

May, 1990  
Volume 1, No. 3

8 / 16

The Journal of Apple II Programming

\$3.50

# Sweet 16 Again & "In Search of Bert"

## **This month in 8/16:**

The Publisher's Pen, <i>Ross W. Lambert</i> .....	3
Sweet 16: A Blast From the Past, <i>Matt Neuberg</i> ..	4
Illusions of Motion, <i>Steven Lepisto</i> .....	15
Parms Away, <i>Robert Stong</i> .....	22
Making a List, <i>Steve Stephenson</i> .....	26
Soft Thoughts, <i>John Link</i> .....	32
AppleWorks™-Style Line Input, <i>Tom Hoover</i> .....	33
Hired Guns.....	41

Nite Owl's

**Slide-On  
Slide-On  
Slide-On™  
Slide-On** Brand

**Battery Replacement Kit  
for  
Apple IIGS Computer**

- **Fantastic Savings**
- **Easy Installation**
- **No Solder Required**
- **Complete Instructions**
- **10 Year Shelf Life**
- **Top Quality Lithium**



Patent Pending

**New kit restores your Apple IIGS  
and  
saves you the hassle and expense  
of normal solder type batteries.**

If you purchased an Apple IIGS computer before August 1989 (512K model), a Lithium battery was soldered onto the computer board at the factory and the internal clock started ticking. It is just a matter of time until the battery runs out of juice and your computer forgets what day it is and any special settings you have selected in the Control Panel.

If the software you are running uses the date and time to keep track of records you could be in for real trouble when the clock runs out. The IIGS is also known to lose disk drives along with numerous other side effects caused by a dead battery.

Before the introduction of Nite Owl's Slide-On battery, the normal method for replacing the IIGS battery was to pack your computer up and take it to your local Apple dealer. The service department would solder on a new one and charge you a small fee, usually between \$40 and \$80. That was very inconvenient, time consuming, and expensive for the typical computer owner.

Slide-On battery replacement is not much more difficult than changing a light bulb. Using wire cutters, scissors, or nail clippers, the old battery is removed leaving the original wires still soldered to the mother board. The new Slide-On battery has special terminals which have been designed to fit onto the old battery wires. It usually takes only a couple of minutes. Complete, easy-to-follow instructions are included with every kit.

Typically, our customers have reported that the original equipment batteries have an average life expectancy of 2 to 3 years. This is about half as long as they were supposed to last. Slide-On replacement kits include Heavy Duty batteries which should provide for a longer battery service life.

We highly recommend that every IIGS owner keep a spare battery on hand, ready for when the inevitable battery failure occurs. These Lithium batteries have a shelf life of over 10 years. The Slide-On kits come with a full 90 day satisfaction guarantee.

Purchase Slide-On battery kits from your local dealer, distributor, user's group, or direct from Nite Owl.

School Purchase Orders are welcome.

Order your IIGS a spare today!

Telephone:

(913) 362-9898

FAX:

(913) 362-5798

Photo-Copyable

**Quantity • Pricing**

1+	14.95
10+	12.00
50+	10.00
100+	9.00

**Sales Tax**

Kansas residents 6%

**Shipping • Handling**

Add \$2.00 / Order  
Overseas add \$5.00

Ship to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card or PO#

**• Bill To •**

Cash, Check,  
Money Order

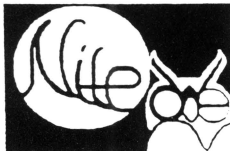
VISA

Master Card

Purchase  
Order

Expiration Date

Quantity	Description	Price	Amount
	Slide-On Battery Kits		
Signature for Credit Card Orders		Kansas Sales Tax	
I am interested in other batteries for:		Shipping & Handling	
		<b>TOTAL</b>	



**Nite Owl Productions**  
Slide-On Battery Dept. A  
5734 Lamar Avenue  
Mission, KS 66202  
USA

(Cut & Paste Address Label)

Prices may Change without notice.

8/16

Copyright (C) 1990, Ariel Publishing, Most Rights Reserved

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief	Ross W. Lambert
Classic Apple Editor	Jerry Kindall
Apple IIgs Editor	Eric Mueller
Contributing Editors	Walter Torres-Hurt
	Mike Westerfield
	Steve Stephenson
	Jay Jennings
Subscription Services	Tamara Lambert
	Becky Milton

Introductory subscription prices in US dollars:

• <i>magazine</i>		
1 year \$29.95		2 years \$56
• <i>disk</i>		
1 year \$69.95	6 mo \$39.95	3 mo. \$21

Canada and Mexico add \$5 per year per product ordered.  
Non-North American orders add \$15 per year per product ordered.

**WARRANTY and LIMITATION of LIABILITY**

Ariel Publishing, Inc. warrants that the information in **8/16** is correct and useful to somebody somewhere. Any subscriber may ask for a full refund of their last subscription payment at any time. Ariel Publishing's LIABILITY FOR ERRORS AND OMISSIONS IS LIMITED TO THIS PUBLICATION'S PURCHASE PRICE. In no case shall Ariel Publishing, Inc. Ross W. Lambert, the editorial staff, or article authors be liable for any incidental or consequential damages, nor for ANY damages in excess of the fees paid by a subscriber.

Subscribers are free to use program source code printed herein in their own compiled, stand-alone applications with no licensing application or fees required. Ariel Publishing prohibits the distribution of **source code** printed in our pages without our prior permission.

Direct all correspondence to: Ariel Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 398, Pateros, WA 98846 (509) 923-2249.

Apple, Apple II, Apple IIe, Apple IIgs, Apple IIc, Apple IIc+, AppleTalk, Apple Programmers Workshop, and Macintosh are all registered trademarks of Apple Computers, Inc.

AppleWorks is a registered trademark of Claris, Corp.

ZBasic is a registered trademark of Zedcor, Inc.

Micol Advanced Basic is a registered trademark of Micol Systems, Canada

We here at Ariel Publishing freely admit our shortcomings, but nevertheless strive to bring glory to the Lord Jesus Christ.

# The Publisher's Pen

by Ross W. Lambert



I recently came across the hippest, hottest, most happenin' computer bookstore I've ever seen. It's called The Computer Literacy Bookstore, and despite the dorky name (sorry Dan!) it has all the Apple II information ever printed since the dawn of time. The owner could tell me *off the top of his head* the status of an old, old Apple II book for which I've been searching for years. Although they are not totally dedicated to the II (you can get Mac stuff there also), the II is definitely where their heart is. According to owner Dan Doernberg they have something like 60,000 Apple II volumes in stock.

Now, I'm biased - they are the first folks to sell *8/16* over the counter. But *I* think that says something really terrific about them all by itself. I really doubt you'll be disappointed if you give them a call. Their number is **(408) 435-1118**. Tell 'em Mike Rochip sent you.

**A Bert Kersey Sighting**

Beloved Apple II pioneer Bert Kersey was recently sighted buying a six pack (of Coca-Cola) at a 7-11 outside of Barstow, CA. Rumor has it that he was in the company of Paul Lutus. Somebody get a camera and call *The Enquirer*.

What's the big deal about Bert Kersey, you ask? Why would I put his name on the cover of our April issue? I'll tell you why. Go read Guy Kawasaki's *The Macintosh Way*. It is a decent and humorous book. But it is the embodiment of the Macintosh (aka "Jobs") Arrogance. Ol' Guy writes like he and Steve invented the "Macintosh Way".

Sorry, Guy. Bert Kersey invented it. Only it is "The Apple II Way". Do you remember the first time you opened up a Beagle Bros product? I remember first of all that I was impressed with what a great deal it was for the money. I also remember that ol' Bert gave us mucho

extras and goodies. I also remember laughing a lot. I also remember great service and personal responses from Bert himself. I have a handwritten note from him still in my files.

Best of all, Bert was doing these things when Guy

Kawasaki was still having his mother wipe his nose. I still can't figure out why Bert's mother was wiping Guy's nose, though.

We here at Ariel are in search of Bert Kersey. We hope you are, too. == Ross ==

## Sweet 16: A Blast From the Past

by Matt Neuberg

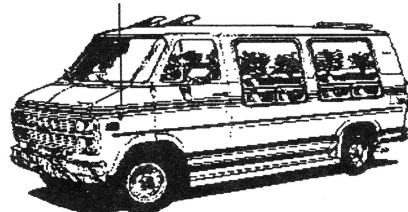
*(Editor: If Matt is as successful resurrecting the classical (aka 'dead') languages he teaches as he is resurrecting Sweet 16, then it won't be long before Latin is back in vogue. BTW, Matt's stationery says "Lingua Optima, Lingua Mortua" on it, which I believe means "The best language is a dead language".)*

### The 8/16 paradox

Those who have replaced their chip with a 65802, or who have bought a GS, pay no attention. This is for the faithful few, still trying to live with the paradox of the 6502 and 65C02 machine: 8-bit processing, but 16-bit addressing. If you've ever written a machine language program of any size, you've faced the inconvenience of this paradox. Let's take an example.

Imagine we are faced with the following task. Suppose a textfile has been "packed" as in Apple Pascal: every time a run of 3 or more blanks occurs (up to 255), it has been replaced by a special character (say, \$FF) followed by a byte containing the number of blanks. Our job is to decode ("unpack") the file, replacing each occurrence of "\$FF N" with N blanks. Simple? Just wait.

Let two buffers be allocated in memory, starting at addresses FILEPK and FILEUNPK; suppose the packed file is already in place, starting at FILEPK, and a variable EOFPK points to the address after the last byte of the file. All we have to do is run through every byte from FILEPK up to EOFPK-1. If it isn't \$FF, we'll just transfer it to the FILEUNPK buffer; if it is \$FF, we'll look at the following byte and feed that number of blanks to the FILEUNPK buffer. We must also know the length of the resulting unpacked file when we are done, so we can save it.



Listing 2 shows a typical way to code it. It isn't fancy or tricky; but I don't mind telling you, it drove me crazy having to write it, and it isn't terribly easy to read, either.

The trouble is that this routine is all about manipulating addresses, and it takes two bytes to name and point to an address. See the large number of instructions taken up with handling 16-bit (2-byte) information one byte at a time ("lo-byte, hi-byte")? I've saved some space by relegating some of these operations to subroutines, but this doesn't make the program logic any clearer, and as I was writing the program, each time I realised I would need such a subroutine, I had to go back and change everything. And having to do everything twice, as it were, caused me to make stupid errors while coding, some of which I didn't catch until I tested the program. (In fact, there is still a bug in the program logic: can you find it?)

In my version, the whole task assembles to more than 110 bytes. This seems unnecessarily bulky. It might be possible to save a byte here and there, but this would require some clever coding, and more hard work. Isn't there a better way?

### Enter Wozniak's dream machine

In the late '70's, when the great Steve Wozniak was designing Integer Basic for the Apple II, he encountered the 8/16-bit paradox, and devised an ingenious solution: Sweet16. I had seen references to Sweet16 - for example, MerlinPro assembles and disassembles Sweet16 code - but, like most people who got into micro-

computers during the '80's, I had no idea what it was. (*My situation exactly - Editor*) Then one day, quite by accident, I found out.

Sweet16 is a 16-bit interpreter: i.e., it is 6502 code which simulates an imaginary processor, a processor capable of understanding and carrying out instructions which operate on 16-bit data. You can install this code in your Apple II, and when you have 16-bit operations to perform in an assembly-language program, you can have Sweet16 carry them out for you. Wozniak published the code for Sweet 16 in the November 1977 issue of *BYTE* magazine. It is the basis for Listing 1 (discussed below).

Note: there are some errors in Woz's original article, so be careful if you hunt it up. But these have been eliminated in the following discussion.

As the Woz was quick to point out, Sweet16 is slow, probably 10 times slower than if the same tasks were performed by ordinary 6502 code. But once you've bought a computer, time costs you nothing; and besides, with today's accelerator boards and chips, you can make back almost half the extra time. On the other hand, the Sweet 16 interpreter is ingeniously written in such a way that code written for it is extremely compact; this was the chief reason for Wozniak's inventing it, for in those days space inside the Apple II was at a premium. Moreover, Sweet16 gives the programmer another advantage, which Wozniak did not mention: it is extremely easy to code for. There are two reasons for this. First, you no longer have to keep track separately of each byte of your 16-bit data. Second, whenever you perform an indirect load or store through Sweet 16, the 16-bit pseudo-register which points to that data is automatically incremented or decremented, making it very easy to operate on blocks of data, as in our example task.

### The Sweet16 architecture

Sweet16 operates using 16 16-bit pseudo-registers. These occupy the space in the 0-page from \$00 to \$1F, and are designated R0-R15.

Some of these registers are special. The first register, R0, is the "accumulator". The last, R15, is used as the "program counter", telling the interpreter where to go to fetch an instruction from your program - either the next consecutive instruction, or the instruction to jump to

after a branch. R14 is a "status register", used to point to the register in which the result of the last operation is stored, so that that result can be tested and, depending on its value, a branch can be performed. R14 also holds the "carry" bit, used for similar purposes. R13 is used by each CPR (compare) operation. R12 is used as a "stack pointer" when your Sweet16 code calls or returns from a subroutine (Sweet16 does not use the Page 1 stack), which means that if you use any subroutines in your Sweet16 code, you must have initialized R12 first, and you must not alter it during a subroutine.

R1-R11 are the registers free for your use, and will usually prove more than sufficient. There are no X- or Y-registers; but you won't need them, because indirect addressing is done automatically for you, and because, as mentioned above, Sweet 16 itself always performs an increment or decrement of the register employed for indirect addressing.

### The Sweet16 instruction set: register ops

In these descriptions, the shorthand "Rn" is used to designate a particular 16-bit register (usually R1-11). When assembling with MerlinPro, the "R" may be omitted.

Eight instructions operate directly with the various registers and the "accumulator". **Don't forget that these are 16-bit registers holding 16-bit values!**

**SET Rn, const** sets Rn to the value designated by *const*. With MerlinPro's assembler, this may be a previously EQUated label, a program line label, or an immediate value. The "#" symbol should not be employed, but if an immediate value is given, the "\$" symbol may be. Remember, if you SET a register using a program line label, the resulting value will be the address of the line in memory, not whatever data appears in that line. (The comma is not required by MerlinPro; a space may be used instead, or nothing at all - e.g., SET R3LABEL).

**LD Rn** loads the "accumulator" with the 16-bit value in Rn

**ST Rn** stores the 16-bit value in the "accumulator" into Rn.

**INR Rn** increments Rn

**DCR Rn** decrements Rn. Rn can be the "accumulator" (R0).

**ADD Rn** adds the value in Rn to the value in the “accumulator”, and leaves the result in the “accumulator”.

**SUB Rn** subtracts the value in Rn from the value in the “accumulator”, and leaves the result in the “accumulator”. There is no need to clear or set the “carry” before these operations; the “carry” is set for you after these operations, however, analogously to 8-bit ADC and SBC operations.

Seven operations employ indirect addressing: that is, they fetch or set a value in memory whose address is named by the contents of Rn, not the value of Rn itself. These ops also affect the contents of Rn, either incrementing or decrementing them, either before or after the operations, as described. The “@” symbol, denoting indirect addressing, is required for assembly by Merlin-Pro.

**LD @Rn** loads the “accumulator” with the 8-bit byte in the memory address named by Rn (the high 8 bits of the “accumulator” are just zeroed).

**ST @Rn** stores the low 8 bits of the “accumulator” into the memory address named by Rn.

**LDD @Rn** loads the “accumulator” with the 16-bit word residing in memory, in the usual lo-hi order, at the address named by Rn.

**STD @Rn** stores all 16 bits of the “accumulator” into memory, in the usual lo-hi order, starting at the address named by Rn. After each of these four operations, Rn is incremented - once after LD and ST, twice after LDD and STD, so that Rn now points to the next 8-bit or 16-bit piece of data in memory.

Note: be careful! These opcodes are confusingly named. The direct ops, LD Rn and ST Rn, deal with 16-bit words. The analogously named indirect ops, LD @Rn and ST @Rn, deal with bytes.

**POP @Rn** loads the “accumulator” with the single byte in the memory address named by Rn, but only after having decremented Rn once (the high 8 bits of the “accumulator” are just zeroed).

Similarly, **POPD @Rn** loads the “accumulator” with the 16-bit word residing, in the usual lo-hi order, starting at the memory address named by Rn, but only after having decremented Rn twice.

**STP @Rn** stores the low 8 bits of the “accumulator” into the memory location named by Rn, but only after having decremented Rn once.

## The Sweet16 instruction set: branch ops

We come now to branch instructions, that is, instructions dealing with the path that the program is to follow. Exactly as with 6502 branching, Sweet16 branches are limited to a distance of backward 128 bytes or forward 127 bytes.

