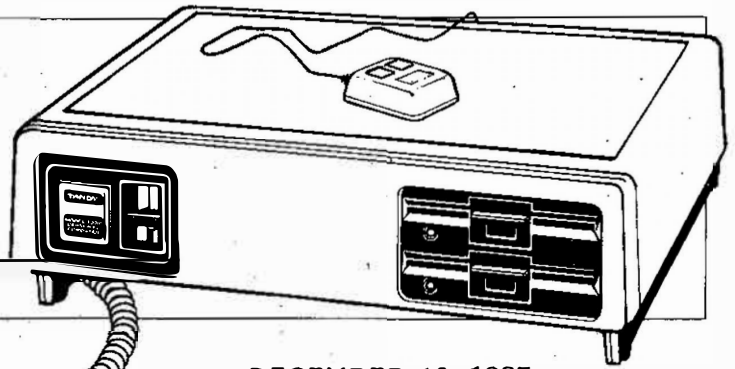
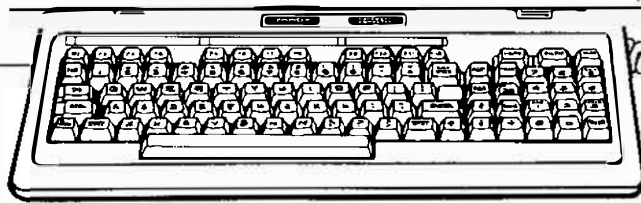


The Tandy 2000 Orphans' WHIMPER



DECEMBER 15, 1987
YEAR 2, ISSUE 3
© 1987, TANDY 2000 ORPHANS

Tandy 2000 Orphans extends its greetings to the many new members who have come aboard because they found our display in a store during the recent farewell sale of the 2000.

But for a weird set of circumstances, you would never have heard of the Orphans, as you will find in a story in this issue. We do not have Tandy's blessing and neither, for that matter, does Tandy have ours.

Welcome to the largest one-machine user group in the world, and to history in the making. Personal computers have been dumped often by their manufacturers, but the Orphans is the first user group which has stood up, with blood in its eye, to fight for support and survival on a nationwide (and worldwide) battleground. We'll be making news, and when we do, other future orphans will make manufacturers a lot less comfortable with dumping than before.

Many of you came to the sale to soup up or back up 2000s you bought at over \$1000, but some of you bought the cheap 2000s as your first tentative step into computing. It was a lucky step, because the 2000 is about the best all-round PC ever built.

Those new to computing will find that the Orphans are sympathetic to your position. The Whimper will give your questions (written in) the same respect and response that the more complex problems get.

Yours is a great computer and a great group.



Well, the sale is over, and the 65 A centers are in the process of shipping everything back to Tandy. Tandy has (says my local A) promised to pay full cost refund on everything shipped back, so they're apparently desperate to kill the machine. My guess is that they'll put the puters all in the crusher, and stockpile the boards at full retail price, for people who get desperate. I tried to buy up quantity from the A centers, but Tandy has apparently outflanked me. We're on our own, guys, so let's stick together.

Loyalty to the 2000 is what we're all about. I say it's a muscular machine, but it may be surpassed by the million-dollar mainframes GFSO uses on his new job, including

three Cray XMPs, which make IBM's best roomful look like a child. And what do you think this member fires up when he gets home? Our dear machine. He even uses it to send evening love notes to the downtown mainframes, which never sleep. Members, the 2000 is still where it's at. You've found a home.

JSBS sends us the best reason why the sale last month was good news for every Orphan: His new HD has a bug in it, which Tandy repair is cheerfully fixing under the 90-day. "It certainly is nice to have two computers so I can keep going while repair takes their time!"

A Bee in Tandy's Bouquet

You senior members (a year is senior in this club) can remember my stories about the support we get from the good hands of Tandy (one finger of each hand). You recall

TANDY 2000 ORPHANS
DAVID R., COORDINATOR
387 MAIN ST.
WESTPORT, CT 06880

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #179
WESTPORT, CT
06880

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

that I asked Big Ed Juge, who is in charge of user groups the way Eichmann was in charge of the Jews, to work with me letting all 2000 owners know they had support at last. He told me he'd rather die than let a single 2000 owner have our address.

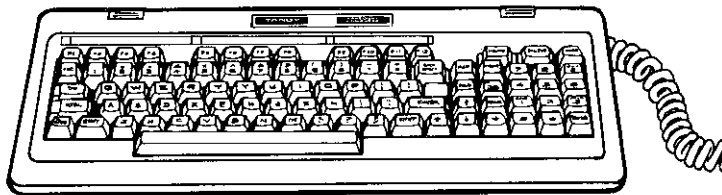
Well, sale time last month got us in touch with more of the owners, including some new buyers. For some reason I never got around to checking with Big Ed about it, but I kept in touch with ad manager Chuck Burton. When the story broke Friday afternoon about the sale starting the following Thursday, I urgently asked him for addresses of the 65 "A" centers that were rumored to be about to "blow out" the 2000. You know Friday afternoons at 4, you'll do anything to get out of the building. All Burton could find lying around was a roll of 65 mailing labels with the Tandy

return address, so he zeroxed it, silly goose. I got the zeroxes Saturday noon via Airborne.

Now I'm slow but I'm not motionless. Tandy labels? Wow. I zeroxed the words "Tandy 2000 Orphans" onto the return addresses, put the zeroxes on 64 huge envelopes (I skipped the Fort Worth store so as not to alarm Tandy HQ), and spent the next 72 hours assembling 64 point-of-sale displays advertising the Orphans, complete with return cards on a hook. I staggered out of the post office Tuesday noon, mission accomplished. (I put out the October Whimper that weekend also, which explains the stagger.)

Look at it from the store manager's point of view: He knows Tandy runs things like an army, no deviation, but he's tired of and sorry for the 2000 owners always asking him for support he can't give. These guys put our display on their counters without calling Fort Worth, and it wasn't until a week later that the frantic calls went out to all 64 A centers from Fort Worth: Get those filthy Orphan displays off your counter right now! They most of them did, but the salesmen are still sneaking cards to shoppers: there's still a steady flow of five new members a day, rather than the normal-curve trail-off you would expect when the advertising stopped.

Our membership has more than doubled in a month, assuming we get the usual percentage. (Nine out of ten 2000 owners join when we contact them.)



What's New at HQ

No word yet on that smokeware 386 board, but we have one member coming aboard with what sounds like some great software and even hardware. He will send you a ROM chip replacement (press it in) which recognizes the full 910K RAM that Envision gives, but the big one is this:

He can (he says, sample coming) MAKE OUR MOUSE WORK IN ALL SOFTWARE! His disk will make the silly rodent pretend it's your arrow keys, fooling both graphics and asky screens, and when your arrow is where you want it, the mouse buttons pretend to be "return" and "F1". It would be available to the Orphans at virtually no charge, but he's going to copyright it so the IBM crowd can't steal it.

