News, Gossip, and Innuendo from the Western Pacific

Local Gossip

<u>Next Meeting</u>: Wednesday, July 11 at 1800, at OEC (top floor of Barracks C). YCC members are encouraged to attend and bring a guest. Among the topics to be discussed: modular programming (using Logo), <u>MONEY,and</u> planning a YCC Computer Fair and Workshop.

<u>CORRECTION</u>: In the May/June Newsletter some "strange person" gave the wrong name of the contact point for the Apple Special Interest Group. (Ed. note: "I'll take better notes.") The correct people to contact for the YCC Apple SIG are Frank Caperino or James Raper of MOTU-7. For the Yokohama Apple SIG contact Michael Chimarys at 232-4805 (work) or Earl Metier at 232-4517 (home).

<u>LAST MEETING</u>: Held June 13, there were 27 attendees. The new YCC officers were introduced. A report was given on the progress of moving the YCC library into the CFAY library (see attached memo). The MicroComputer Show '84 held in Tokyo May 23-26 was reviewed. Other products discussed were the Oberon Intl. Omni Reader (a $500 OCR reader), a hard disk for the Macintosh, and a TEMPEST-certified portable computer from GRID.

The highlight of the meeting was an excellent presentation by Bob Felt and his daughter Emily of their (working) Macintosh. For their gracious efforts, a FREE subscription to <u>The Computer Rag</u> has been awarded. [Actually, considering the beautiful text and pictures they created using MacWrite and MacPaint, perhaps they should produce <u>The Computer Rag.</u>]

One of the more entertaining aspects of the Mac demonstration was the Mac's refusal to accept some disks. Instead of the usual "Insert Source Disk," "Insert Destination Disk," "Disk A," "Disk B," "System Disk," etc., the Mac <u>insisted</u> on using "Emily's disk." All attempts to feed it some other disks were rejected; after briefly "glancing" at them, it spit them out and repeated its demand for "Emily's disk." Other highlights included several interesting ways to stretch a fish, clone robots, and twiddle fat bits. It was an experience.

[Pony's, just outside Yokota AFB, will special order Macs. They charge standard U.S. list price, $2495, which is about $400-500 cheaper than most Tokyo Apple outlets.]

Many thanks to Linda Blossom for sharing information about <u>The Secret Guide to Computers.</u> A review of this impressive two-volume set is enclosed for those members unable to attend the last meeting.

Another source of information about computers was again brought to our attention. <u>Chips Ahoy</u> is an excellent publication produced by NARDAC Norfolk to promote the use of microcomputers in the Navy.

Non-Local Gossip

<u>MICRO MAGAZINE COLLAPSE</u>: Hard times have hit the computer magazine industry as well as the computer manufacturers. Among those going under in the last few months are <u>Desktop Computing</u>; <u>Micro Discovery</u>; <u>Sync</u>; <u>Teaching, Learning, & Computing</u>; <u>CompuTronics</u>; <u>Basic Computing</u>; <u>Forum 68</u>; <u>Color Computer News</u>; <u>Briefcase Portable</u>; and <u>CompuKids</u>.

<u>SIRIUS SOFTWARE</u>: A major Apple software firm, has filed for Chap. 11.

<u>DIGITAL RESEARCH</u>: Has announced Crystal, a front-end similar to Windows. Unlike Windows, Crystal will work on CP/M, MSDOS, and maybe UNIX.

<u>ATARI</u>: Will REALLY introduce their 1450 XLD computer this fall. For under $1000 it will include a built-in disk, modem, and voice chip. Also offered will be an expansion box for 800XL and 1450 XLD with 80 columns and extra 64K. Eventually, Atari plans to add MSDOS and Apple compatibility to box.

<u>LATE BULLETIN</u>: JACK TRAMIEL, founder of Commodore Intl., took the company from a typewriter repair firm to a $1 billion corporation. His new firm, Tramiel Technologies, Ltd., purchased the home computer and home video game portions of Atari

on July 2 for an unknown price. [This sounds interesting.] A book on Tramiel is due out this fall.

TANDY: Has signed an agreement with Corvus for a license to the Omninet local area network. First targets are the Model III, 4, and Color Computer.

