



**p.o. box 11983
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5J 3L1**

99'er on line... is the newsletter of the Edmonton 99'er Computer User's Society published ten times a year. Unless otherwise stated, all articles may be republished in other Newsletters provided that source and author are identified. We will in turn credit authors quoted in 99'er ON LINE.

CORRESPONDENCE: Newsletter Editor: John Harbour, 13857-114st. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. T5X 4A1 (403) 456-0862.

OFFICERS: President Yves Chevalier; Vice President Ken Godbeer; Treasurer Jim Mulligan; Secretary Roxanne Appelt.

OFFICERS AT LARGE: Tom Hall BBS Sysop; Paul Helwig Newsletter Library; Gordon Bradlee Book Library; Winn Appelt Disk Library; Cassette Library.

DISCLAIMER: Information published in this Newsletter is created by and for amateurs, therefore, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or use of presented information.

REGULAR MEETINGS: of the Edmonton 99'er Computer User's Society are held on the second Tuesday of each month in room 849 of the General Service Building of the University of Alberta from: 7:00 till 10:00PM, and are open to all members in good standing. Non-members may attend there first meeting free of charge.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Commercial space is available in this Newsletter at the following rates: Full page \$20.00, Half page \$15.00, 1/4 page \$10.00. Discuss your needs with John at (403) 456-0862, or the next meeting, alternatively send "photo ready" copies to the p/o box above. Members may advertise their personal computer related items for free but are asked to limit their ads to about 50 words. Mail your ads., to the Editors address or hand it to him at the General Meeting; Newsletter deadline 3'd Monday of the month.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Family; 12 months \$20.00, 6 months \$15.00. Students; 12 months \$15.00, 6 months \$10.00. New member initiation; \$20.00.

-----(-~*~*~*~*~)-----

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 10, 7:15PM, room 849, General Service Building U of A Campus.

Time change for TIBBS, reserved for executive between 6.0PM to 10.00PM.

JUST A WORD

by: Yves Chevalier.

Last general meeting proceeded orderly with minimum delays. A very fine demonstration by Ken on PRBase. I remember reading about PRBase when it first became available last year and am sorry I never gave it a closer look. That will change. A reminder, it is available in the disk library.

During the second part of the meeting we worked up a storm!... A little storm... Well, a brain storm then. As brought up in the new business, we are charting a calendar of events for future meetings. These events will take the form of lecture, demo and reports from SIGs. SIG, yes, coming soon for your enjoyment. Now those events, some of the better time slots are already gone. First come first served. But there are still some slots left that could suit you well. Contact Ken for your subject and time slot. I have volunteered to demonstrate the cleaning of the module port and Jim Beck has volunteered his console (since it is not reliable). Jim Mulligan will install a diode on the A/L keyswitch so its position is not so important when using joysticks and I might be able to talk Jim into letting me install a reset switch on his console while it is in pieces. I also found a MOO for the video processor. Simple change of resistor to improve video display by 40% it is claimed (we will see). Before we know it, it will be Christmas. And with it comes all those beautiful carols. Wouldn't it be nice to have a routine that could play them, musicbox style (or other style), in succession or from a selection, with all the melodies as files?

Highlights of the October 13 Meeting
Ken Godbeer, Vice President

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by President Yves Chevalier. He stated that he was looking forward to an active year for the Club and reviewed some of his thoughts on the directions that the Club should be taking. The highlights of the last executive meeting were reviewed by Ken Godbeer. Yves then reviewed the positions held on the new executive. They are:

```
=====
PRESIDENT          YVES CHEVALIER
VICE-PRESIDENT     KEN GODBEER
TREASURER          JIM MULLIGAN
SECRETARY          ROXANNE APPELT
NEWSLETTER EDITOR  JOHN HARBOUR
NEWSLETTER LIBRARY PAUL HELWIG
CASSETTE LIBRARY   POSITION VACANT
DISK LIBRARY       WINN APPELT
BOOK LIBRARY       GORDON BRADLEE
BBS SYSOP          TOM HALL
=====
```

Microsoft Multiplan.

