

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.

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

OFFICERS: President Yves Chevalier; Vice President Ken Godbeer; Treasurer Jia Mulli: Secretary Roxanne Appelt.
OFFICERS AT LARGE: Faul Helwig Newsletter Library; Gordon Bradlee Book Library; Hin Appelt Disk Library; Ron Hohmann Module & Cassette Library; Tom Hall Sysop, Club Bulietin Board 424-3258, 300/1200Baud.

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: 7:0) till 10:00FM, and are open to all members in good standing. Non-members may attend there first seeting 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 editor above. Members may advertise their personal computer related items for free but are asked to limit their ads to about 50 words. Mail your acs., to the Editors address or hand it to him at the General Meeting; Newsletter deadline 3'rd 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.

VEGT MEETING.

The next meeting will be December 8th. at 7.15 FM. General Services Building U of A Campus room 849.

LAST MEETING

by: Roxanne Appelt

Thanks to all who attended the November General Meeting that was held November 10, 1987. A prief run down of the meeting was as follows:

- 1). Minutes of the last meeting were read, followed by reports from the Treasurer, Secretary, News Letter Editor, Disk and Cassette Librarians and Clubline.

 The last Executive meeting was also discussed along with Compuserve and online magazines.
- 2). After coffee break, Yves Chevalier provided a demonstration on the Alpha-Lock modification, a video improvement to the TV. screen or monitor and the installation of the re-set switch on the console. Further details regarding the General Meeting may be obtained from the Executive Members.

PHONE NUMBERS.

For your convenience.

It has been suggested at the last Executive Meeting that we would print the Officers phone numbers for the convenience of the members, then if you are sweating over some computer related problem at 2.Jam. some morning you will know where to locate a friendly, helpful individual.

EXECUTIVE.

| PRESIDENT | YVES CHEVALIER | 456-6887 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| VICE PRESIDENT. | KEN GGDBEER | 462-8060 |
| TREASURER. | JIM MULLIGAN | 467-6021 |
| SECRETARY. | ROXANNE APPELT | 939-3826 |

OFFICERE AT LARGE.

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|-----------------------|----------------|----------|
| BOOK LIBRARIAN. | GORDON BRADLEE | 922-3999 |
| DISK LIBPARIAN. | WIN APPELT | 939-331a |
| MOD/CASS.LIBRARIAN. | RON HOHMANN | 457-7331 |
| CLUB BULLETIN BOARD | TOM HALL | 424-3258 |

JUST A WERD.

by: YVES

SEFECH S FEETINGS!

Time sure flies when you are having a good time. Before we knew it the janitor was kindly reminding us that our general meeting was extending into his maintenance schedule for the night. Again due to lack of time the 865 demo had to be postponed to the following meeting. So it will be the first demo of the December meeting. The demo on cleaning the module port and the modifications performed on Jim's console drew a large and attentive crowd. I hope many will feel confident enough to tackle the task of cleaning the module port if the XB module keeps failing on them. Jim should be giving us a report on the mods he now enjoys?... It felt real good to see hands go up and snao up those tasks in the wanting: Ron Hohmann will handle the cassette and module library and Dennis will take over from Faul(who was overtasked anyway) mailing the 99'er ONLINE. Thank You Paul for carrying us for so long. His handling of the Society's Archives and Newsletter library will keep him amply busy I am sure. The cassette library will be getting a boost in Ron's capable hands. Any of you with extra/surplus cassettes, please feel free to donate to the library or make copies. It would be nice if they were cataloged. Elsewhere in this issue I show a cable that you can assemble to copy cassettes as you are loading a program into your computer. With this library we are trying to attract cassette users into our ranks.

"NO DNE IS TO BE LEFT OUT ANYMORE".

If you can sponsor someone into the Society, everyone will benefit.

EXECUTIVE MEETING.

by: Roxanne Appelt.

