

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: Jan. 25, 1987

ISSUE: NL-43

NEXT MEETING DATE: Feb. 8, 1987

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Confederation High School, Welland

EDITORS: H. Van Dyke, Ivan Horvat...356-3370

ADVENTURESS: Pat Chamberland.....357-3462

STOREKEEPER: "QC" John Handley734-3061

ARCHIVES: John "Knitter" Felker...682-2595

EPROMMER: "Engineer" Bob Patty....937-6794

COCO III'er: Ken "Hick" Wiseman....774-3682

ARCHIVES: Russ "Moneybags" Hall.....735-2136

TESTING: Mitch "Stovepipe" Smith....357-0377

(Ex) PRESIDENT: Harry "Pres" Van Dyke.....356-6005
VICE PRES.: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward.....871-7235
SECRETARY: Ken "Penguin" Halbert.....354-9061
TREASURER: George "Dizzy" Dean.....356-8037
MS DOS BOS: "Dapper" Dan Veysey.....295-6254
MEMBERSHIP: "Dirty" Gerry Chamberland..357-3462
TECHNICAL: Walter "Starman" Jutting....641-0798
BILINGUAL: Flo "Frenchy" Martel.....354-2252
PURCHASING: Bill "Tightwad" White.....227-5836
ACTIVITIES: "Dependable" Jerry Secord..358-9996
INFORMATION: Rob "Forgetful" Lawson....354-7113
OS9 GROUP: Steve " " Philip.....?????????
REFRESHMENTS: Debbie "50cents" Secord...358-9996

"check your label for expiry date"

DEAR MEMBERS:

This may be my (sniff!) last newsletter to you as President. I am about to be deposed. There were thousands (well, a few) of nominations for the new executive positions. The revolution has begun! The coup is on! Another democracy falls by the wayside! More on that later.

It must be an omen.....

Finally fate smiled on me and awarded to me my just deserts.
I won the 50/50 draw!!
No one deserves it more.
No one has worked harder to get it!
How does one dole out the harvest of bounty such as this?
What can I do to improve the lot of mankind with this newfound wealth?
Oh the confusion! The indecision! The emotion of it all!
\$27.50, in case you're wondering.

Speaking of confusion

Due to an editorial error, (my screwup) I put the wrong phone number at the top of the last newsletter, for Russ Hall.

I was probably given the wrong number by Moneybags.

I apologize on either my or Moneybags' behalf, depending on whose fault it is.

His proper number is 735-2136.

Don't bother sending him any money, he has lots.

Don't bother asking him for any either, why do you think he still HAS lots?

Too much STARGAZING perhaps?

In case you were wondering what happened to Starman Walter Jutting last meeting, he gave me a pretty feeble excuse.

Seems that he was involved in a car accident on his way to the meeting.

Fortunately, Walter was not hurt. At least his soldering hand is still in working order.

Anyone wanting chips from Walter will have to search along the highway for them. I don't think the tire tracks will hurt the 64K chips any.

PERFECT TIMING EH KNITTER?.....

Steve (no number) Philip started the OS9 group again.
(maybe he will give me his number so I can stick it in)

Anyway, about halfway through the meeting, I thought I would amble back to the classroom and see how the "0 niners" were doing.

There sat Knitter pounding away at the keyboard with wild abandon, arms flailing, needles flying. Just as I was about to leave with a very impressed impression, I discovered why he was so desperately dancing on the computer.

HE HAD JUST FINISHED FORMATTING HIS SYSTEM DISK.

You know, the disk with all the important files and routines on it!!!

He knew as soon as he saw me walk in that the jig was up. You can't cover this one up Knitter! I can spot an embarrassing occurrence from a mile away.

And I needed something good for this newsletter.

Once you format a disk, everything on it is gone, right Knitter? All the weeping, moaning, cursing and tap dancing in the world won't bring it back. Knitter knows. He's tried them all.

We ALMOST had some real good prizes

Except that Forgetfull ate all of them!

He must have "forgotten" that those Burger King coupons were for prizes.

You see, we had a few coupons left over after the last contest and we were going to use them for the next one.

"We don't have any more coupons" he says.

Luckily his son, Mike was more honest than he was, and he fessed-up that the missing coupons were in Rob's stomach in the shape of Whoppers. Forgetful's phone number is listed on the first page in case you would like a bite of the Whopper you MIGHT have won.

HAVE YOU GOT SOME EXTRA COMPUTER DEBRIS?

I have mentioned this before, but it could bear repeating.

If you have anything COMPUTER RELATED to sell, feel free to bring it to the meetings. It's amazing how fast things sell and how much interest there is in the various things that can be bought and sold.

I brought in a bunch of stuff and most of it was gone in no time.

There is always someone interested in buying tape recorders, joysticks, disk drives, computers, etc.,etc.

Let me (or whoever has the mike in his face) know what you have and we will announce it at the meeting.

(that's as long as Forgetfull remembers to bring the PA)

Maybe it will, maybe it won't

That's addendum #7.

I thought it would be available last meeting. It wasn't.

I give up trying to outguess the addendum dum dums.

Best thing to do is ask Q.C. John when you get to the meetings, if he has any addendums in his possession. If he does, he will gladly give you one. You may have to feed him a little, first.

Q.C. gets very hungry when he has something that he thinks you need.

DON'T WE GET A CONVENTION FIRST?

The nominations are in!
With much fanfare, the sealed ballots were opened in the presence of anyone that was anyone, at the last executive meeting.

It was a nice box too!

Thanks to the Hicks, Lori and Ken Wiseman.

I guess it pays to make a nice box because Lori and Ken got all kinds of nominations for President and Vice-President.

We will be voting at the Feb.8 meeting by a show of hands on the following crooks:

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Rob Lawson	Tim Woodward	Ken Halbert
Lori Wiseman	Ken Wiseman	Ken Halbert

I will be turning over the crown at the next meeting.

The secretary position will be a shoo-in for the Penguin. Nobody wants his job. (lucky,eh Penguin?)

THIS REALLY HURTS ME IVAN

Just about the time that everyone has finally forgotten about the small, little, insignificant bugs in HDOS, Just when the wounds are almost healed.....Ivan decides that he has to reawaken the sleeping giant.

This young fellow, my protege, this carnivorous, bloodsucking, vindictive, lying, cheating, shrivelled piece of human waste that I rescued from a life of wanton lust and drunken orgies has gone too far!!!

ET TU BRUTE?

Is this how you repay my kindness?

I tried to forget the times that your wild parties have kept the neighbourhood awake until the wee hours of the night.

My mind has blocked the fact that big black limousines with Italian speaking, violin carrying men stop frequently at your house.