He has other goodies also, which he's sending along for our review. He sounds capable and ready to do more: how, for example, would you like DOS 3.2 ported to the 2000? Write us if yes, because he's not sure he wants to spend the required month on it and we'd have to have enough guys interested to find dollars (as a purchase price) for his work.

Future copies of back issues that you order will most likely be zeroxes. They are quickly going out of print. The price will still be \$5 each. Although they're not as pretty, they are more trouble to assemble. Back issues that are buyable are March, May, August and October 1987. I know I should be giving you contents summaries of these issues, but I am rushing to meet a typesetter who's moving to California, and I plan to list issue contents in the February Whimper.

Another complaint came in last month about Envision not returning their calls. Envision Designs, which makes boards for the 2000 that dwarf Tandy's efforts, runs a message machine at 509-547-1139, and reads letters addressed to it at 1539 West Pearl St., Pasco, WA 99301.

Anyway, it seems that the Envision shop (part of the Nechodom house) was thoroughly singed by a wiring failure, and Dave spent a month in October and November repairing it. Chances are that he's again doing what a business should: answering calls within two days, letters within two weeks. If he doesn't, drop Orphans a line.

People often ask me to find them certain software or hardware at a price. I admit that I originally offered to do that, many issues ago, but I can't. Offers are few and my time is even shorter than it was. It is a sellers' market, so if you have something to sell, put in an ad. If you want to buy something, you're out of luck until (a) you spot the right ad, or (b) I score a big buy of Tandy leftovers.

Another service of this club has been on hold for a year, and thanks for your patience, but we will not, in 1987 and 1988, be putting in touch with each other members who want to rent software copies. I am not fazed by the legal whines from some members, but the task is just too massive for your overworked but coping commander-in-chief. I'll keep publishing reviews, including degree of 2000 compatibility, and you guys keep sending me short reviews of your favorite programs. But swapping disks is on hold until all the software goes "out of print." Then we'll try to get the manufacturers to let us dupe programs at cost, a few bucks a disk.

I welcome suggestions, but usually don't follow them. Why not charge everybody \$25 instead of \$10 and use the money to hire a secretary to write the Whimper every month, says MDP. For one thing, that would only get us half a secretary, and I might choose the half that doesn't type. Also, secretaries don't write, writers don't compute, computer types don't write, the problems are endless. Stick with me at two months between issues. MDP: I'm the best you can get and more than any other user group has.

2000 Orphans are a bright and resourceful lot, which you would expect from the owners of such a versatile and muscular machine. As you would expect, some of you have come up with my name or phone number. And you've been calling me on the phone. The main rule of this club is: Don't call headquarters! I don't have time for these calls.

Do you want us to hire a couple of staffers and raise your dues to \$50? And have fewer Whimpers? The only way you can expect one unpaid, overworked user to support the 2000 interactively is to wipe out the work that takes 75% of service man-hours: writing letters and answering phones. I do put in Orphan hours every day at phone and typewriter, but that's with the companies that provide our software and hardware. Most of you understand that, and I'll just have to be rude to the few that don't, starting now (even before you get this Whimper).

As for those who write me a plaintive request for non-Whimper information, you won't get it. Almost all people writing these notes are doing it before they are full members, which explains their being unaware of the necessities.

Here's a dandy illustration: I have been able to locate only one "user group" in the world larger than us, the Boston Computer Society, a foodfight system of dozens of newsletters with no opportunity for average members to speak back in them. Dues are \$35 with a general Tandy and a general DOS newsletter, to as much as \$107 if you get all their special-interest letters (graphics, databasing, education, etc.). With a paid staff of ten, their budget is a million dollars a year; ours is scarcely more than a hundredth of that. Our secret: no letters to or phone calls from members.

It's time to give numbers to more duplicate initials. BH, the sum of your zip code digits is 25; BH2, you have a 16. CC23; CC2, you're 21. DP,17; DP2,10. DWC,35; and DWC2, your digits only add up to 12. GK,17; GK2,11. GL,19; GL2 only 8. HS,13; HS2, 18. JAB 28, and JAB2, please send me your oddball canuck zipcode before you crash my database. JB3, you're a 13. JDS,27; JDS2,24. JRS,22; JRS2,25. LS,20; LS2,15. MJM,29; MJM2 has no zipcode and lives 11,000 miles from Orphan headquarters. RGA, 20; RGA2,27. RLS,21; RLS2,28. RW,17; RW2,16. That was close. WCC,21; WCC2,a mere 12.

Some of you Alphonse Cadwallader Joneses put Al Jones on your surveys, and anyone who may have left out a middle initial had better be alert for the two-letter version of his initials. A few couples have signed on as "Jim and Mary Smith," and they must be on the alert for something like JMS. The reason for all this initial stuff is that for both brevity and security, the Whimper talks about members in initials only, except occasionally in for-sale ads and by lines of contributors.

If you believe you can supply a longer, more accurate set of initials, please drop us a line. No suffixes like III, Jr., or M.D. will be in initials.

RNE, you say you have written two books on the Tandy 2000. My god, send them to HQ at once! We'll pay price, postage, and \$10 for your lunch if you get them out the day you get this newsletter. Hearing about two unknown books on the 2000 doesn't get me any more excited than hearing that our corner doughnut shop was being visited by a condor, a dodo, and 90-year-old Adolf Hitler in drag. Anything you send will be reviewed and advertised in the next issue.

We now have so many members that you would expect two or three a day to bail out and head for non-Tandy 386 country. But loyalty is our strong suit, and it's two or three a month. Those of you who do quit, you get free member advertising in the Whimper, but consider donating your machinery to Orphans, which can dole it out to members with breakdowns at dirt prices. You wouldn't be getting much of your original investment back anyway, so why not just give it away to a worthy organization?

Lots of people are asking for the way to remove the copy protection from DB III. I tried to pick up a \$10 copy at the sale, but no go, they'd rather burn their huge pile. So one of you guys who has a still-protected original disk of DB III, please mail it to me and I'll deprotect it for you, sending it back in about a week. Meanwhile, I'll run a machine-language comparison between yours and my unprotected one, and in the next whimper (if one of you guys cooperates as above), I'll tell all the rest of the prisoners of locked DB III how to wipe out the protection. Then you can all put it on a hard disk where it belongs.

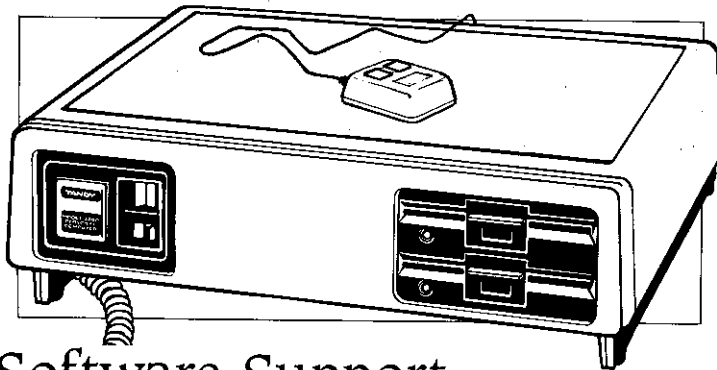
The grand champion of new-member getters is LCH. Congratulations, LCH. You get your choice of any of the surplus 2000s being sold through headquarters, for \$25 under any price named, if you contact us before they're sold. That should give you a few days to decide. I've lost count, but LCH has pulled in about ten members.

