SINCLAIR RIDES THE INTERNET

John Pazmino
NYSies Astronomy Inc
www.nyskies.org
nyskies@nyskies.org
1994 September 1

Sinclair Rides the Internet
ZXir QLive Alive!
Author(s): John Pazmino
Date: Winter 1994
Volume: 4 Issue: 4
Page(s): 11

List of web and FTP sites in 1994.

If you turn on the TS2068 with the switch disabled, you will have to initialize to the cartridge with the command RANDomize USR 96 after power up.

By the way, you don't need to use RAND USR 100: OPEN #4, "dd" when running LKDOS, just put RAND USR 100: in front of all commands.

An alternate method of fixing the initialization problem is to disable the power-on reset circuitry on the SAFE board. This way is really better because the LKDOS cartridge has special software to initialize the SAFE board after it has initialized itself on power up.

The easiest way to do this is to remove the 74HCT74 on the SAFE board from its socket and bend pin 1 out. Put the IC back into its socket and wire pin 1 to +5V. Pin 14 on the same IC has +5V on it so you can just connect these two together with some fine wire. If you don't want to solder it, just use a few turns of wire on each pin.

Now, if you turn on the TS2068 while pressing "i", the LKDOS will initialize the SAFE board after it has initialized itself. If you load an AUTOSTART program with LKDOS though, it will not initialize SAFE. Use the RESTORE command in SAFE to initialize SAFE.

When using the snapshot button, only have the DOS that you want enabled to respond to the NMI as the LKDOS can also perform NMI saves.

If you are using the LKDOS with the SAFE board enabled, you shouldn't use LKDOS commands that use PRINT #4: such as windows, printer driver, sequential-files or other commands preceded by PRINT #4 (use RAND USR 100: to precede commands). This is because the vectors for these commands share the same memory patch area as the JLO NMI vector and they will cause the JLO NMI to conflict. When using these LKDOS commands, disable the SAFE board.

Sinclair Rides Internet

by John Pazmino, LIST

Since joining INTERNET, I came across several sources for Sinclair news and help. These are in the forums circulated via INTERNET various sites tied to INTERNET. For the most part the material relates the Spectrum and is dominated by British users. Apparently, there are few or no Sinclair clubs left in England; all the users seem to be solitary hobbyists,

The room for Sinclair discussions is COMP.SYS.SINCLAIR. This is in the division for computer platforms, along with Amiga, NeXt, Sun, and the others. It functions like an ordinary BBS room, except that you enter thru your INTERNET link. Please note that your INTERNET carrier may offer only certain of the forums and you may have to request a feed from COMP.SYS.SINCLAIR.

The sites are computer systems that allow the caller to enter directly and fetch material from them. These are accessed via FTP, GOPHER, or WWW. These are features which must already be offered by your INTERNET carriers if you have only a low level link they may be unavailable. Several of these are:

HTTP://FTP.NVG.UNIT.NO/PUB/SINCLAIR/DOCS
HTTP://WWW.NVG.UNIT.NO/SINCLAIR/SPECTRUM
HTTP://WWW.CS.UMD.EDU/USERS/FMS
FTP://FTP.NVG.UNIT.NO/PUB/SPECTRUM
FTP://WUARCHIVE.WUSTL.EDU/SYSTEMS/SINCLAIR
FTP://OAK.OAKLAND.EDU/PUB/MSDOS/EMULATORS
FTP://FTP.SUN.AC.ZA/PUB/MSDOS/ZX
FTP://FTP.IJS.SI/PUB/ZX
GOPHER://GOPHER.NVG.UNIT.NO

The addresses extend to the lowest directory an the system. From there You must do a catalog listing to see what actual files are loaded. These are updated or changed continually.

Software at these sites is casually distributed. The original publishers long ago went out of business, leaving their products for the Sinclair community.

One peculiarity of this news and help on INTERNET is that for the most part it is out of reach from a regular Spectrum machine! Except for on-line message posting and downloading the smallest text files the spectrum is simply too modest a computer for heavy INTERNET work. So how do Sinclairs hang out on INTERNET?

Well, by now there are few native Sinclair machines left, Most have been discarded in favor of IBMs. Correspondents use the IBMs for the telecoms thru INTERNET. Then they run Spectrum emulators on the PCs to use the stuff they downloaded.

Christmas Return Labels

by Greg Dietz & Bob Swoger

Merry Christmas to all! It may seem like I'm jumping the gun a little by wishing you a Merry Christmas now. However, if you are like me, it will probably take you until January to get this program entered into old TS2068

Around Christmas time, our postage bill gets very large. With all of those Christmas cards, we send a lot of mail during the months of November and December. The cost of all that mail is one thing, but having to hand write our return address on all of that mail is too much. Sure, we could go out and get some ready-made return labels, or even a rubber stamp, but those do not show the Christmas spirit. What we need is a Christmas return address label maker. That is what this program does.

This Program will make any number of return address labels on 15/16 inch pressure sensitive labels. The labels must be one-up, meaning only one across the page, and cannot be any larger than 3-1/2 inches. The text of the label is variable and entered when the program is run. In addition to the text of the label, the program also adds a small, graphically printed, picture to the label. Currently,