"SEASONS"
"GREETINGS!"

MEETING NOTES
9/10/98

Meeting called to order and opened in due form by President Art Paolini Jr.

The normal business was conducted by the President Art Paolini Jr., Vice-President Jon Mordosky and Treasurer Rich Kohn.

Young Jon Mordosky demoed a game called "Slyvesters, it was a very good demo and is a public domain game. Young Master Iley also demoed the same game and also did quite well with it.

This is the first meeting being held on the second Thursday of the month instead of the first one, attendance hasn't improved yet, reckon it will take more time for it to catch on.

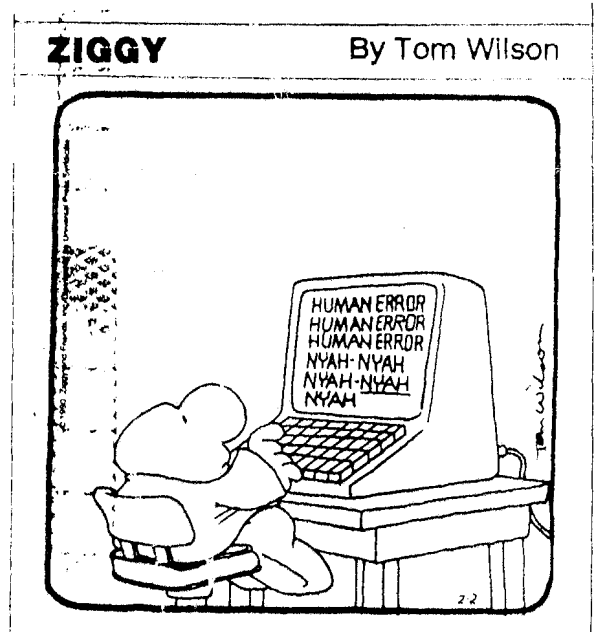A game called Riffdrop was also demoed and was very interesting.

That is all the meeting notes for tonite's meeting folks.

Recording Secretary

Larry Tischbein

AS OF MARCH 2, 1995
BLANK DISKS BOTH SIZES
3 FOR $1.00 OR 10 FOR
$3.00

Permitting your life to be taken over by another person is like letting the waiter eat your meal.

ANY KEY

The definition of the ANY KEY by the Microsoft Press:

n.   Any random key on a computer keyboard.
Some programs prompt the user to "press any key" to continue.

It does not matter which key the user presses.

There is no key on the keyboard called Any.
http://mspress.microsoft.com/prod/books/sampchap/1521.htm

ZIGGY By Tom Wilson

BIZARRO   By Dan Piraro

HOW THINGS WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF MICROSOFT WERE LOCATED IN ALABMA

Their No. 1 product would be "Microsoft Winders."

Instead of an hourglass icon you' get an empty beer bottle.

Occasionally, you'd bring up a window that was covered witha Hefty bag and some duct tape.

Instead of "Yes","No", or "Cancel", dialog boxes would give you the choice of "Aww-right", "Naw", or "Git".

Instead of "Ta-Dah!", the opening sound would be "Dueling Banjos."

The "Recyle Bin" in Winders 95 would be an outhouse.

Whenever you pulled up the Sound Player, you'd hear "Freebird!"

Instead of "Start Me Up", the Winders95 theme song would be " Boot Scooting Boogie."

Powerpoint would be named "ParPawnt."

Instead of "VP", Microsoft big shots would be called "Cuz."

Hardware could be repaired using parts from an old Trans Am.

Daisy Duke screen saver.

"Well, the first thing you know old Bill's a billionaire..."

Flight Simulator replaced by Tractor-Pull Simulator.

Microsoft CEO "Billy-Bob" (a.k.a."Bubba") Gates.

"ParPawnt" would have a "Pond Scum" and a "Junk Yard" presentation.

One wrong turn while surfing the web would send you face to face with a 12 gauge shotgun.

"This computer protected by Smith and Wesson screen saver."

Directions to Corporate Headquarters--"Down the road a block or so."

Microsoft Word includes a phonetic spell checker-"Hokt on fonics werkt 4 me."

"SEASONS" "GREETINGS!"

Enjoy life---this is not a dress rehearsal.

Courtesy of CompuServe Atari8

By: The Traveler (LVAUG)

The Atari 130XE is one of the BEST 8-bit computers available today. But as with all computers, it does have a few small "warts." One of these is the keyboard itself; the console keys, in particular.