Two programs which are mainstays of your leader's word work, Framework and Microsoft Word, have not been adapted to our machine after Tandy bought the first versions. Now the talent hunt: Who among you has IBM versions of these programs or either one? Please send HQ a note, and if we call you back, send us a disk copy. Then Orphans will run a comparison to see if the same adaptations to the 2000 will work with the latest versions. Talent hunt part 2: Who among you is able and willing to run these side-by-side comparisons of three MS Words or three Frameworks? Please write HQ.

APO and FPO members, we heed your plea: henceforth all military overseas members get first-class air mail to their city addresses, if they have supplied them to Orphans.

We have a zerox of a Tandy lie, sent in by a member. It offers the mouse and mouseboard, promising that Windows for future delivery is included in the price. His sales zerox proved he bought, and he was cheated. Tandy has consistently denied having Windows, thus evading their promise. Of course Tandy does ship Windows, at an inflated \$100 for the IBM version, including a disk of corrections and nasty deletions for the 2000 which you can buy separately from Tandy for \$10 (part #700-2611).

In case some of you haven't heard, our annual membership fee is now \$15. Renewal is your responsibility; if you're late, any issue you miss in the interim is yours for the \$5 back-issue charge.



Software Support

Norton Utilities 3.1 needs an added "/D1" when loaded on a 2000, to show itself on the screen, says MSS.

I'm always on the hunt for IBM-style software (the non-graphic kind) that runs on our machine. The best prices I have seen are on page 195 of the December Shopper, Warehouse Data, 800-421-3135.

A bulletin for those of you who love (or just yearn for) AutoCAD: the last version that will ever support our machine is the 2000 package (specify it) of version 2.62. They are "dropping Tandy" (rather than the 2000), they say with audible satisfaction. It seems that not many people in the business like Tandy any more than we do. Their next version is numbered 9, allegedly "completely new," but chances are it still has four wheels and gets you there.

Newer owners of the 2000, if you find 2.11.01 or .02 packed in the box, ask Tandy (a store) to give you the later DOS disk numbered 2.11.03. They will probably charge you \$10 and make you visit the store twice (to order and to pick up). Don't let the store salesmen make you feel small--they've only been in computing a week longer than you, and you have the advantage, being interested in learning more (they're not).

The fixes sent in by JSBS that you read about in the October Whimper are for DOS 2.11.03, not 02; his finger slipped.

JSBS and others have been complaining that under the latest DOS, an Envision 640 boots up with flashing garbage before tamely showing the DOS screen. Confirmed, but why worry? Consider it an amusement to fill the fifteen seconds of boot time. One member has come up with ways to cut down boot time by having the puter skip some useless searches its ROM insists on. I wrote him for his patch but he hasn't sent it yet.

PTS asks for a patch to run SuperCalc 1. Forget it and buy SuperCalc 3, which Tandy put out in a 2000 version and is very cheap now, when you can find it.

Infocom games, every one he's bought and that's six, run on the 2000 without a hitch for MDP. Every one is a story with you as the main character, you make the choices, you pay the consequences. Tandy sells two Infocoms as "2000 Version," neither of them in MDP's library, which shows you that Tandy doesn't mind taking credit for things they didn't do.

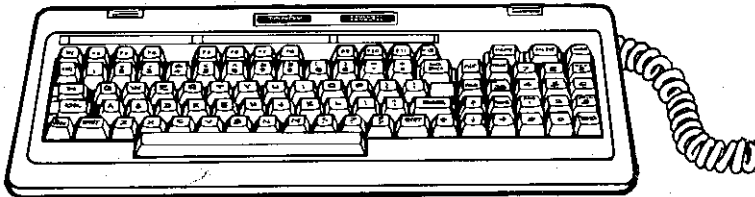
JT has sent us a long list of usable software that overlaps but enlarges the Orsten list, as has RBM, and numerous members have let us have one or two titles that expand it. Orsten also has sent an enlarged version. We will include all the list additions in our February issue, and a complete enlarged list in a near-future Whimper.

We have technicians writing us patches and/or sending us beta test versions at MousePerfect, WordPerfect, Adobe, Aldus, Microsoft and Intellisoft (Bookmark). They aren't members so I can safely say, get off your tails and produce, guys!

We keep getting questions about the desktop publishing majors. As pointed out elsewhere in this issue, Orphans is doing a study of the whole 2000-to-Postscript universe, but for a guess, Ventura runs in Gem, but maybe not our Gem; PageMaker runs in Windows, but maybe not our Windows. Tests will tell.

Those of you frustrated by screen 0,0 in Basic: Here's a patch that enables screen 0,0 to produce real text with a slow scroll. Debug your way (or enter with a utility) into Basic.exe at address 64B1. At that location you will find value B401; replace it with 9090. Better use a copy of your original disk, in case of mistakes.

If you are curious about the crash-saver BookMark, which saves current work in any program to hard disk, so a power failure loses you only a minute or two's work, hear this: They have sent us several evaluation copies, but they don't run on our machine. They have a technical guy who calls occasionally and says he is trying to port or patch BookMark to the 2000. I'll Whimper the news to you if he does.



Program Problems

DAW bought Windows with the mouse four years ago, yes four, and in four years of phone calls to Tandy and its dealers he has had no delivery on his "backorder." Tandy doesn't "support" your 2000 as the salesman promised, never did, and never intended to. Tandy's alleged Windows is merely the aging plain-vanilla IBM version, street price \$60 (consider it a cost of doing business with Tandy), to which you add the Tandy 2000 Windows driver disk, part number 700-2611, \$10. But as the May Whimper pointed out, that disk secretly erases the drivers for non-Tandy printers, so modify a dupe of your Windows and then re-copy any needed drivers from the original.

A letter in PCM this month claims that 2000 Windows supports color and extended memory. Orphans disagrees on both counts.

DAW finds RM-Cobol 5E on the 2000 laborious compared to 5F on an AT. Not surprising, but what member can give him a clue to an easy run on his 2000?

Many ask for help on deprotecting DBIII, so I am working on it. Popular copiers don't run on the 2000, so people have been borrowing PCs, on which they process the offending 2000 software. Does anyone know of any copy program that does run on the 2000?

PTS asks a good question: How well does plain-vanilla DBIII+ run on the 2000? If problems, does any member who uses III+ have a 2000 patch on disk? Let us know.

