

# SPECIAL EXPO ISSUE

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
ATARI EXPO  
MARCH 14TH AND 15TH - ALLENTOWN, PA

Sponsored by ABE's ACES

ALLENTOWN BETHLEHEM EASTON'S ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

P.O.Box 2830 - Lehigh Valley, PA 18001

## MAIN SPEAKER BILL WILKINSON

Bill Wilkinson will attend the Eastern Pennsylvania Atari Expo on both Saturday and Sunday. As our main speaker, Mr. Wilkinson brings to the EXPO a vast knowledge of computer languages in general, and a unique perspective of the Atari computer line.

As Antic Publishing pointed out in their introduction of Mr. Wilkinson's article in the winter issue of Start magazine, "Many Atarians were weaned on Bill's "Insight Atari" columns in Compute! magazine. As a programmer, Bill was, to a large extent, responsible for the design of the original Atari DOS and Atari BASIC."

Bill Wilkinson is Vice President of Optimized Systems Software (OSS), a company which publishes a complete line of languages for both the 8-bit and 16-bit Atari computers. BASIC XL, BASIC XE, ACTION!, PERSONAL PASCAL and the new PERSONAL PROLOG are all OSS products.

## MIDIMAZE MANIA!

The EXPO promises to have something for everyone. Musicians, programmers, beginners, and those with business applications in mind will all find what they're looking for at the EXPO. But what about those (few?) interested in computer games?

MIDIMAZE may be the ultimate computer game experience to date. A number of players, each at their own computer, all playing the same game! And what a game. All of the computers are linked via the MIDI ports. Players travel through 3-D mazes in a variation of the popular laser war games.

Hybrid Arts has obtained the rights to this Xanth-created masterpiece which they will bring to the show. Details are still being worked out, but we expect to have ten (10) ST computer systems all playing the same MIDIMAZE game. More systems could be connected, but we are running out of space. Bring a friend for a "friendly" game.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Greetings from Grand Central Station

To say the least, things have been hopping around here lately. We are getting down to the wire with the Expo, and every day there seems to be some new obstacle that we must face and conquer. I am really excited about this expo and can hardly wait for it to get here. This promises to be a really good show.

Don't forget about the special ABE's ACEs meeting at the Expo on March 14th at noon in the main seminar room. We will have a short club news meeting and then turn the rest of the time to our guest speaker. There will be other special seminar speakers that are certain to interest you. I am certain that you will find talks by Atari executives both informative and exciting. While you are at the Expo make sure you visit the booths of all the vendors that you have supported by purchasing their products. Then you'll want to see what is new and exciting in the world of computing. You'll get to rub shoulders with the people who really make things move in the world of computing.

See you at the EXPO. You don't want to miss this one.

Shirl

## SEMINARS

A number of interesting seminars are planned. These will be held in the Rockwell Suite, near the Grand Ballroom.

As mentioned in the cover story, Bill Wilkinson will be on hand both days. His talks should be of interest to everyone in the Atari community. Also, representatives from Atari Corporation (still not set at press time) will give a presentation on both days.

Our seminar co-ordinator, James Craig, has arranged for Mr. Robert E. Bennett, principal of the Hiram Dodd School in Allentown, to speak on "Ataris In Education."

## THIS SPECIAL ISSUE

This issue of our newsletter is being mailed to all members PRIOR to the February meeting for several reasons. First, we want all members to know that the February meeting should be attended by ALL members! The February meeting will be your only chance to purchase EXPO tickets at a discount. Also, we need help! Details at the February meeting. Things are moving so fast, that there will be a lot of new information that we can give you at the February meeting. As a bonus, Virtusonics will be coming in from New York to show us the long-awaited music/graphic/game/telecom software they are releasing for the 8-bit Atari line.

## >>> PLEASE HELP <<<

Over the years, various club leaders have asked for help from the membership for presentations, newsletter articles and so on. Never have we needed the help of our membership more than right now. Your attendance at the February 14th meeting, and a willingness to help us with posters or the show itself, can make the difference between success and failure for this EXPO. The quality of this show will effect our club for months and months. Not only have we, the members of the EXPO committee, invested a tremendous amount of time on this event, but we've also invested club funds. We have every reason to believe that the Eastern Pennsylvania Atari Expo will be one of the best shows to date. Once again, we need your help. Please attend the February 14th meeting.