The Executive Meeting was held Sunday November 16th, 1987 the topics discussed were as follows:

- -Mailing of the Newsletter.
- -December General Meeting Agender.
- -Disk Library.
- -Membership dues received at the December General Meeting.
- -Cassette Module/Library.
- -Special/Shared Interest Groups.
- -Newsletter Library.
- -A Junior Members Group.
- -Incentive Programs.

Thanks to all members who recently paid their membership dues, WELCOME All new members.

Please note: We will be having a preliminary sign up, for any individuals interested in taking part in a Special Interest Group. This will enable us to determine your special interests as well as giving us an indication of how many of you are interested in this type of program. Please see one of the Executive Members for further details, we would also ask that you advise us of what YOU think a Special Shared Interest Group should be.

We would like to thank Rom Hohmann for volunteering to be the Module Librarian - he is at present the Cassette Librarian also. Thanks Rom!

For further information on any topics discussed in the Executive Meetings, or should you have any concerns, questions or suggestions - please speak with any of the Executive Members.

HARDWARE MODIFICATIONS.

by: Jim Beck.

Those who were at the November Meeting witnessed Yves Chevalier's demonstation of several modifications, to the II Console. These included a reset button, and Alpha-Lock/Joystick modification, and an enhancement of video display. First of all anyone who has used their computer extensively has ended up in a situation where Ftch = would not work to "escape" from a program. Whether it be a crash or just because of the software being used, these hangups can be annoying. With the new reset switch, the user need not turn the computer off and on, (which is not only bad for the fingernails but also bad for the computer itself) just press the button and it takes you back to the II title screen. It even works during disk operations.

The Alpha-Lock modification removed the problem of the joystick not working properly when the Alpha-Lock is down. Now, down or up, the joystick works great. I have "tested" this modification with countless games since its installation and havn't encountered any problems

The video display modification was predicted to improve the picture as much as 40%...well...it did improve my picture a little, but not that much. On the other hand, I have always been careful to keep my TV adjusted so as to have a good picture and not pickle my eyeballs when I run a program that has potentially irritating color combinations. In other words, my pictur is about as good as it can get. The actual improvement came in the area of sound distortion...you know, when you have a black screen full of white characters and get the annoying crackling sound on the speaker. Although the sound is still there, it is only now about I/4 the original volume. I have also heard of this modification helping video display a great deal. It must depend on the reliability of the TV/monitor to start out with. So, to sum things up, good job Yves! Everything works great. The reset switch is also handy for panic stops when doing "un-backed-up" disl operations and has already saved one file of mine that would otherwise have been destroyed because of a stupid programming error. (Ever type in "OUTPUT" instead of "INPUT" when opening a file and realize it a millisecond af you type "RUN"??) Athough the video modification does not do the expected improvement on my system doesn't mean it won't help someone who's TV Screen looks like the one on "Poltergeist".

| Thanks again Yves. | | | |
|--------------------|------|---|--|
| Jim Beck | | | |
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NEWS TIPS.

by: Edmonton Examiner.Nov/8/87.

Recent studies have shown the incidence of MYOPIA (near-sightedness) is increasing among the jounger population according to Edmonton Optometrist Dr. Doiore Samuel. Dr. Samuel attended a seminar recently as a part of the 20 hour of continuing education, Alberta Optometrists are required to take annually to maintain their provincial licences.

Experiments done with monkeys living in an enclosed space for extended periods of time resulted in Myopia in a high percentage of the animals, Dr. Samuel reports, the younger the animal, the greater the increase in Myopia. Translated into human terms, Dr. Samuel believes long hours of reading computer work may account for the increase in vision-related problems among todays youth.

SHE BELIEVES RESTRICTION OF THE STUDENTS' TIME AT READING OR COMPUTER WORK, ALONG WITH THERAPY IN THE FORM OF SPECIAL READING GLASSES OR BIFOCALS MAY BE HELPFUL IN SLOWING DOWN THE INCREASE OF MYOPIA IN SOME PATIENTS.