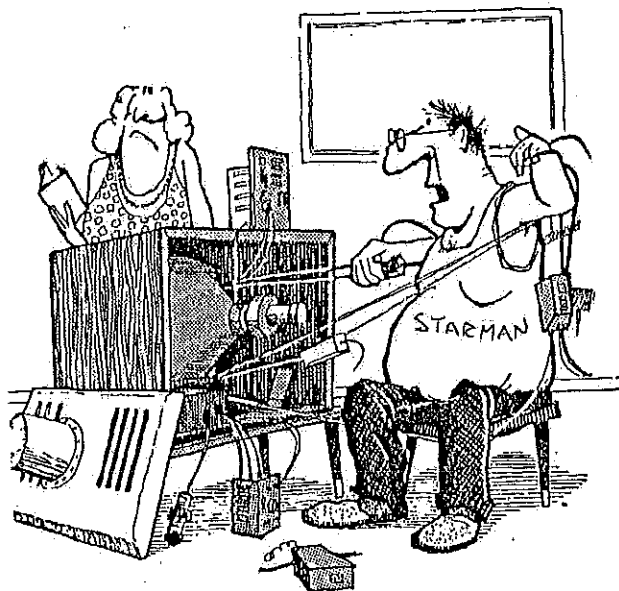
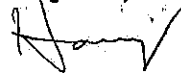
I don't say anything to the government about your mysterious source of income. (how many of us can go to school driving a brand new Mustang?).

He traded a car barely three months old, for this thing. Someone must have filled his ash tray.

He has relatives in high places too, you know. Right in the very heart of the city operations. The corruption cuts deeply into the flesh of people that hold our very futures in their hands.

Now you know why I have tried to hold back my anger against the injustices heaped upon me by this miserable excuse for a human being. Go ahead Ivan, do your worst! I no longer care!

See you at the Feb.8 meeting
(if I don't get any bones broken)



"Imagine those crooks wanting eleven bucks to fix this!"

"It's easy for you to say math isn't hard. They probably had fewer numbers when you were my age."

So how is everyone this month? I hope that you have had a better month than I did. That new black Mustang (the one that Harry is so jealous about) ended up finding a ditch to rest itself in during a snowstorm. It didn't like the snow on the road so it decided to find a sign to knock down and a ditch to lay in. To say the least, I was not impressed.

Actually I was not impressed with a number of things!

My uncle Guido that Harry so rudely talked about won't be impressed with his comments either. Don't be surprised if Harry has a fire sale at his house before next month's meeting. Harry I never told you that uncle Guido is into explosives sales (I'm not sure if it's all on the up and up).

Those wild parties that you mention don't even come close to the disgusting, sadistic scenes that emanate from your house on the other side of the street (thank goodness you live on the other side of the street). We even had the fire department there once to cool things down.

Then Harry talks about my family member in high places in the heart of city operations. My sister works at the cemetery downtown. Harry's notion of high places must have something to do with what uncle Guido is planning for him. My sister will be six feet above him when Guido is finished with him.

Harry, your description of me is far too complimentary and you really shouldn't have taxed your brain to come up with such a fine piece of poetry. I was most impressed considering just last week you were learning your ABC's. Are you sure that Karen didn't write this newsletter for you???? NO I don't think she did because there are far too many spelling mistakes for it to be Karen's work.

Not only that but only some low-life, slime-sucking, scum at the bottom of a barrel could write about me like that.

So much for kindness Harry! (or should I just call you slime?)

All I was doing was pointing out some errors that were pointed out to me by some members in the club. I allowed these people to remain anonymous because I was afraid that Harry would persecute them the way he is persecuting me. Now he wants me to censor what I hear to cover his behind. I will do no such thing for him.

I can take it and I will fight fire with fire if I must. That choice is yours Harry.

THE NEW GAMES CONTEST

We are going to have another games contest at the next meeting but this time we will have 4 age categories.

6 and under	DUBLEBACK
7 to 10	NINJA WARRIOR
11 to 14	ZAXXON
15 & up	GRABBER

Each contestant will be allowed 5 minutes and the following prizes will be awarded:

1st prize \$20.00
2nd prize \$10.00
3rd prize \$ 5.00

All of the games are on both disk and tape and if someone needs a copy of any of them please give Rob Lawson a call but you have to get to his house to get the game.

Congratulations to all the winners of the last games contest. We still are waiting for one winner to claim his prize. Darrin Mills won \$10.00 in the last contest but hasn't claimed his prize. See Rob Lawson at the next meeting for your prize.

MORE DISKETTES

We have a 1000 diskettes on order again but I'm not sure of the price yet. I think it will probably be \$8.00 for a box of 10 again. We will try to have them for the next meeting.

MORE ON THE MS DOS MACHINES

Were you impressed with the show that Mike Van Dyke put on for us on the new MS DOS machine that his slime-sucking father bought. Did it impress any of you enough to want one. Well just in case you are interested here is some more information on the machine:

640K expandable to 1Mbyte
80286 (AT compatible)
2 serial and 1 parallel port
1-1.2 Mbyte disk drive
Colour graphics card
200 watt power supply
Hard disk controller card
handles 2 hard and 2 floppy drives
90 day parts and labour warranty
Price: Approx. \$1500.00 plus customs duty

All you need then is the monitor to run the machine so for approximately \$1750.00 you have an AT-compatible machine. This is by far the cheapest set-up that we have been able to find around here. The closest thing that I found was a place in Toronto that had a system for \$2350.00 + tax + a monitor.

Here is the name and address of the company we purchased ours from:

HiTech International Inc.
A KNK Company
1435 McCandless Drive
Milpitas, California
95035
Tel. 408-263-3300

