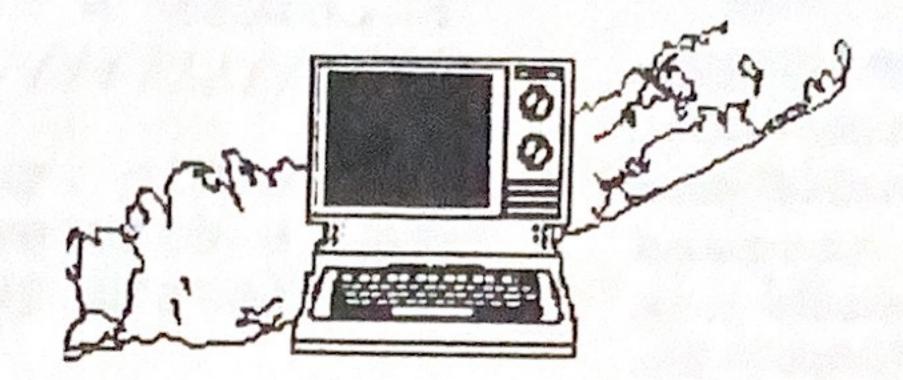
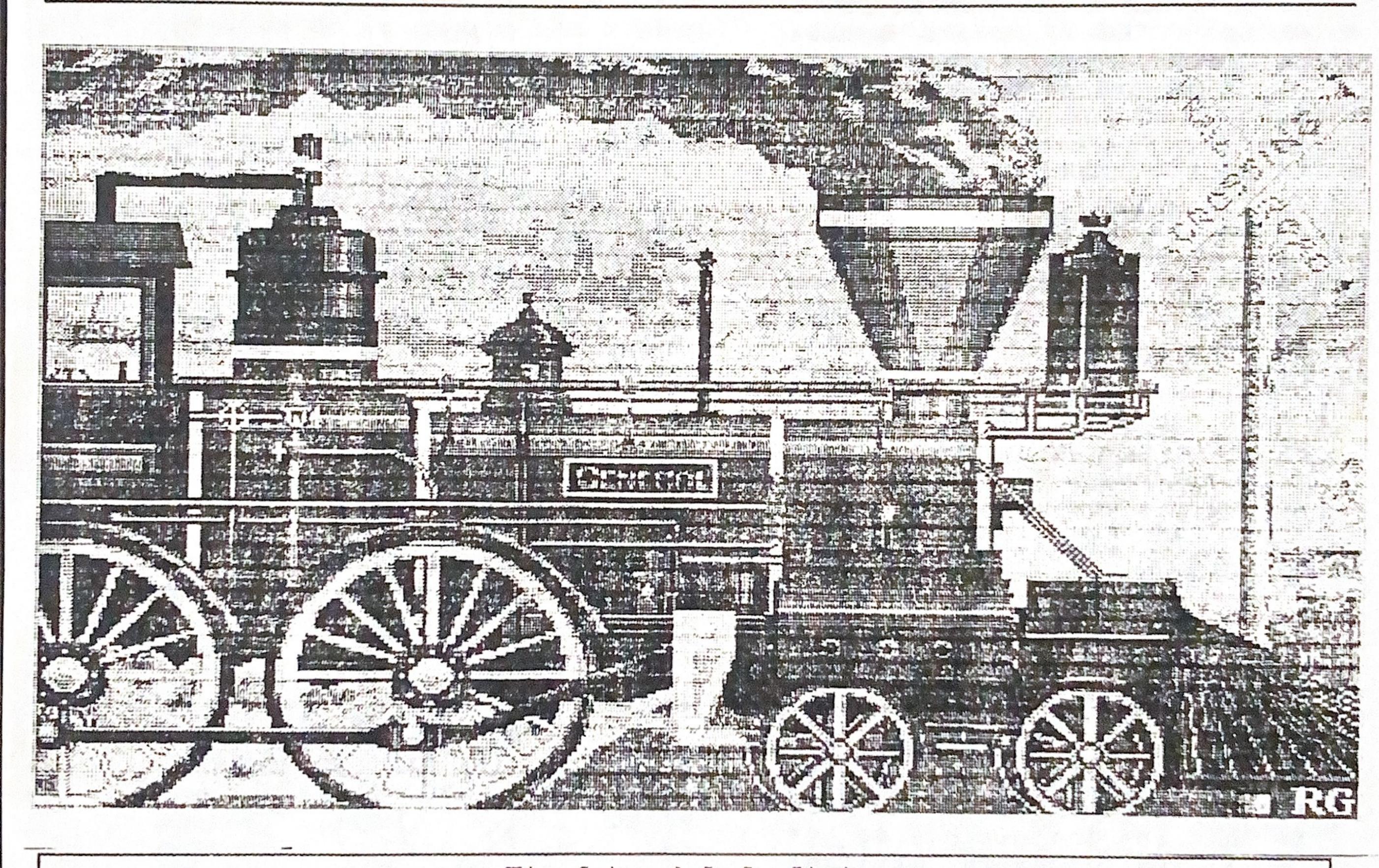
Tsland GoGo MEWS