Three instructions perform an unconditional branch.

**BR LABEL** branches to the address named by LABEL. This is the closest thing Sweet16 has to a JMP instruction, but the limitation to jumping -128 to +127 bytes, but this is not usually a problem, because Sweet16 code is so compact.

**BS LABEL** branches to the address named by LABEL, but remembers the point from which the branch was made. A subsequently encountered command **RS** branches back to the instruction following the BS command. (*Editor: There's a joke in there somewhere...*) These are thus the equivalents of the 6502 JSR and RTS commands, used for calling and terminating subroutines, and, as with them, subroutines may be nested. Note, however, that it is up to the user to set R12 beforehand with the lowest (that's lowest!) address of a safe block of memory to be used to save the addresses from which BS commands are executed.

Eight instructions branch if certain conditions are met. These conditions have to do either with the value of the “carry” or with the value of the last register (including the “accumulator”) which was directly referred to (called the “last result”). Thus, for the direct commands listed above, the value involved is that of the register Rn on or from which the operation was performed; for the indirect commands, and for ADD and SUB, the value involved is just that of the “accumulator”.

However, such branches alone would provide no way to perform a comparison test between the “accumulator” and some other value. To take care of this, a command **CPR Rn** is implemented. This command actually subtracts the value in Rn from the value in the “accumulator”, and it is the result of this subtraction (stored in R13) which is tested in a subsequent conditional branch command. The operation is thus analogous to the 6502 CMP instruction.

**BZ LABEL** branches to LABEL only if "last result" is 0.

**BNZ LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "last result" is not 0. These are thus the equivalents, whether or not they follow a CPR command, of the 6502 BEQ and BNE commands.

**BP LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "last result" is positive

**BM LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "last result" is negative. A 16-bit word is considered positive if and only if the hi-bit of its hi-byte is not set. These commands can thus be used, whether or not they follow a CPR command, like the 6502 BPL and BMI commands.

**BC LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "carry" is set

**BNC LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "carry" is clear. These commands may be used after an ADD or SUB command; note also that after a CPR command, they are the equivalents of the 6502 BGE/BCS and BLT/BCC commands, respectively. (Note that you must use these commands immediately after the command which sets or clears the "carry", because all other ops clear the "carry".)

**BM1 LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "last result" is -1 (\$FFFF)

**BNM1 LABEL** branches to LABEL only if the "last result" is not -1.

## Entering and leaving Sweet16 mode

During a 6502 program, to signify that the following code is Sweet16 code and is to be interpreted by the Sweet16 interpreter, execute a JSR SW16, where SW16 is the address of the Sweet16 interpreter. The interpreter will then read and execute all subsequent code, until it encounters the command RTN; at this point, control will be turned over to the 6502, starting with the byte after the RTN.

For debugging purposes, Sweet16 also recognises a BK command; this simply executes a 6502 BRK, sending you to the monitor. After examining or modifying memory, you may resume execution from the monitor at the instruction after the break by modifying R15 (\$1E/1F) to the memory address at which the BK was encountered and calling for a GO from the address

called INTERP in Listing 1 (e.g., type "319G"). (You have to know in advance what this address is; the monitor will not display it for you, but will display the address of Sweet16 BK subroutine instead.) To avoid having the BK occur on a subsequent pass, you may substitute for it a byte 0D, which is interpreted by Sweet16 as a NUL (= NOP) .

## The paradox resolved

As an illustration of these opcodes, and of the value of Sweet16, examine Listing 3. It performs exactly the same task as Listing 2!

See the improvements? First, Listing 3 occupies about half the code space of Listing 2. This is because all the register operations except for SET are only 1 byte long, thanks to Wozniak's ingenious coding method (see Table 1). Of course, we also have to occupy some memory with the Sweet16 interpreter; but clearly a program involving several Sweet16 routines would soon realise significant savings in space, and it should not be hard to find a place to stash the Sweet16 interpreter where we will not find its presence troublesome.

Second, and more important, Listing 3 was easy to write. In fact, I wrote it from start to finish, without errors, without ever having to go back to an earlier step and modify it!

So Sweet16 code is easy to write, easy to debug, and easy to read; it's compact, and it's incredibly powerful whenever you have to deal with 16-bit information.

## Feel Sweet16 again

Listing 1 contains my version of the Sweet16 interpreter. It is based on Steve Wozniak's original published version, and for that reason alone is worth reading even if you don't intend to implement Sweet16 for yourself, because Wozniak's code is nothing short of brilliant. But my version also contains some minor improvements over Wozniak's original. It is better labelled and commented than his version was. It saves the contents of zero-page addresses to be used as Sweet16's "registers" on entry, and restores them on exit, so that you can use it in combination with Applesoft programs and BASIC.SYSTEM. It also includes a self-relocator, so that half the code can be hidden away in Page 3; of normal RAM, only Page 8 is ultimately occupied.

To use Sweet16, first type it in and assemble it, and save it as, say, SWEET16. When you want it in place in memory, BRUN it; this will cause the relocater to put part of the code into Page 3, the rest remaining in Page 8, and the program will then RTS to you. Now you can load and run assembly-language programs using Sweet16 code; any time your program does a JSR SW16 (here, \$300), the code that follows will be interpreted by Sweet16.

A number of modifications are possible. If you don't want to use Page 3, just omit the self-relocater and reassemble; in that case, the interpreter will reside in Pages 8 and 9, and calls to it will have to be made to \$900. (You will then want to BLOAD SWEET16 to put it into memory, not BRUN it.) If you don't want Pages 8 and 9 occupied, you can modify and reassemble the code to be located anywhere you like: the only important thing is that all of the code from the label ROUTINZ to the label RTN must be on a single page; otherwise the calculation of subroutine addresses, and the branching to those addresses, won't work.

You're not even confined to using \$00-1F as your Sweet16 registers: any series of 32 consecutive 0-page locations will work (in fact, \$F0-FF and \$00-0F would work, since direct indexed zero-page addressing automatically wraps around from \$FF to \$00). Just redefine R0, and STAT and PC relatively to it. If you know you've got 32 consecutive 0-page locations absolutely free, you could also omit the saving and restoring operations, to obtain some extra microseconds; if you don't care about losing the contents of the 6502 registers across a Sweet16 call, you could omit the calls to the monitor SAVE and RESTORE routines as well.

Have fun with Sweet16: it just might be the fountain of youth that your assembly-language programs need!

Matt Neuburg, PhD  
13150 Wenonah SE #121  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
(505) 292-7811

### Table 1 - Sweet16 Opcodes

All the branch opcodes, including BS, are of the form 0n, where n determines which operation is to be performed, and must all be followed by a second byte giving the effective address to branch to, precisely as with 6502

code: the effective address is calculated as the distance, in bytes, from the byte following the byte containing the effective address. [Thus, 01 FD would branch to the byte before the branch command; 01 FE would loop indefinitely; 01 00 would continue as if nothing had happened; 01 01 would skip the byte following the branch command.] The operations RS, RTN, BK, and NUL are also of the form 0n; they are single-byte codes. The register operations, except for SET, are also all single-byte codes, where the first (hi) hex digit signifies the operation, the second (lo) hex digit designates the register to be operated on (15 register operations, 16 registers). The SET operation requires 3 bytes, one for the operation and the register, two for the value to which the register is to be set, in lo-hi order.

1n	SET Rn	00	RTN
2n	LD Rn	01	BR
3n	ST Rn	02	BNC
4n	LD @Rn	03	BC
5n	ST @Rn	04	BP
6n	LDD @Rn	05	BM
7n	STD @Rn	06	BZ
8n	POP @Rn	07	BNZ
9n	STP @Rn	08	BM1
An	ADD Rn	09	BNM1
Bn	SUB Rn	0A	BK
Cn	POPD @Rn	0B	RS
Dn	CPR Rn	0C	BS
En	INR Rn	0D	NUL
Fn	DCR Rn		[0E and 0F default to NUL]

### Listing 1

```

1 *****
2 *
3 *          SWEET16
4 *
5 *   based on the original by Steve Wozniak
6 * new disassembly w/ clarified code & self-
7 * relocater, by Matt Neuburg, PhD   3/9/89
8 *
9 *****
10
11 R0      EQU   $00 ;and $01, "accumulator"
12 STAT   EQU   $1D ;"status" regstr: contains
13         ;indx to place last result
14         ;but since this is Rn*2, bit 0
15         ; is free: so it holds "carry"
16 PC     EQU   $1E ;and $1F, "program counter"
17 SAVE   EQU   $FF4A ;monitor rtn, save regs
18 RESTORE EQU  $FF3F ;monitor rtn, restore regs

```



```

19                                     74         LDA   (R0,X) ;do hi-byte
20         ORG   $800                    75         STA   R0+1
21                                     76         JMP   INR   ;and do another inc Rn
22         JMP   RELOCATE;Note:OMIT if don't want 77
23                                     ;self-relocation into Page 78 STD@   JSR   ST@   ;do lobyte, inc Rn, STAT
24                                     79         LDA   R0+1 ;do hi-byte
25 *-----                             80         STA   (R0,X)
26 * subrtn for Sweet16 ops: LABELs are op names 81         JMP   INR   ;and do another inc Rn
27 *-----                             82
28                                     83 POP   LDY   #0 ;hi-byte 0 if simple po
29 ROUTINZ EQU * ;CODE FROM HERE TO RTN MUST BE 84         BEQ   poplo ; and go do lo-byte
30                                     ;ALL ON A SINGLE PAGE 85 POPD   JSR   DCR   ;dec Rn
31                                     86         LDA   (R0,X) ;get hi-byte from mem
32 *-----                             87         TAY   ;save it in Y
33 * register ops: on entry, Y is 2*num of opcode, 88 poplo JSR   DCR   ;dec Rn
34 * X is index to Rn (i.e., it's 2*n) 89         LDA   (R0,X) ;get (lo-)byte from mem
35 *-----                             90         STA   R0 ;lo-byte into "acc"
36                                     91         STY   R0+1 ;hi-byte into "acc"
37 SET     JMP   SETZ ;(no room here) 92 stzandgo LDY #0 ;R0 holds last result..
38                                     93         STY   STAT ;so say so
39 LD     LDA   R0,X ;move Rn to R0 94         RTS
40 BK     EQU   *-1 ;i.e., 00=BRK (cute, eh?) 95
41         STA   R0 96 STP@   JSR   DCR ;decrement Rn
42         LDA   R0+1,X 97         LDA   R0 ;stick lo-byte of "ac
43         STA   R0+1 98         STA   (R0,X) ; in memory via Rn
44         RTS ;STAT points to Rn already 99         JMP   stzandgo ;STAT := 0
45                                     100
46 ST     LDA   R0 ;move R0 to Rn 101 SUB   LDY   #0 ;if SUB, result to R0
47         STA   R0,X 102 CPR   SEC ;if CPR, Y=13*2 on ent
48         LDA   R0+1 103         LDA   R0 ;do lo-byte subtracti
49         STA   R0+1,X 104         SBC   R0,X
50         RTS ;STAT pts to Rn already 105         STA   R0,Y ;put result in R0 or R
51                                     106         LDA   R0+1 ;do hi-byte subtracti
52 DCR    LDA   R0,X ;decrement Rn 107         SBC   R0+1,X
53         BNE   :no 108 finish STA R0+1,Y ;put result in R0 or R
54         DEC   R0+1,X 109         TYA ;place of result * 2
55 :no    DEC   R0,X 110         ADC   #0 ;"carry" into bit 0
56         RTS ;STAT points to Rn al- 111         STA   STAT ;rec both in STAT reg
57 ready 112         RTS
58 ST@    LDA   R0 ;send lo byte of R0 113
59 putinc STA (R0,X) ; to memory via Rn 114 ADD   LDA   R0 ;do lo-byte addition
60         LDY   #0 115         ADC   R0,X ;DON'T CLC-may be seri
61 zerostat STY STAT ;R0 holds last rslt, say so 116         STA   R0 ;result to R0
62 INR    INC   R0,X ;increment Rn 117         LDA   R0+1 ;do hi-byte addition
63         BNE   :no 118         ADC   R0+1,X
64         INC   R0+1,X 119         LDY   #0 ;result is to go into
65 :no    RTS ;STAT pts to Rn already if INR 120         BEQ   finish ;& let prev rtn finis
66                                     121
67 LD@    LDA   (R0,X);get 1 byte from mem via Rn 122 *-----
68         STA   R0 ;give it to lo-byte of R0 123 * branch ops;on entry,Y=0,X is 2*num of opcod
69         LDY   #0 124 * acc holds num of register we are to examin
70         STY   R0+1 ;just one byte, zero hi-byte 125 *-----
71         BEQ   zerostat;(always)set STAT, inc Rn 126
72                                     127 BS   LDA   PC ;(X=12*2 on entry)
73 LDD@   JSR   LD@ ;do lobyte, inc Rn, STAT=0 128         JSR   putinc ; use R12 to pt to
                                         stack
                                         129         LDA   PC+1 ; put ret addr into m

```

```

130      JSR    putinc    ; incr R12 as we go      187      RTS
131 BR      CLC          ;guarantee branch      188
132 BNC      BCS    NUL    ;don't bra if carry set 189 RS      LDX    #24 ;12*2, pt to stack thru R
133 adjstpc LDA    (PC),Y ;examine branch addr 190      JSR    DCR    ;dec stack ptr
134      BPL    :no      ;if displacmnt pos, Y:=0 191      LDA    (R0,X) ;pop hi-byte ret ad
135      DEY          ;if dsplacmnt neg, Y:=-1 192      STA    PC+1
136 :no     ADC    PC      ;clear carry guaranteed 193      JSR    DCR    ;dec stack ptr
137      STA    PC      ;lobyte PC+displacement 194      LDA    (R0,X) ;pop lo-byte ret ad
138      TYA          ;tricky 2's-complement 195      STA    PC
139      ADC    PC+1     ; addition:             196      RTS          ;that's all, PC is rea
140      STA    PC+1     ;hibyte PC+(0 or -1)+carry 197
141      RTS          ;whew! PC now correct      198 RTN      JMP    RTNZ    ;(no room here)
142      199
143 BC      BCS    BR      ;here's an easy one: 200      DS    \      ;fill out the page
144 NUL      RTS          ;no carry, no bra (also NUL) 201          ;so SW16 will be at start
145      202
146 *----- 202
147 * subroutine of remaining branch ops 203
148 *----- 204 *-----
149      205 *-----
150 ldhi     ASL          ;Rn in acc: double it, 206 *-----
151      TAX          ;use rslt as indx to Rn, 207
152      LDA    R0+1,X ;& fetch hi-byte of Rn 208
153      RTS          ;& you also clrd carry 209      ORG    $300;OMIT if you don't want sel
154      210          ; relocation to Page 3
155 *----- 211
156 * and here they are... 212 *-----
157 *----- 213 * entry to Sweet16
158      214 *-----
159 BP      JSR    ldhi    ;examine hi half of Rn 215
160      BPL    adjstpc ;branch if positive 216 SW16     JSR    SAVE    ;preserve registers
161      RTS          217      LDX    #31 ;preserve 32 0-page valu
162      218 :MOVEONE LDA    R0,X
163 BM      JSR    ldhi    ;examine hi half of Rn 219      STA    STORAGE,X
164      BMI    adjstpc ;branch if negative 220      DEX
165      RTS          221      BPL    :MOVEONE
166      222
167 BZ      JSR    ldhi    ;pick up hi half of Rn 223      PLA          ;initialize "program counte
168      ORA    R0,X ;will give 0 iff both are 0 224      STA    PC    ; from calling address
169      BEQ    adjstpc ;branch if so 225      PLA
170      RTS          226      STA    PC+1
171      227
172 BNZ     JSR    ldhi    ;pick up hi half of Rn 228 INTLOOP  JSR    INTERP ;interpret a command
173      ORA    R0,X ;will give 0 iff both are 0 229      JMP    INTLOOP ;again & again & agai
174      BNE    adjstpc ;branch if not 230
175      RTS          231 INTERP  LDA    #>ROUTINZ;get pg-num of subrtn
176      232      PHA          ; & stuff on the stac
177 BM1     JSR    ldhi    ;pick up hi half of Rn 233      INC    PC    ;incrmnt program count
178      AND    R0,X ;will be FF iff both are FF 234      BNE    :NO    ;rdy to examine instru
179      EOR    #$FF ;is it? CMP might wrck crry 235      ctn
180      BEQ    adjstpc ;branch if so 235      INC    PC+1
181      RTS          236 :NO     LDY    #0      ;rdy for indirct addrss
182      ing
183 BNM1    JSR    ldhi    ;pick up hi half of Rn 237      LDA    (PC),Y ;exmne opcode of instru
184      AND    R0,X ;will be FF iff both are FF 238      ctn
185      EOR    #$FF ;is it? CMP might wrck crry 238      AND    #$0F   ;msk 1/2, leaving reg
186      BNE    adjstpc ;branch if not          num