CLASSIFIEDS

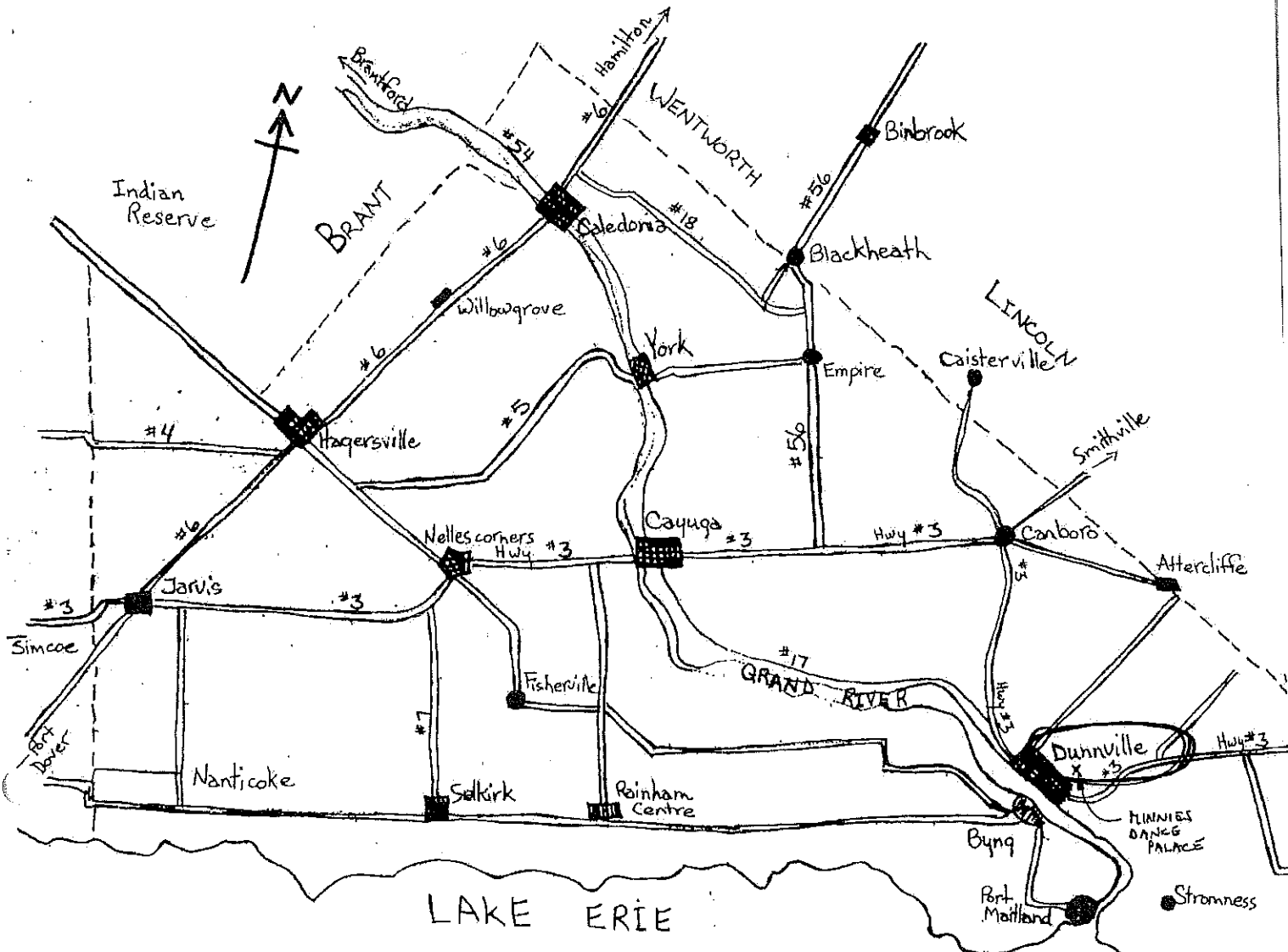
WANTED - to buy a disk drive and controller and printer for a reasonable price. Anyone interested in selling any of the above please call Ann Lott at 892-3855

FOR SALE - I know Harry isn't ready for this but here it goes. I have a SAM 3001 AT-compatible machine

for sale. September is getting closer all the time and McMaster University is not cheap. I'm selling the computer with a Zenith amber monitor that is less than one year old and a printer cable and all my disks (approx. 60 disks) for \$1800.00 firm. You don't know how difficult this is for me but that's the way things go. Anyone that might be interested can see me at the next meeting at the membership table. I also have a fully loaded 1986 Mustang GT for sale but I'm not allowed to mention that because it's not computer-related so ignore the this last sentence (unless of course your interested in buying a 1986 Mustang GT).

Well that's about it for this month. This could very well be my last newsletter as well. It's been fun but that's the way things go. I would also like to thank Harry on behalf of all the executives for all the work he has done for this club over the past 5 years. Without his dedicated effort this club, I'm sure, would not be in existence. Harry has brought this club from a small group of approximately 10 people to a club with over 200 members. I feel that Harry should be proud of that kind of an achievement and I am personally very grateful to Harry for all the help and information he has given to me over the past five years. I'm sure you will be missed as president but I'm sure that everyone can understand that you are extremely busy with your new job and that you don't have the time that you used to have for the club. Good luck to you and welcome to the new president whomever he/she may be. See you all at the next meeting on February 8, 1987.

Ivan



COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03 COC03

HOW YA ALL DOIN FOLKS !!!

WE ARE STILL GOING THROUGH THE PROGRAMS IN THE CLUB LIBRARY TO SEE WHICH ONES WILL RUN ON THE COC03 AND WHICH OF THEM WON'T. SO HANG IN THERE AND WE'LL TRY TO GET A LIST TOGETHER AND GET IT OUT TO THE CLUB MEMBERS.

THOSE OF YOU THAT HAVE THE R.S. DEMO AND WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE THE PRICE ON THE SCREEN OR WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE IT FOR COMPOSITE TO RUN THE TRUE COLORS ON THE T.V. OR BACK TO R.G.B. AGAIN, JUST HIT THE <CTRL> KEY AND </> KEY, ENTER THE NEW PRICE AND THEN ENTER, ANOTHER PROMPT WILL APPEAR TO CHANGE FROM R.G.B. TO COMPOSITE OR BACK AGAIN.

THE CLUB HAS ORDERED "JUNIOR'S REVENGE" FOR THE COC03 AND WILL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS WE GET IT.

WE HAVE ALSO FOUND THAT WITH THE R.S. R.G.B. MONITOR CM-8 A LOT OF THE GAMES AND PROGRAMS COME OUT BLACK AND WHITE BECAUSE THEY WERE PROGRAMED FOR THE T.V. AND COMPOSITE COLOR MONITORS, SO LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP! YOU MAY BE A LOT HAPPIER WITH THE COC02, AT LEAST UNTIL THEY GET MORE SOFTWARE ON THE MARKET.

WE NOW HAVE A REVISED "DISKUTIL" THAT WILL RUN ON THE COC03 AND EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT YOU CANNOT LOAD OR LOADM A PROGRAM WHILE YOU ARE IN THE PROGRAM EVERYTHING ELSE WORKS THE SAME AS THE ORIGINAL "DISKUTIL".

WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE R.S. VERSION 1.1 HAS BEEN THE MOST SUCCESSFUL DOS TO RUN WITH THE COC03 AS IT SEEMS TO BE THE MOST COMPATIBLE WITH THE RUNNING OF THE OLDER PROGRAMS.

AT THE LAST MEETING SOME OF THE MEMBERS ASKED ME IF THE PROGRAMS I HAD LISTED IN THE NEWS LETTER FOR THE COC03 WERE WERE ON ORDER BY THE CLUB! NO THEY ARE NOT THEY WERE A LIST OF THE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR THE COC03 AT THE TIME!

ALSO THE PROGRAM "WRESTLE MANIA" HAS NOT BEEN ORDERED AS OF YET IT IS NOT A COC03 PROGRAM BUT I HAVE HEARD THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SUPER GAME AND THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE A LOT OF INTERESTED PEOPLE IN IT, SO I WILL BRING IT UP TO THE EXECUTIVES AND WE WILL SEE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ORDERING IT.

AS I SAID BEFORE, ANY ONE INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT IN THE COC03 GROUP OR IF THERE ARE ANY SUGGESTIONS CONTACT ME "THE HICK" OR ANY OF THE EXECUTIVE, THAT IS EXCEPT FOR THE PRESIDENT HARRY "ON THE BUSES" VAN DYKE, BECAUSE HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE "DUNNVILLE" IS! BY THE WAY, WASN'T IT THE ENGLISH THAT WERE ON THE BUSES NOT THE DUTCH? WHAT HAPPENED?

