

The News *Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts*

JOURNAL

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 3

June, 1993

Fax/Modem Systems take Off!



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This Month's Meeting

June 12, 1993

Warren-Newport
Public Library
Gurnee, IL

Next Meeting

PICNIC!
July 10, 1993

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Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership in L.C.A.C.E. is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 per individual/family. Membership includes a one year subscription to the News Journal, and access to club's libraries. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meetings, by calling the hotline, or by writing to us at the above address.

MEETINGS

L.C.A.C.E. meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, at the Warren-Newport Public Library, 244 O'Plaine Rd. Gurnee, IL. Meetings begin at 11:00 am. We do not require you to be a member to attend our meetings, they are free and open to the public.

ADVERTISING

For information on placing ads, please write our Newsletter Editor at the above address, or call (708) 623-3815.

Rates: Full Page - \$25, Half Page - \$15, Quarter Page - \$10, Business Cards - \$5. Discounts are given for advance purchase of 12 consecutive ads. Send Camera-ready copy and payment by the 21st of the month preceding publication to above address.

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DESKTOP PUBLISHING

The L.C.A.C.E. News Journal is produced on an Atari Desktop Publishing System (Mega ST4, Atari SLM804 Laser) using Soft Logik's PageStream. Some of the artwork has been scanned on Mirgraph's Hand Scanner and touched up using Mirgraph's Touch Up and Dr. Bob's MVG program.

L.C.A.C.E. HOTLINE
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Deadline Approaching For Next Months Articles

Remember: the deadline for all articles submitted to *The News Journal* is the 20th of each month. Send your articles, via disk to the club's P.O. Box, or upload to Pegasus BBS (708) 623-9570 prior to this date. Articles submitted may be edited for length, content, and clarity.

The Prez Sez:

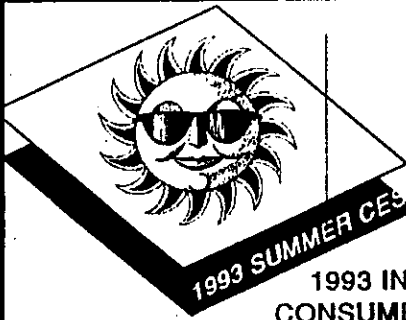
by Steve Kostelnik, (LCACE)

Expert--"Someone who knows more than you about a certain subject."

Notice how it says "knows more than *you*." This means that we are all experts about something. I know we have *many* Experts in LCACE. What's your expertise? I know you might say "I'm not an expert in word processing, but I use Atariwriter all the time." Well that makes you an "Expert" on Atariwriter [An expert in one area of a generalized topic is called a specialist--Ed]. You do not have to be the person who wrote a program to be an expert on the program; all you have to do is use that program on a regular basis, and feel comfortable using it.

The point of this is that the thought has crossed our minds to compile a LCACE "Experts" list. You might say "I'm not an Expert on anything." Do the words Desktop Publishing, Word Processing, Telecommunications, or Databases overwhelm you? OK then, try Pacman, Star Raiders, F-15 Strike Eagle, Elvria, M.U.L.E., or whatever you are familiar with. If you use a program often, that makes you the Expert. Now all we (the LCACE officers) have to do is to encourage you to give, or mail in the list of YOUR Expertise, and we can all (as the Beatles said) "...get by with a little help from our friends."

Steve Kostelnik, Your President



**Take A Look
At What's New
Under The Sun!**

**1993 INTERNATIONAL SUMMER
CONSUMER ELECTRONICS SHOW**

Summer CES		
Dates & Hours	June 3-6	
Trade Only Days	McCormick East	
Thursday, June 3	10am - 6pm	McCormick North
Friday, June 4	9am - 6pm	McCormick Center Hotel
Saturday, June 5	9am - 6pm	Chicago Hilton & Towers
Trade/Consumer Day		
Sunday, June 6	9am - 6pm	

PCC Show
Exhibitors at the new Personal Communication and Computing Show (PCC) will showcase products and services that enable the manipulation, exchange, and storage of information in real time. Products will include notebook, palmtop, and pen-based computers and devices; digital cellular phones; pagers; software; fax and data transmission equipment; and digital microcell technology products as well as other products and technologies relevant to personal digital communications.