John Harbour reported that the Newsletter was late due to problems coordinating with Paul Helwig to get mail tags but that the bugs had been worked out and it would be on time in November. As the Secretary, Treasurer, Book Librarian and Disk Librarian were unable to attend no reports were given. Paul reported that he is working on a comprehensive index of Newsletters received by the Club. He is looking for suggestions on better ways to get maximum benefit from the wealth of information contained in the Newsletters. One suggestion was to give people "subscriptions" to specific newsletters so they would get the same ones each month. In return they would be expected to submit any highlights to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in our Newsletter. Under new business Paul pointed out that Rytel Data had a kit available to convert a TI disk controller to Double Density. You are now also able to add another 64K of RAM to the RAM Disk. Clubline was not available this month presumably due to the mail problems. We have one back issue (May) still due plus two more issues (September and October) due on the subscription. We will be discussing renewal of the Clubline subscription at the next meeting. After a break we listed all of the meetings scheduled during the year and asked for two volunteers to plan the program for each. The following is the list as it stands to date:

1987/88. CALENDAR.

NOV.10. YVES CHEVALIER. CLEANING CARTRIDGE PORT
INSTALL RESET SWITCH &
TOM HALL. LOCK MODIFICATION ON CD
BBS DEMONSTRATION.

DEC.8. JIM BECK. INPUT/OUTPUT.

JAN.12. STUART LOOMIS. ASCII FILE TRANSFER
(Model 100 to TI).

FEB.9. VACANT.

MAR.8. VACANT.

APR.12. ROB SCOTT
IAN KYLE.

MAY.10. TIM MARSHALL. DESKTOP PUBLISHING.

JUNE 10 GROUP BARBEQUE.

Microsoft Multiplan.

Tom had planned to demo the BBS but we were unable to gain access to a phone line so this was deferred to next month. Ken Godbeer gave a demo of PRBASE.

If you have a topic you would like to see covered at one of the meetings please call one of the Executive or leave a message on the Bulletin Board. We look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on November 10.

COMPUTERS AID HOME PLANS.

Edmonton Sun. 1985.

If you are building a house, or having someone build it for you, the first thing you do is choose a plan. The next most important question is how much will the house cost? Unfortunately it takes time to make a labour list to come up with a price. Prices and extensions have to be checked and rechecked as you are dealing with quite a few dollars. Mistakes can be made and the price could be affected. Most of the waiting is now eliminated and quotations made more accurate when it is all done on a computer.

A program called DATA QUOTE1 has been developed for the building supply and house building industry by Dyonix Green Tree Technologies Incorporated of Nepean, Ontario. The data base can be programmed to quote on materials and/or labour. The Operator simply needs a copy of your plan or a reasonable outline of what you intend to do. He can then come up with a quotation on both material and labour in about 20mins.

ACCURACY IMPROVED.

The information in the computer contains various sizes and types of preferred materials being used. The quote is very accurate - it even includes the cost of the nails -. The amount of time of construct a home can be figured to within about a quarter of an hour. Program information includes eight different roof lines, with different wall stud systems and foundations. A complete detailed quote can take one to four hours, less than half the time it takes to do it by hand. The computer readout gives you a complete list of materials. Another feature of this computer program is that if you have had a quotation a few months ago and now you are ready to proceed and need an update, it will take only a few minutes. The computer can give you quotations on options, ie., you may want the difference in price between wood windows and PVC windows or the difference in cost between a 2X6 stud system and a double offset 2X4 stud system.

The quotation is accurate to the last cent as long as the material list is correctly entered. The information that must be entered includes the number and sizes of doors and windows, the square footage of floor material and the type, the number of feet in kitchen cabinets, the types of wall, the amount of insulation and the type of exterior finish. Soon it will be possible to produce plans direct from the computer. Plans, are actually drawn on the computer screen and adjusted. Once you are satisfied with the plan, the printer will draw a complete set of Blue Prints for you.

LESS FASTER.

More and more builders will be using the computer in the future to do their estimating as well as house control, job control and inventory control, and who knows? In the future, if you have a problem with your house, the builder may blame it on the "COMPUTER ERROR".



TI/WRITER.

As promised I would like to take a further look at TI-Writer for some of us who don't have access to the instructions, or can't understand them, I am going to use this print-out of Dick Altmans as an example, and hope that we will be able to work on this at some future date.

July 27, 1985

INSTRUCTIONS AND HINTS FOR TI-WRITER WORD PROCESSOR by Dick Altman

IT CAN BE MASTERED! It just takes perseverance and determination and a desire. I have been using it since January 1985 and I don't have it all yet, but I can use it to my immense satisfaction. This came from months of sitting with the large manual in my lap flipping pages back and forth until I had practically memorized the \$#% thing! I was at the point where when I had a problem I could say "Oh that is on page 146" or whatever. For instance: this article was done on the TI-WRITER and I now do ALL of my correspondence with it also.

This is gonna be loo-o-oo, but still much shorter than the 175 page instruction manual!

