE/
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| JMP CLEAR RESET TO DEFAULT COLOR         | EsstatiseBestatiseStatiseBestatiseStatiseBestation  # SET THE "COLOR" REGISTER, BESIRED COLOR CODE  # SET THE "COLOR" RELING "COST" PLACES THE  # ADDROGUE ANTE MACK THE "COLOR" PROFESSIVE LIBERTY  # ADDROGUE ANTE MACK THE "COLOR" PROFESSIVE PROFESSIVE LIBERTY  # ADDROGUE ANTE MACK THE "COLOR" PROFESSIVE PROF | ACHRENT MODE IN "GMODE", WELFALMEN OUT IN THE CHARLED CHANGED, IF NECESCARY, SO BE CAREFUL-THIS SAFECTS THE ENTIRE SCREEN! | COLOR CODES: 1 = YELLOW     | BUFF                    | LDA A CCODE FETCH DESIRED COLOR | AND B 45EF CLEAR   | CSET2<br>B #\$10 SET CSS | STA B GMODE STUP DISPLAY                | K OUT COLOR MASK FROM TABLES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 8 48 | BEQ CSETG FULL GRAPHICS MODES BIT B 40-20 SEMIGRAPHICS 4 OR 6? BED CESTRA | ADD A                                                                 |                                                                       | AND A                                                                                                           | LDX A                                                                                                | COLOR                                                                      | **************************************                                | * MANIPULATE A PIXEL IN SEMIGRAPHICS MODE 4,<br>*64 X 32 EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION, ALL 8 COLORS PLUS | K AVAILABLE. CALL "CSET" AT LEAST ONCE AND<br>BEFORE EVERY COLOR CHANGE. STORE X,Y COORDS | 类IN XBEG、YBEG AND SET PMODE.<br>************************************ |      |                    |               |       |              | D & 4                                                 |      |                               |
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| CP IX                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | *ALSO                                                                                                                      | ¤ * *                       | ***                     | CSET                            | COELI              |                          |                                         | * PICK                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | •    |                                                                           |                                                                       | CSETS6                                                                | CSETG                                                                                                           | CSEIR                                                                                                | ,                                                                          | ****                                                                  | * MAN *                                                                                          | *BLACK                                                                                    | X                                                                    | SGR4 |                    |               |       |              |                                                       |      |                               |
| 00429 762A 7E 74F5<br>00431 762B 7E 74E5 | 10000000000000000000000000000000000000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                            | 00440<br>00441<br>00442     | 80443<br>80444<br>00445 | 96                              | 7634 C4<br>7636 81 | 7638 24<br>7638 CA       | 763C<br>763E                            | 00456                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 7641 |                                                                           | 7649 8B<br>764B 20                                                    |                                                                       | 7653                                                                                                            |                                                                                                      | 765D 97<br>765F 39                                                         | 00475                                                                 | 76                                                                                               | 8 6                                                                                       | 0 54 6                                                               | 7660 | 7664 58<br>7665 58 | 7666          | 7669  | 766A<br>766B | 00473 /55C 55<br>00494 766D 8B A0<br>00495 766F 97 ND | 7671 | 7675 D6<br>7677 48<br>7678 84 |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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                                 | 00476                                                                                            | 00478                                                                                     | 00480                                                                | 400  | 00485              | 00487         | 00489 | 00492        |                                                       |      | 00499                         |
|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      |                                                                           | 0003 LSAVE =0017<br>7422 LINE =741F<br>0013 GCODE =0016               | 742E DOSADD=C000<br>0023 YBASE =0024                                  | 0028 NOECHO=0029<br>1000 GRMODE=1015<br>1078 START =1082                                                        | 10A6 UP1 =10AC<br>10C4 CURITE=10C9<br>10F2 STADID=10EE                                               | 112F SET =1133<br>1159 COLOR =115F                                         | 11A9 DOS =11AE                                                        | 126A MSG7 =1278                                                                                  | 1320 MSG17 = 1331<br>1373 CRLF = 1384                                                     | _                                                                    | 1000 |                    | 400           | 004   | 700          |                                                       |      | 4000                          |
| MSG8<br>SPACES<br>MSG13                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5+5                                                                                                                        | ı,                          |                         |                                 |                    | TABLE                    | _                                       | _                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |      | 11.00                                                                     | YEND =0003 LSAVE =0017 PIXEL =7422 LINE =741F GMODE =0013 GCODE =0016 | SCR1 =742E DUSADD=C000<br>XBASE =0023 YBASE =0024                     | XMAX = 0028 NOECHO=0029<br>INIT = 1000 GRMODE=1015<br>RESET2=1078 START = 1082                                  | CURSUP=10A6 UP1 =10AC<br>LEFT =10C4 CURIE=10C9<br>HP2 =10E9 STADT2=10E9                              | DRAW = 112F SET = 1133<br>NORMAL=1159 COLOR = 115F                         | HELP2 = 11A9 DOS = 11AE                                               | NSG6 = 11EE NSG7 = 1278<br>NSG6 = 126A NSG7 = 1278<br>NSG1 = 178F NSG10 = 127F                   | MSG16 =1320 MSG17 =1331<br>MSG21 =1373 CRLF =1384                                         |                                                                      |      |                    | 00400         | 004   | 700          |                                                       |      | 4000                          |
|                                          | CRLF<br>MSG14<br>SPACES<br>MSG15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Ŋ                                                                                                                          | TSE16<br>CRESTS<br>SPACES+S | SPACES<br>MSG17<br>CRLF | * CKL.                          |                    | MODE TABLE               | T C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C | +554, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 4514, 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=11AE<br>MSG1 =1151 MSC3 =11EE MSC3 =11AE | MSGS = 1151 NSGS = 1155 NSGS = 1203 NSGS = 1259 NSGS = 1278 NSG1 = 1240 NSG1 = 1278              | MSG15 =1307 MSG16 =1320 MSG17 =1331<br>MSG20 =1363 MSG21 =1373 CRLF =1384                 | GRTBL =13E2                                                          |      |                    | \$00 <b>1</b> | 004   | 000          |                                                       |      | 4000<br>4000                  |

