Dear Fellow ADAMite,

The March meeting may have been the best one we've had yet!

Our new color monitor was installed... and boy, is it impressive. I went home wanting one just like it. President John Terry got a special deal on it, and promised to look into the possibility of a special price for MOAUG members. What he came up with is this: if we can get six people together who will buy the monitors, the dealer will give each of us the same price he gave the group as a whole. That is, $160 plus tax. I am positive I want one... all I need are five more people. Any takers? For those of you who weren't there, the monitor is a color composite Magnavox (13" or 14"... John isn't positive) which normally retails for well over $200. The color & clarity are terrific; it has sound; and it needs no special cables. (A cable comes with it, but John says it isn't really necessary... you could use the cable that came with your computer.) If fewer than 6 people are interested, the dealer will still give us a price break, but he's not sure how much. (The dealer in question is Bill Strickler of The Computer Center, 7111 Grand National Drive, Suite 100, Orlando, 32189; phone 407/363-0015.)

We had a very interesting program, too. Monte Neece brought in his own Speedywrite II (which he reviewed here last month) and demonstrated it for us. I think everyone was as impressed as I was. That is one DYNAMITE word processing program. Monte probably made six or seven sales for the program's author! I know it's next on my own list.

A lot of people will be glad to know that we now have a new CP/M librarian. Jerome Hess joined MOAUG after the meeting, and about .25 seconds later we pressed him into service. Jerome has been a staunch ADAMite for years, and will be of great value to the club.

George Drank took on the job of Special Projects Coordinator; he will be directing group efforts on such projects as developing Phrase Packs for Reedy Software's Phrase Craze, and assembling other volumes like recipes. (George asks that you all be thinking about your very favorite recipes; he wants 5 all-time favorites from each of you to make up an All-Star Recipe volume.)

Monte Neece is still working on an ADAM Convention in the Orlando area, and it looks like he has the skills to pull it off, too.

John Prescott now has copies of all the PD volumes, and will be taking on the job of copying PD software. He also printed out all the doc files on the EOS volumes, which should really help us figure out what all is ON all those volumes!

Yay, TEAM! Let's keep it moving along! Come out & give us your ideas & support.... Next meeting is:

Sunday — April 9, 1989 — 1:45 P.M.

In the past two months, the ADAM community has been alarmed by a double whammy. We have seemingly lost two of the most productive people we ever had. Big John Lingrel of Orphanware has all but ceased production (see BEHIND THE SCENES in this issue for more information.) We know where Big John stands, though. The other person is Dr. Solomon Swift of Digital Express... and nobody (as far as I can tell) has any idea what's going on with Dr. Swift.

* * *

NIBBLES & BITS, the DEI newsletter, has not been mailed out. I can't find anyone who has been in contact with Dr. Swift any time within the past several weeks. Orders are not being filled, either. The reaction from the ADAM community has been frantic. And yet, a surprising number of people have risen to Solomon Swift's defense. Barry Wilson delivered a ringing testimonial in the St. Louis AUG newsletter. Jim Clements of the Canadian group LAUGH was positively moving in a long message he left on Compuserve. Those are just two of the people who trust and care about Sol.

* * *

In a world where people are so often cynical and quick to condemn, the fact that Sol's acquaintances have rallied to his defense even though they have no idea what's going on is pretty eloquent in itself.

* * *

Solomon Swift may well be a genius. In any case, he is unquestionably a generous, warm-hearted, and scrupulously fair person. He has touched on all our lives. Whether you have ever dealt with him or not, you have all been direct beneficiaries of his hard work and generosity. Forget for a moment the many popular commercial programs he has developed, and even the incredible number of free programs he has donated into the public domain. Forget even that he has been more than willing to share his programming code with other commercial software developers (even direct competitors) for the good of the ADAM community, and that he has fairly reviewed competitors' products. But consider this: Sol has been enthusiastic and encouraging to so many groups and individuals that he has made an incredible difference in the ADAM community just by giving us the courage to forge ahead.

* * *

I can tell you this: the newsletter you are reading at the moment would not exist without Sol's encouragement. The original articles by all your favorite MOAUG contributors would never have been published. Almost all the graphics you see in this or any other newsletter would never have been drawn. And many groups and individuals who are good friends and cooperate so well together would never have met.

* * *

As I said, I don't know what the problem is. I do know that Sol tends to try to do too much. I share that flaw, and so do a lot other ADAMites. The problem is that when you're spread too thin, it doesn't take much... a sick child, a financial problem, a couple of mechanical failures around the house, and the whole house of cards comes tumbling down. Once you get behind, it seems impossible to ever catch up. I've been there... and I don't attempt one tenth of the projects Sol tries to juggle. (A newsletter of the caliber of NIBBLES & BITS is a full-time job in itself. A BBS is another full-time job!)

* * *

I join Barry, Jim, Rich Lefko and many others in the fervent hope that Solomon Swift and his loved ones are all right, whether or not he returns to us in the same capacity. Sol is apparently in deep trouble... whether financial, legal, emotional, or all of the above. I DO NOT BELIEVE FOR A SECOND THAT ANY OF IT IS PREMEDITATED.

* * *

All the same, I would advise you not to place orders with Digital Express until the crisis is resolved. If you are a MOAUG member and you have an outstanding order, please let me know the details.

