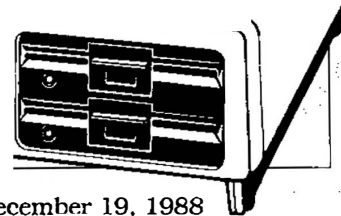
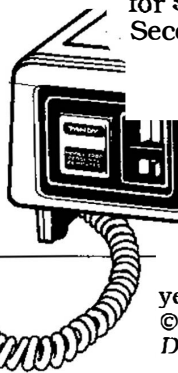
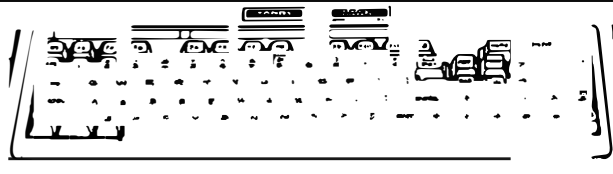


UP IN THE WORLD.  
USER: WE'RE THE BIGGEST ONE-MACHINE USER  
WE'RE GETTING BETTER WITH THE BEST

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the WHIMPER, 387 Main St., Westport, CT 06880. The Whimper (ISSN 1040-0052) is published every two months by the Tandy 2000 Orphans, address above for \$18 yearly (includes other member benefits). Second-class postage is paid at Westport, CT.

# The Tandy 2000 Orphans' WHIMPER



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David R., coordinator

## Mr. EISA Goes to Washington

The columnists have been clicking out wise sayings about EISA on their word processors of choice, but their trouble is that they get paid, so the columns get like sausages.

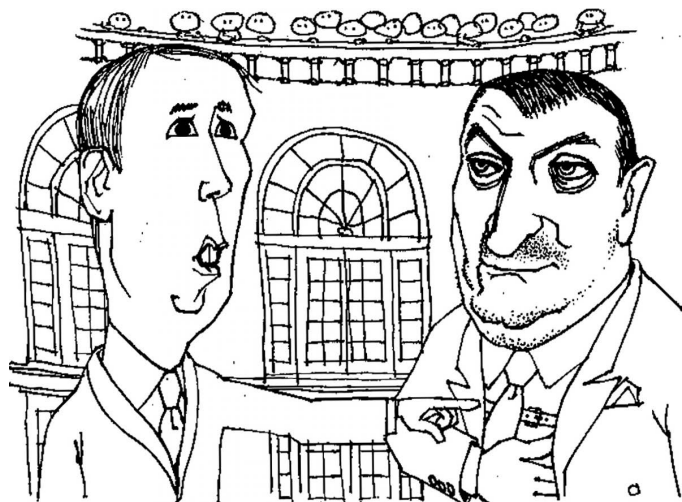
The IBM-haters say EISA will win because it offers as much as the microchannel bus, without the unpopularity IBM has and seems to crave. Group B says IBM's way is technically (read unexplainably) superior, and so must win, and besides EISA is vaporware. Group A replies that most of the system IBM is boasting about is also vaporware, and around the argument goes.

Your leader is now founding Group C, the Mister EISA-Goes-to-Washington group.

Luckily, both methods of marching messages 32-abreast around the box are feasible, and can become powerful. But IBM's combination of OS/2, presentation manager and future microchannel machines is 75% vaporware, and EISA is 100% vaporware.

Strangely, IBM has the flower-child love of every computer buyer working for a Fortune 500 corporation. This is easier to understand if we assume corporations routinely turn away all three-digit IQs.

Yes, IBM is looked at with loathing and fear by every computer company, from huge to garage.



But the bottom line is straight out of that native American movie myth, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington. The market, which always has the last word, will realize that both buses are adequate for the ten-thousand-dollar desk machines that are beginning to wipe out minicomputers and threaten mainframes.

And so the market will make its choice on the basis of image rather than content. With IBM now publicly

convicted of attempted murder of its clonemaker competitors, with everyone astounded that ego-trippers like Compaq and Tandy, Intel and Microsoft can get together and pretend to shake hands, mythology will take over.

The Compaq gang will be seen as the weak but rising, good-hearted Senator Smith, and IBM the villain, nicely personified in a thunderously thuglike mugshot of IBM's PC boss Bill Lowe on last week's InfoWorld. Sure, they searched six rolls of film to find it, but that face is shocking. The Whimper doesn't do photos, but the line versions at left say it: choirboy versus hitman.

Remember when the filibustering Jimmy Stewart went nose-to-nose with the bad guy senator? Bill

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Lowe's face (near left) would have been perfection in that scene. IBM will take the fall in the bus wars, just because Compaq's Rod Canion (far left) looks nurdy and nice next to Lowe. (Ironically, Tandy's John Roach looks as thuggy for the EISA team as Lowe does for IBM.)

This Whimper was chugging through deadline valley when the flash came from our IBM mole: Lowe got the axe. But in IBM, the faces change and the sneers remain. It still looks like Jimmy Stewart versus Ugly Blue, and therefore the Jimmies will win. IBM's time has come in personal computers, and it has gone.

And after the vaporware solidifies, everyone will realize that these ten-grand albatrosses are not personal computers any more.

I just tried this piece on my IBM executive-row spies, and one surprisingly said "We agree. IBM never intended to make personal computers. We make workstations." These are people near the top, who say "Hi Bill" to Bill. IBM has an amusing way of announcing strategy that they never had, to explain the failure of strategy they did have and won't admit.

We of the Tandy 2000 like moderate-priced greatness, a market IBM will have lost by the time we give up the 2000. We will go to clone 386 machines, only 16 wires around the box with none of that OS/2 nonsense that takes 2 megs of RAM to turn on your machine, and another 4 megs to write your grocery list.

## The big guys said hello

We didn't expect the big three computer magazines to notice our October review of them, but two of the three editors-in-chief hand-pecked us their reviews of our review. Being computerists, they don't put secretarial initials at the ends of letters.

They both agree that the computer press is treating its advertisers better than its readers. "I don't expect to change your mind about computer magazines on the whole. Much of what you write is on target." — Fred Abatemarco, Personal Computing. Both disagreed with our criticism of them, however. "That may be true of other computer magazines, but it's not true of PC World... [other] magazines are far more product-oriented than PC World." —Ed Bott.

Each man enclosed his latest issue, apparently a hint that I had done my review without benefit of reading. In disagreeing, Abatemarco made some fairly good points, but Bott just yelled. Abatemarco ran a cover story in his sample issue saying that there's no harm in keeping your AT compatible until the 386 gets more software and lower prices. That's unusually user-sympathetic, but all of his hardware and software advertisers are pushing 286 computing, so he's not exactly offending his clients to help users.

Bott insisted his magazine would become very user-helpful in the January issue, not yet out at Whimper time. "I've enclosed a copy of PC World," Bott says. "Read it and tell me whether you still think we're not on your side. Then tell your readers!" Okay, Ed, here goes: Readers, PC World is not on your side. But it's fun to read.

Abatemarco even had a compliment for the Whimper. "It's informative and written with style and heart. I like it."

## Hello, idiots

page 2

One of our hardware gurus just said to your leader, "If you print so much stuff for the idiots, only the idiots will read the Whimper."

Ow contraire, mon guru, even the gurus read the Whimper right through, just to laugh at my mistakes, and because they like the fun parts of the Whimper almost as much as ordinary people. People who don't know what a guru knows are not idiots, any more than the guru was before he learned it.

We do the Whimper for ordinary users. Without them we wouldn't have any reason to drive the Whimper over to the printer. Your editor can only write for these "idiots", anyway, being one himself.

We get the opposite complaint, also. ME and others "don't always know what you're talking about." My apologies, ME, but getting complaints from both sides makes me think I'm cruising correctly down the middle.

## What's New at HQ

It's always nice to get a compliment from one who covers the waterfront. RHN, who currently uses two Shack-IVs, two 2000s, a 3000 and an AT&T 6300, says he "would hate to continue without the Orphans and the Whimper. I spend more time reading and re-reading the Whimper than any other publication."

I'm closing the Orphan Mastercard merchant account, since extremely few members use it and the paperwork is not worth any added business it gets us.

Cash and checks are now the only ways to pay.

Please be careful with your correspondence and payments. MB made one little mistake last spring, and that started me on an odyssey of blunders. Only after she sent me the whole ghastly package, five pages of zeroxed notes and checks, have I reinstated her membership and mailed out her four missed Whimpers.

The reason I screw up our correspondence is that I never have time to do it right. I put it in piles and scribble through it with the Orphan green pen, both computers cooking (I gave up on Windows). If the phone breaks my concentration or an excited kid blasts a neat pile, things go wrong. So keep what you send careful and complete: headquarters is an accident waiting to happen. I do apologize for the occasional mistakes and frequent slowness.

Please send a phone number, says PDS, an active member who has been frustrated by being too late (by mail) for Souvenir Shop hardware. No, it would be unfair to give some members an advantage over others. Even our heavy workers and gurus, who of course have my phone number, have been told they can't order over the phone, and have sometimes missed out.

## Maybe it's those mice

Although we have lots of ladies, our male members seem seldom to have their wives involved with the 2000. The headquarters spouse just said, for example, "If only you worked half as hard for us as you do for the rest of the world." On the other hand, we hear from an occasional member a line like this one from DJS: "Also have Monopoly running strong on Rachel's machine upstairs (lucky her — color)." Would that we could all have a Rachel computing with us.

Our DOS.03 is some kind of miracle cure for compatibility, according to a letter in December's PCM that FJD points out: [Tandy] "has introduced new DOS support allowing the 2000 to run a greater number of PC-specific applications." As far as headquarters knows, this is steaming horse plop. The 2000 Basic was rewritten with DOS.03, fixing some problems but introducing others. As far as .03 giving the 2000 access to any PC software, the claim is imaginative if not dishonest. It's no wonder the writer has "been a Radio Shack store manager for many years now."