## EXPO TICKETS

Advance tickets will be on sale at our February 14th meeting. This will be your only chance to purchase EXPO tickets at a substansial discount. Each ticket entitles the holder to access to all of the day's seminars and a chance at the main doorprize, a 520ST computer. Your ticket will also give you a shot at our hourly prize drawings.



# *AT LAST...* **AN ATARI EXPO FOR THE NORTHEAST !**

**WHEN:** Saturday March 14th - 10AM - 6PM  
Sunday March 15th - 11AM - 5PM

**WHERE:** Hilton Convention Center  
9th & Hamilton Streets  
Allentown, PA

**WHAT:** An Official Atari Sanctioned Expo  
Vendors - Alpha Systems to Zobian Controls  
National Guest Speakers

**COST:** \$5 For Adults  
Children under 12 are FREE with an adult.

GUEST SPEAKER  
**BILL WILKINSON**  
of OSS/COMPUTE! fame.

**USER GROUPS TAKE NOTE**  
Contact us via mail or phone for  
information about discount tickets.  
You can save your members money and  
raise funds for club projects at  
the same time!

**FREE SEMINARS**

**DOOR PRIZES**

**EXPO HOTLINE**  
Starting February 1st, call our  
24 hour EXPO HOTLINE for the latest  
information about the show.  
**215-837-1046**

**SHOW SPECIALS**

*Eastern Pennsylvania*

**ATARI EXPO**

P.O.Box 2830 Lehigh Valley, PA 18001



## DIRECTIONS

**FROM NEW YORK CITY AND NEW JERSEY:**  
Take route 78 west into PA. Get off at the 15th Street Allentown exit and follow the map below. Time from New York City - less than 2 hours.

**FROM PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTH:** Your choice. Route 309 north, or the northeast extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Either way, get off onto route 22/78 east to the 15th Street Allentown exit. Follow the map below. Time from Philadelphia - about 1 hour and 15 minutes.

**FROM POINTS WEST:** Just follow route 22/78 east to Allentown and get off at the 15th Street exit. Follow the map below.

**FROM POINTS NORTH:** Your choice. Route 33 south to 22/78 west or Route 309 or the northeast extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike south to 22/78 east. Either way, use the 15th Street Allentown exit and follow the map below.



**EXPO HOTLINE  
215-837-1046**

## PARKING CHOICES

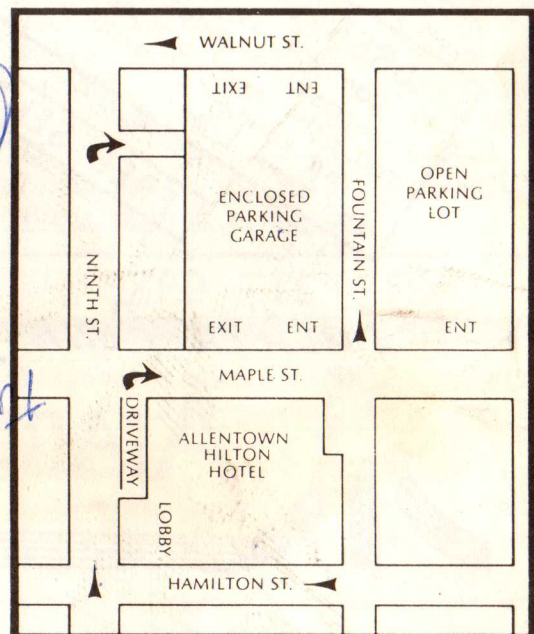
OK. You've got your EXPO tickets and you know how to get to the Hilton Convention Center. What's the next step? **PARKING!** You have several choices. (See the map below. The main EXPO entrance is at the area marked "driveway" on the map. You can also use the main lobby entrance from Hamilton Street.)

On-street parking is available but limited. It also requires frequent visits so that you can feed the meter.

Option two (the ultimate in luxury and expense) is the enclosed parking garage directly behind the Hilton. The maximum daily fee is \$6.

Option three (a good mixture of thrift and convenience) is the open PARK-N-SHOP lot next to the enclosed deck. The maximum daily fee for this lot is \$3.

Option four is for those people who might also wish to do a little shopping at Hess's department store on the way to or from the EXPO. Hess's parking garage (Cars only. Too low for vans.) is only one block north of the Hilton on 9th Street. If you shop at Hess's, they will give you free validated parking.