Volume: 6 Number: 4



Aug. / Sept. 1991



BC-BBS 300/1200/2400/9600/19200 HST 8/N/1

RelayNet Conferences

The Island CoCo Club PC-BBS Long Island, New York Mid-Summer Issue (516) 795-5874 * For the Tandy Color Computer * Published

Bi-Monthly

Notes From the Editors The Island Coco Club

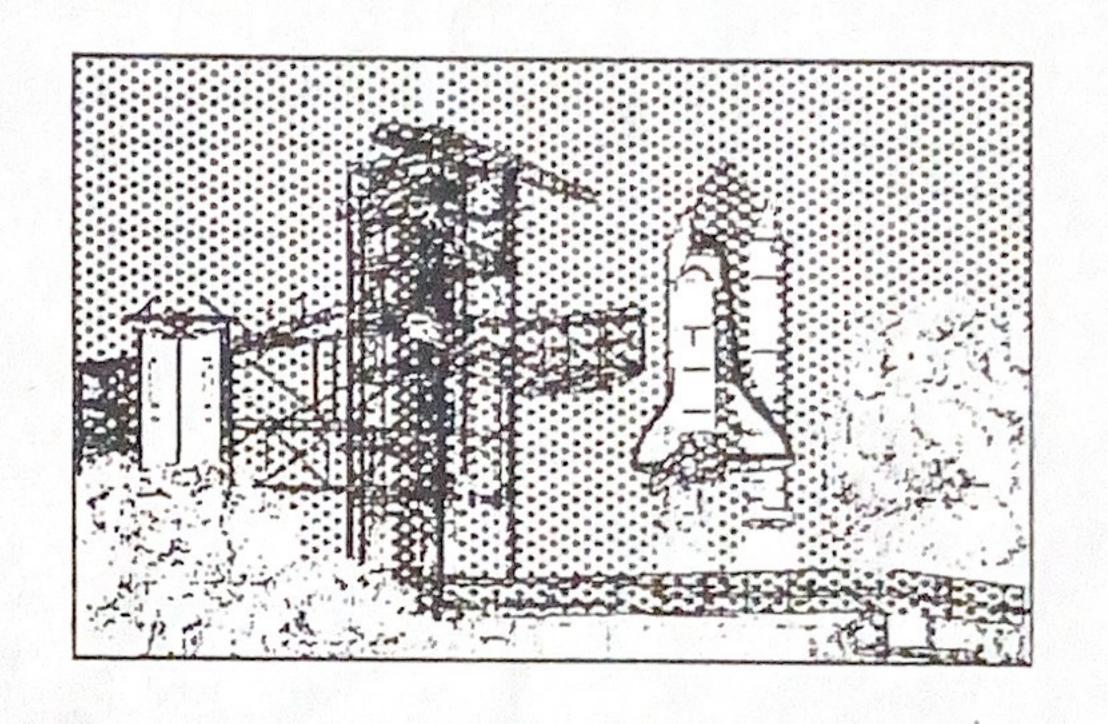
I am sure we have everyone confused by now. The cover of this issue is Vol. 6 No. 4. The last issue was marked incorrectly, Vol. 7 No. 3. We are in the sixth volume of the Newsletter, so the last issue will be a collectors issue.

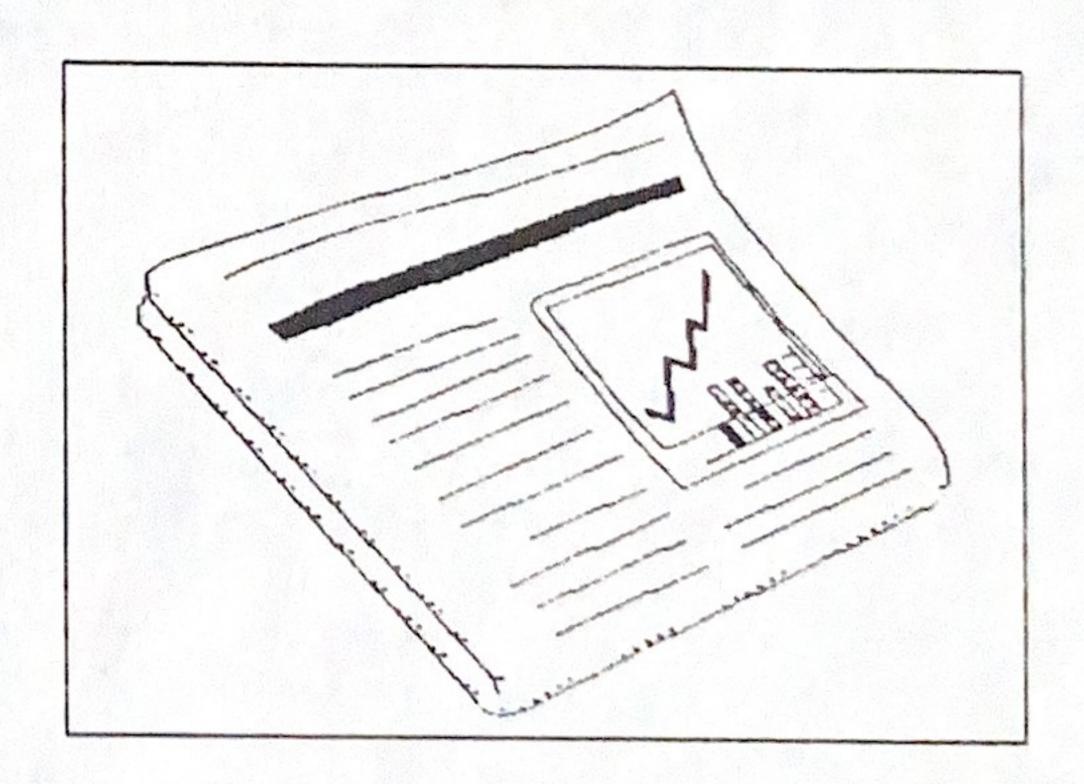
Let's update the membership roster since the last issue. Robert Terrano and Thomas McArthur have renewed their membership. Renewals are what keeps the Club going. We haven't had a new member for a while. There is one active possibility now though.