Studies have also snown that a diet of refined sugars, and procesed carbo-hydrates (like boxed or canned food), caffiene, white flour products and salt, all seem to have a detrimental effect on vision, which may show up as Myopia in children and cataracts in adults.

DISK LIBRARY CATALOG.

by: Win Appelt.

This is a run-down of the new Software available in the Disk Software Library for December.

TASS2001/U - Tri-Artist-Slide-Show is a program used for creating slide shows of your TI-Artist or SFAPHX or Draw-A-Bit pictures.

FUNNELWEB - A collection of Freeware from the Funnelweb Farm, including Disk Hacker V 1.0 and V2.0.

PRNTRUTIL1 - A collection of various printer utilities.

POWER-MODS - From Australia, schematics and documents to build a 32K Matchbox Expansion, and Z modifications to beef up the power supply in your P-Box and console.

AUXILLERY CASSETTE CABLE.

by: Yves Chevalier.

For those who experience problems making copies of tapes when using direct cable connection between two recorders, this cable will be of great use to you. Its use is simple, the two recorders are controlled by CS1 commands: the aux-illary recorder is set to record and CS1 is set to play. Following prompts from the computer, the auxillary recorder will make a perfect copy while you are loading a program.

 PIN 1. --*--tip to CS control.
 PIN 3.--*--tip to CS1 ear..

 PIN 2. --*-- gnd.
 PIN 9.--* gnd.

 PIN 1. --*--tip to aux CS control.
 PIN 4.--*--tip to aux CS mike.

 PIN 2. --* gnd.
 PIN 9.--* gnd.

BOOK CORNER.

by: Gordon Bradlee

To Club Members:

It behooves me to say this, but I'm very disappointed in the members that feel free to abscond with our magazines from the Club Library. They are put on the table for EVERYONE'S use to SIGN OUT as they wish, these magazines are extremely hard to find and we would like to keep them as long as possible. Thankyou.... The following is a list of books that are presently in our Library, we would appreciate donations of books or magazines from members to enhance our collection.

| 1). | Computors and Common Sense. | 11). | Computers. |
|------|--------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 2). | Understanding Computers. | 12). | Basic Handbook. |
| 3). | Computer Systems. | 13). | Electronic Computer. |
| 4), | Personal Computing. | 14). | Users Guide to TI. |
| 5). | Computer Terms. | 15). | TI Extended Manual. |
| 5). | Executive Computing. | 16). | Programming Basic. |
| 7). | Home Computers. | 17). | Kids and the II. |
| 8). | Home Computers. | 18). | Crash Course in Microcomputers. |
| 9). | Home Computers. | 19). | G.O.C. Bus.Corps. |
| 10). | Home Computers. | 20). | G.O.C. Companies Act. |
| This | is all for this month, see you | all at t | he December Meeting. |
| | | | |

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<SIG> verses (T).

by: John....

There has been much discussion in this Newsletter about 316. and it has been brought to my attention that there are others - besides myself- out there who don't understand this terminology. As we have been saying all along, this year we are concentrating more on the beginner than the more experienced TI Computer Entrepreneur - KK HOW'S THAT!!!/> - hoping that we can draw the interest of these more experienced people to disclose their special knowledge to the group in general, in so doing we hope to raise the interest of the group to a higher understanding of the SI Computer, and possibly come up with some workable additions for our hobby.

This can be achieved several ways, the Executive have been considering using (SIG) Special Interest Groups and (T) Tutorials.

Tutorials (T), are presented as a class, to interested members, this class will be run by another member who has experience of the subject chosen and will endeavor to spread his knowledge to the rest of the class, through hands on demonstrations and personal instruction.