"Hick"

In the beginning...
There was HARRY
And someone said...
Let there be ROB

So he put "ROB LAWSON" at the top of the newsletter...

FROM THE PRES:

I know I can't and never will fill Harry's shoes. He has been a definite asset to, as well as a driving force behind the club. We sure don't want to lose him.

First of all, I'm no expert at computers. I'm just a guy who was interested enough to join the club a couple of years ago. I joined the executive group to get more involved and look where it got me (see where giving out WHOPPER coupons can get you!).

As far as I'm concerned, the club will stay the same EXCEPT!!! I need suggestions. Not the usual wisecracks from the usual jokers in the club; but good suggestions to help me run this club.

Harry said he will continue to write the newsletter for now (that right Harry?).

We've got good people in this club, but I need more. Harry knows a lot, I don't. I'll make mistakes. I'll forget a few things. But I'll learn. So bear with me.

I need a volunteer to organize various contests and to put games in the newsletter to make it more exciting.

I need a "SOUND TECHNICIAN" to take charge of the P.A. system. You get to use 2 great speakers for your home stereo. Just don't forget to bring them to the meetings.

I've started a massive spending cut. I only bought 1 dozen donuts for the executive meeting instead of Harry's usual dozen & a half.

Well I've finished my blurb for now. I hope to see you all at the next meeting (if I don't forget to go).

By the way; I've got a great "brain teaser" for you. Try to figure out these word puzzles. I've got the answers, but I don't have a prize. This is a just for fun contest.

Well, here I am trying to poke out an interesting article to show the power of the COCO III. This task isn't an easy one because there is so much power to explore. To begin with, I think I should start by explaining the essential differences between our two beloved machines. Again this is no easy task since there are so many hidden features on the new machine. Let's start with the display screen. For many years now the devoted COCO group has lived and suffered with a 32 column screen. Although this screen is highly visible, it becomes very limited when trying to handle large amounts of screen data. (i.e. Word Processors, Spread sheets etc.). The answer arrived with the COCO III. This machine offers four modes of viewing text. Three of these are supported by Basic and one of them is not. The new widths that Basic supports are:

- 32 width (any combination of foreground background)
- 40 width (same as above with attributes *)
- 80 width (same as above with attributes *)

* ATTRIBUTES are a way of having more than one color character on the same screen. They also handle such things as blinking and underlining.

The screen width that Basic does not support is 64. This width may be selected with a few pokes and does have its advantages. Since this mode does not support attributes it will then take up less screen memory. However, attributes are quite useful when used properly. Most people will find them an invaluable tool.

So what a few screen enhancements, that's not much what else can it do?

How about a graphic screen with 16 colors and detail that doubles the COCO II?

That's right the COCO III has an ingenious chip inside it called GIME. (Graphics, interrupt, memory enhancement). This chip turns the COCO III into a monster. With 16 colors available on the screen at one time and at a super high dot density the COCO III is no little games machine (although the games should be fantastic). GIME allows so much versatility that the speed of graphics and text will amaze you. For only having my machine for two months now, I have discovered a huge amount of potential gateways for programmers and non programmers alike. GIME also controls all the memory inside the COCO III. That was another problem with the COCO II. This machine required a special chip to handle its memory called a SAM chip. Although this was an efficient chip, there were many problems with its overheating and in return causing memory failure. The good news is, when Tandy decided to build the COCO III they solved this problem with the old GIME chip. This LSIC (Large scale integrated circuit) not only speeds up memory access time it also allows for complete access to the "maximum" 512k on board memory. To explain how COCO III accesses its 512k is quite simple, if you remember that the C.P.U. (central processing unit) can only access 64k of any type of memory (RAM or ROM) at one time. With this in mind lets take a look at how the COCO II would simulate 256k of on board memory.

One way for the COCO II to address the 256k would be to bank switch. Now, this process required that the programmer be aware of a certain reserved address up in the IO (Input Output) area. This address acts as a multiplicand. The computer, when looking to see

THE OREO KING

Tim Scruffy Woodward is vice-president again.

How can anyone compete against a person as popular as an Oreo Stuffer? This guy had the elections in the bag before they even began.

Scruff has been carrying on with the seminars in the classrooms. I don't know what he has planned for next month, but it should be good.

Perhaps a course on how to stuff a really good Oreo?

HOW FAST CAN A PENGUIN TYPE?

A lot faster now that he has an IBM AT compatible and a monster word processor.

Crash Horvat needed some fast cash (probably got in trouble with his uncle Guido) so Penguin, being always on the alert for the knocking of an opportunity, quickly offered to relieve Crash of the offending hardware (his computer) in return for a small stipend guaranteed to ensure that Uncle Guido would not break any important limbs.

It will be interesting to see if Crash has any contributions to make to the newsletter this month. You see, I am going to bypass the normal distribution and give this directly to the Penguin rather than to Crash who would normally just read my commentary and if I accidentally made a derogatory comment about him, would launch into a tirade of vulgar obscenities that I certainly did not deserve.

In case you are wondering, this newsletter is being done on Word Perfect on the Sam3001. It is quite a departure from VIP Writer, much more complex, but also very full featured and fast. It has a built in Dictionary and Thesaurus which makes is very convenient to call people

names.

For example, I might want to call Bill White a Tightwad several different ways. All I have to do is put the cursor on the word Tightwad and press the Thesaurus key and I find that I can call him Miserly, Stingy and Parsimonious, and still mean the same thing. Great eh??

Lets see you beat that one, Crash! (disaster, failure, ruin, smash, shatter)

FOR SALE

Anyone looking for an amber monitor? This is a Zenith 1230 hi res amber that is almost new. It never saw any I.O. errors, so it is without any hangups. They cost around \$140.00 and need a monitor driver unless you have a CoCoIII. If you are interested and have \$95.00 in your pocket, call me, the Ex-Pres. at 356-8005.

Incidentally, since I still print this rag, if anyone else has something (computer related) to sell, give me a call and I will stick it.

BLIND LEADING THE BLIND?

Clem has updated the group leader list and you should find a copy with this newsletter. (this is just speculation at this point)

The idea is that you should go to your group leader if you need any information, help, or a shoulder to cry on. That way no one person will be doing all the work and if Clem worked it out right, which he has been doing, you should have a group leader fairly close to your place of residence.

If you don't find your name on the list, or don't like your leader, or don't like your name, let Clem know and he will tell you what to

do. (hee, hee)

HAVE YOU NO SHAME????

I saw something at the last meeting that almost made me weep. Did anyone else happen to notice what kind of monitor the CoCoIII group was using?

Pretty sick wasn't it?

Did you notice the terrible graphics resolution? The letters were all crooked, the colors were all wrong, and there were definitely a lot more I.O. errors on this monitor.