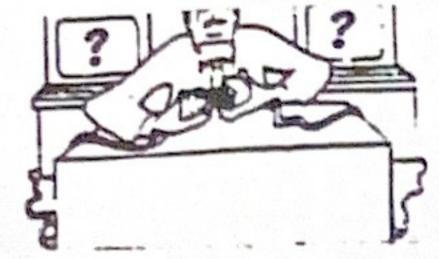
We would like to thank Bob Olsen for his submission for the Newsletter. It is a comical rendition of COWS as you've never seen them. It is originally a contest that was run at Princeton University. The person that ran the contest was our own Eric Tilenius. Eric is a past President of the Club and now working in California.

Remember, you don't need an invitation to enter submissions to the Newsletter. All we ask is that if it's text that it be written and formatted for publication. This way it will be set the way you originally wanted it. Also it will make our job easier. If there are any questions about submitting an article feel free to call us.

As of this printing, there are no dates set for the Sept. and on meetings. We have to wait for the Library to get their own schedule straight first.







WE GET QUESTIONS???

What kind of floppy drives can I hook up to my CoCo?

A: The simple answer is that any IBM compatible floppy drive can be connected to a CoCo. Other drive types such as used by Apple/Mac and Commodore computers will probably not work, but any floppy drive that works with an IBM or compatible personal computer will almost certainly work with a CoCo.

Can I replace my old single sided floppy drive with a new double sided floppy drive?

A: Yes, very easily. All you need to do is unplug the ribbon and power cables from the old drive, and remove the drive from the case. Mount the new drive in the old case, and plug the ribbon cable and power connector into the new drive. If your case has room for a full height drive and two power cables you can even put two new low power half height double sided drives in the same case. You must set the drive select jumpers to "0" on one drive and "1" on the other, and if possible remove the terminator resistor pack from one drive.

There is one additional item that must be considered if the old drive happened to be a full height drive sold by Radio Shack. Older Radio Shack full height drives were made to respond to any select signal, even the motor on signal. Because of this all but one of the select/motor pins were pulled from each drive connector. This allowed the drive be selected depending only on what connector it was plugged into, but had the unfortunate side effect of not allowing double sided drives to be used.

One solution is to simply turn the ribbon cable over by plugging in all the connectors upside down, if the connectors' alignment key is not present or can be removed. You must make sure that all of the connectors are plugged in upside down. This works because one side of the floppy connectors is signal lines while the other side is all GROUND lines. The important thing is to have a complete set of signal pins, while a few missing GROUND pins won't matter much at all.

If the ribbon cable connectors have an alignment key that can't be removed then the solution is to make up a new cable using connectors that have a complete set of pins.

Can I add a new double sided floppy drive to my existing single sided drive system?

A: Yes, but you will either need a separate case and power supply for the new drive, or a case large enough for both drives that has two power connectors. You must set the drive select jumper on the new drive so that it is different from that of the existing drive, and if possible remove the terminator resistor pack from one drive.

Once again, special consideration is required if the old drive happened to be a full height drive sold by Radio Shack. Due to the ribbon cable connector's missing pins, you must crimp on a new connector with a complete set of pins for the new drive to be plugged into. Do not turn the ribbon cable over, since the existing Radio Shack full height single sided drive depends on certain signal pins being missing.

MORE BEGINNER'S QUESTIONS



So far in answering questions that have come up at Beginner's SIG meetings we have mainly addressed questions about the equipment...the "system". Now we will look at some common questions about programs..."applications". First a few definitions of application general types:

GAMES...probably the most commonly used programs, games are of several types...arcade (action), adventure, simulation (copying a real situation), etc. User-wise, the most important thing to remember about games is that for speed and economy, most are at least partly written in machine language so must be cleared out with a cold start particularly as many reserve large amounts of memory for their use.

A COLD START occurs when the computer is shut off with the power switch, then after a 10 second delay switched on again, or preferably, key CONTROL -ALT -RESET, then hit RESET again when the three wise men appear on your screen. This completely clears the memory. A WARM START is achieved by pushing the RESET button. This will not clear out machine language or memory reservations already in the computer.

