



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

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453
archivescenter@si.edu
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	2
Scope and Contents	3
Arrangement	3
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	
Series 1: Proceedings of Meetings, 1958-1986	4
Series 2: Share Secretary Distributions (SSD), 1958-1986	8
Series 3: Corporate Organization, 1965-1973	10
Series 4: Computer Measurement and Evaluation Project, 1967-1984	11
Series 5: Committee on Graphic Requirements, 1965-1967	12
Series 6: Subject files, 1955-1979	14

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	SHARE Records
Date:	1955-1986
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0567
Creator:	Bernstein, Maurine Oswald, Alison SHARE (Association) (Author) Bernstein, Morton I. Strong, Jack Wagner, Frank Armer, Paul, 1924- (computer technician)
Extent:	20.5 Cubic feet (57 boxes including audiocassettes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	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.

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 Schoolt (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 or 202-633-3270.

Conditions Governing Use

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use: Copyright held by the Smithsonian Institution. Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Reproduction permission from Archives Center: fees for commercial use.

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.

Scope and Contents

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

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

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

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
Box 1, Folder 7	SHARE Meeting #17, August 23-25, 1961, Washington D.C.
Box 2, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #19, September 10-14, 1962, Toronto
Box 2, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting, #22, March 2-6, 1964, San Francisco, California
Box 2, Folder 4	SHARE Meeting, #23, August 17-21, 1964, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
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 (Parts1-2)
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)
Box 14, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #43, August 26-30, 1974, Chicago, Illinois (Vol. 3)
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)
Box 15, Folder 2-3	SHARE Meeting #45, August 17-22, 1975, New York City, New York (Vols. 1-2)
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
Box 25A, Folder 1	Original Tape Cassettes(567.5-6)
Box 26, Folder 1	SHARE Meeting #62, March 4-9, 1984, Anaheim, California
Box 26, Folder 2	SHARE Meeting #63, August 12-17, 1984, Miami, Florida

Box 26, Folder 3

SHARE Meeting #66, March 16-21, 1986, Anaheim, California

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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

Box 27, Folder 3	# 1-31, October 1956-May 1958
Box 28, Folder 3	#32-49, May 1958-April 1959
Box 29, Folder 3	#50-68, March 1959-March 1960
Box 30, Folder 3	#69-84, April 1960-May 1961
Box 31, Folder 3	#85-98, May 1961-December 1962
Box 32, Folder 3	#99-100, 105-114, December 1962-October 1963
Box 33, Folder 3	#115-123, December 1963-July 1964
Box 34, Folder 3	#124-135, August 1964-May 1965
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
Box 38, Folder 3	#188-203, November 1968-April 1970
Box 39, Folder 3	#204-215, May 1970-October 1971
Box 40, Folder 3	#216, 218-232, November 1971-February 1973
Box 41, Folder 3	#233-247, March 1973-June 1974
Box 42, Folder 3	#248-260, 262-265, August 1974-May 1976
Box 43, Folder 3	#266-282, June 1976-January 1978
Box 44, Folder 3	#283-295, February 1978-July 1979
Box 45, Folder 3	#296-299, 301, 303-305, 307-308, 311-314, July 1979 -October 1981
Box 46, Folder 3	#315-320, 322-328, December 1981-June 1983
Box 47, Folder 3	#329, 331-337, 339, 341-342, 344-350, August 1983 -October 1986
Box 48, Folder 1	Correspondence from Secretary to Membership, 1957-1958

Box 48, Folder 2 Correspondence from Secretary to Membership, 1959-1960

Box 48, Folder 3 Correspondence from Secretary to Membership, 1961-1962, 1970, 1972

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Corporate Organization, 1965-1973