Intel Inside!

by Larry Grauzas Jr. (LCACE)

The LCACE MS-DOS SIG has been very active this month. We had two evening meetings with about a dozen attending each one. The best thing is that we had different people attend each meeting! About twenty people attended one of the meetings. It would appear that the interest level in this SIG is picking up very quickly.

We are now presenting a theme for each of the meetings with general discussion following. The first theme was memory management. We discussed what a memory manager does and the different ones available. We played with Steve Kostelnik's machine which uses *QEMM* to fine tune his available memory. We were successful in increasing free memory about 40k. We also installed DOS 6.0 on a machine and ran double disk and Microsoft's memory management program, *MemMaker*. We increased its memory by about 75k and double the capacity of the hard drive! The second meeting's theme was telecommunications. A demo of *ProComm* and Genie's *Aladdin* "Front-End" was presented.

What will be upcoming in the future? This upcoming general meeting, a demo of the *HP Deskjet 500C* printer will be presented.

We have two SIG meetings coming up; one on June 16th at my house and on June 29th at a site to be determined. The theme of the first meeting will be Windows, what it can do for you, how to install it, and fine tuning. Plans are in the works for *software shoot outs* with vendors presenting their software. Topics for these shootouts will be word processors, Spreadsheets and Tax preparation programs.

Steve Rogers is looking for people interested in starting a programming SIG. He is willing to work with people who are interested in developing programs. Both beginners and experienced programmers are welcome. Leave Steve a message on the club board.

If you have any questions or ideas regarding the MS-DOS SIG's activities, new topics of interest or anything else, please call me (708 566 0671) or leave me a message on the LCACE BBS.

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LCACE Library News

Public Domain/Shareware Update

ST-538 BOOT DISK (MA-416)

A selection of accessories and programs for the AUTO folder on your boot disk. This disk is a stand alone, ready-to-run disk, with all AUTO programs in an AUTO folder.

CACHE27A: Master Cache V2.75 - According to the author, this is the best disk caching system for Atari ST, Mega ST, STe, Mega STe, and TT computers! It supports any logical size up to 8192 bytes per sector, write delay caching, TOS buffers configuration for TOS V1.4 or higher, FAT/DIR priority option, many other features. This is a demo version of Master Cache V2.75 that can be upgraded to a full registered version by entering a password.

DT_PIC: A folder with 5 medium resolution pictures suitable for use as desktop pictures or welcome screen pictures. Two are of floppy disks, and 3 represent office scenes. One of the disk pictures has been modified for use as a welcome screen for the version of Superboot on this disk.

EDHAKDEM: A demo of the accessory *Edhak*.

POOLFX92: A revision of *Poolfix 4*, a patch of TOS 1.04. This revision fixes several bugs in Poolfix which could cause crashes.

PULLDOWN: Pulldown - This little accessory converts Atari ST GEM drop down menus to Mac-style pulldown menus. The Atari mouse gains double vertical speed by switching from Hi Res (640x400) to Med Res (640x200), switching to 320x200 doubles horizontal speed as well. PULLDOWN.ACC fixes this problem offering precise mouse control throughout all resolutions. The program has been tested for quite a long time with numerous GEM-Applications and several TOS Versions. It shouldn't give any problems.

READER: READER II is a desk accessory which enables you to read text files while running a program. One obvious use is that you can load a program, then use READER II to load the accompanying read_me text file. Now you can read the file and use the program at the same time.

SUPERBT: Super Boot V8.0 - The best public domain program for selecting AUTO folder accessory upon bootup just got better! Just some of the changes since V7.4 (the last release) are: 1) File capacity has been greatly expanded through use of a new

Multi-page file selection mode. Each type of file is on a separate page, allowing 152 files of each type instead of a limit of 152 files total. This feature is optional. Total file capacity is now 1824 files. 2) Super Boot can now play DMA sound files in stereo or mono! 3) You can now control the volume for DMA sound files. 4) Super Boot can now be called from other programs with a command line argument (as if it were a .TTP program) to allow you to do cold and warmboots after activation or deactivating program in the AUTO folder that run before Superboot. This allows you to have the changes take place immediately without having Superboot run twice. These are just SOME of the changes. If you use Superboot, then you want this major revision. If you haven't used it, now is the time to try it!