**ANNOUNCING  
THE END OF READING  
AS WE KNOW IT**

STOP  
BY OUR BOOTH  
AT THE EXPO  
MARCH 14-15  
and sign up for  
our FREE drawing



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D I S K P U B L I C A T I O N S . I N C .

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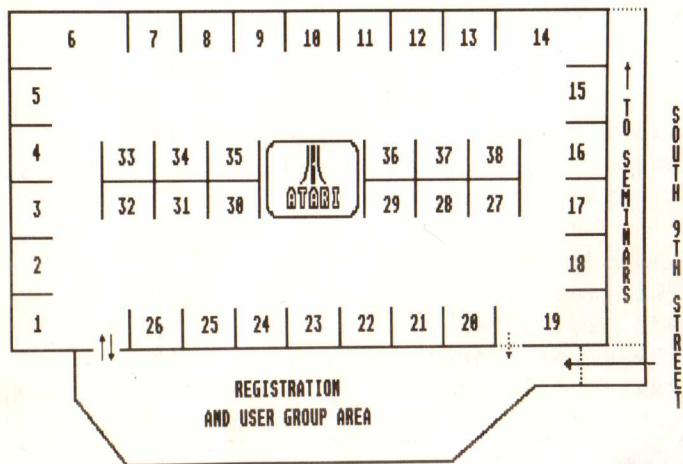
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# WHO'S COMING

This is the \$10,000 question. Unfortunately, it's also a question which cannot be addressed yet. This column is, quite literally, being written just hours before the newsletter goes to the printer. With the EXPO still six weeks away, and with more people signing every few days, what follows is an incomplete list.



## ATARI CORPORATION

As you can see from the floor plan on this page, Atari's space will form the central hub of the show. It will house at least a dozen computer systems and be hosted by Atari representatives as well as volunteers from our club. At previous expos Atari has shown leading edge products such as the 8-bit 80-column box and the ST blitter chip. We would expect to see the new 1200 baud modem, MEGA-ST and Atari's IBM clone at the EXPO. Atari representatives will also be giving a talk in the main seminar room on both Saturday and Sunday, and donating a 520ST computer for the show drawing.

## ALPHA SYSTEMS

Alpha Systems was one of the first companies to book our EXPO. They make and distribute all sorts of interesting products for both the 8-bit and 16-bit Atari lines. The PARROT is one of their products. It's an inexpensive 8-bit sound digitizing system. They also

handle video digitizers for all Atari computers and a host of printer support software, books and more. Expect some great show specials from Alpha Systems.

## ASTRA SYSTEMS

Astra Systems has been supporting the Atari computer user with a complete line of disk drives. For 8-bit users, they sell four different models including the "BIG D", a double-sided, double density, twin drive! They are now supporting the ST line with a 20meg hard drive with a built-in 1meg floppy.

## CAL COM INC.

Cal Com sells RAM disk and back-up software for the ST. They also have Meg-A-Ram, a hardware memory upgrade for the 520ST.

## DISK PUBLICATIONS INC.

DPI sells THE ALADDIN COLLECTION, a disk-based electronic magazine. The 8-bit version (3 double-sided disks per issue) has been getting rave reviews and the new ST version (2 double-sided disks per issue) is outstanding. Sign up at the EXPO and take advantage of DPI's show special.

## DIVERSE DATA PRODUCTS

Diverse Data Products sells MEGABOARD-ST, a memory upgrade for the 520ST and a double-sided, 1meg 3 1/2" disk drive with built-in power supply and front panel switches. By show time they hope to have their new MFD1440 drive which is a double drive unit.

## GAMES COMPUTER PLAY

Representatives from this unique, graphic telecommunications service will be showing their system in operation. The new software that allows access by ST computers will be shown along with the 8-bit product.

## HYBRID ARTS

A complete line of MIDI software/hardware for both 8 and 16-bit Ataris. Hybrid arts will have professional musicians at the EXPO showcasing their products driving CASIO and YAHAMA instruments. Also, the new MIDIMAZE game will be on display (see cover story) in the lobby area.





## MICRO COTTAGE

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### MICHTRON

No other company has produced as many quality products for the ST as has MichTron. From utilities to games, MichTron's titles are standouts. They have a dozen new products in the works. Those that are ready for release will be on display at the EXPO.

### MICRODAFT

Producers of the Chipmunk software back-up system.

### QUANTUM MICROSYSTEMS INC.

QMI produces a number of software titles for the ST including ST-TALK, BB/ST, PRINT-IT, DO-IT, and DeskCart! DeskCart was to have been released early in January but has been delayed. It should be available at the EXPO.

