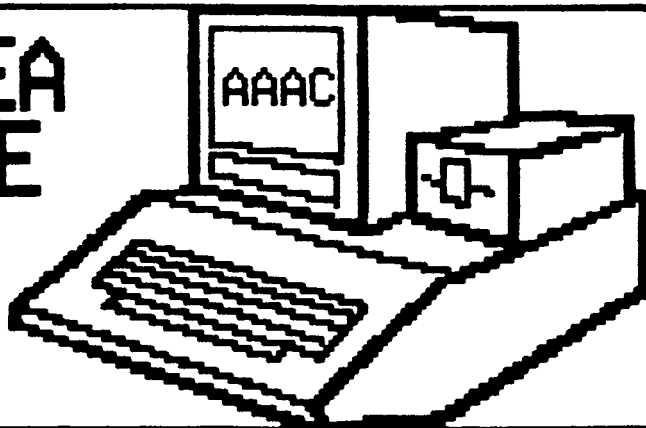


# AURORA AREA APPLE CORE NEWS

VOL. I NO. 1



HEAR YE!  
HEAR YE!

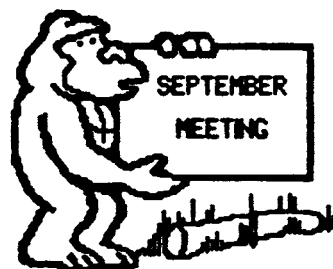


## EDITORIAL

This newsletter is the premier issue of the Aurora Area Apple Core News. Since we are just starting out, there is not much "newsworthy" material about our members, what they are doing with their Apples, or what kinds of problems they are encountering. Hopefully, this situation will be rectified in the near future and we will be able to offer regular feature articles of a more personal nature.

In the meantime, your chief editor has attempted to put out a newsletter of some substance that will be of interest to everyone. If you like the results, great! If you don't, reporter positions are available for immediate occupancy! Seriously, if you want to pass along a few tips, review a program you just mastered, express an opinion on what course the AAAC should take in the future, etc. please don't hesitate to put your thoughts down for publication. At last, a use for your word processor!

This newsletter was composed using Appleworks, spell checked with Megaworks, transcribed to and printed with The Newsroom.



The next meeting of the Aurora Area Apple Core will be at 7:00 PM Thursday, September 12th in the Waubensee Community College Student Center. Our

meeting this month will feature a real live program! This is progress folks!

Colleen Gocken, MCC Library Technical Assistant, will present a 45 minute program on Appleworks. There seemed to be a great deal of interest in Appleworks at the August meeting, so here's your chance to learn a few things first hand. Maybe you'll even want to sign up for the Appleworks course at Waubensee!

Incidentally, the cover of the July issue of A+ magazine features Appleworks. Inside are three articles on how to get more use from this program. The editorial page asserts that Appleworks has now overtaken Lotus 1-2-3 as the hottest selling software program for personal computers.

If you can still find the July issue of A+, it might be a good idea to review the Appleworks articles so you can have all of your questions answered at the meeting.



A recent article in the Chicago Tribune and a short feature story on the CBS Evening News both called attention to a new perverse activity in the world of computing. Seems some malicious souls have been depositing booby trapped software on some east coast bulletin boards.

The unsuspecting victims of these jokers have downloaded programs left for the public on a bulletin board. Then, when the programs are run, they promptly proceed

to destroy all the programs on the disk.

One poor chap, who owns an IBM PC with a hard disk, tried running a "free" program he had just gotten off a bulletin board. To his horror, the new program started destroying all of the 500 programs he had residing on the hard disk!

ARF! ARF! ARF!



