

Panorama X,
Kardia Mobile,
Radio Silence, and
User Groups

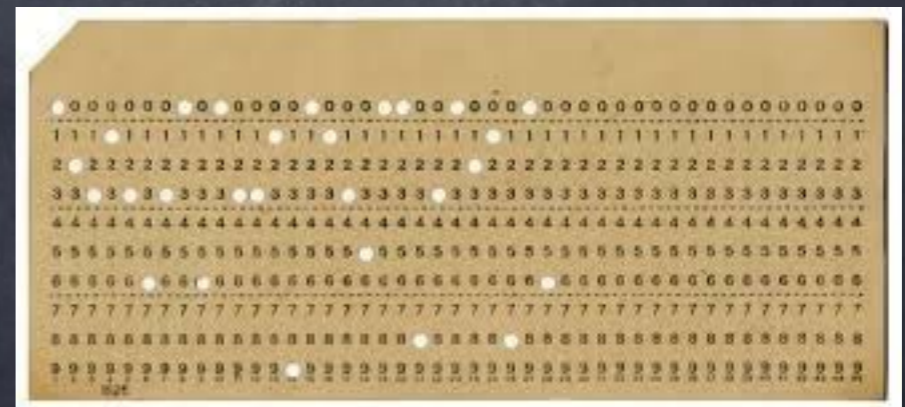
Washington Apple Pi

November 18, 2017

Lawrence I. Charters

Girlfriends and Mainframes 1971-77

- 1971: Girlfriend suggests taking a programming class "for fun."
- Skeptical history major accepts.
- Surprise: history major is good at programming.
- Punch cards!



West Coast Computer Faire 1977

- 1977: Visited San Francisco while in grad school to see first West Coast Computer Faire.
- Introduced: Apple II, Radio Shack TRS-80, Commodore PET, Excidy Sorcerer, Cromemco Z-2, and other household names...



San Mateo TRS-80 User Group 1977-80

- Jobs: "You're an idiot if you don't buy an Apple II."
- Decided not to associate with Jobs
- Moved to San Francisco area summer 1977, bought Radio Shack TRS-80 Model I.
- Founded San Mateo (CA) TRS-80 User Group.

San Mateo TRS-80 User Group (cont.)

- Highlights: type in all programs yourself! (No commercial programs)
- Save everything on cassette tapes!
- Hold question and answer sessions!
- Do demos of programs you've written!
- Use lots of exclamation points!!!

Demo: Radio Silence

- Highly visible network monitor and fire wall. Simple operation
- Inexpensive: \$9
 - "I have more than one Mac. Do I have to buy a separate license for each one?"
 - "No need. You can install Radio Silence on all the computers you have. The license is for your personal use, and is not tied to a single computer."
- <https://radiosilenceapp.com>

West Coast Computer Faire 1978

- Apple introduced Disk II, first consumer floppy disk drive
 - Steve Jobs interrupted Steve Wozniak's introduction of the drive, sent Woz to side hall so Jobs could talk about games.
- Radio Shack introduced floppy drive, too, but shipped a month or two later
- Cassette tapes, begone!

Meanwhile...

Washington Apple Pi

- Started meeting in 1977 in dining room of home of two NIST employees who worked on SEAC, one of the first mainframe computers.
- Formally named Washington Apple Pi in 1978, moved out of dining room.



First digital
image on SEAC
in 1957

West Coast Computer Faire 1979

- VisiCalc (first spreadsheet) introduced.
- Kathleen flummoxed Dan Bricklin by showing how to use VisiCalc to schedule shifts for a hospital.
- Note: Kathleen had never seen nor heard of VisiCalc prior to walking into the Faire.

Time passes...

1980-83

- Moved to Washington State
- Added a Radio Shack Color Computer
- Added an Osborne-1
 - dBase II! WordSTAR! SuperCalc!
Bundled software retailed for more than computer.



More user groups

- President Kitsap County (WA) User Group, 1981 (Apple II, TRS-80)
- Founded Pierce County (WA) Osborne User Group, 1981
- Taught computer science for Olympic College, Chapman College
- Demos of commercial programs!

