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A Special Diet Kugel issue (75% less filling)  
to announce the First Annual BOSKUG Party.  
The Real Thing (original ingredients) will be  
back in July, by which time the printer should  
be behaving and the editor should have gotten  
her act together.

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 The  
Boston  
Computer  
Society

# The Boston Kugel

The Boston Kaypro Users' Group

Party Issue      \$1      June, 1985

## Director's Note

by Lee Lockwood  
Co-Director

### First Annual BOSKUG Party

June 28, 1985 7-10 p.m. Quality Inn Rt. 128

Appetizers      Cash Bar      Hors D'oeuvres

\$7.50/person (we may be able to give you a free  
drink or refund if we get a good turn-out)

Reservation form below. For more info, call Diane  
(787-1824) or Suresh (862-5173).

**NEW BLOOD FOR BOSKUG.** Boskug had long been  
threatened with incipient anemia. Fortunately,  
we can now report that we're about to replace a  
couple of units of our tired blood:

1. Programs: Our new program chairman is an  
old friend, MIKE HOLMES, king of the databases.  
He has always been bursting with ideas; now's his  
chance to put them to work. We look for an  
interesting series of programs starting in  
September.

If you have any ideas about programs, by the  
way, give Mike a call at 1-993-0156 (New  
Bedford), or see him at a meeting. Mike replaces  
Suresh Shenoy, who has done a fine job in a  
thankless position for a year and a half and has  
helped us define our goals.

2. Software Evaluation: Bob Harlow, quondam  
leader of this team, gives way to BOB SMITH of  
Custom Data Services. We'll have more info on the

subject in the next KUGEL; meantime, if you're  
interested in evaluating a piece of proprietary  
software, see Bob or call him at (617) 339-3972  
(work) or 339-7620 (home), both in Mansfield, MA.

HOWEVER, this still leaves us with two  
critical positions to fill:

1. Charlie Bowen will be stepping down (or at  
least sideways) as Software Librarian sometime  
this summer. It's urgent that his replacement(s)  
come forward soon so that he can help make an  
orderly transition.

No one can fully replace Charlie, but the new  
librarian will undoubtedly bring a new personal  
style to the post. We need someone with a sense  
of responsibility, a fairly good idea of what  
public domain software is out there, and a desire  
to help others. As an added bonus, the new  
librarian will be given access to BOSKUG's SPRINT

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## JOIN THE PARTY!!

BOSKUG Party      June 28, 1985      7-10 p.m.  
Quality Inn      Rt. 128 (Waltham) Exit 48E

Name.....  
Address.....  
.....Phone.....  
Guest(s).....  
How many reservations @ \$7.50 ea.?.....  
Enclosed is my check for \$.....

Deadline for Reservations: June 21

Send reservations to: Diane Bushee  
6 Camelot Court #14  
Brighton, MA 02135

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number so that he can download programs from RCPMs as close as Wellesley and as distant as the Milky Way.

We rejoice in the fact that Charlie promises he will continue to write documentation for BOSKUG's disks. As you know, it's precisely that which makes our library special.

2. Diane Bushee, our fantastic secretary, departs for Maryland around October 1st. Months away, to be sure, but we need to find someone to take her place a lot sooner than that. Please -- isn't there someone out there willing to take on this chore? Diane will tell you that it's interesting and (sometimes) fun. More than that, it's probably the single most important job in BOSKUG. Perhaps the job can be split between two people, if it seems too much for one. But I'm hoping for volunteers soon.

Here's your chance to give back a small part of what you've been getting out of BOSKUG. Without volunteer laborers, we can't continue to be as effective as we've been.

**MEETING SCHEDULE FOR NEXT YEAR.** A lot of changes are in the wind. Among those already decided on:

1. RETURN OF THE BEGINNER'S TUTORIAL. Mike Weiss used to run this for us (sort of); then he left and Kaypro changed the software bundle, so it lapsed. But we've always felt this was an important part of what Boskug offers.

Beginning May 21st, the Beginner's Tutorial will again meet in the "L" of the I.R.C. room from 6:30 to 7:15 before each meeting. JOHN ZARKOWER of Total Access Computers has offered to coordinate it and will teach at least one of the 2 monthly sessions. DENNY LANE, Kaypro district rep, will be involved as well.

The tutorial will be, basically, an introduction to the computer and its operating system, a demonstration of a few essential public domain utilities, and perhaps a peek at Wordstar just to demonstrate how to install and operate a software package. For the time being, it will focus on CP/M machines.

We'll need to develop other people in the group interested in leading beginners over the first hurdles. It can't depend on merely one person. We've lots of talent in BOSKUG; who'd like to volunteer for this useful and satisfying task?

2. 16-BITS, AND WHADDYA GET? You get a

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#### THE BOSTON KUGEL

A Boston Computer Society Publication

Special Party Issue June, 1985

EDITOR: Karen Rockow (354-0124)

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16-bit SIG. Yes, it's official: BOSKUG now supports the 16-bit Kaypros ("But only the first 8 bits," quips John Callahan), of which there now 4 and climbing.

