

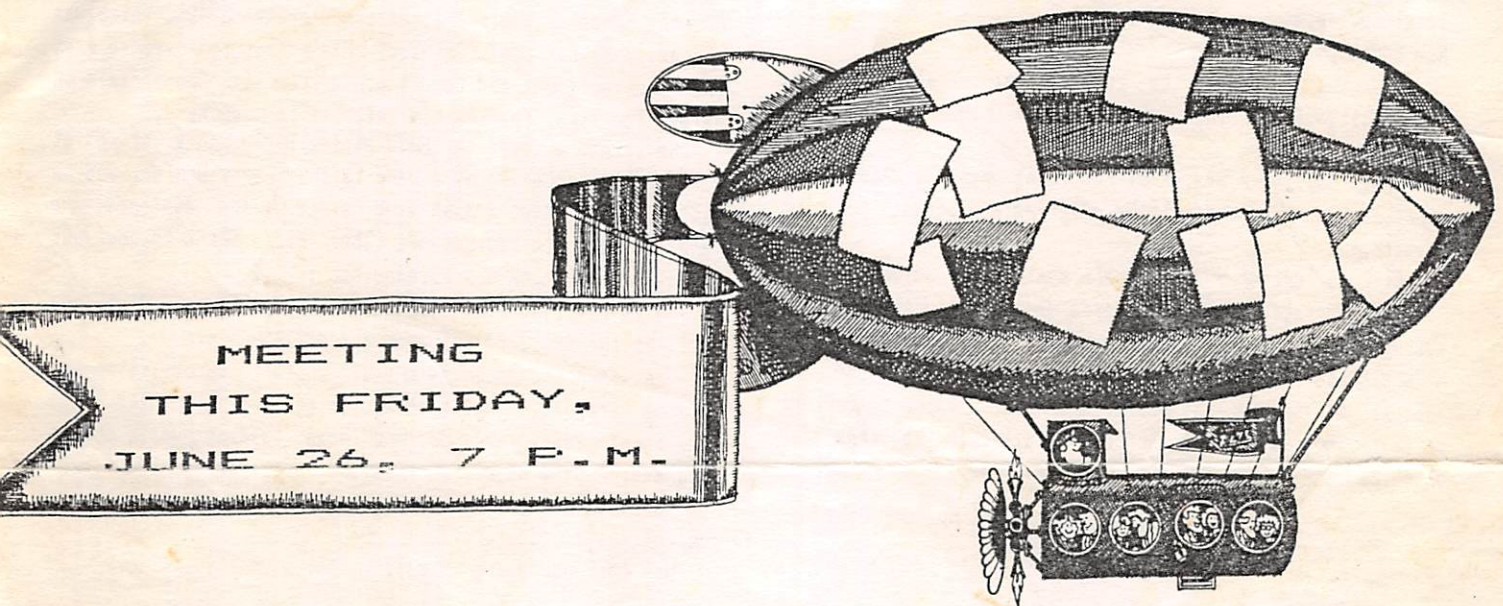
6809

# EXPRESS

The Official Publication of the  
PENN - JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

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JUNE 1987



## WILL PHONE CONNECT FEES INCREASE?

The Federal Communications Commission proposes to end on January 1, 1988, an exemption from certain phone access charges for computer-based services and information retrieval systems.

That could mean higher telephone hook-up rates for information-retrieval services such as CompuServe Inc. and Quantum Link, and other computer network companies.

The higher charges, some information services officials say probably would be passed on to the millions of business and personal home computer users and educational market, such as those providing electronic bulletin boards, travel service schedules and video games.

"It would be a serious setback for the whole information industry," said Philip M. Walker, a vice-president of Telenet Communications Corp., a US Sprint Communications Co. company and one of the largest computer networks.

"What you would see is a reduction in demand for all services, but a dramatic reduction in demand almost to the point of killing... the low-priced services," he said.

Walker estimated the proposal would add about \$4.50 an

hour per user to Telenet's current total cost of \$5 to \$8 an hour.

CompuServe, with 360,000 subscribers, estimated it would add at least \$2 to the hourly rate ranging at present from \$6.25 to \$12.50 per hour depending to the speed by which data is transmitted.

Information Industry officials are attempting to block the move which could cost personal computer users using such information services anywhere from about \$2 per hour more to about \$4 per hour according to a CompuServe spokesman and Quantum Link spokesman.

"One of the key reasons the consumer business is growing right now is because the services are getting easier to use and more affordable," said Stephen Case, vice-president of Quantum Link Computer Services.

Gerald Salemme, of the House Energy and Commerce telecommunications subcommittee, said, "We're still analyzing what effects it would have on the information service markets. Developing those markets has long been a goal of this Congress and the FCC."