PCM prints such dishonest praise from Tandy boosters, including Ed Juge's column, but has been trashing the items I send in to publicize our existence. They as much as said I'd have to buy some advertising first. PCM is struggling to stay alive, but that doesn't excuse their going to bed with Tandy for "editorial" space.

## Meanwhile, back at Tandy

Some Shack managers give fine support to the 2000, as Tandy may be disgusted to read in their smuggled copy of the Whimper. "Our computer center on Kirkwood in Wilmington has given me very good service and support for 6 years," RHN reports. "Previous manager Dean Williams and current manager Bob Healy deserve special recognition!" You are specially recognized, Dean and Bob, as a rare breed.

Tandy support of the 2000 isn't always the cavalry riding to the rescue — every Shack that world traveler GJS can find has refused to sell her DOS.03, because she didn't buy her computer from them. We also have a few thoughts on Tandy support from HM, who somehow gets a word processor to sound like a diesel horn. Let's listen:

After complimenting the helpful people who sold

him his 2000 in 1984 for five bills, he adds: "The Tandy computer center has been staffed by a rotating crew of meatheads since late 1985. But then, Tandy itself has changed a lot since then. I would not buy another Tandy product."

HM let me have a copy of his note to Big Ed Juge, Tandy's vice-president for selling new computers and killing old ones. Big Ed has long been in bed with certain weak but allegedly impartial computer magazines, such as the late 80 Micro and now PCM, to the extent that they print his monthly "column"—a naked piece of boasting about how helpful Tandy is to all its customers. HM read this boasting when he got his 2000, and said to Ed: "If the promised 'seven years' of 'the best customer support in the industry' includes no new software, no new boards, and nothing else, how am I supposed to feel after dumping \$5000 on this machine?" I bet Big Ed grinned but frowned at that line, having dumped fifty million himself on the 2000, but in two years he hasn't had time to answer HM's letter.

To some extent we disagree with HM in Tandy's favor. I feel that Tandy's decision to dump the 2000 (and stop paying to develop new hardware and software for it) was wise. Business is business, not charity. But Tandy's claim that it eagerly, untypically for this industry, and thoroughly supports discontinued computers is an outright lie.

## Keep an eye on your eyes

Whimper told you to use \$12 store glasses at the computer, if you're getting forty-plus farsightedness. But use caution when you do so, eye specialist HM advises. Try to find out if your astigmatism is slight, and if both eyes need about the same magnification (diopeters). When buying store glasses, check each eye (shutting the other). Try on many, until things look just right. If, at home, their use is tiring, hurts or feels strange, return them. And treat all changes in vision or eye comfort as emergencies. Some problems go from harmless to blindness in a week.

When you write correcting a Whimper item, PLEASE give issue and page. GJM recently noted that an 800 number we gave was disconnected. I spent half an hour searching Whimpers for it before I scored.

In the October Whimper we called for volunteers to dupe the extinct Windows 1 for members needing it, five clams a dupe, and nobody volunteered! There are hundreds of you out there with Windows 1 (the only one that works on the 2000, after modifications with a Tandy accessory disk). I have Windows 1, but I can't dupe it because Tandy is waiting for an excuse to put headquarters out of business. They won't spend a thousand attorney bucks on you duping five times, but they would spend a million to kill the Orphans. So let's have some volunteers!

There were 28 2000s in a Shack on Crawfordville Road in Indianapolis, as recently as October 5, DFW reports. Anyone who needs an extra machine give them a buzz. Tell them Orphan HQ says double floppies are worth 100, hard-drive machines 200. Don't buy the lot, you greedy speculators. I already have three guys giving

me frantic calls about how they have dozens from the sale and want my help unloading them. The deals were out there: I was offered 150 machines, mixed HD's and floppies, for \$69 apiece, but I didn't have ten big ones to invest. RRW has a fleet of floppies, but he wants \$340 each.

Thank you for the cash contributions, DAC, RTF, and DJS. Thanks also for those who are saying "keep the change." LER sent five clams with instructions to "buy the wife a posey." She snarled, LER, but it seemed like an appreciative snarl.

Seeming like cash contributions are these two-year extensions which have been coming in. Are you guys trying to give me a life sentence? DLJ is the current record-holder, renewed through July 1991. Only the member who gave a major cash gift is on for longer (until 1999).

As the last nine candles burn out Hanukkah, and the Christmas tree blinks for attention (Orphan headquarters never turns down a celebration), our third Orphan holiday season goes by. You guys won't get this until around New Year's Day, so have a good year with your 2000.

## A Giant Step Backward

Back in August (page 10) we had a laugh at the new mess-up-your-screen trend. Now it's time to laugh at massive Microsoft, king of the software industry.

They have been running a 2-page ad in every issue of PC (page 1) and PCWorld (page 11), comparing the old way with their stylish new screen. Let's not giggle about the way their software adds a color monitor to your computer, but ask yourself what's really going on!

On the left, without Windows, you have an orderly, easy-to-read screen that's a pleasure to speed through. On the right, courtesy of Microsoft, you have blazing clutter, tortured snips of this and that, that should take you twice as much time getting the job done, and leave you in a bad

mood besides. Has computing come so far that the only direction it can go is backwards?

Clutter is no fun. The last time I got pleasure from reading a chaotic college bulletin board was the day someone tacked up a slice of our leathery roast beef outside the dining hall.

## Get Serious, Drew

page 3

There's a guy out in L.A. named Drew A. Kaplan, who puts out a very well-written catalog bearing his initials — DAK. But this excellent writer is not so outstanding at deal time, as Whimper reported a year ago. On a page from Drew's catalog sent in by RGC and others, a headline shouts "\$3 ripoffs exposed." The text points at "companies making money" by selling disks. Orphans sells disks, and Drew asks his readers, "if you pay \$3-\$6, is it a rip-off...?" No, Drew, it's a service sold at cost without "making money." I'd like to see you make my salary (zero) next year, Drew, instead of what you're scoring with dishonest merchandising. As if to underscore my point, Drew closes his expose by offering two cheapo disks of goodies he didn't pay for, for \$4.

# Hardware Help

JKN tells us, and we found out ourselves, that the 2000 service manual (October p.9, August p.4) does have two extra chapters that the tech manual doesn't, covering the hard and floppy drives (the original units that Tandy used). He thinks this is good news, saying that the drives are the most buggy part of the 2000.

Good news! Not one but three members sent full (or almost full) sets of the top-secret mod bulletins, so the full set is available through the Souvenir Shop. Shack priced the set for one frustrated member, at the interesting price of \$450. Is that nasty? If you own a soldering pencil, you can now burn out the pesky little bugs that make 2000s misbehave. Many of those "early" machines — identified by having no M at the beginning of the serial number — were sold to you guys much later without the mandatory mods. Mods are still (secretly) free, but the repair centers charge big bucks. So consider doing them yourself.

page 4

## Software for Hard Drives

Your first hard drive is about as scary as your first baby. If, after it's in, you call it from your A: prompt, it will check in as "bad," but worry not: it's invisible to DOS until it's formatted. You need to format the first "drive", which will be called C:, using the hformat command with your DOS disk in a floppy slot. If you want more than one (pretended) "drive" in this (real) drive, you must use MLFormat (see Sidewalk Salesmen section) to partition the remaining space into a D: drive, E: drive, as many as you want up to Z:. If the real drive (the one you just screwed in) is over 32 megabytes, you'll have to create at least a D: "drive" to use it all, because hformat refuses to format more than 32 (and will do less if you ask it).

Lucky you, your leader is at least as ignorant as you are, so he understands any confusion you have. Our October 1987 article on hard drives was processed by an editor who had never installed one. Now that he has, we have hints that should have been in that first article.

Yesterday, after sending two bad drives back to HDI, your hapless honcho installed his third drive from them, and it worked. You know the feeling, four months of frustration and then, the deceptively soft success. It's like pounding on the door until your knuckles bleed, and then a soft voice says, "Come on in, it's open."

As the last issue said on page 10, there are some pesky little parts beside the drive itself, that must go in between your 2000 and the drive.

After installation, here's the checkup: Set the 2000 flat, leaving its cover off. Hook up power cord, monitor and keyboard and turn on the red front button. The hard drive will produce a new sound, very obvious with the cover off. If UPS failed to ruin the drive, it will start with a click-burp that quickly rises to a soft whine, then more mild burps. Within ten seconds, a good drive settles to a steady, soft whine, about as loud as the quietest hum you can vocalize. If it's a loud whine or keeps changing, expect trouble formatting. After you have had that trouble, get the package back to the shipper within the dreaded 30 days, including phone calls for the return authorization number.

Before trying to format, put the cover on (loosely, you may be repacking in half an hour). If the drive is cold from the UPS truck, let it heat to 70 while slowly installing. Run it five minutes before typing HFORMAT.

Formatting is hard if you read the magazine articles and instructions that tell you to start with a "low-level format". Don't believe it. All you do on the 2000 type HFORMAT on an a: drive that has it. If you type only HFORMAT<enter>, however, the 2000 will believe you have the Tandy 10meg drive in there, and will format only 10 megs of a bigger hard drive.

## The Rust City mailman

The town you live in is divided into neighborhoods, streets and houses. So is your hard drive. Each data "house" is a spot on a stiff spinning plate, as big as a grain of cake sugar or flour, but it's really made of rust, iron oxide, same as the brown stuff on a cassette tape. The spot can be magnetized to mean "1" or unmagnetized to mean "0".

Each street in data-town is a round track on a disk, as thin as a hair and holding 69,632 data houses or "bits." Eight of those bits decode to mean a letter or number, a "byte", so each track has 8704 bytes.

There are 306 hair-thin tracks on each disk surface in the old Tandy 10-meg drive. It has two platters, each coated on top and bottom. Those four spinning surfaces are the separate "neighborhoods" of data town, patrolled by a fast-moving fork of four magnetic fingers called "heads". The Tandy 10 is a four-head drive.