WORD PROCESSORS... Next most popular program, as the name indicates, these are designed to handle words to suit the user's wishes. Going far beyond the typewriter level, they have now become very sophisticated, some with sorting, indexing, table of contents, multi-column, mailmerge, searching and other features. Designed to make full use of modern printer features, they also have the ability to save on disk or cassette the

material entered. Now one can have a copy of their correspondence, not as a pile of laboriously copied papers, but on a disk or two. For instance, these articles are saved as a single disk file which I intend to print out before the June meeting and have available as a pamphlet for any interested.

DESK TOP PUBLISHERS...Very similar to word processors these are designed to arrange (format) text and sometimes pictures in a satifactory manner for printing out. Probably their main distinguishing feature is the ability to generate different print styles (fonts) in larger sizes than the normal printer can provide. This must be done by drawing the characters with graphics, and because this requires large amounts of information to be processed and passed to the printer, printouts are very slow, and some have slow inputs too as the data has to be passed to the screen also. The quality of the fonts particularly in the smaller sizes also generally is not up to acceptable standards for business correspondence. For these two reasons they do not really replace word processors although some find a program like MAX-10 quite handy for a personal word processor.

ACCOUNTING ... A number of bookkeeping programs are available. A general program will do all the simple book-keeping necessary for home or small business accounting. Either separately or interacting with its general program, other programs are available for expanded use i.e. accounts receivable, accounts payable, cheque balancing, etc. They do automatic posting and calculation of balances and most

MORE BEGINNER'S QUESTIONS

generate for printout all the reports normally required.

SPREADSHEETS...originally designed for accounting purposes, spreadsheets are very versatile also now being used to handle non-numerical data as well. With storage arranged in sizeable boxes addressed by their row and column numbers they duplicate a page ruled into boxes by vertical and horizontal lines. Memory is reserved from the first box to the last occupied box as a block (if there was an entry only in row 10, column 10 all the boxes from row 1 to row 10 out to column 10 would be reserved and if the cells (boxes) totalled 122 bytes (characters) per row to column 10, 1220 bytes would be reserved so spreadsheets are rough on memory, particularly if not sensibly used. Their strength is in the features available as many have a full range of arithmetical and logical operations which react with cell contents as programmed by the user. To me there is a fascination when a number is entered which interacts with a large number of the cells and in the flick of an eyelash most of the cell values change before your eyes. Some have many other features and are very powerful in data manipulation and report generation.

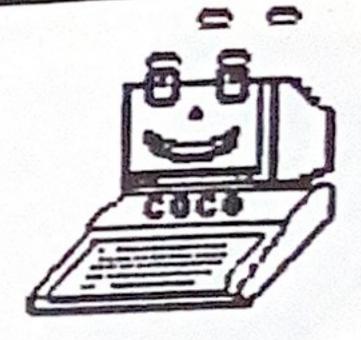
calendar...really a specialized database these are designed to store and retrieve time-based information. Ideal for storing appointments, schedules, birthday and other special days (how not to forget your wedding anniversary) they usually will recall events entered in a number of ways i.e. by day, week, keyword, etc. and some have provision for copying an event to another time or date

and for establishing event priority. Pertinent printouts are normally available. I use one to keep track of birthdays. special days, holidays, special school closing hours and school holidays, my daughter's workdays off, and for two grandchildren, skating schedules, Brownie meetings, violin lessons, and hockey schedules. A weekly printout showing date and time of each of these activities allows my wife and I to preplan arrangements for all these events.

TERMINAL...also called communications programs, these enable the connection of two computers, usually using a modem (a hardware device that changes computer output or input to a form that can be transmitted over telephone lines) and the normal phone lines. The better ones have editing capabilities nearly as good as a word processor, the ability to load and save material for output or input, near or full automatic phone dialling, accuracy of transmission checking, printer output, and access to full memory. With access to other computers, bulletin boards, and huge international databases with information on almost any subject, they literally "put the world at your fingertips".

GRAPHICS...providing a means of easily drawing, these are very popular applications. Again a number of powerful features are provided including color selection, painting, line and circular drawing aids, shape and box tools including perspective drawing, size changes, and many other. Using graphics they use a lot of memory and are relatively slow particularly in printout. Developed material can be stored to floppy disk or sometimes

MORE BEGINNER'S QUESTIONS



cassette but again the files per drawing are quite large. Bear in mind that pictures stored by one program can not usually be loaded by another as the formats are different but some provide special utilities to convert the most popular types.

MUSIC...several programs enhance the tone generating ability of a computer to produce music, sometimes in several different voices. Again features can be quite powerful in the better programs some offering the ability not only to input scores but also to print out sheet music or with hardware additions to output to MIDI equipped keyboards and synthesizers using their built in insrument voices for high quality sound production.

SPEECH...using a hardware voice chip cartridge these produce speech by programming the basic parts of a language (phonemes). This can be either played back or used in specially written programs as prompts. The limited available programmable memory in a CoCo results in a very small vocabulary being available (about 80 to 100 words) but they are interesting to program. I used mine to tell my grandson where his birthday present was and the care to be exercised in using it...an air rifle.

work in conjunction with other specified or unspecified programs and most are written at least partly in machine language. Many for the 2 are incompatible on a 3 because of memory conflicts but may run

o.k. if offset in loading address. As they usually load in the same area of high memory many are not compatible with each other so a cold start is often required before a second can be loaded.

