

The Computer Rag

Newsletter of the Yokosuka
Computer Club

News, Innuendo and Gossip from

The Western Pacific

Vol. 4 No. 9 Sep 1987

Come join the fun



September Meeting

The September meeting will be held at 6:15 p.m. 11 September 1987 at the Yokosuka Computer Club computer center in the MWR building, room 229. *Come join the fun!* Come see our new computers and a demonstrations of all those great games we love to play in our first ever *game-off*.

The YCC SIGs will meet and hold their demo's after the main meeting. If there is enough interest and if someone is willing to be the Chairperson, we can start a DDN user Special Interest Group. *See you there!*



Doctor Dan

COMPUTERS & EDUCATION

Are you sitting at home using your new IBM Personal Computer (1.2 MB internal memory, a 30 MB hard drive, mouse, modem, and EGA color monitor) to solve the latest nuclear war battle in Europe; using your MAC PLUS to balance your checkbook using Excel; or trying to land that F-15 jet in Hawaii using your AMIGA

Are you learning a lot about ONE system and ONE piece of software? Or trying to impress those around you that you now know how to use your one to five thousand dollar investment?

Want to learn more about BASIC, COBOL, PASCAL, ASSEMBLER, and C programming languages; or how computer hardware and software is being utilized in EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT, MANAGEMENT, PSYCHOLOGY, PROJECT MANAGEMENT, and STATISTICAL ANALYSIS.

On Yokosuka Naval Base there are now two college programs to meet your specific needs in
COMPUTER EDUCATION.



CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

Offers Bachelor Degree Programs in Micro Programming and Technology. Contact Susan Quimbey 234-5126.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Offers Bachelor Degree Programs in Computer Studies and Information Systems Management. Contact Maria Mooney 234-4613.

Both schools offer courses that will meet your scheduled needs. Computer lab facilities are located on the 3rd floor of the PSD Building. Hardware and Software is being constantly upgraded. One year ago the average piece of equipment was APPLE II+ clones and IBM PC with 256K and no graphics. Today our equipment ranges from IBM PC'S with 640K, hard drives, EGA color, NEC Multispeeds, Toshiba T1100 Plus, Panasonic Executive Partners, to AT clones.

So combine the need to further your EDUCATION and your time at home/work trying to figure out those sometimes impossible problems by exploring your OPTIONS while living in Yokosuka TODAY.

For those of you who have thought about purchasing a Personal Computer but don't want to "waste your money" because you might not know how to use it **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU TOO.**

We can teach you how to use a computer on our machines, then when you're ready you can take the *PERSONAL COMPUTER PLUNGE.*

President's Notebook

September is here and it's finally getting cooler. As some of you know there have been some delays in the process of procuring the computers for the computer center. The director of Recreational Services has assured us that some of the computers will be in the room for the next meeting and the remainder by the end of September.

Jane Burch, our advertising comitee chairperson has done marvelous things with publicity this month. I feel this was the main force in acheiving the great turnout at the August meeting. All SIG chairmen should be coordinating advertizing through her. Please help her out so she can continue doing a great job.

The club elections are just around the corner. Please be thinking about what you can do for the club this year. Without the support of club members the club will die. Any support you can provide will be appreciated.

Navy friendship day should be comming up soon. We would like to run a booth to raise money for the club. Those interested please contact any club officer.



The Sony 3 1/2 inch disk we bought should be arriving soon. We will be selling these fine quality disks for \$2.00 each. Contact Jane Burch for details.

There has continually been interest expressed in an Apple II SIG. The problem has been that there does not seem to be anyone interested in running the group. Now I always hear people talking about how great their Apple II computers are. How about getting together and starting to support each other. The club could really use that kind of support.

Roger
Debozier



Education

Jim Haynes' Computer Educational Services has been teaching computer classes on base for about four months now. They teach classes in both English and Japanese. They currently have curriculums for Intro to Microcomputers, Enable, Word Star Professional, Lotus, and Dbase. For more information contact Jim Haynes at (0468) 57-6099

Input and the Future for "the Rest of Us"

Anyone who has been around computers for a while has noticed that inputting information into a computer has gotten progressively easier and easier (output, too, but that's another story). There was a time (not so long ago) when if you couldn't keypunch or didn't have access to someone who could, you couldn't communicate with a computer at all. I haven't seen a help wanted ad for keypunch operators in years, and the world is probably the better for it since it was one of the most boring jobs ever invented anyway. (Isn't that also a dominant characteristic of programming jobs? More on that later.)