Kardia Mobile

- "Take a medical-grade EKG in just 30 seconds."
- \$99. Clips to back of iPhone (optional)
- Monthly cost if you use their storage and interpretation service
- Or mail EKGs to yourself for free.
- <https://www.alivecor.com>

Japan 1983-1987

- Yokosuka Computer Club founded 1978
 - Apple II group, smattering of CP/M, Radio Shack
 - Added MS-DOS after IBM PC introduced in 1981
 - Founded Yokosuka Computer Club Rag (newsletter) in fall 1983

Radio Shack Model 100

- Introduced 1983
- Got on train to Tokyo, bought it at Radio Shack in Ginza
- Wrote a review of Model 100 on the Model 100 while on train back home – and published it.
- 8 lines, 40 character display; 240 x 40 pixels
- 3 pounds, powered by 4 AA batteries
- Built-in modem

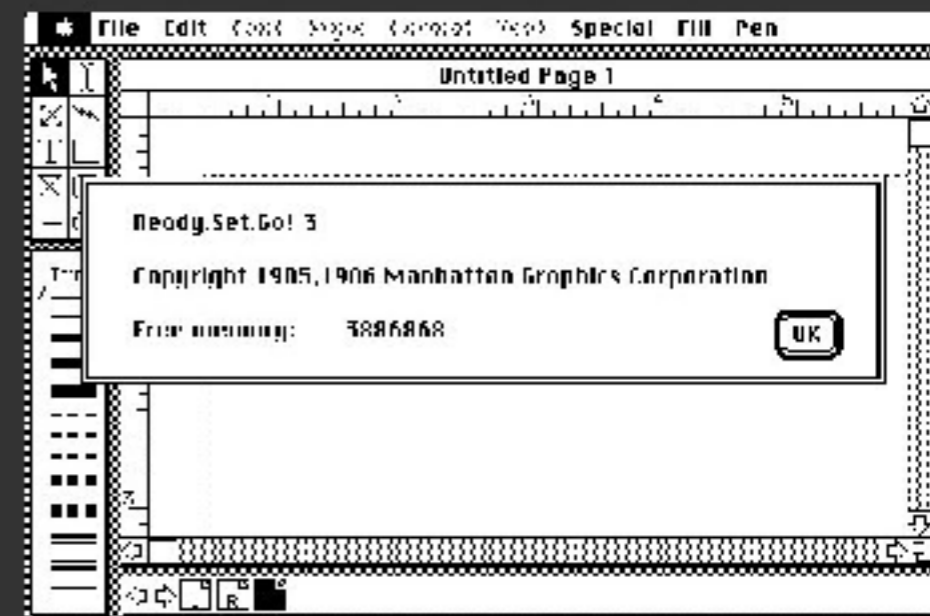


1984: Macintosh

- First demo at Yokosuka Club two weeks after introduction in US
- Purchased in Hong Kong by 7th Fleet Staff officer.
- Decided to go to Tokyo; bought first Mac sold in Japan.

Mac invasion

- Macs rapidly took over Yokosuka Computer Club
 - (And Washington Apple Pi)
- Yokosuka Computer Club Rag started publishing using ReadySetGo in 1985
 - RSG first page layout package; preceded PageMaker



Other activities

- Kathleen used Zenith Z-100 to administer health education and training for Western Pacific (and Indian Ocean) [except Okinawa]
- Lawrence taught computer science for Central Texas College
- Lawrence founded Tokyo Macintosh User Group 1985
- Ran base newspaper - using typewriters

San Diego 1987-1990

- San Diego Macintosh User Group
- Founded 1978 by Charlie Jackson, founder of Silicon Beach Software
- Published SuperPaint, Digital Darkroom (precursor to Photoshop), SuperCard

Q&A: why

- Started doing Q&A for SDMUG because tired of setting up equipment for meeting.
- Kept audience engaged while others tried to find cables, power, disks, monitors, more cables, etc.

Meanwhile...

- Worked teaching MS-DOS, Windows, Excel, WordSTAR, dBASE III for Navy
- Worked for software store, computer store, networking company, all of which went out of business.
- Was still President of SDMUG when moved to Maryland.

Washington Apple Pi 1991-2017

- Q and A volunteer
- File Librarian for TCS
- Board member
- Vice President Programs
- Secretary
- Editor Washington Apple Pi Journal
- Webmaster for Washington Apple Pi

Why user groups?

- Meet people who know things you don't know.
- Meet people who are brighter than average.
- Enjoy teaching.
- Demos!

Panorama X

- Panorama X (Panorama 10)
- Database that looks like a spreadsheet
- 64-bit, super-fast, RAM-based
- Published by ProVue, second oldest Mac software company (after Microsoft)

Panorama X (cont.)

- Panorama started as Overdue in 1984.
- Can handle gigabytes of data
- Has built-in, multimedia help
- Current version just released after six years of development

Panorama X (cont. II)

- Subscription based, \$15/mo. or \$100 for 12 months. Only charged for months you use it.
- Special code: APPLEPI2017
 - Expires end of November 2017
 - Adds 3 months to subscription
- <http://www.provue.com>