

It's vacation time again...

Check the list before you leave - Here are the labels - The master will be done by Monday - Did we get the blue labels? - Stuffing party on Friday - Tom, make a cover next week - 800 tapes duplicated - Make 100 more Julys - Donna, can you check this editorial? - The disks can be backed up - I'll run to the printers --- What madness! Trying to get 2 issues out in 3 weeks so that Robin and I can take short vacations. After this we will need looong ones...



P.O. Box 1448
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
(805) 962-6271

August 1981

*				*
*	Side	Title	Turns Count	
*				*
*			CTR-41	CTR-80
*				*
*	****	Script Cover	15 & 268	8 & 158
*	** **	Fire Safety	65 & 305	38 & 180
*	** **	Checkbook	196 & 405	115 & 238
*	** **	List It (System LIST -		
*	****	Level II only)	246 & 448	144 & 263
*				*
*	**	Wall Street Instructions	11 & 264	6 & 155
*	***	Wall Street	54 & 295	31 & 174
*	**	Suns (System SUNS /)	143 & 362	84 & 213
*	**	Disk Exec (DOS /CMD file)	237 & 436	139 & 256
*	****			*
*				*
*				*
*	CLOADing Notes - This tape may load at an ODD RECORDER VOLUME. Set the volume LOWER than normal for your first attempt, then increase it slightly until the tape loads. If the first copy of a program won't load, try the second. That is why it is there. Model I only: Put an AM radio very close to the keyboard, tune it to a non-station, and you can listen to the tape loading in. Adjust the recorder volume so the hash from the computer sounds 'cleanest' during a load.			
*	Model III notes - Load the tapes at the LOW speed (POKE 16913,0). An occasional program will NOT run. There may be upper and lower case goofs in some programs. Arrow keys often are translated as follows: (↑, ↓, ←, →) = ([, \,], ^).			
*				*
*				*

Just can't get enough of our name! At least Script Cover's handwriting is readable (as Robin squints to make out one of my notes)! Flashy, eh?

You're out camping and your white gas lantern bursts into flame. So you throw water on it to put it out. WRONG! As the last tree in the campground catches fire, you wish that you had run Fire Safety a couple more times. The program discusses the classes of fires and some of the fire extinguishers that can be used on them. It follows with a quiz to help you remember how not to burn down the forest.

Checkbook is a very simple checkbook balancing aid. Rather than having the data loaded from tape after the program itself is loaded, you enter the checkbook data into the program itself as DATA statements. Then the data is saved to tape by saving the program to tape.

Ok, Level II BASIC users (DOS BASIC and Model III users, take a seat), there's a little utility for you - List It. With this program

you can specify the number of lines of a program that are listed on the screen at one time, list a couple lines at a time by hitting the down arrow key, and slow the listing down. What a help during debugging! No more having the entire program scroll by when you only wanted 2 more lines.

To run List It, set the Memory Size to 32555, type 'SYSTEM'<enter>. Answer the '*' with 'LIST'<enter>, and the program will load in and auto-execute. The program loads from 31671-32767 (with a couple of bytes dropped in at 16866) and executes at 31671 (hex addresses - 7667-7FFF, 41E2, and 7667).

When you see the Wall Street program, it may seem that this issue has been affected by Reaganitis. Wealth is not the object (though it helps), however. The object is to accumulate POWER through getting control of various corporations. And the program resembles real-life power struggles in many ways. One of the most notable ways is the length of time it takes to play the game! It seems to take years to get 51% of the stock. And just as you are about to assume the chairmanship, more stock is issued! Note: If you want to answer 'No' or '0' to a question or the program just seems to be waiting for input with no prompt, you just have to hit <enter>.

Yahoo! Suns! A local programmer asked me for an idea for a program about a year ago. I had recently began playing this game in the arcades, so I suggested that he write a TRS-80 version. Hee, hee, hee... I thought that would be the last I heard from him. Then he came to me with the finished version. What a shock! And it's good! Was I pleeeased!