When I was in grad school three years ago and we were all desperately trying to write theses so we could graduate the current wisdom was that if you wanted to do anything with computers you



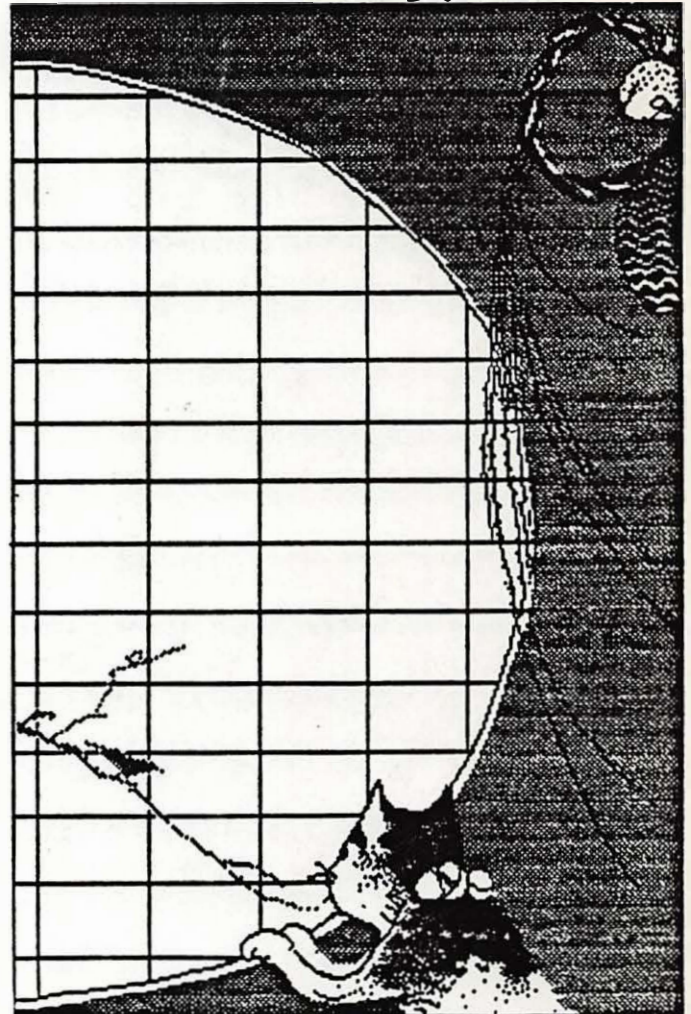
had to know how to type. Of course, I graduated from grad school just about the time the Macintosh was released. Yes, I know that the concept of the mouse (not to mention windows and icons) was not invented by the Macintosh team but it was undeniably popularized by the Macintosh. And there are other input devices that existed before the Macintosh that now seem to take on a new significance; a stylus and tablet for graphics input, and most recently, a tablet that lets you input to the computer anything that you can write on a piece of paper.

There's nothing inherently new about writing notes to your computer. Optical character recognition has been around for a long time. But always before it was typed characters that were being recognized. I guess the reason it interests me so much is I once got into a heated argument with a local computer expert who assured me that typing skills were essential to working with computers. My argument was that keypunch skills are now obsolete and typing skills would be the same in the near future. We bogged down on what would replace typing. I insisted it would be voice recognition software. He insisted that spoken sounds were too variable, even when spoken by the same voice. The software to recognize each sound and the meaning in context and learn individual variations in sounds (Do

you lisp? Is your voice nasal? Do you slur your T's so they sound like D's?) would be too complex for easy use. And there it is in the ad for the writing tablet, "It's... software learns to read your handwriting..." Same idea, different medium. End result? No keyboard.

