

Aurora Area Apple Core Newsletter

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HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

Well, here it is 1991 and another year gone by and a new year to see what it will hold for the Apple II and what MacIntosh will do. Ye Olde Editor has been watching and collecting information on the new series of MacIntoshes and it is an interesting subject. I'm waiting to see what the Mac SL will be like. From the preview articles in the magazines and newspapers, I may be tempted to purchase one. The Mac SL will have the option of a board to use the Apple IIe programs and I'm curious as to what the speed of the Mac will do to them. I had been thinking of getting another faster ZipChip for my IIe and maybe for a few more bucks it would be better to upgrade to a Mac. Joking of course, it would take more than a few bucks to upgrade to a Mac.

THANKS

To the ladies for their help in preparing and serving the refreshments at our little Xmas party at our December Club meeting. Boy the cookies and cake were delicious and I'm glad I got to give a big piece of cake to George Dybowski for the great articles he has written for the AAAC Newsletter. I mustn't forget the other fine articles by George Murphy and Tom Greenacre. And a big thanks to Art Shaff for the program he presented.

NEXT MEETING

The AAAC will meet on Thursday, January 10, 1991 at 7:00 PM in the basement of the former Suburban Bank Building in the NorthGate Shopping Center on Route 31 in Aurora. On the program will be a presentation by George Murphy on the program OUTLINER from the TimeOut Series.

DUES DUE

Please note the mail label on your issue of the AAAC Newsletter. In the upper right hand corner is the expiration date of your dues. Please see George Dybowski, our Treasurer, at the meeting or mail in your dues to him via the Post Office Box listed on the address side of the Newsletter. Thank you.

PRESIDENT RECOVERS

By the time you read this Newsletter, our favorite President will be well on the road to recovery from the operation he underwent just before the last Club meeting. Please wish our Club President well and hope he will be able to preside at the next meeting. We missed him.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

You as Club members are requested to suggest any type of program you'd like to see or hear at the meetings and Ye Olde Editor is always in need of articles for the AAAC Newsletter. The December issue was the largest that went to press in quite some time and it was all due to the people who submitted articles. How about some of you other members writing articles or at least suggesting subjects for articles. There are still free disks from the Club Library for submitting the articles.

COMPUTER CHRONICLES

Have you members ever watched the program "Computer Chronicles" on Channel 11 at 6:30 AM Saturday mornings? I haven't watched the show for some time. I record them though and watch them later in the day or at a latter date. As I normally record many programs on the PBS channels due to them being shown at times when I work or am engaged in other activities, I got a few months behind in watching the shows. I was behind about 24 tapes and over the holidays I made a great effort to view and rerecord the programs. I have saved such programs as 'Painting in Maine', 'Blitz on Cartooning', 'The New Yankee Workshop', 'This Old House', 'Hometime', 'Fun with Watercolors', and of course 'Computer Chronicles'. When do I watch them? While I am typing this Newsletter article and of course while I am riding my exercycle. Give it a try, it's fun.

NOTES

In the last issue I mentioned that our frig had a little problem when the power went out, well it cost me a new fan and not the compressor. Another thing. Watch out for static electricity. While working on my eldest son's Apple, I grounded myself on the power supply while I changed a few chips and one of my granddaughters decided to be funny and touched me. Lucky I wasn't handling the chips. I got a little jolt from her walking across the carpeted floor. So, be sure you are grounded when working with computer chips. Another item. Keep your computer keyboard covered. My youngest grandson decided to color the keyboard with crayons and then tried to clean the mess up with some detergent. At least the keys on the board still operate.

TIME OUT SERIES UPGRADES

The following programs are available for upgrades: (1) on both 3.5 and 5.25 inch disks, Report Writer, Tele Comm, Thesaurus, Ultra Macros, Macro Ease, Text Tools, Quick Spell, Side Spread, Spread Tools, Superfonts, Desk Tools II, File Master, Graph, and Power Pack (2) PM 5.25 inch disks only, Macro Ease II and Macro Tools.

Contact me if you need Upgrades.

GEORGE MURPHY

MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH.....

'READ THE MANUAL AND USE SUB DIRECTORIES'

APPLEWORKS SPREADSHEET

=====

George Dybowski

DISCUSSION FOR LESSON 2

A slight departure this month. Instead of a lesson, the following is a review of AppleWorks 3.0, the latest new and improved version of the largest selling program of all time. In keeping with the theme of this column, I'll concentrate mainly on the spreadsheet module.

MORE SPREADSHEET FUNCTIONS

The biggest enhancement to the spreadsheet is the addition of 28 new built-in functions. More arithmetic, financial, and logical functions have been added, along with new trigonometric functions. Below is a listing of the new functions:

Arithmetic Functions

@EXP	exponential function
@LN	natural logarithm function
@LOG	base 10 logarithm
@MOD	modulo function
@ROUND	result rounding function
@PI	the value of pi (3.1415927...)

