

To BALLY owners: (Arcadians?)

This is letter #2 to respondents to my ON_LINE advertisement.

Some of you have been waiting quite a while for your unit. A call to JS&A (312-564-9000) on Friday 5/19 revealed that they still have problems and will be sending an explanatory letter in 10 days explaining the delay. Rumor has it that there has been a redesign necessary to alleviate an overheating problem with the first batch. Possibly the metal shielding over the pc board contains the heat too much and there have been failures. The new design will be able to dissipate the heat. If so, this would primarily be a layout rearrangement. I am on distribution for this letter, and will let you know the official story.

JS&A also indicated that they had the MATH and BASEBALL games in stock right now. I recently borrowed the BASEBALL game, and found it similar to the Fairchild. (It is available over the counter at the ERA 1 store here in Cupertino, CA) One item of interest is that the ball field background remains on the screen even after the cassette is removed, indicating that the background is transferred to the resident RAM.

JS&A indicated that delivery for Tiny BASIC is now in July. Mine was due this week, based on the last input I had from them (my call). Does this mean that the add-on is similarly delayed? Anyway, I indicated last time that the TB probably would have a cassette tape deck control, and now my rumor source says that it will also have color and graphics control as well. More data next time, I hope.

One recent letter questioned a statement in my last letter, wherein I indicated that the Dial-a-Bargain would come free with the add-on module. The written statement specified that this was a truism for those who bought from JS&A prior to Feb.28. This \$20 item makes up the monetary difference between the original \$299. cost and the basic 220. plus 30. per pair of controllers now available.

NCE is National Computer Exchange, 1250 N.Main St. Ann Arbor, Mich. 48107. tel 313-994-4445

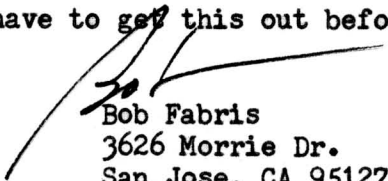
220.
+ 30. pr
+ 30. pr
+ 20. DaB

300-299

I've tried driving two ty's in parallel, and that works, so you could have a repeater somewhere.

I'd especially like that Tiny BASIC to get here, so well all have a chance to do something real with the unit - all that potential there and not being able to get at it is quite frustrating.

Thanks to those who sent in a stamp - I have to get this out before the rate goes up, expect more next time...


Bob Fabris
3626 Morrie Dr.
San Jose, CA 95127

408-272-2364 eves
408 - 742 - 6048 days