### TIMEWORKS

DataManager ST, WordWriter ST, and SwiftCalc ST are three of Timeworks' programs. All of them interface with each other and represent an outstanding value.

### ZOBIAN CONTROLS

New products from Zobian Controls include the SuperRAT, a digital mouse with very accurate control, and RAOS, a software-based windowing environment. When combined, these two products give the 8-bit Atari line many of the features users find appealing in the ST line. See it in operation at the EXPO.

### DEALERS

This is a selling show and a number of computer dealers will be on hand with the latest hardware and software at great prices.

### OTHERS?

You bet! As we said at the top, we're getting sign-ups every few days. We have no doubt that all 38 booths will be filled prior to the show dates. For the most complete, up-to-date list, check in on the club BBS or EXPO HOTLINE.

**-STILL TIME TO RENT A BOOTH-  
CALL OUR EXPO VENDOR CONTACT  
RALPH FENNER AT 215-868-6459**



# MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

December 13, 1986

Our 2nd annual holiday meeting took place in the cafeteria. Free refreshments were provided by members of the Woman's SIG (cookies and kiffels, complete with recipes) and Leon Bonam (soda).

While members visited the club library and J&S Computers' tables, seasonal music filled the air thanks to a couple of CASIO CZ-101s connected to an ST. The cafeteria even had a Christmas tree to help set the mood.

President Shirley Bickert made several announcements and a winning ticket was drawn for the door prize, an 80-column CTI printer. Next, a videotape was shown of the Pittsburgh Atari Expo. Included in the tape was a demonstration by Alph Systems of their Parrot sound digitizer.

Next, vice president Leon Bonam drew the winning numbers for the extra prizes awarded. All of the prizes were donated by area vendors. Our thanks to (in alphabetical order) Black Moon Systems, J&S Computers, and Micro Cottage. Thanks also go out to Leon Bonam for his kind donation, and to Lee Geissler and the other members of the Woman's SIG.

January 10, 1987

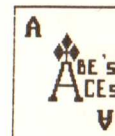
For January's meeting we were back in the Theater Arts building. Shirley started things a little after 2 with announcements about SIGS and the EXPO (see details elsewhere in this issue). This was followed by our question and answer session and a 50/50 drawing.

Our librarian, Robert Mac Gregor, showed a short videotape on the special disk of the month. Both the tape and the disk were great and sales were brisk after the meeting.

Next, Leon showed a videotape he took while on the HELP KEY and NAC ACK Bulletin Board Systems with Backtalk and EXPRESS version 3. After the meeting, Leon gave a live demo of FLASH on a monochrome 1040ST with a 1200 baud modem.



## February



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1	2	3 EXPO group 7PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Turbo SIG 7PM	11	12	13	14 ABE's ACEs 2PM
15	16	17 EXPO group 7PM	18	19	20	21 ST SIG 2PM
22	23 Begin SIG 7PM	24	25	26	27	28



## March



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1	2	3 E- Board 7PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Turbo SIG 7PM	11	12	13 Expo Set-up night	14 EXPO 10AM- 6PM
15 EXPO 11AM- 5PM	16	17	18	19	20	21 ST SIG 2PM
22	23 Begin SIG 7PM	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# SIG NEWS

## BEGINNER'S SIG

The first Beginner's Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting will be held on Monday February 23rd at 7PM. The meeting will be at the Hanover Township Fire Hall on route 512 just north of 22.

In addition to planning the direction of this SIG, a number of topics will be covered. Out-of-the-box help for true beginners, entry-level BASIC programming, modems and telecommunication, and more.

The plan is to break down into small, manageable groups so that everyone can feel comfortable and get the kind of help that we just can't give at our general meetings. One important thing to remember... We can't help you if you don't attend the SIG.

The Beginner's SIG's March meeting has also been set. Monday March 23rd, 7PM, same location.

## TURBO BASIC SIG

Our newest SIG is the Turbo BASIC SIG organized by Tom Reichard. The February meeting is set for Tuesday the 10th at 7PM. It will be held at Wilson High School at 22nd Street and Washington Blvd. in Easton. (NOTE: this is not Easton High School)

Unlike the Beginner's SIG, the Turbo SIG will expect those who attend to have at least a general knowledge of Atari BASIC. If you can write a simple BASIC program and want to explore the additional power offered with Turbo BASIC, this is the SIG for you.

