

**1987 IN REVIEW:  
BEST HARDWARE**

# FAMILY & HOME OFFICE

# COMPUTING™

## CELEBRITY COMPUTER WISH LIST



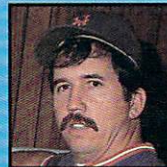
William F. Buckley



Julia Child



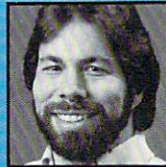
Robin Williams



Davey Johnson



Linda Ellerbee



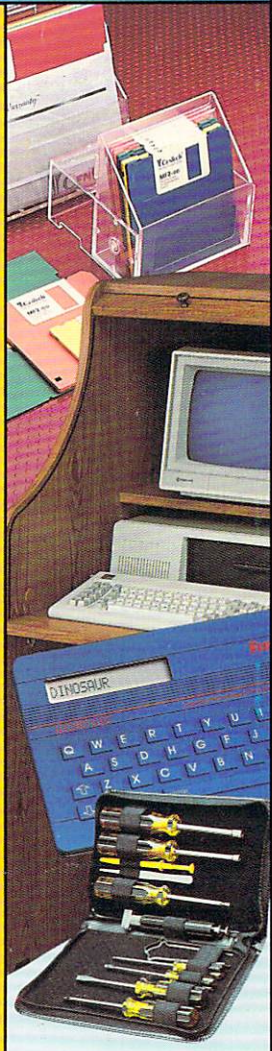
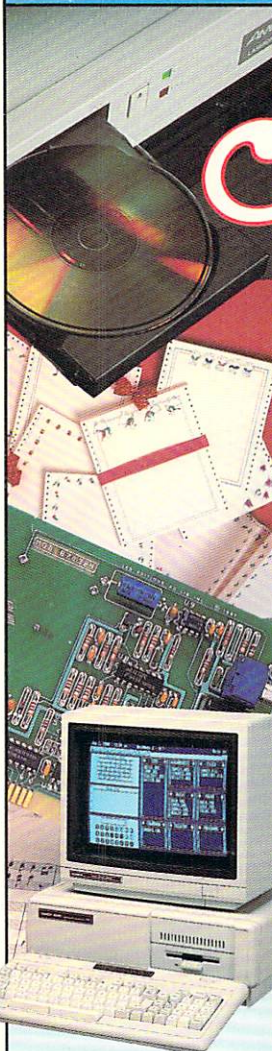
Steve Wozniak

# Annual BEST-EVER SHOPPING GUIDE

**GIFTS FOR HOME & HOME OFFICE**  
**SEASONAL SOFTWARE SPECIALS**  
**SPREADSHEETS Vs. DATABASES**

● REVIEW ● **HYPERCARD** ● REVIEW ●

TELECOMPUTING ● MS-DOS FOR EDUCATION  
CATALOG SHOPPING ● FAMILY BUDGETS  
GAMES ● NEW PRODUCTS  
ORIGINAL PROGRAMS



**24**

**AT-A-GLANCE  
SOFTWARE  
REVIEWS**



# FAMILY & HOME OFFICE COMPUTING

**COVER STORY**

**43**  
4TH ANNUAL BEST-EVER SHOPPING GUIDE  
Tis the season to browse through our annual selection of great gifts, outstanding hardware, and holiday software specials; dozens of items for computer lovers.

**44**  
HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE FOR COMPUTER LOVERS  
A catalog of gifts to equip a home office, delight your children, and help the computerists on your list get the most from their machines.

**49**  
SEASONAL SOFTWARE SPECIALS  
We've uncovered some of the best software deals of the season—you've got to get 'em while they're hot!

**50**  
HARDWARE: 1987 IN REVIEW  
A look at the developments in computers, modems, and printers in this year of remarkable advancements. PLUS: Computers to watch in 1988.

**LIFESTYLE**  
**58**  
CELEBRITY WISH LIST  
Computer-using celebrities reveal their (sometimes fantastical) Christmas wishes. You might be surprised to learn who's hooked on computers!