SYSTEM: System - An accessory which shows how much memory's left, how much memory you have total, how much space is left on your hard disk, what's the capacity of your hard disk, and how long has your ST been up (time since last coldstart). It will count the files and folders (total or just one partition). If you use TOS 1.4 or newer, counting is 10 times faster than on TOS 1.00 or 1.02.

ST-539 UTILITY DISK (MA-417)

DTPICS04: A collection of 7 high resolution pictures suitable for use as welcome screens or desktop backgrounds. One is ASTEC, and the other six concern King Tut. If you are into Egyptology or ancient Egyptian lore and have a monochrome monitor, then you'll definitely want these beautiful pictures.

DTPIC07: Six high resolution pictures suitable for use as welcome screen pictures or desktop pictures. One shows several Star Wars *Imperial Walkers*, another is from the movie *Bladerunner*, and another is a moon shot. There is an excellent *Terminator II* picture (showing half machine and half human face), and a picture of the Jedi Master, Yoda.

LUCKYLOT: Lucky Lotto Numbers V1.1 - A high resolution program for generating Lotto numbers - now you can generate numbers which include your lucky numbers and exclude your unlucky numbers.

PICSW101: PicSwitch V1.01 Graphics File Viewer/Printer - This is the long-awaited update to PicSwitch, the award-winning graphics utility from Advanced Software. This version actually bears no resemblance to its predecessor, being totally rewritten with a standard GEM interface with enhance-

ments. Many new input formats have been added, as well as a new "adjustments" control panel, windowed displays, and much enhanced printing support for Epson 9-pin and HP laserJet compatibles.

RENAMEIT: This is *ReNameIt!*, a program that rename files, folders and volume labels, using upper case, lower case and extended characters. It works as a program accessory. TTP or CLI program, on any ST, STe or TT, with any hard drive, in any resolution.

**ST-540
DEMO DISK (MA-418)**

Calligrapher 3, The Next Generation of the Ultimate Writing Machine - A demo of the powerful intuitive graphic based word processor. With this version, Calligrapher displays vector graphics on screen if you have a hard drive and 2 mb or more RAM. A new install program includes support for 1.44 meg floppy disk drives. Calligrapher is now compatible with the *Falcon 030* and *MultiTOS*. It no longer uses GDOS as GDOS and Line/Arc are built into it. It supports multiple dictionaries; Spanish, German, and Italian are included. This is the monochrome version demo.

**ST-541
GAME DISK (MA-419)**

CENTI: A game of *Centipede*. This one use the mouse to move the gun at the bottom of the screen.

CYBER: *Cybernetix* - An enhanced Defender game. In this version, you have asteroids to dodge as well as enemy ships to shoot. The asteroids are graphically well done. An excellent version of this classic game.

MATCHMKR: *Match Maker* - A Concentration-type game where you match the symbols behind the squares. To make the game more interesting you also have a limited time in which to uncover all the symbols. If you run out of time before achieving your objective you will lose one of your five lives and the current grid will be reset and you must try again. Match Maker will run on any ST or STe with 512k or more memory or more and is compatible with all TOS versions up to and including TOS 1.62 (and therefore, will not work on TOS 2.0x).

MRSMUNCH: *Mrs. Munchie* - Basically a Mrs Pac-man clone with lots of extra features. Besides the familiar Power Pills, you also have Sugar Treats, Traps, Dots, and Bouncing fruit, for example. A nice extra is that pressing F3 sets Kid's Mode with will play a little slower, have dumber ghosts, and fewer bad guys appearing on the screen. This mode is designed to allow smaller kids to play Mrs. Munchie. Note that this game will not run on TOS versions over 1.02. Too bad, as it is otherwise a great game.



**ST-542
GAME DISK (MA-420)**

FOKKER: *Fokker!* - A two-player, joystick controlled game. It is a side-view arcade game.

MEGAPEDE: *Megapede* - An enhanced game of Centipede played with the joystick. It requires 1 meg of memory. It plays in med or low res but not on mono systems. It should run just fine on a Mega ST2, TT and all versions of TOS (NOTE: It does run on TOS 2.06). A children's low-speed mode is included. Numerous creatures, such as mushrooms, mites, spiders, and bees, make life difficult for you. A must have game if you are a Centipede devotee.

SPC-BATL: *Space Battle* - A sort of space combative simulator. Negligible documentation done, so you're basically on your own figuring this one out.

