



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SORCERER USER'S GROUP

529 S. Beachwood Dr.
Burbank, CA 91506
(818) 843-1101
June 10, 1985

Dear Sorcerer User,

The next meeting of the S.C.S.U.G. will be on Thursday June 13, 1985 at our usual meeting place in the Community Room of the Sears Savings Bank in Westchester. The door will be open at approximately 7:00 P.M. and an informal meeting will be held at 8:00 P.M. The S.C.S.U.G. meets the second Thursday of each month.

Hal Goodman came to our rescue for the May meeting by getting the key. I hope that Hal or someone else can get it again this month, as it will be impossible for me to get it. I have been on jury duty since May 20th in downtown L.A. in the Superior Court. I have been on a case since the first day (a computer crime) and I will probably be tied up there for another two weeks at best. In addition to jury duty I am putting in some evenings at work.

At the April meeting Byron Wagner brought his stock of Arrington Software and System Software and sold about half of it. The following is a list of his remaining stock:

System Software

2 ea SCOPE A text window editor
1 ea SCREEN GENIE
2 ea TZKIT a utility for the MONITOR and ROM PAC BASIC
1 ea SYSTEM 3 a ROM PAC BASIC program development toolkit
1 ea ZAP80 a Z80 Code disassembler
3 ea EDOS links ROM PAC BASIC to Micropolis disks
2 ea BASIC PRE-PROCESSOR for CP/M systems
1 ea ZETU Z80 Assembler - use instead of ROM PAC
1 ea SYMBOLIC DIS-ASSEMBLER newer than ZAP80
1 ea BASIC TUTORIAL just that - for ROM PAC BASIC
1 ea SPELLING TEST
1 ea Arithmetic TUTORIAL
2 ea Mortgage and Loan Analysis
1 ea INVADERS Arcade game
1 ea MUNCH Arcade game - "PAC MAN"
1 ea DEFENDER Arcade game

Global Software (Arrington)

1 ea CROSS REFERENCE utility
1 ea Cassette files utility
1 ea CADAS Cassette of CP/M data base
1 ea DYBUG utility
1 ea GRAFIX PACKAGE NO. 1
1 ea SUPER X Editor

If you are interested in any of the above or blank p.c. boards for the S-100 Interface card, (this is the small S-100 board, not the large expansion box mother board - he has a few left) - contact: GENIUS CO., c/o Byron Wagner, 2326 Sunset Heights, Los Angeles, CA 90046. Phones: (213) 462-1206(Home) or (818) 905-0922 (leave message).

I finally replaced the MX80 printer which was stolen, along with all the other stuff a few years ago, with a nice new Epson FX80+. It's much faster than the MX80 and, if I read correctly, has a faster through put than FX80 (non-plus) due to speeded up paper advance. The new "plus" also allows the installation of the new NLQ circuit card which makes the FX80+ capable of doing LQ 1500 high quality multipass printing. The FX80+ is available for as low as \$329.00. Watch the ads. Now given the above I am now interested in getting Fancy Font from Softcraft, Inc. This little jewel will print documents etc. in type set quality in many font styles. The price per one is \$180.00 but if we can get five or more buyers together, we can get them at \$125.00 each and we can mix the printer/OOS combinations available. The list is too long and complex to list here, but if you are interested, please call or write me ASAP and I will give you all the options.

I received the new spring '85 catalogue from ION-WEATHER, Morristown Municipal Airport, Morristown, NJ 07960, phone: (201) 267-6800.

This one is loaded with Sorcerer goodies - its too much to print here, but includes Exidy Software, Exidy Manuals and compatible hardware. He still has some of the C. Itoh 8300 printers left at \$129.00. They work well with the Sorcerer but Fancy Font won't drive it. Write or call them to receive their new catalogue.

Mr. Say's letter in the April BYTE is a terrific reference, but the following should be noted. South Valley Electronics is out of business and B.J. Freeman has disappeared and Mr. Say left out Creative Computer Products, 2313 West 181st St., Torrance, CA 90504. This address will be good for awhile, but as Walt Hendrickson is moving there will be a new one printed as soon as we know it. I have received six letters in response to the BYTE list, including one from Mr. Bernhard R. Walther in Taiwan and Mr. Alf Svenby in Sweden. I have responded to all except Mr. Walther. This one will be lengthy and technical and I don't have all the answers yet.

Last I have received a letter from Mr. F.H. Knottenbelt of the Netherlands. He is offering some very interesting items for the Sorcerer and so I will include his complete letter here.

Next newsletter I will print Walt's drawings, schematic and (hopefully) a write-up of his design for a very nice four slot S-100 main frame for use as an expansion. The four slots are usually enough to meet our requirements.

