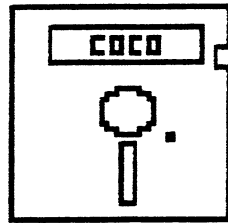


List



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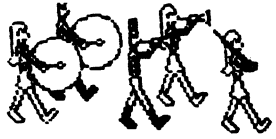
Voice of the Calgary Colour Computer Club

SINCE 1983

1st Annual ATLANTA COCOFEST



Best of Luck



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MANDATE

This newsletter is published by the Calgary Color Computer Club which has no affiliation with Radio Shack or the Tandy Corp. The club is a non-profit organization whose members share an interest in the Tandy Color Computer and other MC68xx(x) microcomputers. The primary purpose is to promote the use and understanding of micro computers generally and the 6809 microprocessor in particular.



MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who are willing to observe the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club. Visitor's fees \$3.00 per meeting. One year memberships are available at the meetings. Membership rates: Sr.'s or Jr.'s \$10.00, Regular \$20.00, Families \$30.00. Member entitlements: admission to meetings, voting rights, monthly copy of Llist (except Jul & Aug), use of the Club library and participation in all Club sponsored activities.

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SUBMISSION GUIDE AND DEADLINE



Deadline... 2 weeks before monthly meeting. Material received later may not appear until the next issue.

Articles submitted should be on disk in ASCII and UNFORMATED. I will return your disks at the next meeting. Please ensure your name is on the disk and at the top or bottom of the text or the program submitted.

Please make ref to diagram & sketch in text as fig.1, 2, etc. Articles may be uploaded to the LAST CONNECTION BBS. See instructions on-line for upload procedures. Be sure to leave a message to the SYSOP, advising him of your contribution to the list.



FREE ADVERTISING



Free advertising will be given to all Members having Coco related hardware/software computer items for sale. ONLY ORIGINAL SOFTWARE will be accepted for sale adds. The Editor reserves the right to determine size, format, and placement of adds. The normal deadlines apply.



THE LAST CONNECTION BBS PHONE NO'S
(formerly the Ultimate BBS)

For 300 and 1200 Baud.....249-5360
For 1200 and 2400 Baud.....249-5365

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This issue seemed to come upon me all of a sudden, I've been very active with other duties this past month. PLUS four of us were all planning our trip to Atlanta, Bruce, Percy, John Eng and myself. By the time you read this we will have seen and heard it first at the Fest!

Our first meeting of the new season saw only a small membership, it seems that most everyone was out of town or was their a hockey game that night? <grin>.

Well, where are all those questions that you want answered? I didn't receive any mail or phone calls! So there will not be a Q&A column this issue, but I'm still hoping that my new contributor will have his other article ready for this issue.

Is anyone interested in having an extensive demonstration with a video digitizer at one of the regular meetings? If so, lets ask Chuck to put one on for us in the future. I for one would like to see a demo! How about you?

There is one question that keeps on being asked by RS-DOS'ers and that is: "How can I access the back side of my disks (drive 2 and 3)"? Well, first of all you have to have drives that will read side 2 or side 3. Next, type in the following listing:

Listing: "SETUP/BAS"

```
0 REM SETUP ROUTINE
1 POKE 150, x REM PRINTER BAUD RATE 1=9600 7=4800 18=2400 40=1200
  B7=600
2 POKE&HD7C0, &H00 REM sets 6ms step rate
3 POKE&HD816, &H14 REM sets 6ms step rate
4 POKE&HD89F, &H41 REM sets up drive 2
5 POKE&HD8A0, &H42 REM sets up drive 3
```

OR ALL ON ONE LINE AS SHOWN BELOW

1 POKE150, x: POKE&HD7C0, &H00: POKE&HD816, &H14: POKE&HD89F, &H41:
POKE&HD8A0, &H41



Type in one of the above setup routines, save it in ASCII eg:
SAVE "SETUP/BAS", A <ENTER>. Load any program that you would like to access either side of your drives. list the first 10 lines eg:
LIST -10 <ENTER>, (most programs start at 10). make sure that the setup routine line number is not the same as line numbers in the program (if it is, renumber the setup routine).

NEXT; type the following:

```
MERGE "SETUP/BAS" <ENTER>      next  SAVE " program_name " <ENTER>.
VOILA! You now have a program that (when run) will be able to access
both sides of you disks.  - HAVE FUN -
```

That's it for another issue and remember, I could use most any articles that are computer related and some other also. So give me a call or give them to me at the meeting.