RGH says that owning Open Access is worse than owning an open sewer. It freaks out, crashes, and even teases by printing an occasional complete word. He says that while Tandy support, for which he pays a service contract, has been sickening, Software Products, whom he also paid for support for three years, has been world-class disgusting. Welcome to the world of computers, RGH; it doesn't get any better. RGH suggests that Open Access might perform better with more memory (which Tandy refuses to provide). Can anyone dumb enough to use Open Access confirm this?

ONE MEMBER asks us if Orphans has some kind of grudge against Tandy for dropping the 2000. Certainly not. The dump was the only sensible business move when a machine isn't earning its rent on store shelves. Our beef is more subtle: Tandy salesmen and ads are constantly crowing that their 7000+ computer centers (the real number seems to be about 300) enable them to give every computer purchaser quick and complete support. Only partly true. They could give this kind of support, having many outlets, except for two major problems: first, computer salesmen don't ordinarily know much about computing, simply because someone who does is not going to work in a store for the state minimum wage plus 10% of sales.

The second problem is more serious: By saying they "can" give great support because they have more outlets than anyone else, Tandy is clearly implying that they *WILL* give that great support. That implication is not only false: my talks with half a dozen Tandy execs who have called to explain their posture convince me that it is a lie.

Their 4th-place sales rank, despite rampant overpricing, is partly achieved by convincing buyers that Tandy "support" is the opposite of that of ordinary sell-and-forget mail firms selling the same things for half the price. Untrue: both sources provide the same support--almost none, and grudgingly with high repair prices. You silly people have been buying smoke, not support, with that 100% markup from market prices.

Multimate Advantage II does not run on the 2000, FJD reports. He went the route with it.

What member has some experience to share in those other supposedly easier databases, DBXL and Cornerstone? Also Disk Manager, which we recommended for high-numbers formatting, also has problems in its version 3.1. I can't read this part of my notes, but I think you have to ask for a later version.

Hardware Help

A reminder to new members who have not heard: The 2000 got about 40 "mods" (hardware modifications) in the first two years of its existence, after which all machines got an M at the beginning of the serial number. When older machines are brought into service for mods, the serviceman is supposed to scratch the M onto the number plate. The mods were free until last September, but now they cost about \$60, I hear--probably well worth it because they eliminate annoying bugs.

If your new machine does not have DOS 2.11.03, order it from a Tandy store; it should cost you \$10 plus the usual month of calling the store.

The Whimper made an error as to formatting the hard disks you install (October issue), DN points out. You're okay up to 30 megs, but the file HFORMAT from our DOS does not format over 32 megs. So, for 35 to 71 megs (and

presumably for less), you use ML Format from MicroLink Technologies, P.O. Box 2666, Sumter, SC 29151, 1-800-334-9612; Bob Spencer, Jr. is the honcho. Envision ships ML Format with its over-30 drive kits, for an extra charge which I think is \$80. MLT is working with me on setting a price for sales through the Orphans, which I hope will be a low price.

Envision boards can only beef your 2000 up to 896K memory, PAE, and you have two alternatives: buy their 896K motherboard (swapped at their place) with an 8087 math chip, or else keep your computer at home and slip in their 640K board, which combines with your motherboard 256 for the same 896K. With either route, a Tandy memory tray like your 256 becomes useless. Not quite, however: Envision offers you a \$100 trade-in on it before or after you get a 640 board. Dave Nechodom pulls out the outmoded little Tandy chips and recycles the board into a 640, for you or someone else.

We already have a report from one member who just put in the 40 meg Seagate, the #251, using the Envision kit, and he said it was a snap, though he's not mechanically inclined.

Since I already bought the Envision 640 board, I wanted some way to get one of the \$200 math chips for the 2000, which are fast disappearing from Puter Shopper, without buying the Envision bottom deck for \$825 (members). Envision's Dave Nechodom was kind enough to tell the Orphans how:

First you buy the chip, which (contrary to PCResource Dec87 p95) has to be faster than our 8mhz machine--the 8087-1, which is 10mhz. It's in just three ads in the Dec87 Shopper: Discount Micro (p91, \$196, 800-727-8646), Evsan (p316, \$225, 800-443-8853), and MicroTech (p229, \$230, 800-521-9035). Be sure to ask the usuals: in stock or just smoke? credit card (always use it) surcharge? shipping charge? any extras included? promise of shipping date?

At this point you're wondering, why go through all this to get a math chip? Your doubts are correct. Unless you have a CAD program, or some heavyweight statistical cruncher, the math chip gives you absolutely no extra speed. But IF you will be using such a program, you really can't work without it, unless you fancy a three-minute wait every time you ask AutoCAD to zoom in on a detail of your drawing. CAD users, plow on:

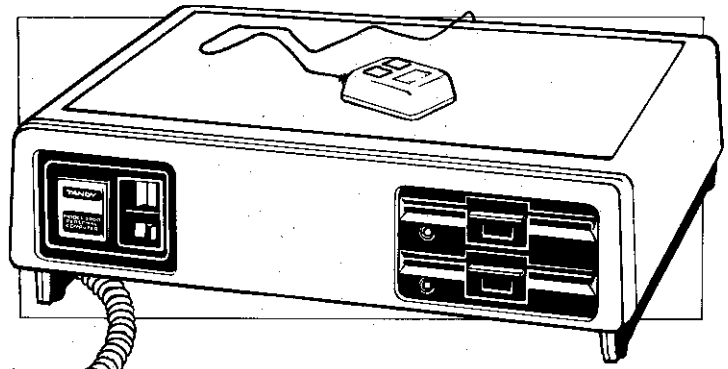
You also have to buy a little math-chip-board to go between the chip and the main logic board where it installs. This board is female top and bottom, first accepting the blades of the chip when you push them together. Later you will press that sandwich, even more gently, onto the pins of math-chip row on the main board.

Envision told me of more sources for the parts, and a third part you need: The 8087-1 can also come from Hamilton 800-562-7834 or Almac 800-542-5622, or any other Intel distributor. These same companies may have the \$40 heart of our puter, modified for math, called the R-80186, don't leave out the R. Envision itself will sell you the 8087-1 for \$250 (Intel list is \$330), or the between-board for \$195. This board is also reported to be available, and not available, from Tandy. Now how's that for solid, specific information? Another source for at least the 8087-1 at good price is Microprocessors Unlimited 918-267-4961.

That's close to \$500 for parts, but the good part is that they push right in; you don't have to lend your machine to Envision for the week or month the job might take. Of course many of us now have multiple machines, so a loan can be easy.

HAWKEYE PIERCE, REPORT TO SURGERY

Then you open the puter, which is just about as difficult and time-consuming as going to the bathroom when you're dressed for snow: a deep frown and five minutes. You MUST ground yourself, your tools, and all nearby metal surfaces to big metal (a kitchen utensil or pot will do) and no synthetic clothing or rags allowed. Cotton and wool only!