| INDEX INTO TABLE POINT TO MASK FETCH IT POINT TO SCREEN CK PIXEL                                                                      | FIG                                                                  | 5                              | SET PIXEL<br>MASK LUMINANCE                                                   | ADD IN COLOR                  |                                                                                           | LOAD IT<br>RESET PIXEL                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                   |                                                                                                             |                                       |         | **************************************                                                                                  |         | DIVIDE YBEG BY 3 | DIVIDEND                                           |                                                                   | DIVISOR                                  | FORM QUOTIENT      | CLUMIN<br>FORM RE                                                               | TOSS OUT 2 MSB'S<br>B STILL HAS Y DIV BY 3      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| #1<br>#4<br>MASK+1<br>MASK<br>0,X<br>TEMPS1<br>PMODE                                                                                  | CLEARS                                                               | 86R42                          | SGR41<br>0,X<br>#\$0F                                                         | COLOR<br>GPORT<br>#1          | SGR44<br>#2<br>SGR43                                                                      | X,0                                                                                                           | #1<br>SGR 47<br>#2<br>SGR 45                                                                                                         | 0,X<br>SGR46                                                      | GPORT<br>#1<br>SGR48                                                                                        | #2<br>COMPLS<br>0,X<br>SGR46          | OF MANO | A PIXEL<br>CTIVE RI<br>AVAILABI                                                                                         | 00      | TEMPS1           | TEMPS2                                             | TEMPS2                                                            | #3<br>SG61                               | #3<br>TEMPS1       | SGLOOP<br>LSAVE<br>XBEG                                                         |                                                 |
| A PAND<br>STADA<br>LDA A A<br>LDA A                                                                                                   | BEG                                                                  |                                | DEG<br>ORA                                                                    |                               | BNE<br>BIT B                                                                              | rn.                                                                                                           | BELEA                                                                                                                                |                                                                   | S LDA B<br>BIT B<br>BNF                                                                                     |                                       | E NG    | ARREAR<br>NIPULATE<br>A8 EFFE<br>RS EACH<br>LWAYS.                                                                      | 4 4 d   |                  | ASL A STA A CLR A                                  | ROL                                                               | ROL A<br>CMP A<br>BLT                    | SUB A<br>ORA B     |                                                                                 | ASL A<br>ASL A<br>LSR B                         |
|                                                                                                                                       | 0 SGR 41                                                             |                                | SGR 42<br>SGR 46                                                              | 0                             |                                                                                           | SGR444                                                                                                        | 3                                                                                                                                    | SGR 47                                                            | 0                                                                                                           | SGR 48                                | * 4     | * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *                                                                                   | * 0     |                  |                                                    | 0E SGL00P                                                         |                                          | 4700               |                                                                                 |                                                 |
| 00501 767A C4 01<br>00502 767C 18<br>00504 767F 97 05<br>00504 768F 97 05<br>00505 7681 DE 04<br>00507 7685 DE 09<br>00508 7687 DE 19 | 7689 27<br>768B 2B<br>768D F6                                        | 7690 CS<br>7692 26<br>7694 CS  | 7696<br>7698<br>769A                                                          | 769C 9B<br>769E F6<br>76A1 CS |                                                                                           | 76A9 A7 0<br>76AB 39<br>76AC 43                                                                               | 2265                                                                                                                                 | 76B8 A4<br>76BA 20                                                | 76BC F6<br>76BF C5<br>76C1 26                                                                               |                                       | 02 (20) | 0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000<br>0000                                                    | 76 4174 | 76CD<br>76CF     | 00555 7602 48<br>00556 7603 97 0E<br>00557 7605 4F | 76D6 5F<br>76D7 79 00                                             | 04 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 76DF 80<br>76E1 DA | 566 76E8 24<br>567 76E8 97<br>568 76E8 97                                       | 00569 76EC 48<br>00570 76ED 48<br>00571 76EE 54 |
| **************************************                                                                                                | 2. Set address of BASIC's USR routine;<br>30 POKE 68,119:POKE 69,137 | 3. To initialize: 40 Z=USR(C1) | 4. To set graphics mode:<br>50 POKE 22,6:Z=USR(C5) where G=Desired Mode (0-9) | S. To clear screen:           | 6. To set color of upcoming pixels:<br>70 POKE 21,C:Z=USR(C4) where C=Desired color (0-7) | 7. To set pixel mode: 80 POKE 25,M where M=1 pixels turned on M=0 pixels turned off M=255 pixels complemented | 8. To fill screen (set background color);<br>90 POKE 26,B:Z=USR(C7) where B= value of byte to be placed<br>in every screen location. | 7. To manipulate an X,Y pixel:<br>400 POKE 0,XIPOKE 4,Y1Z=USR(G3) | <pre>10.To draw a line between XB,YB and XE,YE: 110 POKE 0,XB:POKE 1,YB:POKE 2,XE:POKE 3,YE:Z=USR(C2)</pre> | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |         | 5 REM RAWDOM LINE PROGRAM FUR COLORAMG-50<br>10 REM ASSIGN JUMP TABLE ADDRS TO COLORA<br>20 C1=29722;103=29720;04=29733 |         |                  |                                                    | 150 POKE2, 127*RND(0) 150 POKE2, 127*RND(0) 150 POKE2, 191*RND(0) | 2                                        |                    | 230 IF C=1 THEN C=0:8=5:GOTO 120<br>240 IF C=0 THEN C=1:8=5:GOTO 120<br>250 END |                                                 |