**THE OFFICE AT HOME**  
**10**  
CATALOG SHOPPING  
Sit back, relax . . . and go shopping for almost anything—from systems and peripherals to software and general office supplies.

**67**  
HOME-OFFICE SHOPTALK  
by Joanne Pratt  
Answers to readers' home-office and home-business questions. The third in an ongoing series.

**PERSONAL FINANCE**  
**16**  
A HOME BUDGET THAT WORKS  
Readers, the Isabellas, tell how they created an effective computer-based family budget.

**TELECOMPUTING**  
**20**  
CONNECT!  
A step-by-step guide to successful telecommunicating, plus explanations of terms and troubleshooting tips.

**EDUCATION**  
**24**  
HOME-SCHOOL CONNECTION:  
IBM DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN BUSINESS: PART II  
Reviews of 18 MS-DOS-compatible programs for learning typing, geography, chemistry, and biology; for making music; for finding a college; and for helping pre-schoolers learn the basics.

**PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENTS & REVIEWS**

**72** **HARDWARE**  
PRODUCT REVIEWS  
The Vendex HeadStart Turbo 888-XT; IBM's Music Feature synthesizing adapter; the Space III moveable monitor arm from Innovative Office Products; the Canon PC-3 Personal Copier; and the shower telephone/radio from Cosmo Communications.

**78** **SOFTWARE**  
SOFTWARE GUIDE & REVIEWS  
A guide to 24 new and noteworthy programs for Business & Productivity, Education & Creativity, and Entertainment, plus longer reviews of several programs.

**ENTERTAINMENT**  
**28**  
This month: news and rumors about Accolade's new *Pinball Wizard*; Electronic Arts's new C 64/128 games; the long-awaited *Ultima V*; and Activision's MS-DOS game plan. PLUS: Game conversions to new machines and hints for *Starflight* and *EOS*.

**64**  
GAMES FOR GUESTS  
With themes ranging from murder parties to golf tournaments, here's game software that's sure to keep your holiday guests entertained.

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**SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS & UTILITIES**

**54**  
GETTING MORE FROM SPREADSHEETS AND DATABASES: PART I  
How to evaluate your particular computing task and determine whether it requires a database or a spreadsheet.

**61**  
HYPERCARD  
A review of the versatile new personal information-management program included with every Mac.

**DEPARTMENTS**  
**6**  
EDITOR'S NOTE

**8**  
LETTERS

**34**  
FAMILY COMPUTING  
Answers to some of the computing questions that fill FAMILY & HOME-OFFICE COMPUTING mailboxes.

**36**  
MACHINE SPECIFICS  
News, opinions, quotes, and rumors about Apple, Atari, Commodore, IBM and MS-DOS, Tandy, and orphaned computers.

**91**  
THE PROGRAMMER  
Programming news, machine coverage, last month's *Crossword Puzzler* solution, and this month's programs: *Wall Calendar* (Calendar Program); *Santa's Landing* (Holiday Program); a Christmas *Crossword Puzzler* (Puzzle); and *A Christmas Medley* (Microtones).\*

\*See program for specific computer models and hardware requirements.