The later hard drives have more tracks, such as 820 on the headquarters Seagate 251. The newer hard drives also have more "heads," such as six on the 251. Luckily, the hard-drive control board that slides into the 2000 can deal with big drives, up to 8 "heads" with up to

1024 tracks for each head to cover. That could go as high as 71 megabytes in a physical drive.

The outermost data street on the Tandy 10's top surface is called number 0, the second 1, the third 2, and so on. Streets on all the four surfaces have the same numbers. So the group of all four track 299's is called "cylinder" 299. Your 2000 identifies a single data street (track) by naming its neighborhood (head) and its cylinder number. Cylinder-0-head-0 is the top outside track; cylinder-0-head-3 outermost bottom. Cylinder-305-head-3 is bottom innermost.

This sounds like it won't help you format your first hard drive, but it will. Knowing this roadmap gives you the answers to what HFormat asks you.

When you enter a simple "hformat" command, or "configd" which itself calls "hformat," the 2000 formats with only four heads (two platters top and bottom), even if you have six or eight. And it formats only the outer 306 tracks on each one, even if you have 1024. HFormat stupidly thinks you have a Tandy 10meg drive, even if you have a bigger one.

To use all the drive space, you start by typing hformat/p/b/v/s. This tells hformat to ask you for / parameters, /bad tracks, /volume label, and /system.

All that track-and-cylinder garbage I've been feeding you is /P, parameters, the first things HFormat asks you for. It asks you how many heads and cylinders you have.

You tell the truth about heads (see the spec sheet for your drive), so HFormat will magnetize every surface. It formats all tracks of a cylinder at once, so if you say 4 when you have 6, the bottom 2 tracks of the cylinders you're working on will be forever invisible to the 2000, wasted.

Since silly HFormat refuses to believe you have more than 32 megs in there, you lie about cylinders. Type

*Lucky you,  
your leader  
is at least  
as ignorant  
as you are.*

only the number of tracks on all heads (meaning cylinders) that you want to put in your first "partition". It will be drive c:

## Deceive your c: and d:

Let's say you want a little-bitty drive c:, just enough to pack in your DOS and one of those public-domain utilities you wish Orphans would get cracking with. So instead of the 32 megs HFormat considers maximum, you want only one megabyte. How many cylinders is that? Take your intended megabyte and divide it by the number of bytes in each track (8704). Then divide the result by the number of tracks in each cylinder you'll be formatting (6 for the S251). The answer comes out 19, so lie to HFormat. Tell it your lovely S251 has only 19 tracks. You end up with a c: drive of 992 kilobytes; you can carve fatter slices out of this one physical drive later, so-called d: and e: drives, using MLFormat. Some members say that a floppy that comes with Seagates, called DiskManager, also formats d: and e: drives on the 2000. It's worth a try.

But let's finish our HFormat of our c: drive.

After the parameters are typed in, the HFormat screen asks for your /B, your bad tracks. For each bad-track number, listed on the test sheet and also pasted to the drive, you enter head and track (or cylinder and track) in the form 3,455<enter> without spaces. After the last numbers on your bad-track list, hit the enter button twice instead of once. Then hformat asks you if you're serious, and formats the c: drive.

Formatting is slow. It takes each cylinder, a dash on your screen, two or three seconds to click to a period, which can mean an hour! But if you have previously installed Faze4 from Envision, the clicks are less than one second apart. More on Faze4 later.

When all the periods are up on the screen, hformat remembers that you said /S, and copies your two hidden system files from drive a: into the first file space on your new c: Once IO.SYS and MSDOS.SYS are on c:, the 2000 will boot up using them — IF drive a: is empty. A DOS disk in a: grabs booting control, and a non-DOS disk in a: crashes you to a blank screen, dead keyboard.

Last, hformat asks you for a name for your c: drive. The c: is all you need, but it's fun to have a title popping onto your screen during directories and checkdisks. My title is s251-102688, the model and the date I installed it. But 11 letters is also enough for HERESJOHNNY or LOVETHATGAL.

Copy the file command.com from a: to your c: drive. Now you will make a special holding area for your other DOS stuff, a DOS directory on c:. Type MD DOS<enter>, CD DOS<enter> and COPY A:.\* C:.. Of course, you need a full DOS disk in a: for this. If you're alert, you notice that command.com has now gone to two places on your c: disk. Good, it's your most important file; and it will soon be in three places on c:.

## A Murphy bed for your DOS

Before you start copying all your other garbage onto c:, do this: Type MD RESCUE<enter>, CD RESCUE<enter>, and COPY \DOS\\*.\*<enter>. This new hiding place is in honor of Mr. Murphy, author of the law which says you or a visiting virus will destroy your vital DOS files, at a time when the show "must go on." The show shall go on, after you boot your drooling, helpless 2000 with an old DOS floppy in a:, jump onto c:, and copy all of the RESCUE directory back into your wrecked DOS directory. The reason you can't simply transfer the whole

original DOS disk is that many times that would cause a disaster. The average user has added and subtracted files to create his own working version of DOS.

Note that viruses like to sneak into a c: drive and call command.com, quietly writing changes into it that cause a lot of damage. But if you have Norton or another hotshot utility, you can change command.com to a "hidden" file — it won't show on a directory list, and the virus should have a hard time finding it to write on. Command.com can be just as secret as its invisible colleagues, msdos.sys and io.sys.

Congratulations. You have a working hard drive. If you think this is just an ordinary day, you're wrong. It's like a day on which you get married, get a job and get a car. It puts you into the fast lane, where things will never be the same again.

We are lucky, in Orphanland, to have a couple of hardware gurus named Spencer and Nechodom, running companies named Envision and MicroLink. You should not install your over-10-meg hard drive without Envision's FazeIV, and you probably can't install your over-30-meg drive without MicroLink's MLFormat.

Those of you who already have a hard drive running, FazeIV still gives you about a doubling of drive speed. There is a difference of opinion about interleave factor between Envision (maker of FazeIV) and MicroLink (maker of MLFormat). FazeIV lets you change your drive's installed factor, while MLFormat and HFormat let you select it when formatting. Envision likes a factor of 1, 2 or 3; MicroLink likes 3, 4 or 5. My choice is to use 3 as a compromise. Is that wrong?

## Gimme an e

page 5

New member JKN writes that "You seemed shaky on RS-232 in June" (page 2). He kindly briefed me:

The Tandy 2000 wants to send small "e" to the Texas Instruments 2106 laser printer. Because we want to get any answers the 2106 feels like sending, the first thing we do (after turning on the 2000 and 2106) is type VIDTEX (or whatever other voice we want the computer to use). Reading instructions from the VIDTEX disk, the 2000 turns on its rear-end RS232 socket, so that everything that goes to the screen will go out the serial socket too.

The 2000 puts about 12 volts (positive) in its pin-20 hole, to say hi to the 2106. It checks its pin 6 hole and sure enough, the 2106 has 12 volts waiting there, a signal that it also is ready.

You type an E on the keyboard, which the 2000 translates into ten quick pulses of current going out of hole number 2 in back, into pin 2 of the RS-232 cable that leads to the printer. The first blink is again plus-12-volts, like an instant of touching the red (+) post on your car battery. This "start bit" comes at the beginning of every letter or number you send, and is always positive 12 volts.

This electric "bit" flows full circle: Going out of hole 2, it flows through the printer to its hole 7, back to hole 7 in our beloved 2000, and through the DC end of our power supply in power-cord corner, where the 2000 is constantly changing our push-pull 120 volts from the wall, into steadily pushing +12, -12 and +5.

The next eight blinks are a number — in this case 01100101. That first zero is sent with a plus-12 blip, exactly like the start bit, but now the printer has been alerted by the start bit and knows this is the beginning of a number. The next bit, a 1, flows out as a negative 12 volts, like momentarily connecting the black (minus) terminal of your battery to pin 2 of the cable. That 1 means 64, which the printer remembers as part of an addition problem it will solve.



The next 1 means 32 (we're up to 96 now), and the third 1 (after two zeros) means 4. The last 1 means, you guessed it, 1, and the printer now knows the total is 101. Looking up 101 on its ASCII (asky) table, it finds small e. Then the computer sends out a final blip, always a negative 12 volts, which is the "stop" bit. The ten bits have become a byte, a letter. The printer remembers the "e" and waits for more.

We type the rest of the word "executive," which is the signal to the printer that we want a conversation in PostScript language. To prove we mean it we hit "enter," which flashes to the printer as 00001101.

Shocked into action, the printer introduces itself on-screen and sends three quick codes into our hole 3, which write on our screen as PS>, meaning "Okay, I'm PostScript. Make my day." Now the printer makes conversation while you're writing its commands, something like "Type that line again, Jack, it's garbage."

## The wandering digit page 6

The extinct CGP-220 printer is still grinding out color for those members lucky enough to have software for it, but you need ink and paper for it. We warned you to buy the rare clay-coated paper in rolls, which gives far brighter colors than plain paper. But the ink is a problem, with Shacks not stocking it. We told you about MicroSell, which specializes in Quadram products. (The 220 is a QuadJet with a Tandy sticker.)

Now GJM tells us the number we gave, 800-352-8444, is disconnected and he's right. But be of good cheer, the number is 800-352-8844. Next time you choose a leader, make sure he isn't senile.

## Is your data in a pinch?

Floppy disk refusing to be read? We think of the 2000 as an untouchable cloud of electronic magic, and sigh helplessly when it fails us — even if we happily crawl under a car that's misbehaving. But RST has a delightful trick with stubborn floppy disks:

"Sometimes the disk is dragging in the jacket." [A floppy disk is a round, thin piece of plastic wrapped in a stiff square plastic envelope. The inner surface of the envelope is covered with glued-on "laundry lint", so the disk can be spun around without much friction. At the folded edges, it can get pretty tight inside. —Editor] "Try rubbing the edge of the jacket firmly across the edge of your desk." [vertically as if using the envelope as a knife to notch your desk. This will widen the edge-fold enough to free the disk edge for spinning. Keep your fingers OUT of the oval window, because skin oil blots out magnetic information.] "This often loosens up the action sufficiently to correct the problem."