## MINUTES OF MAY MEETING

The May meeting of the Penn Jersey Color Computer Club was called to order by the President, Paul Eckhart. The May minutes were approved as written in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was read by Tom Castronuova and accepted.

### OLD BUSINESS

A controller was donated by Tom Roginski for the club system. The drive is still pending upon a price quote. A few correction to the membership list were noted and will be forwarded to Reinhold for mailing of newsletters.

Nevin Keller reported the receipt of Micro Adventure and two books from Brad Smith.

Don Laurer, Publicity, has listed our meeting dates in local newspapers.

### NEW BUSINESS

It was suggested to contact Fat Hersh about the possibility of our club sponsoring the October Rainbowfest in Princeton.

Chet Belsky, a member of PJCC, has opened a Radio Shack store in Pennsburg and will be offering a discount to club members.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Tom Roginski and Bruce Navarre demonstrated the COCO III system with Owlware SuperIO board, Winchester harddrive, 512K upgrade with 7 windows operating at the same time. A special treat was the first-time ever showing of DeVinci software program using the COCO 3's full color spectrum for graphics.

Submitted by Roni DeGarmo

## PHONE LINK-UP FOR COMPUTERS PATENTED

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company recently received a patent for connecting personal computers with existing telephone lines. Called the Starlan Local Area Network, the system is said to permit more than 100 personal computers to share their operations.

Patent 4,674,095 was granted to William L. Arganguren, Mario A Restrepo and Michael J. Sidney, engineers for A.T.&T. in Morristown, N.J.

The patent covers transmission with office telephone lines and modular telephone plugs rather than coaxial cables, which are reported to be bulky and expensive. Spare telephone wires, such as the twisted pair kind, is to be used. Such wiring is said to be available in most office buildings in the U.S..

According to the an A.T.&T. spokesman, such are networks are already in use under license in the United States, Canada, Japan and Europe. The transmission standard used in Starlan has been approved by a committee of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

**"COCO DEN" BBS**  
**215-866-1805**

## MEET YOUR FELLOW MEMBER

by  
**Roni DeGarmo**

**Librarian**  
**Nevin Keller**



Nevin Keller, our club librarian, is a student at Easton Shawnee School. Nevin's first computer was a DCM3 which was purchased by his parent's used. His school improved so much that they went out and bought him a COCO II. Commercials on television first sparked his interest in computers.

Nevin heard about the PJCC at the Radio Shack store at 25th Shopping Center by a card left by Jerry Behler, and he has been a faithful member ever since. The meetings are hard to get to because his father had a shift change, but Nevin is hoping for his license soon.

He is involved with the National COCO Penpal Club and operates the ASCII-80 bulletin board (215-252-1608).

His favorite programs are VIP writer, BBS utilities and telecom terminal. Nevin enjoys communicating on the club and local BBS's and up and down loading public domain programs. Once he played classical music on his COCO near his open window, and the neighbors were amazed that it was coming from a computer.

His last words are -- call my BBS 24 hours.

**"ASCII 80" BBS**  
**215-252-1608**

**6809 EXPRESS**  
PENN-JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB

The "6809 EXPRESS" is the official monthly publication of the PENN-JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB. The club is based in the greater Lehigh Valley area of Northeastern Pennsylvania including sections of Northwest New Jersey. Any club or non-profit organization may reprint any part of the newsletter as long as credit is given. PJCC will gladly exchange newsletters with any other computer club. For any written correspondence send your request to EDITOR, 6809 EXPRESS, Penn-Jersey Color Computer Club, P.O. Box 2742, Lehigh Valley, Pa. 18001.

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**ED JUGE**

## Tandy Topics

By Ed Juge  
director of market planning  
TANDY Corporation/ RADIO SHACK



### COMPUTER BUILDING BLOCKS

If you've looked carefully through Radio Shack's computer catalog, you've found that many options exist for your computers. There is a table listing the various video resolution options along with monitors and -- for the Tandy 3000s -- the plug-in video boards required for each.

You will also find a variety of storage options including 5-1/4" drives for 360Kb and 1.2Mb, a 3-1/2" drive for 760Kb (we'll have one this summer to match IBM's new 1.44Mb format), a 20Mb hard card, hard disks in 20, 40, and 70Mb sizes, and disk cartridge systems in various configurations.

With IBM's latest product announcements, the idea of "hardware compatibility" went up in a puff of smoke. We believe our ongoing strategy of providing the building blocks to let you "custom tailor" your computer system, is now more valid than ever. It also means you can add any level of connectivity any time you need it. But... you don't pay for it until -- or if -- the need arises.

This building block system has obvious advantages in price, convenience, and future expandability. You pay for exactly (and only) the system you want.