Thanks primarily to the efforts of Michael Stoliker, Turbo BASIC is available in our club library.

The TURBO SIG will "normally" have it's meeting on the Tuesday prior to the

Saturday of our general meetings. Check with Tom at 258-1913 if you need more information.

## ST SIG ON A ROLL

With three meetings under it's belt, our newly reorganized ST SIG has meetings planned for Saturday February 21st and Saturday March 21st at Dennis John's home (4367 Christian Springs Road, Nazareth). Both meetings start at 2PM.

Past meetings have included demos of the latest hard/software as well as discussions on various programming languages. The January SIG meeting gave us an advance look at ALADDIN's ST version. This interactive magazine on a disk (or I should say, disks) looks very nice! The ST SIG meetings also afford ample time for ST owners, new and veteran, to "bat the breeze".



## **CALCORP**

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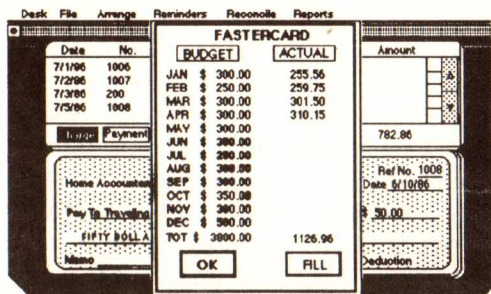
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## FOR SALE

Atari 800 computer. Excellent condition!  
 PRICE: \$75.00 or best offer.  
 Contact Dennis Galligani

ATR-8000: 64K with printer and modem cables and also CPM operating system. 2 Panasonic 5 1/4" DS DD 360K drives with power supply and cabinet. 1 New tandom 1/2 height 8" DS DD Disk drive with cabinet and power supply, also cable to connect to ATR 8000 (one 8" disk can hold 8000 sectors). 1 130 XE Atari computer with Omniview and original Operating System. Omniview has an ATR handler for 80 column display.  
 Contact Earl Kurts at 282-1896.

I have a 600XL which has never been used. It's in the box - I'm asking \$30 for it.  
 Contact Barry Frantz at 759-2911.

"SKETCH PAD" by Personal Peripherals. Asking \$15.00 including software.  
 Contact Dennis Galligani.

Atari 810 w/Happy modification (and original control board) = \$100  
 HippoVision video digitizer for the ST. Was \$120. Like new = \$50  
 Contact Dennis John at 759-8151.

10 MEG hard disk system for ATR 8000. Includes 200 watt power supply, XETEK hard disk controller, host adapter board for ATR 8000 and all needed software.  
 Price = \$450.  
 Contact Gene Celebuski at 215-867-0609

A working 19" Zenith B&W tv can be had for a mere 40 bucks!  
 Contact James Craig.

Hayes Smartmodem 300 BAUD \$100 or best offer.  
 Contact Ryan Durka.

"FOR SALE" ADS ARE RUN  
 FREE OF CHARGE IF YOU'RE  
 A MEMBER OF ABE'S ACES

## ST HOT PICKS

by Ralph A. Fenner

### Best Overall Word Processors

1. Regent Word II - Regent Software
2. Text Pro - Abacus Software

### Best Menu Driven Data-Bases

1. Data Manager ST - Timeworks, Inc.
2. Zoomracks II - Quickview Systems

### Best Home Finance Program

1. Home Accountant - Haba Systems

### Best Spreadsheet

1. GEM VIP Professional

### Best Bookkeeping/Accounting Program

1. ST Accounts - ISD Marketing

### Best Telecommunications Program

1. Flash - Antic Software

### Hot Future Releases

1. DeskCart - Quantum Microsystems
2. Computer Eyes ST - Digital Vision

All opinions above are that of the author and are based on actual use of the programs named as of 1/87. Your comments or questions would be appreciated.