Special Interest Groups (SIG) on the other hand differ from Tutorials in there presentations, these will consist of a group of interested members calling a meeting (could be at any place, not confined to the Club premises) where they discuss various problems relating to the different subjects at hand, i.e., helping SACH OTHER with programming problems, solving the mysteries of the TI Instruction Manuals etc., possibly even to writing programs in a group situation, programs than can be utilized by the Society for either their use in the running of the club or perhaps even the sale of the end product so building up the financial side of our club, and maybe then we will be able to reduce the club membership dues, among other possibilities.

These groups could even start as a (I), then as the group progresses, change to a (SIG), that way giving everbody the chance to learn, and then share their "new found knowledge" with the rest of the group, as we are all individuals, we all learn in our own individual ways, some can understand the manuals where others require to be shown, some -like myself- can understand the manuals but still need to be shown, son't think you are alone out there, some of the II manuals I have read, need, more than an interpreter.

To quote our past Editor, we have out there the technology in the membership, please support your Excutive in these projects and sign up at the December meeting, if you consider yourself conversant with any 71-language and would be interested in conducting a <T> make yourself known, so that arrangements can be made in the near future.....

AS I USED TO SAY YEARS AGO AFTER PRINTING THE "KILROY WAS HERE!" IN THE VARIOUS MEN'S ROOMS AROUND THE WORLD... SEASONAL SREETINGS TO ALL MY READERS, AND AS IT IS THE SEASON OF SOCO WILL, EVEN TO THOSE WHO FIRE MY HUMBLE EFFORTS STRAIGHT INTO THE GARBAGE!!!...

TI/WRITER.

There are several kinds of Word- Processors being used in the Club, I have not had the chance to try them all, but I have used TI-Writer for several years now and have been quite satisfied with the results, many of us are now using this "BA Writer" with the RAM Disk, as it loads with EX-Basic, it has a slightly different (5)ee (D)irectory command on both the Editor and the Formatter, but uses the same commands as TI-Writer throughout the general text, this article will possibly appeal to these people, but there may be others that are not compatable. Companion being one, in that case please accept my apologies, on the other hand, you may be having difficulties with your individual printers, these are problems you will have to work out with perhaps other club members. Whatever the case maybe, if you are having problems feel free to phone me, I may be able to help.

July 27, 1985

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

The <u>fun</u> part of a word processor is the capability of inserting or deleting a word or an entire phrase without having to retype the entire page or article. Another fun thing is the ability to move a sentence or an entire paragraph to another place in your work. This is all done very simply. Just place your cursor in the last space before where you wish to insert another word and press the FCTN key and the number 2. This causes everything beyond your cursor to move down one line, then type in your new word or sentence and after the space at the end of it press the Control and the 2 (just once) and everything will jump back up to your cursor! If you are near the beginning of a

long paragraph it takes a little longer (a couple or three seconds) to reformat the paragraph, than it does if you are near the bottom of that same paragraph-DON'T GET IMPATIENT AND HIT THE KEYS AGAIN, JUST WAIT A COUPLE OF SECONDS:

To move let's say paragraph #10 into the #3 spot is just as easy. First look at paragraph #10 and make a note (mental??) of the line numbers on the first and last line. Function and zero shows the line numbers or moves them off the screen. Suppose they were 0076 and 0093. Then determine what line number you wish it to be after. Let's suppose it was 0023. Then with FCTN 9 go to the command' line, type M (for Move) and hit ENTER. Then type in 0076 0093 0023 and hit ENTER again. Look at those numbers and read the instructions on the Quick Reference Card for MDVE.

On most dot matrix printers, there are two different commands to make neat printing. They are called **emphasized** and **double** strike'. You can't use (on my printer at least) the emphasized method while in condensed size of type. But I can use double strike. The difference is basically this. Both commands print each letter twice, but in two different ways. One of them (emphasized) moves the head slightly to the right so that each letter is a little thicker. Double strike just prints the line twice. I think emphasized is slightly faster than double strike, but I've never timed either of them. Since I use condensed printing almost exclusively, and can't use emphasized, I don't worry about it. Incidentally, you may enter these commands throughout your article. You just have to have them begin at the left margin of your work. As long as you begin dot commands with a period, and the control commands with Control U (and end dot commands with a carriage return, and control commands with Control U and/or a capital letter) you'll be O.K. Only this paragraph was using double strike', look at the difference.

