WAC Journal

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A Publication of the Willamette Apple Connection, Inc.

(An Apple II & Compatible User Education Group) P.O. Box 7252 . Salem, OR 97303-0053 . (503) 585-0811







THE LIBRARIAN'S CORNER

by John Moore

I've always wondered who assigned the numbers to the Eamon games and last week I finally found out. But let me digress a bit and answer the question of those of you who are saying, "What are Eamon games and really who cares?" Eamon games were started 8 or 9 years ago by Don Brown and over the past few years, other people have added to the collection. They are public domain and we have some 70 in our collection altho they don't all work properly as we have discovered. They are an adventure type game and some people have been known to get "hooked" on them, even to the point of writing their own.

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PRESIDENTIAL PEELINGS

by L.E. Tucker

Little did I know that when I relinquished the reins of the newsletter that I would have to start writing an article. You know those Newsletter Editors, they can be very demanding for copy. Actually it should give me an opportune chance to communicate with all of you.

We need to remember what it was that brought us to the user group in the first place. As time goes on, especially for those who helped start this group, we all tend to forget what it was that drew us into this association which we call the Willamette Apple Connection, Inc. Some of us are just being brought into the fold, while others are wondering what it is that

still keeps us here. Our main goal is to help others, and ourselves, learn how to get more out of our computers than we presently are getting: in other words we are looking at educating ourselves. The other thing which draws us together is that we want to help others learn what we have learned. Don't worry, you don't necessarily need to be an expert to pass on usable information. As we learn more about the power of computing, we sometimes forget the fun we used to have doing the simple things. I still remember how excited I was when I was able to run a DOS 3.3 program without having to type in the whole name. Or the time I was able to write a program to use when cleaning a disk drive.

Let us enjoy the association we have, one with another, and try to reach out to others who might need some help. Also, don't forget to seek help from the community of computer users when you have a need. Sometimes answers will come from the most unlikely source.

Editor's Note	CONTE	NTS
Presidential Peelings	Librarian's Corner Presidential Peelings	

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WAC JOURNAL

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MEETINGS - Regular Membership

The Regular Membership Meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month, with a start time of 7:00 p.m.. The meeting is held on the Chemeketa Community College campus, in Building 2, Room 113. The general public is invited to attend.

MEETINGS - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors Meeting is held on the first Thursday of the month, with a start time of 7:30 p.m. The meeting location will be announced at the prior Regular Membership Meeting.

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THE LIBRARIAN'S CORNER

Now back to who assigns the numbers, it's "The Eamon Adventure's Guild" which publishes a quarterly newsletter. The EAG has a goal of improving the various Eamon games and sharing imformation. I wrote to the editor of the newsletter, Tom Zuchowski, and got a very nice letter in return, including a complete list of games with correct numbers, the latest version number and a listing of companies that have the Eamon games and their status as to being up to date. The cost of membership which includes the newletter is \$7.00 per year.

The address is:

Earnon Aventurer's Guild 7625 Hawkhaven Dr. Clemmons, N.C. 27012

I also heard from the apple club in Eugene. Last month they sent me a copy of their newsletter and I wrote in a couple comments about an error in it and what I considered to be an ommission in a reveiw of publications. Anyway, I got a nice letter back from the editor and he included a disk with a program that I didn't have. Then the other day I got this months copy of the newsletter in which he acknowledged my comments. Always makes you feel good to see your name in print.

A new addition! I went to try to burn some books that I knew were surplus and what with one thing and another, we now have 19 Apple publications in our library available to check out. In addition, we have a couple others that deal with Apples. I'll have a listing available by meeting night. We have Mr. Harvey Jobe to thank for most of them and he isn't even a member -- yet.

The club is trying to start a data base for computer books and magazines-two data bases really. One is the permanent lending library that the club has and the other is any or all books that you have that you would consider lending to another member for a limited time.

Take heart Franklin owners. Zuckerman Computers has bought the rights and will market Franklin under the trade name, "Studymate II." Watch for further developments!

If you have any books or magazines to lend or donate please contact John Moore or Larry Tucker.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The newsletter is a little slim this month, despite two new columns by the club president and the secretary/sysop, so future contributions would be much appreciated. Harry Haley suggested a more detailed list of the kind of contributions we're looking for so here it is:

- 1. Review of your favorite software, such as Printmagic or California Games or hardware such as Thun-derscan or a moden or printer, etc. This doesn't have to be a major article; a few of your favorite features or likes and dislikes would be fine.)
- 2. Suggestions for topics to be covered at future meetings. This can include major areas of interest such as word processing programs or telecommunication uses or even individual software such as Appleworks GS.
- 3. Letters to the Editor. Any and all comments on the club and the newsletter. This can include suggestions as well as criticism.
- 4. A column you might like to write. If you use the computer for work or a hobby you may have information to share. For example, the Eugene apple club has a column by a teacher which is interesting and informative.
- 5. Technical questions covering any problems you may be having with software or hardware. Whatever machines or programs you use the chances are good that there is somone else in the club using the same and they may be able to help you with your problem.
- 6. Anything else you can think of. Most of you have some contact with other newsletters or similar publications and any suggestions you have for this newsletter will be appreciated!

Thanks, BOBBI KIRK





Please check your address label for the renewal date. If it does not say Jan. 90 your 89 dues have not been paid and you will not receive any more newsletters.