Box 48, Folder 4	Introduction to SHARE, 1964;1973
Box 48, Folder 5	Membership List, 1973
Box 48, Folder 6	Officers, Projects, and Meeting Dates, 1970-1973
Box 48, Folder 7	Bylaws and Government, 1973
Box 48, Folder 8	SHARE Project Descriptions, 1973
Box 48, Folder 9	Programming Standards and Conventions, 1973
Box 48, Folder 10	Standardization Activities, 1973
Box 48, Folder 11	Distribution Standards and Procedures, 1965-1970; 1973
Box 48, Folder 12	SHARE Policies and Practices, 1973
Box 48, Folder 13	Bibliography, 1973
Box 48, Folder 14	SHARE History and Background, 1973
Box 48, Folder 15	Project Managers Operations Manual , 1973
Box 48, Folder 16	Submittals, 1965-1973
Box 49, Folder 1	Keyword Index, 1966
Box 49, Folder 2	Subject Code Index, 1966
Box 49, Folder 3	SHARE Classification Codes, undated
Box 49, Folder 4	SHARE Distribution Reference List, undated
Box 49, Folder 5	Abstracts of EDPM Programs, 1966

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Computer Measurement and Evaluation Project, 1967-1984

Box 49, Folder 6	Selected Papers from the Project, October 1967-October 1971
Box 49, Folder 7	Selected Papers from the Project, November 1971-December 1973
Box 50, Folder 1	Selected Papers from the Project, December 1973-March 1975
Box 50, Folder 2	Selected Papers from the Project, April 1975-September 1976
Box 50, Folder 3	Selected Papers from the Project, April 1980-July 1982
Box 51, Folder 1	Selected Papers from the Project, October 1982-June 1984
Box 51, Folder 2	Newsletter, January 1974, May 1974, July 1974, November 1974

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Committee on Graphic Requirements, 1965-1967

Box 51A, Folder 1	List of committee members, undated
Box 51A, Folder 2-4	Correspondence, 1965-January 1967
Box 51A, Folder 5	Notes, 1966
Box 51A, Folder 6	Final Report to Committee, 1966
Box 51A, Folder 7	Bibliography on Graphic Data Processing, undated
Box 51A, Folder 8	Design study on graphic support, 1966
Box 51A, Folder 9	Language for 3-Dimensional Geometric, 1965
Box 51A, Folder 10	Preliminary Specifications/2250 display console, 1965
Box 51A, Folder 11	MM Operating System 360, 1965
Box 51A, Folder 12	IBM 360 System/2250 Display unit/2840 display, undated
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
Box 52, Folder 3	ALGOL, SHARE, 1960-1961
Box 52, Folder 4-5	ALGOL, Maintenance, 1960-1961
Box 52, Folder 6	ALGOL, Bulletin, 1960-1961
Box 52, Folder 7	ALGOL, SHARE Committee, 1959-1960
Box 53, Folder 1	Ferranti Pegasus Computers, 1955
Box 53, Folder 2	GAMMA 60, undated
Box 53, Folder 3-4	Historical-Pioneer Day, 1980
Box 53, Folder 5	IBM-Reference Manuals, 1962-1963, 1969
Box 53, Folder 6	RAND, Information Processing Language Manual , 1960, 1963

Box 53, Folder 7

SHARE by-laws, 1970-1973

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 6: Subject files, 1955-1979

Box 54, Folder 1	SHARE Reference Manuals , 1956
Box 54, Folder 2	SHARE Reference Manuals , 1973
Box 54, Folder 3	SHARE Reference Manuals , 1979
Box 55, Folder 1	ALGOL Committee, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 2	Membership, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 3	Relationship with IBM, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 4	Executive Board, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 5	Committees, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 6	Joint User Group Committee, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 7	Executive Board Meetings and Agenda, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 8	Incorporation of SHARE 14 Meeting, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 9	SHARE meetings, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 10	SHARE Operating System (SOS) Controversy, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 11	Standards, 1959-1960
Box 55, Folder 12	Miscellaneous, 1956-1960

[Return to Table of Contents](#)