Gerry McCleary
Editor

Message From The President

As I write this I'm also formatting/backing up disks and printing labels for a new Eliminator shipment to FHL, and generally scurrying around in my attempt to prepare for the upcoming Atlanta CoCoFest. By the time this is published I'll no doubt be busy catching up on the pile of new stuff that will have accumulated over the CoCoFest weekend. Thank goodness for my CoCo 3 and OS-9, at least I can attempt to keep my CoCo busy with several tasks, though I'm afraid it still manages to keep just ahead of me most of the time!

Atlanta CoCoFest

I expect to see all the new "CoCo 4" entries, including one that I've just recently heard of, from Peripheral Technologies. This one is a little different from the others, but might be just the thing for some who are interested in an OS-9/68000 machine. In addition to the new machines, I think there'll be a new item or two for our current CoCos. I understand Tony DiStefano has been working on a new colour video digitizer for the CoCo... maybe it will be demonstrated at this 'Fest. In any event I'm sure that we'll be bringing back as much information as we can get, to share with the club.

I'm also told that Rainbow magazine will be represented at the CoCoFest, though they're not the hosts this time. From what I've heard so far, this 'Fest will be at least as well attended as the recent RainbowFests have been, with most of the major CoCo hardware and software dealers present. My congratulations to the Atlanta CoCo users who helped put the 'Fest together, and especially to Dave Myers of "CoCoPRO!" for his support.

Social Secretary Volunteer Still Wanted

The club is still in need of a new Social Secretary. Ron Van Hogeand has continued in this post, but would very much like to pass the duties on to someone else. Since he also serves as Disk BASIC software librarian, it is understandable that he'd like to give the coffee responsibilities to someone else. The duties of the Social Secretary are primarily to keep track of the coffee fund and supply the CCCC's general meetings with fresh coffee and soft drinks such as "juice boxes". If you can store the coffee equipment between meetings, carry the equipment to and from meetings, and get the coffee started approximately 15 minutes before the official start of the general meetings, this job is waiting for you. Please contact me if you can help.

Auction

This October meeting has an auction scheduled, and I hope its successful for everyone. I expect there'll be some bargains to be had, but remember... the more you pay, the bigger the club's 10% slice becomes! <grin> Just kidding, really, the club is not in too bad financial shape so just enjoy yourselves and don't worry about bidding outrageously for that well used copy of Dino-Wars!

The club has in its possession a number of items that failed to sell at previous auctions. I'm sure these will be going in bulk quantities for very low prices, so maybe you'll consider picking a few things up so I (and future presidents) don't have to store them? <grin>

Bruce Isted 90/10/01

Attention!! Attention!!

Attention ALL COCO users! It's finally here, the package you've all been waiting for!
Alpha Software Technologies Proudly Presents...

\$59.95

\$59.95

DATA - WINDOWS

User Definable Fields

Define all of your own data fields for YOUR application!

Output Expressions

Expressions, instead of just data fields, can be used for any output operations. Most BASIC-like expressions are valid.

Example:(quantity * unitcost) * .07

Unlimited number of key fields

Any field can be used as a key. There is no limit to how many fields can be used as a key. A separate file is used as an index for each key field.

Automatic sorting by any key field (FAST!)

Data - Window's indexing system uses the popular B-tree data structure for fast retrieval and automatic sorting. Data is always sorted by ALL key fields simultaneously.

Searching by any key field (FAST!)

It is possible to search for records by any key field. This search is super FAST due to the B-tree indexing scheme.

Record Browsing (sorted by ANY key field)

Browsing through records is possible with the arrow keys and from menu options. The B-tree indexing scheme allows record browsing to be sorted by ANY key field!

User definable data windows (database views)

A database is viewed through a special "data window". The data window is a user defined view into the database data. These make accessing the data attractive and user-friendly. Define text fields, input fields and output expressions.

User definable field edits

The "data windows" allow the user to define exactly how the data will look when input or output. This makes data validation easy.

Import/export/merge capability

The ability to import/export data from simple text files allows Data - Windows to communicate with other programs. The merge capability allows data to be easily transferred from one database to another.

Cut/copy/paste capability

Cut/copy/paste capability makes the communication between databases even easier. Cut records from one database and paste them in another!