How do you get pleeeased? Start by typing 'SYSTEM'<enter>. Answer the '*' with 'SUNS'<enter> and wait about 162 seconds while it loads. Then answer the next '*' with '/'<enter> and away you go! You want to be more pleeeased? Plug the large grey recorder plug into an amplifier and you get sound - lots of it! Drive your family crazy! Other comments: Put your recorder in the record mode (without a tape in it) and plug an earphone in the earphone jack (funny place for it) if you don't have an amp. The load addresses are 17408-26879 and the entry is 17408 (in hex - 4400-68FF, 4400 entry).

Now the DOS users can stand up. Disk Exec is for YOU! You can load and execute those machine language programs from disk that you could never get on the disk, let alone execute them. Disk Exec reads what is on the tape and copies it EXACTLY to the disk. The data on the disk is ONLY executable from Disk Exec, so don't give the data file a '/CMD' extension (I use '/EXE').

First, get Disk Exec on the disk by using TAPEDISK, LMOFFSET, TAPE, or whatever you have that takes nice machine language programs from tape and puts them on a disk. The addresses are 31271-33297 with entry at 31271 (in hex: 7A27-8211, 7A27). Name it something unforgettable like 'DISKEEXEC/CMD' ('FRAMGOO/CMD' if you have a good memory). Now execute it from DOS by typing 'DISKEEXEC'<enter>.

Let's say that you want to put Suns on the disk. You first execute 'DISKEEXEC' from DOS and you get a page of instructions and a menu on the screen. You get item 1 of the menu and load in Suns. When it is done loading, you save it to disk with a nice filename like 'SUNS/EXE'. Now to run Suns, you execute 'DISKEEXEC', and choose menu item 2 to execute a previously saved program. You just give it the 'SUNS/EXE' filespec and, oh boy, it runs! You can get those

troublesome Aliens and Breakthroughs on the disk in the same manner.

Creepy Crawlies...

In modifying last month's Jerusalem Adventure to run on the Color Computer, I discovered that line 490 looked a little strange. I checked the master copy of the program, and it also was odd. So I presume that every copy has a flaw in line 490. After dissecting the program (one good way to take the fun out of an adventure game), it appeared the line should look like this:

```
490 IFO(N)<>-1AND O(N)<>-2THEN150ELSEPRINT"It says:";GOSUB800:PR
INT"I am -TOUCHED- by your curiosity in the -GATE-.";GOSUB800:
GOSUB800:GOTO150
```

Quiz time: What is wrong with the following line? Can you write an equivalent but shorter line?

```
490 IF O(N)<>-1 OR O(N)<>-2 THEN 150
```

The line is syntactically correct and will not generate an error, but there is a logic problem. Answer follows (now you have to read the rest of this drivel to see where the answer can be found).

Occasionally Mark Kramer of Schaumburg, Illinois got an RG error in line 430 of April, 1981's Frog Song. He traced the error to line 790 and suggested replacing the 'ELSEIFLEFT\$(G\$,1)="N"THENEND' at the end of line 790 with 'ELSE END'. You can get the error in the original line whenever you answer a Yes/No question with anything but a 'Y' or an 'N'. With the fix, it will default to 'N' unless you answer 'Y'.

If it doesn't work, get a hammer...

