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The QUANTUM LEAP Newsletter of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CHECK BOOK BALANCER

By Bill Woodward
Lake Butler, FL.

THE years of struggling with the 'canned' checkbook programs and the toll they took on me. This convinced me that if ever I were to get a USER FRIENDLY Checkbook Reconciliation program, I would need to write it myself.

THE advent of the QL with it's package of programs which includes Abacus (Spreadsheet) program. This provided a QUANTUM LEAP in the right direction. Necessity drove me on in the search for a simple program. Now anyone, who can read a bank statement and enter numbers into a computer, can 'reconcile' his/her check book.

SINCE, I am a plumbing instructor, not I a programmer, I will present each step in a way that should be easy for both of us. I assume that you are unfamiliar with the Spreadsheet, even afraid of it(?).

SET your fears to rest, the QLSS is the easiest to use of the 4 PSION programs, and will pleasantly surprise you.

IN the program that follows. F3 (the COMMAND key) and F5 (the GOTO key) apply to the FUNCTION keys. Press the keys in the order given.

LOAD Abacus into your QL. Simple, wasn't it? Here's a couple of shortcuts I learned the hard way that will make programing easy for you.

A title first at C1. F5-C1-ENTER-CAPS LOCK-"(use shift and " keys) -CHECK BOOK RECONCILATOIN-ENTER-CAPS LOCK.

UNDERLINE the title at C2 with a row of "=". F5-C2-ENTER-rept ("=",len(C1))-ENTER.

WRITE 'month' in 'C' column row 4
F5-C4-ENTER-Month-ENTER-and the name of the month asked for in 'D' column. -F5- D4-ENTER- askt("month")-ENTER. You will see 'month?' in the inputs cell in the lower left hand part of the screen. Hit ENTER. Place cursor in cell D4 and read content cell in lower left hand corner of the screen 'askt("month").' Write 'Opening balance' in A6
F5-A6-ENTER-Opening balance-ENTER- and the amount in C6,
-F5-C6- ENTER-askn("opening balance")-ENTER.

YOU will see 'opening balance?' in input cell. You cannot get away with ENTER this time. You will have to enter a number, 0 will do.

ON the next line, write the column headings, F5-A7-ENTER- Checks-ENTER; F5-B7-ENTER-Deposit-ENTER; F5-C7-ENTER-check no.- ENTER; F5-D7-ENTER-Amount-ENTER; F5-E7-ENTER-Balance-ENTER. Right justified the heading titles. F3-J-ENTER-ENTER-R-A7:E7-ENT.

UNDERLINE the headings. F5-A8-ENTER-rept("=",78)-ENTER. Seventy-eight "="s" will be typed in row 8.

PUT the opening balance cell E9. F5-E9-ENTER-C6-ENTER. Initialize row 10. F5-C10-ENTER-askn("check number")-ENTER; F5-D10-ENTER-0-ENTER.

THE expression in E10 that differentiates between a check and a deposit is similar to the IF...THEN...ELSE... of superbasic. (See page 44 of your Abacus user's guide.) IF(expression,true, false). For a deposit, ENTER a number in the B column and 'deposit' in C column in place of the check number. IF the 'B' column has a number in it, to the computer it is a 'DEPOSIT' and 'THEN' adds the amount to the previous balance. IF the 'B' column does not have a number in it, the computer assumes a 'CHECK' and 'ELSE' subtracts the amount from the previous balance.

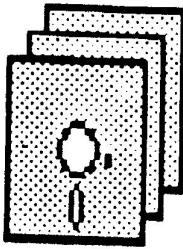
FOR a deposit, ENTER a number in the B column and 'deposit' in C column in place of the next check number. ENTER the next check number in C column, next row. F5-E10-ENTER-IF(B10, E9+D10,E9- D10). ENTER a check number counting expression in C11. F5-C11- ENTER-10+1-ENTER.

THE short cut I promised is next. I found this quite by accident when I first Echoed the number counting expression down the C column. Imagine my surprise when the row numbers aligned themselves. The same event happened in the E column. F5-C10- ENTER-F3-E-ENTER-C11:C60-ENTER; F5-D10-ENTER-F3-E-ENTER-D11:D60- ENTER and F5-E9-ENTER-F3-E-ENTER-E10:E60-ENTER. We have used the E(cho) command to echo part of row 10 all the way to row 60. The serendipitous part of this is that each command automatically changes the row number to its present row number.

A little 'dolling up' will finish the spreadsheet. F5-D9-ENTER-F3-U-ENTER-ENTER-ENTER-D9:E60-ENTER will give two decimal places to all money cells.

THE one final command embeds a printer command in cell B61. F5-B61-ENTER-CHR(0)+CHR(12) gives us a FORM FEED to expel our statement from the printer. When your curser is in cell B61 the CONTENTS cell shows (" ").

SAVE your CHECK BOOK BALANCER!



INSIDE WORD ON ARCHIVE

By George Higgins
Jacksonville, Fl.

USING A PRINTER WITH ARCHIVE

GENERALLY to use a printer with archive, you only need to set up a printer driver and use **lprint** or **dump** to get an output to the printer.

SETTING up the printer driver to use your printer is easy. First, **lrun mdvl_(flpl_)install_bas** to get into printer driver set up mode, then just use the **translate** commands to get special characters/modes on your printer. Example: Suppose you have a printer that uses **chr(27) & chr(15)** to change type modes; just type under **translate** **1** single quote, the character you are going to use (I use the control shift numbers ie. control shift 1), the codes that you use on your printer. The single quote is very important without it the driver will not acknowledge your translation. So **translate 1 '(control shift 1),27,15** will cause your printer to work and perform the function required. If the printer uses one command to turn on the function and another to turn it off then you should program both functions and turn off the function when done so the next application you use the printer with it will work right.