YE OLDE FORT WORTH PHONE BOOK

Radio Shack 500 Two Tandy Ctr	878-4100	Computer Training & Support	2333 Minns Dr	831-2168
RADIO SHACK-A DIVISION OF TANDY CORPORATION COMPUTER CENTERS		Computer Maintenance Center	831-4411	
One Tandy Center	335-7198	Telephone Service Center	654-1333	
2801 Alta Mera Dr	738-0251	National Headquarters One Tandy Center	390-3011	
2801 Alta Mera Dr	737-2941	Warehouse 0203 900 Terminal Rd	390-8308	
6250 McCart Ave	346-4635	Warehouse 0803 900 Terminal Rd	390-8308	
North East Mall Hurst	284-1518	National Parts 0048 900 E North Side Dr	870-5608	
2500 E Ranool Mill Rd	649-5092	Radio Shack Dealer Store Hwy 114	491-2881	
Metro Number	640-6079	Radio Shack Franchise Bldg 2615 Gravel	284-4166	
Burleson Plaza Shp Ctr	295-7842	Tandy Center Ice Skating Rink		
2247 S Cooper St	861-0018	One Tandy Center	878-4888	
104 S Ector Dr	283-0018	TANDY CENTER MALL		
Forum 303	649-2518	Mail Office 100 Tandy Center	390-3720	
Hulen Mall	292-7095	Merchants' Association	390-3717	
6000 Jacksboro Hwy	237-3612	Security	390-3799	
430-A E Lamar Blvd	860-0069	Building Engineer	390-3798	
5400 Woodway	292-4245	STORES		
2305 W Park Row Dr	274-1252	Casual Corner Tandy Center	332-4196	
RETAIL STORES		Clyde Campbell Menswear		
Alta Mesa Blvd	346-0083	One Tandy Center	335-5467	
1320 Airport Frwy	283-2551	Colonial Cafeteria One Tandy Center	336-2666	
3901 E Belknap St	834-0951	Connie's Shoes One Tandy Ctr	332-2551	
Bedford Central Shp Ctr Bldg	283-2613	Duffy's Food & Spirits One Tandy Ctr	870-2289	
2900 W Berry St	923-7238	Evelyn's Flowers 122 One Tandy Center	332-5111	
Burleson Plaza Shp Ctr	295-0451	Giovanni's Pizza 124 One Tandy Center	332-7234	
6224 Camp Bowie Blvd	732-8168	Goldsmith Shop The Tandy Center	870-1711	
Cherry Hill Plaza	246-7141	Happy Stork Baby Shop The		
1108-A N Collins Av	460-7184	One Tandy Center Suite 133	336-5869	
2247 S Cooper St	274-2160	Hot Dog House One Tandy Ctr	332-2671	
3183 Denton Hwy	831-1951	Ice Cream Stop One Tandy Ctr	332-3178	
104 S Ector Dr	283-7951	Instead Of Balloons Tandy Tower N	336-1204	
8109 Hwy 80 W	244-7977	Japanese Bowl One Tandy Center	332-6923	
504 Fielder North Plaza	274-7431	Kabob House The One Tandy Center	332-9670	
Forum 303	649-3371	Merle Harmon's Fan Fair		
Hulen Mall	292-3781	7624 Grapevine Hwy	589-7223	
6000 Jacksboro Hwy	237-5531	Norman Tailors 209 One Tandy Center	332-3055	
4707-C E Lancaster Av	531-2551	Rubin John S DDS		
3075-A Mansfield Hwy	531-2121	Two Tandy Center Suite 107	332-5192	
6310 Meadowbrook	457-1621	Sikkes For Hair One Tandy Center	870-2588	
4250 McCart Ave	927-7828	Spud 'N Saled Restaurant One Tandy	335-1876	
North Hills Mall	284-5229	Sunshine Hallmark 110 One Tandy Ctr	335-3702	
Northeast Mall 1101 Melbourn	284-4531	Tandy Center Hair Shop		
805 E Park Row Dr	277-3151	112 One Tandy Ctr	332-2938	
2305 W Park Row Dr	274-1252	Texas Commerce Bank One Tandy Ctr	336-9661	
Ridgmar Mall	731-4185	Uncle Charles One Tandy Center	332-6923	
6242 Rufe Snow Dr	656-2500	Wilson's Convenience Shops		
2525 W 7 St	336-4684	One Tandy Center	332-5527	
397 Six Flags Mall	649-8765	Tandy Computer Leasing		
7816-A South Frwy	293-2711	1500 Two Tandy Center	390-3890	
311 Southwest Plaza Shopping Ctr	483-5785	TANDY CORPORATION		
One Tandy Center	336-3401	Executive Ofcs 1800 One Tandy Ctr	390-3700	
900 Terminal Rd	624-1196	Controller's Dept	390-3728	
5400 Woodway Dr	292-3927	Employee Benefit Programs	390-3760	
Outlet Store 900 Terminal Rd	654-0337	Insurance Dept	390-3042	
TELEPHONE CENTERS		Legal Dept	390-3749	
One Tandy Center	335-2078	Personnel & Employment	390-3535	
Metro Number	429-7060	Real Estate & Property Management	390-3716	
North East Mall	284-1425	Shareholder Relations	390-3021	
Metro Number	589-0077	Treasurer's Dept	390-3727	
2801 Alta Mera Dr	738-0776	Tandy Corporation Aviation Dept		
2801 Alta Mera Dr	738-0251	Meacham Field	626-2808	
TANDY DATA PROCESSING CENTER		TANDY DATA PROCESSING CENTER		
Local Dist Ofc 235 Loop 820	284-1988	400 Two Tandy Ctr	870-0800	
Mid Cities Ofc 235 Loop 820	284-3213	Tandy Home Computers		
Regional Ofc 235 Loop 820	284-4053	5560 Blue Mound Rd	232-8200	
Regional Service Coordinator		Metro Number	577-1236	
7435 Airport Frwy	284-5887	Tandy Informant Showroom		
Consumer Products Service Ctr		1950 Stemmons Frwy Dallas	263-9238	
7435 Airport Frwy	284-1433	Tandy Software Assembly 205 Nw 7	336-1330	

The main logic board is like an order of two slices of toast buttered on all four sides. The first (top) side has components plugged in. Flip to the fourth (bottom) side and find the row of 62 solder-dots. It will be like this picture, but in mirror

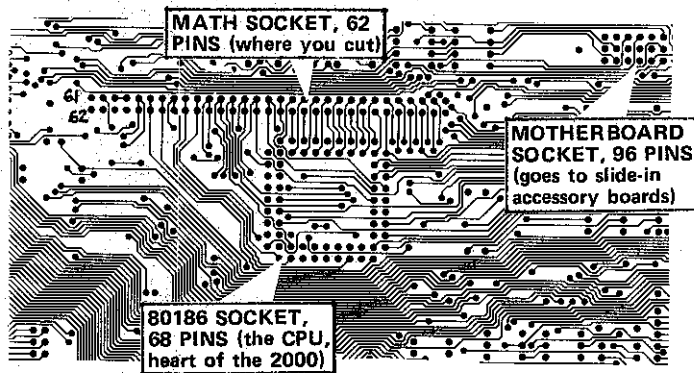


image of it. That 68-pin square will be to lower left rather than lower right as the picture shows, and the triple row of 96 pins to the left (right in picture). Our work will be done on the double row at center, 62 pins in two rows of 31. Note that I have numbered 61 and 62; the top row goes 61, 59, etc. down to 1 and the bottom row is 62 to 2.