Trigonometric Functions

@ACOS	arccosine function
@ASIN	arcsin function
@ATAN	arctangent function
@ATAN2	arctangent function (x,y)
@COS	cosine function
@DEG	degree function
@RAD	radian function
@SIN	sine function
@TAN	tangent function

Financial Functions

@IRR	internal rate of return function
@RATE	interest rate function
@FV	future value function
@PV	present value function
@TERM	term of payment function
@PMT	payment function

Logical Functions

@AND	logical "AND" function
@FALSE	logical "FALSE" function
@ISBLANK	blank cell test function
@ISERROR	error test function
@ISNA	NA test function
@NOT	logical "NOT" function
@OR	logical "OR" function
@TRUE	logical "TRUE" function

NEW TEXT TESTING AND MANIPULATION

AppleWorks 3.0 will now allow functions to read the text in a cell, and print text as the result of an equation. This means that equations can read the answers to questions and make more meaningful responses based on the text. Text can also be looked up in tables.

Example: Read cell A1, if it is greater than 5, print "Yes", otherwise "No".

```
@IF(A1>5,"Yes","No")
```

Cell A1: 7

Result: Yes

Example: Lookup a letter grade (in cells C1 through C5) based on the numerical test score in cell A1.

Test score: 83	Lookup table	0	F
		60	D
@LOOKUP(A1,C1...C5)		70	C
		80	B
Result: B		90	A

Example: Read cell A1 to determine the standard deduction for "Single", "Married-Joint" or "Married-Separate" tax filing status.

Cell A1: Married-Joint

```
@IF(A1="Single",3100,@IF(A1="Married-Joint",5200,2600))
```

Result: 5200

Important note: AppleWorks 3.0 handling of text is "case sensitive". This means that "YES", "Yes", and "yes" are not equivalent text values because of the upper and lower case differences. Some spreadsheets, like Excel, are not case sensitive.

CELL COPY AND MOVE IMPROVEMENTS

In previous versions of AppleWorks, copying and moving cells was very tedious and very restrictive. Move manipulations used to involve the clipboard exclusively, and was only able to do whole row moves. AppleWorks 3.0 removes these limitations. Moves within the spreadsheet are now easily accomplished, and copying blocks can now be done in one operation instead of several.

These improvements will be greatly appreciated by all who use them.

COMPATIBILITY AND MEMORY CONSTRAINTS

Earlier versions will load into AppleWorks 3.0. However, AppleWorks 3.0 generated files will only be downwardly compatible if no new features or functions are used.

If you have a 128K Apple, your available desktop drops from around 53K to 40K. If you have a 256K Apple, your available desktop is 76K. Beyond 256K of RAM, don't worry about it.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

AppleWorks consists of three parts, spreadsheet, data base and word processor. As it evolved, it got bigger and bigger. AppleWorks 3.0 will not fit on one 5.25" floppy disk. However, you can "modularize" your working copy so the modules you don't use can sit in the disk box.

AppleWorks 3.0 allows much easier movement between disks and directories.

More standard printer configurations are available. Up to three custom printers are now allowed.

There is a big improvement in transferring data between modules. No longer do you have to print to the clipboard. Information can be copied to the clipboard and then directly pasted into a different module. Also, the limit of 256 copied lines into the clipboard has been removed. The only restriction now is the available memory.

If you have at least 256K, the file limitations are greatly expanded: word processor up to 16,000 lines, data base up to 16,000 records, spreadsheet up to 9,999 lines.

WORD PROCESSOR - NEW FEATURES

Built-in spell checking: a 90,000 word dictionary with the ability to add new words into a custom dictionary.

New formatting features: multiline headers and footers, precise tabs, multiple tab rulers.

New printing feature: right justification, print page range, print date and time. New printer code options allowing the setting of six special codes to allow things like multiple print qualities within a document, foreign language characters, and multiple codes to be combined.

DATA BASE - NEW FEATURES

Multiple column label formatting (finally!), multiple column sorting (at last!), create up to 20 report formats per file, horizontal scrolling with left side category name freezing, category names shown in reverse print on the screen, single category searching, and record selection from within a report format.

THINGS THEY DIDN'T IMPROVE

The most annoying problem with all versions of AppleWorks is way text (labels) are handled when their length exceeds the width of the column they are entered into.

Example: Column A, B and C are 10 characters wide.

If "ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ" was entered in cell A1, it would be broken up as follows: cell A1: ABCDEFGHIJ, cell B1: KLMNOPQRST, and cell C1: UVWXYZ. If you wanted to expand column A to 14 characters, a four space gap would be introduced between the "J" and the "K". I suspect this problem is a result of memory limitations.

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The Aurora Area Apple Core meets on the **Second Thursday of each month** at 7:00 P.M. in the basement of Suburban Bank, in NorthGate Shopping Plaza, on Route 31, Aurora. Membership is open to all persons interested in the Apple Computers and in developing their use through the exchange of ideas and information. The public is cordially invited and bring a friend. If you have any questions about the club or programs please phone one of officers listed above at a reasonable time.

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