John Delaney of Wood River, Illinois sent the fixes below that allow April 1981's Mapdisk (what's with Illinois and April 1981's issue?) to run on his Hardside 40 track disk drive (Mapdisk was written for standard 35 track drives):

```
30 CLEAR 1300: CLS: DEFINT A-G: DIM G$(80)
80 B=0: F=0: FOR A=(&HB068) TO (&HB08F): D=PEEK(A)
420 FOR A=0 TO 78 STEP 2: LPRINT (A+2)/2;" ";A+1;" - ";G$(A);
TAB(35);A+2;" - ";G$(A+1):NEXTA
```

Speaking of disks, in the new R/S catalog they list 8.5 megabyte (about as much storage as 100 Model I mini-floppies) Winchester hard disk drives for the Model II! If you own a Model II, this could be great news! It's only about \$5000 for the first drive, and under \$4000 for each subsequent one. They put an additional controller card inside your Model II which supposedly allows you to have four hard drives AND four 8 inch floppies on line at the same time! And to top all of this off, all or part of the hard disk is removable, so backing up the disks is a lot easier (if Radio Shack will also clean up their TRSDOS disk backup routines - fat chance).

Across the back fence...

There are rumors that Radio Shack is looking into offering the CP/M operating system for the Model II (probably not for the Model I or III with BASIC sitting in ROM). CP/M has been around quite a while and has sort of become an 'industry standard' with microcomputers used

in business and other applications. And with IBM's new microcomputer breathing down Tandy's neck, the chances are even better that Radio Shack will try to implement the more traditional operating system to solidify their business micro market share.

Just a little reminder...

If you are missing any of our back issues (back through October, 1978), you can order them for \$4.50 apiece (Californians have to pay 6% dues to Uncle Jerry Brown and overseas have to add \$1 per issue for the long boat trip).

Win \$100,000...

Somewhere, maybe. But not here. You can have the answer to the quiz, though. The problem with line 490 is it is always true. If $O(N)$ does not equal -1 and it does not equal -2, you will go to line 150. But if $O(N)$ equals -1, then it does not equal -2, and you will still go to line 150. And if it equals -2, it doesn't equal -1, and you still go to line 150. After realizing this, you should be able to figure out the shorter line as '490 GOTO 150'.

Free for a week! I'm off to try water skiing.

Blub, blub,

Dave

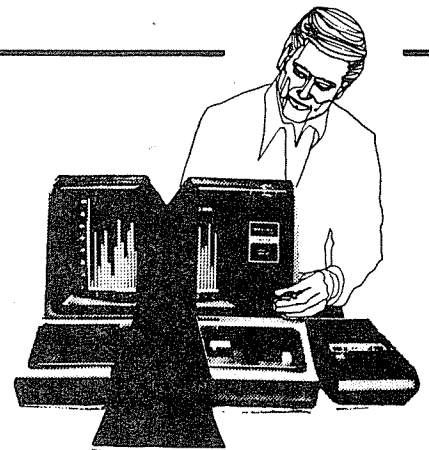
DARK IN THERE ?

Turn on The Alternate Source and look inside.

The magazine of advanced applications and software.

Each issue of The Alternate Source contains applications, reviews, programs, letters, advice and editorials. We'll provide you with ideas to help you explore the dark and forbidding interior of your TRS-80. TAS focuses on the Models I and III, and isn't written to be read just once and discarded. We think you will find each issue a valuable addition to your software library.

And now you can get TAS every month for only \$18.00, \$6 less than the normal \$24.00 a year subscription rate. A good price for a great resource!



● ● ● Illuminating features and subjects from past issues ● ● ●

☐ Undocumented Z80 Opcodes ☐ Making your Machine Language Programs Relocatable ☐ Through the Ins and Outs of Tape ☐ So What Good is an Interrupt ☐ Speeding Up a Sequential Search ☐ Bit Kickin' With Jesse Bob ☐ Basic Statistics ☐ On Line Communications ☐ Data Packing ☐ Basic and Assembly Language Programming Techniques ☐ Reviews of the 3 new Tandy Computers

THE ALTERNATE SOURCE
the magazine of advanced applications and software
for the TRS-80

The Alternate Source
1806 Ada Street
Lansing, Michigan 48910
Ph. 517/487-3358 or
517/485-0344

Master Charge/Visa accepted

☐ I'll take 12 issues for \$18.00
☐ Send me a sample issue for \$2.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State, Zip: _____