They were using a COMMODORE MONITOR. I am (appalled, disgusted, dismayed, horrified) (all of the above).

Perhaps thats all you can get in DUNNVILLE. All the good monitors get shipped to the big cities first, then when they run out of good monitors, they ship remaining rejects to DUNNVILLE knowing those hicks will buy anything.

BIG BUCKS

The 50/50 draw at the last meeting went to Lloyd Geake. He walked away with \$24.00.

Well, I'm really not sure if he walked away or not...he may have gotten mugged in the parking lot.

He certainly didn't spend it at the Calorie Corner, since we didn't have a CALORIE CORNER.

Maybe Lloyd will buy a sticker to put over that label on the CoCoIII group's monitor.

MS DOS STUFF

Those of you that lean to the MS DOS side, this is for you.

Everyone else can skip this or go to DUNNVILLE.

There are about 150 disks in

the MS-DOS library. If you want to have a boo at the library, let me know. It is presently in a state of disarray and floating around between members, but there is a lot of interesting software in it and we would certainly be interested in anything you may have.

I am speaking of course, of Public Domain Software.

Now that the Penguin has finally been worn down enough to get his own machine, we will have a better source of documentation. If you run off a DOC list from a program and are of a generous mind, Penguin can make copies for the rest of us and keep a copy in his archives.

If you are looking to get into MS-DOS hardware, HI-TEK has another deal on that sounds excellent. HI-TEK is where we bought the AT compatibles from. This sounded so good that I ordered a system for work. Now you know why bus fares have just gone up.

Sam3001 IBM AT compatible, with 640 RAM, Serial and Parallel ports, 1.2 meg floppy drive, Seagate ST225 20 meg hard drive, hi-res TTL amber monitor, 5060 keyboard, tested and ready to run for \$1400.00 U.S.

That works out to about \$1850.00 or so in Canadian plus duty and taxes. You can't touch this configuration for under \$3000.00 around here and even that would be considered a bargain.

HI-TEK's number is 408-263-3300 and they are super people to deal with.

ON LINE AGAIN....

Our on-again off-again BBS may be on-again.

Steve Philip, who is also our OS9 hacker, is looking into setting up a BBS again. Steve ran one a

while ago, but suffered from hardware problems and long-distance-charge-a-phobia. He has moved and even though he is still long distance to a lot of people, is seeking a way to make his system available to all of us.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If there was one, it would go here. Since Forgetful hasn't given me anything, this will be a very short column. You can fill in your own comments if you like. Maybe Forgetful will have something for us next time.

.....blah.....blah.....blah.
blah.....blah.....yak..
.....yak.....hum.....blah....
and yak yak.

FULL UP

Last meeting there were well over 300 people present. Not a bad turnout, considering the ominous weather forecast for the day. It turned out to be a bit tricky driving home but I don't think we got as much snow and ice as we were supposed to. Even Ivan made it home without smashing up his car.

It was nice to see all of you there and particularly to see all the various machines set-up.

It's the variety of equipment and people that makes the meetings interesting. If you have something you want to show, or just want to bring in your stuff, please feel free to do so. The more the better.

Maybe we can laugh at it.

If it has a COMMODORE sticker on it, unless you want the world to know, you would be well advised to cover the sticker. Or else just say that you're from Dunnville and we will understand.

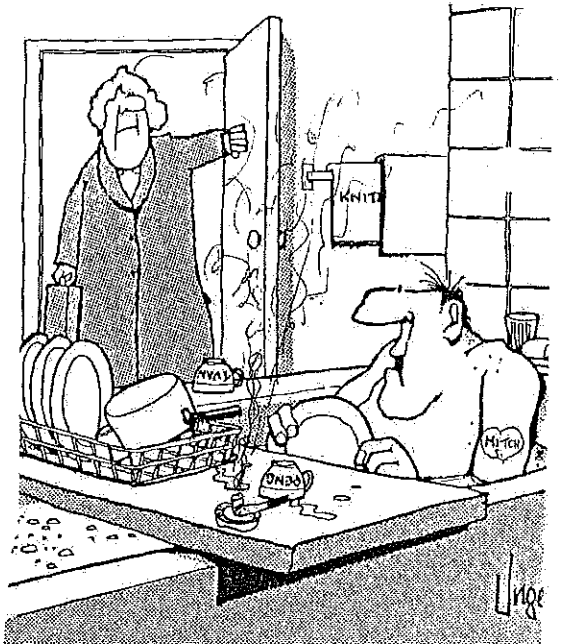
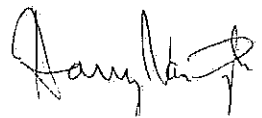
FINISHED...at last

That's about enough diary... direea, dyereeah,...ah, I'd better look this one up in my Dictionary. Oh there it is....diarrhea.

O.K., as I was saying, that's enough out of my bottomless pit of scuttlebutt, locution and heresay.

See you at the March 8 meeting.

Have fun.



"I thought you said you were coming home next Sunday"

A COUPLE watched their teenage son walk out to the family car and get in. Said the husband to his scowling spouse, "But I was firm with him. For a few minutes there I had him thinking he wasn't going to get the car keys."

what part of the 256k is being accessed, would look at this particular byte for example a 5 and then multiply it by a constant 32768. This method allowed for the computer to bring in and out of the C.P.U. 32k banks. However, this would cause some problems when the average Joe tried to even access this extra 196k of ram. The major problem was that when the programmer changed the multiplier address, the upper 32k bank (being where your ROMS reside) would change. Hence, Basic and all the ROMS would all of a sudden disappear. Well, it turned out that only people with quite a fair knowledge of how this system operated could take full advantage over the 256k, leaving the average person still wondering why when he types PRINT MEM it only comes up with 24768. Now on with the good news. The COCO III has solved this problem again and in the process has enabled our little machine to handle multi-tasking, which by the way allows the computer to handle up to four different programs at the same time on the same screen. The way the new machine does this is quite similar to the method described above except, instead of dealing with big cumbersome 32k chunks the COCO III breaks it down into smaller 8k chunks. Now, what you have to remember here is that there is a total of eight, 8k chunks. The computer therefore needs eight reserved addresses to decide on what memory is currently being used. In a 128k system there are 16 possible 8k memory chunks. So, when the computer wants to know what memory it currently being used, it simply looks on an 8 byte multiplier table stored in the IO area. These 8 consecutive bytes point to the entire memory in your computer. Here is an example of a typical setup, that your computer uses during its normal Basic operations.

