

# EXPRESS

The Official Publication of the  
**PENN - JERSEY COLOR COMPUTER CLUB**

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SEPT. 1987

## BIG COCO IS WATCHING!!!

Computers are being used to monitor the rest breaks and job productivity and even counting individual keystrokes on terminals and computerized typewriters of more than 7 million American workers according to a government report released this past week.

The report said that computer monitoring may add to the stress level of many jobs, leading to more frequent illnesses and, in some cases, turning the office into "an electronic sweatshop."

Entitled "The Electronic Supervisor: New Technology, New Tensions," the report was prepared by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment at the request of Rep. Don Edwards, D-California.

In a statement released by his office, Edwards said the report shows, "We are becoming a surveillance society."

"Every day we are seeing new invasions of the privacy and dignity of workers," Edwards' statement said. "People should not be forced to surrender their privacy and dignity when they go to work. We have occupational health and safety laws to protect workers' bodies. Now Congress needs to respond to technological threats to their dignity and privacy."

Computers in many corporations now monitor such things as job production, use of the telephone, presence at the workstation, frequency of errors and even eavesdropping on customer service calls.

The report said that most jobs now monitored by computers are clerical positions, such as computer data entry or insurance claims processing, but the management technique is spreading to other, more complicated work. Most such monitored positions use computer terminals that can be programmed to measure job performance. (Couple of months ago, a data entry person for a large insurance firm was fired for not having enough key-strokes on her terminal within a certain time period. She was suing the company and

I haven't seen any article in regards to the finale of that suit.

The report estimates that 4 million to 6 million clerical employees currently are being evaluated in the work place by computers.

WATCH OUT - BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING!

## CHEAPER INFORMATION SERVICE

Syntax Systems Information Services Incorporated of Linthicum, MD, has announced "A New Age of Computer Communications."

In a post-card to PJ-CCC, Syntax Systems writes, "Dear Modem User, Why waste anywhere from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per hour on a network service that doesn't care about your need? Syntax Systems, a division of SSIS, is "A New Age Of Computer Communications". Evening rates at 300 AND 1200 baud are just \$3.95 per hour! But don't take our work for it, find out for yourself. Call 1-800-426-7795 anytime day or night to have a free InfoPak mailed to you via first class mail PLUS a free "let's get acquainted" introductory hour! Give us a call...what have you got to lose? But bigger bills...."

Call toll-free at 1-800-426-3383 to sign up.

"COCO DEN" BBS

215-866-1805

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EDUCATION IS MEETING TOPIC  
THIS FRIDAY, SEPT. 25th 7pm

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## MINUTES OF AUGUST 28th MEETING

President Eckhart opened the meeting and welcomed the old and new faces. Those in attendance were reminded to sign in on the attendance sheet. The minutes were approved as written in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was read by Tom Castronuova and was accepted.

### Old Business:

Questions on the drive system will be postponed until AI arrives.

There were no responses to the missing in action report.

Disks are still for sale at 50 cents each. Please pay the treasurer.

A public domain software advertisement was brought to our attention. Sixty-three disks are available at \$6 each. (11 or more \$5 each) We still have the public domain disks from last year available in the library.

### New Business:

There were some questions and comments on the lateness of the Rainbow on disk.

If any new or old members are interested, there are some PJCCC hats available at \$4.50 each.

This year's Rainbowfest will be held in Princeton at the Hyatt-Regency.

Our meeting place building at NCACC has a new name - Keystone Hall.

A disk holder and thermal paper were auctioned off for the benefit of the club. Clyde Gano suggested more auctions for the club in the future.

Next meeting will be the education meeting. In October we will have Show and Tell. Bring your own power strip.

A motion was made by Roni to buy a power strip. It was agreed to purchase a power strip with a surge protector and a power strip was also donated by Charlie Ross.

The meeting was adjourned and an interesting potpourri session followed featuring a Trivial Pursuit game led by President Eckhart.

Submitted by,  
Mary Brown,  
Secretary

## OWL-WARE HAS

### APPLE BDS FOR MS-DOS

For those PJ-CCC members who also have an MS-DOS computer you now have the capabilities to use Apple software on your MS-DOS machine with an APPLE card from Tom Roginski of OWL COMPUTER SERVICES, 1117 N. Irving St., Allentown, Pa.