The type of keyboard used is known as a "low-resistance contact," the resistance being about 1000 ohms or so. As you use the keyboard, the resistance of the contacts tends to go up. For the regular keyboard and the RESET key, this increase in resistance causes no problems. But the console keys (OPTION, SELECT, and START) are read by a different IC, and the change in resistance will eventually keep the console keys from working (the HELP key is actually read as just another letter key).

The fix to the problem is to add just enough resistance in parallel to the key that is high enough not to make the computer read the key as pressed, but low enough so that when the console key is pressed, the computer will recognize it.

The original idea for this fix came from Alan Haskell from the book "Mods, Fixes, and Upgrades" available from Best Electronics, 2021 The Alameda, Suite 290, San Jose, CA 95126. One minor problem with the fix, however - it wouldn't work on the 130XE that was given to me to repair. After several hours of pulling out my hair over this thing (and anyone who has seen my balding pate KNOWS I can't afford to do too much of that!), I determined the problem: the resistor value given - -3000 ohms-- was too low for this machine at least. This value was just slightly above what the computer registered as a key pressed. Any random electrical noise would cause the computer to read the key as pressed, which would cause problems with the BBS program that was being used. A higher resistor value was needed.

There is no "correct" resistor value to use, as it varies between different 130XEs. You may need to do some testing (as I did) to make sure it works properly.

What You Need:

Soldering Iron and Solder
Wire Clippers
3 4700 Ohm Resistors, 1/4 watt
A small Phillips screwdriver
Needle-Nosed Pliers

How to Do It:

1) Unplug all of the wires from the computer. Turn the computer over and remove the four screws that hold the top cover on. Turn the computer back over and THEN take off the top cover.

2) Lift the keyboard up and forward and you should see the ribbon connector at the lower right corner. Gently remove the ribbon from the connector.

3) Remove the screws that hold the motherboard to the lower half of the case. Lift the front part of the motherboard up and then forward to remove it from the case.

4) Straighten the tabs that hold the top and bottom shields on and remove the shields.

5) Turn the board over with the keyboard connector facing to the front. The connector pins are numbered from right to left. Pin #3 is the ground connection, and Pins #21, 22, and 23 are the pins for START, SELECT, and OPTION keys, respectively. These are the connections you need to make for the repair.

6) Take the three resistors and solder the wire from one end of one resistor and solder it to the second resistor at the spot where the wire comes out from the resistor body. Repeat this procedure from the second to the third. You should have the three resistors soldered to one common wire. Cover this wire with a short piece of tubing (known as "spaghetti") or some insulation stripped from a piece of scrap wire. Connect this wire to Pin #3 of the ribbon connector. This is the common connection for the console keys. Solder the other end of each resistor to Pins # 21, 22, and 23 of the connector, being sure to cover them with a short piece of insulation as well.

7) Check your wiring to be sure that there are no shorts! Use as little solder as possible and make the connection as fast as you can, using as little heat as possible. Place a short piece of electrical tape on the board under the resistors, if needed, and press the resistors close to the board.

8) Reassemble the shields and check to see that the resistors are not shorting against the lower shield.

9) Reattach the keyboard to the motherboard, taking care not to bend the ribbon - it WILL crack. It helps to insert one edge first; then, carefully work the other edge into the connector.

10) To test the repair, power up the computer and in BASIC type: 10 PRINT PEEK(53279):GOTO 10

Then, type RUN. You should see a vertical row of 7's.

Here is an interesting item I found in the Morning Call on December 20th, it was too late for the November, December 1994 issue but here goes anyway.

It was inevitable that Santa Claus would get with the times and make his way into cyberspace. With his workload, you'd think he would have gone high tech long ago, replacing that "making a list checking it twice" routine with some customized software.