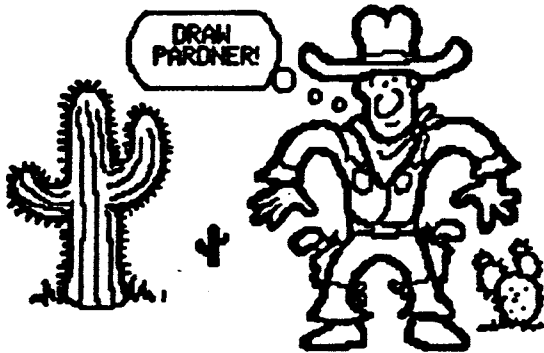
When the dastardly deed was done, the message ARF, ARF, ARF was all that was displayed on the screen.

Fortunately, about 850 of the programs were backed up on floppy disks so most of the damage could be repaired.

An even more insidious scheme involves the use of a "worm" or a carefully hidden bug in a program. The program seems to run normally for the first few times, then without warning begins to eat its way through all the other programs stored on the same disk!

Why anyone finds this activity worthy of the hours of programming effort it must entail is a mystery. Just another manifestation of a twisted personality I guess.

Moral to the story - CAVEAT EMPTOR; let the buyer beware! Put programs obtained from an unknown source on their own disk until you are certain it has no worms!



## LOGO WANTED

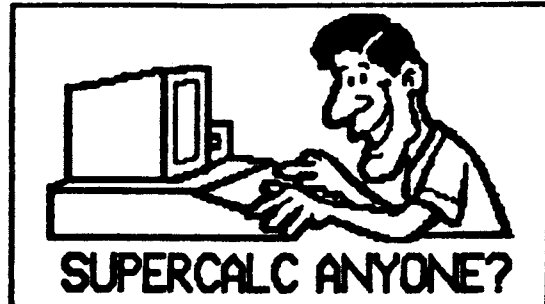
No sports fans, not the computer language that is famous for graphics and teaching youngsters the mysteries of programming. What is wanted here is a logo for the Aurora Area Apple Core to use for letterhead stationary, membership ID cards, the club newsletter, etc.

As we grow into a bona fide full service user group, these items will prove our existence to those individuals, companies, and organizations with whom the AAAC will have dealings. It's like a birth certificate; every so often someone will want to see it to verify we are who we say we are.

So if anyone out there is artistically inclined, how about doodling up a design? A computer generated graphic would be nifty and prove beyond a shadow of a

doubt your prowess as a certified hacker! Good graphics programs such as The Complete Graphics System, Dazzle Draw or Fontrix should be able to handle the art work if someone has a design in mind.

If you've got an idea, bring a simple sketch along to the September meeting and show it off!



Speaking of A+ magazine, have you seen the September issue? If integrated software packages like AppleWorks raise your pulse rate, then the review of Supercalc3a should have you panting like a cross country runner!

Here is a brief summary of the article. Supercalc3a, from Sorcim/US Corporation, combines a spreadsheet, graphing program and data base manager into one package. (Lotus 1-2-3 users, sound familiar?) The spreadsheet size is 254 rows by 64 columns, the same size as Visicalc Advanced Version. However, Supercalc3a uses a new memory manager that ignores blank cells and allows up to 300% more cells than your memory configuration would normally permit.



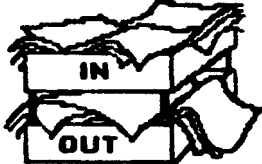
There is an on line help facility called Answerkey to prompt you on command syntax and the package includes Sideways, a printer dump utility that lets you rotate a wide spreadsheet 90 degrees to avoid breaking it up into several smaller pages.

After you've created your spreadsheet, you can graph the results with the built in graphics program. This portion of the program can create pie, exploded pie, bar, stacked bar, line, area, high-low, and x-y graphs. It has eight different built in fonts and the ability to print more than one graph type per page!

Graph labels can be printed horizontally or vertically and the graphs can be

automatically resized to fit the text selected. The program supports a wide range of printers and plotters, and can display a graph in up to 15 colors on a color monitor, or print up to 99 colors on a color printer or plotter!