* * * * * * *

For those of you with modems, here's an interesting new BBS in town: Dr. Shrink's Couch is run by a bona fide therapist. In addition to the usual message bases, this BBS offers "on-line therapy" (with disclaimers to the effect that you follow advice at your own risk, and that nothing offered here is to be considered a valid replacement for professional consultation.) The fellow who runs the board is, in fact, a licensed psychotherapist. This could turn out to be VERRRRY interesting, eh? So far the hours are quite limited: 9 PM to 9 AM. The Good Doctor intends to get a second phone line as soon as he can, though. I THINK you should change your default options to 8 character bits; however, I did fine with default settings. PHONE: (407) 740-0314.

* * * * * * *

"Big John" Lingrel, hardware developer par excellence and former owner of Orphanware, has retired as ADAM's #1 hardware man. The fledgling new company he started with Ron Collins (CL Digital Systems) is likewise out of business. Big John will be sorely missed. That's the bad news. The good news is that BJ will still be available to answer questions and offer support to his former customers. He indicates that he will still be fixing disk drives as long as his stock of parts holds out; and he is still going to finish the hard drive interfaces he's working on. Best of all, as far as I can tell, BJ has donated his entire store of schematics and other technical information to American Design Components, in the hopes that they will follow through on their stated intention to carry on his work and even develop new hardware for ADAM (even, possibly, new "ADAMs".) So, BJ has not totally deserted us.

* * * * * * *

A word about American Design: they have asked for response from ADAM owners about what we'd like to see developed for ADAM, and what we'd consider a fair price. Write them! Here's the address:

Gary Lawrence
c/o American Design
815 Fairview Ave.
Fairview, NJ 07002

I don't know what anyone else wants to see. Personally, I'd love to see a plotter interface!

* * * * * * *

American Design also carries a lot of original Coleco merchandise, as we mentioned last month. They have the lowest prices on ribbons, bar none. If you do not have a dot matrix printer, or even if you have one but want the flexibility of your daisy wheel as a backup, then you should really invest in a bunch of these ribbons at ADC's low price (less than $4 per.) OTHER SOURCES ARE DRYING UP. As long as you have the original ribbon cases, you can always get the ribbons refilled... even in color! It may cost more than the ribbons from ADC, but at least you have the option. Please, DO NOT THROW AWAY your used ribbon cases. Save them against the possibility of a dried-up market.

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MOAUG member Mark Kavanaugh informs us that the Superhero cartoon we printed here a few months ago has won second prize in the Kennedy Space Center safety poster contest. (Mark made some modifications to the original.) Thanks for sharing that information, Mark... I'm kind of flattered, space freak that I am, that KSC liked it. (See Mark's first written contribution to MOAUG in this issue.)

* * * * * * *

John Varner, a Michigan MOAUG member, recently had repairs made to his computer. As a result, we received a letter from the repairman, Philip Kosowsky. Philip apparently has a lot of experience repairing ADAM components. We've run his address before, but in view of recent developments, it's time to run it again. (Philip's prices are a little more than I'd expected, but his reputation is solid, and he offers a flat $5 discount to AUG members. If you write him for a quote, tell him you are a group member.) Kosowsky's ADAM Repair
6067 Jerusalem Dr.
Clay, NY 13041 (315 600 6450)

MORE NEWS:

President John Terry got a fantastic deal on 2-part NCR computer paper (divided horizontally along the middle so you have two half sheets; perfect for invoices, etc.) John is willing to share his luck with MOAUG members. He is asking only $15 per box. This paper normally sells for about $30-$40 per box. Call 380-1400.

Two people in the Orlando area have ADAMs for sale.

Don Berry is a long-time MOAUG member, and has collected a lot. The system he wants to sell includes:
Two CPUs... Three keyboards... Two ADAM printers... One external power supply... Two data drives... One disk drive with power supply... One ADAMLINK modem... One 64k memory expander... One parallel printer interface... One autodialer...Several books... and "A TON" of software, including ADAMLINK II, ADAMCALC, LOGO, CP/M, many Infocom games, and much more. Don is asking $300 for the entire package. Phone: (407) 658-0145
   Don Berry 1328 Spring Lite Way Orlando, FL 32817

I'm not sure who the second system belongs to, because I could not read the signature. I don't think it's a MOAUG member. In any case, the system includes 3 "non-working" CPUs, 2 working printers, 4 data drives, a 64k memory expander, all game paddles and keyboards, autodialer, all books, manuals and original papers, and software including Smart Letters & Forms, SmartFiler, 2010 adventure game, Backup 3.0 (on disk), Easy Type, and over 20 digital data packs. Also included is something described as "Adam link boad and software"... I am guessing that is a modem. In any case, this person is asking $150 for the works. If interested, contact his (her?) mother at (407) 423-8630.

THE ELECTRONIC MAILBOX: Monte Neece has left messages on the Orphanware board regarding his proposal to hold an ADAM convention in Orlando, and I have left similar messages on Compuserve. Jim Notini of NIAD told us that whenever we hold it, he will be here! (Jim is one of the artists of Wizard's Lair, responsible for the PowerPRINT graphics we printed last month; and he is deeply involved in the NIAD newsletter.) Other people who expressed an interest included Adamania sysop Tim Nunes, and LAUGH member Jim Clements.

And HERE'S some incredibly good news: "Adopted" MOAUG member Gregg Noblett left a message saying that he and Michele are seriously considering moving to the Orlando area, possibly even this year! Besides the fact that Gregg is one of the most knowledgeable ADAMites around, and that he's a sharp programmer, Gregg is also one of the nicest guys I know. Those of you who met Gregg & Michele on either of their earlier two visits to Orlando will agree with me that we couldn't possibly ask for better neighbors!

