



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the SHARE Records, 1955-1986

NMAH.AC.0567

Brian Keough (intern), supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist

1997

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	SHARE Records
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0567
<b>Date:</b>	1955-1986
<b>Creator:</b>	Bernstein, Maurine Oswald, Alison SHARE (Association) (Author) Bernstein, Morton I. Strong, Jack Wagner, Frank Armer, Paul, 1924- (computer technician)
<b>Extent:</b>	20.5 Cubic feet (57 boxes including audiocassettes)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	SHARE, the first organized user group in the computer industry, was established by a group of IBM 704 users in the Los Angeles area in 1955. The records document the SHARE group through proceedings of minutes, technical reports, by-laws, policies, projects, and subject files.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This collection was donated by Morton and Maurine Bernstein, October, 1996.

### Provenance

Materials in document box 55 were transferred from the Division of Information Technology and Society (now the Division of Medicine and Science).

### Related Materials

#### **Materials at the Archives Center**

Computer Oral History Collection (AC0196)

Share Numerical Analysis Project Records (AC0498)

### Processing Information

Processed by Brian Keough (intern), 1997 and Katrina Schoorl (intern), 2010; supervised by Alison Oswald, archivist.

### Preferred Citation

SHARE Records, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research but is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at [archivescenter@si.edu](mailto:archivescenter@si.edu) or 202-633-3270.

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## Biographical / Historical

SHARE (Society to Help Avoid Redundant Effort), the first organized user group in the computer industry, was established by a group of IBM 704 users in the Los Angeles area in 1955. After IBM announced the introduction of the 704 in early 1955, MM installations recognized the need for a cooperative effort to prepare for the onset of new hardware. A similar group, the Project for the Advancement of Coding Techniques (PACT), had been formed in 1954 to improve computer productivity of the IBM 701. The spark for the creation of SHARE was a seminar conducted by the MM Applied Science on the new IBM 704. At the seminar, many users realized that they were more informed about IBM hardware than the IBM seminar instructors. After lunch on the day of the seminar, Jack Strong and Frank Wagner of North American Aviation, Lee Amaya of Lockheed, and Paul Armer of the Rand Corporation placed calls to all known 704 customers from a phone booth in Los Angeles to plan a meeting. The meeting was to bring together all 704 users for the purpose of cooperative planning for 704 installations. During the week of August 22, 1955, the first SHARE meeting (SHARE I) was held in the basement conference room of the RAND Corporation. Forty-six people, representing seventeen IBM 704 installations, were at the first meeting.

From the beginning SHARE's primary goals were to foster joint research and development, provide a forum for the exchange of ideas pertaining to computer science, facilitate the development of data processing standards and for dialogue with IBM hardware and software users, and promote the exchange of programs. During the ensuing years, SHARE held meetings biannually and various organizational policies and trends were established. SHARE III established basic rules of procedure and definition of membership. SHARE V, held in May 1956, established the practice of having smaller workshops at the meeting. At SHARE VII, members from Canada, France, and England were included and a formal set of by laws was created establishing SHARE as a formal organizational structure. In addition, SHARE VII initiated Standing Committees and an Executive Board. At SHARE IX, the hardware emphasis was combined with a focus on programming languages, translators, commercial data processing, and application packages. In April 1964, IBM announced the availability of the new System 360 and the next several years were focused on the OS/360, new time sharing technology, and absorbing new members with application interests varying from the original SHARE members.

During 1968 and 1969, SHARE was planning for a merger with another user group, GUIDE. GUIDE was an IBM user group concerned with the 705 and the 7080. In 1969, the merger was voted down and this prompted a major restructuring of SHARE. An administrative office with full time help was established, the by laws were redrawn, and SHARE in its original form was dissolved and renamed SHARE Inc. The name change was completed at SHARE 34 in Denver, Colorado in March 1970. In practice, SHARE continued to function in the same way but with more precise definition of behavior and larger recognition of the information processing marketplace.