# J & S Computers

(215) 966-4464

Atari	
1040/ST Color	\$999
1040/ST Mono	850
520/ST	360
130XE Computer	139
1050 Disk Drive	129
130XE + 1050	250
1027 Printer	99

Printers	
Printer Interface	50
Epson LX-80	279
Epson FX-85	409
Epson JX-80 Color	359
Epson FX-286	599
Epson LQ-800	599
Epson LQ-1000	749

Misc.	
Datalife 5 1/4" Disks	13
Datalife 3 1/2" Disks	20
Flip 'N' File 50	11
Flip 'N' File 50 w/LOCK	17

Modems	
Hayes 300	159
Hayes 1200	409
Hayes 2400	699
Avatex 1200	99
Supera 300 Baud	45
Atari XM 301	45



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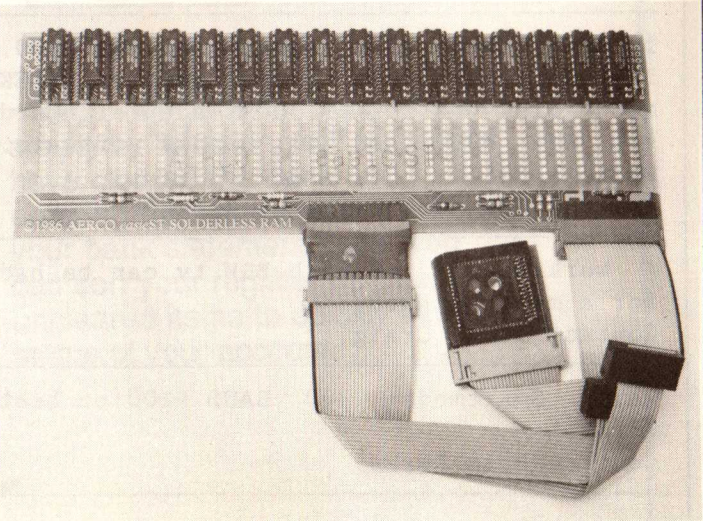
• PERSONAL COMPUTERS • DISK DRIVES •  
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## 512K BLUES

Or How to get More Power for a Price  
16-bit hardware review by Ralph Fenner

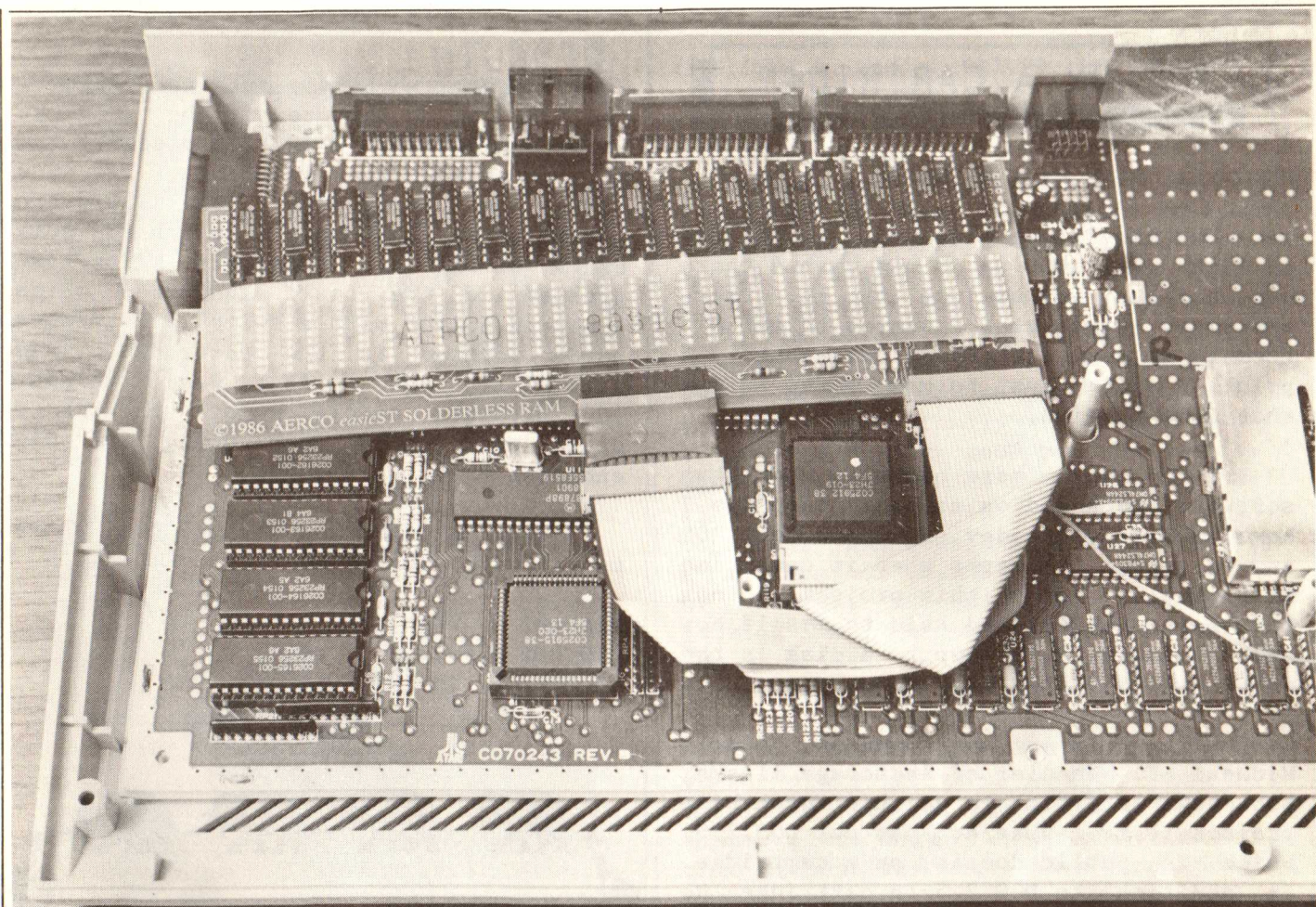
Having a case of the 512K Blues? Not sure? Well, have you noticed the hair on the back of your neck rising whenever a 1040ST owner tells you how they like to use a LARGE ramdisk? Or how much faster programs run when using the ramdisk? Does your hand tremble and uncontrollably reach for a 1040 users neck when they talk about all those great desk accessories they like to keep in memory? Or are you one of those people who purchased a good program like Hippoword and after loading it found that just trying to open a new file causes an out of memory prompt? Kinda makes you wana scream, huh?