To see how this helps, consider an example. Let's say you chose an IBM Model 50, but you want a larger and faster hard drive than the "standard" 20Mb unit. That drive fits nothing other than IBM's Model 50. Every 50 owner already has one, and the dealer sure doesn't need to take it on trade. If you really must have a different HD, the 20Mb unit you've already paid for is now a throwaway!

So, you can start with a 1-drive Tandy 3000HL (which by the way is on sale for \$1299 this month), add a hard disk, and still save a bundle when compared to the Model 50's \$3599 tab. By the way, in "real-world" application benchmarks, we find the 3000HL to run at about

90% the speed of the Model 50. And of course with a 80286 processor, it will run the next generation (OS-2 based) software when it's available.

This building block philosophy is something we've been working toward for some time. We announced an external 3-1/2" drive for the Tandy 1000EX last summer, and our internal 3-1/2" was in the January computer catalog. We believe it will prove beneficial for all Tandy computer users.

### IBM'S MICROCHANNEL

We are asked often if we intend to copy IBM's new Microchannel bus for future '286 and '386 computers. The first question the industry must answer is what user advantages that bus may offer. Since there won't be any advantage until OS-2 based software is available (1991?), we all have some time to decide and react... if any reaction is appropriate. (Helping IBM get a temporary "leg up" on their competition isn't much of a user benefit.)

If there are benefits to the Microchannel, are they universal, or do they only have appeal to the two to three hundred largest corporations. Do they offset the disadvantages of incompatibility with installed systems and software, and the inability to use existing add-on boards and monitors.

It's conceivable that we could end up with an industry standard for small and medium-size businesses, home and school users... and an IBM standard primarily appealing to the largest corporate users to whom connectivity is of prime importance. The jury is still out, not just for us, but for all compatible vendors. Consumers, not vendors set standards. Ultimately, YOU will decide, and our goal will be to offer the best possible value, within those standards.

Continued on page 4

# Tandy Topics

Continued  
from page 2

## - RADIO SHACK'S TOP TEN -

You often see stats for top selling software in the general market. Have you wondered about what the top sellers are in Radio Shack stores? Well, here's how it looked for the latest reporting period...

### COLOR COMPUTER'S BEST

- |    |         |                       |
|----|---------|-----------------------|
| 1  | 26-3046 | Downland              |
| 2  | 26-3093 | Dungeons of Daggorath |
| 3  | 26-3095 | Color Baseball        |
| 4  | 26-3104 | Spectaculator         |
| 5  | 26-3106 | Personal Finance II   |
| 6  | 26-3246 | Cave Walker           |
| 7  | 26-3108 | Flight Simulator I    |
| 8  | 26-3109 | Color Scripsit II     |
| 9  | 26-3201 | Color Math            |
| 10 | 26-3297 | Rogue                 |

### MS-DOS HOME & EDUCATION

- |    |         |                     |
|----|---------|---------------------|
| 1  | 25-1166 | FUNDamentals SX     |
| 2  | 25-1304 | The Print Shop      |
| 3  | 90-3071 | PrintMaster Plus    |
| 4  | 25-1159 | Managing Your Money |
| 5  | 25-1126 | Typing Tutor III    |
| 6  | 90-3068 | Math Blaster        |
| 7  | 90-3018 | Dollars and Sense   |
| 8  | 25-1167 | FUNDamentals EX     |
| 9  | 90-5510 | Certificate Maker   |
| 10 | 90-3158 | Type!               |

### MS-DOS ENTERTAINMENT

- |   |         |                                   |
|---|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 26-5379 | Flight Simulator                  |
| 2 | 25-1151 | Where in World is Carmen Sandiego |

- |    |         |                   |
|----|---------|-------------------|
| 3  | 25-1125 | F-15 Strike Eagle |
| 4  | 90-3092 | Jet               |
| 5  | 25-1133 | Black Cauldron    |
| 6  | 25-1137 | Star Flight       |
| 7  | 25-1150 | Space Quest       |
| 8  | 25-1156 | King's Quest III  |
| 9  | 90-0505 | Silent Service    |
| 10 | 90-3129 | Sargon III        |

## NEW 512K UPGRADE FOR COCO 3

Now available the LR Tech 512K upgrade with all gold contacts and 120 nanosecond 256K chips. Useable as a RAM disk from basic or as large system memory for OS 9 level 2!!!

INTRODUCTORY PRICE...

**\$54.**

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**\$ 95.**  
WITH 256K CHIPS



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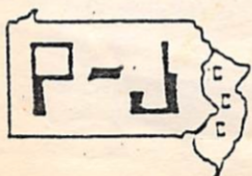
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