

NEWSLETTER  
SAN LEANDRO COMPUTER CLUB  
For Atari 400 & 800 Micro Computers

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President: Bob Barton--Vice-President: Bill George--Secretary: Phil Mitchell---Treasurer: Nai Hsien Mao

AUGUST, 1983

Vice - President's Notes

This newsletter is Volume 1, Number 6. At our executive committee in July, Tom Bennett was appointed to chair the Speakers committee. Tom immediately went to work and arranged for OSS to send a speaker to this months meeting. Bill Wilkinson, the founder of OSS, was the creator of Atari's DOS. At this time we feel that Bill will probably be the speaker. Tom is also working on Synapse Software as a source for a presentation in the future. Good job Tom!

We also made another change, the Software Committee Chairman. Moon Louie, who has managed our software acquisitions very nicely since the club started will be turning his duties over to Tres Pitruzzello (I sure hope I have that last name right). Tres is very enthusiastic about the job and contributed heavily to this months Floppy of the month. So far we've been doing quite well with members contributing software so let's keep it up. Special thanks to Paul Lew who continues to download excellent public domain software from Compuserve.

We managed to get our quota of members living in San Leandro up to 50%, or so I thought. It turns out that some of the San Leandro addressed people are actually outside of the city limit proper. That means we are currently about 25 San Leandro and 37 non San Leandro. All is not lost however as the Library has allowed us two more months to get the 50% (August and September). Let's beat the bushes for those San Leandro People.

Please call the local computer bulletin boards (BBS) that are supporting/putting up with Atari users. We have two boards with Atari software available for downloading using the modem program, AMODEM. These boards are: SYSTEM/80 in San Leandro @ 895-0699 and SUNRISE OMEGA in OAKLAND @ 452-0350. In addition the MOTHER BOARD in Hayward is available 24 hrs/day with discussions and electronic mail capabilities (System/80 and Sunrise Omega have these capabilities too). Take note of the list of BBS telephone numbers included in this newsletter. All these boards have Atari related stuff on them.

3E Software on Mission Blvd in Hayward and the Software Centre on Foothill in Hayward are offering discounts to club members. They vary as to the specific savings but both require that you show your membership card to get the discounts. Check other prices out then give them a try.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING 7/5/83  
HELD AT SAN LEANDRO COMMUNITY LIBRARY

8:08pm. Meeting called to order by vice president Bill George

8:12pm. treasurer Nai Hsien Mao reported that currently club assets were approx. \$650.00, \$500. cash in club treasury, and aprox. \$150.00 had been invested into floppy disks.

8:17pm. software director Moon Louie gave discriptions of the July floppy of the month.

8:25pm. Dan chun gave overview of tape library program, but could not give exact figures of tapes on hand due to heavy loan activities.

8:35pm. V.P. called for open club discussion which comprised mainly of 1)club members expirence with difficulties with hardware and software 2)current problems with Percom disk drives 3)compadibility of both older and newer Atari products

9:00pm. President Bob Barton explained current specific interest groups with in the club and devided club into 3 main groups 1)basic 2)machine lang. 3)misc. general info. group.

10:00pm. V.P. presented problem with club membership not having enough members from San Leandro and passed around contingency petition to keep club in San Leandro if membership cannot meet 50% level.

10:05 V.P. introduced Frank Daniel from the Machine lang. committee for a brief demonstration.

10:15pm. Cliff Engles gave another brief machine language demonstration.

10:29pm. meeting closed, membership dismissed.

AUGUST, 1983 SLCC CALENDAR

Aug 2	1st Tuesday 8pm	REGULAR CLUB MEETING at San Leandro Library 300 Estudillo, San Leandro.
Aug 9	2nd Tuesday 8pm	ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE COMMITTEE at Bob Barton's - 352-8118
Aug 16	3rd Tuesday 8pm	BASIC LANGUAGE COMMITTEE at Nai Hsien Mao's - 582-6630
Aug 20	3rd Saturday 8pm	SOFTWARE COMMITTEE at Bill George's - 538-2449

A G E N D A  
San Leandro Computer Club Meeting  
Tuesday August 2, 1983

- 8:00 - Introduction of officers  
8:10 - Optimized System Software presentation.  
Bill Wilkinson or Mike Rose  
Discussing New Products  
Programming Techniques  
Questions and Answer  
9:15 - Break for Refreshments  
- Floppy of the Month \$3  
- Q & A on past Floppies  
9:45 - Group Discussions  
Basic  
Assembly Language  
Applications  
10:25 - Close Meeting

FLOPPY OF THE MONTH

TITLE CARD GENERATOR

This is a program (named TCARDGEN) which will be included on your Floppy of the Month. These following few words have been submitted by Tres Pitruzzello to help you with the program.

This exciting little program enables you to create your own impressive screen title cards and then save them to be used as you please in your home brew programs. The program appeared in the July '83 issue of *Creative Computing*, and full documentation can be found there. For those of you that don't have the magazine, I will explain the program function to get you started. The rest is up to you and your limitless imagination.

A. When you run the program the screen will go black except for a tiny flashing light in the center. That's your cursor, and can be moved about with the following commands.

1. A joystick plugged into port #1. Pressing the fire button will draw a line after your cursor.
2. SPACEBAR - moves cursor one letter position to the right.
3. DELETE KEY - moves cursor one letter position to the left.
4. RETURN KEY - Left of screen, down one letter.
5. RIGHT ARROW - Right one pixel.
6. LEFT ARROW - Left one pixel.
7. UP ARROW - Up one pixel.
8. DOWN ARROW - Down one pixel.
9. SHIFT AND ARROW KEYS - Move cursor 5 pixels.