As always, thanks to Ray Dougherty for downloading the Compuserve messages.

Joe Quinn of Gulf Coast AUG also wants to attend ADAMCON, and he mentioned it in his most recent newsletter.

TIPS & TRICKS

STILL MORE WORD PROCESSING TIPS:

We've run this one before, but it bears repeating: make use of your SEARCH function to eliminate a lot of repetitive typing. Most of the people I know who do word processing, even on IBM systems, tend to treat their computers as typewriters and ignore this great time-saver. Yesterday I was typing up a paper in which I had to use the words "Stock Feed System" about seven hundred times. I simply typed in the letters "XX" every time it came up; then I had ADAM search for XX and replace it with Stock Feed System. That worked so well that in subsequent reports I used "fx" for "fixture", ax for "assembly", mx for "machine", and ex for "collett." I think I must've shaved ten per cent off the time it took me to type that last report! (Yes, I now have an ADAM at work, too. And I'm keeping training records on it, doing word-processing, and teaching my assistants to type using ExperTYPE. It's a lot easier than trying to find time to teach them to use the IBMs across the street, and less hassle, too.)

One word of caution: when using the Search & Replace technique, make sure the characters you use do not appear anywhere else within the document. And PROOFREAD! (Of course, you'll proof the paper anyway, right?) I did goof on one item. I used the characters "aj" for adjust. (So when I wanted "adjusting", I typed "ajing". For "adjustment", I used "ajment." That doesn't sound like that much of a time-saver, but I had to use those words dozens of times, and believe me, it was!)

BUT I FORGOT that those characters appear within the word "major". So when I told ADAM to replace all occurrences of "aj", I ended up with the word "madjustor"!!! Now, I still saved a lot of time, I just had to fix one word. So it was easily worth it. (Another way to do it would be to just replace one word at a time, instead of every occurrence at once. Personally, I think the time saved by doing it all at once is worth the effort of proofreading, since I have to proofread anyway.)

And, if you are one of the people who use a lot of "End Page" markers in your documents, remember that the SEARCH function will stop at those markers. When you are done proofreading, use the SEARCH function to fix the booboos, too.

Another simple trick: Many people get so used to word-wrap that they think they can't use a hyphen to separate an overlong word using SmartWRITER. Of course you can! You just have to insert a <RETURN> right after the hyphen. But there's a better way for people like me, who often change the margins on documents. That is, DON'T type the <RETURN>, but put a space after the hyphen instead. Everything after the space will end up on the next line, just the same. Then, when you change your margins, if the hyphen doesn't end up where you want it... or if you no longer need it... you simply backspace, rather than having to delete a return. Even if you don't do anything, the word will still be readable and the margins will match up right.

We heard from Ricki Gerlach, of the German ADAM Users. You may recall that Ricki and his wife have done some excellent graphics : which they sell commercially. They still contribute quite a bit to the public domain, however, and the German group has been BUSY! Ricki sent us two volumes of classic public domain games, which most of you have seen; but they spiffed them up with graphics. These volumes are called "Happy Games I & II". He also told us that the disk he sent at Christmas is okay to distribute; but you'll have to wait for that surprise. Ricki wants cross-stitch patterns of Christmas scenes, like the ones we printed in January, so he can transfer them to PD pictures for next Christmas. Anybody who has such patterns to share, please bring them to the meeting or mail them to me.
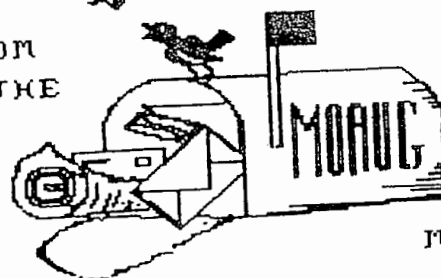
* * * * *

Keith Marner of the United Kingdom ADAM Subscribers periodically releases a disk of Mini-reviews of ADAM software & hardware. The reviews are shorter versions of all the reviews that have been published in the UKAS Journal. Every so often, he updates the disk. He just sent us the most recent update, as well as a disk of PD utilities to share.

* * * * *

The GULF COAST ADAM USERS (based in Alabama) is working on a project which should prove VERY interesting to Floridians: a Hurricant Tracking Program. They want it to be a group effort. Joe Quinn sent us a working version of what they have so far. A map comes up on the screen and a sprite representing the hurricane moves across the screen. Anyone who wants to look over version in progress & possibly come up with suggestions, please let me know. I will give you a copy of the program & try to get the newsletter article copied for you, too. Joe also sent us the group's latest utilities volume; more about this later.

* * * * *

We recently received a letter from Jim Clements of LAUGH (Canada.) As you may recall, Jim was visiting in Florida, unbeknownst to us, when he had a really nasty accident (he was hit by an Olds and spent weeks in a Tampa hospital, with two broken legs, just for starters.) After returning to Canada, Jim sent us an hysterically funny letter which we read into the minutes at the February meeting. An example of Jim's irrepressible humor: he wanted to get a T-shirt printed up, & couldn't decide whether to have it say "I TAKE MY BREAKS IN FLORIDA" or "I HAD A BANG-UP TIME IN TAMPA." We voted on it; the consensus was that he should have one phrase printed on the front of the shirt, and the other on the back. We also voted to commend his wife, Rena, for her steadfastness, which Jim feels made all the difference in his recovery.