| MASK MODE BITS<br>SET CSS BIT                 | ODD MODES<br>MODE 9                                                               | EVEN MODES                                                                | \$6-4<br>\$6-6                                                                                                                             | **************************************                                                                                                                                                                  | SCREND=B7FF SPORT =BBF2 XEND =0002 YEND =000.5 YMOVE =0008 XCHANG=00.9 TEMPS1=0010 TEMPS2=00.0E TOCLOR =0015 FILL =0014 MSTRL=74.0 INIT3 =745D INIT4 =746.8 SCRCLR=748B SCR1 =749.3 SCRCLR=748B SCR1 =749.3 SCRCLR=748B SCR1 =746.6 CLEAR =745 HCLR =746.6 VLINE =7534 ULINE =7545 VLINE =7578 HGCMP=758D DRAW1 =7578 HGCMP=758D DRAW1 =7578 HGCMP=758D CSET2 =763C SCR1 =764D SCR4 =768D SCR4 =768D SCR4 =768D SCR4 =768D SCR4 =768C SGR4 =778B SG6 =777E SG68 =777E SG68 =777E SG68 =777E                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| M A #7<br>D A #7<br>A A #\$10<br>PIXEL DRIVER | LSR B BCC GSET1 CMP #GPIXEL CMP #4 BEG GSET LDX #GPIX7 BRA GSET                   | LDX *CPIXEL<br>CMP B #1<br>BNE GSFT<br>LDX *CPIXL<br>BRA GSFT             | 4 4 44                                                                                                                                     | 5E CORRECT PIXEL  LDX PIXDUR  JMP 0,X  JMP 0,X  ************  JMAL BASIC USR R  ************  LDX USR VAL  LDX USR VAL  IND                                                                             | VIDMEM=A000 XE  YBEG =0001 XE  XMOVE =0007 YM  YINC =0005 TE  GMODE =0013 FI  INITE =745A IN  FILSCR=7487 SC  GPIXEL=7487 SC  CSET1 =7560 SC  SGR4 =7660 SC  SGR4 =7733 CM  SGR4 =7735 CM  SGR4 =7735 CM  SGR4 =7735 CM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 774F<br>7750<br>7752                          | 7754 54<br>7755 24 00<br>7757 0E 7468<br>7756 27 14<br>7756 0E 749F<br>7751 20 1A |                                                                           | 7771 CE 7660<br>7774 B6 38<br>7776 20 05<br>7778 B6 18<br>7778 B6 18<br>7777 B7 13<br>7777 B7 13<br>7772 B7 13<br>7772 B7 13<br>7772 B7 14 | 7785 DE 0F<br>7787 6E 00<br>7789 DE 46<br>7788 6E 00                                                                                                                                                    | GFORT = BBF0 BASADD=00A0 USRVAL=1046 XBEG = 0000 MASK = 0004 XCOUNT=0006 FIXHC=000B YCHANG=000A XCOUNT=000B YCHANG=000A XCOUNT=000B YCHANG=000A XCOUNT=000B YCHANG=000A XCOUNT=000B YCHANG=000A XCOUNT=00A XCOUNT=00A XCOUNT=00A XCOUNT=00A XCOUNT=00A XCOUNT=00B XCOUNT=0B XCOU |
|                                               | FORM ABSOLUTE ADDR                                                                | MOVE POINTER BITS<br>CHECK LSB                                            | ADD 2 FOR TABLE INDEX POINT TO MASK FETCH MASK POINT TO SCREEN CK PIXEL NODE                                                               | SET PIXEL MASK LUMINANCE ADD IN COLOR RESET PIXEL                                                                                                                                                       | COMPLEMENT PIXEL  ********************  "GCODE",  "GCODE",  TOS 5 = 128 X 96  ICS 5 = 128 X 96  ICS 6 = 128 X 96  ICS 7 = 128 X 192  8 = 128 X 192  9 = 256 X 192  9 = 256 X 192  9 = 256 X 192  FETCH DESIRED CODE  SEMIGRAPHICS  SUBTRACT 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| R R R R A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A       | ROR A *BASADD STA B TEMPS1 STA B TEMPS1 STA A TEMPS2 *FORM LUMINANCE MASK         | LDA<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC<br>PSC | 44 4 A A                                                                                                                                   | <b>A 444 4AA A 4 AA</b>                                                                                                                                                                                 | *UP-LIXX XX* >                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 76EF<br>76F0<br>76F1<br>76F1                  | 76F2 54<br>76F3 54<br>76F4 CB A0<br>76F6 D7 0D<br>76F8 97 0E                      | 76FA 96 17<br>76FC 48<br>76FD D6 00<br>76FF 57                            | 000<br>000<br>000<br>119<br>0149<br>0140                                                                                                   | 7718 26 04<br>7718 26 04<br>7718 65 02<br>7718 64 00<br>7722 98 14<br>7722 75 14<br>7728 5 10<br>7728 5 10<br>7727 6 10<br>7737 6 10<br>7735 76 10<br>7735 76 10<br>7735 76 10<br>7735 76 10<br>7736 10 | 00620 773C 26 04 00620 773E CS 02 00622 7742 A8 00 00623 7744 20 DA 00629 00629 00634 00633 7748 25 16 00638 7748 46 16 00640 7748 23 22 00643 774E 44                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |



Garland, Texas

No. 7

# WHERE HAVE ALL THE COMPUTER KITS GONE?

by Harold Mauch

I like to visit computer stores and listen to the questions of customers.

Some ask about a common fruit; others ask about the health of a deceased gentleman from Fort Worth.

A few ask for a computer they can build themselves.

"I'm sorry," they're told, "but we don't carry kits any more. Too much hassle."

"If you like to experiment, we have a gee-whiz dandy Chroma Dazzler that can speak 16 languages, maintain 32,768 recipes, schedule 65,536 appointments and balance your checkbook.

And you don't even have to know how to program. We're offering this little gem today for just \$1,999.99, and that includes disk storage."

Just \$1,999.99?

Many a computerist bought a SWTP or other SS-50

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computer because of the processor. Or because they enjoy building kits. But I suspect more than a few bought kits because it was the one way they could afford to own a computer. No doubt there's a substantial market for computer kits. So why aren't there more computer kit manufacturers?

I think I know the answer.

The fine efforts of SWTP not withstanding, much System-50 hardware and software came out of the spare bedrooms, garages and basements of fledgling, but determined entrepreneurs.

Let's suppose you want to become just such an entrepreneur, and in the process maybe we'll find the answer to the question about the scarcity of kit vendors.

You decide to get into the computer kit business. Why kits? Well, you can't afford to start up an assembly operation. Besides, you honestly want to give prospective customers the lowest price possible. A

## **GENERAL INTEREST**

Double-Density Adapter for System-50

Many people have asked if our double-denisty adapter, which we developed for the TRS-80☆ computer, could be used with the SS-50 bus disk controller. Unfortunately, it is not a simple plug-in-and-run situation for either the Percom or SWTP controller. However, the Doubler, as the Percom TRS-80☆ double-density adapter is called, can be easily connected to the older Smoke Signal controller. Dale French, one of our System-50 technical specialists, is working out the details for connecting the DOUBLERtm modifications along with the OS-9 driver in the next issue of the Peripheral.

price 15% above cost seems reasonable.