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DOS 6 Tips And Tricks

Courtesy- Internet

Once you've got DOS 6 up and running on your PC, you may wonder what you can do to make the best use of it. Some of the answers are obvious: Expand your disk space with *DoubleSpace*, protect yourself from viruses with the new antivirus utilities, and so on. But other solutions are not so obvious. Here are twelve tips to help you use DOS 6 to the fullest.

Tip 1. Don't edit your start-up files to move TSRs and device drivers into upper memory; let *MemMaker* do it for you. In DOS 5, converting CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT to load TSRs and device drivers high was a chore for all but the most sophisticated users. In DOS 6, *MemMaker* will make all the necessary changes for you, and it will optimize upper memory usage by determining where to load TSRs and device drivers in order to achieve the optimal fit. *MemMaker* will also detect most adapter RAM conflicts that EMM386.EXE will not. This can help to avert the lockups that a default installation of EMM386.EXE causes on some PCs.

If your PC contains a network card, run *MemMaker* after logging on to the network. This will ensure that the card's RAM buffer is activated and will be recognized by *MemMaker*.

Tip 2. Configure EMM386.EXE to provide an extra 24K of upper memory block (UMB) RAM. DOS 6's EMM386.EXE driver typically creates more upper memory than its counterpart in DOS 5 manages because it scans the E000h segment of upper memory for unused address space. (DOS 5's EMM386.EXE did not.) It does not, however, scan the region from C000h to C5FFh on most PCs, leaving, potentially, 24K of UMB space unused. Use the Microsoft Diagnostics utility that comes with DOS 6 to see if this region is devoid of ROM and adapter RAM. If it is, add an I=C000-C5FF switch to EMM386.EXE in order to create 24K more UMB RAM.

You can create additional UMB RAM on some systems by starting EMM386.EXE with a Highscan switch. If this locks up your PC, perform a clean boot with the F5 key and remove the Highscan switch. If Highscan works on your PC, *MemMaker* will supply the additional UMB RAM for you.

Tip 3. Use the new *Deltree* command to remove subdirectories that aren't empty. Use the new Move command to move files. In the past, removing a subdirectory that wasn't empty meant deleting the files in it first. If the subdirectory contained other subdirectories, they had to be emptied and removed too. The new *Deltree* command removes a subdirectory no matter what else it contains--even other subdirectories. The new Move command provides you with a fast way to move files from one location to another. It will also rename subdirectories--a job that required a foray into the DOS Shell in Version 5.

Tip 4. Don't throw out DOS 5 just yet! Although the list of programs, drivers, and utilities that will ship with DOS 6 wasn't finalized at press time, it appeared that DOS 5's Mirror and Recover commands would be dropped. This would be unfortunate; running Mirror with a /PARTN switch is a handy way to back up the partition tables on your hard disk, and Recover--though a potentially dangerous command--can salvage files that have developed bad sectors. Before you throw out DOS 5, it's probably a good idea to make copies of MIRROR.COM and RECOVER.EXE. Make a copy of the DOS 5's Unformat utility as well, because you'll need its /PARTN switch to restore partition tables backed up with Mirror. Since DOS 6 contains its own Unformat command (without the /PARTN switch), give the old one a new name, such as UNMIRROR.COM.

Tip 5. Use COMMAND.COM's new /K switch to customize Windows. COMMAND.COM now supports a /K switch, which executes a program and then proceeds to the command prompt. This is a great way to customize the DOS prompt in Windows. In the program information file that loads COMMAND.COM, use a /K switch to specify the batch file that you would like executed when a DOS prompt window is opened.

You can also use /K to execute a batch file other than AUTOEXEC.BAT at start-up. The command

```
SHELL=C:\DOS\COMMAND.COM  
C:\DOS /P /K STARTUP.BAT
```

loads COMMAND.COM and processes STARTUP.BAT instead of AUTOEXEC.BAT. This is a great way to protect your start-up batch file from intrusive installation programs. It could, however, cause problems for installation programs that assume the file is named AUTOEXEC.BAT.

Tip 6. Conserve RAM by moving DoubleSpace to upper memory. DOS 6's DoubleSpace driver DBLSPACE.BIN requires more than 40K of RAM. If you have sufficient UMB space available, you can move DBLSPACE.BIN to upper memory by adding the command

```
DEVICEHIGH=C:\DOS\  
DBLSPACE.SYS /MOVE
```

to your CONFIG.SYS file. Note that without this command, DBLSPACE.BIN remains in conventional memory, robbing your application programs of much needed RAM.