Your ignorant leader now regrets throwing out about a dozen disks from members that would not turn in their jackets after going under the post office rollers.

Our floppies have a tendency to refuse to read, WHB and many others have noticed. A floppy refuses to be read, but when you ask it to accept a copy from the other drive, it does so. It happens to WHB mostly with software-package disks, so it could be hub-ring trouble. Hub rings are considered stylish in clone country, but on the 2000 they are nothing but trouble. Never order bulk disks with hub rings.

The 2000's mysterious love-hate relationship with hub rings on floppies has taken another twist, which DJS feels might be a clue to it all. When he has a hub-ring floppy that won't read or write, he gently tips his floor-stand 2000 over to desklike horizontality. And the floppy works! Back at vertical, it freezes again. Come on guys, who can Sherlock us an explanation?

## We have 600 DPI typesetting

The October Whimper was the genuine article, 600dpi typesetting straight from 2106 to printer's plate in one camera shot. We printed our 2106 copy double size (body type as big as the headline above), and the printer shot his plate photo to half-size, squeezing our 300dpi double-size Whimper down to 600dpi clarity.

When your autoexec.bat is booting you into the middle of your usual program, but you want to play with DOS instead, try this: hit CTRL/C before the program name hits the screen. Stunned, your 2000 puts on a pained expression and whines, "cancel batch job?" Tell it yes, and it will hand the controls over to you.

## The biggest 2000

We have an external card cage for the 2000, reported by a member who has built it. With encouragement from his in-plant co-Orphans, CJ has solved the problem elegantly by surgery on a spare 2000 they had. He did it by "cannibalizing a spare board and a spare CPU cage to make a 7-slot 2000 — it works." CJ (or informant LM), please send us photos and diagrams of your back-door-board, its cable, and the extra cage, so we can offer this to the many Orphans eager to use more than four cards in a 2000. They will need an extra 2000, true, but by using your data, some Orphan may draw us plans for a multi-card extender using off-the-shelf parts.

## Our super-floppy

We get questions about 360K (360,000 letters or numbers on the disk) versus 720K floppies: The IBM PC and its cousin the XT (and their many clones) read and write only half as much as we do on a floppy, a 360K "double-side-double-density." The similar AT and its clones also read 1.2meg floppies, called "high density." Our oddball 2000 took a side street in history by using floppy drives that read both 360K, and 720K "quad-density", and write to both also. But it was only able to format the 720s, until the program PCMaker was added to our DOS. Formatting, by the way, is writing magnetic "file folders" onto a blank disk, which make it ready to receive written "files" from the 2000. PCMaker formats a space of 360K on a floppy, thus making it readable and writable by the PC, XT and AT machines. When I send written work to our local paper, I copy it to a 360K PCMaker disk.

## Now a super-duper-floppy

Tandy has been selling two-dollar "quad density" with no hub rings for the 2000. Orphans found a place last summer with higher-quality ringless quads for one dollar. Then this month, after several members including DLL told us that high-density AT disks work just fine on the 2000 (they have no troubling hub rings), we tried a few. No problem! So we bought a truckload of the dern things from MEI, 800-634-3478. Sure enough, 100% of them formatted, and we've had no complaints about stuff we ship on them.

MEI is charging 49 cents a disk, in lots of 50 or more. That's just half of the "good deal" price for quads I got you at TechMate, so let's change suppliers. One complaint, MEI takes almost a month to get them to us, but then so did TechMate, and so perhaps do most of the disk discounters. You can spend \$50 on 100 disks, or if you still love Shack, you can buy 13 Tandy HD disks for the same price.

If your hard drive gradually begins to make errors, the slide-in controller board is drifting out of adjustment, TB says. But if it suddenly says it can't find your hard drive, TB suggests that a strange item called R25 may be at fault. It's at the short edge farthest from the power supply (and fan). It's a \$1.00 fused resistor (strange animal), 22 ohms with 5% tolerance, half-watt in capacity. He paid \$25 labor for the \$1 part.

## The VM-1 crisis is over

We suggested the NEC monochrome monitor, the GS Multisynch, for those unable to find a VM-1, and NEW took the big step. He reports:

"The GS runs right off the graphics board plug-out, without color chips, in text mode. But to use a program's graphics mode, you have to tell the installation routine you have a color monitor. This sends the GS a graphics signal.

"You can run the GS without even a graphics board: solder a 5-wire cable to a male 8-pin DIN plug to go into the 2000 monochrome outlet. At the GS end, wire on a female D-9 plug, with its 1-pin tied to the computer-end 2-pin (ground). Solder the GS-end 6-pin to the 2000-end 3-pin (intensity); GS-8 to 2000-4 (horizontal); GS-9 to 2000-5 (vertical); and GS-4 to 2000-7 (video signal itself, the millions of pixels sent out every second).

"Leave pins 1, 6 and 8 unwired in the plug at the 2000 end of the cable; also leave 2, 3, 5, and 7 dead at the GS end. Everything works, and works well!

"The GS comes in white (also green and amber), but beware: the white background only shows in graphics mode (Gem, Windows, etc.). When sent a text signal, the GS shows white letters on an unpleasant gray background. Green and amber are more readable and less tiring, anyway.

"The GS is sharp, but its letters are taller, thinner than on our VM-1. Can this be tweaked?"

This excellent R&D job by NEW opens up not only this combination, but two others: the GS (being a multisynch) will run off any computer you move to; and a simple variation of NEW's special cable seems likely to let the 2000 run any monochrome monitor on the market. Who can confirm this?

## We've got their numbers

We have obtained a Tandy 1986 internal phone list, most of which is probably still valid. I'll start with the top-secret 800 numbers, which are for store guys to call in. They'll want to hear a name and store number before they cooperate; if your overworked dealer says he can't get through, say "I'd like to call myself." He'll be puzzled but will say O.K. Then give the Fort Worth guy the store number off a sales slip, and lots of luck. Don't feel small; the store salesmen they talk to all day are just as ignorant as you are. All these numbers start with 1-800-231-: Hardware (all others are for software) -8272; communications -3070; MS-DOS and languages -3071; accounting -8271; data bases -3073; spreadsheets and word processors -3074; vertical markets -3069. (Vertical means one disk runs the whole company: medical, agricultural and so on, plus the integrateds like FrameWork, DeskMate, Symphony.)

Regular customer service numbers are (all starting with 1-817-338-): communications -2394, MS-DOS

and languages -2392, accounting -2391, vertical markets -2391.

When you're paying the freight on a long call with a friendly techie, say it's getting costly and ask him if you can call him back (by name) on his 800 line. He might think you're a semi-insider and say okay.

We thank the gentleman who dug these numbers up, and remind all members that we need aggressive espionage to get the support out of Tandy that they officially refuse to give. You are all hereby given spy number 003: licensed to zerox and compdupe anything from Tandy you can borrow from a Tandyman. Sometimes contributing a ten-spot for lunch is just the lubricant such a relationship needs, but most such helpers feel more comfortable doing it for nothing; they secretly sympathize.

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## Our travail and The Grail

New members, you may notice some mystifying references to the "Holy Grail." The 2000 is a marvelous but mildly incompatible computer, which has trouble running \$500 software that uses pictures.

Any program can be rewritten for ("ported to") the 2000, but it takes a man-year to do it. What we've been looking for is a disk which does that man-year, acting as a tool to make programs 2000-compatible. You'd put it

in the 2000 with any piece of IBM software, and it would then remodel that software onto a third disk that would run on the 2000. Since it is a major quest, we compare it to the medieval search, in crusades to the holy land, for a "holy grail," a goblet allegedly used by Jesus at the last supper. Carrying the parallel a step further, there are skeptics who say there was no grail at said supper, and those who say our Orphan grail is a hopeless impossibility.

The 2000 was built to imitate the fantastically successful IBM PC, but Tandy wisely jumped to a faster, newer chip than the 8086 used in the PC. This 80186 made the 2000 the best PC in the world for two years (1984 and 1985), but the new chip used different numbers to identify the dots on a monitor screen. So when an IBM-style

program says "light up this dot," the 2000 says "that number isn't a screen dot," and ignores the instruction.

So when you play an IBM-style disk, it often gives you a blank screen and a "frozen" keyboard, meaning your 2000 is paralyzed and must be turned off. About half of the IBM-style programs are "well-behaved" programs that avoid "addressing the screen." They instead ask the computer to "put this picture on your screen," leaving the host computer to write the addresses on the messages intended for the screen. This kind of program runs nicely on the 2000.

## Hoist by our own petard

Tandy had jumped far ahead of IBM with the 2000, but its isolated position let the next wave of computers pass it by.

By the time IBM got ready to move up to the PC-AT, Intel had the 80286 chip, using the same screen addresses as the 8086 as a favor to their biggest customer, IBM. IBM's new AT was almost as good as the marvelous 2000, and left the 2000 trapped in a side-street of computing, forever incompatible with both new and old IBM machines.

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## Index: 1987 - 1988

Orphan Bob Tatton has prepared for us an index of every Whimper in 1987 and 1988, except of course the present issue.

This includes March 1987, when we still called it the Orphanuz, and May 1987. Those were issues 4 and 5 of year I. Issues 1, 2 and 3 that first year were little pep-letters to a handful of members, not worth indexing.

Since then each year has August, October, December, February, April and June.

Thanks, Bob, you have generously given us all a great research tool.

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(continued from page 7) Since then, Orphans and its smartest members have been trying to hack routes to IBM compatibility, through the hardware and software out there. But the computer jungle grows fast and the routes vanish before they reach all the way.

## Wildcat drilling continues

We continue to work on our quest.