And, of course, we haven't even mentioned scanners, bar code readers, joysticks, etc. What's your favorite input device? Of course, there's more to communicating with computers than input devices. Next month I'll talk about programming for non-programmers.

Jane Burch



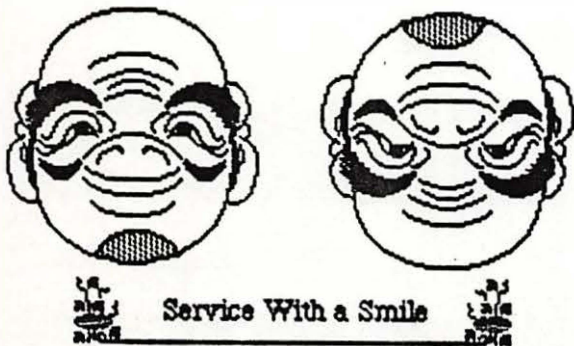


Service Centers

Apple Computers
5-108-15 Negishi Cho
Yokosuka Shi 239 Japan
(0468) 53-7921
Contact: T. Kawakami

Commodore Computers
Computer Science Corp.
Shanti Ito Building #602
1-14-13 Shibaura
Minata-Ku, 105 Japan
(03) 798-4657
Contact: Shigeru Ueda

Heath Zenith Computers
Far East Services Corp.
234-3558
Contact: Roger Delozier



COMFLEACT Notice 5510

Are you doing your correspondence scheduling, inventory control or other computer assisted work on your personal computer at work? If you are you should be aware of this notice. This notice outlines the rules for personal, not government procured, computer assets in the work space. We all know, or should know, that no classified material may be processed on our machines but did you know that no modems or LAN's are allowed except on the Wang? There is a form to request permission and register personal computers in the work space. The revised form 5510/11 (rev 8-87) says you understand the governments' liability will not exceed \$50.00 per unit and \$150.00 per claim. You sign also that you understand the government has adequate equipment for your use and that you chose to use your machine for personal reasons.

The request is good only for the specific location you designate on the request form and expires when you transfer. References are OPNAVINST 5510.1G and COMFLEACT INST 5510.5G. This notice also deals with sound reproducing devices such as tape recorders and video cassette recorders.

Enzan-Hosifumi has released 4 great programs. Three are
Clip Art, 5 disks total

and Mac Calligraphy, a paint program.



麵類店

麵類店

Enzan-Hoshi

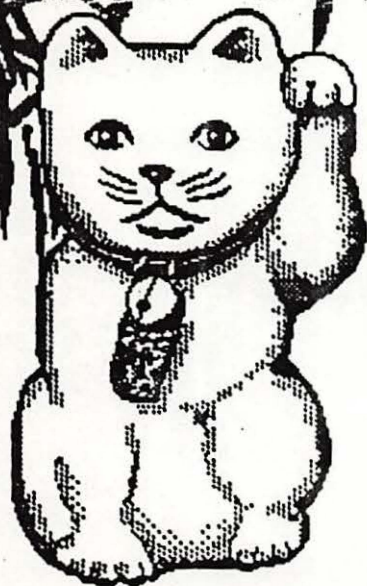
Japanese
Clip Art

Borders

Mac Calligraphy

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Gomi and Goodies

Ads in the Gomi and Goodies column are free to all club members. Just call 234-3558 and ask for Roger.

For sale—Apple Macintosh 400k external disk drive. \$200. Call x7303 and ask for LT Burch.

For sale—MaxChill internal fan for Apple Macintosh. \$20. Call x7303 and ask for LT Burch.

For sale—IBM compatible computers and peripherals. This months special is an IBM XT compatible with RGB monitor for \$1225.00. Call Roger at x3558 for details.

Canon T-70 w/50 mm lens
Call Art at 5835 dwh

Point of Contact Numbers

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Vice-President
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234-5835 (dwh)

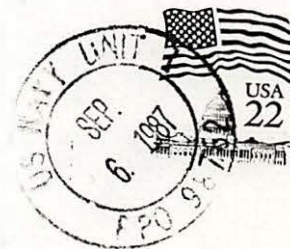
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MS-DOS
Dave Lydon
234-4470

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