

SNACC

SOUTHERN
NEVADA
ATARI
COMPUTER
CLUB

SNACC MEETING

Sunday, 3 NOVEMBER 1989
4:00 to 6:00 pm

Shakey's Pizza
On Boulder Highway Just
South of LAMB/DI

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HAS MOVED TO SHAKEY'S
SEE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR NEW LOCATION

SNACC OFFICERS

President:	James Marker	451-7631
Vice Presidents:		
8-Bit	Doug Thompson	254-5024
16-Bit	Sid Kinne	598-0513
Secretary:		
Treasurer:	Harvey Cannon	459-4089
Librarians:		
8-Bit	Dan Wess	458-2035
16-Bit	David Scheller	641-8191
BBS Sysop:	Kelly Hall	453-5562
Newsletter:	Harvey Cannon	459-4089

Index

SNACC BBS NEWS	1
1200 Video Fix	2
Sig Hartmann Retires	3
The X-Com Wedge	4

SOUTHERN NEVADA ATARI COMPUTER CLUB BBS

----- 20 MEGS ON LINE -----

ZMag-ST Report, 8 Msg-Bases, Mods,
Reviews, Library/Database, Hints,
Fantasy Football and Lot's of D/L's

EXPRESS! PRO * (702)451-9428 * 300/1200/2400 BAUD

SNACC BBS NEWS

Pete Cahill
SNACC SYSOP

The last two months have been busy ones for the SNACC BBS and its SysOps. With Kelly's increasing work schedule (and since I was the only one with a free phone line! haha), I was asked to give the BBS a new home. So, on a Saturday afternoon in late August, equipment was moved, hooked together, powered up, and before I knew it, the SNACC BBS was back online, with a new phone number and a second SysOp.

Having two SysOps makes running the BBS much easier. Kelly can remotely call in and edit or add new features just as if doing it from the BBS keyboard and I can do the day to day system maintenance (Maybe two heads are better than one). You can contact either of us via Feedback, E-Mail, or a general message, addressed to "SysOp" (that's me) or "Co-SysOp" (Kelly).

NEW FEATURES!

The ATR-8000 interface used for many years to run the hard drive was replaced with Kelly's 1-meg MID. The BBS was down for a few days around the end of September during this transition, and you should now see the BBS zipping right along!

New versions of the BBS operating shell, file-browse, logoff routines, and user-stats programs were added in late-September. Kelly also implemented a new version of his "Last Caller's Message" program, and I have a new, automatic chat-secretary! "She" will page me, and if I'm not around, allow

you to leave me Feedback!

A PC DITTO file SIG was recently added. We are now looking for IBM utilities of interest to ST owners running PC Ditto, any uploads are greatly appreciated!

Two new games, ARENA (ver. 2) and SEAWAR have been added to the growing list of online games. ARENA is a multi-player, role-playing adventure game, and one of the most-played games on the BBS! SEAWAR is a two-player, head-to-head strategy game. The next time you're online, take a look!

Many new features are planned for the near-future, which would not be possible without BBS Express PROFESSIONAL, the MOST POWERFUL BBS program ever written for the 8-bit Atari!

Finally, as I write this, there are over 550 files available for download, and the number increases every day. There are PLENTY of NEW files for the 8-bit or ST/MEGA just waiting to be downloaded and we are in the process of reviewing the file SIGs in order to supply you with the most current program versions.

Extended access to the BBS is yet another reason why it pays to be a SNACC club-member. As a SNACC member, you have many privileges not available to non-member callers, so call today! Until next month, see you online!

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1200XL VIDEO FIX

by Bob Woolley
8/20/89

Got a 1200XL with bad video? With a few simple changes under the hood, you can get rid of that tearing, fuzzy screen and add separate CHROMA operation.

Unlike the movies, the sequel to the CLRPIC modification is much "better" than the original. If you were disappointed that the CLRPIC mod did not allow for a COMPOSITE output, or felt intimidated by the lengthy list of changes in the original upgrade, then you are at the right place. This version only requires you to remove 10 components and add 4 wires and 4 components!

IT IS STILL A GOOD IDEA TO HAVE SOME ELECTRONICS SOLDERING SKILLS.

Also, these changes were developed empirically, which means I just diddled with the values until they worked. The output is very good--better than an 800XL and, depending on your preference for overdriven characters, better than a 130XE or 800 in separate CHROMA or COMPOSITE video.

On with the changes. As in the original CLRPIC article, I will list the existing component in the left column and what to put in it's place in the right column. A "---" indicates that nothing is to be connected and "wire" calls for a jumper, shorting out the part.

REMOVE	REPLACE WITH
C115 10uf	wire
C60 100pf	---
R187 1meg	2.2K
L15 820uh	wire
R188 750	680
CR19 1N4148	---
C119 3.9pf	---
C62 10pf	wire
R24 180	47
R23 180	47

Add a wire from R44 (either side) to pin 5 of J2.

That's all!! Works fine on a number of monitors that I have.

Bob Woolley
CompuServe (75126,3446)

ANALOG MAGAZINE UPDATE

Starting with the November issue, Analog Computing and St-Log will once again be a single publication. No matter which Atari computer you own, an 8-bit or an ST, Analog Computing will be the source for all Atari specific information. Nothing has been lost in combining the two and you the reader will be the overall winner.