Design through hardware prototyping is easy. After all, you are a senior designer -- at TI no less. You do a little fine-tuning of the design and get prototypes made. Now the fun begins.

A small ad in Byte and a small stock of kit parts wipes out most of the family savings. You confidently reassure your wife, however, and together you wait for the orders to roll in.

Meanwhile, you hawk a few kits to members of the local computer club. And spend the next several weeks solving their individual problems -- cold solder joints, wrong capacitor polarities and owner design "Improvements" that don't work.

Finally your ad appears in Byte. You soar like an eagle. (Hon, we're gonna be rich!)

You resist the urge to buy up all the new Byte magazines at the local computer store, limiting yourself to a mere 10 copies. Of course mother back in Toledo gets one. (Look Ma, I've got my own business!

The Byte ad makes you an instant expert, so naturally you're invited to give a demo at the next computer club meeting. Is this the beginning of fame?

By now the ad has been out a week. You've had a few callers (keep that damn dog quiet while I'm on the phone!), and a few people have written for more information. (*More* information? Good grief, the ad copy took two days to write and gives everything but the length of the heat sink bolts.)

Never mind. You take the Byte ad, and with the help of your wife's thesaurus, grind out a data sheet. You include specifications for the heat sink fastener.

Before long the postman is delivering your bills in a basket: an invoice for the data sheet printing, a Byte invoice for the next ad insertion, a phone bill that infuriates your wife (Hon, call the phone company, I know I didn't make *that* many long-distance phone calls.), and so on.

Your boss at TI is beginning to make snide remarks about the lagging status of your work project. But these are trifles compared to the next bomb?: a design flaw in the kit! (Oh, my God! How can I face the computer club again.)

You design out the flaw but can't ship because the new IC for the fix isn't available. The complaints begin. "Whereinhell's my kit -- you promised it four weeks ago."

One irate customer wants his money back. Another demands to know why the users manual doesn't explain how to use the product with his home brew 4004 machine. Both promise scathing letters to Byte, the Better Business Bureau and their congressmen. (God, my gut aches.)

The new ICs finally arrive. Your wife calls you at work to tell you the UPS driver won't take a personal check. (Cashier's check or money order, please.)

You tell the boss that son #2 seems to be having an attack of appendicitis, and must be rushed to the hospital. Than you rush to the bank, withdraw \$475 from the wife's Christmas Club account and race to the house. Wife suspects, but you jump back in the car before the questions start. Back at work you tell the boss it was a false alarm, "The little nipper just ate too many fresh cherries, heh, heh."

More than a few long-distance callers, saying they weren't about to buy a pig-in-a-poke, want to know the whereabouts of dealers in their area. So you decide to line up dealers.

The first dealer doesn't have the courtesy to say goodbye when you suggest a dealer cost of 5% off retail. Neither does the second dealer, the third, etc. You soon learn that retailers expect--indeed need-- a 35% mark up. Or thereabouts.

You call an old college friend, one who switched from engineering to a business major, and plead your case. After he stops laughing (why did I tell him we price at 15% above costs), and after discussing cash flow and return on investment, he offers to help -- for a piece of the action. (Maybe these business majors are really the smart ones after all?)

At any rate you raise the price and start calling dealers again. Now the price is OK, but the dealers won't carry kits: too much hassle. (No fools, these dealers.) So willy-nilly, you get into the business of assembling electronic modules. You start slow. Boy, do you start slow -- one employee, an ex-TI assembler needing part time work, a soldering iron and flux, a solder sucker and a few hand tools. The lady assember is competent: her only question concerns getting paid. Nothing serious.

In the unlikely event (as you tell yourself) that you can't "meet payroll," you decide to seek a bank loan. Bankers make unsecured loans about as often as smog-free days occur in Los Angeles, so you pledge your car, the house, a quart of blood and a pound of flesh-but get the loan.

You meet the payroll, i.e., you pay the lady assembler. She smiles, looks at the check, frowns, shrugs and disappears forever. You're out of the assembly business.

It's time, you decide, to sit down and take a real hard look at the business. You call a buddy, a fellow industrialist of kindred interests, and together do a (sound of bugles, roll of drums) COST ANALYSIS. All things considered -- parts bagging errors, solder bridges, troubleshooting over the telephone and letters, letters, letters -- you conclude that...

#### Kits cost more!

And that, weary reader, is the bottom line. It costs more to produce, market and support kits (with the

emphasis on support) than it costs to produce and sell assembled and tested units.

It is enlightening, in this respect, to compare the price of a Heathkit color TV kit to the price of a comparable RCA, Magnavox or Quasar set. There's little difference. Yet, the customer will always insist that kits be priced substantially lower.

Unfortunately -- for those of us who would rather build a kit -- few kit suppliers become very successful. And it appears that we will be getting those few kits that are available from a UPS delivery man, after placing a long-distance call that's answered from a phone in a bedroom or garage.

OF INTEREST -- Harold Mauch, president of Percom Data Company, recently announced that Percom and Access Unlimited, a computer retailer, have agreed to join in a cooperative venture which will make Access Unlimited a retailer of Percom System-50 (SS-50) products.

Access Unlimited is a Richardson, Texas-based mail-order and direct sales retailer of computer-equipment, software and parts.

Manufacturers and software vendors other than Percom also will be contacted.

The program calls for Access to become one of the largest, if not the largest, integrated, full-line source of 680X products for the sophisticated System-50 market place.

Interested suppliers can reach Access Unlimited at: 401 N. Central Expressway #600 Richardson, Texas 75080 (214) 690-0206

#### **NEW PRODUCTS**

Although this section usually features new System-50 hardware and software products, in this issue we would like to mention two computing "Accessory" items that we have carried for only a short time but which are proving to be very popular.



System Desk, Printer Stand --Custom-designed to Percom specifications, this system of low-cost computer

furniture organizes your computer station into a compact, convenient arrangement of accessories and peripherals.

- ☆ Furniture quality styling and finish.
- ☆ Units knock down for shipment -- delivery is right to your door.
- ☆ Snap-locking fasteners -- no tools required for reassembly.