Conditional printing capabilities

Determine if records should be printed (on reports or labels) with conditional expressions. Most BASIC like IF statement expressions are valid.

Example: (quantity * unitcost) > 500.00 OR rate < 200

Full report generation with conditional printing

Report generation capabilities including output expressions, output editing, multi-line output records, multiple break fields (sub-totals), multiple total fields, and conditional printing.

Full mailing label generation with conditional printing

Mailing label capabilities including output expressions, output editing, and conditional printing.

Multi - Vue interface makes it easy to use

Makes complete use of the Multi - Vue environment, but does not require it to run. If Multi - Vue is not present, All Multi - Vue functionality is duplicated in text mode.

Ready-to-run

Comes with pre-setup databases for a Rolodex, Magazine library, Video tape library, Home inventory manager, and Medical/insurance database.

Software support

We are distributing the DB9-90 file specifications (format used for Data - Windows files) freely. This will promote the growth of products that use this file format standard. We are hoping to make DB9-90 the new database standard for OS9. We will also be providing a programmer interface to the databases for even speedier development.

Growth

Data - Windows is only one part of a planned complete system of software using the DB9-90 format. Currently in the works are:

Data - Merge

A utility for using Data - Windows databases (DB9-90 format) inside of documents for mail-merging.

Data - Developer

A toolkit for developing applications that use the DB9-90 file format specifications. Included will be assembly language, C, and BASIC09 interfaces to DB9-90 databases.

Data - App

A utility for creating Data - Windows stand-alone applications without programming. Develop the system under Data - Windows, then use Data - App to make it a complete stand-alone program that can be uploaded, shared, and even sold!

Data - Forms

A system for creating and printing user definable forms from Data - Windows databases. Use Data - Windows to enter the data, use Data - Forms to print the forms.

Alpha Software Technologies
201 Bluefield Dr.,
Slidell, LA. 70458

HOOKED ON PROGRAMMING? - OR ARE YOU A PROGRAMMING ADDICT ???
=====

By Don Veith

There are people who love computer programming. Quite a few actually. I am one of them: a programming addict. The number of programming addicts is growing geometrically with the sale of affordable personal computers.

If you are a programming addict, perhaps you have tried to explain yourself to friends and family and found you could not. Maybe you have wondered if your addiction is healthy. The ideas presented here will try to explain what the programming addiction is, why people succumb to it, and what may be learned from this phenomenon.

The symptoms of a programming addict are listed below. THE PROGRAMMING ADDICT:

1. Works Late, On Weekends, And At Home.
2. Thinks Programming Is Fun.
3. Cannot Stop Programming.
4. Suffers A Loss Of Time Sense
5. Uses Tell-tale Phrases (and behavior).
6. Possesses A Distorted Sense Of Values.

Programming addicts will work all evening or weekend forsaking other commitments and people, including their own wife and children. It is nothing for one to lose a sense of time and work all night long going to work with a minimum amount of sleep or none at all. Many people find it rather strange that they view their job as fun. Many of them started programming for fun and ended up realizing people would ACTUALLY PAY MONEY to an individual for doing something they enjoy!

Programming addicts cannot stop programming. When elevated to manager positions, the managing task with its paper work and meetings causes great anguish by reducing the programming time available. The never cured addict actually begs his boss not to remove the terminal, which there now is so little time to utilize, from his office. All work and meeting schedules are banished to the Ozone fringe when one of the manager's programmers states the bug in this program cannot be located. It triggers that old nemesis of a heartache called Programmer's addiction. Removing the victim from the pleasurable task at hand, finding a coding error, may cause withdrawal symptoms and will definitely reduce your life expectancy if not accomplished in an organized and careful manner. Have you ever viewed GODZILLA and GHENGIS KHAN At the same moment. My advice is to avoid this type of confrontation. Hidden monsters may arise suddenly in the most timid Programming Addict when a key train of thought is interrupted. Be assured you WILL BE ADDRESSED in a voice that uses words most people are not aware exist. Additionally, YOU WILL BE REMINDED CONSTANTLY for a very long period of time that your 10 level interruption on his Richter Disturbance Scale, maxed out of course, caused the Addict great delay in the search for that elusive rascal of a program bug. Oh yes, a program bug is invisible, cannot be eliminated with the aid of an exterminator, and causes great anguish until located, removed and summarily executed in a correct manner!!