INTEGRATED... an integrated software package is one that contains several software types in one interacting package. A good example is Deskmate from Radio Shack which includes word processing, database, spreadsheet, terminal, calendar, and graphics in one package. The user has available as needed all these applications without reloading separate programs and also data in one application can be used if applicable in the other sections. Usually some fancy features in each program are not available in an integrated package but the convenience compensates in many cases. Since these use the same routine for common operations such as saving, loading and printing it is important to be sure that the routine is being properly accessed each time these operations are performed.

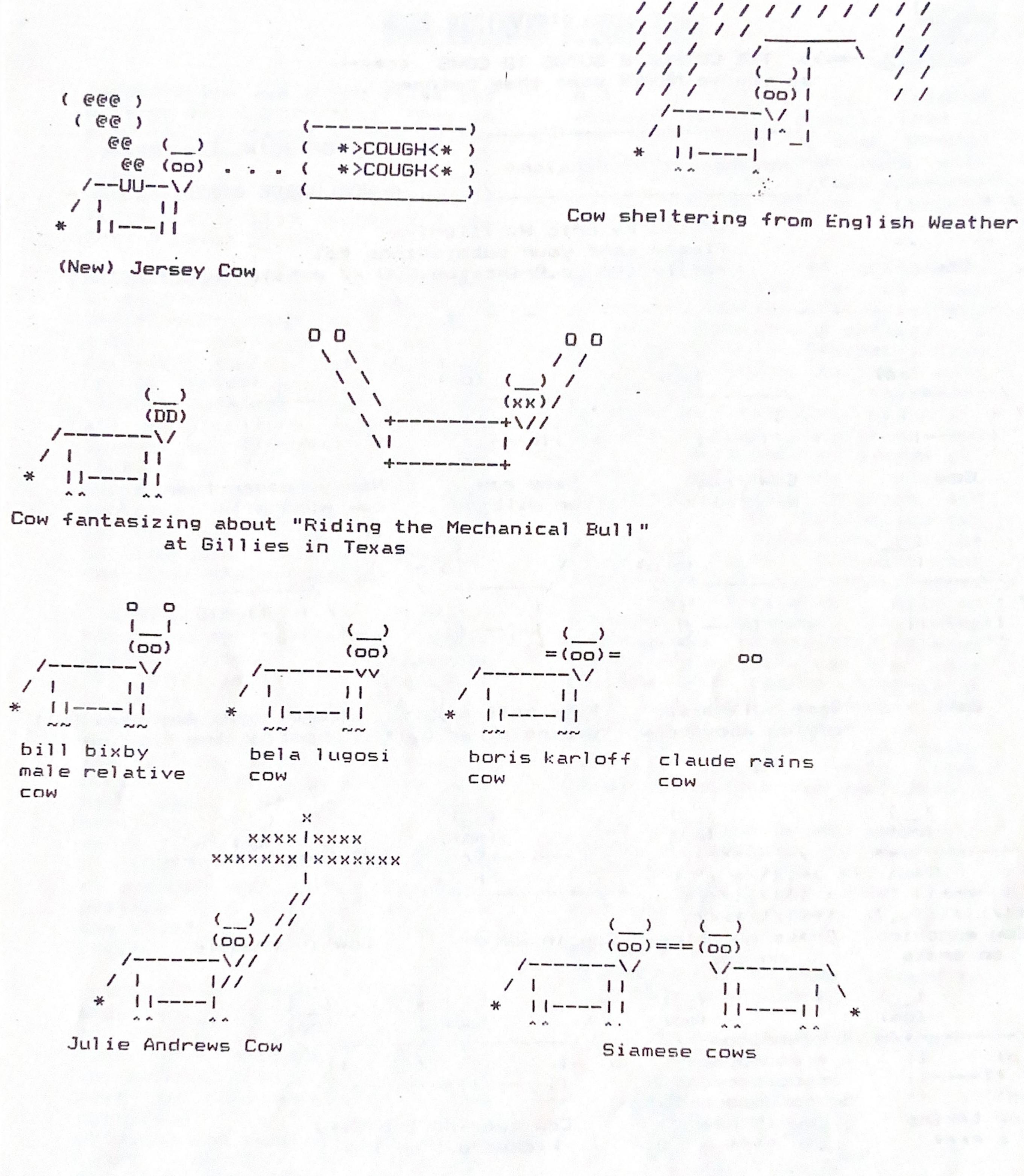
Too numerous to mention are a number of programs for special purpose use. These are usually quite small and pose few problems for the user.