Well, not long afterward, I found a T-shirt with an alligator on the front of it, saying "SEND MORE TOURISTS.. THE LAST ONES WERE DELICIOUS!" Of course, I got it and sent it to Jim. Jim sent a charming letter expressing his amazement that MOAUG members were so concerned about a fellow ADAMite you'd never even met, and he says the shirt made his day. As usual, the letter is hilarious. If you want to hear the good parts, come to the April meeting! Jim is now getting around with the aid of walking sticks, and says the Tampa hospital did a great patch job.

FROM THE MOAUG MAILBOX

The Puget Sound ADAM Newsnet has a new look, and it's SHARP. It appears that PSAN is using a laser printer to publish the newsletter these days. PSAN is one of the great bargains in the ADAM community; I still can't figure out how they can produce a monthly newsletter for just $5 a year. The March issue is superb. If you want to see PSAN in your mailbox, send $5 to:

PSAN 22607 SE 322nd Kent, WA 98042

* * * * *

From the March '89 NIAD: "We are currently using our Laser Printer, hooked up to ADAM with a standard Parallel Interface, with SmartWRITER, PowerPAINT, PrintWORKS, SmartBASIC, SmartLOGO and just about any other ADAM program that allows for printing on a dot matrix printer." Yes, NIAD is looking sharp, too; and there are other welcome changes to the newsletter. One of the things that seemed to bother some of NIAD's subscribers was that there used to be some pages devoted to other game systems. Lately, though, all the pages are related solely to ADAM. NIAD is available for $19 per year for 10 issues. Write to:
NIAD PO Box 1317 Lisle, IL 60532

* * * * *

As a result of our address being printed in both Nibbles & Bits and NIAD, we are receiving checks in the mail for subscriptions. PLEASE, all newsletter editors, DO NOT TELL YOUR SUBSCRIBERS TO SEND CHECKS until they have received a sample issue & decide to join MOAUG. We do not sell subscriptions. Our newsletter is free to members only. All your people have to do to receive sample newsletters is to send us a self-addressed envelope with 45 cents worth of stamps. If they want two newsletters, have them use another twenty-cent stamp. We are currently returning all checks, and sending people sample newsletters; but the stamps come out of the editor's pocket. Most people will eventually contribute to our stamp fund, but let's do it right the first time. We don't turn members away, but we don't want people to join until they have some idea what MOAUG is all about.

* * * * *

I was complaining to my sister in Connecticut that I couldn't find the type of disk mailer I need in local stores. She sent me a couple of mailers, and a catalog. Would you believe sturdy cardboard mailers, premarked, suitable for two disks, for NINETEEN CENTS each? That's in lots of fifty, but if you don't need that many, team up with another disk drive owner! And try THIS one... stacking acrylic disk cases, holding up to 70 disks, for $2.97 in lots of 12! (Or $3.95 each for two or more.) The same price is available for 3.5" disk cases. Generic colored disks cost 39 cents each; a disk cleaning maintenance kit is $1.99, or $2.99 for 3.5" drives. This is from MEI/Micro Center. Call toll-free for a catalog: 1-800-634-3487 (VISA/MC accepted)

or write: MEI/Micro Center 1100 Steelwood Rd Columbus, OH 43212

Rec'd 3/4/89

TYPES OF REPAIRS

Adam Computer Repair (CPU) PLUS SHIPPING	$50
Working Adam converted to REV 80 PLUS SHIPPING	$50
Adam Printer Repair PLUS SHIPPING	$50
Adam Disc Drive Repair (single sided)	$75

HARDWARE

PRINTER INTERFACE WITH CABLE — $50

Tape Drive	$30
Blank Tape (Coleco Loran)	$3 each or 10 for $27
Daisy Wheel Pica 10 or Courier 72	$5 each
Adamlink Modem	$30
Printer Ribbon	$5
Adam Disc Drive	$200
Expansion module to run Atari 2600 Cartridges	$35
Adam Printer	$100
Adam CPU rev 80 without data drive	$80
All types of parts for the Adam	CALL

SOFTWARE

AdamCalc – Advanced electronic spread sheet.	$22
Addictus – game	$20
AutoBackup for smartdsk – Autoload copies of the contents of a disk or tape to the ramdisk. Autosave copies of the contents of a disk or tape. (Requires expander).	$20
Backup+ 3.0 – Copy Utilities	$22
BordersPlus – To be used with "The PrintWorks" includes twelve new custom borders, plus bonus fonts, and clips	$13
CopyCart+1.0 – Makes backup copies of game cartridges on tapes	$13
CopyCart+D2.0 – Makes backup copies of game cartridges on tapes or disk. (Can only be used with disk drive).	$20
CPM 2.2	$30
Dragon's Lair – 3D graphic arcade game.	$10
Easy Come-Easy Go – Loan amortization schedule	$14
Expertype – Typing teacher	$12
Family Feud Writer – Write your own questions for Family Feud. (Requires Family Feud & Smart Disk or SmartDsk III or Media-Aid-Plus.	$25
Family Feud Question Pack – (Requires Family Feud).	$20
Flashcard Maker	$12
Galatic Bounty Hunter – Arcade action type game comming soon	
Grandma's Recipes – Over 60 recipes (requires Coleco's Recipe Filer)	$10
Jeopardy Writer – Write your own question for Jeopardy.(Requires Jeopardy, and smartdisk or smartdisk III or Media-Aid-Plus.	$25
Jeopardy Question Pack – Requires Jeopardy Game.	$20
Lab Mouse – Play the role of a laboratory mouse stuck in a maze.	$12
Librarian – Reads smart writer file names & stores them on smart filer. (Requires Smart filer.)	$20
MageQuest – Graphic Adventure game	$15
Medi-Aid-Plus – Complete file utilities.	$18
Michigana Jones – Text adventure game	$13