BUILD YOUR OWN SCSI HARD DRIVE

By NEAL LAYTON

When I first decided to get another Hard Drive it wasn't out of need for more space, although my 10 meg Sider was getting a little full I still had alot of room to last another year or so. I wanted to start a BBS and another member of my users group was wanting to sell his 10 meg Sider, I already had the spare computer and modern, so I thought why not. I started checking around and thinking about the idea when I ran across a couple of articles on Compuserve about building your own SCSI Drive.

After reading these articles written by various people as well as a couple of articles in Open-Apple, I decided that building my own SCSI drive would be less expensive per megabyte than buying a new drive and better than buying a used drive.

After I finally decided that I was seriously going to do this, my biggest fear was laying out \$700 for a bunch of parts that would be totally useless if it didn't work. I'm happy to say that my fear was quickly swept aside, when my computer booted the first time from my new drive.

I started out looking through the current issue of Computer Shopper. There are various manufactures of hard drive subsystems available. After doing as much reading on the subject as I could find I decided that Seagate was the brand that was most used by everyone else who was building their own drive. I choose the 65 meg half height drive because it was the best megabyte per dollar value that was available at the time I was looking.

For the external case there are even more options available, I finally decided on a case made by Wetex, it included a fan, 60 watt power supply and it is also a full height drive case which means I can add another drive when I fill up the first 65 megs.

The most important part of the whole drive is the cable. Without the correct cable all my efforts would be useless. In order to make sure I ordered the right one I called Redmond Cable in Redmond, WA. They knew exactly what I wanted and guaranteed my money back if it didn't work on the first try. If I was going to build another one I would make my own cable with the chart I have included. (Doing it this way would save about \$40). (continued on pg.4)

I purchased a SCSI card from Focus Electronics.

When everything finally arrived at my house 10 days later I was ready to begin building my hard drive. The drive assembly is held in place with four phillips screws. The power cable and SCSI cable snap into place and the drive enclosure is held shut with four more phillips screws, it only took 10 minutes to assemble and have it up and running.

The only thing left to do was the low level format, a high level format and then copy on my various programs and data.

The low level format sets the interleave of your hard drive. This step is the most time consuming of them all, without getting into a lot of detail 1:1 interleave proved to be the best interleave I could get. Then I high level formatted it with PRODOS and copied all my programs and data on to it and have been using it proudly ever since with no problems at all.

If you are planning on buying a hard drive this is definitely the most cost effective way to go.

If you have any questions or you want to build your own hard drive give me a call. I'll be glad to help out and show you how easy it really is.

Neal Layton 70441,1230

Equipment Information & Cost Breakdown:

Seagate ST-277N 65meg Hard Drive subassembly Lyco Computer (1-800-233-8760)\$429.95 Shipping COD\$8.95	
Wetex External Hard Drive Case Model* PS2866 Wetex International (1-213-728-3119)\$79.00 Shipping COD\$7.95	
Apple SCSI Card #A2B2087 rev.C Local Apple Dealership\$113.00	
Cable Part* RAN768 Redmond Cable (1-206-882-2009)\$30.00 Shipping COD\$8.75	
Total Cost	Ì

ADDITIONAL PRICE INFORMATION

Less expensive hard drives are available from other vendors but Lyco promises to beat any "COMPETITOR" in price. I found the same model Seagate drive (ST-277N) for \$399 at Digital One

(1-216-951-8088) but they were out of stock and expected six weeks to get any in. I told Lyco about the price difference, and they said, it had to be a major competitor that they recognize, some price promise. However they did have the over all t price for what I wanted and they dropped \$10 off their advertised price (just because I challenged them I think). Smaller 20mb drives can also be had for around \$250.

Cheaper External cases can also be bought but some things to look for are: size of housing, fan included, UL listed power supply (Some states like Oregon do not allow anything but UL listed equipment to be sold so check it out). You could also just buy and external half height drive box and a power supply from your local electronics supply house, but I would suggest you get a fan just to be on the safe side.

The other costs you can save on are shipping and credit card use. Lyco ships for free anything that is prepaid by check and almost every other company charges a 2.5% - 7% of the total merchandise just to use VISA, MC, or AMEX.I also found regular UPS ground is less expensive than Federal Express or Next Day Air.

I probably could have saved around another \$50 if I would have paid for everything in advance by check and was willing to wait the extra six weeks for all of the parts. But for my piece of mind I decided I would rather see the equipment in his before I merrily sent \$700 off into the U.S. Man system.

Your best bet is to get the latest copy of Computer Shopper and spend a couple of hours looking through it. Decide on the size of drive you want to make, the type of drive enclosure you want etc., then start calling and checking on prices, COD & shipping charges, credit card surcharges and any other hidden costs and if the items you want are in stock and available to ship the day the order is received.

I spent about 4 hours and was able to arrange shipping and orders to satisfy my wants. (After all who really needs 65mb of online storage).

The Home Brewed External SCSI Cable

The pinout needed for the SCSI external cable (host adapter to drive) is as follows:

From	То	Actual Pin Views	
DB-25 male	50-pin ∞	nnector \	-
1 2 3	48 42	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	
3	50		
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	40 38 36 1* 2 1* 8 12 14	1 2 NOTE: all odd pins are 3 4 grounded on a SCSI 5 6 50-pin connection 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	
15 14 15 16 17 18	1* 46 1* 32 1*	19 20 21 22	
19 20 21	44 18 4	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	
22 23 24 25	6 10 1* NC	35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42	
		43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50	

NOTE: 1* implies a connection to 1 or any other ODD pin/wire (which is GRND)

USER GROUP C-O-N-N-E-C-T-O-N

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FIRST CLASS