#### System Desk

The under-desk module accommodates either one or two drawers, and can be located either to the right or to the left. The drawers, which are on ball-bearing rollers, have a full-width opening in the rear for equipment cabling.

The riser shelf can be used to support a display unit, hold reference manuals, etc. The riser also can be positioned either to the left or to the right.

#### Printer Stand

The under-desk module plays a dual role, serving either as the desk bay or, with an optional top added, as a printer stand. With the top in place, the printer stand and desk are the same height.

**Specifications** --The desk is 48" wide, 24" deep and 26-½" high (typing height). The riser is 23" wide and 11" deep. The riser shelf can be at 7-½" or 11" above the desk top. The desk bay inside dimensions are 16" wide by 16" deep by 10½" clearance height. The printer stand (under-desk module with top in place) is 24" wide by 24" deep by 26-½" high. Finish is wood and durable plastic laminate.

To order or for additional literature, call toll-free 1-800-527-1222.



#### **Microline 80 Printer**

No other serial dot-matrix printer has so many features for the price:

- ☆ Prints upper and lower case characters in standard-condensed- and double-width faces.
- ☆ Prints block graphic characters.
- ☆ Alphanumeric characters are in easy-to-read 9x6-dot matrix format; graphic characters are 6x12 dot.
- ☆ Font selection and line spacing are programmable.
- ☆ Prints 80 cps with no duty cycle limitation.
- ☆ Print head is warranted for 200,000,000 impressions the equivalent of over nine years of microcomputing ☆ Handles cut sheets, roll paper and fan-fold pin-feed stock. Optional snap-on tractors are available for other forms.
- ☆ Standard interface is parallel, Centronics compatible. Optional serial interface available.

☆ The Microline 80 is rugged (cast aluminum base), lightweight, quiet and dependable. And inexpensive.

To order or for additional literature, call toll-free 1-800-527-1222.

#### **Editors Note-**

A supplement to the Peripheral is available from Percom Data Company. The supplement includes more specific information - - for example, additional notes on product improvement and maintenance. This supplement may be obtained from Percom by calling our toll-free order number, 1-800-527-1222. From within Texas, call (214) 340-7081.

TRADEMARKS APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE OF THE PERIPHERAL:

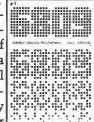
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## SS-50 Bookstore

6809 Assembly Language Programming This book presents a thorough introduction to assembly language programming and a complete discussion of the 6809 instruction set. It starts at a very basic level and builds into actual programming techniques, I/O structures, and hardware interfaces. By Lance Leventhal. 530 pages. Order No. 357



## 6809 Microcomputer Programming and Interfacing/Experiments



This book is written to give sound information on how to program and interface the 6809-the high performance 8-bit microprocessor. It contains seven chapters and four appendices and is valuable as a "cookbook" aid when working with the 6809. By Andrew Staugaard, Jr. - 304 pages - Order No. 21798 \$13.95

#### 68000 Microprocessor Handbook

This handbook gives a complete comprehensive picture of the 16 bit 68000 microprocessor, its timing, and special features. Also, several practical application problems and discussed and it is compared to other 16 bit devices. By Adam Osborne - 220 pages. Order No. 411 \$6.99



## MC6809 COORBOOR

#### MC6809 Cookbook

This cookbook explains the basic operation of the 6809 and the 6809E microprocessors. Everything from the timing and clock information to the instruction set are covered. By Carl D. Warren - Order No. 1209 \$6.95

Orders should include title and order no., along with check, m.o., or VISA-Master Card info. - Mail to: SS-50 Computing Bookstore, P.O. Box 398, Garland, UT 84312. Include \$1.50 per book for shipping and handling. Please allow for personal checks to clear. Sorry, no COD's. Foreign orders should include \$7.00 per book shipping.

#### RBF \_ CACHE

#### DEVICE DRIVER FOR OS9 LEVEL 1

Allows level 1 OS9 systems to use more than 64K of ram by using the extra ram as a new RBF device.

The new device "/C" behaves exactly like a disk with latency time of zero. Any operation you can do with a disk path you can do faster with the "cache" path.

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Specify system type (SSB, or GIMIX) and diskette size when ordering. (SWTPC users inquire)

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6800 simulator for the 6809 processor.

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#### SIM80

8080 simulator for 6800 & 6809 processors.

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Command file processor with parameter substitution for FLEX <sup>tm</sup> 6800 and 6809 versions.

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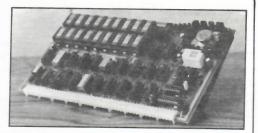
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VISA & MC accepted

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#### QMM1

Quarter Megabyte Memory



The **QMM1** is a "Quarter Megabyte" (256K) dynamic parity memory board for SS50-C 6809 systems with 20 bit addressing.

- Full 2Mhz operation with transparent on board refresh, runs continuously at 2Mhz with no cycle stretching, stealing or halting.
- Optional parity feature halts processor and sounds audible alarm upon detecting a read error.
- Switch disable of up to 8 2K, 4K, or 8K blocks in any or all banks.
- Gold bus connectors, socketed, Professional quality board.
- On board transient surge and ESD protection.
- All boards assembled, burned in, tested and warranteed for 1 year.

NOTES: Not for 6800 systems. Requires 1 jumper addition to 6809 CPU board.

|      | config.<br># | without parity | config.<br># | with parity |
|------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 64K  | 110          | \$ 495.00      | 221          | \$ 550.00   |
| 128K | 130          | \$ 695.00      | 241          | \$ 775.00   |
| 192K | 350          | \$ 935.00      | 461          | \$1045.00   |
| 256K | 370          | \$1135.00      | 481          | \$1270.00   |

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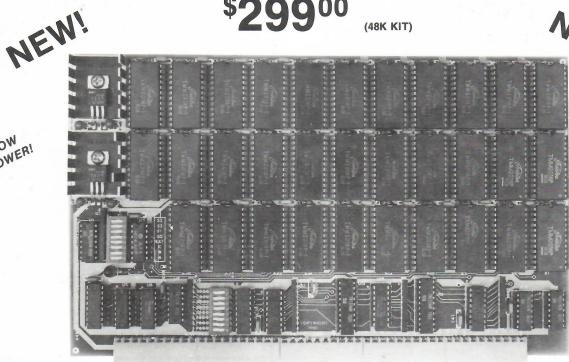
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64K Kit

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#### ASSEMBLED AND TESTED ADD \$40

#### **FEATURES:**

- ★ Uses new 2K x 8 (TMM 2016 or HM 6116) RAMs.
- ★ Fully supports Extended Addressing.
- ★ 64K draws only approximately 500 MA.
- ★ 200 NS RAMs are standard. (TOSHIBA makes TMM 2016s as fast as 100 NS. FOR YOUR HIGH SPEED APPLICATIONS.)
- ★ Board is configured as 3-16K blocks and 8-2K blocks (within any 64K block) for maximum flexibility.
- ★ 2716 EPROMs may be installed anywhere on Board.
- ★ Top 16K may be disabled in 2K blocks to avoid any I/O conflicts.
- ★ One Board supports both RAM and EPROM.
- ★ RAM supports 2MHZ operation at no extra charge!
- \* Board may be partially populated in 16K increments.