I have had no other input, so thats all for this time. I hope you all had a grand and safe Memorial Day weekend. My family and I did at the once-every-five-years International Live Steam Meet in Griffith Park. This was model steam railroading, but was super anyway. Oh yeah - another live steamer is going to have a Sorcerer pretty soom. What causes that?

Have fun, but remember.....in every large program, there is a small program struggling to get out.

Yours truly,

Cary Stewart

P.S. There are several "Last Envelopes" this time. If yours is one of them, get more to me quick. Remember 22¢ this time.

Ir. F.H.Knottenbelt
Boedapeststraat 24
2034 CZ Haarlem
The Netherlands

Southern California
Sorcerer Users Group
c/o Cary E. Stewart
529 South Beachwood Dr.
Burbank CA 91506
U. S. A.

Haarlem, april 4, 1985

Dear Sirs,

I can happily inform you, that we have developed a brand new small sized diskcontroller for 5" softsectored diskdrives for the Exidy Sorcerer. The price is f 525.- (Dutch guilders) excluding tax and shipping.

There are 2 versions available. The standard version can accommodate a programmable track/track speed of 6, 12, 20 or 30 ms. However there is a version for the modern drives with track/track speeds of 2, 3, 5 or 6 ms.

The controller is able to handle 3 single or double sided drives (expandable to max. 4 drives). It writes double density or single density (by cutting a trace) with write precompensation.

This diskcontroller is based on the new Western Digital controllerchip 1773 (1772 for the high speed version). This chip has a digital dataseparator, so no (re)adjustments are necessary. All decoding is through two PAL's, so the chipcount is minimized. All lines from the Sorcerer have anti-reflection matching-resistors. All lines to/from the controllerchip are buffered for precautionary reasons.

We guarantee that the controller works correctly with a flatcable length between Sorcerer and controller of 1.5 meter. At the last Sorcerer meeting we demonstrated the controller with a 3 meter cable!

It is possible to connect this controller in parallel to the S100-bus without interference (the original Exidy controller pulled a line down permanently).

The software needed for this controller is exactly the same as for the original Exidy controller (out of production now). The corresponding CP/M system we use is the CompuData CP/M 2.2 (I hope you read the English translation of the ESGG-news from the Dutch User Group, so you are aware of the updates and improvements of this nice operating system).

The controller has no bootstrap loader, so a Monitor with a built-in bootstrap is required (e.g. Van Montfort Monitor 1.3B). The advantage is flexibility since no ROM is in the way, so you may or may not insert a full 8K RAM-pack to expand memory to 56K, or an 8K ROM pack.

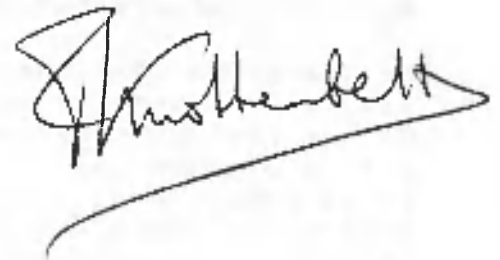
This controller can also be used to upgrade the original hardsectored Micropolis disksystems (with S100-bus) to softsectored (with or without S100-bus).

Besides the controller we offer a Keyboard/video driver for Turbo Pascal and an integrated assembler/editor/debugger ROM pack called DEVSYS.

The Turbo Pascal video/Keyboard driver (CompuData softsectored CP/M 2.2 only) handles the keypad in the way the Wordprocessor pack does and is really an improvement over the Wordstar-like way of function control that is used in Turbo Pascal. All keys are auto-repeating. This driver sells for f 75.- excl. tax and shipping. The newest version of EXMOUCPM (containing all improvements) is included, provided you have a CP/M 2.2 licence.

The DEVSYS pack is based on the original Exidy Development pack. This pack had a nice relocatable assembler and linking loader but a very clumsy editor, which made this pack unpractical. We have replaced this assembler by an absolute assembler that loads during assembly (entirely compatible with the diskassembler EXASM) and added a powerful line editor that is very easy to use. The debugger features 8 sequential breakpoints, which makes it possible to study the behavior of a loop. It can be used with cassette or disk. It contains a built-in bootstraploader for softsectored drives. Since the program source stays in memory this pack is really a time-saver: if an error occurs one doesn't have to reload the editor and the sourcefile! A manual in English is available on request. This pack sells for f 235,- excl. tax and shipping.

Please let me know if you (or members of your group) are interested in 1 or more of these items. Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. van der Bilt", is written over a horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.