SMARTDSK (3.0)
BUSINESS PACK (2.0) $19
EASY AS ABC 1, 2, 3 $19
THE BALLAD OUTPITCHMAN $12 $13

Misspeller – Dictionary that contains the most common misspelled words. To be used with spellingAid.	$20
Phrase Craze – Wheel of Fortune type game.	$20
Phrase Pak One (requires Phrase Craze) Additional Phrases for Phrase Craze over 150 games worth.	$10
Phrase Pak Two (requires Phrase Craze) Additional Phases for Phrase Craze over 150 games worth.	$10
Phrase Pak Construction Set (requires Phrase Craze) Allows you to make your own phrase paks for use with Phrase Craze.	$10
PrBoot – With PrBoot file transfer program to a tape, disk or ramdisk. Memory expander and smartdsk III required to boot from ramdisk not required to boot from tape	$18
RamDsk – Ramdisk program requires memory expander.	$18
RamBoot – Uses expander boards to store files. (Requires at least 64K expander).	$25
Recipe Filer	$12
SmartDsk – Use any memory expander as a high speed ram disk with options to use the Adam or a Dot matrix printer.	$20
SmartDskIII – High speed ramdsk program. Includes a complete set of utillity programs. Requires expander to use ramdisk utilities do not require expander.	$25
SmartFiler (REV 27D) – Store information, files, notes, list, etc.	$12
SmartLetters & Forms – Contains prewitten letters, complaints, notes	$10
SmartLogo – Idea first computer language for children.	$10
SmartTYPE 2 – Is a great word processor that makes a perfect companion to smartwriter. Fleatures line justification, auto center, 1 or 2 column printing, 40 column screen, much more. SmartTYPE is limited to 1 page documents.	$80
Spelling Aid – Spelling checker for the Adam. Works with smartwriter, speedy write & Standard ASCII files.	$20
Stage Fright – Text adventure game	$30
Super Zaxxon – 3D spaceship game	$16
The Entertainment Pack – Consist of 3 graphic games. CONNECTII a strategy game, BLOCKADE an arcade type game, SLIDE PUZZLE a challenging game with smoothly aminated.	$10
The Print Works – Print shop program, design banners, Letterheads, greeting Cards, Etc. Requires Dot Matrix printer, to use RamDisk option a memory expander is required.	$16
The Reedy Library – Assortment of programs: Michigana Jones, Video paint, Texteditor, Picture Subroutine maker, Adamadding, and more.	$30
	$20

ORDERING

All payment must be made in US funds payable to
  Kosowsky's Adam Repair
Shipping Fee $2.50 per order (US 48 states only)
  anywhere else additional shipping fees required
Sales Tax 7% (New York State Residents Only)
All orders over $60 Money Order is required
Repairs CALL before sending unit (315) 699-6456
  M-F 6pm to 10pm Sat & Sun 9am to 10pm
Send Orders to: Philip Kosowsky
      6067 Jerusalem Dr
      Clay, NY 13041

I'm not home every day so keep trying. If my phone number/ address ever changes call or write (518) 371-7482
8 Castillion CT. Clifton Park NY 12065 to find out my new address and number. I plan to fix the Adam for a long time however it seem that I move every couple of years.

What's a Digital Data Pack?

(Oh, YEAH... I remember now!)   by Richard Lefko

My apologies to all Digital Data Pack (DDP) users everywhere! In my haste to own every piece of high-tech equipment ADAM hardware developers can possibly dream up, I've forgotten all about ADAM's unique, original Digital Data Drive (DDD) and DDPs!

I've just met, through CIS, a gentleman in my area who owns an ADAM, but only has DDDs. We had decided to trade some PD volumes, so I searched my desk, and lo and behold, in the bottom drawer, all the way in the back I found my quarry, DDPs! I had about 15 or so, I had even forgotten what was on them!

Well, since they had been sitting for about a year I decided to just go ahead and INIT them all. I loaded SMARTBasic (SB), slapped a DDP in drive #1, typed the SB command "INIT", and nothing happened! So I tried again, still nothing. The DDP wouldn't turn and I kept getting an I/O error message on the screen. Just then a small light bulb went off in the back of my mind! I remembered reading somewhere that placing the DDP in the palm of your hand and slapping it down on your desk was supposed to fix something! Since I had nothing to lose at this point I decided to try it, and you know what, it worked! After slapping it down, I loaded it back into the drive and INITed it, no problem.

But wait, after INITing the DDP I cataloged it and found 253 blocks free. Hmmm...the book says a DDP is supposed to hold 256K, less 1 block for the directory and 1 for the boot, that leaves 254, not 253? After doing some research I discovered one of "those" bugs in the SB interpreter. So now what? As it turned out, a recent article in the Computer Shopper by Faye Deere of ECAUG suggested poking the values of 0 & 1 into the addresses 25305 & 25306. To do this, simply type POKE 25305,0 then press return, then POKE 25306,1 then press return again. Use the values 160 & 0 for SS disk drives. After poking these values in, I INITed a DDP and cataloged and found 254 blocks free. Hooray! Since I didn't feel like poking in these values everytime I boot SB I wrote the following program:

```
10 REM corrects SB INIT for DDPs
20 POKE 25305,0:POKE 25306,1
25 TEXT:PRINT "EVERYTHINGS POKED-INIT AWAY!!"
30 FOR A = 1 to 3000
31 next A
35 TEXT:NEW
```

DO NOT run this program until you've saved it! The last line erases it from memory! If you'd like SB to load this upon boot up, save it as "HELLO".