**126**  
THE CLASSIFIEDS  
**128**  
ADVERTISER INDEX

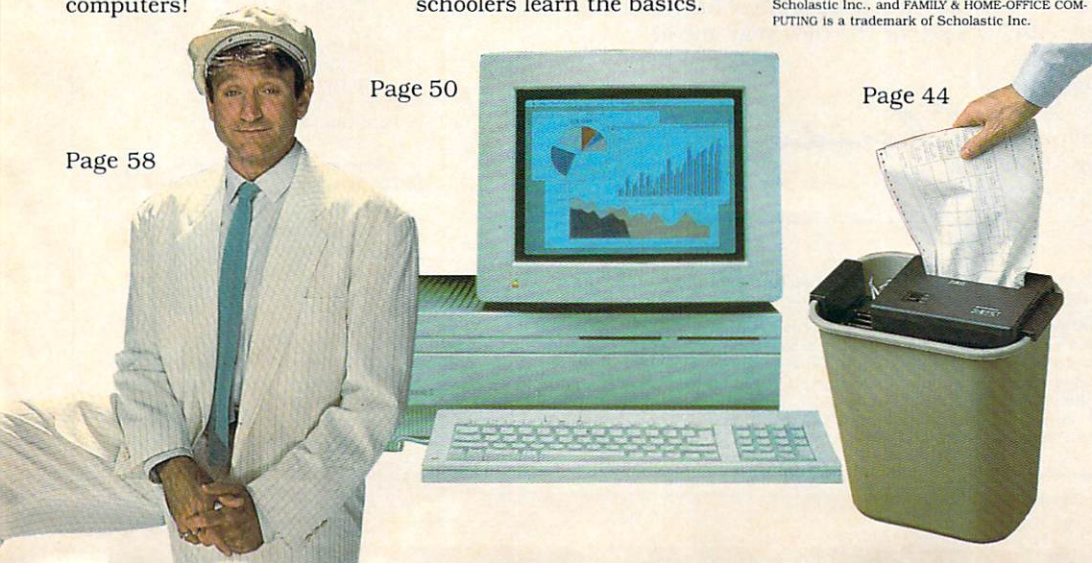
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Page 50

Page 44

Page 58



# MACHINE SPECIFICS

**TANDY**

BY STEPHEN MILLER

Tandy can always be counted on to run a sale during the holidays. This year is no different. The new Tandy 1000 HX (regularly \$699) is being sold with a CM-5 color monitor (regularly \$300) for a total price of \$849—\$599 for the computer and \$250 for the monitor. A 1000 TX and a CM-5 combo is selling for \$1,249, reduced from \$1,499. The computer and monitor must be purchased together to get the discount. The upgrade board that gives your SX the speed of a 286 AT class machine is on sale for \$300, down from \$400.

The Color Computer 3 has been reduced to \$130 from \$200. The FD502 disk drive for the CoCo is selling for \$220, down from \$300.

The Tandy 200 has been reduced a whopping \$300 and is selling for \$499. The Tandy 102 is down to \$449. The DMP 130A printer now sells for \$250, down from \$360.

**Over Hill, Over Dale.** I'm often asked what I think is the best thing

about Tandy products. It's not the products (which I really think are first-rate) but the service. There's a Radio Shack store on almost every street corner, and you can even get help in Maine or Hawaii—as I recently discovered.

I was flying to a conference in Miami and was helping a friend master his brand-new Model 102. As the big expert, I was demonstrating the wonders of ROM-based programs when I caught the base of my 102 on the corner of the pull-down tray. The memory switch, which holds files in memory, was flipped to the off position, and I watched in horror as all my work, including part of this column and *all* of a feature article, went into yonder Twilight Zone.

Fortunately, some of my files were saved on disk, but I couldn't get to them because I didn't have a special file necessary to access the files on the disk drive. The disk holding that file and the instructions for loading it were back in New York. As soon as I got to my hotel, I asked where the nearest Radio Shack store was located. It was only a block and a half away from my hotel.

I went there and told the salesper-

son, Rick Borrazas, what had happened. He got a copy of the disk and the instructions and let me reload the files. I was out of there in 10 minutes with my destroyed files restored. I wasn't asked any questions about where or when I bought my computer or whether it was under warranty or anything. That kind of service is worth a lot.

STEPHEN MILLER is a computer consultant and journalist.

**ORPHANS**

BY PATRICK SPERA

Another year bites the dust, the holidays are nigh, and let's face it—you *still* don't have all your shopping done! Humph, welcome to the club. I know what all my computers want to see under the tree (disk drives!). And I know what they're going to get: games and more games!