Using a broken-tip exacto knife or other mini-scraper, scrape-cut the "traces" (printed lines of solder) between pins 29 & 30 (across from each-other), then 31 & 32, every trace up through 53 & 54. That leaves the 13 straight-across traces all disconnected, but leave the zig-zag traces that sneak between them alone! Then cut the lengthwise trace between 55 and 57. Bottom done; flip the board.

I have just reviewed Nechodom's instructions for adding four jumpers and cutting two pins, and they are not clear enough. So, to take a quote from the penny dreadfuls of long ago: **TO BE CONTINUED!**

The two members who asked about Microsoft Word 1.1, that was a Whimper error. Tandy never has shipped anything later than Word 1.0 for the 2000, although Microsoft is currently preparing Orphans a beta copy of Word 4.0. Guaranteed: It won't run on our machine. Possible: a member will volunteer to port it to the 2000, meaning alter its screen, mouse and printer calls on disk so that we can run it. Who among you inventive types will volunteer?

Several bright members have asked, why not adapt other mice to imitate the extinct DigiMouse? Simply, says DN, because the "Digi" is a lie: Alone among mice, which send digital info down their wire, the 2000 mouse is nothing but switches, turning ON or OFF the left, right, forward, and back rollers, 3 buttons (the third never built). The remaining two of nine lines are power in and ground. The roller switches go on and off, using a tiny light and optical relay, each time the mouse goes X distance (16th-inch?) in that direction. Other rodents are tiny puters, converting the motion and buttons into letters, numbers and symbols.

Up a Laser River

The printer revolution Orphans promised you in March is now in the test phase at Orphan headquarters. We are waiting for delivery of three or more PostScript laser printers, of the new breed costing about \$4000 retail. We will make a selection from the group, based on two criteria, excellence and cost. The cost factor means that we will require that the selected printer have a "street" price, meaning about \$2500 to \$2900 in Puter Shopper. We may act to create that street price by selling it through Orphan headquarters, as long as the manufacturer doesn't forbid our price-cutting (some do). Then, either way, the first decent printing for a computer will be part of the 2000 system.

We are sending inquiries and pressure to various major software makers as to their including a PostScript driver in their printer disk. Part of our creation of a system will be finding or even making these drivers. These drivers are becoming available for CAD programs now (such as AutoCAD 2.62), so our new printer will function as a high-speed plotter, although with a limit of 8x13 art size.

We are also requesting review copies of all major software which enhances laser output. AutoCad and PageMaker came today,

It is our intention to obsolete every dot and daisy printer in the entire family of 2000 users. The printers we have been using are a disgrace. I have a 1970 IBM typewriter (called the Composer) which has more fonts and prettier output than any non-PostScript-laser printer you guys can buy. We have a machine that can read and write one page a second, feeding printers that produce shameful copy at a page a minute. Even the lasetjet crowd, which has up-to-date speed at \$1000 to \$3000, produces fewer, uglier fonts than that old typewriter.

Given that we want all those other printers taking trips to the dump, we want DOS to run on PS-laser also. Even your most casual chkdsk or dir should print on bond paper in a typeface and size of your choice, when you need a printout. You should, I believe, have the choice of an immediate printout with most of the page blank, or waiting until a full page is ready for print and then getting your beautiful printout. We hope to accomplish this flexibility with either a lineprinter driver for your DOS, or an autoexec.bat message to the printer.

Finally, as we said in March, we will also have a typesetter of coffee-table-book quality in that same printer: When you run your print sideways down the page (landscape mode) in a large size like 40 point, its 13-inch length at 300dpi can be pasted on boards and reduced on the printer's plate camera--to 4-inch width (900dpi) for books, or (using 50 point) to 3-inch width (1200dpi) for glossy-paper magazine and oversize book columns. Line art reduces just as nicely, but photographs are fairly poor with the scanner-to-laser system; best bet for photos is a halftone screen/print from a graphic service or your own enlarger using a screen attachment.

We are ushering in a new age of computer output, and most likely we will be the first computer to have it: all our printing on one machine, and all of it of a quality between the best typewriters and typesetters.

You all know where your "A" center is, from the sale. Each one of you, please go there and sniff around today. My informants tell me that although Tandy paid them "cost" for the 2000 leftovers, they were instructed to take it all to local trash dumps rather than shipping to Tandy. Try, at best, to give the guys at the dump \$100 to let you gather a dozen carloads for your cellar or garage. Next best, hammer out a full-load deal and write HQ for confirmation or more negotiations--some managers are ready to deal.

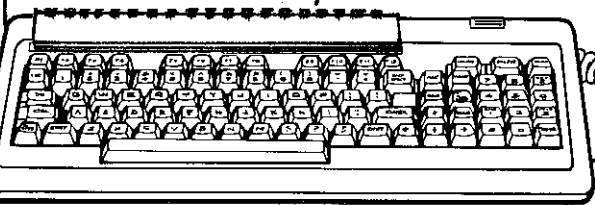
Orphans will reimburse your bribes (\$100 or less) and provide transportation of your pile to HQ. It's a crime to destroy these beautiful machines.

Mobility

America claims to be the land of promise, as probably most nations do, but all Orphans over 20 know that, more accurately, we live in a land of possibility. Still, that possibility, that feeling, makes us happy to be here.

The same is true of the 2000. More than any other computer yet made, it gives the home and small-business user the chance to do anything, be it drawings, name-and-number processing, or writing. This unmatched mobility of use is ample reason to stay with the 2000 for years more, in preference to the rush of immature 386 systems and, especially, the "work stations" and "dedicated" machines, which are nothing more than crippled computers.

check this F-key flipchart



To enhance our quick-change abilities, we have on this page a simple little home-brew flipchart.

More important, we are working on a whole new world for 2000 enhancement, laser publishing. Our call to the firms which make under-\$4000 PostScript lasers (street price under \$3000) has gone out, and we should be testing them before the next issue. We'll also test all related software.

Here's a deal you can't refuse: Envision has cut its 640 upgrade price to \$195. If you send that amount and a Tandy 2000 memory slide-in board (with either 128K or 256K on board) to Envision, they will ship your board back with 640K on it, together with a disk and a little manual that will convince your machine that it has 896K of ROM in all (mainboard 256 + Envision 640).