ADDRESS	BYTE IN TABLE	ACTUAL MEMORY ADDRESS
FFA0	0	0*8K=0 OR THE VERY FIRST 8K PAGE OF 128K
FFA1	1	1*8K=8K
FFA2	2	2*8K=16K
FFA3	3	3*8K=24K

THE FIRST FOUR BYTES OF TABLE ARE USED FOR SYSTEM RAM, BUT THE NEXT ARE RESERVED FOR THE ROMS (READ ONLY MEMORY) THAT THE SYSTEM OPERATES FROM

FFA4	17	17*8K BEYOND 128K BOUNDARY MEANS IT MUST BE LOOKING INTO THE ROMS (EXTENDED BASIC)
FFA5	18	18*8K POINTS TO COLOR BASIC ROM
FFA6	19	19*8K POINTS TO ROM PACK PORT (DISK BASIC)
FFA7	4	4*8K=32K RAM RESERVED FOR INPUT OUTPUT

The first byte of this table at FFA0 and the last byte at FFA7 must remain constant if you are writing in BASIC because these two pointers are used for IO and for temporary variable storage. If all this seems quite complicated, it really isn't. The important thing to remember here is that BASIC allows for the programmer to get at the 512k of ram on board the machine quite easily and effectively. If there are any questions on this topic, please feel free to ask me at the next meeting. Hopefully I have explained myself and at least try to understand it. There is more to this subject and if

your interested please contact me and I will try to explain the rest of it to you.

Now, there is a program that I have for the COCO IIIers and it really doesn't do much but it was one of those things I just had to do because Tandy forgot to put it into our new machine. Basically what it does is allows the user to enter lower case letters as commands. This is something that isn't really vital to the user but just a nice little upgrade so that your computer doesn't say 75N ERROR when you type in "list" in lower case. Try it you might like it. The program works most noticeably in width40 or width 80 mode.

```
0 WIDTH40:CLS100
1 'LOWERCASE ACCEPTANCE
2 'MODIFICATION
3 'FOR COCO III BASIC
4 'RUN PROGRAM TO SET MODE
5 'PRESS RESET TO END MODE
6 'ALLOWS LOWERCASE TO BE
7 'FUNCTIONAL IN COMMAND
8 'MODE
9 'DAVE ROACH (C) 1987
10 FOR A=&HB0E8 TO &HB103
20 READA$:POKE A,VAL("&H"+A$):CN=CN+VAL("&H"+A$):NEXT
30     FOR           A=&HA3E5           TO
&HA3E7:READA$:POKEA,VAL("&H"+A$):CN=CN+VAL("&H"+A$):NEXT
40 DATA 81,61,25,0F,81,7B
50 DATA 22,0B,BD,A2,82,B0
60 DATA 20,A7,B0,5C,7E,A3
70 DATA 9A,A7,B0,5C,BD,A2
80 DATA 82,7E,A3,9A
90 DATA 7E,B0,E8
100 IF CN<> 3843 THEN CLS100:PRINT:PRINT"ERROR IN DATA
STATEMENTS":ELSE PRINT"JOB COMPLETE LOWERCASE MODE ON":POKE282,0
```

This month at the meeting I will bring a demonstration of how the COCO can play many different musical instruments at the same time. The program that I will be using is called LYRA which is by far the best music program available for the COCO to date. So if you're into music and you've always wanted to here how a computer plays, here's your chance. See you next meeting.

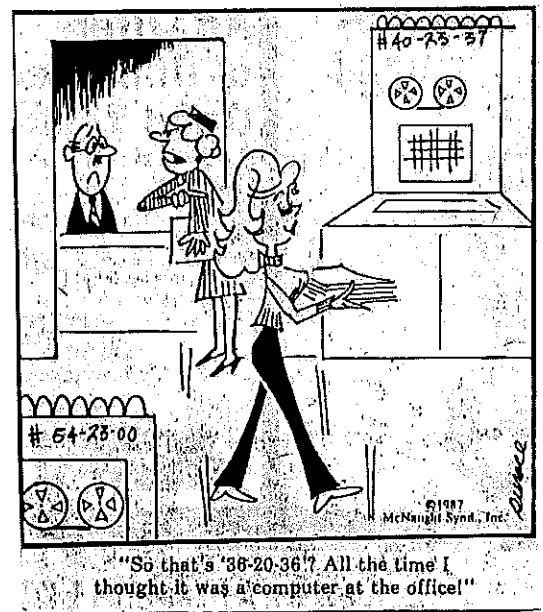
Till then

Dave Roach

Aiello	Frank/Tim	56 Ted St.	St. Catharines	416-934-6404
Allonby	James R.	77 Hounce St.	Regina	
Aquilina	Elio	3676 Rehstock Rd.	Crystal Beach	416-894-1428
Arnett	Chris	7824 Briarwood Ave	Niagara Falls	416-356-2819
Beauine	Denis	1358 Bridle Path Cir.	Pickering	416-831-6978
Beich	Philip	RR #2 1171 Haist Road.	Welland	416-892-6124
Baichuk	Grea	18 Daleview Cr.	Fonthill	416-892-6874
Borelli	Wendu	2981 Loyalist Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-356-5748
Buckawau	Mark	71 Calvinotn Drive	North York	416-631-8922
Bunz	Jerry/Carol	636 Elm St.	Port Colborne	416-835-8290
Bunz	Francis	42935 Wille Rd.	RT#1 Wainfleet	416-899-3719
Carter	Carole	RR#2	Stevensville	416-871-7645
Carter	Gerald	15 Woodbine Ave.	St. Catharines	416-934-8752
Casselman	Steven	541 Lakeview	Fort Erie	416-894-1254
Chamberland	Gerry	6843 Cumberland Court	Niagara Falls	416-357-3462
Chesse	Richard	8 Luone Ave.	Welland	416-735-3987
Clerk	Gerry	13 Conroy Cr.	Thorold	416-227-4856
Co Co Club	Sudbury Dist.	P.O. Box 2631 Stn. A.	Sudbury	
Comaniuk	Louis	8825 Westwood St.	Niagara Falls	416-374-1971
Computer Club	Regina Color	1112 College Ave.	Regina	
Cole	Kenneth W.	6853 Cumberland Cr.	Niagara Falls	416-356-6364
Crawford	Randy	49 Lesside Dr. #518	St. Catharines	416-935-2889
Cullen	Matthew	6249 Johnson Drive.	Niagara Falls	416-358-7213
Dautovich	Mike	2621 Niagara Parkway	Fort Erie	416-871-5477
Davidson	Del	61 Princess St.	Fort Erie	416-871-5878
Davis	Rick	26 The Meadows	St. Catharines	416-937-4688
Dean	George	7876 Jill Dr.	Niagara Falls	416-356-8037
Demers	Brad	148 Afton Ave.	Welland	416-735-8516
DiToro	Angela	7965 Westwood St.	Niagara Falls	416-358-6286
Doan	Clayton	4338 Simcoe St.	Niagara Falls	416-356-3224
Dois	Denis	313 Commando St.	Welland	416-734-4141
Duouis	Alsin	28 Tillock Court	Lower Sackville	902-845-8665
Faraelli	Thomas C.	Box 253	Crystal Beach	416-
Faucher	Clem	46 Regent Dr.	St. Catharines	416-934-1175
Felker	John	37 Coronation Blvd.	St. Catharines	416-882-2595
Fisher	Roucel	7143 Richmond Cr.	Niagara Falls	416-354-9581
Fleury	Marc	18 Willow Cr.	Welland	416-735-7833
Fraser	Jim / Deb	43 Windsor Rd.	St. Catharines	416-935-7368
Gauthier	Cec/George	157 Bridlewood Dr.	Welland	416-735-8616
Geake	Lloyd	17 Godenich St.	Fort Erie	416-871-1389
Grant	Peter	41 Wilton Ave.	Welland	416-735-8267
Haines	Hel	198 Hwy 20 W. Apt 488.	Ridgeway	416-892-2494
Halbert	Ken/Ken	5488 Green Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-354-9881
Hall	Russ	78 Wiltshire Blvd.	Welland	416-735-2136
Hendley	John/Mark	96 Acadis Dr.	Welland	416-735-6292
Hein	Richard	P.O. Box 284	Woodville	416-357-5264
Hendriks	Jean	4888 Willmott St.	Niagara Falls	416-357-2992
Heus	Philip	52 Facer St.	St. Catharines	416-937-3614
Hodges	Lloyd	P.O. Box 63	Dunnville	416-774-6827
Holmes	Faul	143 Joyce Ave.	Welland	416-735-2968
Horvat	Ivan	5741 Hillcrest Cr.	Niagara Falls	416-356-3378
Houghton	Grea	17 Woodbine Ave.	St. Catharines	416-937-3986
Hounsone	Edwin	118 Niagara Falls Rd.	St. Catharines	416-227-7374
Hughes	Pill	8524 Regan Drive	Niagara Falls	416-295-4144
Humeault	Herman	55 Micheal Drive N.	Port Colborne	416-835-5479
Hnicki	Michael	33 Joanna Drive	St. Catharines	416-934-4633
Hram	Darlene	4886 Kalar Rd.	Niagara Falls	416-357-9886
Jacob	Ron	17 Regis Place.	London	519-472-3787
Joseph	Dave	6895 Warden Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-356-8787
Jutting	Walter	138 South Drive.	St. Catharines	416-641-8798
Kallender	Terry	288 Kinquay	Welland	416-734-9982