If any of that sounds familiar then I have good news. There is a cure! UPGRADE! But which one? The magazines abound with ads. Each one claiming a few more or less solder connections than his competitor. SOLDERING!!! The very thought of a fumbled fingered novice (myself) wielding an electrified instrument of destruction (soldering iron) aimed at my ST, makes me break out in a cold sweat.



But if not soldering what then? Well, the electronic wizards at AERCO decided to create the easieST RAM upgrade for us real people who can tie our shoelaces but can't build our own





computers. No Soldering!! That's not all. The board can be expanded in 3 stages. First, as you buy it, with an extra 512K for a 1 MEG total. Second, by adding 16 more sockets (can be installed by the factory) and 16 1 Megabit RAM chips. Total memory will be increased to 2.5 MEG. Third, replacing the 256K chips on the board with 1 MEG chips for a total of 4 MEG.

I decided to buy one. But after some phone calling it seemed that local and mail-order dealers alike had not yet heard of this modern miracle of the microchip. So I called the factory. Their courteous staff answered my questions and explained the board's operation. I then placed my order for the upgrade with the 16 extra sockets already installed for later expansion.

This brings us to the actual installation. The upgrade is a small, rectangular circuit board. It has two ribbon cables attached. Cable B which

has an adapter for the MMU chip. This requires removing the MMU chip. Pressing the adapter in the socket. Then replacing the MMU chip into the adapter. Cable A has two gold contact clip connectors. These are placed over two data buffer chips.

Except for opening and closing the computer case that's all there is to it! I found the directions clear and understandable. Installation went smoothly and took about an hour. It seems to be working very well.

NOTE: The only glitch I found was in the Docs. The diagram they use to show placement of the board shows it located against the back of the case. I found it has to be moved about 2 inches forward.

AERCO  
P.O. Box 18093  
Austin, TX 78760  
(512) 451-5874



## DOS ON A CARTRIDGE

by Earl M. Kurtz

How many times have you reached for a disk with DOS on it and wished there was a faster way to jump into it. There are many times when I wanted to quickly format a disk, check a directory, or print a file, just to name a few things that come to mind.

I do much more hardware work than software work and on several occasions I have taken time to devise ways to put DOS on an eprom. However when it came time to actually doing this project, I took the easy way out and said to myself how much trouble is it to put a disk in the drive and load it.

Well I'm glad someone, namely Micheal E. Wheeler of Anchorage Alaska, has taken the time to do this worthwhile project. Mr. Wheeler has put DOS 2.5, which is public domain, on a cartridge. In addition to DOS 2.5 on cartridge, he has also made modifications to the original 2.5 to include true double density capabilities. Also included on the cartridge is a ram disk handler for the XL and XE computers, which is installed on boot up if you hold down the select button.

