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May 29, 1979

David 6/3

Bob Fabris
3626 Morrie Dr.
San Jose, CA 95127

Dear Bob:

Get your letter today at the same time as I received the STARTREK program I ordered from Scott Waldinger. I haven't had time to type in the listing yet, but it looks like he has found a unique way around the Bally's lack of substantial memory and multi-dimensional arrays. I'll let you know more when I've fully tested it.

As I said before, it is quite possible that the SIMON program--as revised--is OK and I am wrong. I will now recheck my listing line by line and see what I can find. Maybe I should just redo the whole thing--probably be better than trying to spot my existing error. Glad to have the Checkers correction, since Bally has held up the Videocade version. The programmer deserves applause for his work, as I would have bet it couldn't be done in 1800 characters.

I'm glad you like SKYROCKET. There's obviously much that can be done with LINE and BOX, especially using the reverse technique. We've just scratched the surface of that one.

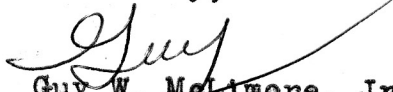
I think you may be right about the add-on, as much as I hate to admit it. I don't have the technical expertise to build a keyboard or a memory expansion myself, but I am definitely in the market if anyone can come up with one for sale. Needless to say, anything I can do to help anyone working on such a project, I am willing to do. It's just a damn shame that we won't get ZGRASS/GEAFIX though. That's the best part of Bally's proposed package. But we definitely must have more memory, a more powerful BASIC, and a full-size ASCII keyboard.

Light pen development is stalled temporarily. I think part of my problem may be with the diodes in the cassette interface adapter plug I'm using. More on this later. If I can get it working, I plan to offer it on the open market through the ARCADIAN.

Any word on the to-be-revised "hacker's manual"? Bally's National Service Manger told me several weeks ago that they planned to reorganize and expand it before general publication so that it became sort of an advanced operations manual. If they don't, I still maintain that someone should. Maybe me, if no one else will. I still have my notes for the proposed manual I once mentioned. With the help of other Arcadians, I can organize the material and I have the necessary background in publishing to put it into useable form.

More later when some of the irons I have in the fire get hotter.

Sincerely,


Guy W. McLimore, Jr.
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