#### **16K STATIC RAMS?**

The new 2K x 8, 24 PIN, static RAMs are the next generation of high density, high speed, low power, RAMs. Pioneered by such companies as HITACHI and TOSHIBA, and soon to be second sourced by most major U.S. manufacturers, these ultra low power parts, feature 2716 compatible pin out. Thus fully interchangeable ROM/RAM boards are at last a reality, and you get BLINDING speed and LOW power thrown in for virtually nothing.

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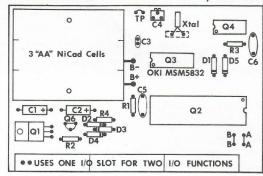
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#### IT'S A HARDWARE CALENDAR/CLOCK

- Keeps date and time without servicing by the computer
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- Hands off setting/control/access of ALL functions via software
- On-card battery and charging circuit keeps time for months, power off

#### WITH AN INTERVAL TIMER INCLUDED

• For (TSC/Flex 2/9 compatible) printer spooling, multi-tasking, etc.

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\* FULLY DOCUMENTED: instructions; diagrams; theory; more than 20 pages of sample software (automatically puts date in Flex2/9<sup>®</sup> date buffer, adds time-of-day to assembly listings, maintains constant, current time+date display on top line of CRT). Batteries not included. All IC's socketed.

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DISASSEMBLERS for 6800/1/9

- -analyze (6800/1/5/9&6502) or (Z-80,8080/5)
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- includes xref and name-changer EACH \$99

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## 6809

#### RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

## RMS

## DATABASE MANAGEMEN

**•USER DEFINED RECORD FORMAT VIA DATA DICTIONARY** 

•SCREEN ORIENTED. FORM FILL OUT TYPE OF ACCESS

OPTIONAL TWO LEVEL RECORD HIERARCHY

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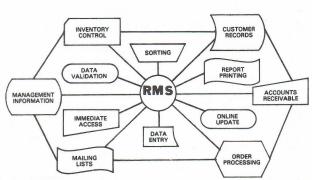
•DIRECT ACCESS BY KEY FIELD, MULTIPLE INDEX FILES

**•EXTENSIVE DOCUMENTATION, SAMPLE APPLICATION** 

**•VERSATILE, PROFESSIONAL QUALITY REPORT WRITER** 

•BUILT-IN SORT/MERGE

**•**EASY TO USE



RMS is a complete DATABASE MANAGEMENT package for the 6809 computer. It is made up of five machine language programs that make up the most powerful business programming tool available for the 6809. It can be used by the relative novice, to implement an incredible variety of information storage and retrieval applications, without any programming. However, the programmer can use RMS as part of the solution to a larger problem, saving many hours of unnecessary program development time. RMS can be used to handle data input, editing, validation, on-line retrieval, sorting and printed reports. Custom data manipulation can be filled in by the user's BASIC programs.

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6800/6809 SOFTWARE

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Versions from Alford and Associates).

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or cassette. ELIZA - Our machine language version is just super. For Flex or Percom

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#### 6800/6809 HARDWARE

6800/6809 HARDWARE

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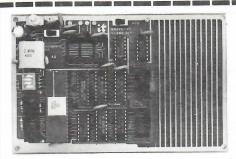
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The APB is a small board whici supports the MC6801 family of microcomputers. It is described in Motorola's application note AN799. A typical 6801 member contains an enhanced 6800 processor, 2K bytes of ROM, 128 bytes of RAM, a 16-bit programmable timer, parallel I/O, and a serial communications interface. In addition to the resources of the 6801, the APB provides an additional 2K bytes of EPROM (TMS2716), 2K bytes of RAM (2114L), and a full duplex RS-232 interface. It also supports special versions such as the 6801G1 with its LILbug\* monitor; and provides on-board programming of the 68701 EPROM version.

The APB is an excellent educational aid which allows for evaluation and familiarization The APB is an excellent educational and which allows the evaluation and railman and of 8801 family members . . . It is great for prototype development. Since the 'nuts and bolts' are already in place, the designer need only add the necessary interface circuits for a particular application . . . It can also be used as a simple cost-effective dedicated controller for those limited quantity applications.

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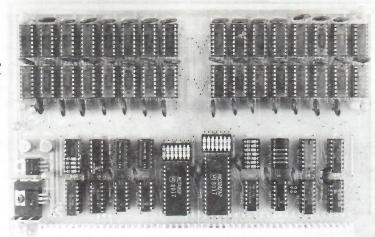
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#### THE GREAT DEBATE

SPEAK 'N' SING 2

VS.

SPEAK 'N' SING 1

ANYTHING YOU CAN DO. I CAN DO BETTER

NO YOU CAN'T

I CAN PLAY MUSIC

SO CAN I

I CAN CREATE SOUND EFFECTS

HAVE MY OWN FIFO MEMORY

MY SPEECH

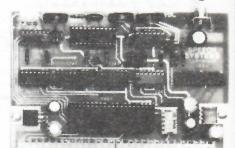
IS

ME TOO!