Beginning in September, there will be a 16-Bit SIG meeting regularly on our SIG night, with the idea being that this will expand into a BOSKUG sub-group as quickly as the situation merits. Kaypro's Denny Lane will provide any needed resources.

We'll also be needing to start a public domain MS-DOS software library. Anybody interested?

3. SIG HEIL(?) Call it changes in our SIG policy, call it expansion, empire-building or whatever; the fact is, we're going to make another try at offering more structured training for those who want it, while still keeping the informality of the SIGs for those who eschew the discipline of a classroom but just want to enjoy themselves.

Why are we doing this? My thought is that many people in our group, once they get control over their computers, really have little more they can learn at BOSKUG meetings except from an occasional program. And many of us (I include myself) would like to take a 2, 4 or 6 session course to improve our knowledge of something we already know (e.g., Wordstar, Perfect Writer), or to learn something completely new.

Thus, perhaps by September, we hope to have 2 or 3 small rooms available for training classes in such subjects as dBASE II, Wordstar, Spr Sheets, Assembly Language, MBASIC, etc. The ultimate choices will of course depend entirely on the interest of you, our members.

The catch is that these classes will cost you real money. Perhaps \$5 or \$10 a head per session; certainly no more. But we'll have to pay for extra rooms, and the instructor ought to get something.

One other catch: The only weekday evening that the Minuteman School can furnish us small rooms for classes is Friday. That means we'd be holding one meeting on the 2nd Tuesday, and the SIG meeting on the 4th Friday each month. We need to know how many members would have a problem with a Friday SIG meeting 10 times a year.

On p. 3, there is a short questionnaire to fill out if you're interested in this idea. We must have a fairly strong response to the idea from members before we go to all the trouble of getting it organized.

**WE NEED A NEW HOME.** Three months in a row, we've been kicked out of the I.R.C. room by Minuteman authorities and sent to the Music Room, a much smaller space. Once there was no notice given at all; the other times it was too short to permit notifying members of the change.

At Minuteman, there are only 2 large rooms available for meetings. Moreover, they have the right to coopt either one without notice if it's needed for school-related activity. In short, we are on sufferance there. Furthermore, we must pay \$10 per hour per room.

Does anyone in our group have a working



relationship with a corporation or a school in the general Route 128 area which might be willing to host BOSKUG's meetings? If you think you do, give me a call at 965-6343 to discuss the details. We're getting desperate.

**SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE.** We'll have only one meeting during July and August, on the 4th Tuesday of the month. That means: July 23 and August 27. Both will be informal "SIG" meetings starting at 7:15, with a Beginner's Tutorial at 6:30. Regular meetings recommence on September 10.

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**KAYPRO ROARS BACK (?)**

"In a period...when other computer manufacturers are laying off, shutting down and curbing new product development, Kaypro is back in the black financially, and robustly expanding its product line. We've already been through our hard times, and we've come back healthier and more mature. Our executives are willing to talk about what's happened over the last year to make Kaypro the first high-tech dazzler to walk down the road to the shakeout's precipice--and then roar back."

-- From a Kaypro press release about the new "laptop" Kaypro 2000, dated April 23, 1985

Though we're glad (relieved is more like it) to learn that our Computer Company is solvent again, some things about this P/R piece make us a bit nervous. For one thing, did Kaypro really get to the brink of disaster last year after all, as many rumors had it? If Kaypro's executives "are willing to talk about what's happened," why aren't they talking?

After many months of hiding its head in the sand while 16 bit computers were taking over the world, Kaypro has suddenly jumped into the MS-DOS swamp with four IBM-compatible models and is talking as though that's where its future (and perhaps its present) really lies. The Kaypro 2000 lap computer (which we'll be seeing at a meeting before this newsletter is published) appears to be the flagship of the new line.

"We are known as the Volkswagen of computer manufacturers," says David Kay in yet another press release, "based on our tradition of selling good, solid machines at a bargain price. Now, with the introduction of the stylish Kaypro 2000, we have the Porsche of lap top computers at a Volkswagen price." The same puff piece goes on to say: "Kaypro Corporation intends to use the Kaypro 2000 to create a mass market for lap top computers, through its aggressive pricing, intelligent design and active marketing."

Ambitious words. We can't help wondering how Kaypro is going to create this "mass market" without advertising in the mass media. (With the exception of USA TODAY, Kaypro has been nearly invisible on TV and in newspapers and magazines, compared to IBM, Apple, Compaq and others.)

Anyhow, we wish them well, hoping all the

while that they won't totally ignore the hundreds of thousands of owners of CP/M Kaypros who still depend on Solana Beach for parts and technical support. Is Kaypro planning to ditch the 8-biters? The answer is: probably they are, but not right away.

One thing we can't understand is why Kaypro ignores its "installed base" (that's a buzzterm I learned from Mike Holmes) of loyal owners in its quest for a share of the MS-DOS universe. You'd think they'd be after the user groups right away, singing the praises of their new machines.

But--nary a peep. Many of our members are in fact using 16-bit machines in their professional work; many more will follow. We've been trying for months to get our hands on a 16-bit Kaypro for members' evaluation. As for the people who run BOSKUG -- most of us still don't know the first thing about MS-DOS, though we're interested, and few of us have even laid eyes on a 16-bit Kaypro.