You can just picture him now, speeding around the world, checking in with Mrs Claus on his sleigh-phone, faxing last minute orders to his elves, following a computerized map in his sleigh.
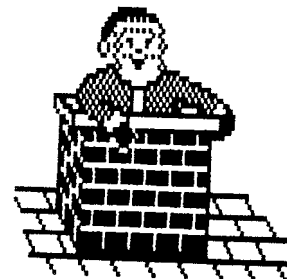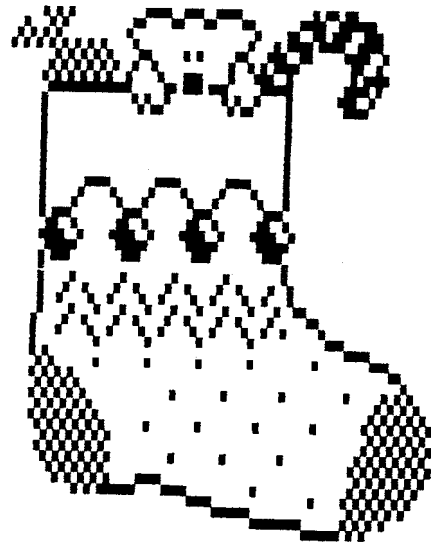
So it comes as no surprise that this Christmas he is hanging out on the Internet. Instead of handwriting letters, children can e-mail him wish lists and greetings. And, as with any operation, efficiency is everything. responses arrive within a few hours for mail to reach the North Pole.

Apparently a very cosmopolitan guy, Santa has several addresses in cyberspace. Again, no surprise here. Santa is well-known for his ability to be everywhere at once.

"It's about time I learned to use a personal computer." Santa told Concentric Research Corp, a Michigan on-line company that provides an Internet address for him. Through another address, provided by Ontario-base Internet Access, he receives about 500 letters a day. Many letters are from adults who tend to ask for in

descending order, a new car, computer and peace on earth. We've also had letters from children asking Santa to remember to give toys to little kids in other parts of the world.

People can also visit the "North Pole" through the World Wide Web, an increasingly popular Internet resource. They can read messages from Santa, his elves and reindeer, and read the North Pole weather report. At some sites, adults can download holiday recipes and do a little on-line Christmas shopping. Enough for now about Christmases' past, just wait until Christmas of 1995. Ho!Ho!Ho!

ADVICE TO STUDENTS
SURF THE WEB
WITH A GRAIN
OF SALT
By Michale Stroh
Of the Baltimore Sun
Allentown Morning Call
9/15/98

The World Wide Web is a wonderful resource for students, but it also has its intellectual dangers: Because anyone can become a published author how can students separate fact from fiction?

Sometimes it's easy. An online tract about UFO abduction is likely to raise eyebrows. Something more subtle, such as a Web site claiming someone can catch the virus that causes AIDS by sharing toothbrushes, might not even though it's totally inaccurate.

"Few people check to see whether what they read on the Internet is true," says Nancy Regar, coordinator of information services at the Baltimore County Public Library. "They print things out and go, "Wow this looks really official."

In the Internet age students---and even adults---need to become more critical consumers of information, says librarian Ann O'Neill at Franklin High school in Reistertown, Md.

O'Neill teaches a course at Towson University on how to evaluate informaton on the Internet. She says the first thing students should do when they pull up a Web site is find out who created it and what their credentials are.

Often, this is not as obvious as it should be.

One trick students can try is to look at the Web site's address, which contains clues about what kind of site it is. There's a big difference, for example, between "www.whitehouse.gov," the official Pennsylvania Avenue homepage, and "www.whitehouse.com," its XXX-rate alter ego.

Most people know that if the address contains ".gov," it's a U.S. government site. Other common appendages include: "mil" for U.S.military sites. "edu" for educational institutions, "com" for commerical sites and ".org" for sites run by not for profit groups.

Another idea: Check to see whether ayone is identified as the site's copyright holder, as this might provide a clue to the credibility of the information.

Even if the Web site is operated by a university or hospital, experts caution that students need to evaluate onformatin on the site with a critical eye. "You cannot assume anything...because they allow students to post things," O'Neill said.

O'Neill warns her students to "beware of the tilde," because this punctuation mark is often used in a Web address to signal someone's personal Web space, an area that may not be endorsed by the institution that runs the site.

Another important issue students should cnsider is timeliness: How often is the information on the site updated?

The best Web sites tell visitors on the opening "splash" page when the site was last updated. Some sites, such as CNN, specify this time to the minute. In other cases, students may find that a site hasn't been updated for months---even years.

Students should analyze a site
carefully for bias. The Web is
overflowing with pages from all
kinds of instutitions, ranging from
multibillion-dollar corporations to
religious extremists groups, each
with its agenda.