JUST LIKE

ME BUT I HAVE AN UNLIMITED **IMPECCABLE** 

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- Each device has an on board audio power amplifier that easily drives an external speaker.
- Both synthesizers may be interrupt driven, however, the on board FIFO should reduce this need in most real time applications.
- A 60 page manual fully discusses speech, music, and sound effect synthesis.
- An 8 bit D/A converter is included on each board for the reproduction of MUSIC and SOUND EF-FECTS.
- A single voice music interpreter is also included which allows one to develop MUSIC easily. For example, to synthesize a half note C sharp in the first octave, merely enter C#1H.
- Software is available on 5" or 8" disks in FLEX 2.0 or FLEX 9.0 formats. Included are many utility programs as well as MUSIC, SOUND EFFECTS, and SPEECH games

SPEAK 'N' SING 1 SPEECH SYNTHESIS

The SPEAK 'N' SING 1 uses a special large scale integrated circuit, the SC-01 by VOTRAX, to reproduce any one of 64 phonemes at 4 inflections. These phonemes allow one to rproduce any word in English as well as many other languages. Typically only 5 or 6 phonemes are needed for each Supplied software includes a powerful speech editor with a preprogramed 800+ word vocabulary

#### SPEAK 'N' SING 2 SPEECH SYNTHESIS

The SPEAK 'N' SING 2 speech is based on the National Semiconductor DIGITALKER synthesis technique. The high quality of the speech is incredible and must be heard to really be appreciated. Each word is reproduced by storing a single one byte code. The standard word set is listed below and space is provided on the board for additional vocabulary which may be purchased separately.

| ONE      | FOURTEEN  | NINETY   | 80Hz TONE  | DOWN    | HIGHER | MARK   | PARENTHESIS | SET    | A   | N |
|----------|-----------|----------|------------|---------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-----|---|
| TWO      | FIFTEEN   | HUNDRED  | 20MS WAIT  | EQUAL   | HOUR   | METER  | PERCENT     | SPACE  | B   | 0 |
| THREE    | SIXTEEN   | THOUSAND | 40MS WAIT  | ERROR   | IN     | MILE   | PLEASE      | SPEED  | C   |   |
| FOUR     | SEVENTEEN | MILLION  | 80MS WAIT  | FEET    | INCHES | MILLI  | PLUS        | STAR   | 100 | 0 |
| FIVE     | EIGHTEEN  | ZERO     | 160MS WAIT | FLOW    | IS     | MINUS  | POINT       | START  |     | R |
| SIX      | NINETEEN  | AGAIN    | 320MS WAIT | FUEL    | IT     | MINUTE | POUND       | STOP   | F   |   |
| SEVEN    | TWENTY    | AMPERE   | CENTI      | GALLON  | KILO   | NEAR   | PULSES      | THAN   |     | T |
| EIGHT    | THIRTY    | AND      | CHECK      | GO      | LEFT   | NUMBER | RATE        | THE    | -   | U |
| NINE     | FORTY     | AT       | COMMA      | GRAM    | LESS   | OF     | RE          | TIME   | 1   | v |
| TEN      | FIFTY     | CANCEL   | CONTROL    | GREAT   | LESSER | OFF    | READY       | TRY    | j   | w |
| ELEVEN   | SIXTY     | CASE     | DANGER     | GREATER | LIMIT  | ON     | RIGHT       | LIP    | -   | X |
| TWELVE   | SEVENTY   | CENT     | DEGREE     | HAVE    | LOW    | OUT    | SS          | VOLT   | 1   | Y |
| THIRTEEN | EIGHTY    | 400Hz    | DOLLAR     | HIGH    | LOWER  | OVER   | SECOND      | WEIGHT | M   | z |
|          |           |          |            |         |        |        |             |        |     |   |

#### ≡THE GOOD NEWS **=**

SS-1 SPEAK 'N' SING 1 assembled, tested, manual, disk. \$219.95

SS-2 SPEAK 'N' SING 2 assembled, tested, manual, disk. \$239.95 WD-1 Two additional ROMs with 131 words.

SA-1 As above without SC-01 speech synthesizer chip.

Write for information on additional word sets.

(\$44.95 when ordered with SS-2) SF-21 Additional software (Games, Sound Effects, Music)

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(Allows Alford & Assoc. VS-1 owners to upgrade.)

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#### FOR THE MUSIC LOVER This 4 voice Stero Music Compiler easily allows the SPEAK 'N' SING 1, the SPEAK 'N' SING 2, or the NEWTECH Model 68 music synthesizer to reproduce 4 voice

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48K 2MHz STATIC RAM/ROM CARD

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\*mix 4K blocks of RAM and ROM

\*6800 and 6809 compatible

\*use on SS-50 and SS-50C buss

\*decoded for extended addressing

\*5 volts only

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SS-50/SS-50C EXTENDER CARD

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\*Both cards assembled with a built in logic aid & gold edge connectors

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\*Pad spacing permits most standard sockets from 8 to 64 pins

\*Provision has been made for voltage regulators

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\*Card design includes

(3) 6821

6 parallel ports 4 serial ports

(4) 6850 (1) 6840

3 16 bit counter/timers

which are fully buffered and decoded

\*Accomodates a mix of 38, 14 & 16 pin wire wrap sockets

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|                                      | or    | -0 F                  | meet standard seemets mem e te et pins |       |      |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|-------|------|
| MODEM CARD                           | B/C   | \$ 49.00              |                                        |       |      |
| special parts kit                    |       | \$195.00              | A/T with extra features                | \$395 | 5.00 |
| A/T without extra features           |       | \$325.00              | Software obj. & src. on FLEX disk      | \$ 10 | 0.00 |
| *SUPER CPU assembled with source lis | sting | And the second second | BACKPLANES AND MOTHERBOARDS            |       |      |
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| incl. 5 PIA's for 10 ports           |       | \$139.00              | ***C                                   |       |      |
| *PARALLEL I/O bare card & doc.       |       | \$ 49.00              | **Connectors:                          |       |      |
|                                      |       |                       | GOLD \$1.60 ea. (M or F)               |       |      |
| *SS-50 WIRE-WRAP/PROTOTYPE bare      | 2     | \$ 39.00              | TIN M \$.40 ea. F \$.50 ea.            |       |      |
| *TRANSITION CARD asm.                |       | \$ 95.00              |                                        |       |      |
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FEATURES: Dynamic allocation of disk space. 15 directory levels. 45 files per disk. 12 character names. Quick & easy conversion from MPX. RESIDENT COMMANDS: Create, release, rename, protect/unprotect, save, load, and execute FILE (at specified directory level). Create, release, and rename DIRECTORY LEVEL. Print disk label & number of free sectors. Print directory report (at specified level). Jump to address. UTILITIES: Convert MPX disk to DIXIE disk. Init disk. Change disk label. Single/dual drive disk copy. File copy. Directory report to printer. PATCHES: Percom SUPER BASIC, TOUCHUP editor, symbolic assembler, and HEXLDR. TSC cassette editor and assembler. SWTP 8K basic. REQUIRES: MIKBUG type monitor. MINIDOS 1.4. 800 words RAM. YOU GET: 2708 EPROM. 3 disks with source for all software. Manual.