Having fixed that problem, I pulled 2 Public Domain (PD) disks out, and Quickopy, and proceeded to copy them to the DDPs. I got halfway through the second disk when I got an "out of room" error message. "That's impossible", I said! The first disk had 120K and the second 110K, a total of 230K! I rebooted SB, did a catalog, and found 51 blocks free. So now what's wrong? Then it suddenly dawned on me, I had more than 35 files! One directory block can only hold 35 file names. I had 47 to copy. Now what? I have numerous programs to make multiple directories on disks, but none for DDPs, or so I thought. While looking for information for last months "Did You Know.." article I ran across a program in the June '88 MOAUG newsletter entitled "EOS-INIT" written by, non-other than, Digital Express! What a break! After typing in this program I was able to INIT my DDPs with up to 3 block directories allowing for 105 filenames on each DDP. The only drawback is you can NOT add directory blocks WITHOUT wiping a DDP clean of files. Here is the list of EOS-INIT:

```
10 REM   machine code INIT
50 LOMEM :34000: TEXT
100 DATA  62,8,1,1,0,17,255,0,33,223,107,205,189,252,201
110 FOR x = 27600 TO 27614: READ ml: POKE x, ml: NEXT
200 INVERSE: PRINT " machine code INIT": NORMAL
210 PRINT: PRINT " Please select: ": PRINT
220 PRINT " 1 = 'INIT medium": PRINT " 2 = abort program"
230 GET key$: IF key$ < "1" OR key$ > "2" GOTO 230
240 IF key$ = "1" GOTO 300
250 TEXT: PRINT " program terminated.": END
300 PRINT key$: PRINT: PRINT: PRINT " Which device?"
310 PRINT " 1 = tape one": PRINT " 2 = disk one"
320 GET key$: IF key$ < "1" OR key$ > "2" GOTO 320
330 IF key$ = "1" THEN  dv% = 8: vo% = 255
340 IF key$ = "2" THEN  dv% = 4: vo% = 160
400 PRINT key$: PRINT: PRINT: PRINT " What directory length (1-3)?"
410 GET key$: IF key$ < "1" OR key$ > "3" GOTO 410
420 di% = VAL(key$)
500 PRINT key$: PRINT: PRINT
510 PRINT " What name for the volume (any"
520 INPUT " eleven characters? "; vn$
530 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT " Really INIT (y OR n)?"
540 GET key$: IF key$ <> "y" AND key$ <> "Y" GOTO 250
550 POKE 27601, dv%: POKE 27603, di%: POKE 27606, vo%: PRINT
560 IF LEN(vn$) > 11 THEN  vn$ = LEFT$(vn$, 11)
570 vn$ = vn$+CHR$(3): lv = LEN(vn$)
580 FOR x = 1 TO lv: POKE 27614+x, ASC(MID$(vn$, x, 1)): NEXT
600 CALL 27600: cd = PEEK(16821): PRINT: PRINT
610 POKE 16821, dv%: PRINT CHR$(4); " catalog"
620 POKE 16821, cd: END
```

My thanks to John Harris of MOAUG for reminding me that DDPs still exists!

Need A Helping Hand?

by Mark Kavanaugh (MOAUG)

Here is a simple hardware modification project anybody can do. Have you ever been playing a video game that was so fast and/or had so many features that you feel like you need to have three hands to play?

You could have your friend be your co-pilot if you could only plug two joysticks into the same outlet. I went down to my local electronic parts store and got a joystick extension cord and another cord that had a male 9 pin D plug. I cut the male 9 pin D plug off the other cord and spliced it to the joystick extension cord on the same end that has the male 9 pin D plug on it.

Now I can connect two joysticks to the same port. This makes many of the games that I have more exciting and fun. Before, I didn't bother to play these games because they were too hard and thus no fun to play. Now my friends and I enjoy a sense of comaraderie as we blast our electronic foes into oblivion and reach new levels and higher high scores!

This modification is also useful if you have a game like FRONT LINE that requires a Super Action Controller Set. In order to throw the hand grenade or jump into a tank in this game you have to push a third or fourth button that is not on your normal joystick. You can get around this by pressing buttons 1 and 4 simultaneously on the keypad. However, this is one of those situations that require three hands. With two joysticks on one port, somebody else can control this while you concentrate on defending yourself from the enemy!. Now you can play this game even if you don't have a Super Action Controller Set.

You don't have to be an electronic technician to build this project. Just a few simple tools and the parts previously mentioned. You could even buy an extra joystick and splice it directly onto another joystick if that seems cheaper or more convenient to you. Whichever method you choose, the job is similar.

Cut the cables where you want to splice them, leaving plenty of length away from the connectors (8" minimum.) Cut the rubber sheathing off 2-3 inches from the ends for each splice, being careful not to cut any of the nine fine wires inside. If any of the wires are damaged, cut them all off and start over. Now, using a suitable tool, skim the insulation off 1/4 - 3/8" from the end of each wire, using caution not to break the fragile copper strands inside. If you break more than one or two of these strands, start over on that wire. (You can buy a tool for this or use small scissors and patience. I use a fingernail clipper and a light hand, working my way around the insulation until I just penetrate the insulation all the way around, then slip it off the end.)