By 1986, members of SHARE represented the mainstream of the world's computer usage development. A substantial percentage of major users of high speed digital computing equipment now belong to SHARE. SHARE continues to provide users with a forum to gain knowledge from formal proceedings and informal conversations with colleagues having similar concerns. SHARE provides IBM with documented user

requirements for developing new products and for modifying present hardware and software systems. SHARE has produced formal specifications to further define these requirements. Through SHARE procedures for establishing such requirements and evaluating their relative costs and merits, IBM has received concise information about user needs.

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## **Scope and Contents**

The collection documents the SHARE group through proceedings of minutes, technical reports, by-laws, policies, projects, and subject files.

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## **Arrangement**

This collection is divided into six series:

Series 1, Proceedings of Meetings, 1958-1986

Series 2, Share Secretary Distributions (SSD), 1958-1986

Series 3, Corporate Organization, 1970-1973

Series 4, Computer Measurement & Evaluation Project, 1967-1984

Series 5, Committee on Graphic Requirements, 1965-1967

Series 6, Subject Files, 1955-1979

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## **Names and Subject Terms**

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Computers -- 1950-2000

Types of Materials:

Audiocassettes

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Proceedings of Meetings, 1958-1986

Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #1, August 22, 1955, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #2, September 12, 1955, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #3, November 10, 1955, Boston, Massachusetts
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #4, February 6-10, 1956, San Francisco, California
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #5, April 20, 1956, New York City
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #6, August 22-24, 1956, Denver, Colorado
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #7, December 13, 1956, New York City
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #8, April 24-26, 1957, Dallas, Texas
Box 1, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #9, October 1-3, 1958, San Diego, California
Box 1, Folder 2	SHARE Meeting #10, February 26-28, 1958, Washington D.C.
Box 1, Folder 3	SHARE Meeting# 11, September 10- 12, 1958, San Francisco, California
Box 1, Folder 4	SHARE Meeting #12, February 18-20, 1959, New York City
Box 1, Folder 5	SHARE Meeting #13, August 19-21, 1959, Seattle, Washington
Box 1, Folder 6	SHARE Meeting #15, September 11-16, 1960, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
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Box 2, Folder 5	SHARE Meeting, #24, March 1-5, 1965, Los Angeles, California
Box 3, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #25, August 16-20, 1965, Chicago, Illinois
Box 3, Folder 2	SHARE Meeting #26, February 28-March 4, 1966, San Diego, California

Box 3, Folder 3	SHARE Meeting #28 February 13-17, 1967, San Francisco, California (Addendum)
Box 4, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #28, February 13-17, 1967, San Francisco, California
Box 4, Folder 2	SHARE Meeting #29, August 14-18, 1967, Miami, Florida
Box 5, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #30, February 26-March 1, 1968, Houston, Texas
Box 5, Folder 2	SHARE Meeting #31, October 28-November 1, 1968, Atlantic City, New Jersey (Vol. 2)
Box 6, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #31, October 28-November 1, 1968, Atlantic City, New Jersey (Vol. 1)
Box 6, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #32, March 3-7, 1969, Los Angeles, California (Parts 1-2)
Box 7, Folder 1-2	SHARE Meeting #33, August 18-22, 1969, Boston, Massachusetts (Parts 1-2)
Box 7, Folder 3	SHARE Meeting #34, March 2-6, 1970, Denver, Colorado (Vol. 1)
Box 8, Folder 1-2	SHARE Meeting #34, March 2-6, 1970, Denver, Colorado (Vols. 2-3)
Box 9, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #35, August 17-21, 1970, Montreal, Canada
Box 9, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #36, March 8-12, 1971, Los Angeles, California
Box 10, Folder 1-2	SHARE Meeting #38, March 6-10, 1972, San Francisco, California (Vols. 1-2)
Box 10, Folder 3	SHARE Meeting #39, August 7-11, 1972, Toronto, Canada (Vol. 1)
Box 11, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #39, August 7-11, 1972, Toronto, Canada (Vol. 2)
Box 11, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #40, March 5-9, 1973, Denver, Colorado (Vols. 1-2)
Box 12, Folder 1-2	SHARE Meeting #41, August 13-17, 1973, Miami, Florida (Vols. 1-2)
Box 12, Folder 3-4	SHARE Meeting #42, March 4-8, 1974, Houston, Texas (Vols. 1-2)
Box 13, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #42, March 4-8, 1974, Houston, Texas (Vol. 3)
Box 13, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #43, August 26-30, 1974, Chicago, Illinois (Vols. 1-2)
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Box 14, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #44, March 2-7, 1975, Los Angeles, California (Vols. 1-2)
Box 15, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #44, March 2-7, 1975, Los Angeles, California (Vol. 3)