Ladouceur	Vince	356 Aqueduct St. N	Welland	416-734-9367
Lambert	Craig	Townline Road.	N-On-The-Lake	416-934-1381
Lanoloie	Michael	4676 Second Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-357-1063
Lapointe	Marcel	28 Dunkirk Rd.	Welland	416-732-6081
Lawson	Rob	6483 Kendale Cr.	Niagara Falls	416-354-7113
Leduc	Blair	21 Baker Dr.	St. Catharines	416-935-9797
Lee Ott	Geoff	239 Hellems Ave.	Welland	416-734-9246
Lisou	Larry	4 Acadia Crescent	St. Catharines	416-688-3611
Lott	Ann	1329 Haisl Rd. RR#1	Ridgeville	416-892-3855
Mac Kay	Ken	P.O. Box 1749	Port Harou	604-949-6761
MacLachlin	Durtis	7233 Thornhill Cres.	Niagara Falls	416-354-1868
MacLeod	John	12 Carrol	Welland	416-734-6467
Maraldo	Nick	6815 Stevens St.	Niagara Falls	416-354-9084
Marescotto	Leanne/Bill	3 Paulina St.	St. Catharines	416-934-6576
Marotta	Nick	75 Eastdale Cres.	Welland	416-735-5525
Martel	Florent	3631 Wiltshire Blvd.	Niagara Falls	416-354-2252
Matue	Andrew	P.O. Box 29	Wellandport	416-386-6876
Mc Collum	Russell	282 Wallace Ave.	Welland	416-734-7366
McLean	Derek	R.R.#8	Dunnville	416-774-3251
Michaud	Hitch	35 Lowell St. N	Cambridge	519-621-6475
Mills	Darren	Killaly St. East	Port Colborne	416-834-6627
Norroy	Glen	522 Clare Ave.	Welland	416-734-4624
Nauler	George	19 Bowden St.	Fort Erie	416-871-1849
Nelson	Herb	Box 192	Port Colborne	416-894-4788
Nicholson	Paul/Donna	4180 York Dr.	Niagara Falls	416-356-8629
Norman	Jerry	293 Schofield Ave.	Welland	416-735-1962
O'Brien	Randy	6137 Tobu Cres.	Niagara Falls	416-358-8453
O'Keefe	Carol	187 Glendale Ave.	St. Catharines	416-682-1214
O'Laughlin	Gene	5877 Delaware St.	Niagara Falls	416-357-1895
Osee	Rob	18 Rochelle Drive	St. Catharines	416-935-2108
Pacan	Mark	1055 Chantler Rd.	Fennick	416-892-6886
Paganin	Dennis	6498-6 Huggins St.	Niagara Falls	416-356-9482
Pattu	Bob/Bruce	8 Meadowlark Cr.	St. Catharines	416-937-6794
Phelan	Patrick	39 Hickerson Ave.	St. Catharines	416-935-9574
Philip	Steve	268 Plessant Beach Rd.	Sherkston	416-892-3686
Pinden	Ernie	38 Aberdeen Court	Fort Erie	416-871-5583
Plint	Colin	RR #1 Ridgeville	Ridgeville	416-892-3686
Porteus	Andrew	5542 Church's Lane	Niagara Falls	416-357-4570
Provost	Robert	4-4465 Phillips St.	Niagara Falls	416-356-8466
Fruun	Mark	R.R.#3	Port Colborne	416-834-4233
Pullano	Ron	6719 Waters Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-358-9881
Pule	Gene	53 Valley Rd.	St. Catharines	416-688-5244
Rabu	Ricky	264 Lincoln E.	Welland	416-732-1769
Rainville	Lynn	34 Cameron Ave.	Welland	416-732-5834
Reddy	Ramesh	4069 McKinless Cres.	Niagara Falls	416-354-5887
Roach	Dave	23 Greenwood Ave.	St. Catharines	416-688-8657
Robertson	George	423 Helena St.	Dunnville	416-774-6849
Robison	Kenneth	239 Clarence St.	Port Colborne	416-835-1324
Salisbury	Hike	6603 Old Niagara Rd.	Lockport	716-434-3726
Sauder	Grant/T/J	Line 7 Gen. Delivery	St. David's	416-262-4481
Schweitzer	Harold	4116-19 High St	Fort Erie	416-871-7357
Secord	Jerry	6585 Doreen Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-358-9996
Sequin	Michael	7671 Badger Rd.	Niagara Falls	416-356-3638
Sexton	Shawn/D	4765 Ruerson Cres.	Niagara Falls	416-356-4435
Snerdon	Rob	39 Royal Oak Dr.	Welland	416-735-2346
Smith	Hitchell	5786 Leonard Ave.	Niagara Falls	416-357-8377
Snuder	David/John	688-20 Tremont Dr.	St. Catharines	416-684-8826
Sover	Joseph/L.	152 Pine St. S.	Thorold	416-227-8823