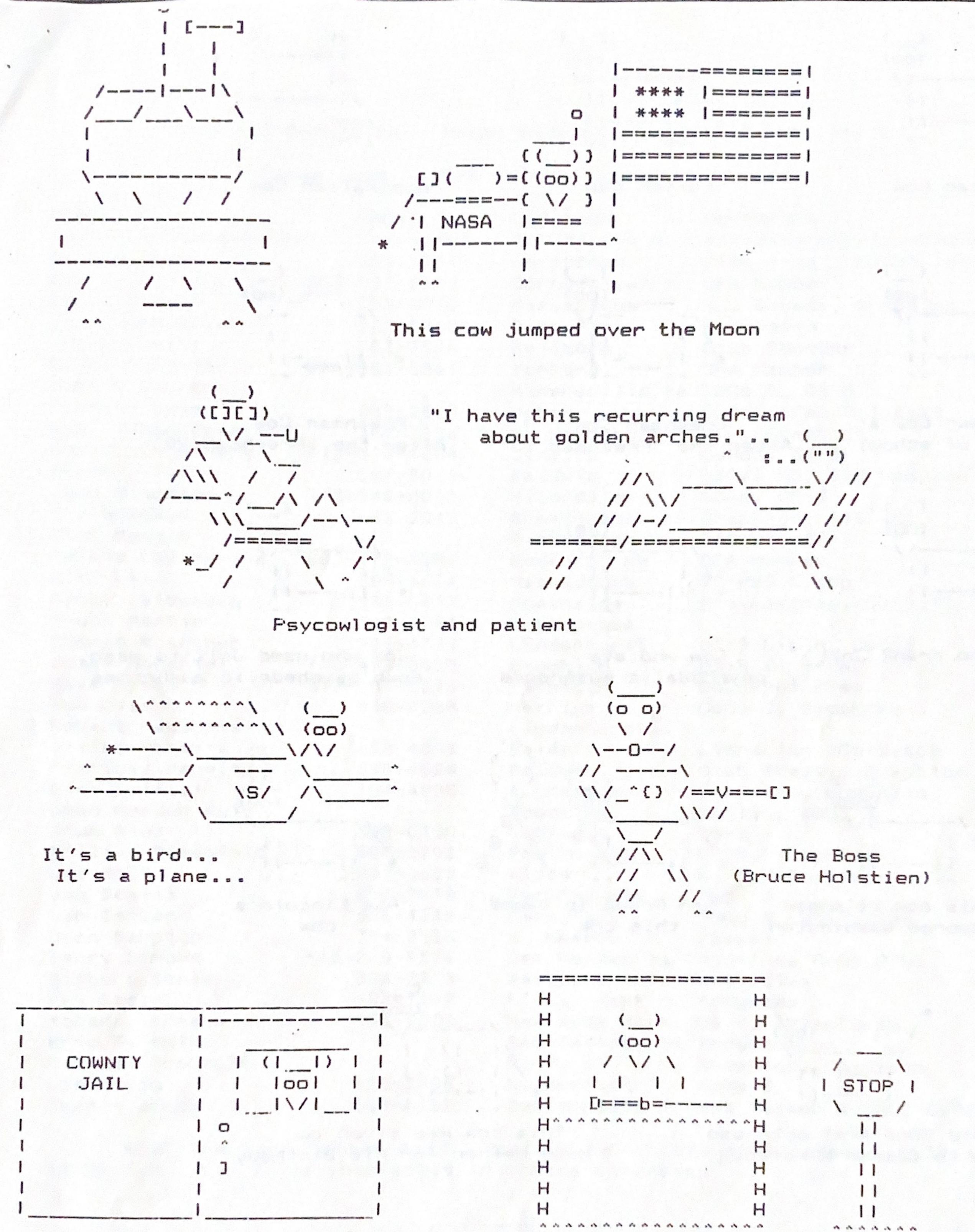
Editor's note: Thanks Chuck. Looking forward to your next installment.