SIG HARTMANN RETIRES

by John Nagy

After five years with ATARI Corp, Sig Hartmann announced this week that he will resign/retire effective November 1st.

Although currently assigned at Vice President level in charge of OEM sales, Industrial sales, and Institutional sales, Sig has spent much of his time away from his primary responsibilities in order to be the primary public speaker for Atari. Sig has regularly charmed audiences at Atarifests and shows with his views and information about Atari, and generally has been able to thaw the chilliest of listeners into feeling good about the company. As the only effective public speaker offered by Atari since the variable but very public Neil Harris, Sig has been in high demand.

Fortunately for Atari and audiences alike, Bob Brodie (new User Group/ Show Coordinator) has proven to be a thoroughly enjoyable and effective speaker at several recent events. He spoke to an assembly of 200 users from 5 groups last month in New Jersey, and shared the "Official" Atari seminar duties at the WAACE Atarifest with Sig. Bob seems to be the heir apparent for the "image" jobs to come.

Sig has hinted widely about retiring for some time. At the April 1989 World Of Atari show at Disneyland, Sig spoke of introducing the "new blood" who would be shaping Atari's future. He shared the podium then with Mike Dendo (VP Sales) and Joe Mendolia (VP Marketing), both of whom have since

resigned from Atari. "Sam [Traiel, Atari Corp CEO] and Jack [Traiel, Atari owner and Chairman of the Board] don't think I have suffered enough yet", Sig joked then, "so I have to work a while longer."

Private comments indicated that the retirement would come within a year at that time. Although it may well have been the lack of an appropriate replacement for Sig on the speaking circuit that kept Sig from setting a date until now, November 1 is the fifth anniversary of Sig's employment at Atari, and his stock and benefits fully vest at that time.

Sig worked with the Traiels at Commodore before they bought Atari, and before that was instrumental in a total overhaul and turnaround at TRW.

Sig Hartmann's plans for the future are not settled, but may include some additional service to Atari. It is expected that he will attend COMDEX in November (Las Vegas) for fun and to see both new products and old friends. Not one to sit for long, Sig has mentioned moving to Germany (either to work or just to relax) as a serious option. For the present, Sig hopes to finally be able to spend some time at his suburban Los Angeles home without having to constantly commute to Sunnyvale, some 300+ miles up the Pacific coast. Thanks, Sig, you have been appreciated, and you will be missed!

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THE X-COM WEDGE v2.0

by Ed Bachman

The Wedge is an extended command set utility for use with SpartaDOS 3.2d and XL/XE computers having at least 128k of ram.

The Wedge Performs a wide range of operations and the "icing on the cake" is that once installed all functions become "resident" or internal commands to the Sparta command processor. Unlike most stand alone utilities the majority of these commands are NOT destructive to normal memory.

The 1.x series of the Wedge was an attempt at consolidating various utilities, but at an enormous memory cost (hey, you have to put the code somewhere!).

Version 2.x of the Wedge bumps memlo by less than 200 bytes. This was accomplished by placing the bulk of the code in extended ram and requires a system of 128k or more. Using extended RAM allows the Wedge to be much more powerful than a stand alone utility.

All work performed by the Wedge is done in extended ram, effectively preserving memory in the main bank. This allows normally memory destructive tasks to be accomplished without harming programs or data currently in the main bank of memory.

The Wedge adds 17 "extended" commands to sparta 3.2d, plus an additional three if an MIO is on line, and works under a variety of applications and programming environments. Although a

resident utility, the Wedge can be removed at any time for use with programs which require the extended ram.

Some features of the Wedge.

- ‡ A "paged" file reader
- ‡ An arc/alf file viewer
- ‡ hex and decimal conversions
- ‡ Peeks and pokes
- ‡ Identify files
- ‡ Find files
- ‡ Protected copy, not mem destructive
- ‡ count files
- ‡ double column directories
- ‡ Move files
- ‡ Rename sub dirs
- ‡ Erase files w/query and more

MIO users also have a resident DSNAP, lock MIO drive, and direct access to the MIO menu without a coldstart, of the computer, should you have a cart installed.

If I sound enthusiastic about the Wedge it's because I am! I believe you'll find this to be a very useful utility, and after a time, somewhat habit forming. <grin!>

The Wedge is shareware, and can be found on BBSes across the country. The most current revision is always available on my support board, The Atari Computer Users Technical Exchange, The ACUTE bbs 215-261-0620. Happy Computing!

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SNACC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Individual membership, \$20.00 annually plus one time initiation fee of \$10.00.
Family membership, \$30.00 annually plus one time initiation fee of \$10.00.
Members have full use of the club BBS, disk and printed Libraries and receive a monthly newsletter.

Associated membership is available to those living outside Clark County, Nevada for an annual fee of \$12.00.

Direct all membership applications and fees, CHECKS PAYABLE to HARVEY CANNON at the monthly meeting or mail to:

SNACC
P.O. Box 43628
Las Vegas, Nevada 89116

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION SOUTHERN NEVADA ATARI COMPUTER CLUB

Date: _____

Full Name: _____ AGE: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: (_____) _____

Type Membership: Single _____ Family _____ Associated _____

New or experienced Atari user: _____

Describe your system:

Special skills or knowledge:

How did you learn about S.N.A.C.C.:

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