```

```

240 TAX ;and use it as X-index 297 DB BNM1-1
241 LSR ;restore it 298 DB SUB-1
242 EOR (PC),Y ;considr only 1/2 opcode 299 DB BK-1
243 BEQ TOBR ;if 0, branch instr: do it 300 DB POPD-1
244 ; (also BK, RTN, or NUL) 301 DB RS-1
245 302 DB CPR-1
246 STX STAT ;sav registr specifiction*2 303 DB BS-1
247 ;so that if brnch follows, 304 DB INR-1
248 ;we know what reslt to chk 305 DB NUL-1
249 LSR ;obtain opcode digit*2 306 DB DCR-1
250 LSR 307 DB NUL-1
251 LSR 308 DB NUL-1
252 TAY ; & use it as Y-index, to 309 DB NUL-1
253 LDA OPTBL-2,Y;get lobyt of subr addr 310
254 ; (first opcode is 1, 1*2=2) 311 *-----
255 PHA ;stick on the stack... 312 * opcode subroutines that wouldn't fit into 1
256 RTS ;and "jump" to subr 313 *-----
257 ; (the "Wozniak waltz") 314
258 ;with Y holding 2*num of op 315 * for RTN
259 ; & X indexing Rn 316
260 317 RTNZ PLA ;pull ret addr from JSR INTE
261 TOBR INC PC ;prepare to examn brnch addr 318 PLA ; & throw it away
262 BNE :NO ;(the subroutines will do 319 LDA PC ;put PC in temp storage
263 INC PC+1 ; actual examining) 320 STA TEMPPC ; before we trash it
264 :NO LDA BRTBL,X ;get lobyte subr addr 321 LDA PC+1 ; by restoring 0-pag
265 PHA ;stick it on the stack 322 STA TEMPPC+1
266 LDA STAT ;examine "status reg" 323 LDX #31 ;restr 32 0-page val
267 LSR ;& prepare crry w/ it 324 :MOVEONE LDA STORAGE,X
268 RTS ;"jump" to subr w/ acc hldng 325 STA R0,X
269 ; register-num where 326 DEX
270 ; "last result" is, 327 BPL :MOVEONE
271 ; with Y=0, crry rdy, & 328 JSR RESTORE ;restore registers
272 ; X=2*opcode 329 JMP (TEMPPC) ;BYE! bk to 6502-land.
273 330 TEMPPC DA $0000 ;storage
274 *----- 331
275 * table of lo-bytes of addrs of opcode subrtn 332 * for SET: when we arrive, Y=2, X indexes Rn
276 *----- 333
277 334 SETZ LDA (PC),Y ;get hibernate of const (y=
278 OPTBL DB SET-1 ;2 tabls are interwoven 335 STA R0+1,X ;put in hi-byte of reg
279 BRTBL DB RTN-1 336 DEY ;(y=1)
280 DB LD-1 337 LDA (PC),Y ;get lobyte of const
281 DB BR-1 338 STA R0,X ;put in lobyte of re
282 DB ST-1 339 TYA ;set acc=1
283 DB BNC-1 340 SEC ;cheatsies:need to add
284 DB LD@-1 341 ADC PC ;add 2 to program ctr
285 DB BC-1 342 STA PC ;(a 3-byte instruction
286 DB ST@-1 343 BCC :DONE
287 DB BP-1 344 INC PC+1
288 DB LDD@-1 345 :DONE RTS ;PC rdy for nxt instr
289 DB BM-1 346
290 DB STD@-1 347 STORAGE DS 32 ;for saving 32 0-pg val
291 DB BZ-1 348
292 DB POP-1 349 RELEND NOP
293 DB BNZ-1 350
294 DB STP@-1 351 *-----
295 DB BM1-1 352 *-----
296 DB ADD-1 353 * relocate second part of file to Page 3

```

## Listing 2

```

1 *****
2 *
3 * EXAMPLE OF A TASK INVOLVING *
4 * 16-BIT OPERATIONS *
5 *
6 *****
7
8 * WARNING: this is NOT a complete program!
9 *      Do NOT try to enter and run it!
10
11 FILEPK EQU $2000 ;strt of packed file in mem
12 FILEUNPK EQU $4000 ;where unpkd file will go
13 PKPTR EQU $FC ;and $FD, pointer #1
14 UNPKPTR EQU $FE ;and $FF, pointer #2
15
16 ORG $8000
17
18 *-----
19 * First, we've got to put into 0-page memory
20 * the file addresses, for indirect addressing
21 *-----
22
23 UNPACK LDA #<FILEPK ;lo-byte...
24 STA PKPTR
25 LDA #>FILEPK ;...hi-byte
26 STA PKPTR+1
27 LDA #<FILEUNPK ;lo-byte...
28 STA UNPKPTR
29 LDA #>FILEUNPK ;...hi-byte
30 STA UNPKPTR+1
31
32 *-----
33 * Set Y=0, for indirect addressing
34 *-----
35
36 LDY #0
37
38 *-----
39 * Run through FILEPK, looking for DLE=$FF
40 *-----
41
42 ADVANCE LDA (PKPTR),Y ;look at byte of
FILEPK
43 CMP #$FF ;is it DLE?
44 BEQ FEEDBLNK ;=> yes, go handle
45 STA (UNPKPTR),Y ;no, feed to FILEUNPK
46 JSR INCPK ;inc PKPTR
47 JSR COMPARE ;see if we're at EOFPK
48 JSR INCUNPK ;we haven't, inc
UNPKPTR
49 BNE ADVANCE ;loop back, always
50
51 *-----
52 * Found a DLE, send the right number of blanks
53 *-----
54
55 FEEDBLNK JSR INCPK ;inc PKPTR, & fetch..
56 LDA (PKPTR),Y ;# of blanks to fee
57 TAX ;use it as index
58 LDA #$20 ;(SPACE)
59 ONEBLNK STA (UNPKPTR),Y ;send blk to FILEUN
60 JSR INCUNPK ;inc UNPKPTR
61 DEX ;enough blanks sent
62 BNE ONEBLNK ;No, go send anothe
63 JSR COMPARE ;done w/ blanks, EC
64 JSR INCPK ;no, so inc PKPTR..
65 BNE ADVANCE ;...& loop back,
always
66
67 *-----
68 * Subroutine for incrementing PKPTR
69 *-----
70
71 INCPK INC PKPTR ;lo-byte...
72 BNE :NOTHI
73 INC PKPTR+1 ;...hi-byte
74 :NOTHI RTS
75
76 *-----
77 * Subroutine for incrementing UNPKPTR
78 *-----
79
80 INCUNPK INC UNPKPTR ;lo-byte...
81 BNE :NOTHI
82 INC UNPKPTR+1 ;...hi-byte
83 :NOTHI RTS
84
85 *-----
86 * Subroutine for comparing PKPTR with EOFPK
87 *-----
88
89 COMPARE LDA PKPTR+1 ;hi-byte...
90 CMP EOFPK+1
91 BNE :NOTLO
92 LDA PKPTR ;...lo-byte
93 CMP EOFPK
94 BEQ DONE ;they're eql, go finish
95 :NOTLO RTS ;they're not equal, retu
96
97 *-----
98 * Finish up, LENUNPK := UNPKPTR-FILEUNPK+1
99 *-----
100
101 DONE JSR INCUNPK ;here's the +1
102 SEC ;and now we'll subtrac
103 LDA UNPKPTR ;lo-byte...
104 SBC #<FILEUNPK
105 STA LENUNPK
106 LDA UNPKPTR+1 ;...hi-byte
107 SBC #>FILEUNPK
108 STA LENUNPK+1

```

```

109      PLA ;we got here from inside a subrtm 41
110      PLA ; so cancel return address 42 ADVANCE LD @R1 ;look at a byte of FILE
111      RTS ;The End 43 CPR R4 ;is it DLE?
112 44 BZ FEEDBLNK ;=> yes, go handle
113 *----- 45 ST @R2 ;no, just feed to FILEUNI
114 * vars; in real life, these would have meaning 46 DONE? LD R1 ;consider ptr to FILEPK
115 *----- 47 CPR R3 ;is it EOFPK?
116 48 BNZ ADVANCE ;=> no, go do it again
117 EOFPK DA $2F37 ;whatever: last item addr 49 BR DONE ;=> yes, go finish up
118 ; in packed file, + 1 50
119 LENUNPK DA $0000 ;result:len of unpkd file 51 *-----

```

## Listing 3

```

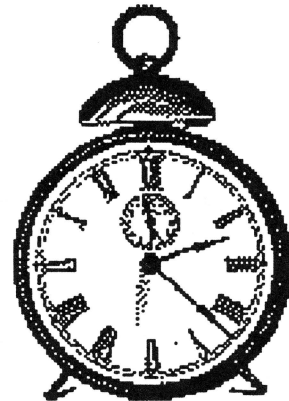
1 *****
2 * *
3 * SAME TASK INVOLVING 16-BIT *
4 * OPERATIONS, USING SWEET16 *
5 * *
6 *****
7
8 * WARNING: this is NOT a complete program!
9 * Do NOT try to enter and run it!
10
11 FILEPK EQU $2000 ;strt of pckd file in mem
12 FILEUNPK EQU $4000 ;where unpacked file goes
13 SW16 EQU $300 ;(or wherever Sweet16 is)
14
15 SW ;Sweet16 will be used below
16 ORG $8000
17
18 *-----
19 * Call the Sweet16 interpreter
20 *-----
21
22 UNPACK JSR SW16 ;start Sweet16 code
23
24 *-----
25 * Initialise registers
26 *-----
27
28 SET R1,FILEPK ;r1 will pt to pckd file
29 SET R2,FILEUNPK;r2 pts to unpacked file
30 LD R2
31 ST R7 ;save address in R7 too
32 SET R8,EOFPK ;pt to variable EOFPK
33 LDD @R8 ;get value (R8 just temp)
34 ST R3 ;r3 will hold value EOFPK
35 SET R4,$00FF ;r4 holds DLE
36 SET R5,$0020 ;r5 holds SPACE
37
38 *-----
39 * Run through FILEPK, looking for DLE=$FF
40 *-----

```

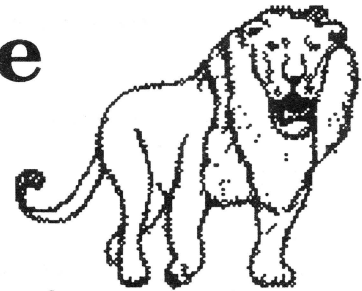
```

52 * Found a DLE, send the right number of blanks
53 *-----
54
55 FEEDBLNK LD @R1 ;get # of blanks to fe
56 ST R6 ;use it as index
57 LD R5 ;SPACE
58 ONEBLNK ST @R2 ;send it to FILEUNPK
59 DCR R6 ;decrement index
60 BNZ ONEBLNK;if not done, send another
61 BR DONE? ;finished sending blank
62 ;go see if we've rchd EOF
63
64 *-----
65 *Finish,LENUNPK:=R2(ptr 2 unpk'd fil)-FILEUNPK
66 * (since R2 was incremented by last store)
67 *-----
68
69 DONE LD R2
70 SUB R7 ;right answer now in R0
71 SET R8,LENUNPK ;(point to LENUNPK)
72 STD @R8 ;give answer to LENUNPK
73 RTN ;leave Sweet16
74 RTS ;The End
75
76 *-----
77 * vars; in real life, these would have meaning
78 *-----
79
80 EOFPK DA $2F37 ;(or whatever)
81 LENUNPK DA $0000 ;result, length of unpacked
;file

```



# KAT will sell no drive before it's time...



KAT will not ship a hard drive without first:

- Conferring with you about your entire system and setting the drive's interleave so as to insure optimal performance *for you*.
- Discussing the various partitioning options and then *setting them up to fit your specifications*.
- Depositing 20 megabytes of freeware, shareware, the latest system software, and all sorts of bonus goodies on the drive.
- Testing the drive for 24 hours before shipping it out.

KAT drives come in industrial-quality cases that have 60 watt power supplies (115-230 volts), cooling fans, two 50 pin connectors and room for another half-height drive or tape back-up unit. We also include a 6 ft. SCSI cable to attach to your SCSI card. You get all of this plus a one-year warranty on parts and labor!

SB 48 Seagate 48 meg 40ms	\$549.99
SB 85 Seagate 85 meg 28ms	\$698.99
SB 105 Quantum 105 meg 12 ms	\$849.99

Looking for an even *hotter* system? Call and ask for a quote on our 170, 300, & 600 megabyte Quantum drives!

So ya wanna build yer own? Let KAT provide you with the finest parts available...

SB Case 2 HH Drives 7w 5h 16d	\$139.99	T-60 Tape Teac 60 meg SCSI	\$449.99
ZF Case 1 HH Drive 10w 3h 12d	\$169.99	with hard drive	\$424.99
48 meg HD Seagate 40 ms 3.5" SCSI	\$349.99	3.5" to 5.25" Frame	\$ 12.50
85 meg HD Seagate 28 ms 5.25" SCSI	\$469.99	Cable 25 pin to 50 pin 6 ft.	\$ 19.99
105 meg HD Quantum 12 ms 3.5" SCSI	\$669.99	50 pin to 50 pin 6 ft.	\$ 19.99

## Programmers! Check our prices on your favorite development packages and accessories...

### Byte Works

Orca C	\$89.99
Orca M	\$44.99
Orca Pascal	\$89.99
Orca Disassembler	\$34.99

### Roger Wagner Publishing

Hyperstudio	\$94.99
Macromate	\$37.99

### Stone Edge Technologies

DB Master Pro	\$219.99
---------------	----------

### Other software and accessories:

#### Vitesse, Inc.

Excorciser, virus detection system	\$ 29.95
Renaissance, hard disk optimizer	\$ 34.95
Guardian, program selector and disk utilities	\$ 34.95

Quickie, terrific hand scanner (400 dpi, 16 grays) \$249.99

#### Computer Peripherals

ViVa24, 2400 baud, 100% Hayes compatible modem (comes with a FIVE YEAR Warranty) \$139.99

Applied Eng. Transwarp GS	\$289.99
Keytronic 105 Key ADB Keybrd	\$139.99

1 meg SIMMs 80 ns	\$89.99
1 meg X 1 80 ns	8/\$79.99

Call the KAT at (913) 642-4611 or write: KAT, 8423 W 89th St, Overland Park, KS 66212-3039

# Illusions of Motion, Part II

by Steven Lepisto

*(Editor: This is the second in an extended semi-regular series on Iigs animation. Last time (March '90), Steve provided a "core" animation demo which he will modify with each new article.)*

Last time, I presented a program that moved two images around the super hires screen. There was no background image, only blackness, and the objects interfered with each other when one passed over the other. But they were quick in their motions. This time, I am going to present the concepts of masks, background buffering, and shadowing. These techniques, when combined, will give us a more flexible, if somewhat slower, system of animation. That is always the trade-off: more flexibility generally means slower execution. However, when we can move an image across a multi-colored background without disturbing that background, perhaps the trade-off isn't quite so bad.

The two principle components of moving an image across a complex background are the concept of transparency and the concept of preservation of background. Taken together, it is possible to move an image across a complex background without disturbing either it or the image.

## The Concept of Transparency

Transparency in an image is that part of the image that allows the background to show through (the way a window allows the outside to show through the wall). Transparency can be thought of as a "hole" in the image. So how can we put holes in images?

One way is to examine each pixel of the image as we plug it to the screen. If the pixel is to be transparent then don't put it on the screen, leaving the background alone. This method isn't all that fast but it's advantage is it saves the memory used by masks, which is the next method to talk about in making holes.

A mask is essentially a filter that allows certain areas of an image to be treated as transparent. It is combined with the image itself using the AND function. You then use the OR function to add the image to the background. ORing requires the transparent colors to be set to 0, otherwise the process will change the colors that are to shine through the transparent areas. The AND function gives us the ability to turn the transparent colors to 0.

The steps for putting the image into a background using a mask are:

- 1) Punch a hole in the background where the image will go. Doing this insures the bits in the image aren't influenced by the bits in the background.
- 2) Combine the image and mask to create a bit image with 0's in the places where the image is considered transparent. This way the bits in the background aren't influenced by the transparent bits in the image.
- 3) Add the combined image and mask data to the background using the OR function.