--==>> THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO COWS <<==--

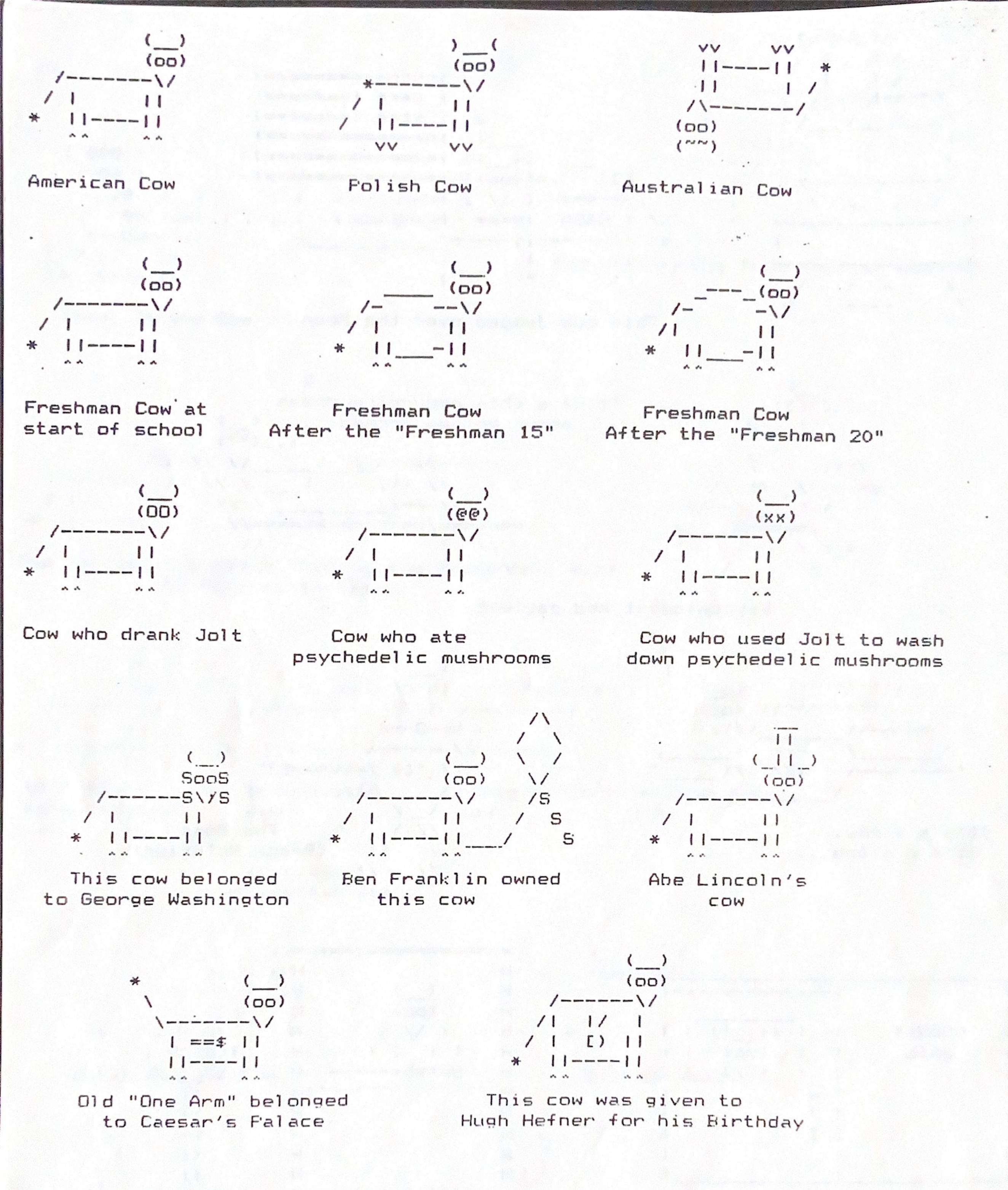
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                November 1989 Version!
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                    Please send your submissions to:
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                    ewtileni@pucc.Princeton.EDU // ewtileni@pucc.BITNET
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Cattle Guard

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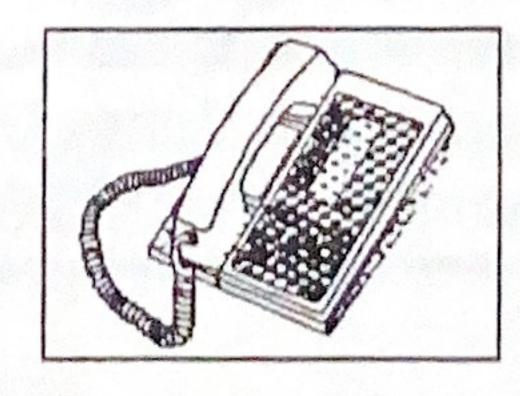


* Island CoCo Club - Phone Roster: Aug. 91 / Sept. 91 *

(Area code is 516 unless otherwise stated)

NAME	PHONE	LOCATION	INTERESTS
	=======	=======================================	=======================================
Gerald Angus	935-3511	Levittown	Club Pres., CoCo3, OS-9
	203-633-6662	Connecticut	OFA Member
Larry Biegel	795-3035	Massapequa	ML, Sounds, Graphics
Vince Buccellato	242-5240	Deer Park	Ham Radio
Joe Castelli	783-7506	Bellmore	Club Founder
	914-961-5361	Yonkers	OFA Member
Gabe DiLazzaro		Minersville PA	[18] 마스트 (18) 그는 18] 전에 마스트 (18) (18) (18) (18) (18) (18) (18) (18)
Patrick Dwyer	282-2575	Upton	CoCo3, Pen Pal East
Mrs. Susan Eckers	368-0836	E. Northport	VIP, Graphics
Robert Ehrenberg	718-318-1668	Jamaica	CoCo2, OS-9
Steve Gilbert	867-6096	Baldwin	OS911 HD, OS9 CoSysop
John Giordano	212-548-0015	Riverdale	CoCo, OS-9
Ira Goldwyn	482-3049	Great Neck	Graphics, BBS'er
Bret Hayman		Pittsburgh PA	CoCo 3, OS-9
Helene LaBonville	603-472-3369	Bedford, NH	OFA Member
D.K. Lee	795-5874	Massapequa	PC-BBS Sysop
Sandy Leibstein	536-0617	Oceanside	Programming, OS-9 11
Chuck Martin	799-1864	Massapequa	
Thomas McArthur	957-4731	Lindenhurst	OS-9 Lib'n, CoCo3
James McDaniel	718-493-0950	Brooklyn	OS-9 11 HD
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Bob Olsen	546-8288	Merrick	CoCo 3, Symphony
Robert Passanisi		Lindenhurst	
Irving Pereira	868-4696	Baldwin	Librarian, Co-Sysop
Patricia Pereira	868-4696	Baldwin	Club Treas., Graphics
Gian Polizzi	794-4906	E. Meadow	V. Pres., Graphics
John Gordon Reid			Utils., ADOS 3
Rich Ries	598-0450	Copiague	OS-9
William Rosenfeld	621-2292	Roslyn Hts.	OS-9, Graphics
Joe Ross	929-0622	Ridge	OS-9 / Programming
Joe Scalia	694-2219	Farmingdale	CoCo 3
Leo Serber	586-1718	Deer Park	CoCo 3, Utilities
Dean Serpico	794-2156	E. Meadow	Pascal
Terry Simons	515-279-2576		Mid-lowa CoCo Club
Richard Spreen		Westbury	
Ray Steger	488-7272	Floral Park	이번 사들 전에게 되었어? 그리고 이 이 경영하면 해가 있다면 하다고 있다면 하다 그는 사람이 되었다면 하다 가지 않는데 그리고 있다면 하는데 되었다면 하다 하다 때문에 하다.
Robert Terrano	358-7525	[18] [18] (19] (18] (18] [18] [18] (18] (18] (18] (18] (18] (18] (18] (OS-9, Adventures
Eric Tilenius		San Carlos, CA	그리다 나는 그 그는 이 집에 그리고 그는 그 그리고 그 그리고 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그
Michael Trammell			Graphics, Co-Sysop
Jim Woods		N. Merrick	
Dennis Zobel	698-6197	Centerreach	Rat Veiwer Auth., CoCo 3