On another theme, do you remember Kaypro's Great Inventory Mystery of last year? Well, it seems that some of that lost inventory has surfaced and is the subject of a somewhat bizarre Solana Beach garage sale nennt "Bargain Days" that we're told will endure through mid-July. Don't expect to see any ads for these items, though; you must go to a dealer and order them.

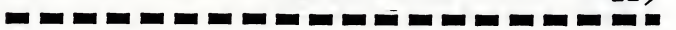
Here's the breakdown, not necessarily in any order: All prices are "retail," i.e., deals are possible.

**KAYPRO 1.** That's not a 1-drive machine. It's a Kaypro 4/83 (a 1983 model) but it has the new monitor & graphics. Comes with Perfect Writer & CP/M only. List: \$995.

**2X UPGRADE KIT.** This gets you from a one-drive 2X (called the "New Two") to a 2-driver; also adds operating system & software (see dealer for details). Was \$500. Now \$350.

**ROBIE IS BACK.** Nobody asked, but the Robie has been reintroduced with improved Drivetech drives and is on sale now. Was \$2395, now \$1995.

**KAYPRO 12X.** What's that, you say? Why, it's a Kaypro 10 with a Drivetech C drive. Only 12 of these Edsels were ever made. (Or should we call them "Davids"? ) \$2895. Get 'em while they're hot. -->



**SIG QUESTIONNAIRE or**

**What This Country Needs is a Good \$5 SIG**

1) I would be interested in signing up for the following classes:

2) I would be available to teach:

3) I [ ] can [ ] cannot attend Fri. p.m. meetings.

Name.....  
Address.....  
.....Phone.....

mail to: Karen Rockow 345 Harvard St. #3B  
Cambridge, MA 02138





## The Swap Shoppe

2-DRIVE FLOPPY KAYPRO 16. Sold with RGB color monitor (a \$600 value). Price: \$2424. (How'd they come up with that one?) By comparison: this machine without monitor normally sells for \$2245.

BUSINESS PAK VERSION OF ABOVE. (That means with a Juki printer.) \$2824.

"OLD" KAYPRO 2X. That means a 2X without fan, modem or clock, but with full software bundle. (We assume that means dBase II as well, though that didn't come with the old 2X.) List price: \$1400.

"STRIPPED-DOWN" KAYPRO 286i. This is the AT with no color board, serial or parallel port, only one floppy drive, 512K RAM, and GW BASIC as the only software. (No operating system either: PC DOS is \$60 extra.) This model is said to be intended for people who want to build their own system and run their own software. Price: \$2995.

KAYPRO 4/84+88. A "new" 4 with a 256K SWP co-processor board (best for ramdisk operation). Not too many of these around! Sale price: \$2300. (4/84s listed for \$1900, so it's not a great deal: you get \$100 off the SWP board price.)

"NEW" 2. Was \$995; now \$950. (Big deal.)

ACCESSORIES. Blue padded case: \$50. Printer case: \$44. Black computer case: \$24. Juki print wheels: \$20 (list is \$30).

I think that's everything, but it wouldn't surprise me to learn that David Kay's beach house is up for sale too. Thanks to Denny Lane for supplying this info; we hope it's correct.

### KUGEL SCHEDULE

The next issue will be out in early July. We plan another diet issue in August to announce our Fall schedule.

As always, the editor is retreating to Vermont for the summer. After June 15, please send all submissions, ads, correspondence and vituperations to: Karen Rockow, RD 1 Box 76, Salisbury, VT 05769 [802] 352-4236.

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SWAP SHOPPE ads are free to BOSKUG member; there is a \$5 charge for non-members or commercial ventures. Ads should be 50 words or less. The Kugel accepts no responsibility for the quality, terms or condition of any product or service advertised.  
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MODEM FOR SALE: Novation 300 baud J-Cat modem. Automatic answer option switch. Complete with cables. \$75.00. Also available: TEC SSDD disk drive removed from new Kaypro 2. Full height face-plate on a half-height drive. A plug-in replacement for KP-II or 2 with full height drives. \$75 or will trade for 12" amber monitor. Call Mike Drooker weekdays only, 253-6829; weekends, (603) 522-3144.

KAYPRO 10 HELP: New user doing book lay-out using WordStar looking for advice and support. Call Betsy, 492-5630.

WANTED TO BUY: Portable copy stand, for use with 35mm camera in remote locations. The one I saw was similar to a tripod. Should be light, rugged and in good condition. Leave message for me on BOSKUG BB or call (617) 993-0156. Mike Holmes.

FOR SALE: Kaypro 4/84, 1 year old. Two 390K drives. New graphics monitor. 4 Mhz speed clock. Built-in modem, fan, real-time clock (with public domain program to access it). Wordstar, dBase II, Infostar, Calcstar, Microplan, MBASIC, SBASIC, CBASIC. Good working order, never needed service. \$1200 complete. (I'm getting a Kaypro 10.) To see this marvel, call Lee Lockwood at 965-6343.

 The Boston  
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