That's it. Here is a simple code fragment that shows the above steps.

```
lda    mask      ;step 1: punch hole in background
eor    #$ffff
and    background
sta    temp
lda    image     ;step 2: combine image and mask
and    mask
ora    temp      ;step 3: add image and mask to b
sta    background
```

To punch a hole in the background (that is, set to 0 all the areas in which the image will go), you need a "negative" of the mask: you are cutting a hole in the

background where the image will be but you want to leave the background alone where the transparent areas in the image are. This is the exact opposite of how you want the mask to be applied to the image. So you create a negative of the mask by Exclusive ORing it with a pattern with all bits set to 1 (i.e., \$fff). You then AND the negative mask with the background and save the result off.

Combining the normal mask with the image will insure that all areas that are transparent are set to 0's.

To add the masked image to the background, take the masked image and OR it into the cut out background then store the result back in the background picture. All the 0 parts of the image will contain the background and all the 1 parts of the background will contain the image. Neat!

As a faster alternative, if the image already has 0's where you want the transparency to be, pre-inverse (or make negative before using) the mask then use the following code fragment:

```
lda    background
and    mask
ora    image
sta    background
```

This is much shorter and definitely quicker because there are fewer steps being taken. The only drawback to this approach is that color 0 (which is represented by a nybble with all 0's in it) can never be used in the images except as a transparent color. Sometimes this can be a serious drawback, but usually it isn't much of a problem.

To get around the problem of losing the use of color 0 as a color, the following technique can be used (the mask is not made negative but is normal for the image):

```
lda    image
eor    background
and    mask
eor    background
sta    background
```

Not much longer than the previous method and though it's a little slower, it is more flexible. The new PLOT\_IMAGE routine uses this technique. The advantage of this method is when you make the mask for the

image, you can say that any color of the mask is transparent. So if you create an image using color 6 as the transparent color (for whatever reason) you can create a mask that makes color 6 transparent and the above code will work quite nicely.

And that is how to use a mask to create a transparent color in an image.

## The Concept of Preserving Background

Now, you may have been wondering how it is possible to erase the image once it has been added to the background using masks and ORing. That's a very good question. There are a couple of techniques that can be used. One is to keep a virgin copy of the background picture somewhere safe and whenever you need to erase something from the background being used, you copy from the virgin background those areas needing restoring. The advantage of this is it is faster than the next technique I'm going to describe. The disadvantage is it uses more memory—a lot more memory.

Another technique, and the one in use in the example program, is to preserve only enough background where the image will go before plotting the image. Then all you have to do is copy that buffered piece of background back from where you got it and the image will be erased. This way you only need to save and restore a rectangle the same size as the image being plotted which can save memory (over buffering the entire background), especially if you only have a few objects to deal with. However, it does add a step to the whole process of animation which can slow things down.

A third technique which is generally not very useful for most animation chores these days is the use of Exclusive OR. This technique provides a way of plotting an image with transparent areas of color 0 and removing that image from the background without needing to buffer the background. Exclusive OR is a function that will toggle bits on and off. If you do the same EOR process twice in a row with the same data, the image will be erased and the background restored to normal. This is very fast technique with only one serious disadvantage: the colors in the image and background tend to combine in really weird ways. However, EOR can be used for interesting effects or in areas where the background is mono-colored and color conflict won't arise.



## How To Use Transparency and Buffered Background Without Flicker

Okay, to bring the whole process of transparency and buffering together, here is a simple algorithm for animation:

- 1) buffer (save) background where image will go
- 2) draw image into the background using a mask
- 3) erase the image by copying the buffered background on top of image
- 4) move the image
- 5) repeat steps 1 to 4.

There is only one problem with the above: it takes time to buffer and move an object and you will notice that there are moving and buffering steps between the erase and draw procedures. This means that the erase procedure will cause flicker because the time taken for the move and buffer procedures causes the eye to see the erasing process. How to cope with this?

We need a way of erasing and redrawing that isn't visible to the user... specifically, a way of drawing and erasing on an invisible screen while another is visible then with the flip of a switch show the new screen while drawing and erasing on the first screen, which is now invisible. Back and forth, back and forth, always working on the invisible screen. Because the eye would never see the erasing of the image, there would be no flicker. This technique is called page-flipping and we can't do it in super hires on the IIGs.

However, there is a way to sort of page-flip. This technique takes advantage of a hardware feature of the IIGs called *shadowing*. By using shadowing, a byte put in one area of memory will automatically be copied or shadowed to another area of memory. The super hires screen at address \$e12000 is where the video circuitry gets the information to display the screen on the video monitor. The memory at \$012000 is shadowed onto the memory at \$e12000 but isn't directly connected to the video circuitry. When you write a byte to the memory starting at \$012000 with shadowing turned on, it will automatically be copied to a corresponding point in the memory at \$e12000. Since it is possible to turn off this shadowing function, you can write to the memory at \$012000 and not have it show up at \$e12000. This gives us the invisible screen to draw and erase on.

Now, just by turning on shadowing doesn't cause the

shires screen at \$012000 to magically appear at \$e12000. Only when data is written to \$012000 while the shadowing is on will it appear at \$e12000. So a simple solution is to just read from the memory at \$012000 and immediately write it back to the same point. Do this with the shadowing turned on and the image is made visible.

This is a lot slower than true page-flipping where you would simply hit a switch and the hardware would instantly start showing the second page. However, shadowing does provide a means of doing complex, flicker-free animation at a reasonable speed. One nice thing about shadowing is we take advantage of the higher memory speed in the shadowed memory (the memory at \$e12000 always runs at 1MHz while the shadowed memory runs at over twice that speed).

So the steps for flicker-free animation with shadowing are:

- 1) turn shadowing off
- 2) buffer background from the shadowed screen where image will go
- 3) draw image into the background on the shadowed screen using a mask
- 4) turn shadowing on
- 5) copy the portion of the shadowed screen where the image is to itself
- 6) turn shadowing off
- 7) erase the image by copying the buffered background back to the shadowed screen
- 8) move the image
- 9) repeat steps 2 to 8.

True, this is more complex than the previous method, but it opens up the door to bunches and bunches of complex animation.

## Updating the Experimental Program

Here is a list of changes to the program printed last time which will add support for masks and shadowing.

- 1) Make the changes indicated in listing one. The lines to change are marked; the additional lines are there to position the changes correctly.
- 2) Enter the new routines given in listing two.
- 3) Enter the mask and buffer data in listing three.

4) Finally, replace the old PLOT\_IMAGE routine with the one in listing four.

Don't forget to create a new macro file for the finished source code.

## In Conclusion

Animation is a complex process on a computer, even in its simplest form. However, with perseverance and experimentation, you too can create Illusions of Motion.

## Things To Experiment With

1) In Plot\_Setup, comment out the line "moveword #01;shires\_adrs+2" to see the action without the effects of shadowing. That is flicker. (Note, the program supplied on disk has different instructions for showing flicker. See the comments in the source code at the beginning of the program.)

2) Rewrite the heart of the Plot\_Image code to use the plotting idea of:

```
lda    background
and    mask
ora    image
sta    background
```

Note that the masks will have to be inversed by hand (change all O's to F's and all F's to O's).

3) The Show\_Image routine can be optimized a bit by eliminating the addition to screen\_ptr at the end of the loop. See if you can work it out.

4) For the ambitious types, this program still won't work properly with velocities greater than 2. See if you can figure out where the problem lies (hint, the problem is in only one routine).

There are always different ways to apply the techniques I've described. The program code I wrote for this series isn't optimized for high speed animation. In fact, there are techniques I haven't described that are even faster than those given here. However, I have striven for ease of understanding over speed of execution (*Editor: for now*). The code I gave here is quite good for many animation projects, however. Feel free to play with it, change it, use it as is. I am by no means the only person

with knowledge of computer animation — I'm always learning something new about it!

### Listing one:

In the following source code fragments, add the lines marked with a + at the end. Some of the routines have been truncated. This is indicated by ".....". (*Editor: Steve has reprinted some portions of the original animation engine here for continuity. You only need to add those lines marked with a '+'*).

```
                dum    $00
deref_ptr ds    4
rowadrs_table ds 4
screen_ptr ds   4
image_ptr ds    4
mask_ptr ds     4          +
buffer_ptr ds   4          +
                dend
```

```
image_height ds MAXIMAGES*2
image_width ds MAXIMAGES*2
image_bytewidth ds MAXIMAGES*2
image_adrs ds   MAXIMAGES*4
mask_adrs ds    MAXIMAGES*4    +
buffer_adrs ds  MAXIMAGES*4    +
```

```
Animate  jsr    init_images
         jsr    init_boundaries
         jsr    shadowon          +
         jsr    make_an_image    +
         jsr    shadowoff        +
:1       jsr    draw_images
         jsr    show_images      +
         jsr    erase_images     +
         jsr    move_images
         lda    #1
         jsr    pause_a_moment
         jsr    read_key
         bcc   :1
         rts
```

```
draw_images stz image_index
```

.....

```
lda    image_adrs,y
sta    image_ptr
```

```

lda  image_adrs+2,y
sta  image_ptr+2
lda  mask_adrs,y      +
sta  mask_ptr        +
lda  mask_adrs+2,y   +
sta  mask_ptr+2      +
lda  buffer_adrs,y   +
sta  buffer_ptr      +
lda  buffer_adrs+2,y +
sta  buffer_ptr+2    +
jsr  buffer_image    +
jsr  plot_image
inc  image_index
lda  image_index
cmp  number_of_images
bcc  :1
rts

```

```
init_images ldx #0
```

```
.....
```

```

lda  def_image,y
sta  image_adrs,y
lda  def_image+2,y
sta  image_adrs+2,y
lda  def_mask,y      +
sta  mask_adrs,y     +
lda  def_mask+2,y    +
sta  mask_adrs+2,y   +
lda  def_buffer,y    +
sta  buffer_adrs,y   +
lda  def_buffer+2,y  +
sta  buffer_adrs+2,y +
inx
inx
cpx  #MAXIMAGES*2
bcc  :1
txa
lsr
sta  number_of_images
rts

```

```

def_height da 15,15
def_image adrl basic_image_1,basic_image_2
def_mask adrl basic_mask_1,basic_mask_2  +
def_buffer adrl buffer1,buffer2          +

```

```

plot_setup ~GetPortLoc #shireslocinfo
~GetAddress #1
pulllong rowadrs_table
moveword #$01;shires_adrs+2  +
rts

```

```
dostartup .....
```

```

~QDStartUp tool_dpage;#$00;#0;ProgramID
bcs  :x
lda  tool_dpage
clc
adc  #$300
sta  tool_dpage

```

```

* Allocate shadow screen memory for our use.  +
~NewHandle #32768;PrivateID;#$c013;#$012000 +
pla                                           +
pla                                           +
bcs  :x
jsr  plot_setup

```

### Listing two:

Add these entire routines to the code.

\* Disable shadowing of the shadow screen.

```
shadow_register = $e0c035
```

```

ShadowOff ldal shadow_register
ora  #%1000
stal shadow_register
rts

```

\* Enable shadowing of the shadow screen.

```

ShadowOn ldal shadow_register
and  #%1111_1111_1111_0111
stal shadow_register
rts

```

```
* _____
```

\* Draws a multi-color background picture on the shadow

\* screen on which to move the images.

```

make_an_image ~GetPortLoc #savelocinfo
~SetPortLoc #shireslocinfo
stz  mai_loop_index
:1  lda  mai_loop_index
asl
tax
phx
~SetSolidPenPat rect_color,x
pla
asl
asl

```

```

clc
adc    #<rectangles
tax
lda    #^rectangles
adc    #0
pha
phx
_PaintRect
inc    mai_loop_index
lda    mai_loop_index
cmp    #6
bcc    :1
~SetPortLoc #savelocinfo
rts

```

```
mai_loop_index ds 2
```

```

rect_color da 2,6,6,8,12,7
rectangles da 0,0,200,320
           da 10,10,100,100
           da 10,220,100,310
           da 130,20,180,300
           da 80,140,120,180
           da 178,260,190,270

```

\* Used to save original port locinfo

```
savelocinfo ds 16
```

\* Copy the regions in which the images were drawn  
 \* themselves with shadowing turned on. This causes  
 \* images to become visible on the shires screen.

```

show_images stz image_index
:1      lda    image_index
        asl
        tax
        asl
        tay
        lda    image_bytewidth,x
        sta    plot_bytewidth
        lda    image_height,x
        sta    plot_height
        lda    xposition,x
        sta    plot_xpos
        lda    yposition,x
        sta    plot_ypos
        jsr    show_image
        inc    image_index
        lda    image_index
        cmp    number_of_images
        bcc    :1
        rts

```

\* Erase images on the shadow screen by copying th  
 \* contents of the buffers which hold the bkground  
 \* under the image. This loop must be reverse of  
 \* drawing loop else overlapping images wouldn't b  
 \* properly erased.

```

erase_images lda number_of_images
            beq    :x          ;nothing to show
            dec
            sta    image_index
:1          lda    image_index
            asl
            tax
            asl
            tay
            lda    image_bytewidth,x
            sta    plot_bytewidth
            lda    image_height,x
            sta    plot_height
            lda    xposition,x
            sta    plot_xpos
            lda    yposition,x
            sta    plot_ypos
            lda    buffer_adrs,y
            sta    buffer_ptr
            lda    buffer_adrs+2,y
            sta    buffer_ptr+2
            jsr    erase_image
            dec    image_index
            bpl    :1
:x          rts

```

\* Buffer background under image in preparation of  
 \* drawing image. Buffered background is used to  
 \* erase the image later on.

```

buffer_image lda plot_ypos
            asl                ;Y -> index
            tay
            lda    plot_xpos
            lsr                ;pixels to bytes
            clc
            adc    [rowadrs_table],y
            sta    screen_ptr
            lda    shires_adrs+2
            sta    screen_ptr+2
            ldx    plot_height
:row_loop ldy    #0
:byte_loop lda [screen_ptr],y
            sta [buffer_ptr],y
            iny
            iny
            cpy    plot_bytewidth
            bcc    :byte_loop
            lda    buffer_ptr
            clc
            adc    plot_bytewidth

```

```

        sta  buffer_ptr
        bcc  :1
        inc  buffer_ptr+2
:1      lda  screen_ptr
        clc
        adc  shires_byte_width
        sta  screen_ptr
        dex
        bne  :row_loop
        rts

```

\* Copy a rectangle of shadow screen to itself with  
 \* shadowing turned on. This causes the region  
 where  
 \* image was drawn to become visible on the screen.

```

show_image jsr shadowon
          lda  plot_ypos
          asl           ;Y -> index
          tay
          lda  plot_xpos
          lsr           ;pixels to bytes
          clc
          adc  [rowadrs_table],y
          sta  screen_ptr
          lda  shires_adrs+2
          sta  screen_ptr+2
          ldx  plot_height
:row_loop ldy  #0
:byte_loop lda [screen_ptr],y
          sta  [screen_ptr],y
          iny
          iny
          cpy  plot_bytewidth
          bcc  :byte_loop
          lda  screen_ptr
          clc
          adc  shires_byte_width
          sta  screen_ptr
          dex
          bne  :row_loop
          jsr  shadowoff
          rts

```

\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \* Erase an image from shadow screen by copying the  
 \* contents of a buffer onto it. The buffer holds  
 \* background under the image.

```

erase_image lda plot_ypos
          asl           ;Y -> index
          tay
          lda  plot_xpos
          lsr           ;pixels to bytes
          clc

```

```

          adc  [rowadrs_table],y
          sta  screen_ptr
          lda  shires_adrs+2
          sta  screen_ptr+2
          ldx  plot_height
:row_loop ldy  #0
:byte_loop lda [buffer_ptr],y
          sta  [screen_ptr],y
          iny
          iny
          cpy  plot_bytewidth
          bcc  :byte_loop
          lda  buffer_ptr
          clc
          adc  plot_bytewidth
          sta  buffer_ptr
          bcc  :1
          inc  buffer_ptr+2
:1      lda  screen_ptr
          clc
          adc  shires_byte_width
          sta  screen_ptr
          dex
          bne  :row_loop
          rts

```

### Listing three:

Add these masks and buffers to the end of the program.

```

basic_mask_1 hex 0000000000000000 ;16 0's
             hex 0000000000000000
             hex 000fffffffffff00
             hex 00fffffffffffff0
             hex 00ffff00fffff0
             hex 00ffff00000fff0
             hex 00ff0000000fff0
             hex 00fff000000fff0
             hex 00fff000000fff0
             hex 00ffff00fffff0
             hex 00ffff00fffff0
             hex 00ffff00fffff0
             hex 000ffff00fffff0
             hex 000ffff00fffff0
             hex 0000000000000000
             hex 0000000000000000

```

```

basic_mask_2 hex 0000000000000000
             hex 0000000000000000
             hex 0000000fff000000
             hex 000000ffff000000
             hex 00000fffff00000
             hex 0000fffff00000

```

```

hex 000fffffffff000
hex 00fffffffffff00
hex 000fffffffff000
hex 0000fffffffff0000
hex 00000ffffffff00000
hex 000000ffff000000
hex 0000000ff0000000
hex 0000000000000000
hex 0000000000000000

```

\* Enough buffer space for each image above

```

buffer1 ds 8*15
buffer2 ds 8*15

```

#### Listing four:

Replace the old plot\_image routine with this one.

```

plot_image lda plot_ypos
          asl          ;Y -> index
          tay
          lda plot_xpos
          lsr          ;pixels to bytes
          clc
          adc [rowadrs_table],y
          sta screen_ptr
          lda shires_adrs+2
          sta screen_ptr+2
          ldx plot_height
:row_loop ldy #0
:byte_loop lda [image_ptr],y

```

```

eor [screen_ptr],y
and [mask_ptr],y
eor [screen_ptr],y
sta [screen_ptr],y
iny
iny
cpy plot_bytewidth
bcc :byte_loop
lda image_ptr
clc
adc plot_bytewidth
sta image_ptr
bcc :1
inc image_ptr+2

:1 lda mask_ptr
   clc
   adc plot_bytewidth
   sta mask_ptr
   bcc :2

inc mask_ptr+2
:2 lda screen_ptr
   clc
   adc shires_byte_width
   sta screen_ptr
   dex
   bne :row_loop
   rts

```

Basically Applesoft

# Parms Away: Passing Parameters to Subroutines

by Robert Stong

In some high level computer languages, such as FORTRAN and Pascal, there is a technique known as passing parameters to a subroutine. This technique makes subroutines a much more powerful tool.