Hewlett-Packard: Has introduced the LaserJet printer. It operates at 8 pages per minute, with 4 fonts per page, is "virtually silent," and costs just $3,495. It can print horizontally or vertically, with 300x300 dots per inch.

ZENITH: Is rumored to have released ZDOS 2.0 (same as MSDOS 2.0) for Z-100. Also rumored to be working on an 8MHz motherboard for the Z-100.

FRANKLIN: Has unveiled four new Apple clones, the CX-1, 2, 2C, and 2M. All include Franklin's Office Manager software (with word processing, spread sheet, spelling checker, and graphics). All feature built-in monitors, and are touted as "transportable." Franklin's new, legal FDOS (Apple compatible) is included with all systems, and MSDOS and CP/M are offered as options.

ASHTON-TATE: Released dBASE III for $695 (dBASE II is now $495). The new package features full color screen support, is menu driven, and includes a command language. Requires 256K, runs only on IBM PC.

NAVY MICRO '84: Was held in Virginia Beach, Apr. 16-19. Over 100 exhibits were offered, as were classes on languages and applications, operating systems, communications, procurement, and maintenance. Commodore Grace Hopper was one of the keynote speakers. [Someday NARDAC Norfolk will wake up and realize all the innovative Navy micro use is on the WEST coast, not the EAST coast.]

NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR: DOD is seeking to bar Nat. Semi. from bidding on DOD contracts for three years as a result of fraudulent certification of chips. NS faked quality assurance reports, substituted defective chips for approved chips, and generally made people unhappy. [A DC joke claims David Stockman's budget balancing computer uses some of the suspect chips.]

SORCIM: Producer of SuperCalc, SuperWriter, etc., has been purchased by Computer Associates International, which earlier had purchased Information Unlimited Software, maker of Easywriter, Easycalc, etc.

MAINFRAME DBASE II: Ashton-Tate and Informatics General have jointly released dBASE/Answer, an IBM mainframe based package which allows IBM Personal Computers equipped with dBASE II, III, or Friday! to store and retrieve information on mainframe computers. Software for 50 PC's and a mainframe runs a modest $45,000.

RECENT QUOTE: Commenting on dedicated word processing systems: "A field in which no significant new product has been introduced in three years should be declared dead."

IBM HUMOR: At recent shows IBM has been trying to show off its new portable PC (a clone of its IBM PC). Sales representatives are not amused when people come up and ask, "Is it Compaq compatible?"

SHARP: Has started selling a combination calculator and abacus, all solar powered, for 6,000 yen.

SEIKOSHA: Is now selling the Video Printer VP-35. For 198,000 yen, you can now directly print anything on a TV, VTR, or computer screen in 16.7 seconds.

Want Ads

Wanted: Answers to last month's survey. We received a whopping 0% response.

For Sale: Z-80 cards for Apple clones. Cheap. Call 232-4517 after 4 p.m.

Wanted: Apple-oriented presentations for YCC meetings.

Wanted: Cray-2, any condition, with system software, for developing Star Trek game. Used Enterprise-class starship would also be nice. Write L.I. Charters, USNH Box 65-1561, FPO 98765.

Wanted: Corrections to attached membership list. Write Yokosuka Computer Club, DMS Box 187, FPO 98762.

Wanted: Contributions to newsletter. Write to YCC, address above.