The data manager can have a maximum of 253 records with up to 63 fields per record. A bit small for serious data base applications, but certainly adequate for most home/small business uses. For those of us who have used Lotus 1-2-3,



Supercalc3a sounds very familiar. But the goodies don't end yet!

The program also comes with a set of utility programs and an Apple/IBM communications program that makes it possible to send files to and receive files from an IBM PC. Interesting to say the least! And to top it all off, the documentation is said to be excellent.

Sounds too good to be true, and for some it is. Supercalc3a requires an Apple //c or an Enhanced //e with 128K of RAM (see the next article). Unfortunately, that leaves the II+ owners out in the cold again.

## //e or not //e?

If your Apple //e was purchased after March 1985, this article is optional. Owners of pre-April 1985 //e's may have heard that Apple Computer started shipping an "enhanced" //e version that month. (I thought the original Apple //e designation stood for "enhanced"?? Does this mean it is now an "enhanced enhancement"?) Basically, the enhanced //e now has the same microprocessor and ROM chips as the Apple //c.

The new microprocessor, the 65C02, is a CMOS (Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor) device that consumes less power and generates less heat than the original 6502 chip. It also includes ten new mnemonic instructions for machine language programmers.

Two new monitor ROM chips allow enhanced //e's to run software that incorporates faster scrolling and smoother graphics. They also include a new "self test", the ability to use both upper and lower case characters for Applesoft basic programs, and the return of the built in Mini-Assembler that got lost in converting from II's to the original //e's.

Finally, a new character generator ROM contains 32 graphic icons, the pictorial characters known as "housetext". These characters are turned on whenever the 80 column card is activated by a PR#3. The icons generated by this chip allow you to display on screen both the open and closed apple symbols, as well as different kinds of arrows, shading blocks, etc.

This new character generator is made available by sacrificing the inverse upper case letters set from the alternate character set when in the 80 column mode. However, this new chip will allow a //e to

take advantage of fancy pull down menus in new software designed for the //c. Also, the Applesoft HTAB, TAB, SPC and PRINT commands have been changed to work properly in 80 column mode.



If you convert to the new "enhanced" //e, will you be left hanging out to dry on your old software? According to Apple Computer, the enhanced //e will work with about 95% of the software available on the market. An article in the International Apple Core Express, states that the Hayes Smartcom package will not work with an enhanced //e, and Applewriter //e users will see some Moustext characters displayed in unusual places, although they do not seem to affect the program at all.

(A patch to "fix" the Moustext display problem for Applewriter //e is available on a public domain disc we have received from the IAC. Also, the April 1985 issue of Nibble magazine has a utility program to convert Applewriter //e, DOS 3.3 version, to display properly on a //c. Presumably this patch would work for an enhanced //e as well.)

So, now the ball is in your court. Keep in mind that the new software packages hitting the market will be designed to use the //c and enhanced //e chips, which may limit your options with an unenhanced //e. As mentioned earlier, Supercalc3a will only run on a //c or enhanced //e with 128K of RAM.

The enhancement kit to modify an early //e into an enhanced //e runs about \$70 plus labor to install the chips. (One area dealer quoted me \$20 for labor. You don't get to keep your old chips. As Caesar said when wading the Rubicon, "The die is cast!")

In addition to the new chips, you get a manual entitled "About Your Enhanced //e: User's Guide" (Apple #030-1143-A), a double sided disk containing "Apple Presents the //e - An Introduction" and "Apple Presents the //e - The Inside Story" and a sticker that goes over your power light to indicate you are now "enhanced".

That appears to be all the news that's fit to print for this month. If you have some topic you would like to see in the News, please let me know and I'll try to give it some coverage. Better yet, write up an article yourself and send it to me. Odds are if it is something that interests you it will be of interest to someone else as well.

If you would like to become a reporter, assistant editor, or even the full time editor of our newsletter don't hesitate to step forward. The best way to learn is to do!

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