Tip 7. Keep your hard disk running smoothly by running *Defrag* regularly. Over time, the files on a hard disk become fragmented, which can severely impede file system performance. (Fragmented means files are no longer stored in contiguous clusters on a disk, which results in more movement of the drive heads when a file is read or written.) Run DOS 6's Defrag

utility regularly--every two months or so--and your hard disk will continue to run as fast as it did the day you brought it home.

Tip 8. If *Defrag* runs out of memory, give it more with *EMM386.EXE*. If your hard disk contains many fragmented files, *Defrag* may quit with an "out of memory" error. If this happens, and you're running *Defrag* on a 386- or 486-based PC with a color video adapter, try loading *EMM386.EXE* with the statement

```
DEVICE=C:\DOS\EMM386.EXE I=A000-B7FF
```

and run *Defrag* again. Configured this way, *EMM386.EXE* can increase the largest executable program size to more than 700K. If your 386 or 486 has a monochrome video adapter, use `I=A000-AFFF` instead of `I=A000-B7FF`. Do not start a program that runs in graphics mode when *EMM386.EXE* is configured this way. Note that this technique will not work if your PC contains an extended Basic Input/Output System (BIOS) data area.

Tip 9. Turn NumLock off with the new *NUMLOCK* command. Ever since IBM made NumLock ON the default when it introduced the PS/2s in 1987, utilities that toggle NumLock OFF at start-up have been in high demand. In DOS 6, you can turn NumLock off by inserting a `NUMLOCK=OFF` command in your `CONFIG.SYS` file. The `NUMLOCK=ON` command turns it on.

Tip 10. Use information in *MEMMAKER.STS* to fit more programs in upper memory. *MemMaker* determines what regions of upper memory in which to load TSRs and device drivers in order to achieve the best fit. But it never alters the order in which they are

loaded. If UMB space is tight, you may be able to cram more into upper memory by varying the load order. The trick lies in determining the best load order.

Here's how to do it. After running *MemMaker*, look at the *MEMMAKER.STS* file in the DOS directory. For each TSR or device driver that it loads, *MemMaker* records the installed size (*FinalSize*) and the maximum size (*MaxSize*). For the best fit, load programs with the largest differences between *FinalSize* and *MaxSize* first. For example, if your mouse driver has an installed size of 17K and a maximum size of 58K, load it before a TSR with a *MaxSize* equal to or only slightly greater than its *FinalSize*.

Tip 11. Use *POWER.EXE* to conserve battery power on laptops. If your laptop supports Microsoft's Advanced Power Management (APM) specification, loading DOS 6's *POWER.EXE* device driver can extend battery life by as much as 25 percent. Even if your laptop doesn't support APM, *POWER.EXE* can extend a charge by as much as 5 percent.

Tip 12. Store DOS in a subdirectory named DOS or MSDOS. It has always been a good idea to store DOS in a DOS subdirectory, but now there is a compelling reason to do so. If your *AUTOEXEC.BAT* file doesn't set the Prompt and Path environment variables (or if you perform a clean boot with the F5 key), DOS will automatically set *PROMPT* equal to `PG` and *PATH* equal to `C:\DOS` or `C:\MSDOS`. However, it will set these variables only if DOS is stored in a subdirectory named either DOS or MSDOS. You should be aware that other subdirectories are not searched.

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More ST Zip NEW AND IMPROVED

