

THE APPLE THREE USERS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
MINUTES OF THE CLUB MEETING HELD JANUARY 31, 1985

Francis Upton presented the demo for the evening, focussing on simple repairs that average /// owners could reasonably expect to be able to perform themselves. Francis is the former manager of Computerland Oakland and is currently doing consulting.

He began the demo by showing how to adjust the speed of both internal and external disk drives. This is done by using either an Apple 2 program called Locksmith or the new /// diagnostic disk (which is available through the ATUNC). To use either of these programs one runs the program and the monitor screen shows whether the drive is on speed or not. If not, and the drive is external, it is necessary to remove the cover and turn the small screw located on the rear of the drive. For the internal drive, remove the cover of the computer by turning the two screws just under the corners of the front of the cover. Then remove the metal cover over the disk drive and locate the adjusting screw on the rear of the drive. If you have a Micro-sci drive, turn only the screw on the left hand side, NOT the one on the right, or you'll have to send it back for service. (The locksmith and /// diagnostic disk drive checkers do not work on the Micro-sci A-143, to check the speed of this drive use the synch bars (similiar to some turntables) on the flywheel and a regular light bulb).

Francis suggested that if you get a RAM diagnostic, to take the bottom off of your machine and press all the chips in to make sure thay are properly seated. The power supply on the machines almost never breaks down. There is an adjustment screw for the clock speed located at grid A-3 under the keyboard. Use only alkaline batteries for the clock. The ///+ diagnostic disk will apparently give bad readings on pre-plus clock chips (it resets the clock).

John Leininger, an Apple employee, pointed out that SOS version 1.3 tightened up the allowable disk drive speed when switching to the new version.

Pat Ford pointed out that there are two Locksmith speed adjustments, normal and optimal. The latter slows the drive down and is useful for nibble counting. Some programs use nibble counting for copy protection. Pat also has a modified emulation diskette available that speeds up program execution.