Tom recently purchased a number of these cards (not for Tandy 1000) from an insurance company which used them to transfer Apple files to their new MS-DOS system and so they are slightly used. Price for club members is \$159.00 each. Originally they were a \$599 list price item. If anyone is interested call Roginski at Owl at 215-433-8695.

## EDUCATION IS MEETING TOPIC THIS FRIDAY, SEPT. 25th 7pm

Education and the computer will be the topic of the September 25 meeting of the Penn-Jersey Color Computer Club.

Mary Brown, a PJ-CCC member and teacher, will serve as lecturer and discuss how she uses the CoCo as a teaching tool in her school system.

In October we will have a show and tell night so bring your software, hardware or any other goodies and share them with the rest of the members. Also make sure you bring a power strip if you bring your CoCo system.

DON'T FORGET - THIS FRIDAY, SEPT. 25th.

## RAINBOWFEST

OCT. 9-11

It's time again to plan for the annual RAINBOWFEST in Princeton to be held October 9 - 11th at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Princeton, N.J.

The show schedule is Friday evening - exhibits open from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday - CoCo Community Breakfast at 9 a.m. and exhibits open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday - exhibits will open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Besides the exhibits featuring the latest in software and hardware for the Color Computer, this year a new feature has been added and that is the "Educational Sandbox", which features child-oriented workshops to give hands-on experience to an age group often neglected. There are sessions from Kindergarten through third-graders and for forth-through seventh graders.

Fourteen experts on the CoCo will present various workshops throughout the Rainbowfest.

A three-day ticket costs \$9 per person and a one-day ticket is \$7 per person.

## MEETING THIS FRIDAY

### 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. PJCCC 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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## NEW CONTROLLER FOR COCOS

Sardis Technologies of Vancouver, B.C., Canada, has announced that the new DMC (Dual Mode Controller) they recently introduced is now available to United States residents through an office in the State of Washington.

The new controller is one of the first of a new generation of "no halt" controllers. What this means is that it can "read from or write to disk all by itself, during which time the 6809E processor continues to run independently "crunching your data, scanning the keyboard, writing to the screen, servicing the serial port, etc. The processor is only involved at the beginning (to initiate the read/write operation), and at the end (to check the status and move the data to main memory)."

The current controllers (Radio Shack, Disto, J&M, Hard Drive Specialist, etc.) actually interrupt or "halt" the 6809E processor every time the CoCo accesses the floppy disk, according to Sardis Technologies. The new DMC controller also features the Radio Shack "halt" mode of

operation to make it compatible with all the current software.

The DMC controller works with all three models of the CoCo (Multi-Pak required), runs on either .895 MHz or 1.79 MHz speeds, has dual DOS capability with an external switch optional, comes with RSDOS 1.1 installed and features an 8K bytes cache of memory on board (32K optional).

It can also read, write, and even format virtually any conceivable OS-9 disk format including CoCo OS-9, standard OS-9 (single or double density), MIZAR OS-9/68K, and Japanese OS-9, claims Sardis Technologies.

The DMC controller with RSDOS 1.1 and SDISK software is \$149.50 plus \$5 for shipping and handling from Sardis Technologies (604) 255-4485 (State of Washington) or write to Sardis at 2261 East 11th Ave., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5N 1Z7.

Flyers describing all the features of the DMC controller will be at the September 25th meeting.



**ED JUGE**

## Tandy Topics

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

### NEW LASER PRINTER ANNOUNCED

To fully implement low-cost desktop publishing based on Tandy's 3000 family and new 4000, the company introduced the LP 1000, a \$2,199 laser printer. The unit features full-page (1.5Mb) memory and on-board controller, and produces six pages per minute in Tandy, IBM, and HP LaserJet Plus-compatible modes, with 300 x 300 dot-per-inch resolution.

### NEW DOT-MATRIX PRINTERS

Two new dot-matrix printers were shown. The DMP 2120 is a \$1,599, PC-compatible, 240 character per second letter-quality printer with color ribbon option. A 24-wire print head can produce a variety of internal or downloaded fonts. A push-type "zero tear" tractor is supplied.

The DMP 440 is a 300 character per second, PC-compatible nine-wire 132-column printer, selling for \$699. It also accepts downloaded fonts in addition to those supplied.