"The IBM-compatible program SAVIT," says RCP, "addresses the screen at memory location 0B000H, where PC's store (the first pixel of) the current screen image. I got it to run on the 2000 by substituting the 2000's screen-memory indirect address. When you tell the 2000 to find the screen, you do it by directing it to find the stored screen image at whatever address is currently listed in address 0000:0474 or 0000:0475."

"But SAVIT would divide-overflow crash, until I stumbled onto changing the stack size. Setting aside a stack equal to the full screen memory size did the trick. That is, I substituted 802H for 40H (that's decimal 2050 for 64). I don't know why this is."

Your Leader remembers a member discussing an IBM routine that would not compute on the 2000 until he doubled the space available for screen memory. The reason: the sharper 2000 video image has twice as many pixels to be remembered. That could explain a lot, for RCP and others.

Do you have 2000 boards, any type, that are not working and you're not planning to fix? FJS has diagrams that he hopes to turn into a Holy Grail Board. Please send him all junk 2000 boards you have, at 46 Conant St., Acton, MA 01720. Write your name on the bottom of each board you send, with a bright indelible marker. FJS, in return for the generosity of members sending you your needed trays and connectors, I ask that we make this a raffle to get you some volume: the sender of the tray on which you score your first halfway-decent Grail gets a free Grail board, your first in-production unit. Okay? Members who send FJS boards, please drop a note to Orphan HQ saying you did.

HM makes various suggestions about the Grail, but they are the ones we've already exhausted. The Programmers' Guide is no help (to me at least); the original 2000 designer never returned his survey for membership (probably aware he'd be asked for free help); and companies that once ported their software to the 2000 no longer do so, because Tandy won't help them.

## Silly questions

LJS asked Tandy long ago for a map of their secret BIOS, but they said it was "proprietary." Now that the 2000 BIOS is useless to Tandy, LJS wrote again for the information. I don't have LJS's faith in human nature, Fort Worth style. Now that the 2000 is dead, LJS, Tandy is fighting to keep it buried. You don't have the faintest chance of prying that secret out.

Listen, you smarter users who dig into assembly language and debug: have you considered the possibility that the skeleton of the Grail disk already exists, and we have it for sale in our Souvenir Shop?

That Tandy patch disk for Windows does a nice job regrouping IBM Windows 1, which must be loaded with screen calls and other garbage that would give the 2000 an epileptic seizure. We end up with all those pretty Windows toys on our incompatible screen, no problem.

So why not crawl in there, you geniuses, and

steal a few ideas? Even if you don't end up with a do-it-all grail disk, you might be able to cook up patches for the major new software that we Orphans are missing. How about taking a look?

## Machine Mysteries

Does aluminum foil from the kitchen drawer save disks from some dreadful fate? WMO sent a disk to HQ all wrapped in silvery foil, looking like a leftover BLT sandwich. Who can explain this mystery?

WordPerfect 4.1 prints OK for DLJ, but with a twist. It prints in only one direction on Tandy daisy-wheels, although he gets bidirectional from 4.1 on his dot2100, and even from Tandy daisies from Write+. Why don't 4.1 and daisies get along?

We are now selling a few copies of the big IBM-ports article, and Orphan HQ would deeply appreciate receiving a list of the equivalent 2000 hardware ports. With that, a member could start writing a holy grail disk.

## Silly question, silicon answer

We have had heaps of orders for the 512K RAM instructions, which are not super-clear. Are you guys getting anything for your two bucks? Let's hear from those of you who have done it, and if so, tell us how we can improve and tighten up the instructions. If you can, write a new set with exact steps, instead of all that conversation we've been sending out. Those who did it, let's hear from you, please.

## He helped our help

English member HWG, Oxford and all that, got garbled words when he clicked help in the Orphan disk of unprotected Framework. Sure enough, it came up garbled on the headquarters screen, the result of a frazzled master disk from which we copy your disks. So far only the file help1.dat has showed the bug, and it has just been recopied from

the original. Now it pops up okay. Any of you who have our copy-free Framework disk, copy help1.dat from your original system-2 disk onto the Orphan disk.

The problem probably was leaning our disk on a phone or something else electrical on the HQ desk. I try to be neat, but probably won't ever succeed with computers around. Remember the dear old days when you could be a slob with just paper?

## software list update

We get lots of requests for ways to run the current big guys, today's 1-2-3 and so on, on the 2000. Some hint that they have scored. But we can't list things until you send the patches you used. Those of you who have found such ways, please drop Orphan HQ a line, telling how to do it. Okay? The following are now reported runnable:

XTree 2.0

MoneyCounts 4.0 (not 5.0)

Personal Ancestral 2.1 (2000 version) \$35  
at 801-240-2584, ask for  
family history department

MicrosoftProject (special setup, unknown)

Are you guys  
getting any-  
thing for your  
two bucks?

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# Software Support

Whimper has been promising you that reading the big manual of your big program will give you a major upgrade. Well, here's a gem we tumbled across in Microsoft Word (3.1 and 1.0), that makes Word the quickest, easiest tool for writing; adding, deleting and moving text.

## Best editor in the world

Adding text in Word is snapping the mouse for location, and then typing. Deleting is snap-and-drag to make a block, then hit the 2000 delete key or right-click delete in the menu. While adding in MS Word is only a shade easier than in the other two heavyweights, its deletion is much easier than WordPerfect's and WordStar's. They both require two keys to get into "block" mode, which Word is always in. Then you have to nudge the cursor around with arrow keys, the big nudges using more strange key-pairs. Then more keypresses to memorize the block and finally to blast it off the page. In deleting, Word wins by a ridiculous margin.

## Bo Derek's mole --

But Word (1 and 3.1) has always been, for me, crippled at moving time. You drag-click a phrase to mark it, and then you have to "delete" it with mouse or keyboard. Next you move the cursor to the desired location and hit INSERT. The passage, hiding on the "scrap" sheet, pops into its new place. This writing step (common among those who write well) is just as hard in Word as in the others.

## -- isn't even there

Your ignorant leader now knows that Word has a poorly documented speed move, usable whenever you move something between two points on your current screen. Drag-snap the passage (a letter, a word, a paragraph) and leave it highlighted as you whistle the arrow straight to your destination. Point to the character or space you want to be right after the new part. Ease down the CTRL button and left-snap the mouse. Presto, the move is done. It's great for those traded letters you get in your fast first draft. To avoid resetting spaces, always pack up the space to the left, and drop on a space.

Word is now the perfect editor at Orphan headquarters. The Whimper still begins in Framework, where lists fill with your ideas, growing into paragraphs that slide around as sweetly as cheating solitaire. Then we export the Whimper to WordPerfect for a few minutes of tuneup and tinkering, such as removing all the hard returns (Framework thinks every line is a paragraph). Finally we go into the newly delightful Word, where tailoring — changing writing from B-minus to A in quality, is literally a snap.

## Some little tricks

There is something strange in Word 3.1. When you leap to the middle or end of your long document using the left margin double-click, you're in danger on your new page. If you hit a PG UP or PG DN, you will lurch to the end or beginning of the document! The way to avoid this problem is, as soon as you arrive in mid-document with no cursor, hit an up, down or side arrow. This gives you both a cursor and a safe grip on your page. Now, PG UP gives you just what you're asking for,

without blasting you into orbit.

xT.CAD by Microdex runs under our latest (with DOS.03) Basic, says JKN, with patches by him that presumably he will give at cost to members—you can call JKN at 916-674-1940; JKN, tell your phone person to expect those initials. JKN does all his electronic drafting with xT.CAD, sold at 1212 N. Sawtelle Ave., Tucson 85716; 602-326-3502.

BASIC programs can get upset when you plug in a color board, although the problem may be solvable with the trace-1 switch we discussed in some 1987 issues. The color-chips instructions tell you to knife out a tiny stripe on the graphics board, called trace 1. If you solder-wire the now-divorced solder-bumps to a toggle-switch in back, you can beat some graphics problems.

We have a patch, also from JKN, which works for him with color and a Basic payroll program. It comes up blank on the screen, but when he adds "SCREEN 4,0 : SCREEN 0,0" as a first line, his VM-1 comes back to life.

## Maybe I was wrong

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DOS coming up in your choice of colors, sent to us months ago by EGG, was reported under suspicion as being virus-infected. "Buddy, not so," responds EGG. "That disk was an exact copy of ones used by several of my friends here, and was used by four local Shacks to enhance 2000 displays." Orphans will plug it in again, and let members get it if it seems okay.

## Put Uncle Fred on a floppy

If genealogy (listing your ancestors and cousins) interests you, PDS has — and has adapted and improved — a public or semi-public program called Genealogy On Display. If we get fewer than five nibbles I'll refer them to PDS, who is doubtful about "the legalities." If more ask, I will ask PDS for the disk and contact the authors (PDS included) for permission and/or royalty, then offering it in the Souvenir Shop.

## Shifting the old shell game

DeskMate, we reported in October, will light up any program in your software library, as long as you rename its .EXE or .COM file to a Desk-style name. DJS has another solution. He has written a patch to the TWMENU.EXE file that permits him to call his regular file names from inside DeskMate. His one-page printout of the patch is available here and now only for a dollar, and if enough of you order it, I'll promote it to the Souvenir Shop.

Considering that our Windows 1 and Gem 1 aren't effectively able to multitask even two major programs, DeskMate (our old version) seems about ready to join their club as a workable shell. So if you have any of the three, you can stop salivating after OS/2 presentation manager and DesQview 386, which will each cost you \$7000 in hardware to rig up.

The new Epson LX-80 refuses the old Epson codes in our MultiMate and Windows 1, WAJ reveals. Who knows how to patch the disks or tweak the box to solve this problem?

SideKick doesn't run on the 2000, Borland curtly told RLS, but he's sure he's heard of a 2000 version. Yes, there was a 2000 version kicking around on bulletin boards, but the last copy I got was still a bummer, unable to do much more than bring up a starting screen and crash on the first command. Does he need it, RLS asks. No. Like some others we use, it's a crippled notepad with gadgets. We at HQ prefer our notes on paper and our multitasking on side-by-side computers.

