

AUGUST 1982

Micro-Minutes

NEWSLETTER OF THE HEWLETT-PACKARD MICRO-COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP

J ENGELHARDT

Building 20BR

August 1982

The HP Microcomputer Club's hardware committee has been diligently working these past months to piece together a series of working boards to get our club microcomputer up and running. Specifically, the hardware committee is investigating the following commercially available bare boards to make your mainframe useful.

Boards Under Consideration

- Memory Merchant or Fulcrum 64K Static Memory Board
- CCS 2422 Floppy Disk Controller Board
- SSM IO4 Input Output Board (2 parallel + 2 serial ports)
- Terminator Board (in PC layout now)

Our club's system would appear as follows.

- HPMCIG Front Panel, CPU, Motherboard and Terminator Boards
- 64K Static RAM Board
- CCS Floppy Disk Controller with one to four 5 1/4" or 8" drive(s)
- SSM Input Output Board for printer, CRT, or keyboard
- Keyboard + Printer
- Optional items: Terminal, Video Board

This collection of boards in addition to your keyboard and printer or CRT terminal will allow you to set up a working system. This is a "bare bones" system which you may wish to expand later by adding a fancier video board for color graphics, etc. The keyboard and printer will require some slight modification that will be detailed later.

The boards can be purchased in one of several ways: bare (no ICs), with a minimal set of ICs required to make the board work, or a fully loaded complement of parts. Some pricing options are shown on the back of this page. One of the reasons for this newsletter is to let you know that a series of group purchases is anticipated in the next three months and to allow you time to budget accordingly.

When the boards are received we will again be holding loading parties in building 5L. Previously, a dedicated group of workers have been showing up to stuff parts in boards. Unfortunately, not always enough people have been showing up which tremendously overloads the hardcore who do make the effort. If people consistently don't pitch in and help with this last bunch of boards, they may find a bare board and a bunch of loose parts mailed to them. Exceptions will be made for people who do not live in the south Bay area, of course.

Several data sheets for the above boards are attached to the back of this newsletter. The hardware committee has extensively tested this set of boards in the HPMCIG motherboard with the club's CPU and Front Panel boards and everything worked well together. A club designed EPROM board (hasn't been mass produced yet) also works with the above collection of boards.

Buying Options for Boards

There maybe three main options in buying the boards mentioned on the reverse side of this sheet. The prices are estimates - - - more exact figures will be forthcoming.

- > bare board - that's all you get
- > board + minimal ICs - the board and the minimum number of ICs required to make to board functional
- > board + maximum ICs - fully loaded board

<u>Board</u>	<u>Bare Price</u>	<u>Minimal Price</u>	<u>Maximum Price</u>
CCS Disk Controller	\$50		\$225
Memory Merchant/Fulcrum 64K Static		\$200	\$400
SSM 104	\$40		\$125-150
Terminator Board			\$60
Front Dress Panel			\$30

Approximate Total \$865

There are three order deadlines planned at present. They will follow a general meeting on September 7 at noon in 5M during which a system comprised of the club reccomendations will be demonstrated and a question and answer period will follow. Tentative order dates are as follows:

9/17/82 SSM 104 Board
10/1/82 CCS Disk Controller
10/15/82 RAM + Terminator Boards

The club will be acting as a broker to connect system buyer's and sellers. Should you wish to buy or sell a system, please contact Barry Lewis, Bldg. 90 by mail only.

HP Microcomputer Interest Group

Moderator	Rick Pinger, 30, 969-0880
Treasurer	Barry Lewis, 90, x2601
Hardware Committee Chairperson	Steve Hessel, 29A, x5514
Software Committee Chairperson	
Meeting Coordinator	
Newsletter Editor	Nic Lyons, 5M, x2715