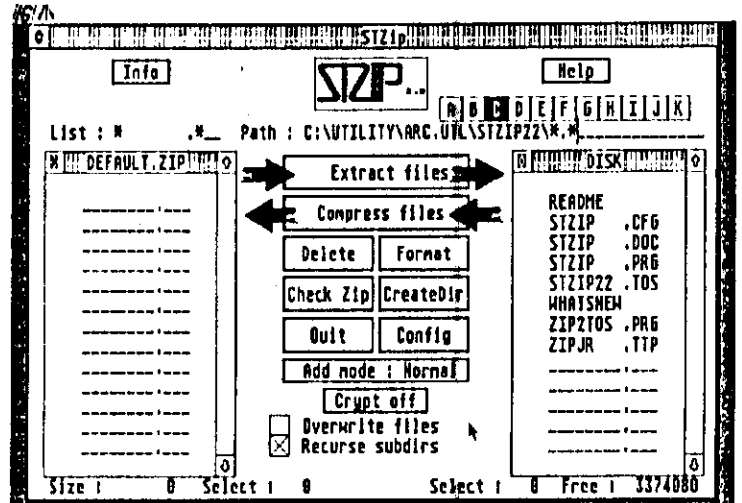
A fresh version of *ST ZIP*, version 2.1, has recently been released. The program can archive files closed to, and sometimes smaller, than LH5 LZH compression, with comparable-to-better speed. This archiver doesn't compress any smaller than 2.0, which introduced the new *Deflating* routine, but has some bug fixes and a few new features. The comment feature of *ST ZIP* is superb for remembering what's in an archive, or for saving some notes about a file within the archives. You can do either, attaching a comment to the archive as a whole (single click on the archive name in the title bar of *ST ZIP* left file selector) or to individual files (double-clicking on these, in the archive). No more forgetting what a file is- you can use this feature to include brief notes to yourself or others about what's what in the archive.

If you double-click on the filename in the right hand file selector, a dialog will pop up with some basic information, and now allows you to rename the file besides displaying it in *ST Zip*'s file viewing window.

A click on the right file selector's title bar rereads the director displayed. This is handy if you deleted some files from there via another file maintenance accessory or alternate file selector and *ST Zip* hasn't caught up with your changes. To get to the system, or your alternate, file selector while in *ST Zip*, I click on the close button of the left file selector. If you don't select anything in the file selector, you'll drop back to the archive you were last using.

You can control *ST Zip* via an external file. I believe this feature existed in previous versions, but I never got around to exploring it previously. What this means is that you can create an ASCII file of the paths you'd like to back up and *ST Zip* will obey! I find this extremely helpful for backing up frequently used files that I'd like to keep in one archive, updating it as needed. I can back up my files in C:\ALADDIN, C:\ALADDIN\DATA and D:\HOTFILES all in one operation. This eliminates the need for me to maintain several Hotwire menu slots for *ST Zip*, each backing up one path. It's kind of eerie to watch *ST Zip* parse the LIST.TXT file and then go about its business archiving files here and there among my hard drive partitions, but it sure saves time. Via a command line, you can also tell *ST Zip* to archive all the files in a directory, except certain extenders. Handy for when you want to back up everything except the executables. See the *ST Zip* docs for more information on how to set up external lists and command line options.

I noticed that *ST Zip* displays the active drives right below the "Help" Button. Interestingly, if you add another drive, like installing a ramdisk, a button for it now appears automatically when you then boot *ST Zip*. I don't know what will happen if you have more drives than A-L since it appears there only enough



room for that many drive letters. You can save the current configuration of drives *ST Zip* is using when you save your configuration through the "Config" button.

Clicking on the "Add mode" button brings up a dialog where you can select whether you Add operation will be Normal, Freshen, Update or Add if the file is newer than a certain date.

I was sad to see that *Zip Jr.*, the basic TTP version of *ST Zip* is no longer being included in the updates. I guess everyone was using the GEM-based version, but I appreciate the smaller size of *Zip Jr.*, mating it to the EDM Shell. for fast and convenient conversion of ARC, LZH and ZOO's files to the ZIP format. Oh well, at least the GEM-based version accepts commands line input just like *Zip Jr.*, although, it is larger to accommodate the interface.

Having a GEM-based interface built-in, *ST Zip* makes it very easy to delete files from within a Zip'ive. Say you just created an archive for a program, with all of its docs and auxiliary files. Now all of a sudden a new version of the archived program appears on GENie the next day, on the fore of a new executable and readme file. Rather than starting from scratch, you could quickly delete the old program and doc file from the left hand file selector and replace these with the new ones in nothing flat. Also, you can delete files from the right hand file selector.

Remember that since *ST Zip* runs in a window now, you can access desk accessories and drag the window about, which is handy if you using a large screen monitor. A click on the close box accomplishes the same as the "Quick button. Although putting *ST Zip* into a window seems to prevent Formdoit from working on the main screen's buttons. I've now automated many repetitious tasks via Codekey.