**West Coast TI.** Queen Anne Computer Shoppe (6102 Roosevelt Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98115) has been a staunch supplier of TI products. The owner, Barbara Wiederhold, was

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# Turn on a mind to typing.



**Type-right.™ Now learn to type without a typewriter. For students 9 and older.**



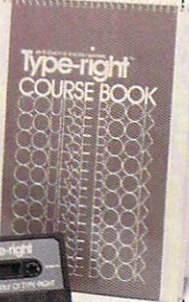
Although you'll find it in the toy

department, Type-right is not a toy. It's a fun, easy, fast way to learn how to master typewriters, word processors and computer keyboards as well.



This self-contained typing tutor comes with step-by-step instructions, both in booklet form and on audio cassette. The student is taken through a progressive series of typing lessons, from basic finger positioning to typing complete letters. Typing speed and accuracy is electronically

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**VIDEO TECHNOLOGY**  
Turn On A Mind.

CIRCLE READER SERVICE 66

Wherever toys are sold.

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part of the successful Sea/Tac Fest for TI computers held in September. She also runs a 24-hour BBS for TI users ((602)361-0895, at 300 and 1200 baud).

QACS offers the *Spad XIII* flight simulator for \$25. This is an excellent simulator. You can cruise around the Eiffel Tower or engage in air-to-air combat over WWI France. Also available is the new Asgard adventure program, *Legends*. A variety of Geneve 9640 accessories are available, too.

**Adam Dot-matrix Printing.** Terry Fowler of gHAAUG (Route 2, Box 2756, Pearland, TX 77581) has developed an interesting program that will print *SmartWriter* files to a dot-matrix printer. Normally, these files are sent to the Adam printer, which is a rather slow daisy-wheel printer. But, with *File Printer* (\$20), users who've added a dot-matrix printer can print with alacrity.

The self-loading program will print in either Newsletter (two columns) or Letter format. It allows for margins and different type sizes. Fowler usually has an assortment of Adam products available, so you might want to send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for more info.

**TS 1000 Revived!** There has been a

flood of new products for the TS 1000. Even a clone is now available! Silicon Mountain Computers has developed a series of hi-res graphics programs for the TS 1000/1500. Hi-res graphics on the 1000? Yes, but there's a catch.

These programs require a static RAM memory device in the 8K-16K memory location. The Hunter Board is an example of such a device. Though the Hunter Board is no longer sold, you can get Silicon's SCRAM Non-volatile Memory Board for \$40. Talk about a lucky break!

With the SCRAM board, you'll be able to run such programs as *The Dungeon of Ymir*, a very challenging adventure game (\$20), and *Year-At-A-Glance* (\$10), an appointment book calendar. Also available is *SCRAM Extended BASIC* (\$25), which has a multitude of new graphics commands.

**TS 1000 Clone!** The PC-8300 is a TS 1000 clone imported from Hong Kong. Early buyers actually received their owner manuals written in Chinese! The PC-8300 (\$30) shows many improvements over the 1000, including a "Chiclet"-style keyboard, a joystick interface, a monitor output, and an option to upgrade to a color output (with an add-on module).

The clone is not 100 percent software compatible with the TS 1000, due to the added features. Many programs that call on the TS ROM routines will crash. But all BASIC programs will run with no problems. Like the TS 1000, this computer makes a very good learning machine for children. It's easy to use and nearly indestructible. American Design Components carries the PC-8300 computer.

PATRICK SPERA is *sysop* of the *Computer Club Forum on CompuServe (GO CLUB)*, a meeting place for owners of orphaned computers.

## PHONE NUMBERS

- Aldus Corporation (206) 628-2352; American Design Components (800) 524-0809; Antic Software (415) 957-0886; Apple Computer, Inc. (408) 996-1010; Applied Engineering (214) 241-6060; Atari Corp. (408) 745-2000; Berkeley Softworks (415) 644-0883; Central Coast Software (805) 528-4906; Commodore (215) 431-9100; Data-Free (416) 741-9825; Epyx (415) 366-0606; gHAAUG (713) 482-5040; IBM (800) 447-4700; Jasmine Technologies (415) 621-4339; NAMM (619) 438-8001; Queen Anne Computer Shoppe (206) 522-6558; Rodime (216) 765-8414; Silicon Mountain Computers (604) 352-1668; SoftLogic Solutions (800) 272-9900, (603) 627-9900 in NH; Tandy/Radio Shack (817) 390-3011; Xy-Quest (617) 275-4439.