There's a difference, for example,
between the treatment of smoking on
sites operated R.J.Reynolds
(www.rjrt.com) and the American Lung
Association (www,lungusa.org).

Finally, beware of outright hoaxes.
Some of them look pretty persuasive.
For example check on the
manufacturer of the RealAroma odor
drive, which claims to transmit
smells over the Internet
(www.realaroma.com) Really.

=

One thing you can give and still
keep is your word.

Deal with the faults of others as
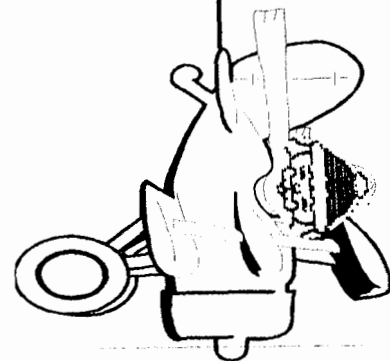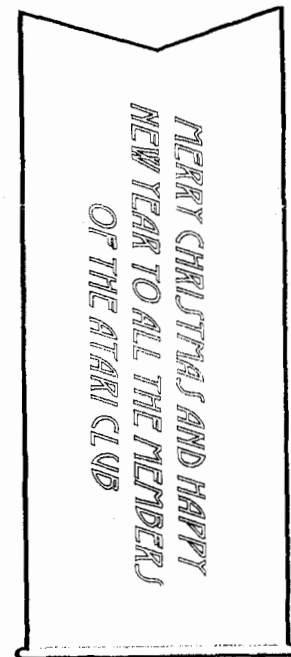gently as with your own.

Putting your best foot forward at
least keeps it out of your mouth.

There aren't enough crutches in the
world for all the lame excuses.

Common Sense is just about the most
uncommon thing there is.

Courtesy is contagious. This
country
could do with an epidemic.

DON'T TOUCH ME THERE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS
OF THE ATARI CLUB

George Bush Virus: Doesn't do anything but you can't get rid of it until November.

Ted Kennedy Virus: Crashes your computer but denies it ever happened.

Warren Commission Virus: Won't allow you to open your files for 75 years.

Jerry Brown Virus: Blanks your screen and begins flashing an 800 number.

David Duke Virus: Makes your screen go completely white.

Congress Virus: Overdraws your disk space.

Paul Tsongas Virus: Pops up on Dec. 25 and says "I'm NOT Santa Claus."

Pat Buchanan Virus: Shifts all output to the extreme right of the screen.

Dan Quayle Virus: Forces your computer to play "PGA Tour" from 10am to 4pm six days a week.

Bill Clinton Virus: This virus mutates from region to region. We're not exactly sure what it does.

Richard Nixon Virus: aka the "Tricky Dick Virus"...you can wipe it out, but it always makes a comeback.

H. Ross Perot Virus: Same as the Jerry Brown Virus, only nicer. Fonts

are used and it appears to have had a lot more money put into its' development.

And, for those of you that absolutely *must* have the state-of-the-art in everything, is the recently released:
L.A.P.A.D. Virus: This is a reincarnation of the Ted Kennedy Virus, but comes with videotape coverage of the crash and the insanity which follows.

This was contributed by Rick Bryan on another source.

(Editor's note:This article was reproduced from the ATARIAN,---N.E.A.T. the July 1992 issue.)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE ABC'S
TO A
HAPPIER YOU

Act instead of argue
Build instead of brag
Climb instead of criticize
Dig instead of depreciate
Encourage instead of envy
Fight instead of faint
Give instead of grumble
Help instead of harm
Invite instead of ignore
Join instead of jeer
Love instead of lampoon
Move instead of mold
Nuture instead of neglect
Obey instead of object
Pray instead of pout
Qualify instead of quit
Rescue instead of ridicule
Shout instead of shrink
Try instead of tremble
Undergird instead of undermine
Vindicate instead of vilify
Witness instead of wilt
Xault instead of excuse
Yield instead of yell
Zip instead of zig-zag

1999

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L V A U G

M E E T I N G

D A T E S

LEHIGH VALLEY ATARI USERS GROUP

USERS GROUP

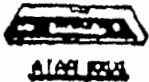LEHIGH VALLEY ATARI USERS GROUP
Meets the 2nd Thursday of every
month
at the
Lincoln Technical Institute
3131 Tilghman Street
Allentown, PA 18105

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