An interesting fact about most printers is that it not the interests uncontrusive scaces here and there to ADJUST each line to the predetermined right margin, IT PRINTS E INFO THE LINE FROM THE RIGHT TO THE LEFT while doing all that FILLING and ADJUSTING. It will also correctly number your pages if you give it the FO command, which is another dot command.

I find once in awhile, some one command (never the same one twice) seems to falter. Just rado it, sometimes I think some command must be there that is invisible (this is possible!) so when you run into an unexplainable problem, go back to your formatting command line(s)-which are usually lines 0001 and 0002-put the cursor at the end of each of your commands then press FCTN and 1 and hold them for a couple of seconds to delete any possible typing errors that placed some sort of hidden' command in that line.

Another <u>good</u> command to learn is the **OOOPS**' command. Merely Control and the figure one. This eliminates only your last change just now typed in, and returns your work to its former self (hopefully!).

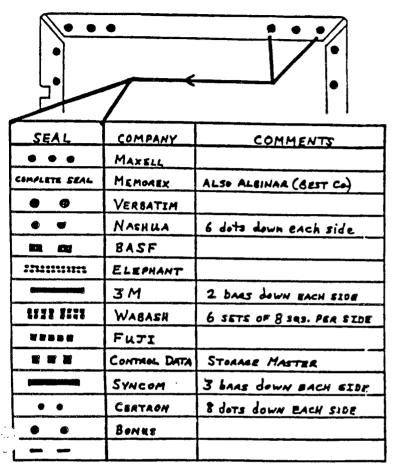
Another good habit to get yourself into, is SAVING' your work every few minutes (or every few pages). Power glitches do occur from any power company. Either surges, or stumbles. Sometimes just an electric motor in your home trefrigerator, etc.) kicking in will cause a momentary change in the power supplied to your computer (you we seen your lights flicker). If you save your work every once in awhile, you someday will be glad you were in the habit. Especially if you have just put in to the word processor a 20,000 word story. The power glitch could cause you to lose it all! If you have been saving it on a disk, when that glitch occurs you will have ail but a small part of it saved. When you save something to a disk, then come back to that same disk and save something else with the same name, it replaces the first item with the second. It does not become two seperate items on the disk. Of course, if you are really a worry-wart, you will do the saving on two disks, alternating back and forth, just in case that glitch comes while you are in the act of saving your work.

When you wish to reload a file from a disk back into the word processor, it's EASY! When you first bring up the word processor in the Editor mode, you are automatically in the command line. Just type IF (for Load File, and hit ENTER, then type in DSK1.(and the name you gave it) then hit ENTER again and wait a few seconds for the work to be loaded into your computer from the disk.

If you want a rough draft of your work on paper (I find it easier to proof than on the screen) just remove your commands for double strike or emphasizing to conserve your printer ribbon. It will not be so easy to read, unless your ribbon is new, but it will be done faster, as well as not using up ribbon ink unnecessarily.

I will be back next month with the final chapter by Dick Altman, I hope by now you are getting interested in joining a SIG, infact we will be signing up interested people at the December Meeting, if you are interested come and talk it over with me at the meeting.... I have already been offered ideal premises for our group, don't be left out. I have still lots to learn....JOHN.

IDENTIFICATION OF 54" DISKS



THIS CHART SHOWS THE NAME OF THE MANUFACTURER WHO MAY HAVE PRODUCED THAT DISKETTE YOU NOW HAVE IN YOUR DISKETTE DRIVE. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE N.O.V.A. USERS GROUP OF VANCOUVER, WA. FOR THIS CHART PRINTED IN THEIR NOV. ISSUE.

GW155 "If they ever develop a computer that can lick boots and kiss ass, we've had it!"

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