KUG

KAYPRO USERS GROUP

Dear KUG member:

Welcome to the family of Kaypro users.

KUG will be providing you with the latest and most up-to-date information regarding the KAYPRO computer along with helpful hints on software and hardware, and "What's New" from Key Computers.

This will be accomplished through KUG's bi-monthly newsletter which contains articles, suggestions, comments, and questions from users. KUG's staff will answer as many questions as possible. We are counting on you to share your thoughts with the entire KUG membership by writing to us at Box 100.

The enclosed membership card contains your I.D. Number. This number is used to obtain disks from our library, get information regarding Kaypro hardware & software and to access our own KUG Bulletin Board. (See other side for a copy of the front page of the February KUGRAM explaining its use.)

We look forward to our mutual participation in a great, new and exciting Kaypro adventure.

Kaypro Users' Group

P. S. Please examine your member card and address label. If there are any corrections, notify us by return mail and be sure to include your I. D. Number.

KUG

KUG BOX 100 • MALVERNE, N.Y. 11565

is a full member in good standing and is entitled to all the privileges offered by the Kaypro Users' Group.

I.D. NUMBER 1184 J 4212

KUG BULLETIN BOARD GOES "ON LINE" MARCH FIRST

As of March first, you will be able to get all sorts of information transferred to your Kaypro by just calling the KUG number in Chicago.
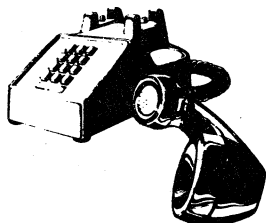
Of course you will need a modem and some communication software, but, this promises to be the start of some great co-operative efforts on the part of all our members.

You will be able to leave messages, get messages, "down-load" programs called in by members, learn what's happening with our library, and get answers to some of your annoying problems.

To understand a little more about modems and communication software, let's discuss their use with the Kaypro II.

The type of modem you use should be rated at 300 baud (300/1200 is O.K. too). That means the amount of characters being transferred is about 30 per second. At 1200 baud the count would be 120 characters per second. The type of modem could be either direct (uses the same connectors as the Kaypro keyboard or telephone jack) or acoustic (the telephone hand-set fits into two openings for sending and receiving).

You will need an RS232 cable to fit into the back of the Kaypro and to the modem. The modem usually comes with the cable to be connected to the telephone (if it is direct connect).

(312) 882-6747

About the software, you already have a communication program on your CP/M disk. It is called TERM.COM. This program will allow you to communicate with the bulletin board but you cannot save any of the information on disk. There are other programs available such as "Move-it" or Modem 7 that will allow you to store from memory. We will have a modem package available to members that will let you do just that.

The procedure is as follows:

Place your CP/M disk in drive A and type TERM <return>. The screen will tell you that the Kaypro is a "dumb" terminal and it will ask you for a <return> to start communicating. DON'T HIT <return> YET !

Using the instructions that came with your modem call the KUG Bulletin Board in Chicago by dialing 312-882-6747. NOW, HIT <return> a couple of times. The KUG Bulletin Board Menu will appear. Just follow the instructions and enjoy it.

At first, the bulletin board will be available to anyone who calls, but eventually you will be asked for your KUG ID Number so that you can have access to privileged information.

The baud rate for now will be 300. Later on you will have a choice of either 300 or 1200 baud.

We here at KUG look forward to working with you through this new medium and would like to hear from you regarding its use for a mutual benefit.

* * * *

A PROGRESS REPORT FROM K U G

In the first issue of the KUGRAM we wrote about taming the jungle of KUGLAND. Well it's almost six months since then, so let's find out what has been accomplished by our fellow KUGGERS.

First of all, we must mention your overwhelming co-operation. Contributions to the newsletter have been great. (By the way, as long as you're using word processing to write your letters, why not send us the disk. We'll return it with programs from our library.) Please don't be disappointed if your article doesn't appear. It may be published at a later time.

Secondly, the many problems that came with the software are being resolved (slow but sure). We have received hundreds of letters and phone calls regarding Perfect Software. Most of the questions could not be answered, but with some encouragement from you, many members do not feel alone. Now there is some help from the Perfect Software people. (See the special article on UP-DATES inside.) New documentation has been written and more help is on the way in the form of printed up-dates sent to all dealers from KAYPRO COMPUTERS.