Members

Anderson, Richard. USNH Box 65-1713, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. ??
Baker, Lyle G. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. TRS-80 Mod III.
Bean, Terrell. USNH Box 65-1748, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Apple II.
Blossom, Linda. Box 30, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Blossom, Robert D. Box 30, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Boca, James. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Caperino, Frank. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
Caraway, Clyde. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762.
Charters, Kathleen. USNH Box 65-1561, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Osborne-1, Mod 100.
Charters, Lawrence. USNH Box 65-1561, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. TRS-80 Mod I, Radio
    Shack Color Computer.
Church, Francis N. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
Cooper, George. FAD Box 182, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Heath H-100.
Cornish, David. USNH Box 65-1553, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Kaypro 4.
Coven, Richard. Box 4, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Davis, John. Box 11, FPO Seattle, WA 98762.
Davis, Richard. USNH Box 65-1876, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Apple II.
Dye, Paul. USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), FPO San Francisco, CA 96628. Apple II.
Green, Charles. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
Hancock, Jeff. ?? Apple II.
Honeywell, Joseph. USNH Box 65-1677, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Radio Shack Mod 4P.
Hunt, Jerry L. OE Div., USS Reeves (CG-24), FPO San Francisco, CA 96677. Apple II.
Hurlen, Gene S. DMS Box 375, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Julian, Joe. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
Kemerling, Gary. CPO Mess, USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), FPO San Francisco, CA 96628.
    Apple II.
Kuhlmann, Skip. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Lee, James R. OEC, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II, Model 100.
Lovingood, Dennis. USS Kirk, FPO San Francisco, CA 96670. Apple II.
MacDowell, Nancy S. USNH Box 65-1756, FPO Seattle, WA 98765. Apple II.
Marold, Jim. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
Metier, Earl W. FAD Box 590, FPO Seattle, WA 98761-1100. Apple II.
Porter, Wayne M. OE Div., USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), FPO San Francisco, CA 96628.
    Apple II.
Raper, James. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Shrout, Gary. Public Affairs Office, COMNAVFORJAPAN, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple
    II.
Sneidar, S. SRF Box 8, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Heath H-89.
Spoonster, Timothy M. Box 96 Sullivans School, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II,
    Radio Shack Mod I.
Springer, Jay A. NSD Box 11 Code 61, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Terrell, Edwin P. CPO Mess, USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), FPO San Francisco, CA 98762.
    Apple II.
Thompson, James R. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Tierney, Frank J. Box 105 MOTU-7, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Tritchler, W. Kurt. SRF Box 8, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. IBM PC.
Underwood, Charles. Box 12 Code 001, COMNAVFORJAPAN, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. ??
VanAaken, Gregory. COMNAVFORJAPAN, FPO Seattle, WA 98762. Apple II.
Wyatt, Bill. OE Div., USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), FPO San Francisco, CA 96628. Apple
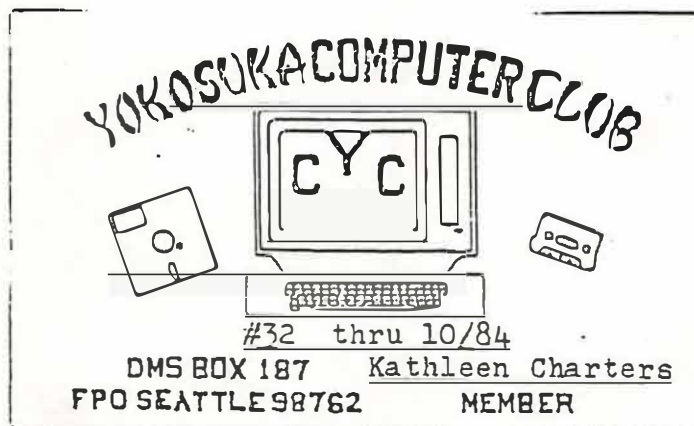   II.

DATE: 26 Jun 84

FROM: CFAY Librarian

TO: Library Staff/Yokosuka Computer Club members

SUBJ: YOKOSUKA COMPUTER CLUB MATERIALS IN CFAY LIBRARY

1. The Yokosuka Computer Club will keep periodicals and software materials in the locked cabinet in the public lounge area of the Library. Library staff members will open the cabinet ONLY for members showing their membership cards to let them take materials out and return them. A Club log will be provided to allow the Club to keep a record of software items taken and returned. There will be no control of magazines.

2. Library Staff procedures to allow Club members to take or return software disks, cassettes, or manuals.

    a. Check Club membership card (sample below). Card must be current.

    b. Unlock cabinet. Let member take out or put back materials. Relock cabinet.

    c. For software materials, see that the log is filled out properly after materials have been selected or before they are returned. Software limit: 5 items.

3. Library Staff members are not to take out or replace any materials nor make any notations in the Club log. Library Staff members are to ONLY unlock and relock cabinet, provide the log, and verify the number of items taken or returned.

YOKOSUKA COMPUTER CLUB MATERIALS IN CFAY LIBRARY

4. In case of any problem, contact the Club President, Lawrence Charters, at 7255. The Club address is Yokosuka Computer Club, DMS Box 187, FPO Seattle, WA 98762.

D. R. ERICKSON