Inspect the 1/4 - 3/8" of copper strands and if you're happy with them, twirl them clockwise between two fingers to wrap the strands around each other and keep them together. You might want to tin each wire by melting a thin film of solder on the wire while heating it with a soldering iron.

Now use an ohm meter or other suitable device to determine which color wire attaches to which pin on the D plugs. (I did this by plugging the male connector into the female connector and checking to see which color wires had continuity from one cable to the other.) Make a table of this in writing. Now connect each wire on the separate male 9 pin D connector to the wire that goes to the same pin on the joystick connector. Connect this pair to the extension cord so that the same color wire connects between the extension cord and the connector that was originally attached to it. Twist all three wires together and melt a thin film of solder over the three wires. Repeat this procedure for all 9 wires, making sure there is continuity between each corresponding pin on the two connectors after each splice. If you are just splicing two joysticks together, you can usually just connect the same color wires together; but this may not work when splicing an extension cable.
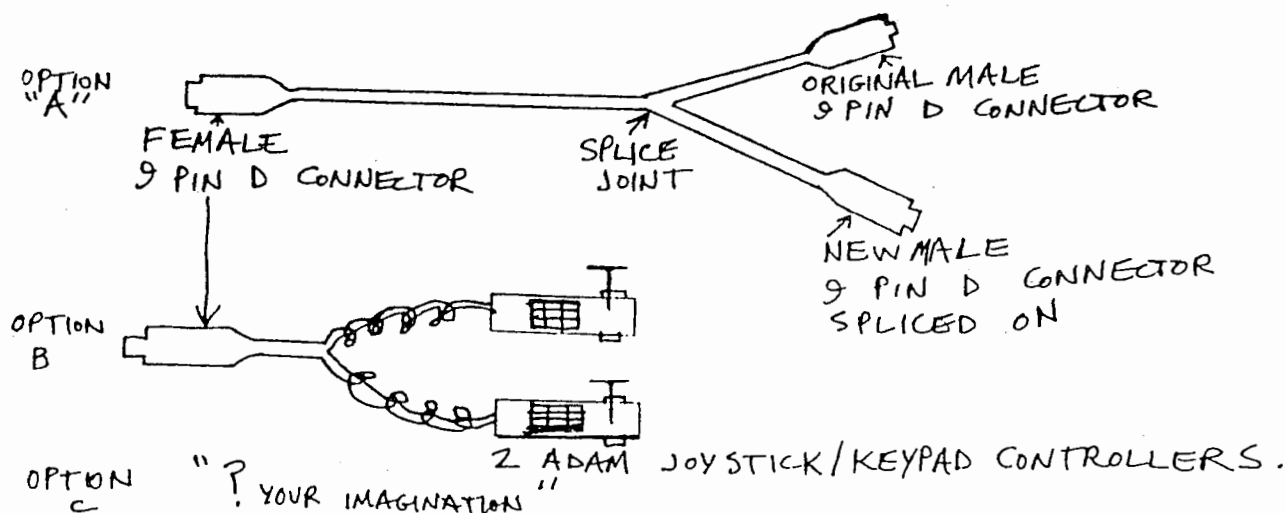
When you are positive each pin on each connector has continuity between it and the same pin or slot on both of the other connectors (and not on any of the other eight pins!) wrap each splice thoroughly with black electrical tape to prevent any wire from ever touching another wire. You may have to gently bend the ends of each splice to conform to the run of the wire and tape this down. Now, wrap black plastic tape around the whole mess to hold the splice's tape in place. (It will look best if you wrap it tightly.)

Check again to make sure each pin is connected to the corresponding pin, both male and female ends. Now, plug it in and try it out with a friend on one of those great games we have for ADAM!
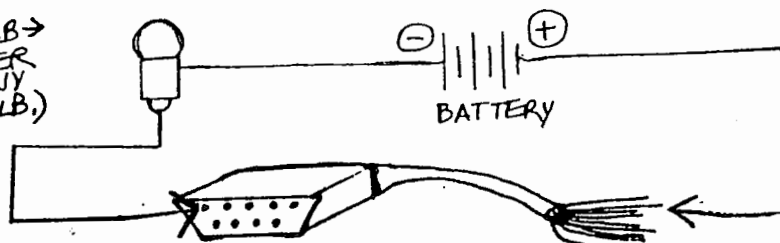
* * * * * * * * * *

OPTION "A"
FEMALE 9 PIN D CONNECTOR
SPLICE JOINT
ORIGINAL MALE 9 PIN D CONNECTOR
NEW MALE 9 PIN D CONNECTOR SPLICED ON

OPTION B
2 ADAM JOYSTICK/KEYPAD CONTROLLERS.

