

presented here. Read the book, - "STARTING FORTH" by Leo Brodie. Above all, enjoy!

FORTH-83 is in the public do-

main, and placed there kindly by Laxen and Parry. This program OSI-CLK.F83 I have placed in the bulletin board in Downey, CA., called "NORTHSTAR

DOWNEY" (213) 861-2313. Anyone who wishes to leave a message for me, may also do it at NORTHSTAR.

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4
0 \ ca-20 support --- set read
1 : set (5 m d d h m s n1 n2 ---) DO 1 SWAP write-byte LOOP ;
2 : read (5 n1 n2 --- m d d h m s) DO 1 read-byte 0 -1 +LOOP ;
3 VARIABLE days , " SunMonTueWedThFriSat" 23 days !
4 VARIABLE months , " JanFebMarAprMayJunJulAugSepOctNovDec"
5 VARIABLE year , " 1983" 4 year ! 30 months !
6
7 : tsep ASCII : HOLD 2DROP ;
8 : dsep SWAP 3 * + DUP DUP 0 2 DO 1 + CO HOLD -1 +LOOP ;
9 : TIME 2 4 read (0 0 0 tsep 0 0 tsep 0 0 0) ;
10 : .TIME (5 ---) TIME TYPE ;
11 : DATE 5 7 read 2SWAP 2ROT (0 DROP months dsep 32 HOLD
12 : 0 0 2DROP 32 HOLD DROP days dsep 0 0 0) ;
13 : .DATE (5 ---) DATE TYPE ;
14
15
10feb85kab \ ca-20 support --- set read
SET clock month d-o-month d-o-week hour minute second
READ clock variable 7-month 2-seconds all returned 32bit for (0)
DAYS data table for days of week display
MONTHS data table for months display
YEAR data for year display
SECOND place to hold current second for TERM-DISPLAY
TSEP puts a : in format and jumps to next number
DSEP gets the day sub-string and month sub-string
TIME gets and formats current time hh:mm:ss leaves address
.TIME displays time on the terminal screen
DATE builds date string ddd dd mm yyyy
.DATE displays date on terminal screen
30may84kab
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WHAT IF YOUR SUPERBOARD REFUSES TO BREAK?

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Sorry, I meant, doesn't respond to the BREAK key. The most common symptom is a screen full of characters, yet no action when the break key is held down.

If you think about it, the screen full of characters tells you quite a bit. First of all, the video is working. The video counters are also responding. Most likely too, you have the phase 0 signal to the CPU, pin 37. That leaves a whole area that needs little or no checking.

At this point, it is well to go over any recent changes or soldering you have done. All too often a near invisible thread of solder is left behind. A splash across two traces can be equally frustrating. Close examination, with the help of a magnifier, should find most of these problems quickly.

Check any recently installed chips for bent pins, or proper location of pin 1. More than one of my chips have been consigned to the bin because of this. An 8T28, for instance, will survive for a while like this, but certainly won't allow the computer to operate. Some chips, particularly 24 pin sizes, have a



knack for bending the pin in under the chip, making the problem difficult to see. If possible, sight along the plane of the board to detect these pins.

If you have recently installed a ROM or EPROM chip, check the enable lines, pin 18 and 20, as well as pin 21. Contrary to some OSI documentation, the 2716 you are likely installing, needs +5 on pin 21. Chip enable, pin 20, and output enable, pin 18, are both active low. You may need to invert some of these signals, by moving a jumper, or taking a signal before it is inverted. Always check OSI's documentation against another source, or with your own probe. Remember to start off the 2716's at 1 MHz. They may not work at 2 MHz on the 600 board until a few changes are made to the enable lines.

Still nothing? You can start checking signals. First and foremost is the low reset at pin 40 of the CPU. Press reset, a low pulse should then appear at pin 40. To run, this pin must return to a high. The op-amp doing this on the REV-D Superboard/CLP has been known to quit.

After this, things get more serious. Check for a clock signal on pin 37. If your probe indicates a pulsed signal, it will likely be fine. Check too for the phase 2 clock on pin 39. This is the clock output from the CPU.

Check now for action on the address lines. On a reset the processor will get \$FF page,



so there should be a lot of activity on the address bus. An inactive line could be shorted, or loaded by some defect in the computer.

You need a monitor ROM to boot. With OSI's SYN600 you also need BASIC 4, as the print routines there are used. Monitors like the CLE have a built in print routine, and can at least get to the ML monitor, to let you look around. As a matter of fact, long ago, my BASIC 4 ROM did pack up. It did run for a few seconds when it was cold. A plastic bag of ice (dangerous!) confirmed the problem, as it allowed the computer to run for a few minutes.

At this point, you had better start to follow the schematics, and try to isolate the problem. I have spoken to someone who bought one of the \$10.00 Superboards. In desperation he used the PIA from a running computer connected to the address bus to look through the memory map. His problem turned out to be a shorted trace, so that one part of the ROM was repeated at other locations. Hopefully, you will spot your problem by eye.

Another possibility, at least as likely as a bad chip, are defective sockets. If you have removed/replaced a chip a number of times on the OSI 600 board, cast a jaundiced eye toward the socket. They are of marginal quality, and are well known for their troubles.

Remember to go over any of your recent changes or fixes.