As mentioned in my earlier writer up of *ST Zip 2.0*, don't underestimate the power of the Display option.

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Ten Tips for Happy BBSing...

There have been numerous articles on Bulletin Board Services over the years and yet some of the most simple things seem to go unnoticed by a lot of user out there. This is not intended to be a lecture, more a few tips for happy BBSing.

1.) "Always read the logon messages." Recently we added a 4800MNP class 5 modem to our BBS and people were at a loss as to why their script or DO files would not work any more. When you create a script file for logging on to a BBS always allow a pause to capture any new additions to the menus or bulletins.

So Tip #1 is "read the logon messages and bulletins. "This is where the important system information is generally placed.

2.) "Learn the MENUs or functions of the BBS." When you logon to a new type of system or BBS or the ones you use from time to time, make sure you capture the session. This will allow you to print out the menus and have them near your monitor so you do not have to waste valuable line time going from menu to menu to menu. This will also save a lot of space in your capture buffer.

3.) "If someone E-mails, you have the courtesy to reply to them." Take the time to drop a E-mail to the Sysop and E-mail them if there is any problems you are having (this may save many house of soul searching over some little problem) as the Sysop may have had the answer.

4.) "When uploading files, always use some form of ARChive to ARC up you files." There are three reasons for this.

(a) Save on on-line time. An Archive program is compressed and therefore shorter, thus less time to upload.

(b) When the file is downloaded it can be padded with fill bytes and screen the best programs. If it is not archived you leave yourself wide open as a person who uploads program that do no work. Use ARCTTP, Lharch.prg or both with arshell which you will find on 99% of services.

(c) Save space on you disk and also those of the BBS or

services that you are uploading to.

5.) "Please write in lower case when on the service as capital letter ; LIKE THIS, IS KNOWN AS SHOUTING AND IS NOT CONSIDERED good manners."

6.) If you are in the slower speeds of 300 <V2.1> or 1200/75 <V.23> let the Sysop know, as they may give you on-line time or charge less for the same amount of time. (Editors note: I've ran across BBS's that no longer will let access below 1200 baud, and even talked to Sysops who are considering 2400 baud as the minimum baud rate.)

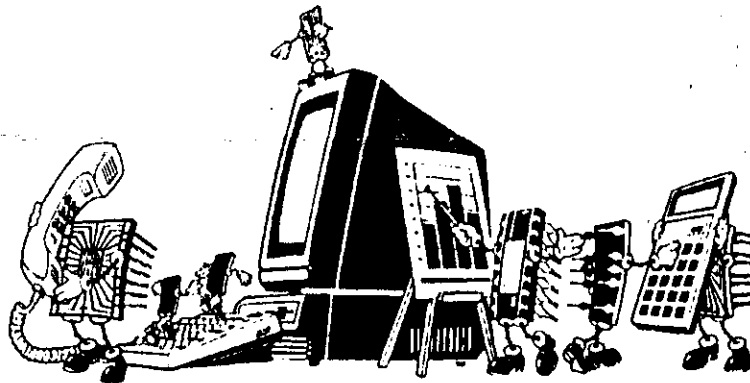
7.) User who have a V.23 1200/75 baud modem, please remember that you receive in 1200 and transmit in 75 baud, so do not attempt to upload in 75 baud: this will take hours. NO:-V.23 is supported in England, Australia, and New Zealand, a hang over from Prestel or Videtox services and is not generally support in North America.

8.) "Capture a list of Files available for downloading with a scan option and read if off line from you buffer." This will allow you to select what you want to download, so when you log on the next time you can have a download frenzy. A big saving in the on-line time (Editors Note-Once I copy a File list I print it out

and high-light the Files that I want to later download and then cross them off once I have downloaded them.)

9.) If you get behind in the message base or have just logged onto a service for the first time you be hundreds or thousands of message behind. So select the REAd Option and find a Read Review Option and find a REAd Revere option or REAd Number option so you can read the last messages. I personally scan the messages headings and if there is a topic I want to read about, go there the next time I logon when my message pointer had been reset.

10.) (Remember) "The Sysop or System Operator has the final say." S/he is the one who has invested all his/her time and money into the service and likes to have a few compliments from time to time. Most of all Never be afraid to ASK QUESTIONS...