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Mfr — Seagate/Tandon  
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Item #10150 **\$89.00**

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Mfr — Tandon TM100-2  
Item #7928 **\$79.00**  
2 for **\$150.00**  
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Mfr — CDC #9409T  
Item #1893 **\$99.00**

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Mfr — Panasonic #JU-475  
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Tandon TM55-4; DS/Quad  
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Mfr — Coleco, model 7817  
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- Printer Power Supply — Item #6642 **\$14.95**
- ASCII Keyboard — Item #6643 **\$19.95**
- Controllers — (Set of 4) Item #7013 **\$9.95**
- Adam Cassettes — (Consisting of Smart Basic, Buck Rogers & blank cassette.) Item #7786 **BAKER'S DOZEN — \$19.95**
- Adam Link Modem — (Software included.) Item #12358 **\$29.95**
- Auto-Dialer Address Book — Item #12365 **\$19.95**
- Adam Daisy Print Wheel — Item #13305 **\$3.95**
- Adam Ribbon Cartridge — Item #13306 **\$3.95**
- Disk Drive Power Supply — Item #14603 **\$14.95**

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IBM® PC/XT/AT Compat.  
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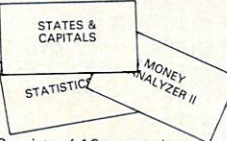
Contains 10 full-length expansion slots (w/guides). With room for an internal 5 1/4" hard disk drive. Has 3 half-height disk drive slots. Rear on/off switch, notched to hold in power supply (not incl.), and security switch w/key.  
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# CROSSWORD PUZZLER

BY STEVE C.M. CHEN AND  
KAREN KANE

This is the last in a series of six crossword puzzles. This month, clues and data for a Christmas puzzle are presented along with the solution to last month's puzzle (page 106). The solution to the Christmas Crossword Puzzler will appear in next month's issue.

In order to solve or print out the puzzle, you must have the master puzzle program. The Commodore 64/128, IBM PC and compatibles, and

Tandy Color Computer versions of the program were presented in the July issue, and the Adam, Apple, Atari, and Macintosh versions appeared in August. Copies of the July and August issues are available for \$4.25 from Crossword Puzzler, c/o FAMILY & HOME-OFFICE COMPUTING, 730 Broadway, New York, New York 10003. Please indicate your specific brand and model of computer.

## CHRISTMAS PUZZLE DATA

A FAGA, HAIA, KAFB, GBHB, 1097  
B KBFC, KCAD, KDAE, BECE, 1101  
C DEKE, MENE, OEFF, DGEQ, 1141  
D FGIG, GHHH, IHGI, JIKI, 1156  
E LIJJ, AKBK, CKEK, LKMK, 1167  
F NKOK, ELOL, EMJM, ENHN, 1201  
G INJN, EOGO, HOIO, JOZZ, 6237

## CHRISTMAS PUZZLE CLUES

### Across

- 1A A spiritual being
- 1L Frozen precipitation
- 2A Heart part
- 21 A continent (abbr.)
- 2L Mongrel dog (spelling variation)
- 3A Before
- 3G Between Q and V
- 3L Coquettish glance
- 4B He turned Joseph and Mary away
- 4L Fellow
- 5E Main course
- 6A Anagram for paced
- 6G Kin
- 7A Organization of American States (abbr.)
- 7G Letters in a ligature
- 7J Two high cards of the same suit in the same hand
- 8A Shaped like the Guggenheim Museum
- 8J Creamy Christmas drink
- 9A City in Oregon
- 9H Article
- 9M Nylon without the "yo"
- 10A Striped sweet
- 10K Genus of palms (Latin spelling)
- 11F American inventor
- 12A 1A Across's nimbus
- 12F Plant that lovers look for
- 13A Interjection of concern or pity
- 13F Honey makers
- 13K Precious stone and type of Begonia

- 14A Cherish
- 14F Symbol for Europium
- 14K "The — that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome . . ."—E.A. Poe
- 15A Direct
- 15L Feast of the nativity of Jesus Christ (pl.)