For the fellow hardware people out there Mr. Wheeler will sell you two 8k eproms with his program on them, which you can install directly in your XL or XE computer. For the real heavy hitters out there, not to mention the frugal; the program to burn the necessary eprom is available for \$5.00. Not only does it require an eprom burner, but it also requires that you have a sector editor program, because it does not come on disk with a file name. It is merely consecutive sectors on a disk. Instructions are included with what ever option you decide to purchase.

I explained most of the positive aspects of DOS on cartridge so let me review the negative side. The first problem is that the cartridge occupies

16k of memory when it's inserted; however the ram can be restored if the cartridge is purchased with a switch to select ram and de-select the cartridge. If you chose to purchase the hardware installation than only a switch and some extra wiring are necessary. The next problem is the basic language, which again is solved with a switch and another eprom mounted in the cartridge. This will limit you to Atari Basic; however you hardware people should be able to deal with this when using the new enhanced basic cartridges.

For information about the above mentioned products, write to:

Micheal E. Wheeler  
P.O.Box 104013  
Anchorage, AK 99510.



Don't Forget  
**February 14th**  
**VIRTUSONICS**

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**March 14 & 15**  
**ATARI EXPO**

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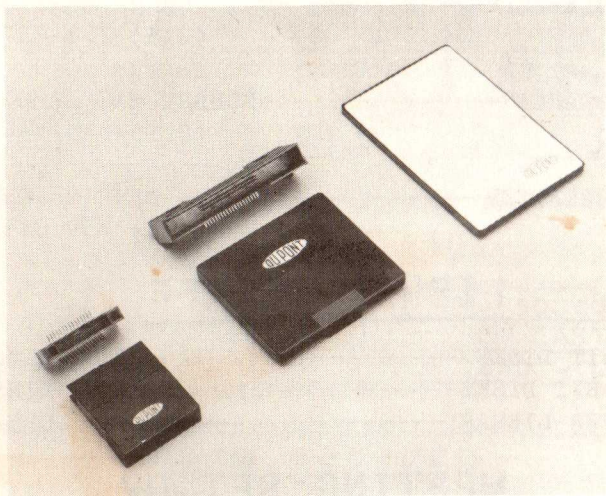
**April 11th**  
**WHITE LION**



# A LOOK AT THE FUTURE?

by Dennis John

It's impossible to know just what the future holds but one thing is certain... there WILL be changes. We've come to expect the changes, as they relate to our computer "enthusiasm", to mean more power/speed for less money. The reason? Overall, the technological advances in chip production have lowered memory costs tremendously. This technology is now being applied to new forms of information storage.



MEMORY CASSETTES

A case in point; Du Pont Conductor Systems recently introduced a line of memory cassettes. They come in RAM and ROM versions from 32K bit to one megabit. The largest cassette (pictured on the right in the photo above) is about the same size as a credit card. It holds one megabit of static RAM and, at this time, sells for about two hundred dollars. This price will no doubt drop as production increases.

According to Du Pont's news release on the product, "Memory cassettes can be used anywhere the convenience of an interchangeable module is needed. As an erasable recording medium, the RAM cassettes serve as a compact external memory, and can replace a floppy disk and drive."

Think about it. Available today, a credit card sized cassette on which you

can store and retrieve one megabit of information. Can a two, five or ten meg card be far away?

What are the advantages? The card will not be easily damaged as a disk drive or especially a hard drive would be during transportation. In fact, with no moving parts, you should never have to worry about any type of repair. Easy to transport, it would fit right in your shirt pocket. (I suspect that a trip through the family washing machine wouldn't do it any good but then again, a hard drive wouldn't fair too well either.) Even the pin and socket connector has been designed to withstand a minimum of 10,000 mating cycles. And of course, if speed is what you're looking for, a memory cassette would do the trick. No more of this "track-to-track" business.

So, while you can't plug one into your Atari at the moment, don't be surprised if, at some future Consumer Electronics Show, it's announced that this technology has been incorporated into a new model.

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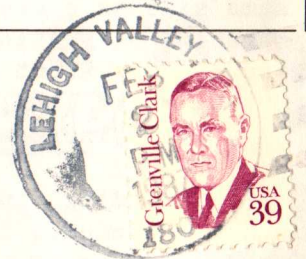
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Allentown Bethlehem Easton's  
ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS  
P.O.Box 2830  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18001



FIRST CLASS MAIL