Thirdly, the KUG Library is starting to take shape. Right now we have four disks available. But, that's only because we are trying to sort out the many public domain programs that will run on the KAYPRO. (See LIBRARY inside.) If you have any programs to offer to our membership through our library, please send them on disk and we will return your disk with a library selection of your choice.
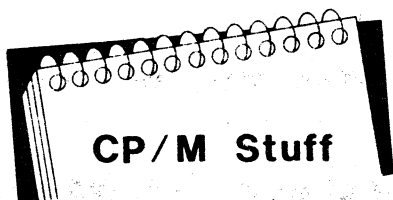
Lastly, our KUG Bulletin Board has been in operation less than one month and has already logged over one thousand accesses. To those of you who have waited patiently to log on ... thanks for your words of encouragement. We are presently working on adding another phone line to ease your waiting. A time clock is being added to the KUG BB so that we can tell when the peak and non-peak times are for accessing the Bulletin Board. Another feature will be added to allow "downloading" and "uploading" programs from the KUG BB and you will have a choice of either 300 Baud or 1200 Baud.

Some members have asked us if we could supply modems. We are not dealers and cannot recommend any one brand. Check with your KAYPRO II dealer. However, we can save you some money by offering the necessary modem software through our library. We have a public domain program called Modem 795 available. This disk contains all the software you need to access the BB and to save it to disk or hard copy. This disk also has utilities for squeezing and un-squeezing files so you can have more room on the disk for "downloading".

By the way, when calling the KUG BB, make sure that your phone does not have "call waiting". If a second call comes in while you are logged on, you will be disconnected. You will also lose communication with the BB if an extension to your phone is picked up by accident.

In the next issue we will attempt to print all the HELP files for the KUG BB.

I think I see a clearing ahead !!!

CP/M Stuff

As promised in our last issue, we will discuss the use of CP/M's powerful transient program called PIP.

PIP stands for "Peripheral Interchange Program". O.K. What's a peripheral? That's anything that is "around" the central computer. Things like ... your printer ... disk drives ... modems ... the Kaypro screen ... and much more. Therefore PIP can interchange information to and between peripherals.

Now that the explanation is over, let's do some work with PIP.

When you first get your disks you are asked to copy them to a formatted disk. Well, this time we will copy one disk to another using PIP.

Place your CP/M disk in drive A and a blank formatted disk in drive B. At the A> prompt type PIP <return>. After a short time a new star prompt will appear (*). At the * prompt type B:=A:*.*. The drive lights will alternate and your screen will tell you that you programs on drive A are being copied to drive B. As they are being copied they are also being listed on your screen. The difference between COPYing and PIPing is that now your PIPed disk on drive B will have to be sysgened. PIPing places your files in a neat order on the disk for faster access. This as an excellent way to back up your data and programs at the end of each session.

So ... you don't need all the other stuff on the disk. Then let's PIP only one program. Re-format the disk in drive B and get back to the PIP prompt (*) as discussed above. At the * type B:=A:SBASIC.COM. When the * reappears hit <return> the A> prompt will return. Now, type DIR B:. Notice that the onetime blank disk now has the SBASIC.COM file listed.

PIP works both ways ... you can PIP from drive B to drive A by just typing A:=B:(filename). Always type the drive you want to PIP to , FIRST.

At the * prompt type CRT:=A:FAC.BAS. Your CRT screen now displays the program FAC.BAS. Look familiar? Right! It was the same result as if you had used the "TYPE" program we discussed before. This time we used the "interchange" program to move the file FAC.BAS from the disk to the Kaypro screen.

Here's something for you to try. At the * prompt type LPT:=CRT: <return>. The screen will show nothing. Since LPT represents your parallel centronics printer, turn on your printer and get some paper ready. Now start typing. At the end of the line hit the <return>. If you want to print another line hit <line feed> and continue typing. Isn't that something ... you can type an envelope without using a word processor. One drawback ... (didn't you know it?) ... if you make an error you cannot backspace or delete because the error will appear. Now try LPT:=FAC.BAS <return>. Great stuff, CP/M! When you are finished, hold <ctrl> key and type Z. The * prompt will re-appear. Hit <return> and you will be back to the A> prompt.

There is a great booklet called CP/M Programmer's Reference Guide by Sol Libes, the editor of MICROSYSTEMS, and it is offered FREE. Write to Mr. Libes at MICROSYSTEMS, One Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Some of our members have asked us to recommend a publication on CP/M. One of the best is The CP/M User Guide by Thom Hogan and published by McGraw-Hill. Cost is about $13.00 and is well worth it.

In our next issue we will discuss other "resident" and "transient" CP/M programs and the use of the famous "wild card" method of working with them.

* * * *

<16>