## The best disk is a fake disk

When you use a trick-- which you buy on a floppy as a ramdisk program-- to fool the 2000, your computer becomes much faster. Your sneaky ramdisker convinces the 2000 that some of your memory chips are a disk drive. After you copy some slow program like a database into the extra "disk," your database frequently asks the "disk" for instructions or names, and writes new information to it, all in a flash, without the slow jukebox grunting of "disk access." When a program is keeping you waiting, it needs RAMdisking.

Ramdisking with Blue Cat's Ramdisk 2000 appeals to GJM, but Tandy has dumped it and he needs Blue Cat's address. My books put Blue Cat at 730-T East Katella Ave., Orange, CA 92667; and 714-594-3317. It's a 1986 address, so they could be moved or deceased. I bought their ramdisk disk once, but it was blank and I got my money back. I ramdisk with Envision's disk, which comes with Envision memory upgrades.

### READ THE README!

Vdisk means virtual disk -- something that acts just like a disk. VDISK in DOS 2.11.03 is a dud, LML reports, and we have been curious about it, to know whether it works as well as Envision's VDISK.

(Watch out! Both files (Envision and DOS) have the same name, so copying around can wipe one of them out. When I play with like-named files, I change the suffix. When I put the new Basic.exe in, I first renamed the old one Basic.old.)

After installing Tandy's vdisk per instructions in a readme.doc, LML loaded 1-2-3 and everything crashed in flames. He now has to load 1-2-3 and DOS 2.11.02 with his hard card pulled out! LML, you can probably uninstall vdisk (unless you foolishly used your original DOS as a working disk!) by using Edlin to wipe the vdisk line out of your config.sys file; then create a new "system disk" from the original DOS disk (vdisk.sys probably changed your working-disk's hidden DOS files).

## Read the README

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We have a wail from MSS, who ordered a not-quite-right disk and got bombed by it. But the disk he got had a read-me file on it that he obviously didn't read. When you get a new disk, from a friend or a big company or Orphans, always always READ the README. Many programs have a file (a name that shows when you type DIR) called read.me, readme.txt, that sort of name, and it often has things you have to know to avoid disaster.

RWB and two other members (way under 1%) want to see the Symphony review we've had in the can for so long. It would be huge in the Whimper, even if I hacked it to pieces. The Whimper costs us all \$50 a page, so let's do it for \$15 instead. You three, mail me your \$5 checks and I'll run a laser printout of it for you.

## A little vocabulary lesson

When Tandy sent out its DOS.03, it sent out a description of (only) the new commands in its new BASIC. For those who have DOS.03's Basic and the original loose-leaf 2000 Basic manual, this is an addition to that manual. It's got commands like environ, erdev, ioctl, and so on. It's 24 pages that I'll have reduced to fit on roughly 12. You'll find it in the Souvenir Shop for \$9.

An excellent but cheap word processor? Multi-Mate, reports RCP, who signs his letters "Pulver, Ens., USN ret." since we told him to be fearless in October (p.5).

He finds MultiMate handy for writing assembly language programs, which MultiMate can convert to ASCII for MSAssembler to work on them. The present Ashton-Tate MultiMate probably doesn't run on the 2000.

Norton Utilities, DAC reports, is an IBM version. To run some of them on the 2000, you need "switches" which are letters you add to the command line calling the program into action. After their headliner NU, for example, you put /D1. Type NU /D1<enter>.

You can get Norton's SI (system information) to run on the 2000 with SI /D1 |MORE, but LJS points out that the /D1 is not necessary. SI |MORE does it. And don't believe it when SI says you have no printer ports; you do.

## Your docile fossil

Having DOS (rhymes with FOS in fossil) 2.11.03 is a mixed blessing for DAC: he can't figure out how to merge it with his current DOS files, which are presumably from 2.11.02. Don't merge, DAC -- just erase all the old DOS files (but save the original disk!). Copy (and safely store) the new DOS disk -- to a 720K floppy or a hard drive. But be selective: files you never use -- check them in the DOS manual -- you can safely leave on the original disk.

It's a pain to grope through a pile of software manuals to find the alt-number of one little ASCII character. (Most word processors let you type oddball characters by holding down the ALT key while typing a code number on the far-right number keys.) An old PC magazine had a program to flash a full asky list on the screen, and LJS has sent in a 2000-compatible rewrite of it. But egad, LJS, please send those 10 pages on disk.

## WinText, what's next?

Palantir was kind enough to send me WinText for review, but it is a bummer. It operates in our Windows 1, sure, and the display isn't exactly ugly. But it operates at hunt-and-peck typing speed, with only a bare minimum of features. Where WordPerfect, Word and WordStar can each do about 100 editing moves, WinText does about 10.

Ami, the third word processor for Windows (the clumsy Windows Write was the first), sounds a cut above the others in its announcements, but hold off until we know more. Chances are that it, and the promised "Word for Windows", will both demand Windows 2 or 3, meaning forget it. We can only run Windows 1, and all the programs "for" a later Windows that I have tried crash in Windows 1.

## virus control

We have already suggested that you keep a spare copy of your DOS files in another directory, named "rescue" or something like that. You can also use one of the major utilities (Norton, for instance) to change your working copy of command.com to "hidden." That way, when a program needs tools from command.com, it gets them; and yet, when a virus on a diseased floppy tries to copy itself into command.com, your directory innocently tells the virus that command.com isn't around to accept the rewrite.

A hint for experienced users: why not run FC (file compare) from DOS in your autoexec.bat, comparing your working command.com to one hidden in a nearby directory? Then you would have a virus check every time you boot up. Let headquarters know if you can do this trick, so we can pass it on to all members.

# Debugging DBXL

DBXL 1.2c is up and running for LAM, encouraged to a second try by our review, and he's got a few tips for others who use it. He got it going under DOS.02 after using DBXL's dos2fix.exe on his dbxl.exe. (Always use a duplicate disk for such adventures!) His screen is blank unless he includes RETRACE=ON as a line in his config.xl file. SET CURSORMOVE OFF doesn't work for him, nor does help/manual, which crashes his system. The author of the complicated fix that follows admits that the "retrace" fix above is "all you may need to do."

Compuserve caller Doug Fogg, MC reports, got 1.2 (not 1.2c) running under DOS.03 as follows: Copy, from DBXL disks, these files onto a blank 720K floppy: dbxl.exe, dbxl.msg, setup.exe, install.dat and install.txt. (You can do this copying to a hard drive; if so, copy DBXL.OV2 and DBXL.HLP also.)

Type SETUP<enter> and choose 2 on the menu, "configure for IBM-PC." (That's right!) When you see the question "use int 10 for video?" say yes(Y). Then say Y to save changes and choose QUIT. Erase the two install files and setup.exe. Copy DBXL.ov1 and DBXL.hlp to the new working disk. Use Edlin to put "retrace=on" in the config.xl file, but as a temporary fix, you can type (blindly) SET RETRACE ON<enter>.

SE clarifies his October review: DBaseIII listed those 776 records in 2 minutes, 31 seconds — much faster than DBXL, which has a slow screen. But DBXL is "appreciably faster" in operations that don't write their results on-screen. SE sent clarifications of setting up keys, and the difference among function/command/operand and MS-DOS/PC-DOS; but I found all three clarifications so totally confusing that I am omitting them for now. Thanks again, SE.

## Perfecting WordPerfect

The quickest way to slow down, AIV tells us, is to move up. "I had just begun to become somewhat efficient with WordPerfect 4.2, when BANG comes WordPerfect 5.0, and here I sit at zippo efficiency, trying to figure it out again."

Apparently that's not holding AIV back. He's come up with a market basket full of good ideas for WP5 on the 2000:

That exit crash SEB reported, unreadable garbage when exiting WP, is more bark than bite. Just type (blindly) CLS<enter>. Back in business! So you don't have to do this every time you exit, call WP from a batch file (which many of us do now). And make one line of your batch file, right after the line WP, say CLS. That way, the garbage disappears automatically. By the way, you need all 15K of command.com right there with WP.EXE, because CLS is one of command.com's tricks that doesn't float in memory.

If you have no hard drive (and even if you do), you can make the WP5 spellchecker and/or thesaurus far faster (if you're Envision-enhanced) by creating a RAM-disk of 384K size. Even with a plain-vanilla 256K double-floppy, you can go faster by loading both the thesaurus and speller on a single 720K disk, while your WP.EXE,

its tool files, and your current writing job cook in the other drive.

WordPerfect 5 does not load for EMS. "It locks up the system and says please wait." WP5 prefers to be called with a row of switches typed after it, say BCT and PDS, crediting John Harrell, a non-Orphan guru. He uses this: WP/NF/NC/NK/MT=0<enter>. If this gets tedious, do it in a batch file titled WP.BAT, so a mere WP<enter> lights the fire.

The problem with WP5 printing, says BCT, has been solved by a BIOS mod from Harrell. It's on the Delphi bulletin board, or send a stamped and addressed mailer with a disk, to him at 9563 Oakenshaw Drive, Manassas, VA 22110. He says you can get around the printer bug by telling WP a disk drive (such as b:) is your printer (not PRN: but B:) and later "printing" to it. Then you use DOS to copy that new file to the printer port, such as COPY B:STORY.TXT LPT1:<enter>.

Harrell also provides, in the November PCM, a giant program to keep up to 40 function-key commands, even those you manually change, on your WordPerfect screen. (The Orphan function-key flipchart, see Side-

walk Salesmen, does this more easily.) The silly part of this is that Harrell apparently expects you to copy thousands of keystrokes exactly right, meanwhile learning programming to understand his cloudy explanation. But if you send him a mailer asking nicely for the program on disk, he might cooperate.