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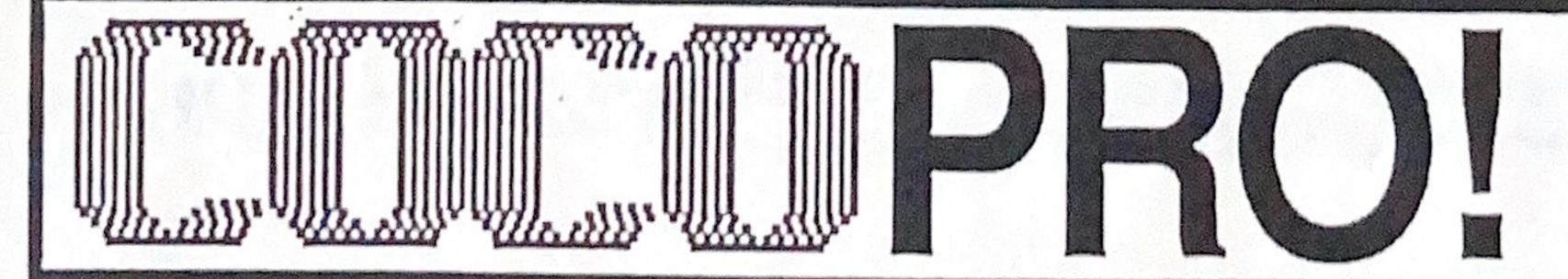
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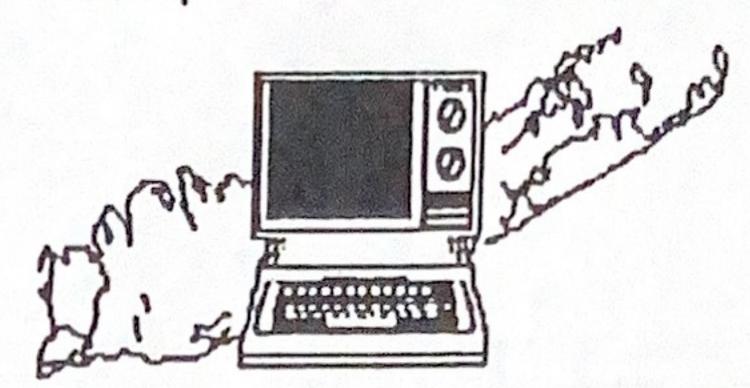
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Become part of the Club TODAY!!			
* * Membership Form * *			
Yes! I wish to join the Island CoCo Club - Long Island User's Group for the Tandy Color Computer. I have rea and signed the statement below and am enclosing dues as follows.			
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Family Membership covers everyone in your family with ONE VOTE & ONE Newsletter.			
OFA (Out of Area) is for CoCo Users out of the L.I. area as well as Users that can never make a meeting. I get a Newsletter, but no voting capabilities. Public Domain Library is available.			
Mail this form, along with a check to: The Island CoCo Club, P.O. Box 426, Massapequa Park, NY, 11762. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Pat Pereira (Club Treasurer) You may also bring this to a meeting for processing.			
NAME: STREET: TOWN:			
STATE, ZIP: . PHONE NUMBER: ()			
Your CoCo Setup: CoCo 1 (), CoCo 2 (), CoCo 3 (), 64K (), 128K (), 512K () Monitor (), TV (), Modem (), Disk Drives (), OS-9 (), Printer ()			
Other Options: (Specify)			
I do hereby indicate my choice to join the Island CoCo Club. I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Club, and I understand that all programs in the Club Library are for membership enjoyment and trial use only. I promise not to copy, give, or pirate any software package borrowed from the Club. I further agree to hold the Officers blameless for any actions, or consequences of any action, taken by the Club. I also realize that failure to comply with Club Regulations may result in my expulsion, without reimbursement, of dues.			
YOUR SIGNATURE INDICATES COMPLETE AGREEMENT			
SIGNATURE:			

DATE:

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From:

The Island CoCo Club P.O. Box 426 Massapequa Park, NY 11762

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