Still catching up to orders after his fire repair, Nechodom of Envision has run out of Tandy memory boards, which he strips to make his 640 boards. So the only way now is to send in your board. The Envision address is 1539 W. Pearl St., Pasco, WA 99301. The phone machine is 509-547-1139 and Dave, you're going to have to return phone and mail contacts more quickly! We have another member complaint. (Orphans sympathizes with business members who must answer calls to get customers: Our policy is exactly opposite, no calls accepted.)

HARDWARE HINT 1: Tired of waiting a minute for the starting-typing when your puter fires up? When you see the keyboard redlights flash, you can start typing as fast as you can: the keyboard buffer remembers everything and it later appears on the screen.

HARDWARE HINT 2: To ease up those snap-flash screen jumps, get a slow scroll by typing ALT/→. Typing it again moves back to flank speed displays. The 2000 is less intimidating when it rolls gently.

Consider the fascinating removable hard disk, such as the one Tandy put in its 3000 in some configurations. I picked up a cartridge-disk controller card (26-5147) at the Tandy sale, just in case I would ever need it, and I've been sniffing through Puter Shopper for ways to use it. The only options seem to be the Iomega boxes (one or two 10s or 20s)(Dec87 pp.27,46,67, 110,161,292), a Mountain box (p.27), and a Tulin internal (p.254). Right now the makers are switching down to 5-inch disks, still the same 10 and 20 megs. Cartridge drives are expensive, about \$800 per slot, but those who are constantly filling up their regular hard disks will love the convenience of just pulling out a \$100 cartridge and slipping in another. The cartridges actually cost about \$50 (street price) for 10 megs, \$75 for 20. My current favorites are internals (fit in a floppy space), 10Meg Tulin (\$700 from Tulin) and 20Meg Iomega (\$1300 list, maybe \$1000 street (too new for pricing)).

With a cartridge drive or two, you don't have to sit around getting tense while you back up or spring-clean your hard disk. The maintenance chores can be postponed to more relaxed days ahead. And you don't have to sit through the "restore" process to use the moved files: just slip the previous cartridge back in and you're in business. Even when you're stuck with a backup or major copy from your hidden hard disk, the 10- or 20-meg capacity of the removable cartridge allows you to escape the slavery of rotating ten or twenty floppies.

No need to decide on hardware now, as long as you pick up the cartridge controller when you see it on sale. (I paid \$140.)

YOU'LL FLIP OVER THIS ONE

Do you switch around among major programs, the ones with all the function keys active? It is frustrating to pop into a new country with a new F-key language, and spend more time reaching for the manual than in useful work. Here is your solution:

Pop over to a well-equipped copy place with a dozen 8½ x11 sheets of ivory or gray card stock, which you have inaccurately sliced in half vertically (wavy, ragged edges). Stack your 24 4x11 sheets with all 24 wavy sides in the same direction, and ask the clerk to cut the straight edges off--on their big paper cutter--in a rectangle 11x1½. Check the work for identical sizing and then ask them to bind it with a 19-ring plastic puncher-binder, using a 1/4" comb (the plastic). The comb costs them 6 cents but the machine is \$300, so expect a \$2 charge.

Take your tall notebook home and sit down with cutting board, xacto knife and centimeter ruler. Sorry to metricate you so suddenly, but the USA is a jerk for clinging to the old system. Setting the binder to "closed" position, open all pages to expose the bottom page. Cut rectangular notches out of its edge, 13mm deep. Your first notch (starting at one end) goes from 0mm (the end) to 9mm; the next 84 to 100; then 177 to 193; and the other end notch is 270 to 279. Cut two extra notches from the ends, 7mm deep (beyond the 13mm depth of the main notches), each one 4mm wide (0 to 4 and 275 to 279). You'll end up with a pad that looks like this: (see left margin)

Curve the notch page into your function-key label slots, teasing it in slowly so as not to tear or wrinkle it. Where there is resistance, try for xacto correction; you can even cut off the page and try again, after you mark the differences on the bad page.

Take the slide-in labels that come with the software manuals and double-face-tape them to one page each. Mostly, you won't have labels, and to fill these pages you buy "removable" sticky labels about 1" by 3". Letter them neatly, and compute in the best of health.

If you are having trouble remembering other controls, like the cursor movers in word processors, you can make the same pad with an extra 4 inches on the right, with room to note each program's special controls. This extra part has no notches, but your friendly neighborhood binder probably has a maximum comb length of 12", so he'll have to leave an inch and a half unbound at each end.

If you want to get fancy, buy a pack of those colored notebook indexers and trim them to half-inch-long minitabs. Hang three of them off each end of your pad for an easy flip to your six most-used programs.

Flee Market

Many Orphans write headquarters asking me to find them hardware and software. Some are desperate, but none get replies except in the *Whimper*. Here's your disappointing reply, guys: It's a seller's market now, and probably will be for a year. This new ad column will (for now) carry only material offered for sale. It is likely to sell quickly. Tandy has sponged up all the goodies, and for now we'll have to starve a little. Be sure to offer things when you cease using them.

Tandy 2000 HD, has AutoCad 2.17 plus VersaCad entry 1.0 and 4.0 and other things on hard disk, all thumbs and doesn't know how to erase. \$500, write headquarters with phone and best time for collect call.

Tandy 2000 double floppies, \$200 each (two machines) including shipping. Write headquarters.

Microsoft Word 1, 2000 Version complete, plus the Rampa book on it, \$75 from F.J.Dockstader, 165 W. 66th St., New York, NY 10023. The book is worth \$20 and good, so it amounts to \$55 for this early Word (on which your editor now writes).

Tandy double-floppy HD 10 meg (three drives in all) with all mods, all graphics and CM-1, software includes Omniterm and Videotex, \$800. Call Charles Adams, 615-528-8795, that's Tennessee.

DOUBLE-FLOPPY SYSTEM, \$850 including shipping within continental USA. Has 256K plus Envision 640 =896K, plus spare memory board w/256K. HARD DRIVE 10meg w/controller; monographics w/VM1; mouse w/clockboard. Lotus, dBII, MSASM, Cobols(2), Multimate 3.2, Softerm.Susalla, 313-524-2163(home), 313-588-3400(office). POBx99052,Troy, MI 48099.

Software Support

The easiest way to fill our computer toolboxes is with \$100+ store-ware -- the Lotuses, dBases, Word-Perfects -- all the major programs that Tandy cheerfully supplies us in stone-age 1983 versions, promising updates in a few weeks.

CDT, for example, wandered recently into a Tandy Putertrap and fell in love with the dirt-priced 2000. Snapping up a full set, he noted the vintage of the Framework they were adding to the heap. No problemo, said salesman and store manager. Framework II for the 2000 is due any day now, and will be supplied at no charge. Fortunately they wrote the "II" on the sales slip for CDT, and an embarrassed Fort Worth coughed up free dBIII plus PFS File and Report to stay out of court.