As an illustration, you can write a general subroutine which sorts an array X consisting of N elements. Then, in your program, with parameter passing, you can sort an array A with B elements by specifying that X is to be A and N

is to be B. Without parameter passing available, one must either write the routine using the variables A and B or must

move the contents of the array A to the array X so they can be sorted. The lack of passing ability makes the subroutine much less convenient.

Fortunately, Applesoft BASIC has a nice feature that will let you pass parameters to a subroutine. Many writers describe this feature as a flaw. The point is that

Applesoft BASIC will let you use long variable names, but only uses the first two letters of the name to identify the variable.

The way to use this feature is to write your subroutine using long variable names. When you are ready to use the routine with given parameters, it is only necessary to change the first two letters of each variable name. This can be accomplished quite simply by using a small machine language routine that recognizes long variable names and resets their first two letters. Effectively, the machine language routine is rewriting your subroutine using the variable names you have specified in your parameter list. Because the subroutine uses long names, variables can be identified by the last letters of their names, and the process can be repeated with other parameters.

To illustrate this method, I am including a demonstration program which has two subroutines. One subroutine creates a general menu from which the user selects options. The other subroutine forms the product of two matrices. These are quite typical general subroutines. The demonstration makes repeated use of these routines with different parameters.

## Entering the program

If you have an assembler, enter the source code in Listing 1 and save the assembled object code as PARAMS. If you don't have an assembler, use the hex codes from Listing 2 and save the file with the command

```
BSAVE PARAMS, A$6000, L$E2
```

Enter the Applesoft program in Listing 3 and save it with the command

```
SAVE PAR.DEMO
```

## Using Params with your programs

Obviously, if you want to use this machine language routine to do parameter passing in your own program, you need to know some details about it.

PARAMS is completely relocatable. I chose to assemble it at location \$6000, but it can be loaded and run at any location. It does use memory at location \$300 as workspace for manipulating variable names. If you are

using page 3 for other purposes, you will want to change the location of TABLE (or change the hex 03's in locations \$602A, \$60A7, \$60B2, and \$60B8 to some other value, such as 61).

To use PARAMS, you write your Applesoft subroutine just as you always do except that any variable name you wish to use as a parameter must have at least three characters.

PARAMS ignores the first two characters and resets them based on your parameter list. All characters past the first two are used as identifying information.

The instruction to invoke PARAMS has the format

```
CALL address, line number, line number,
variable names.
```

The address is the load address of PARAMS (24576 if one uses \$6000). The two line numbers are the first and last lines in which variable names will be changed. The list of variable names, separated by commas, are the new names desired within the line range. The order in which the names are listed is irrelevant, and you need only list a name if you want to change it.

Variable names for PARAMS must include the array and type identification. Thus ABXX, ABXX%, ABXX\$, ABXX(, ABXX%()), and ABXX\$( ) are all treated as different variables: real, integer, string, and arrays of these. If ABXX occurs in the variable list, PARAMS will change all four-letter real variable names ending in XX to ABXX in the chosen line range.

PARAMS will not change anything occurring after REM, within quotation marks, or in a DATA statement.

PARAMS will change Applesoft function names. In the expression FN ABC(X), Applesoft uses exactly the same rules for identification as if ABC( ) was an array of real variables. (Standard functions are tokenized so will not change, but user defined functions can and will change.) If you don't want to change a function name, you must be sure its name does not end in the same letters as are being used for any real array parameter.

## WARNINGS

PARAMS accepts UV(), UV\$, and UV% as valid variable names with three characters. If these were used in a parameter list, PARAMS will change all two-letter real

arrays, integers, or strings to the given two-letter name. To avoid this, I would recommend always using names with at least four characters.

PARAMS does change the way in which your program is stored in memory. You should always be cautious when using such programs. Be sure to SAVE your program before you run it. (If you had a syntax error PARAMS might scramble your program.)

Using utilities which renumber an Applesoft program will probably not work with PARAMS. Most such utilities will not recognize the line numbers in the CALL statement. They would need to be changed manually.

### Another system...

In volume 6, number 11 of *Nibble*, there was a feature article by H. Cem Kaner and John R. Vokey entitled "Subroutine Master". They provided an elaborate parameter passing system which was based on modification of the names stored in Applesoft variable space. The article included a discussion of many points to consider in such a system and the complications which arise.

While their system had some nice features that are not available with this method (named subroutines and local variables), I think you will find this system to be utterly simple. It avoids many of the complications.

### Listing 1: PARAMS Poker

```

10 FOR X = 0 TO 226
20 READ ML
30 POKE 8192 + X,ML
40 PRINT CHR$(4)"BSAVE PARAMS.OBJ,A8192,L226"
99 END
10000 DATA 32, 190, 222, 32, 12, 218, 32, 26,
214, 165
10010 DATA 155, 133, 6, 165, 156, 133, 7, 32,
190, 222
10020 DATA 32, 12, 218, 230, 80, 144, 2, 230,
81, 32
10030 DATA 26, 214, 32, 190, 222, 162, 0, 32,
183, 0
10040 DATA 157, 0, 3, 32, 177, 0, 240, 7, 201,
44
10050 DATA 240, 3, 232, 208, 241, 134, 25, 224,
2, 176
10060 DATA 3, 76, 201, 222, 165, 6, 133, 8,

```

```

165, 7
10070 DATA 133, 9, 160, 3, 200, 177, 8, 208, 26
160
10080 DATA 0, 177, 8, 170, 200, 177, 8, 133, 9,
134
10090 DATA 8, 197, 156, 208, 233, 228, 155, 208
229, 32
10100 DATA 183, 0, 208, 184, 96, 201, 178, 240,
226, 201
10110 DATA 131, 208, 11, 200, 177, 8, 240, 217,
201, 58
10120 DATA 208, 247, 240, 206, 201, 34, 208, 11
200, 177
10130 DATA 8, 240, 202, 201, 34, 208, 247, 240,
191, 201
10140 DATA 65, 144, 187, 201, 91, 176, 183, 162
0, 200
10150 DATA 177, 8, 201, 91, 144, 35, 228, 25,
208, 171
10160 DATA 132, 26, 136, 177, 8, 221, 0, 3, 208
17
10170 DATA 202, 224, 1, 208, 243, 136, 173, 1,
3,
145
10180 DATA 8, 136, 173, 0, 3, 145, 8, 164, 26,
208
10190 DATA 140, 201, 65, 144, 3, 232, 208, 207,
201, 58
10200 DATA 176, 210, 201, 48, 176, 245, 201, 36
240, 4
10210 DATA 201, 37, 208, 4, 232, 200, 177, 8,
201, 40
10220 DATA 208, 190, 232, 200, 208, 186, 173

```

### Listing 2: PARAMS Demo

```

100 PRINT CHR$(4);"BLOAD PARAMS"
110 DIM MA$(3),CO$(5),AA(5,5),BB(5,5),CC(5,5)
120 READ MT$: FOR I = 1 TO 3: READ MA$(I): NEXT
:MN = 3
130 READ CT$: FOR I = 1 TO 5: READ CO$(I): NEXT
:CN = 5
140 CALL 24576,500,555,MTT$,MNRR,MAXX$(,MSSS:
GOSUB 500
150 ON MS GOTO 160,210,400
160 CALL 24576,500,555,CTT$,CNRR,COXX$(,CSSS:
GOSUB 500
170 GR : HOME : COLOR= CS
180 FOR I = 0 TO 39: HLINE 0,39 AT I: NEXT
190 VTAB 22: PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY";: GET AS
200 GOTO 140
210 TEXT : HOME : HTAB 15: PRINT "MATRIX DEMO"
220 VTAB 3: HTAB 5: PRINT "This program will
compute the": PRINT "powers of the matrix:"

```



```

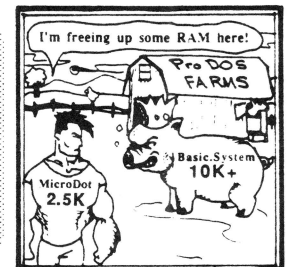
230 PRINT : HTAB 16: PRINT "/"; HTAB 24: PRINT
"\ "
240 FOR I = 1 TO 5: HTAB 16: PRINT "|"; HTAB 24:
PRINT "|": NEXT
250 HTAB 16: PRINT "\"; HTAB 24: PRINT "/"
260 FOR I = 1 TO 3: FOR J = 1 TO 3: AA(I,J) = (J >
= I): VTAB 5 + 2 * I: HTAB 16 + 2 * J: PRINT
AA(I,J): NEXT : NEXT
270 VTAB 14: PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY TO BEGIN ";:
GET A$:T3 = 3:P = 1
280 HTAB 1: CALL - 868
290 VTAB 14: HTAB 10: PRINT "/"; HTAB 32: PRINT
"\ "
300 FOR I = 1 TO 5: HTAB 10: PRINT "|"; HTAB 32:
PRINT "|": NEXT
310 HTAB 10: PRINT "\"; HTAB 32: PRINT "/":
PRINT
320 VTAB 24: PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY TO STOP";: POKE
- 16368,0
330 CALL
24576,600,625,BBXX(,AAYY(,AAZZ(,T3MM,T3NN,T3PP:
GOSUB 600
340 FOR I = 1 TO 3: VTAB 13 + 2 * I: FOR J = 1 TO
3: HTAB 7 + 6 * J: PRINT BB(I,J);: NEXT : NEXT :P =
P + 1: VTAB 22: HTAB 19: PRINT P;"-th power": IF
PEEK ( - 16384) > 127 GOTO 380
350 CALL 24576,600,625,CCXX(,BBYY(: GOSUB 600
360 FOR I = 1 TO 3: VTAB 13 + 2 * I: FOR J = 1 TO
3: HTAB 7 + 6 * J: PRINT CC(I,J);: NEXT : NEXT :P =
P + 1: VTAB 22: HTAB 19: PRINT P;"-th power": IF
PEEK ( - 16384) > 127 GOTO 380
370 CALL 24576,600,625,BBXX(,CCYY(: GOSUB 600:
GOTO 340
380 POKE - 16368,0: VTAB 24: HTAB 1: PRINT
"PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE ";: GET A$
390 GOTO 140
400 TEXT : HOME : END
410 DATA "PARAMETER PASSING DEMO","COLORED
SCREEN","MATRICES","QUIT"
420 DATA "SCREEN
COLORS","MAGENTA","BLUE","VIOLET","GREEN","GRAY"
491 REM MENU ROUTINE
492 REM LINES 500-555
493 REM ENTER TTTT$=TITLE LINE
494 REM RRRR=# OF MENU ITEMS
495 REM XXXX$(=MENU ITEMS
496 REM SSSS=SELECTION MADE
497 REM LOCAL: H,I,X
500 TEXT : HOME : HTAB 21 - INT ( LEN (MTTT$) /
2): PRINT MTTT$
505 H = 3: FOR I = 1 TO MNRR: IF H < 3 + LEN
(MAXX$(I)) THEN H = 3 + LEN (MAXX$(I))
510 NEXT :H = 21 - INT (H / 2)
515 FOR I = 1 TO MNRR: VTAB 2 * I + 11 - MNRR:
HTAB H: PRINT I;" ";MAXX$(I): NEXT :I = 1
520 VTAB 22: PRINT "ARROWS OR NUMBER TO CHANGE"
PRINT "<RETURN> TO SELECT"
525 VTAB 2 * I + 11 - MNRR: HTAB H: INVERSE :
PRINT I;" ";MAXX$(I);: NORMAL : POKE - 16368,0
530 X = PEEK ( - 16384): IF X < 128 GOTO 530
535 POKE - 16368,0:X = X - 128
540 HTAB H: PRINT I;" ";MAXX$(I): IF X = 13 TH
MSSS = I: RETURN
545 IF 48 < X AND X < 49 + MNRR THEN I = X - 48
550 I = I + (X = 10) - (X = 11): IF I < 1 OR I >
MNRR THEN I = (I > MNRR) + MNRR * (I < 1)
555 GOTO 525
591 REM MATRIX MULTIPLICATION
592 REM LINES 600-625
593 REM ENTER XXXX (=PRODUCT
594 REM MMMMxPPPP=ITS SIZE
595 REM YYYY (=FIRST FACTOR
596 REM NNNN=ITS COLUMNS
597 REM ZZZZ (=SECOND FACTOR
598 REM LOCAL: I,J,K
600 FOR I = 1 TO T3MM: FOR J = 1 TO T3PP
605 CCXX(I,J) = 0
610 FOR K = 1 TO T3NN
615 CCXX(I,J) = CCXX(I,J) + BBYY(I,K) * AAZZ(K,J)
620 NEXT : NEXT : NEXT
625 RETURN

```

# MicroDot

just \$ 29.95  
plus \$2.50 S&H

The Logical  
Replacement  
for  
**BASIC.SYSTEM**



Just 2.5K in size, but more powerful than BASIC.SYSTEM. Imagine doing BASIC overlays simply by specifying the file name and the line number where you want to overlay. How about loading an array of directory names at machine language speed. You get this and total control over ProDOS that is impossible with BASIC.SYSTEM. Works with Program Writer (\$42.45. Both for \$59.95+ S&H). Love it or get your money back! Inexpensive publishers' licenses.

Free Catalog and Details

Dealer Inquiries Invited

Kitchen Sink Software, Inc  
903 Knebworth Ct. Dept. 8  
Westerville, OH 43081  
(614) 891-2111



# Making a List & Checking It Twice

by Steve Stephenson

So, you already know how to use the List Manager. Fine. I'd like to show you a few ways to extend your list power. In this article, I present two low-level 'hook' type routines that are designed to show you how to customize your lists. I've also thrown in a method to add a professional touch to your programs. This bag of tricks contains:

- \* A custom draw routine
- \* A custom compare routine
- \* A routine to detect double clicking

Note: These routines work equally well, whether you are using regular controls or the new extended controls.

## Drawing the Member

The List Manager will draw your list members for you, provided they contain nothing but text in either pString or cString format. For many lists, this is acceptable; however, if you want something a little fancier, you will need to provide a custom draw routine.

The procedure I use in CustomDraw consists of:

- 1) my standard opening;
- 2) an attempt to skip drawing if the member is clipped;
- 3) erasing and redrawing the member;
- 4) adding selection marking;
- 5) and my standard closing.

The attempt to skip drawing a member (step 2) is adapted from GS Tech Note #74. It is designed primarily for scrolling, when the List Manager tries to redraw all visible members. In reality, all members may not need to be redrawn. The rect of the member to be drawn is passed to the draw routine, and if no part of that rect lies within the clip rect, you may skip drawing that member. This speed up trick is not needed on a small list like this sample, but, a list that has a complex draw routine or a lot of members visible would benefit from it.

The heart of this drawing routine is the code that actually puts something on the screen. The subroutine, DrawMember, shows one way of putting out something other than plain text. For this example, I use a combination of an icon, a text string, and a column of numbers.