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Box 16, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #45, August 17-22, 1975, New York City, New York, (Vol. 3)
Box 16, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #46, February 22-27, 1976, San Francisco, California (Vols. 1-2)
Box 17, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #46, February 22-27, 1976, San Francisco, California (Vol. 3)
Box 17, Folder 2-4	SHARE Meeting #47, August 15-20, 1976, Montreal, Canada (3 Vol.)
Box 18, Folder 2-4	SHARE Meeting #48, March 6-11, 1977, Houston, Texas (Vols. 1-3)
Box 19, Folder 1-3	SHARE Meeting #49, August 21-26, 1977, Washington, D.C. (Vols. 1-3)
Box 20, Folder 1-3	SHARE Meeting #50, March 5-10, 1978, Denver, Colorado (Vols. 1-3)
Box 21, Folder 1-2	SHARE Meeting #51, August 20-25, 1978, Boston, Massachusetts (Vol.1, Vol. 2 (book 1), Vol. 2 (book 2))
Box 22, Folder 1-3	SHARE Meeting #52, March 18-23, 1979, San Francisco, California (Vol.1, Vol. 2 (book 1), Vol. 2 (book 2))
Box 23, Folder 1-4	SHARE Meeting #53, August 26-31, 1979, New York City, New York, (Preliminary Agenda, Vol. 1, Vol. 2 (book 1), Vol. 2 (book 2))
Box 24, Folder 1-4	SHARE Meeting #54 March 2-7, 1980, Anaheim, California (Preliminary Agenda, Vol. 1, Vol. 2 (book 1), Vol. 2 (book 2))
Box 25, Folder 2-4	SHARE Meeting #55, August 17-22, 1980, Atlanta, Georgia
Box 25, Folder 3	SHARE Meeting #56, March 8-13, 1981, Houston, Texas
Box 25, Folder 4	SHARE Meeting # 57, August 23-28, 1981, Chicago, Illinois
Box 25, Folder 5	SHARE Meeting #60, February 20-25, 1983, San Francisco, California
Box 25A, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #55, August 17-22, 1980, Atlanta, Georgia
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Box 26, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #62, March 4-9, 1984, Anaheim, California
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Box 33, Folder 3	#115-123, December 1963-July 1964
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Box 35, Folder 3	#136-146, June 1965-February 1966
Box 36, Folder 3	#147-157, March 1966-September 1966
Box 37, Folder 3	#158-187, November 1966-October 1971
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Box 40, Folder 3	#216, 218-232, November 1971-February 1973
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Box 51A, Folder 8	Design study on graphic support, 1966
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Box 51A, Folder 11	MM Operating System 360, 1965
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Box 51A, Folder 13	IBM 360 System/2250 display unit model I, undated
Box 52, Folder 1	ALGOL, Preliminary Report, 1960
Box 52, Folder 2	ALGOL, General, 1960
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Box 52, Folder 6	ALGOL, Bulletin, 1960-1961
Box 52, Folder 7	ALGOL, SHARE Committee, 1959-1960
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Box 53, Folder 3-4	Historical-Pioneer Day, 1980
Box 53, Folder 5	IBM-Reference Manuals, 1962-1963, 1969
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