### OS-9

Lest I be accused of leaving out the Color Computer, the current version of OS-9 for the CoCo 2 is LV. I, Ver. 2.00.00, and for the CoCo 3 it's Lv. II, Ver. 2.00.01. There are no anticipated new versions of either coming this year. CoCo 3 owners will be happy to hear, however, that the Lv. II development system is expected to be available in the next 60 days.

### OTHER COCO MATTERS

I received a letter from a concerned CoCo owner recently. He actually wrote to a magazine, and they forwarded it to me.

The letter said that local computer departments had "shuffled" the CoCo to the back of the department and appeared to be placing all the emphasis on MS-DOS. He feared that this signaled the end of his favorite personal computer.

Our terminology "computer department" refers to the computer section or "Plus Computer Center" within a Radio Shack consumer store. If he's seeing the CoCo shuffled in those locations, something is wrong. Our merchandising plan for all consumer stores calls for the Color Computer to be just about the first item you find in the front of every store. That hasn't changed.

In my reply, I told the writer that the CoCo is one of those products that refuses to die... or even slow down. The heaviest sales, as you might expect, occur in the Christmas quarter of the year. But every year, we sell more units than the previous year. Last October - December, according to InfoCorp, a Cupertino,

Continued on page 4

# Tandy Topics

Continued  
from page 2

California research firm, Tandy's share of the PC-compatible unit sales through retail channels was a staggering 41%! (The second place brand was Epson with 14%.) But you know what?? We still sold more Color Computers than MS-DOS machines.

The end of a computer's lifespan is almost exclusively up to you, the consumer. When you stop buying them, it's a pretty clear signal that the end has come. Until then, I told our friend, I don't think CoCo enthusiasts have much to worry about.

80386

No, I'm not going to tell you about a new Tandy 80386 machine just now. What I am going to tell you, is that Intel's "Inboard 386" board (for 80286 computers) has been certified to run on our Tandy 3000 family. The 3000 and 3000 HL are two of the very few machines which have been certified. This board will be available through Express Order.

A new version of the Tandy Customer Training and Support brochure will list a new system for telephone support charges.

We recognize the fact that as customers become more accustomed to their hardware and software, the need for telephone support diminishes. Some vendors charge "per minute" for this service. It can really get expensive, though, when you run into a problem which requires a lot of time, and multiple phone calls. Our previous charge of \$60.00 per quarter did not seem to best serve the customer who only needs help on rare occasions. Our folks have come up with what we feel will be a better method.

Our telephone support is now offered on a "per incident" basis. Telephone support customers can invest in a new "6/60" plan which offers telephone support sold as a package of 6 incidents for \$60.00. One incident covers as many phone calls as it takes to solve that specific problem or question. Since there is no time limit over which those 6 incidents may occur, you don't have to feel you're paying for 3 months of support to get one question answered.

## 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!!!

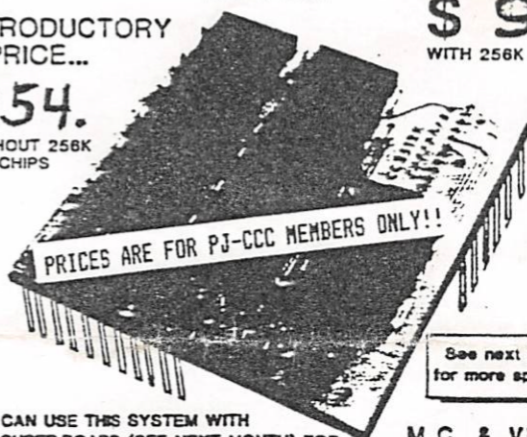
INTRODUCTORY PRICE...

**\$54.**

WITHOUT 256K CHIPS

**\$ 95.**

WITH 256K CHIPS



See next page for more specials.

YOU CAN USE THIS SYSTEM WITH OUR SUPER BOARD (SEE NEXT MONTH) FOR A THREE USER SYSTEM UNDER OS 9. WORKS WITH OUR HARD DRIVE.

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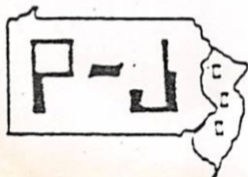
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