FIRST RULE: Read the TI-WRITER Quick Reference card and reread it. Of course this means after you read this article. Do all of the operations shown on the card-at least once-even though you might think you will never need that particular one. You will find you have to open up the big manual probably, to accomplish some of the operations. After you have almost memorized the card (literally!) then you will find yourself using it almost exclusively and very seldom having to refer to the cumbersome manual. Personally I think the manual is poorly written.

You will find 3 windows'-from left to right-to obtain the 80 columns (80 normal characters) width. Each window is 40 columns wide. The first one is from 0 to 40, second one is from 20 to 60, and the third is from 40 to 80. The first thing I do upon booting up TI-WRITER is to set my limits to 37 characters wide. If I take a whole window of 40 characters, it seems to crowd my screen, and I don't like to window back and forth to read my work. I do this by pressing "t" (for TABS), then press ENTER, then placing an "L" on the second dot, and an "R" on the 39th dot, then pressing ENTER again. Now I find my cursor blinking at me from line #0001. Here is where I tell the printer what margins I want it to print my work within. It's also at this point that I select condensed type because I like it better than the normal size type, and I can get 132 characters per line if I wish. It just looks better in my opinion. I normally do this on line 0002 because I used 0001 to set up the formatting (margins, etc.) commands to the printer.

So, on line 0001 I put in the following dot' command (a dot command is merely starting with a period): .LM 20;RM 120;FI;AD (AND END ALL DOT COMMANDS WITH A carriage return'). The semicolons are necessary, and the spaces, just as I listed it here. I'll do it again: .LM 20;RM 120;FI;AD(c/r). You of course don't put in the line number 0001. That is already there.

That tells the printer to set the Left Margin at 20, the Right Margin at 120, then Fill each line, and Adjust (justify) the right margin. The FILL command tells the program to put in as many whole words on a line, within your predetermined margins, as possible. The ADJUST tells it to add extra blanks between words to cause the even right margin as this article has.

I changed the margin settings on the last two paragraphs just to show you that you can enter your commands' just about anywhere within your work!

Just pressing ENTER will normally automatically put in the carriage return' symbol, but sometimes it doesn't. It depends on what you were doing last. In that case, use Control and 8 to put in a carriage return.

On line 0002 I put in a Control' command thusly: Control U Shift O Control U. Neither a dot' at the beginning, nor a carriage return' at the end is necessary. This command throws the printer into condensed' type. Neither of these two line numbers will be printed on paper. They are merely formatting commands. Most of the 'Control' commands are listed at the bottom of this article.

Then if I want to center a title (or date) or some other heading at the top of my article, on line 0003 I put in another dot command like this: .CE (remember a carriage return is required at the end of all dot commands). If my title is say three lines of type, then make that dot command thusly: .CE3(c/r) otherwise it will center only one line. The centering command at the top of this article was .CE5' because of the blank line in it. The lines you wish centered have to immediately follow the centering command.

The automatic page length is 66 lines. This gives you about six blank lines at the top and bottom of your page, and only fifty some actual lines of type. You can, with a dot command change your page length with this: .PL ##, as I did in line 0002 of this article. (Not enough room in 0001)

Then you start typing your article, letter, whatever. If you wish each paragraph to be indented, it takes another dot command of: .IN(number). If, as in my suggested margin settings of .LM 20;RM 120, you wished to indent each paragraph five spaces, the command would be: .IN 25 because the counting starts at zero or left edge of the paper. If you include the indent command with others in line 0001, the semicolon replaces all but the first dot, thus .LM 20;RM 120;IN 25. You may put more than one

dot command on one line, or the Control commands, but never both of them on the same line.

We will continue this in the December Newsletter.

JOHN.....

CALL KEY SUBROUTINE

by: Yves Chevalier.

This Sub-Routine is intended for multiple menu programs where the number of choices varies from menu to menu. As can be seen in the SUB KEY routine the upper limit of K is set to the menu with the highest number of choices. In this example 7 choices (K>55):

```
1000 SUB KEY :: CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 1000 :: IF K<49 OR K>55 THEN 1000 :: K=K-48 :: CALL CLEAR :: SUB RETURN
```

The menu should be followed by these lines :

```
200 GOSUB KEY 210 ON K GOTO 220,230,240,250,260,270,280
```

With a 3 choice menu within the same program, these line would be:

```
300 GOSUB KEY 310 ON K GOTO 320,330,340,300,300,300,300
```

Any entry larger than the set choice would be accepted but would prompt you for a new entry. In this manner only one SUB KEY routine is needed to perform your entry of choices.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OCT/87.

by: Roxanne Appelt, Secretary.