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Adds a symbol cross reference assembly option to the Percom assembler (base & DIXIE-modified versions). Source code supplied on disk. Manual.

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HUMBUG is a monitor ROM which plugs into your CPU board instead of your present monitor and is a totally compatible replace-

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HUMBUG is not just a monitor—it is also a complete debugging system. It has additional commands for displaying memory contents in various formats (including ASCII); filling, moving, searching, and checking memory contents; doing memory tests; inserting multiple breakpoints, even single-stepping through programs one instruction at a time. HUMBUG lets you start and stop programs from the keyboard—without pushing RESET. And when a program goes into 'never-never-land', HUMBUG can stop it and tell you where it was when stopped. But there is more.

HUMBUG provides full I/0 control from the keyboard. Turn a printer port on and off; enable a user-written port; pause when the screen is full; even turn off your main terminal output and let the program run without being slowed down by output. A printer spooling feature provides a 1K RAM buffer for your printer, and overlaps printing with processing for greater speed. But there is more.

HUMBUG can support your video board. That and a keyboard can replace an expensive terminal, and provide greater speed and versatility as well. Allows simple cursor control, cursor read, and screen read too. But there is more.

HUMBUG is available for 6800, 6802, and 6809 CPU boards made by SWTP, Gimix, Percom, and Star-Kits. It supports a serial terminal, or video boards made by Percom, Thomas, or F&D. It comes in either 2708 or 2716 EPROMs, and in either 2K, 3K or 4K versions, at prices ranging from \$40 to \$75 which include a full manual and full source code. There are several versions, depending on your hardware configuration, and it's a good idea to get our catalog and HUMBUG spec sheet first. If you want it real fast, call us up any evening with a 300-baud modem and LIST HUMBUG.DAT on our computerized bulletin board. While you're at it, feel free to leave a message for other 68xx users on the system or even place an order.

STAR-KITS P.O. Box 209, Mt. Kisco NY 10549 (914) 241-0287



# 6809 Relocating Recursive Macro Assembler & Loader/Linker with text editor

- •Runs on 6809 system (in as little as 32k)
- Interactive or non-interactive (batch) mode
- Supports relocatable and absolute code
- •Can assembler 6800 & 6801 source and generate 6809 object
- CROSS ASSEMBLER MODE—can assemble 6800 & 6801 source and generate 6800 & 6801 object
- •8 character global and local labels
- •76 English error messages
- Alphabetized or non-alphabetized symbol table
- •Cross reference table
- •Checks for unreferenced labels
- Can enable the insertion of a 'SWI' after every instruction
- Supports the following assembler directives: ASECT, CSECT, PSECT, DEBUGS, END EQU, EXEC, EXT, FCB, FCC, ID, INT INCLUDE, NAM, OPT, ORG, PAG, RMB SET, SETDP, SPC, TTL, FDB
- Program sectioning (ASECT, CSECT, or PSECT)
- •Source of I/O routines supplied
- ●Total FLEX\* compatability
- •Powerful co-resident text editor
- TSC source file compatibility

#### Powerful Macro Capabilities

- 8 character symbolic (substitution) labels
- branch on conditions EQ, NE, LE, LT GT, GE
- supports nesting
- Logical, aritmetic, and string labels
- Sublist processing
- Powerful string functions such as SUBSTRING
- Supports the following directives
   ACNT, AGO, AIF, ANOP, GBLA, GBLB, GBLC
   LCLA, LCLB, LCLC, MACRO, MEND, MNOTE
   SETA, SETB, SETC

#### Loader/Linker

- Link and load (with offset)
- Link and save
- Global cross references
- Supports the following commands LOAD, COMPARE, SAVE, EDIT, LINK, MAP INTERNALS, UNDEFINED, CLEAR, RUN SECTION, FIX

| MASM | 6809 | <br>2        | 250  | 00 |
|------|------|--------------|------|----|
|      |      | <br>The same | ZJU. | w  |

User's Manual Only (about 200 pages-refundable)—
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A version of the above assembler which generates ABSOLUTE code is also available

ASMB 6809 ----\$ 150.00

The above software is available on 5 or 8 inch FLEX\* disks, prices include one year maintenance (single CPU). Even if you already own an assembler you should seriously consider ordering these powerful tools.

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| ★ 512KB Static RAM                                          | ★ Dual 8" DSDD Floppy Disk System           |
| ★ 8 RS232C Serial Ports                                     | ★ Dual Winchester Subsystem with            |
| ★ 2 Parallel Ports                                          | Two19 MB 51/4" Winchester Drives            |
| SOFTWARE FEATURES:                                          |                                             |
| ★ OS-9 LEVEL TWO Multi-User<br>Operating System             | ★ OS-9 Text Editor                          |
|                                                             | ★ OS-9 Assembler                            |
| ★ OS-9 Debugger                                             |                                             |
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| ★ 19 MB 51/4" Winchester DMA Subsystem                      | ★ DMA Double Density Floppy Disk Controller |
| SOFTWARE FEATURES:                                          |                                             |
| ★ OS-9 LEVEL TWO Multi-User                                 | ★ OS-9 Debugger                             |
| Operating System                                            | ★ OS-9 Assembler                            |
| ★ OS-9 Text Editor                                          |                                             |
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| ★ 128KB Static Ram                                          |                                             |
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| Multi-User/Multi-Tasking Operating Systems                  |                                             |
| 56KB FLEX / OS-9 "SWITCHING" SYSTEM                         | M                                           |
| HARDWARE FEATURES:                                          |                                             |
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| SOFTWARE FEATURES:                                          | (==                                         |
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- ★ GMXBUG monitor FLEX Disk Operating System
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