The trickiest part of putting an icon in the list is getting the bits in the displayMode word correct. Since the easiest way to show a selected (highlighted) member is to invert it, you must take both the normal and inverted image into consideration when you decide the mode for \_DrawIcon. With black and white icons, I have had the best success with a displayMode of \$0001 and the icon mask identical to the image. My example uses color and because of the way my mask and mode are setup, the inverted icon reverses all colors. My advice is to experiment with different combinations of masks and modes.

By the way, if you want to use larger icons, it's a simple matter of using a larger value for listMemHeight. While you're at it, there's no reason to prevent you from drawing multiple lines of text in the member, or using a different font, or anything else that feels right.

The only other thing worth mentioning in DrawMember is the method I use to get a column of numbers to line up. Since all numbers take the same width, it would seem that nothing special is needed to align them; however, the space character is narrower than numbers and if you use the Integer Math tool set, you will inevitably get numbers with leading spaces. The easiest way I've found to right-justify the column of digits is to make all characters temporarily the same width with \_SetFontFlags. Be sure to return to normal (proportional) afterward, or all following members will be drawn in this style. This brings up an important point: the List Manager does not save and restore any GrafPort stuff for you, so be careful what you change when you do your drawing.

The only thing needed to complete the custom drawing

is to display the member with the proper highlighting. While this could be done during the actual drawing phase, I chose to apply it afterward. Information about whether the member should be shown inverted, dimmed or normal is contained in the upper three bits of the memFlag byte (see the comments in the listing under the label DrawSelect).

### Sorting a List in Any Order

The `_SortList` call will arrange your list in ascending alphabetical order. As the List Manager knows nothing about what's in your data structure, it simply starts with the first byte and progresses through the data until it either reaches a difference or the end of the data. In fact, your only choice when using this feature is whether to use pStrings or cStrings (indicated in bit 0 of listType).

But with a custom compare routine, you can arrange your list in forward or reverse order using any part of a member's data. Don't be concerned with the sort algorithm that the List Manager uses; all you need to provide is a comparison routine that tells the List Manager which of two members you want to appear first. The List Manager passes you the pointers to the two members to compare and expects your decision to be returned in the carry flag. The List Manager then arranges the pointers in the array so they are in the order you want; when it comes time to draw the list, the draw routine is passed each pointer in turn from this array.

In the routine `CustomCompare`, I show a method of sorting on either of two fields in the data structure. After the standard opening, I convert (or dereference) the addresses that the List Manager passes into actual addresses of the member's data. Since I don't need the pointer that was passed after conversion, I recycle the direct page space by dereferencing it 'in place'.

The `CompareSize` routine simply indexes into the data structure and compares the integers. If they are different, the carry is set for the List Manager. If they are the same, I set it up to have the name field be the tie breaker.

The `CompareName` routine is fairly straightforward string manipulation. The only non-obvious part is the length checking at the top of the loop; this is done to ensure that when all of a short string matches the beginning of a longer string, the shorter string comes first.

Reversing the sort order is trivial: just flip-flop the state of the carry bit.

### The Double Click Short Cut

By convention, double clicking may be used as a short cut. When used with a list control, the short cut might typically be linked to a default button. For example, in the tool call `_SFGetFile`, double clicking one of the file names in the list would produce the same effect as single clicking followed by a click in the Open button. While double- (and triple-) click information is now returned in the extended TaskMaster record, introduced with System Disk 5.0, my code is useful if your application isn't able to use TaskMaster.

For a double click to exist, two consecutive clicks must happen within the specified time limit and be close enough in location to be considered in the same item.

Detecting a double click begins with a mouse down event in the window. After tracking the click and making sure it's a hit in the list, the routine `DoubleClick` takes over. As the user may change the double click interval at any time (via the control panel), I start off by getting the latest setting. I divide the X coordinate by the height of a list line to get the number of the line where the click happened. I calculate the interval time between this and the previous click by using the system tick count from the Event record. Now, armed with the time and location information, I can determine whether this is a good double click. The check against `ListCount` traps clicks in the empty part of the list when there are fewer members than the maximum that can be displayed.

After calling the short cut routine (which I leave up to you), I clear the previous click time (forcing an impossibly large interval) to prevent the very next click from successfully falling through the routine again.

```
*=====
* Some list support routines *
* * *
* Copyright 1990 by Ariel Publishing *
* and Steve Stephenson. Some rights reserved. *
*=====
use 1/tool.equates/e16.event
use 1/tool.equates/e16.window
```

```
WindowPtr ext ;owning window
```

```

Event      ext          ;event record

*=====
listView =    5          ;max # viewable
listMemHeight = 10      ;height of one
lTop      =    10      ;where to draw list

```

```

ListRecord
:top      dw    lTop
:left     dw    10
:btm     dw    listView*listMemHeight+2+lTop
:rt      dw    300
ListCount
dw    3          ;total # in list
dw    listView  ;# viewable
dw    %10       ;pString, single
dw    1         ;start @ #1
adrl 0         ;list ctl handle
adrl CustomDraw ;draw routine
dw    listMemHeight ;member height
dw    5         ;ptr array size
adrl ListPointers ;ptr array
adrl 777       ;refcon
adrl 0         ;color

```

```

*=====
* Uses speedup routine from GS Tech Note #74
CustomDraw
    phb          ;save B
    phk          ;reset B
    plb
    phd          ;save D
    tsc          ;reset D
    tcd

```

```

* what the dpage-in-stack looks like:
    dum 1        ;stk ptr
:d     ds 2      ;saved D
:b     ds 1      ;saved B
:rtl   ds 3      ;caller's rtn addr
clip:rect      ;ptr to clip Rect
theEntry      ;addr or item data
clipHandle    ;Clip Rgn handle
listHandle adrl 0 ;ctl handle
memberPtr adrl 0 ;ptr to item
rectPtr adrl 0  ;ptr to item's Rect
    dend

```

```

~GetClipHandle ;to clip region
PullLong clipHandle

```

```

ldy #2          ;deref handle
lda [clipHandle],y
tax
lda [clipHandle]
sta clip:rect
stx clip:rect+2

```

```

* is this member's top below clip bottom?
    lda [rectPtr]
    dec
    ldy #region+bottom
    cmp [clip:rect],y
    bcs NoDraw ; yes, not visible

```

```

* is this member's bottom above clip top?
    ldy #bottom
    lda [rectPtr],y
    inc
    ldy #region+top
    cmp [clip:rect],y
    bcc NoDraw ; yes, not visible

```

```

~EraseRect rectPtr ;visible, clr old

```

```

lda [memberPtr] ;deref the data
sta theEntry
ldy #2
lda [memberPtr],y
sta theEntry+2

```

```

ldy #left ;get Rect lt & btm
lda [rectPtr],y
sta memberRectLeft
iny
iny
lda [rectPtr],y ;btm
sta memberRectBtm

```

```

jsr DrawMember

```

```

DrawSelect

```

```

* now fix it's selected appearance (as req)
    ldy #4
    lda [memberPtr],y ;selected byte
    and #%1110_0000 ;only valid bits:
* xxx0_0000 List Mgr's selection bits
* |||____1=inactive (dimmed, can't select)
* ||____1=disabled (dimmed, selectable)
* |____1=selected (inverted, if enabled)
* 000 = active & enabled, but not selected
    beq DrawDone ;leave normal
* 100 = active & enabled, and selected?
    cmp #%1000_0000
    bne DrawDim ; no, then dim it
~InvertRect rectPtr ;yes, highlight
bra DrawDone

```

```

* 110, 010, 001, 011 = dim
DrawDim

```

```

~SetPenMask #DimMask
~EraseRect rectPtr
~SetPenMask #NormMask

```

```

NoDraw

```

```

DrawDone
    pld                ;restore D
* pull B & the RTL addr off temporarily
    plx                ; B & rtl bnk
    ply                ; rtl addr
* pop the stuff that was passed to us
    pla                ; (listHandle)
    pla
    pla                ; (memberPtr)
    pla
    pla                ; (rectPtr)
    pla
* now put the B & RTL addr back onto stk
    phy                ; rtl addr
    phx                ; rtl bnk & B
* and exit to caller
    plb                ;restore B
    rtl                ;back to List Mgr

```

```

memberRectLeft dw 0
memberRectBtm dw 0
DimMask hex 55,AA,55,AA,55,AA,55,AA
NormMask hex FF,FF,FF,FF,FF,FF,FF,FF

```

```

*=====
* Completely (re)draw this member/item
DrawMember
    pea #^Icons        ;icon addr bank
    lda [theEntry]     ;first is icon #
    asl
    tax                ;make index
    lda Icons,x        ;lookup icon addr
    pha
    pea %0000_1111_0000_0000 ;mode
    lda memberRectLeft
    clc
    adc #4             ;move in some
    pha
    lda memberRectBtm
    sec                ;center icon
    sbc #8+1
    pha
    _DrawIcon

    lda #34            ;tab over for text
    jsr TabTo

    lda theEntry+2
    pha
    lda theEntry
    clc
    adc #4             ;offset to string
    pha
    _DrawString

    ldy #2             ;offset to size

```

```

    lda [theEntry],y
    pha                ;the integer
    pushlong #sizeStr+1 ;result str
    pushword #5        ;max 5 digits
    pushword #0        ;unsigned
    _Int2Dec           ;convert to ascii

    lda #180           ;move to size col
    jsr TabTo
    ~SetFontFlags #2 ;set tabular mode
    ~DrawString #sizeStr
    ~SetFontFlags #0 ;reset proportional

    rts

sizeStr str '00000k'

```

```

*=====
* Move pen to draw text. Pass offset in Acc.
TabTo
    clc                ;total from left
    adc memberRectLeft
    pha
    lda memberRectBtm
    dec                ;move up 2 for
    dec                ; font base line
    pha
    _MoveTo
    rts

```

```

*=====
Icons
    da Disk:ram
    da Disk:hard
    da Disk:90mm

```

```

*-----
Disk:ram
    dw $8000           ;color
    dw 8*12/2         ;size of icon
    dw 8               ;# lines down
    dw 12              ;# nibbles accross
    hex ffff0000000f
    hex ff00bbbbbb0f
    hex f0b0b0b0b00f
    hex f0bbbbbbbb0f
    hex f0b0b0b0b00f
    hex f0bbbbbbbb0f
    hex f0000066660f
    hex ffffffff66660f

:mask
    hex ffffffff
    hex ffffffff
    hex ffffffff
    hex ffffffff
    hex ffffffff
    hex ffffffff

```

```

hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
*-----
Disk:hard
dw $8000 ;color
dw 8*12/2
dw 8
dw 12
hex ffffffff
hex ff00000000ff
hex f0333333330f
hex f03333334430f
hex f0333333330f
hex f0333333330f
hex ff00000000ff
hex ffffffff

:mask
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff

*-----
Disk:90mm
dw $8000 ;color
dw 8*12/2
dw 8
dw 12
hex fff0000000ff
hex ff0f0fff0f0f
hex ff0f0fff0f0f
hex ff0f00000f0f
hex ff0ffff0f0f
hex ff0ff0000f0f
hex ff00f0330f0f
hex fff0000000ff

:mask
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff
hex ffffffff

*=====
CustomCompare
phb ;save B
phk ;reset B
plb
phd ;save D
tsc ;reset D
tcd

```

```

* what the dpage-in-stack looks like:
dum 1 ;stk ptr
:d ds 2 ;saved D
:b ds 1 ;saved B
:rtl ds 3 ;caller's rtn addr
memberA adrl 0 ;ptr to A
memberB adrl 0 ;ptr to B
dend

ldy #2 ;deref ptr
lda [memberA] ; to addr
tax
lda [memberA],y
sta memberA+2,s
txa
sta memberA,s
lda [memberB]
tax
lda [memberB],y
sta memberB+2,s
txa
sta memberB,s

lda CompareMethod ;which?
bne CompareName

*-----
CompareSize
ldy #2 ;compare sizes
lda [memberA],y
cmp [memberB],y
bne CompareDone ;if sizes same,
;then use name

*-----
CompareName
shortax
ldy #4 ;get str lengths
lda [memberA],y
sta lenA
lda [memberB],y
sta lenB

:loop
tya
sec
sbc #4
iny
cmp lenB ;shorter first
beq :sec
cmp lenA
beq :clc
lda [memberA],y
cmp [memberB],y
beq :loop ;next char
bra :done

:sec
sec ;B first
bra :done

```

```

:clc      clc                ;A first
:done     longax

CompareDone
    pld                    ;restore D
* pull B & the RTL addr off temporarily
    plx                    ; B & rtl bnk
    ply                    ; rtl addr
* pop the stuff that was passed to us
    pla                    ; (memberA)
    pla
    pla                    ; (memberB)
    pla
* now put the B & RTL addr back onto stk
    phy                    ; rtl addr
    phx                    ; rtl bnk & B
* and exit to caller
    plb                    ;restore B
    rtl                    ;back to List Mgr

```

```

lenA      dw      0
lenB      dw      0
CompareMethod dw 0

```

```

*=====
inContent ent

```

```

    pha                    ;spc
    pushlong #theControl
    pushlong Event+owhere
    pushlong WindowPtr
    _FindControl
    pla                    ;part hit
    bne TrackIt

```

```

noHit                    ;none
    rts

```

```

TrackIt

```

```

    pha                    ;spc
    pushlong Event+owhere
    pushlong #-1          ;use action procs
    pushlong theControl
    _TrackControl
    pla                    ;in same part?
    beq noHit            ; no, strayed

```

```

AfterTrack

```

```

    ~GetCtlRefCon theControl
    pla                    ;item number
    ply                    ;throw away

    cmp #777             ;in the list?
    bne noHit

```

```

*-----
DoubleClick

```

```

    ~GetDblTime          ;get interval
    pullong DblTime

```

```

    lda Event+owhere+2
    sta thePoint+2
    lda Event+owhere
    sta thePoint

~GlobalToLocal #thePoint
    ldx #0
    lda thePoint
    clc
    sbc ListRecord+top
    bmi :gotit
:divide sbc #listMemHeight
    bcc :gotit
    inx
    bra :divide

:gotit
    stx currline

    lda Event+owhen ;current 'when'
    tax
    sec
    sbc prevtime    ; - previous 'when'
    sta interval   ; = time between
    lda Event+owhen+2
    tay
    sbc prevtime+2
    sta interval+2

    stx prevtime   ;reset for
    sty prevtime+2 ; next time

    ldx currline  ;in the same line?
    cpx prevline
    stx prevline
    bne Done      ; nope.

    cpx ListCount ;in range?
    bcs Done      ; nope.

    lda DblTime   ;quick enough?
    sec
    sbc interval
    lda DblTime+2
    sbc interval+2
    bcc Done      ; nope.

    jsr DoItem
    stz prevtime  ;prevent response
    stz prevtime+2 ; to triple click
    bra Done

```

```

DoItem

```

```

* ...insert your 'short cut' routine here
* (to be called on double-click)

```

```

Done

```

```

rts
currline dw 0
prevline dw 0
thePoint dw 0,0
theControl adrl 0
DblTime adrl 0
prevtime adrl 0
interval adrl 0
ThisWindow adrl 0

```

```

*-----
* Array of pointers somewhere in memory
ListPointers
    adrl item1      ;ptr to item
    dfb 0           ;List Mgr's byte
    adrl item2
    dfb 0
    adrl item3
    dfb 0
*-----
* Individual item data somewhere in memory
ListMembers
item1
    dw 1           ;my icon #
    dw $8000       ;size (in k)
    str 'Hard Disk'
item2
    dw 2
    dw 800
    str '3.5" Disk'
item3
    dw 0
    dw 256
    str 'Ram Disk'
*-----

```



## Soft Thoughts: Why I Wrote Super- Patch In BASIC

by John Link

John Link is the author of SuperPatch, the popular AppleWorks patch utility published by Q Labs. Section 4 of his manual for SuperPatch is entitled "Some Thoughts". This article, reprinted from that section of the manual with John's permission and slightly edited to fit this magazine's format, explains why he wrote SuperPatch 6.1 in plain old Applesoft BASIC rather than assembly language.]

At one time, in a fit of masochism, I had decided to rewrite SuperPatch in machine language. Machine language is not only macho, it is also more compact than BASIC. As I added more patches to SuperPatch, the compactness of machine language became more and more appealing. But really, what appealed to me most was the "advancedness" of machine language. You haven't arrived as a programmer until you write something in ML, just like you cannot be accepted in certain social circles until you say things in French. If I had stuck with my decision, SuperPatch would be much smaller than it is now. Obviously one reason for the hypothetical compactness would be the compactness of ML itself. Another reason would be that much of my time would have been devoted to writing code that could handle all the things that BASIC does for SuperPatch, instead of developing new patches. Fewer patches means less code, no matter what language is used.