Note: Do not use the CONTROL key to move the cursor around.

B. Pushing any letter key will draw that letter on the screen. The cursor will be in the upper left hand corner of the letter.

C. To save your title card creation press CONTROL Q. This takes quite a bit of time, as the computer goes through many steps to write the display program. You'll need 250 free sectors on your disk, or at least a 60 minute tape. Be patient (.ed No Kidding).

- D. SHIFT CLEAR - This clears the screen and resets all parameters to their default settings.
- E. CONTROL B - Draws a border from the current cursor position and centers it on the screen based on the cursor co-ordinates.
- F. CONTROL C - Sets the colors for each of the four "pens" available.
- G. CONTROL D - Direct cursor positioning. Places the cursor at the exact X and Y co-ordinates specified by the user.
- H. CONTROL E - Erases a letter sized block.
- I. CONTROL F - Toggles the letter fill feature from on to off and vice versa. When the fill command is enabled, letters are filled with the color of pen #1. Default is fill on.
- J. CONTROL P - Selects the pen to draw with. Default is #2.
- K. CONTROL S - Sets the scaling factor to change the size of the letters you draw. Default is 1.
- L. CONTROL T - Text window toggle on/off.
- M. CONTROL V - View the current column (x) and row (y) co-ordinates. Pressing any key will return you to normal editing. N. CONTROL Z - Ends the program with no save.

There you have it. This will get you started. Have fun and let's see some of your fantastic title cards at the next club meeting.

# JOYSTICK AND PORT TESTER

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ATARI 400 & 800 JOYSTICK AND PORT TESTER. Are you sure that all four of your joystick ports are functioning correctly? Well, if you are not sure, this program will give you the answer to the above question. Four months after I bought my Atari, I purchased Missile Command. The fire button did not work in port number 2. At first, I tried switching joysticks with no results. Then, I thought the game cartridge was bad, it wasn't. Well, I found a joystick tester program in Compute 2nd Book of Atari pg.5, by Robert Rochon. This program tested the sensitivity of the joystick. With a few changes in this program you can check all four of your joystick ports. Below are the changes and additions that I made to the program.

```

0 GRAPHIC 0:REM Compute 2nd Bk. of
  Atari pg.5 Joystick Tester
-1 ? "Enter a No. 0 to 3 to check
  JOYSTJCK and JACKS 1 thru 4 then
  HIT the RETURNKEY."::INPUT N
300 POKE 712,66-STRIG(N)*66
500 POKE 656,1:POKE 657,3
510 ? " STICK ";N;"="";STICK(N),
520 ? "STRIG ";N;"="";STRIG(N)
525 ? "MOVE JOYSTICK AND PRESS BUTTON"
999 C=A:D=B:GOTO STICK(N)

```

How does this program work? You must enter a number from 0 to 3 to check control ports 1 to 4 respectively. Press the red button and the screen should turn red. Move the joystick in all 8 directions and the positions will display on the screen. The window on the screen will display the correct number of the joystick positions and the fire button number. For those of you who do not wish to type this program in, may get this program from our tape librarian. The tape is called Utility Tape # 1. If you improve on this program please let the rest of us know.

# JOYSTICK AND PORT TESTER

## PROGRAM LISTING

```

0 GRAPHIC 0:REM Compute 2nd bk. of
  Atari pg. 5 Joystick tester
1 ? "Enter a No. 0 to 3 to check
  JOYSTICK and JACKS 1 thru 4 then
  HIT the RETURNKEY."::INPUT N
2 GRAPHICS 3:POKE 753,1:GOTO 999
5 A=24:B=14:GOTO 200
6 A=24:B=6:GOTO 200
7 A=25:B=10:GOTO 200
9 A=16:B=14:GOTO 200
10 A=15:B=6:GOTO 200
11 A=15:B=10:GOTO 200
13 A=20:B=15:GOTO 200
14 A=20:B=5:GOTO 200
15 A=20:B=10
200 IF C<>A OR D<>B THEN COLOR 4:DRAW
  0 20,10:COLOR 2:DRAW TO A,B
230 COLOR 3:PLOT 20,10:PLOT A,B
300 POKE 712,66-STRIG(N)*66
500 POKE 656,1:POKE 657,3
510 ? " STICK ";N;"="";STICK(N),
520 ? "STRIG ";N;"="";STRIG(N)
525 ? "MOVE JOYSTICK AND PRESS BOTTON"
540 IF PEEK(764)<>255 THEN POKE 764,25
5:RUN
999 C=A:D=B:GOTO STICK(N)

```

The labor repair cost per hour was quoted to me by the following service centers. Electronic Fantasy \$60.00 per hr., Pacific Stereo \$75.00 per hr., and Atari \$80.00 per hr. Atari did agree to service my computer under warranty. They also supplied me with a Atari 800 computer as a loaner free of charge. It took seven days to repair the computer. Daniel Chun.....

# The San Leandro Computer Club

For Atari® MicroComputers

Presents

Bill Wilkinson or Mike Rose

From

**OSS**

Optimized Systems Software, Inc.

Tuesday, August 2, 1983

8:00 P.M.

San Leandro Community Library  
300 Estudillo  
San Leandro, Ca.

For Further Information Call (415) 538-2449 or 276-4466

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President - Bob Barton  
 Vice-President - Bill George  
 Treasurer - Nai Hsien Mao  
 Secretary - Phil Mitchell  
**C O M M I T T E E S**  
 Speakers - Tom Bennett  
 Software - Trey Pitruzzello  
 Tape Librarian - Dan Chun  
 Newsletter - Charlotte Fleming  
 Assy Language - Frank Daniel  
 Basic - Nai Hsien Mao (temporary)

**TELEPHONE LIST**

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