Double-click on the "Display" button and the file is extracted to a GEM window with a fairly powerful set of viewing options, especially for an archiver. A click of either mouse button or the Help key shows you the available commands. You can activate them by clicking on the appropriate one with the mouse or by using the keyboard equivalent.

A new feature in ST Zip is the ability to extract all the files in an archive to a folder, the first 8 characters of the archive name being used for the folder name. Click on the "Config" button and select the "extract FFF.ZIP..." button to activate this feature. (YES -ed.)

Here's a little trick I learned for highlighting all the files in ST Zip's file selector. It sounds sort of weird, but it works. Position the mouse pointer right above the first file or folder displayed, but below the title bar. Click the left mouse button and while still holding it down, begin to move it downwards. You'll notice the first file/folder will inverse as the mouse pointer moves over it. When you get the mouse pointer to the lastly file/folder in the selector, release the left mouse button. Now all the files will suddenly highlight themselves. To deselect all files, click on the words "Select" below the corresponding file selector.

If you want to archive all of the files showing in the right file selector, just click on the "Compress" button and after asking you if this is what you want, ST Zip will archive all of them. Ditto if you want to extract all of the files in the left file selector without bothering to select them all.

If you click on the words "Total Bytes", it will flip between the source and destination paths, showing you how many bytes are used by the currently highlighted files. There are little arrows to let you know which directory is being referenced. One thing I keep forgetting to notice is the free space display down in the lower right hand corner, for the current drive.

The extraction routine has been speeded up in the self extracting files created by ZIP2TOS. This is a real boon since, to my knowledge there is no available utility to create self extracting files with the LH5 LZH format. So for the smallest SFX files, use ST Zip 2.1.

And finally, take time to click on the ST Zip 2.1 logo at the top to read a message from the author.

In summary, ST Zip is a great archiver for several reasons. It has a GEM-based interface that is easy to understand. It achieves results comparable to LH5 LZH compression, sometimes doing better in less time. you can create self extracting files from its archives that are easy for first timers to use. And if you're archiving ASCII text, in particular, ST Zip is clearly the best, creating the smallest archives in far less time.

Reprint from MEL'S MANOR by Mel Motogawa [Pacific Side Atari News, April/May 1993 - GENieLamp Atari ST Vol.3, Issue 53]

General admission for movie maniacs.

Do you and your friends gather around the TV or VCR to watch movies? If so, you might soon be gathering around your PC to pull up pictures of your favorite stars, settle a bet about a director, find out what a gaffer is, hear Jane and Tarzan try to communicate their names to each other, as well as read movie reviews before you rent.

Microsoft Cinemanla has 745 in-depth and 19,000 capsule reviews, 3,000 biographies, about 80 sound clips, and 1,000 photos, including movie stills and portraits of actors, directors, and more. The interactive database covers films from 1914 to 1992, with hypertext links and search filters.

Cinemanla is about the movies, but there's no full-motion video on the CD-ROM. While you won't see Dorothy skipping down the path to Oz, you will see her with her tin and straw companions on that path--startled by some ferocious-looking beast that's out of camera range. Click the sound icon below this frightened crew and hear Judy Garland say "Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."

When Bogle says "Here's looking at you, kid," you hear the "cling" of toasting glasses. Just think: For \$79.95, you can listen to 2001's HAL go off the deep end all over again.

Cinemanla has a wide range of onscreen articles about movie-industry topics, a healthy glossary of movie terms (ever wonder what a "best boy" is?), and a full list of Academy Award winners and nominees. With a Windows interface and onscreen "remote control," you can click to an area of interest. The Movie Listings filter lets you search for a movie by director, movie title, academy awards or nominations, genre, MPAA rating, date, star rating, or by up to two performers. You can also jump to the Gallery, which lists all the portraits, movies stills, and sound clips on the disk.

Cinemanla lets you build custom lists of movies and annotate text, but the List Builder will not accept multi-movie search results--you have to enter each film into the list individually. Cinemanla crashed when I first tried to annotate a list, but accepted my notes gracefully after I reinstalled Cinemanla (as Microsoft suggested). I was using Norton Desktop as a shell and had allowed other MPC applications to replace files installed by Cinemanla.

Cinemanla has a few color graphics, but its many black-and-white shots and sound clips are memorable treasures. If you are particular about the films you watch, then the 19,000 capsule reviews will save you from movies that should have never made it to the screen.