EXPORTING FILES WITH ARCHIVE

IN Archive, you can send files to any of the other Psion programs. This is useful when you have a database in archive and wish to use data in a Quill document such as a price list or other such items.

IN my application in Archive, I start spooling right from the beginning, so that when I print my price list. Then I am actually sending the data to an **_exp** file, and then importing it into Quill. Where I already have my letterhead and it turns out beautifully.

USING SPOOLON

IN this Archive application, I put the **spoolon** command as part of the start procedure: that I use in my program.

```
proc start
    spoolon "print" export- where "print" is the name of
    the _exp file I wish to use. When I am done, I issue a
    spooloff command so that the printer then will function
```

normally.

IN Quill I just merge the file with my already existing letterhead and it creates a price list.

USING MULTIPLE FILES IN ARCHIVE

IN order to use multiple files in Archive, you have to specify a **logical** filename in addition to the filename on microdrive or disk. The **logical** <filename> can be any number of characters needed to specify the file from any other file you have open at one time. For instance lets say you are a Used car dealer and you keep your inventory and accounts on a cartridge or on disk. Your inventory file is named 'cars' and you have a sale file you name 'cash'. To open each file you could name one "c" and the other "ca" then if you have field names that are the same, then you refer to them as c.<field name> and ca.<fieldname> in that way, Archive knows from which file to extract the data. When you are done you justp close "c" or close "ca" to close the file then you can continue to use the other file as just one.

PRINTING TO THE SCREEN

YOU do not need to use **sedit** to get some good screen effects, in Archive. You have **print at** and the **ink** command to add color and print things where you want them. I have a little menu that is a different color than every thing else on the screen.

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DEFINITION:

reconciliation / rek on sil i a'shun /: renewal of friendship after a break. the act of harmonizing or making consistent, as reconciliation of the contradictory stories.



MAKE COFFEE

BY WILLIAM FISCHER
ORANGE PARK, FL.

IN this first of many articles in my column called 'MAKE COFFEE', I will be discussing several ideas in each. These will be items that have either been suggested to me or were brought to me and talked about during the 1988 Sunstate T/S Winterfest. I felt that they are things that should be put out to others who are dealing with the QL. The information that I will be putting into this column is by no means the complete answer nor the final word on the subject. Over a period of time, I will go back to a subject or idea when I have more or new information dealing with it. Basically it will start with what information I will be able to obtain from reference books I have available to me or what ever media is at hand while I am writing the article and also what other individuals may give to me.

WITH my dealing on the various ideas that will be covered, I hope that this will trigger those who wanted or needed the facts to do some additional thinking for themselves. In so doing this, they will find the answers they are looking for. In this way they can come back and hopefully will share it with others and help them in turn. The first of the items that I will start dealing with is having a clock available while working with your QL.

PUTTING a clock in your QL computer can be done in several ways. Naturally you can go out to the local store and buy a clock. Then place it on or next to your computer. This will work just fine with very little problems. However you may have to look around to see the right time. Another way is to purchase a battery-operated backup clock from someone like Tom Bent. Then install it in your QL computer yourself. This is one way to update the QL. Naturally this type of clock will keep time even with the computer is turned off or was to have a power loss. However there are many out who may not be able to invest in this clock system. So that is partly why I wanted to start with this article.

THE idea that I will spend a little more time with is putting a clock into the program with which you are working with. This is primarily for those individuals who have an unexpanded QL. This is not to say that others with expansion can not use it also. The credit for the development of this idea must go to both Frank Toemay of Quantum Computing and

Tom Phillips, member of N.E.F. T/S USERS of Jacksonville, FL. and a new QL computer owner. This will be the building of a boot program for either PSION's Archive or Abacus programs. These are the two programs that has had the boot used with so far. Tom stated that there are problems in using it in conjunction with the other two programs at present. There is also the addition of a clock from the toolkit I program.

FRANK Toemay first developed his Size_base program several years ago. This program is a default operating environment for use with your QL. This will give you a control and management of windows in this computer. For those who do not know or have seen it. It has been printed several times in 'THE SINC TIMES'. In fact it was printed in our last issue. If anyone would like copy of Size_base program. Send a self-addressed/stamped envelope to me at the QLusa mailing address. This is a series of procedures which were written superbasic later compiled. But so much for that at present, let us look more at the boot program.

NOW Tom started with the idea of combining the theory of Size_Base and having time available while working in Archive. So he developed his boot program by taking the time procedure of size_base and made some small change to than add the mode class to it. From here he put the execute step for Archive and finally the addition of the clock from toolkit. The existing boot program for Archive has to be removed from the microdrive cartridge or floppy disc. From here the new one was used to replace it.

The following is the boot program that Frank designed and Tom utilized to produce it.

```

4 MODE 4
5 PAPER 0
6 INK 7
25 CLS
50 PRINT#0\\'HIT ANY KEY TO SSET TIME/DATE\\'ESC TO
ABORT';A$=INKEY$ (-1)
60 IF CODE(A$)=27:GO TO 250
100 INPUT#0\\'Month:='!mon\\'Day:='!day\\
      'Hour:='!hrs\\'Minute:='!min
200 SDATE 1988,mon,day,hrs,min,0
250 CLS#0
300 EXEC MDV1_CLOCK
400 EXEC_W MDV1_QLDB

```

THIS is the boot program which I will allow you to look it over and maybe you can try it out and see what you think of it. I will cover a little more about in our next issue.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)