What came from this excursion into "advancedness" is the realization that BASIC is as advanced as any other computer language. The "B" in BASIC could easily stand for "Best" instead of "Beginner's" in its full name: Beginner's/Best All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code. BASIC is more "all-purpose" than any other language for the Apple II, and seems perfectly suited to a program like SuperPatch. What most SuperPatchers want is a reliable and easily understood method of



applying their modifications to AppleWorks. BASIC is very reliable, and the time I might have spent "reinventing the wheel" went into making the interface easier to understand and the program more thorough in its ability to cope with all the possible software and hardware configurations used by AppleWorkers. My interface contains few "bells and whistles." You have to press letter keys instead of moving an inverse menu bar up and down the lists of patches. Inverse menu bars can be programmed in BASIC, but, in BASIC, they are too sluggish for my taste, and they eat up memory and code rapidly. But, thanks to easily accessed BASIC commands, SuperPatch is thorough in its examination of your AppleWorks disk, which seems far more important. While machine language executes much faster than BASIC, the slowest part of SuperPatch is the examination of your files to determine the status of the patch areas. ML would not accelerate this process to

any noticeable extent.

Using BASIC opens SuperPatch itself to examination. Those of you who are interested can easily follow the logic of the program by simply listing the code. You can also customize SP to suit yourself, if you want. Or, as some have done, you can develop patches to SuperPatch. Most of the key areas contain REM statements to guide those who have an interest in programming. This kind of openness is simply not possible with machine language, unless you do what Robert Lissner, the creator of AppleWorks, did, and publish extensive notes. Even then, BASIC, because of its nature as an interpreted language, remains more open than any other, and therefore more subject to the user's modification.

[SuperPatch 6.1 costs \$39.95 and is available from Q Labs, 1066 Maryland, Detroit, MI 48230, (313) 331-0941.]

## Just Like the Big Boys

# AppleWorks-Style Line Input

by Tom Hoover

It seems like whenever I write an assembly language program, there's always a need for some type of "string input" routine. For a long time, I wrote a separate "custom" routine for each program, which was, obviously, an inefficient way to program. Meanwhile, I had fallen in love with Robert Lissner's AppleWorks input routine, which features intuitive command keys and a default input string. I finally got around to writing a similar routine of my own that could be linked into any program that I was writing. I present it to all of you in the hope it can save someone else some work.

The GetStr routine supports the same commands as the AppleWorks line editor. Although you can easily change them if you don't like them, I suggest you keep them for purposes of standardization. The commands are:

OA-E or Control-E	toggle between insrt/ovrstrke cursors
OA-Y or Control-Y	delete from cursor to end of line
Left Arrow	move the cursor one space to the left
Right Arrow	move the cursor 1 space to right
OA-Left Arrow	move to the beginning of the input line
OA-Right Arrow	move to the end of the input line

OA-Delete	delete the character under the cursor
Delete	delete the character preceding the cursor
Escape	restore the default string
Return	accept the entire input line

GetStr is designed for use with the 80-column screen and does not support wrap-around of the input line, limiting you to an eighty-character input line (or less, depending on screen placement). I haven't found either of these limitations a problem in my applications, but the routine could be enhanced to eliminate them.

To use the GetStr routine, your program needs to do the following:

1. Place the "default" input string at InBuffer (\$200) in Pascal string format (with a leading length byte). If you wish to have a "blank" default string, store a "0" at InBuffer.
2. Set your desired horizontal and vertical cursor position (OurCH, CV).
3. Place the maximum length of the input string in the X register.
4. Place the desired prompt character into the Accumu-

lator.

5. JSR GetStr. The prompt character will be printed at the current cursor co-ordinates (OurCH, CV), followed immediately by the "default" string (if any), and allow the user to edit the string.

6. The routine will return the string at InBuffer, with a leading length byte.

For an example of how to call GetStr, see the GetStr.Demo program listing.

GetStr is well commented, so you shouldn't have any problem figuring it out, but here's a rundown on how it works.

Before entering the main loop, GetStr first displays the default input string on the screen. It then calls GetKey repeatedly until a Return keypress is detected. GetKey calls another routine called KeyHandler, which actually does most of the routine's work.

GetKey (along with FlashDelay) provides the flashing insert or overstrike cursor, and performs the task of getting a keystroke from the user. This keystroke is then passed to KeyHandler. You can change the flash rate of the cursor by changing the variable cFlash; larger numbers result in slower flash rates. You can also change the default cursor type by changing the variable 'cCursor'; set the high bit for insert, or clear it for overstrike.

KeyHandler handles each keystroke by calling the appropriate command routine or by storing it in the buffer and displaying it on the screen. KeyHandler uses two lookup tables, one containing the value of the key associated with a command, the other containing the address (less one) of the routine that handles that command. The address of the command is pushed onto the stack and a "funny jump" is performed with an RTS, an old 6502 trick that goes back to the original Apple II Monitor.

I've also included two linker files (one for Merlin 8 and one for Merlin 16 and 16+) that demonstrate how to link GetStr into your program, which you'll need to do to run the GetStr.Demo program. The Merlin 16 linker file handles the assembly and linking of both GetStr and GetStr.Demo. The Merlin 8 linker file must be loaded into Merlin, assembled, and saved to disk as LINK. You must then assemble GetStr and GetStr.Demo, then type LINK \$2000 "LINK" from the Merlin 8 command mode. After saving the object file, you can change it to

a SYS file. Notice that Merlin 16 makes the entire process much simpler.

I hope you find GetStr useful. With it, you can easily implement part of the standard AppleWorks user interface in your programs.

### Listing 1

```

1 *****
2 *
3 * GetStr Input Rtn w/ "AppleWorks" Cmd Keys
4 *
5 * Copyright 1990 by Tom Hoover
6 * All rights reserved
7 *
8 * You may use this rtn in your programs,
9 * as long as appropriate credit is given.
10 *
11 * This rtn inspired by "command line" editor
12 * in ApplWks.I've never found an input rtn i
13 * any other program that I liked as much as
14 * the one in AWks; so, I wrote one
15 * w/ a similar cmd set that I could include
16 * in any program. Thanks, Robert!
17 *
18 *****
19
20         rel           ;relocatable file
21         dsk   getstr.L
22         xc    off    ;remove if not using
                       Merlin 16+
23
24         lst   off
25         tr    on
26         tr    adr
27
28 CV      =    $25
29 BASL    =    $28
30 OurCH   =    $57b
31 InBuffer = $200
32 InBuffer2 = $280
33 Key     =    $c000
34 Strobe  =    $c010
35 Page1   =    $c054
36 Page2   =    $c055
37 OAKey   =    $c061
38 TabV    =    $fb5b
39 COut    =    $fded
40
41
42
=====
43 *
44 * To use...
```

```

45 *                                     100         dex             ;when user hits E
46 * 1. x = ma len of the desired input string 101         bpl      :loop
47 * 2. a = desired prompt character          102
48 * 3.If you want a "default" input str, place 103         jsr      PrintBuffer;pr InBuffer to sc
49 *   at InBuffer ($200) in Pscal str form (w/ 104
50 *   a length byte). If you want a "blank"   105 :keyloop jsr      GetKey
51 *   default string, store a "0" at InBuffer. 106         cmp      #$8d      ;is it a return?
52 * 4. The prompt will print at the current    107         beq      :done      ;if yes, accept
53 *   cursor (OurCH,CV), followed immediately 108
54 *   by the "default" string (if any).        109         jsr      KeyHandler
55 * 5. You can use the following at the prompt: 110         jmp      :keyloop
56 *
57 * oa-e -toggl between insrt/ovrstrike cursors 112 :done     ldz      yTemp      ;restore Y regist
58 * ctrl-e -ditto                             113         rts
59 * oa-y -delete from cursor to end of line   114
60 * ctrl-y -ditto                             115
61 * left -move cursor one space to the left   116
62 * right -move cursor one space to the right *-----*
63 * oa-left -move to the beg. of the input line 117 *
64 * oa-right-move to the end of the input line 118 * KeyHandler - interprets each keystroke, a
65 * oa-DEL -delete the char under the cursor   119 *   performs accordingly
66 * DEL -delete the char preceeding cursor    120
67 * ESC -restore the "default" string         121 KeyHandler
68 * RTN -accept the entire input line         122         pha             ;save char on stack
69 *
70 * 6. The sub will return with the string at   123
71 *   InBuffer, with a prefixed length byte.   124         cmp      #$7b      ;is it an "open-apple
72 *
73 *-----*
74
75
76
77 *
78 * GetStr - the "Main" rtn. Call with
79 *   X = the max input len, A = the desired
80 *   cursor char. The prompt will show at the
81 *   current cursor position (OurCH,CV). This
82 *   assumes the 80 column screen and it does
83 *   not support "wrapping-around" the screen
84 *   edge, so placement of prompt is important
85 *   long str.A & X are trashed,Y is saved
86
87 GetStr   ent
88         sty      yTemp      ;save Y in a temp var
89         stx      MaxLength  ;max len of input
90
91         jsr      PutChar ;Put prompt on screen
92         inc      OurCH      ;inc cursor to nxt pos
93
94         lda      OurCH
95         sta      chOrig    ;save cursor coords
96
97         ldz      InBuffer
98 :loop   lda      InBuffer,x ;move "default"
string to InBuffer2
99         sta      InBuffer2,x ;easily 2 restor
100
101         dex
102         bpl      :loop
103
104         jsr      PrintBuffer;pr InBuffer to sc
105 :keyloop jsr      GetKey
106         cmp      #$8d      ;is it a return?
107         beq      :done      ;if yes, accept
108
109         jsr      KeyHandler
110         jmp      :keyloop
111
112 :done     ldz      yTemp      ;restore Y regist
113         rts
114
115
116
117 *
118 * KeyHandler - interprets each keystroke, a
119 *   performs accordingly
120
121 KeyHandler
122         pha             ;save char on stack
123
124         cmp      #$7b      ;is it an "open-apple
125         bge      :noConvert ;nope
126
127         cmp      #$60      ;is it "lower-case
128         blt      :noConvert ;nope
129
130         and      #%11011111;convert to upper
131
132 :noConvert
133         sta      Char      ;save char
134         ldz      #$ff      ;initialize loop
135
136 :keyloop inx
137         lda      :KeyTable,x
138         beq      :noCmd      ;end of table
139
140         cmp      Char      ;found it yet?
141         bne      :keyloop    ;nope, so try aga
142
143         pla      ;it's a command, so clean up
144         ;stack
145
146         txa             ;transfer offset to A
147         asl             ;double it
148         tax             ;and transfer back to
149
150         lda      :KeyAddr+1,x ;do indirect jm
151         by pushing
152         pha             ;the address on the sta
153         lda      :KeyAddr,x
154         pha
155         rts             ;and then doing an

```



```

268      eor    #%10000000 ;invert hi-bit      325          lda    OurCH
269      sta    cCursor                          326          sec
270      rts                                     327          sbc    chOrig
271                                           328          cmp    InBuffer ;end of the string
272 *-----                                329          beq    :done_oaDEL ;yes
273                                           330          inc    OurCH
274 :do_oaY                                    331          bne    :do_DEL ;always
275          lda    OurCH                        332
276          sec                                333 :done_oaDEL
277          sbc    chOrig                       334          rts
278          sta    InBuffer ;truncate at curr pos 335
279          jsr    PrintBuffer ;print entire str 336 *-----
280          rts                                337
281                                           338 :do_DEL
282 *-----                                339          lda    OurCH
283                                           340          sec
284 :do_oaRight                                341          sbc    chOrig ;find curr pos in stri
285          lda    InBuffer ;goto end of input str 342          tax
286          clc                                343
287          adc    chOrig                       344          beq    :done_DEL ;no mo chars to dele
288          sta    OurCH                       345
289          rts                                346          cmp    InBuffer
290                                           347          beq    :1
291 *-----                                348
292                                           349 :delLoop lda    InBuffer+1,x ;move everything
293 :do_oaLeft                                over to close
294          lda    chOrig ;beginning of input str 350          sta    InBuffer,x ;up the space left
295          sta    OurCH                       by the deleted
296          rts                                351          inx    ;character
297                                           352          cpx    InBuffer
298 *-----                                353          bne    :delLoop
299                                           354
300 :do_Right                                355 :1          dec    InBuffer
301          lda    OurCH ;crsr to the right by one 356
302          sec    ;character                    357          jsr    PrintBuffer
303          sbc    chOrig                       358          dec    OurCH
304          cmp    InBuffer                    359
305          beq    :done_Right                 360
306          inc    OurCH                       361 :done_DEL rts
307                                           362
308 :done_Right                                363 *-----
309          rts                                364
310                                           365 :do_ESC
311 *-----                                366          ldx    InBuffer2 ;restore "default"
312                                           367 :ESCloop lda    InBuffer2,x
313 :do_Left                                    368          sta    InBuffer,x
314          lda    OurCH ;move cursor to left one 369          dex
315          cmp    chOrig ;character            370          bpl    :ESCloop
316          beq    :done_Left                 371
317          dec    OurCH                       372          lda    chOrig
318                                           373          sta    OurCH
319 :done_Left                                374
320          rts                                375          jsr    PrintBuffer
321                                           376
322 *-----                                377          rts
323                                           378
324 :do_oaDEL                                379

```

```

380
*-----*
381 *
382 * PrintBuffer-prints contents of InBuffer, at
383 *   chOrig. OurCH is preserved.
384
385 PrintBuffer
386     lda   OurCH   ;save curr pos on stack
387     pha
388     lda   chOrig;set OurCH to 1st char of
389     sta   OurCH ;the input str scrn pos
390
391     ldx   InBuffer
392     beq   :done;nothing to pr, then done
393     ldx   #0
394
395 :loop   inx
396     lda   InBuffer,x
397     jsr   COut   ;print InBuffer to scrn
398
399     cpx   InBuffer
400     bne   :loop
401
402 :done   lda   #$1d   ;clear EOL
403     jsr   COut
404
405     pla
406     sta   OurCH   ;restore curr crsr pos
407
408     rts
409
410
411
*-----*
412 *
413 * PutChar - this routine "puts" char in "A"
414 * on the scrn at the current cursor position.
415
416 PutChar
417     pha           ;save char on stack
418
419     lda   OurCH   ;get horizontal pos
420     lsr
421     tay           ;put in main or aux mem?
422     bcs   :mainpage
423
424     sta   Page2   ;set to aux
425
426 :mainpage pla           ;get char from stack
427     sta   (BASL),y ;PUT the character
428     sta   Page1   ;reset to main
429
430     rts
431
432
433 *-----*
434 *
435 * PickChar - "picks" the char from screen
436 * at curr cursor pos, and returns it in "A"
437
438 PickChar
439     lda   OurCH   ;get horizontal pos
440     lsr
441     tay           ;pick from main or aux me
442     bcs   :mainpage
443
444     sta   Page2   ;set to aux
445
446 :mainpage
447     lda   (BASL),y ;PICK the charact
448     sta   Page1   ;reset to main
449
450
451     rts
452
453
*-----*
454 *
455 * GetKey-this gives flashing crsr, & return
456 * a keystroke in "A". If char is "negative
457 * (bit 7 set), then OA key was NOT pressed.
458 * the char is "positive" (hi-bit clr), then
459 * the open-apple key was pressed.
460
461 GetKey
462     jsr   PickChar ;get char under cr
463     sta   cChar
464     and   #%01111111 ;clear hi-bit
465
466     cmp   #$40
467     blt   :storeit
468
469     cmp   #$60
470     bge   :storeit
471
472     and   #%00111111;remap so prts invers
473           ;instead of MouseText
474
475 :storeit sta   cOver   ;store overstrike cur
476
477 :loop   bit   cCursor ;insert or overstriek
478         bmi   :insert
479
480 :over   lda   cOver
481         bne   :printit
482
483 :insert lda   cInsert
484
485 :printit jsr   PutChar   ;put on the scree
486          jsr   FlashDelay ;wait awhile
487          bmi   :gotit
488
489         lda   cChar