If someone sends the Harrell BIOS and key-display fixes in, we'll distribute them from HQ.

WordPerfect 5, says PDS, "works well except for displaying illustrations," and he reports that they print right when placed with keyboard coordinates. WP5 runs only under our latest (2.11.03) DOS, he adds.

## Guru rhymes with screw you

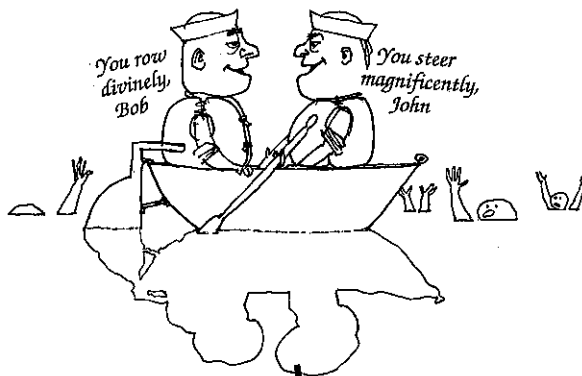
Harrell is an example of some 2000 hardware gurus (Bob Juge is another) who keep pretending that Orphans doesn't exist, almost certainly because each jealously considers himself as world headquarters for the 2000. They don't answer my letters and don't return my phone calls, but they gossip nastily about us on modem.

Since the clientele of these gurus is a tiny fraction of Orphan membership, they seem to care more about uplifting their self-images than helping the many 2000 owners that Tandy cut adrift.

## Program Problems

MASM 1.0 (that's Microsoft Assembler, which changes verbal language instructions like "go to" to hex blips like "3B C9") is giving DJS a problem:

MASM gives us no way to command use of special 80186 chip instructions, about ten extensions that are on the manual's reserved-words list, but not usable (apparently) in the software. Can anyone who uses MASM give us the answer? Please be elementary and explicit, because I am ignorant, and need to understand your instructions before I edit them with the usual Whimper compression.





This month's look-see at the market is typical for the 2000: small disappointments and major good news.

## Trading Post

A Berkeley outfit called LaserTools has brought out what sounded like a missing link for the perfect system. Their program Trading Post is billed as an on-board language translator for your computer, translating ordinary ASCII output from your keyboard or a database, for instance. The simple text message to a dot-matrix printer can be translated into the PostScript language, including all the sizing and typesetting PostScript accepts.

You could even type a first-page DOS-manual command like DIR, and have your directory roll out of the Orphan laser in inch-high letters, your choice of typeface. Trouble is, the installation program crashes, even though it's in Turbo-C with letters and IBM box characters. Their technician Randy Spurrier talked with me, but he had no help. Even if we got the installer running, he doesn't think the main program would fly. He says there's a lot of down-and-dirty hardware programming in there, making 100% IBM-compatibility a must. So I couldn't install, and there it rests. I'll be calling them for help, but as usual the fix is not likely to be worth their time.

This leaves us with just a 2106 and a 2000 as our future "perfect" system. The 2106 has emulations of dot and daisy printers in it, which are settable with messages from the 2000. So we can do all the work Trading Post would do for us, just by writing and running a printer-prep program in our autoexec.bat. When enough Orphans have graduated to the 2106, we'll get busy on it.

## Frank Crosse Tax Program

This 1988 tax program comes in two versions. The \$50 personal version does all the calculations for about ten basic forms, but you have to give the feds "line item" forms (which they accept) from a printout. Oddly, the often-needed Schedule D (capital gains) is left out. The fancier program for tax preparers (and individuals who can afford it) prints out in just the right spots to "fill in" the tax forms, and for its \$250 price you get this way to fill in about twenty forms.

This is more than a crippled word processor. It gives you the right questions in the right order, branching out to the other forms when it comes time to use them. Even this sounds like using your car to carry your clippers over to the hedge, but that's because it's January. Come April, bringing the torture many of us go through, and any helping hand looks good. To an extent also, this program is a toy for individuals who use it only for themselves. But again, a toy is a joy when things get too darn serious. For professionals in the trade, of course, a program like this is as necessary now as a word processor for a writer.

An Orphan user provided a 1987 "pro" version, which whips through form 1040A (and a few others I tried) with gratifying speed. It's not error-resistant (I said my kids lived with me 200 months out of the year, and all had a social security number of 1), but once it's got your facts, it moves with blinding speed. My 1040A takes about three hours by pen-and-calculator, and about half an hour with Crosse. I received the program without instructions, but found it fairly self-explanatory.

Crosse is supposed to have the 1988 versions ready "any day now." You might give him a buzz at P.O. Box 334 (or 606 Main St.), Colfax, LA 71417. Or call 318-627-5936.

## PageMaker 3

Aldus was kind enough to let us try a copy of PageMaker 3, which comes with Windows 286 runtime. Runtime means you can have Windows only during the time you're running PageMaker.

The installation manual says PM3 won't run under Windows 1, which remains the only Windows runnable on our dear 2000. The manual is exactly correct. PM3 crashes with its on-board Windows, and it also crashes when loaded directly into our Windows 1 — the same Windows that successfully runs our PageMaker 1.

So once again, we are forbidden to enter the future, but find the past quite comfortable. PageMaker 1 is a doll to work with, as the review of it here indicates.

## PageMaker 1

Aldus sent us a PageMaker 1 to review some time ago, but as usual, it took a long time to get it plugged in. It turns out to be a winner.

Those of you who use a big word processor (Word, WordPerfect, WordStar) will find that you already know PageMaker, despite its bigness. The learning curve, so-called, is just a front step. Once you're inside, you feel quite at home.

The center of PageMaker is a clumsy little word processor, where you can slowly type headlines and corrections, even an occasional caption or pull-quote for a picture or box. Exactly that was done for this Whimper, our first issue under PageMaker. Flip through, and you'll see what I mean.

Don't expect your changes to find their way back to the original text you pulled into PageMaker. And don't expect to write much in PM either; it's too slow and the screen is a bit hard to read.

But the glory of PageMaker is that it's a precise paintbrush for magazines and newspapers. You dip your cursor-arrow in a pot of text, and it changes to a tiny notepad. You mouse it to the upper-left corner of where you want text, and click. Marvelously, your words flow into the column, downward to the bottom of the page, or to any picture that's in the way. To fill the next column, you click the little "+" under the last line. Your arrow changes again to a notepad, which you touch to the next space you want to fill, like a magic wand from a Disney fairy.

Right away, I grew dissatisfied with the simple two-column layout I've been rolling out of Word 3.1. The text-filled paintbrush fills any rectangle, instead of a column, if you keep the mouse-button down. It drags open a window as you move to lower right, and when you release the button the text flows on. You can create a page like a bulletin board if you like, chaotic and cluttered. But a few clean breaks from two-column format are enough to decorate it, make it easier to read, and pull reader interest to its various parts.

The latest versions of major word processors are trying to include a weak imitation of PageMaker, but the combination requires PC graphics instructions — which the 2000 ignores. Not to worry, time has not passed us by: your old word processor plus PageMaker is better than any "combination" product now shipping, with the possible exception of IBM's \$2000 publisher program, also incompatible with the 2000.

The controls of PageMaker are satisfyingly logical and move nicely on the screen. As usual, some random snaps or deep reading of the manual can reveal exciting short cuts. For example, snapping the right mouse button on any part of the full two-page screen (on which only headlines are readable) gives a rapid closeup in which you can alter both text and its positioning.

Flowing text from page to page is a literal snap, but changing things later on requires some care: when a change adds or subtracts a line of text, PM makes you wait half a minute while it moves all the rest of the magazine one line up or down. So when you're changing "storm" to "tornado", look at the end of the paragraph. If the last line has one word, add tornado before subtracting storm; if the last line is almost full, subtract the storm first.

Last-minute additions are easy if you leave blank space for them. No long waits. This page (and last of all, this line) are last-minute additions, going straight "to press" without passing through a word processor.

The pain of learning a big program is offset by the thrill of seeing it work. In PageMaker, the thrill is so strong and the pain so weak, that getting started is a joy.

# Members Review

A comparison of our latest word processors comes in from EGG: "I have WordPerfect 4.2, Multimate 3.2, Tandy's Scripsit 1000/2000, WordStar 5, and MS Word (both 1.0 and the new 3.1).

"WordStar 5 is a disaster. The read.me files don't work, the add-ons lock up the screen, and the printer drivers are both useless and unsupported.

"I like MultiMate best. Scripsit is also excellent, with very good Tandy printer support, but it does columns poorly." [EGG does not rate Word or WordPerfect in his comparison.]

We usually get software reviews for this department, but the new Nechodom 3-1/2-inch drive kit was installed by DJS. I have been curious about this unit. DJS says:

"It arrived in timely fashion, installed (as drive B:) in under one hour, and runs like a top. I am porting back and forth with the 1400 laptop with no problem." He adds that the drive doesn't seem to know when it's full, answering "write error" instead. No big fault, it would seem, but he's asking Envision to help and will no doubt inform us of any fix.

The same unit gets a rave from MSS. "It sure is nice, and I think it is definitely worth the extra cash if you don't have a second diskette drive."

MSS has installed the now-usual-for-Orphans Seagate 251 (street-priced about \$325 for 40 megs), and has been tweaking it this way and that with Envision's FazeIV and MicroLink's MLFormat. He offers some observations but says full results are on the way. Please give us the rundown, MSS, for February. We all want that snappy performance from our hard drives. Your leader used those three products with success, but I haven't run tests of their performance.

WordPerfect Library 2.0 runs on the 2000, if you add the switch /NF when calling up the program. NF means not fast in the screen display. You get full use of the DOS shell (pretty boxes instead of the A: prompt), calculator, program editor, macro editor, calendar and clipboard. It gets to be good company indeed with a big Envision memory and/or a hard drive. The notebook doesn't run, and the file manager has trouble moving files from one floppy to another.