Framework II, as we old-timers know, is in volume E-F of the Tandy Fairy Tale Encyclopedia. The store manager was fired, CDT reports, but again, we old-timers know that all computer salesmen do the quit/fire routine every few months. They only enter the field after failing their first ten career choices, and after a stretch with Tandy they begin to yearn for career number twelve. CDT, you came along just in time.

Back to your computer toolbox: You do have other choices for the 2000, including a few programs that software makers continue to update for the 2000, respecting it more than they respect Tandy. See our next list update for titles.

A second source is all the IBM-style programs that do not "write the screen," meaning that the display they show you is in word-processor-style typing, not fancy boxes with reverse video. There are thousands of these--probably more than half the plain-vanilla IBM-style packages. They work; the screen-writers don't.



Your final choice, running to hundreds, is not in packages at all: it's on the wire boards at Compuserve and the rest, accessible through a modem. Many of these are games, or toys for grownups like gravelly drawings of naked ladies; but most are very handy (if small) programs like word-processors and utilities. (A utility, I find, is a disk which adds new manipulations to your hardware like a fancy screen or a way to work on other disks.)

If you think all this is yours when you have bought a modem (\$100 for adequate, \$300 for great), you're incorrect. The next thing you have to do is pay tens, even hundreds of dollars in time charges to the wire services and (often) the phone company. There is also your own loss in hours, because it is wise to keep an eye on your supposedly automatic modem.

And yet, these hundreds of small programs, which will begin to vanish as weeds grow on the 2000's grave, are important and useful to us all. Orphans wants all 2000 owners to have access to these myriad programs for \$5, \$10, and so on, rather than ten times those prices -- by ordering at-cost disks from headquarters. And so, here is our plan:

A Baudy Proposal

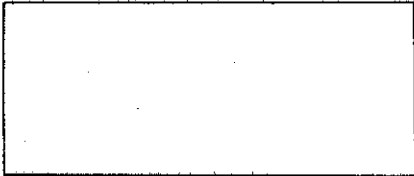
ANOTHER CALL to every modem-owning member: Orphans wants to have a library of every 2000-running piece of freeware and shareware in existence. Those of you who have downloaded heavy diskfuls of them, please be kind enough to mail your disks to Orphan headquarters. We will happily pay you for your disks and even your download time. If a second or third member sends things we just got, we will send them back with a dollar to repay the postage.

As soon as we have such a library, we will review it in the *Whimper*. If you can send capsule reviews with your disk, please do so. As with any writing members send, if it is long please load it on disk for the trip to HQ. Several modem users have sent us a dozen of their favorites, but invariably in an archival code which I haven't had the time or brains to decipher. Use ASKY, guys, it's the universal language.

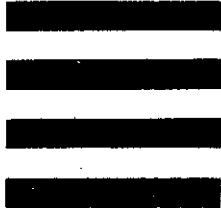
Once we have the freeware/shareware pile, we will disk it out to members on request at cost, adding any minor royalty that the shareware owners want, sending said owners that royalty.

no staples -
just an inch of
tape, please
↑

Tandy 2000 Orphan: You ought to put your return
address here in this box, just to be on the safe side.



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 34 WESTPORT, CT

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Tandy 2000 Orphans

387 Main Street
Westport, CT 06880



no staples - just an
inch of tape, please
↓

NEW MEMBERS: Please fill out, fold on lines and mail this sheet. The 45¢ business reply postage will be paid by the Orphans. Attention: this is an interactive club, so headquarters or another member may contact you occasionally. You must, repeat must, include in your answers the following four facts: the real name of a person who uses your 2000, including a first name (or middle, like "T. George"; second, the serial number of at least one 2000 owned by you, 7 digits from the big-box bottom plate that says "Tandy 2000;," third, the phone where we can contact you, a shared phone is okay but not a service or machine; and finally, your actual street address, home or business, where people and packages can come to your 2000. The farm crowd can give a rural route number, but those living beyond mail must describe, such as "4th log cabin on south bank of Yellowknife River." [A second space, at right, does NOT satisfy the address requirement. This mail-only address (ONLY) may be a P.O. box or shared mail drop, APO, anything like that.] IF YOU OMIT one or more of those required four facts, your payment below becomes a much-appreciated contribution to the organization which buys you no member benefits and will not be refunded. So be careful!

member's real name

member's real phone
(include area code)

home
office

serial number of your 2000(s)

preferred mailing

member's real address *

FOLD

address if different *

*You (or I) will condense your address to three 25-space lines: 1.name (which can include Ms., Jr., Ph.D., Pres., c/o Johnson, c/o Acme Co., and such stuff); 2.address (street, box, apartment, suite, building, APO, and so on); 3. city, two-letter ST and five-digit zip (I spurn the longer zipcodes). Outside USA, a fourth line will be added naming your country. Your address label will also have a "line 0" with your member expiration date and a mail code. Try to mention both when writing headquarters.

PAYMENT: \$15 USA, \$20 Canada, \$25 all other countries. (USA military APOs and FPOs are \$15) Either fill in the credit card info (Master or Visa only) (Orphans lose an 8% bank fee), or attach your check (preferred method) face down with one inch of tape, right about here. No personal checks outside USA, I'm tired of deadbeat Canadian banks. No overpayments--separate checks labeled "contribution" may be included (definitely not a requirement).

MASTER
VISA

EXPIRES

CREDIT-CARD ORDERING
SIGNATURE (PRINT IF NOT
NAME SHOWN AS MEMBER)

WHAT YOU'RE BUYING: 1.You get each Orphans' Whimper, our every-two-months newsletter, which is published on a date during the exact year after I deposit your payment. Depending on luck, that should be five or six issues. Your renewal or rollover is up to you, guided by info on your mailing labels. 2. You get free classified ads to sell hardware, or full-package software, but few people are selling now. Give exact description, exact price including all USA shipping (your gamble), and contact info. Beware, you could get hundreds of calls, or none at all. Just your own **FOLD** personal equipment--people selling as a business must send samples to HQ for review and possible rejection. Keep all prices cheap. Ads with dumb high prices will not run. 3.Send questions about making your hardware and software perform, and send your answers to questions if you know the solutions. 4. A FEW GET: low-price deals when I can get them from manufacturers, which will be offered in the Whimper. People with good contribution records (answers and articles) get first grab, and others get the leftovers by random choice. 5.NO ONE GETS: me on the phone or answers to letters (except in the Whimper). I'm doing 20-hour days, and you guys aren't paying me a dime, so I'm not answering those 20 daily letters or those 40 calls I'd get if you knew my number or last name. Besides, I'm just another ignorant user--the Whimper is mostly by smart guys who contact me.

WHAT YOU NEED SUPPORTED: List below, or on an insert sheet, your hardware (boxes, boards, gadgets) and software (bought or borrowed), to give Orphan HQ a picture of which items affect over 10% of members and therefore deserve support in the Whimper's expensive, hard-to-write pages. David R., coordinator