```

```

490      jsr   PutChar
491      jsr   FlashDelay
492      bpl   :loop
493
494 :gotit bit   OAKey
495      bpl   :99
496      and   #%01111111 ;OA, so clear hi-bit
497
498 :99   bit   Strobe
499
500      pha           ;save it
501      lda   cChar
502      jsr   PutChar ;restore org to scrn
503      pla
504
505      rts
506
507
508
-----
509 *
510 * FlashDelay - provides delay for the flashing
511 * cursor.
512
513 FlashDelay
514      ldy   cFlash
515      ldx   #0
516
517 :keyloop lda  Key
518      bmi   :99
519
520      dex
521      bne   :keyloop
522
523      dey
524      bne   :keyloop
525
526 :99   rts
527
528
529 *=====
530 *
531 * Various storage locations
532
533 MaxLength ds  1
534 Char      ds  1
535 Temp      ds  1
536 yTemp     ds  1
537 chOrig    ds  1
538
539 cFlash    db  #200;adjust the flash rate here
540 cInsert   db  "_" ;insert cursor
541 cOver     db  "`" ;overstrike cursor(inverse)
542 cCursor   db  $80 ;insert=$80 overstrike=0
543 cChar     ds  1 ;current char under crsr
-----
1 *****
2 *
3 * GetStr Input Routine DEMO *
4 *
5 * Copyright 1990 by Tom Hoover *
6 * All rights reserved *
7 *
8 *****
9
10      rel           ;relocatable file
11      dsk   getstr.demo.L
12      xc    off ;remove if not Merlin 16
13
14      lst   off
15      tr    on
16      tr    adr
17
18 CV      =   $25
19 BasL    =   $28
20 OurCH   =   $57b
21 InBuffer = $200
22 InBuffer2 = $280
23 Key     =   $c000
24 Strobe  =   $c010
25 Page1   =   $c054
26 Page2   =   $c055
27 OAKey   =   $c061
28 TabV    =   $fb5b
29 COut    =   $fded
30
31 GetStr  ext
32
33
34 *=====
35 *
36 * Start
37
38      lda   #1           ;turn on 80 column
39      jsr   $c300
40
41      lda   #10 ;put cursor where we wa
42      jsr   TabV
43      lda   #10
44      sta   OurCH
45
46      ldx   string ;default str to Inbuff
47 :loop   lda   string,x
48      sta   InBuffer,x
49      dex
50      bpl   :loop
51
52      ldx   #25 ;maximum input length
53      lda   #">" ;input prompt
54      jsr   GetStr ;call which allows th
55 ;user to edit the "default" inp
56 ;string, or to enter their own
57

```

```

58      lda    #15    ;move cursor down 5 lines    85
59      jsr    TabV          86                jsr    COut          ;print "new" strin
60      lda    #10          87                iny
61      sta    OurCH        88                bne    :MsgLoop2
62                                     89
63      ldy    #0           90 :Msg2Done
64 :MsgLoop lda    :Msg,y    91
65      beq    :MsgDone     92 :keyLoop bit    Key          ;wait for a key
66                                     93                bpl    :keyLoop
67      jsr    COut          ;print a msg        94                bit    Strobe
68      iny                                     95
69      bne    :MsgLoop     96                jsr    $bf00        ;quit
70                                     97                db    $65
71 :Msg      asc    "You typed: "00            98                da    quit_parms
72                                     99
73 :MsgDone                                     100               brk
74      ldy    InBuffer     101
75      lda    #0           102 quit_parms db    4
76      sta    InBuffer+1,y;put 0" at end of o 103               ds    0
77                                     104
78                                     ;input string to use as a
79                                     ;terminator in the following
80                                     ;print routine (I never said
81                                     ;this demo routine was elegant)
82      tay
83 :MsgLoop2 lda    InBuffer+1,y
84      beq    :Msg2Done

```

# WE WANT YOUR BEST!

**S**o you've written a great piece of Apple II software, but you're not sure how to turn all that hard work into cash. You're wary of shareware and have been snubbed by other publishers.

**L**et us take a look at your work! We are the publisher of Softdisk™ and Softdisk G-S™, a pair of monthly software collections sold by subscription, on newsstands and in bookstores everywhere. We are looking for top-notch Apple software. We respond promptly, pay well, and are actually fun to work with!

**W**hat have you got to lose? Nothing! You could see your software published and earn cold, hard cash. Send your best software to:

Jay Wilbur  
 c/o Softdisk Publishing, Inc.  
 606 Common St. Dept. ES, Shreveport, LA 71101  
 GEnie: JJJ / America Online: Cycles

Here's a short list of the types of programs that will put a gleam in our eyes (and money in your pocket)! For more details, call...

Jay Wilbur  
 (318) 221-5134

APPLICATIONS  
 UTILITIES  
 EDUCATION  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GRAPHICS  
 FONTS  
 DESK ACCESSORIES,  
 INITs, CDEVS, ETC.





## Hired Guns

8/16 is providing a free service to all programmers: placement of a complimentary "situation wanted" ad. If you're available for hire and looking for a programming job (from full-time to freelance), a listing in this directory is your ticket to work. The ads are open to both 8 and 16 bit authors and are limited to 120 words or less. Be sure to give your address, phone number, and email addresses, and specify how much of a job you're after (part-time? full-time? royalty-based? etc). Send it to Situation Wanted, Ariel Publishin, Box 398, Pateros, WA 98846 or send us E-Mail to R.W.LAMBERT. Note that we'll run your ad twice - approximately every other month for four months. You'll need to renew your request to continue.

**David Ely**, 4567 W. 159th St. Lawndale, CA 90260. 213-371-4350 eves. or leave message. GEnie: [DDELY], AOL: "DaveEly". Experienced in 8 and 16 bit assembly, C, Forth and BASIC. Available for hourly or flat fee contract work on all Apple II platforms (IIGs

preferred). Have experience in writing desktop and classical applications in 8 or 16 bit environments, hardware and firmware interfacing, patching and program maintenance. Will work individually or as a part if a group.

**Jeff Holcomb**, 18250 Marsh Ln, #515, Dallas, Tx 75287. (214) 306-0710, leave message. GEnie: [Applied.Eng], AOL: "AE Jeff". I am looking for part-time work in my spare time. I prefer 16-bit programs but I am familiar with 8-bit. Strengths are GS/OS, desktop applications, and sound programming. I have also worked with hardware/firmware, desk accessories, CDevs, and inits.

**Tom Hoover**, Rt 1 Box 362, Lorena, TX, 76655, 817-752-9731 (day), 817-666-7605 (night). GEnie: Tom-Hoover; AOL: THoover; Pro-Beagle, Pro-APA, or Pro-Carolina: thoover. Interests/strengths are 8-bit utility programs, including TimeOut(tm) applications, written in assembly language. Looking for "part-time" work only, to be done in my spare time.

**Jay Jennings**, 14-9125 Robinson #2A, Overland Park, KS, 66212. (913) 642-5396 late evenings or early mornings. GEnie: [A2.JAY] or [PUNKWARE]. Apple IIGs assembly language programmer. Looking for short term projects, typically 2-4 weeks. Could be convinced to do longer projects in some cases. Familiar with console, modem, and network programming, desk accessories, programming utilities, data bases, etc. GS/OS only. No DOS 3.3 and no 8-bit (unless the money is extremely good and there's a company car involved).

**Jim Lazar**, 1109 Niesen Road, Port Washington, WI 53074, 414-284-4838 nights, 414-781-6700 days. AOL: "WinkieJim", GEnie: [WINKIEJIM]. Strengths include: GS/OS and ProDOS 8 work, desktop applications, CDAs, NDAs, INITs. Prefer working in 6502 or 65816 Assembly. Have experience with large and small programs, utilities, games, disk copy routines and writing documentation. Nibble, inCider and Call-A.P.P.L.E. have published my work. Prefer 16-bit, but will do 8-bit work. Type of work depends on the situation, would consider full-time for career move/benefits, otherwise 25 hrs/month (flexible).

**Stephen P. Lepisto**, 12907 Strathern St., N. Hollywood, CA 91605, 818-503-2939. GEnie: S.LEPISTO. Available for full-time and part-time contract work (flat rate or royalties). Experienced in 6502 to 65816 assembly, BASIC and C. Can work in these or quickly learn new languages and hardware (some experience with UNIX, MS-DOS, 8086 assembly). Experience in games, utilities, educational, applications. Lots of experience in porting programs to Apples. Programmed Hacker II (64k Apple II), Labyrinth (128k Apple), Firepower GS and others. Can also write technical articles.

We'll run M- Z next month.

## Meet Other Apple II Developers!

*See and hear about the latest Apple II hardware & software developments*

### Attend Apple's IIGs College

*For most attendees, myself included, the Developers Conference hosted by A2-Central in July 1989 was an experience bordering on the religious.*

Bill Kennedy, Technical Editor, *InCider*

*Without exception, every attendee I have talked to feels the first A2-Central Developers Conference at Avila College in Kansas City was a success. The retreat atmosphere was a significant factor in making it so.*

Cecil Fretwell, Technical Editor, *Call Apple*

*As I look back, it was the most positive computer conference I have ever been to and I certainly recommend it to anyone with an interest in the Apple II line. Yes, I had a great time; yes, I learned a lot; yes, I met some outstanding people; and, yes, I'll go back.*

Al Martin, Editor, *The Road Apple*

By popular demand, we're putting together another **A2-Central Summer Conference** (popularly known in developer circles as 'KansasFest'). Like last year, Apple is sending a number of its engineers to do seminars and to run a bug-busting room. Unlike last year, Apple is holding a IIGs College at Avila the day before our conference starts.

In addition to speakers from Apple, we'll have talks and demonstrations by active developers willing to show their tricks. There will be talks and exhibits by companies that provide tools to developers. And there will be plenty of time to talk to other developers.

You must register by June 1 to get the best prices, which begin at \$300 and include all meals. For more information, call **A2-Central** at 913-469-6502 (voice), 913-469-6507 (fax) or write PO Box 11250, Overland Park, KS 66207. Or we're **A2-CENTRAL** on AppleLink and **A2-CENTRAL** on GEnie.

**A2-Central Summer Conference**  
**Avila College, Kansas City, Mo.**  
**July 20 & 21, 1990**

Warning! What follows really IS an advertisement. It just doesn't look like one (or pay like one - shucks).

## An Advetorial by Ross W. Lambert, Publisher

You've heard of "Near Beer"? Well, this is nearly an ad. I couldn't face writing any more ad copy this month. Exclamation points make me tired after a while - all that excitement, if you know what I mean. Instead I decided I'd give you my thoughts on a few subjects related to a couple of our products (so this is still *sorta* an ad).

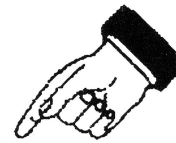
**First, the compiled, 8 bit BASICs.** We sell Microl Advanced Basic IIe/IIc and we'll order ZBasic for you if you want it ( our price is \$54.95 plus shipping from Zedcor). *But neither environment may be for you.*

Here's why: Just about every compiler I've seen has been frustratingly slow and unweildly unless you are developing on a system larger or faster than the target system. For example, if you are creating a program targeted at 64K machines, then the compiled languages are a pain to use unless you're using at least a 128K machine for development. Likewise, if you're putting together a 128K application, then you'd better have a RAM disk, a fast hard drive, and/or a IIgs. Furthermore, the compilers have so much work to do that we categorically *do not recommend them* for 1.0 mhz machines.

The reason for this state of affairs is that language development systems typically have three separate parts; an editor, support routines or libraries, and the actual compiler which turns your text (source code) into machine code. If you are writing a 128K application using a 128K Apple, then the entire development system cannot fit into memory at the same time as your program. There is therefore a *ton* of disk access as segments get swapped in and out. This is true for both ZBasic and MAB IIe/IIc, and it can drive you nuts if you are used to working in Applesoft.

A better alternative for those of you with 128K (or less) machines without hard drives or RAM disks is the *Toolbox Series* from Roger Wagner Publishing. These pure assembly language extensions to Applesoft give you much of the advantages of the compiled BASICs without nearly as much hassle. You simply install the routine you want and then program normally in Applesoft (without the disk access horrors of compilation). We are not currently selling any RWP products (we're gradually moving *out* of software sales except for those products we develop ourselves), but you can certainly get more information or order directly from the good folks in El Cajon ( 619/442-0522).

Back at the ranch, if you have a RAM disk and a fast system, the compiled languages can really provide a high level programming environment with built-in text editors *and* generate fast machine code for maximal use of a smaller target machine. Thus you can probably coax a little more overall performance from a compiled BASIC program (or, in the



case of ZBasic, get three or four times as much numerical accuracy in floating point computations). The compilers are really quite nice to program with on a Transwarped GS.

As for which of the compiled 8 bit BASICs is better, at this point I can only say that "It depends". For graphics related things (including text generation on the graphics screens), I like ZBasic better. For text based programs, I like MAB, the reason being that MAB allows you to use more of the 128K for variables. This means more data in memory. As for documentation quality, the nod definitely goes to ZBasic. As for quality of the text editors, MAB is light years ahead of ZBasic.

You may be wondering why we don't sell a "C" or a Pascal - as I mentioned earlier, we're backing away from non-Ariel software sales due to about 15 dozen conflicts of interest. Some of our stock is being liquidated by Kevin Thornton at KAT Systems (see their ad on page 14). We do hack in C around here (with varying degrees of success).

We *are* still selling MAB IIe/IIc and MAB GS, hence you can get in on a really great deal as part of our part of our liquidation sale. We wanna move these buggers now, so MAB IIe/IIc has been reduced to \$59.95 and MAB GS has been slashed to \$75.

We're still selling our homegrown products, of course, and we have several very exciting additional projects well under way. For now, though, **I think the best deal in the house is 8/16 on Disk**. We're talking serious value here, friends. Each and every month you get at least 500K of material - everything from the magazine plus a whole lot more. We have both an 8 bit and a 16 bit program selector/ file viewer/ graphics viewer to help you navigate (some folks are finding these gadgets useful in their own right). And our featured files so far have included the actual source code to: Floyd Zink's Binary Library Utility, Bruce Mah's File Attribute Zapper II, Parik Rao's Orca/APW developer's utilities, and more other goodies than you could imagine (how about multi-tasking on your IIe?). These disks are fun, educational, and *useful*. You are welcome to lift any routines or libraries you find and plop them right into your own projects (with the exception of a very few things where authors have indicated they wish otherwise). One year of the disk is \$69.95, six months is \$39.95, and three months is \$21. Oh yeah, we'll sell you two years of the disk for \$129.95. Any single disk is \$8.00.

This has got to be one of the strangest ads on record, but if I had to typeset one more breathless 48 pt headline I wuz gonna puke.

Give us a call at 509/923-2249, or write to: Mike Rochip, c/o Ariel Publishing, Box 398, Pateros, WA 98846

BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 PATEROS, WA  
 PERMIT NO. 7

# The Sensational Lasers

## Apple IIe/IIc Compatible

**SALE** **\$345** *Includes 10 free software programs!*

**New!** Now Includes  
**COPY II PLUS®**



The Laser 128® features full Apple® II compatibility with an internal disk drive, serial, parallel, modem, and mouse ports. When you're ready to expand your system, there's an external drive port and expansion slot. The Laser 128 even includes 10 free software programs! Take advantage of this exceptional value today.....**\$345**

**Super High Speed Option!**  
 only **\$385**

The LASER 128EX has all the features of the LASER 128, plus a triple speed processor and memory expansion to 1MB ..... \$385.00

The LASER 128EX/2 has all the features of the LASER 128EX, plus MIDI, Clock and Daisy Chain Drive Controller ..... \$420.00

**DISK DRIVES**

- \* 5.25 LASER/Apple 11c ..... \$ 99.00
- \* 5.25 LASER/Apple 11e ..... \$ 99.00
- \* 3.50 LASER/Apple 800K ..... \$179.00
- \* 5.25 LASER Daisy Chain ... **New!** \$109.00
- \* 3.50 LASER Daisy Chain ... **New!** \$179.00

**Save Money by Buying a Complete Package!**

THE STAR a LASER 128 Computer with 12" Monochrome Monitor and the LASER 145E Printer ..... \$620.00

THE SUPERSTAR a LASER 128 Computer with 14" RGB Color Monitor and the LASER 145E Printer ..... \$785.00

**ACCESSORIES**

- \* 12" Monochrome Monitor ..... \$ 89.00
- \* 14" RGB Color Monitor ..... \$249.00
- \* LASER 190E Printer ..... \$219.00
- \* LASER 145E Printer ..... **New!** \$189.00
- \* Mouse ..... \$ 59.00
- \* Joystick (3) Button ..... \$ 29.00
- \* 1200/2400 Baud Modem Auto ..... \$129.00

**USA MICRO** YOUR DIRECT SOURCE FOR APPLE AND IBM COMPATIBLE COMPUTERS

2888 Bluff Street, Suite 257 • Boulder, CO. 80301  
 Add 3% Shipping • Colorado Residents Add 3% Tax

**Phone Orders: 1-800-654-5426**

**8 - 5 Mountain Time • No Surcharge on Visa or MasterCard Orders!**

Customer Service 1-800-537-8596 • In Colorado (303) 938-9089

**FAX Orders: 1-303-939-9839**

**Your satisfaction is our guarantee!**

Laser 128 is a registered trademark of Video Technology Computers, Inc. Apple, Apple IIe, Apple IIc and Imagewriter are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc.

<http://apple2scans.net>