## The Souvenir Shop

**Your order**— Please order by the short title, like "SYM" for the Symphony patch. All prices include postage, packing and handling to the 50 states. Foreign Orphans, add \$3 per order of any size.

**Money**— No credit cards and no foreign checks. Only U.S.A. checks (preferably) or U.S. cash. (A foreign check is OK if it has the name and U.S.A. address of a U.S. bank printed on it, with "dollars(U.S.," machine-printed next to both amount lines.)

## Special instructions

\*\*\* Odd-items disk pricing— Send \$5 for your first \*\*\* item, and \$1 each for other \*\*\* items on the same order.

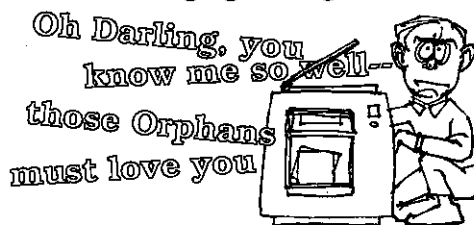
### Helpful disks— The 2000 versions of 123, dBIII and FrameWork have enraged members who want to load them onto hard drives, store variations on floppies, and so on, because they do not copy! Orphans

sells versions which do copy, and run from any drive you've got if you install them carefully. For WordStar 4 (already copiable), we offer a MicroPro-modified program disk that now supports Tandy printers.

### Proof— So Tandy can't get me busted for copyright, when we sell you a disk of 123, dB, FW or WS, you have to send your original program disk to HQ in a mailer, with your order. I ship it back unchanged, along with our better disk.

### Envision status— Our disks have read-me instructions for adapting to Envision memory, but if you already have it, tell us in your order for 123, dB or FW by adding an "E". Envision's installer-disk modifies a hidden BIOS.SYS file, so we send you a slightly different copy-free disk; it also has a read-me way to adapt back to non-Envision systems.

**Zerex pricing**— Your leader has worked for years over a hot zerex machine where he was undisturbed, able to perform the many oddball tasks like back-to-back 11x17s, massaging the big machine's tender guts



when it was moody. That big machine and I became good buddies. Those glorious days are over, however. Now Orphan documents have to be done by a copy shop, with all the counter hassles and much higher prices. The one- and two-dollar items will stay the same, but bigger stuff must become more costly. Most of 1987's out-of-print Whimpers, for instance, jump from \$5 to \$8.

**Windows**— Our talk about "Windows" disks is confusing. The only version of Microsoft's Windows that works on the 2000 is 1.0 (and presumably their 1.1, 1.2, 1.3). It's an IBM-style version, no longer available in stores or from Microsoft, and Orphans is currently calling for members willing to dupe Windows 1 as a \$5 favor for other members needing this extinct animal.

The Tandy tweaker— Windows 1 will not run on our machine until it has been tweaked by a Tandy-written disk that they used to sell for \$10. They don't any more, but Orphans sells it for \$20.07 in the Souvenir Shop. This disk is not Windows, just an accessory to it.

What we can't get— Windows 2 and 3 don't run, with or without tweaking, on our machine. And for that matter, all the recent programs advertised as running on or in Windows, such as Pagemaker 3 and Excel, do not run in Windows 1 and therefore are beyond our reach. PageMaker 1 does run in Windows 1. There was no PageMaker 2, just as there was no dBase I or AutoCad 3. Now are you confused enough?

## Disks

### 123 and 123E: Unprotected Lotus123v1, Tandy 26-5300. \$5.09, see details above.

### FW and FWE: Unprotected FrameWork 1, Tandy 26-5320. \$5.03, see details above.

### DB and DBE: Unprotected dBaseIII, Tandy 26-5353. \$5.11, see details above.

### WS4: WordStar 4 version for Tandy printers. \$5.23, see details above.

03: MS-DOS 2.11.03. If you picked up an older DOS with your 2000, you should have this latest and last

2000 version. It has a newer version of Basic that members call much better but with bugs. \$5.31.

**TWIN:** Tandy-written Windows Driver disk, formerly their #7002611. This disk slyly erases drivers for non-Tandy printers, but we've added instructions for avoiding this trap. (198K) \$20.07.

**HAMP:** The Whimper Hamper, old Whimpers on disk, is useful when you're searching for something by key word from a fast word processor. It's also for those who would rather read at the screen than in an easy chair. This disk is not public domain, but your personal copy of copyrighted material, so don't even think of loading it out through your modem: I'm tired of cheap, demanding non-Orphan modem groupies who want Orphan help for nothing. \$40.00 for one disk stuffed with Mar. (May is missing) Aug, Oct, Dec 1987 and Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec 1988. Parts of earlier Whimpers (and all of one) are not on disk (any typist volunteers?), and are therefore missing from the Hamper. There are also extra parts that were clipped out on the pasteup table, but remain on the disk. When a volunteer has disked the missing parts, that disk of additions goes free to any Hamper owner writing a request for it.

**TRAP:** MouseTrap, called Locate by its author, which lets our digi-mouse run the arrow keys, the ENTER key and the F1 key, in your starting DOS or any software that lacks its own mouse driver, which means that now our mouse goes everywhere. \$20.19, of which \$10 goes to the deserving inventor, \$5 to actual costs of getting it to you, and \$5.19 to the Orphan phone bill.

\*\*\* **BYTE:** Creative Byting, a free-to-copy disk on how to write user-friendly software that sells, put out by an apparently out-of-business disk publisher. (183K)

\*\*\* **SUIT:** Suitcase, a hard-disk packing-up utility which parks the heads on the last sector (least likely to have data). This is to protect data when you bump your computer while trying to lower it into one of those open-pit car trunks. After copying it to your hard drive, you type SUITCASE and turn off the computer. Load up the car! The disk unpacks itself next time you turn the machine on. (2K)

\*\*\* **SYM:** SymPatch, a patch on disk to allow Symphony to run from a hard drive without the hassle of a Symphony floppy in A:. (1K)

\*\*\* **BOSS:** PC Boss, which allows you to navigate disks and directories with un-DOS-like skill and speed. (30K)

\*\*\* **MOU-DIS:** If you have mouse and its board but no Tandy disk: Clock-mouse software on disk. (15K) See just below.

## Documents

**MOU-MAN:** Tandy's clock-mouse installation manual, 16 pages compressed into eight zerox pages, \$6.00. See just above.

**MAST:** Mastering the Tandy 2000, a compressed 28-page zerox of a 100-page out-of-print book mentioned in the February issue. Reprinted with paid permission. \$16.50.

**NEWBAS:** List and description of extra BASIC commands in the Basic that came with DOS 2.11.03. 24pp. will be compressed to about 12. \$9.

**MODS:** All the mod service bulletins for correcting bugs in those earlier 2000s that have no "M" at the beginning of the serial number. Usable by anyone who can read and solder. 48 pages will be compressed to about 24, \$17.

512: Instructions for putting 512K (or more) on a Tandy 2000 memory board. 7 pages zeroxed, \$2.00.

**VID:** List of Tandy 2000 video ports. 3 pp. zeroxed, \$1.00.

**VIDRAM:** Info on video RAM and attributes by BJK, \$1.00.

**VM3:** Modifying a Tandy VM-3 to work with the 2000, by MOR, has pictures, zeroxed. \$2.00.

**TP3:** Making Turbo Pascal 3 run on the 2000, a one-page patch supplied by BJK. \$1.00.

**TP4:** Using TurboPascal 4 with 2000 by BJK, 4 pp., \$2.00.

**SAVBAS:** Saving a Basic color screen by HEB, one page, \$1.00.

**IBMPORT:** A book chapter listing and discussing IBM-style hardware ports, useful for assembly-language programmers among us trying to create a -Holy Grail compatibility disk to convert IBM software for the 2000. 29 pages compressed into 16, \$12.00.

*Back issues of the Whimper vary in cost: The six 1988 issues (FAJAOD) of the Whimper are \$5.00 each. The five 1987 issues (MrMyAOD 87), out of print, are supplied as zeroxes for \$8 (the short March '87 is \$4). 1986 issues were little pep-letters with no technical help, and are not available.*

Note that most of most back issues (there are gaps) are now available in the Whimper Hamper disk, sold above.

Note also that people who let their subscriptions run out can't get back issues free by trying to renew retroactively. If you have missed an issue, your membership year starts the day I move your check from your envelope to the bank envelope, hitting the "renew" button on the way. Retroactive renewal does occur when there is no missed issue in the expiration-to-renewal gap.

## Sidewalk Salesmen

Function-key flipchart, ten stiff narrow pages in a 19-ring plastic edge-binder (specify ivory/brown or white/blue). Slips into existing slots and displays written or double-face-taped-on key functions for your ten favorite programs. Send \$5.00 (includes postage, packing and handling) to Orphan Jack Doerr, 22407 Bayview Drive, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081. (Don't send your order to headquarters.) This gadget quickly becomes indispensable (it is for me), and takes even more cash plus four hours of hacking and trekking if you do it yourself (it did for me).

Software, boards and upgrades, send for latest catalog. Orphan Dave Nechodom, Envision Designs, 1539 West Pearl St., Pasco, WA 99301. 509-547-1139.

Software and upgrades, send for latest catalog. Orphan Bob Spencer, MicroLink Technology, P.O.Box 2666, Sumter, SC 29151. 800-334-9612.

## Flee Market

Prices are for full as-new packages, and include shipping to anywhere in continental USA.

Multimate 35, PFS File+Report 50, Videotex 10, Deskmate 20, Word 3.1 65, HomeAccountant 15, Offix 20, WordStar 3.31 25, Scripsit 1000/2000 50, RBase-Clout 30 — boxed new digimouse 50 — programmer's and tech ref manuals 10 each — or all above for \$275. 213-432-4049, ask for Elton.

\$30 each for MSWord 1, VersaCAD Entry, 1-2-3 v.1, FrameWork 1. Ask for Louis, 303-424-8107.