### Down

- 1A Association of American Publishers (abbr.)
- 1B Purple Japanese seaweed
- 1C Smile
- 1D Type of jacket
- 1E Frolicked
- 1J Recipient of honor
- 1L Chimney decoration
- 1M Near, to Shakespeare
- 1N 12F Across's home state (abbr.)
- 1O Cry
- 2I Strong metal
- 3G Prefix for backward
- 3H Binge
- 4F In, to Henri
- 6A Trigonometric function (abbr.)
- 6B SE portion of New Guinea
- 6C — of old age (two words)
- 6K —men, shelter made of plant or animal material
- 6M Glitzy letter spinner
- 6N Pierre's school
- 6O Sign at the beginning or end of a musical repeat
- 8D Rudolph the — Reindeer
- 8E East New York (abbr.)
- 8F 12th month
- 9H Spice in the carrot family
- 9I Birds build them
- 10G Philippe's farewell
- 10K Kinetic or potential
- 11J Good — Boy
- 12A It's decked with holly
- 12B Medicinal plant
- 12C Bane of Pompeii
- 12L Dravidian
- 12M Old Greek coin
- 12N Brontë's Jane —
- 13O System (abbr.)

# TIPS TO THE TYPIST

## SOME GENERAL RULES

1. Read instructions and program headings carefully.
2. Don't let fatigue and boredom contribute to inaccuracy. If you're new to programming, type in a longer program in easy stages, saving each installment as you go.
3. Assume that every character in a program listing must be copied accurately if a program is to work.
4. Watch out for potential trouble spots. About 90 percent of all typing errors occur in DATA statements.
5. Be aware that our program listings are printed 54 characters wide. Thus, a single BASIC program "line" (sometimes called a "logical line") may appear as several lines in our listing. If you are typing along and reach the right margin of the printed listing, don't press RETURN or ENTER before checking to see if the program "line" you're typing really ends there.
6. To correct an error in a BASIC program line, type the line in again from the beginning, and press RETURN or ENTER to replace the old line.

## WHICH PROGRAM WILL RUN ON MY COMPUTER?

• IBM compatibility of BASIC programs is determined by both the hardware and the version of BASIC used. Our programs for IBM PC and compatibles are composed on IBM PCs and PCjr's, and are tested under most versions of BASIC available for these machines. Each "IBM PC and compatibles" program is also tested on a number of compatibles. For a rundown of the machines and versions of BASIC under which the program is guaranteed to work, see the chart at the beginning of "The Programmer".

## DEBUGGING HINTS

1. Write down any error messages you receive.
2. Look up error messages in your manual, and check the indicated lines for simple mistakes. Also check related lines, such as the DATA statements corresponding to a READ routine. Correct all the problems you can find, and SAVE a corrected copy of the program before typing RUN again.
3. LIST the program in screen-size chunks (check your manual for instructions on how to LIST parts of a program) or get a printout. Compare what you've typed in—letter by letter—to the published program. Make sure that you haven't dropped or mixed up some punctuation, switched uppercase text for lowercase, or vice versa, or miscounted the characters (and/or spaces) between a pair of quotes.
4. Mistakes in DATA statements are the single most common cause of program failures. If you can't find your error in the lines the computer specifies, check your DATA statements line by line, letter by letter, comma by comma.
5. If all else fails, turn off your computer and relax. Then try again the next day—exhausted proofreaders are careless proofreaders.

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