Our monthly Executive Meeting was held Saturday, October 24, 1987 and topics discussed include:

- Newsletter articles
- Advertising
- Terms of Reference for Libraries
- Software distribution
- Two systems at General Meetings
- Agenda for November's General Meeting
- Meetings for Special Interest Groups and SIG Committees
- Scheduling of Executive Meetings
- Setting up a meeting between the Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer User Groups

A Motion was passed regarding the Disk Library wherein Members will now purchase DISKS from the Library at a cost of \$1.00 each. This will eliminate requirement of returning disks and at the same time increase the much needed revenue for our group.(Increasing the availability of software to more at club meetings, see N.B. on back page Ed.

Details of topics discussed may be obtained from the Executive Members.

SALE SALE SALE!

by: BOB PASS.

TI X-BASIC CARTRIDGE AND

MANUAL.....\$60.00.080.

>>TI P-CODE CARD with all

software ...\$200.00.080.

CALL BOB.(403) 458-7658.

=====

N.B.

In regard to our suggestion about the disk library. There will be a list of new disks available each month from the Disk Library published in the Newsletter. Phone your selection from this list, to the Disk Librarian giving him ample time to make you a copy, which you will be able to receive at the next meeting. Previous listed programs are still available from the library under this same arrangement, don't forget although this material is Freeware, you are requested to forward a donation to the author in appreciation for his work should you find it to your satisfaction and intend to use the particular program. You are also encouraged to distribute this software to other users especially those who cannot attend the meetings, with only the initial payment of \$1.00 PER DISK.....Ed.

PROFESSIONAL REPRODUCTION

PROFESSIONAL COPYING & DUPLICATING

- Reports
- Briefs
- Manuals
- Flyers
- Specifications
- Proposals
- Address Labels
- Transparencies
- Letterheads
- Price Lists
- Directories
- Newsletters
- Resumes

Prices Include

COLLATING, 8 1/2" x 11", 8 1/2" x 14", WHITE, COLOURED OR 3 HOLE BOND

1 - 10	.09/Copy
11 - 24	.07/Copy
25 - 49	.06/Copy
50 - 99	.05/Copy
100 - 249	.04/Copy
250 - 499	.036/Copy
500 - 999	.032/Copy
1000 - 2499	.03/Copy
2500 - 4999	.028/Copy
5000 - Up	.026/Copy

PRICES PER ONE ORIGINAL

ALL ORDERS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL SALES TAX

— SERVICES —

- 2 Sided Copies
- Enlargements
- Reductions
- Transparencies
- Paper Sales
- Folding/Cutting
- Stapling/Padding
- Cerlox Binding
- Laminating

Two Locations to handle all your Professional Copywork & Printing Services

AMPLE FREE PARKING

broadmoor stationers LTD.

165 ATHABASCA AVENUE
SHERWOOD PARK, ALBERTA

464-4343

HOURS: 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday

"We make a Good Impression"

THE GENEVE WITH 640K AND ENHANCED KEYBOARD
For use with the TI-99/4A P.E. SYSTEM \$849.95

BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIALS

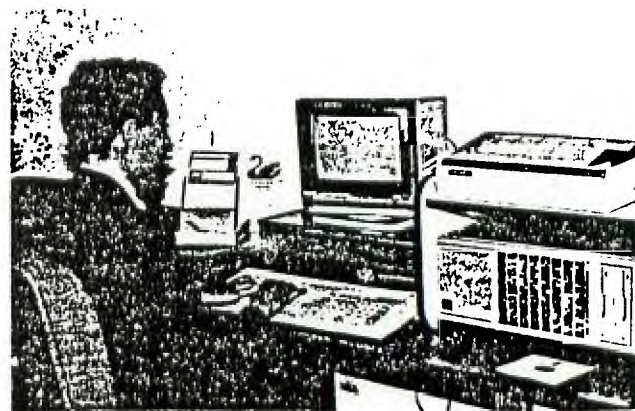
CONSOLE WRITER \$34.95

HOMEWORK HELPER \$34.95

EXTENDED BASIC \$99.95



**Texas Instruments
Home Computer**



PCII (IBM COMPATIBLE) COMPLETE \$1499.95

APPLE IIE AND II+ PLATO SOFTWARE 50% OFF COMPUTER
LITERACY, KEYBOARDING, STORAGE & MEMORY,
FILES & EDITING, DATABASES AND FRACTIONS

nova computerware

52 AIRPORT ROAD

EDMONTON

ALBERTA

T5G 0W7

(403) 452-0372