OPTION C   "? YOUR IMAGINATION"
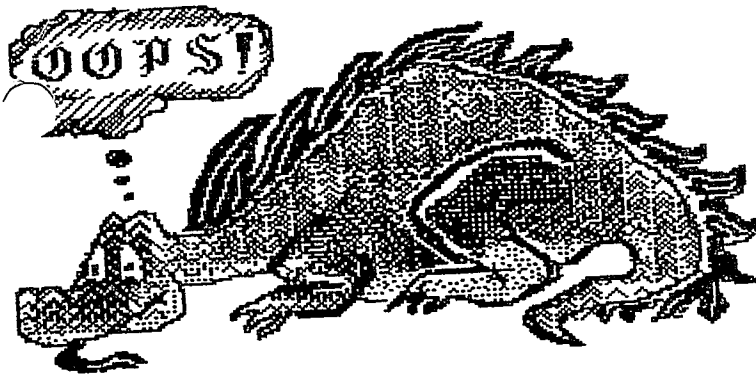
PARTS AND TOOLS FOR JOYSTICK DUAL PORT PROJECT:

1) OPTION A: ONE JOYSTICK EXTENSION CABLE WITH 9-PIN D PLUGS (MALE ON ONE END & FEMALE ON THE OTHER)
   ANY OTHER CABLE WITH A MALE 9-PIN D CONNECTOR ON ONE END (OR BUY 9-PIN D CONNECTORS AND SOLDER ON WIRES AS REQUIRED IF YOU ENJOY THIS SORT OF TEDIUM)

   OPTION B: OR BUY A SECOND JOYSTICK AND SPLICE IT DIRECTLY TO ONE OF YOUR EXISTING JOYSTICKS AND FORGET THE FIRST TWO ITEMS.
2) WIRE STRIPPER OR SMALL SCISSORS/FINGERNAIL CLIPPERS (AND PATIENCE)
3) SOLDER IRON WITH SMALL TIP, AND SOLDER
4) BLACK ELECTRICAL TAPE
5) OHM METER OR OTHER SUITABLE DEVICE AS DESCRIBED BELOW

IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN OHM METER, OBTAIN A BULB IN A SOCKET WITH WIRES COMING OFF IT AND A BATTERY THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE BULB. ATTACH ONE WIRE TO THE BATTERY. CONNECT THE LOOSE WIRE ON THE CIRCUIT TO BE TESTED TO THE OTHER END OF THE BATTERY. IF THE LIGHT COMES ON, YOU HAVE CONTINUITY (ASSUMING THE BATTERY AND LIGHT BULB WORK.)

LIGHT BULB →
(OBTAIN SOCKET OR SOLDER WIRES DIRECTLY ON ANY FLASHLIGHT OR SIMILAR BULB.)

BATTERY

DRAWINGS by MARK KAVANAUGH

You know, it's really ironic that our club treasurer, the incomparable Francis Terry, is a professional proofreader. If only your friendly neighborhood newsletter editor could edit a little faster, so that Francis could go over each issue prior to the final printing, we could probably avoid the "OOPS" column altogether. (Bear in mind that Francis and her husband John, who happens to be a programmer of the old school, not to mention president of MOAUG, spent weeks editing the L.C. Austill BASIC programming course, tailoring it to the needs of MOAUG members. Bear in mind also that Francis would probably chop that last sentence in half.)

Well, anyway. I can't forsee a time when I will ever be more than fifteen minutes ahead of a deadline, so please bear with me.

Last month's issue contained a puzzle I wrote especially for MOAUG. And wouldn't you know, when I typed it up I messed up my own work! The "hidden word" in the ninth row down was supposed to be PERIP _ERAL, to which you would add the letter H. Sorry if anyone found it frustrating.

And here's a retroactive OOPS: The January issue of MOAUG is dated "JANUARY 1988". Of course, it was the 1989 issue; the '88 issue is a year old. That will only matter to collectors, but I have already had one person tell me that he is missing the January '89 issue!

Oh, well. So far two other editors of ADAM newsletters have printed that I am a MENSA member. I assure you I am NOT. (Where did THAT come from?)

A lot of information changes, too. In last month's issue I printed a blurb about Orphanware, which now has become CL Business Systems. Well, by the time that issue hit your mailbox, that information was obsolete. Big John Lingrel had already shut down.

Some information is not exactly WRONG, just ambiguously worded. When we welcomed Mark deSure's new BBS, some readers may have gotten the impression that THE SANATARIUM is the only BBS around for EOS (that is, you can access it without knowing anything about C/PM.)

Of course, that's not true. THE SANATARIUM is the newest such board I know about, but it's far from being the only one. In fact, there is no real reason you can't access any of the CP/M boards using ADAMLINK; it's just that the programs available on such boards must be downloaded using either a CP/M software package or Tom Clary's ADAMLINK III.

In fact, there are quite a few EOS boards. The majority of them are based on BBS software developed by Alan Neeley. Alan is also the editor of a very, very good bimonthly newsletter, and operates a retail business for subscribers only. It's been awhile since we printed his address: ADAMLINK of UTAH
2337 South 600 East
Salt Lake City, UTAH
84106

The BBS operates from 6 PM to 8 AM every night (Mountain Standard Time) and 24 hours on weekends & holidays. You can use ADAMLINK's default settings. Phone: (801) 484-5114 Please observe the hours listed; during all other hours, the phone is used for ADAMLINK business.

You will especially enjoy Alan's newsletter if you are interested in telecommunications, but there is something here for everyone. Mel Ostler's articles are excellent, too.

ADAMLINK costs only $15 per year. Price includes six thick issues and buying service.

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ADAM USERS GROUP

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Bread Wagon 1880s
25 USA

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
X ←——1515 EDGEWATER DR.
(PLENTY OF PARKING!)

↑ TO
COLLEGE
PARK
↓

EDGEWATER DRIVE

IVANHOE BLVD.

I-4

LAKE IVANHOE

ORANGE AVENUE

STEAK
& ALE

(HWY 50) COLONIAL DRIVE

ADAM LIVES!