Stellema	L.	466 Devon Drive	Rollard des Orm
Stephen	Dave	98 Facer St.	St. Catharines 416-937-0453
Taylor	Tim	3505 River Trail Cres.	Stevensville 416-382-2176
Ol	Greg	106 Champlain Dr.	Fort Erie 416-871-1691
ers Group	Color Amer.	2227 Canvon Rd.	Arcadia
Van Duk	Peter	4201 Briarwood	Niagara Falls 416-354-9296
Van Duke	Harry/Mike	5720 Hillcrest Cr.	Niagara Falls 416-356-6005
Veysey	Dan	3698 Welland St.	Niagara Falls 416-295-6254
Vieveen	Peter	#7 Friars Cr.	St. Catharines 416-935-4450
White	Jim/Bill	25 Vine St.	Thorold 416-227-5836
Williams	Harold	20 Village Cr.	Welland 416-732-1000
Wiseman	Ken/Lori	145 Diltz Rd.	Dunnville 416-774-3382
Wolfe	Graham	5820 Heather Ave.	Niagara Falls 416-358-8661
Wood	Brian	Holloway Bay Rd.	Sherkston 416-894-4264
Woodward	Tim/Tim2/J	600 Rosehill Rd.	Fort Erie 416-871-7235
Tason	Ray /M	135 Page St.	St. Catharines 416-682-2661
Zufelt	Robin/ J	4244 York Drive	Niagara Falls 416-357-3280
Zupan	Robert	2803 Henley Ave.	Niagara Falls 416-354-2273



LAST WRITES

It used to be in the olden days when "Harry" was the Pres. that he had the first word and it was the word. Now things have changed. Harry, fortunately has the first word and the more learned word, and we have received additions from the New Pres, the Cruncher on CoCo-3, Dave Roach & Clem, Russ Hall, the New Librarian. We have not heard any word this month from "The Games Committee" or the "Diet Corner".

We are even missing the second word from the Co-Editor this month. It appears that when he sold his "MS-DOS" he must have felt he sold his soul, as he is back to the CoCo-2 and I assume must have forgotten how to use it already.

Anything you might wish to add to the Newsletter, will be most welcome. All you should do is get the information to Harry, or to The Penguins (who have the final word) and it will be done.

It appears that ANN LOTT is away to the races now, as she had he husband sell some of his Construction Equipment so that should could buy a printer, controller and disk drive. Rumors have it that she loves to watch TV on the same screen that she works with the computer and consequently wiped out all his disks with the Rabbit Ears. I bet she learned this lesson real quick --- I know Russ Hall will not let her forget it. He had to back up 120 disks for her 3 separate times. He said he didn't mind it though - does she bake good cookies????

The Membership list through the month of February 1987 is in the newsletter. Pick a name that is close to you, call them and ask for help or better still advise them of your findings with the Computer this month.

If ROB does not FORGET the Meeting in March, we should have a very good turnout again. LORI backed out of being President so that she could peddle the 50-50 tickets and make someone happy.

FROM: "Moneybags" Hall !

(416) 795-2136

The library has been divided into following categories: UTILITIES, EDUCATIONAL, GRAPHICS, MUSIC, GAMES, OS9, COCO III, MSDOS.

The database has also been changed so that any member with only one disk drive will be able to access the library files.

In order to maintain the database, a copy of the updated database will be sent to each district librarian, six in all. Group leaders may obtain a copy from one of the six listed below.

Over the next several months we will try to sort any stray programs that may be in the wrong category.

Duplication of programs will continue to exist, as some are slightly different or have a different name. Duplications CAN be an asset as the version you may have does not work as well as the duplicate, or it may be a better version.

As of this printing we have released 86 programs and there are more on the way.

I trust this new system will better serve your needs. If you have any suggestions OR COMPLAINTS please call me, my number is at the top.

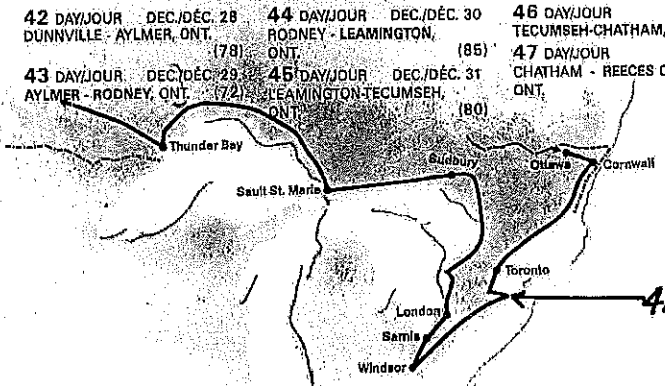
The six district Librarians are:

- JOHN FELKER-----St. Catharines
- NICK MARALDO-----Niagara Falls
- TIM WOODWARD-----Fort Erie
- JERRY BUNZ-----Port Colborne
- KEN WISEMAN-----Dunnville
- RUSS HALL-----Welland

Please note that "DUNNVILLE" has been selected as one of the Towns for the Olympic Torch Relay. On the following map it is day 41, so Hooooooray for DUNNVILLE.

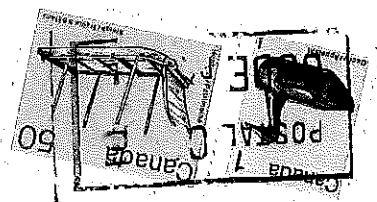
(NUMBER OF TORCHBEARERS)
(NOMBRE DE PORTE-FLAMBEAU)

30 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 16 HULL, QUÉBEC - CORNWALL, ONT. (78)	36 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 22 PICKERING-TORONTO, ONT. (62)	42 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 28 DUNNVILLE - AYLMER, ONT. (78)	44 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 30 RODNEY - LEAMINGTON, ONT. (85)	46 DAY/JOUR JAN. 1 TECUMSEH-CHATHAM, ONT. (72)	48 DAY/JOUR JAN. 3 REECES CORNERS - LONDON, ONT. (90)
31 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 17 CORNWALL-BROCKVILLE, ONT. (89)	37 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 23 TORONTO-CLARKSON, ONT. (82)	43 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 29 AYLMER - RODNEY, ONT. (72)	45 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 31 LEAMINGTON-TECUMSEH, ONT. (80)	47 DAY/JOUR JAN. 2 CHATHAM - REECES CORNERS, ONT. (78)	49 DAY/JOUR JAN. 4 LONDON - KITCHENER/ WATERLOO, ONT. (68)
32 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 18 BROCKVILLE - MILLHAVEN, ONT. (72)	38 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 24 CLARKSON - BRANTFORD, ONT. (74)	39 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 25 BRANTFORD - STONEY CREEK, ONT. (62)	40 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 26 STONEY CREEK - FORT ERIE, ONT. (90)	50 DAY/JOUR JAN. 5 KITCHENER/WATERLOO - ORANGEVILLE, ONT. (78)	51 DAY/JOUR JAN. 6 ORANGEVILLE - SHANTY BAY, ONT. (70)
33 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 19 MILLHAVEN - COLBORNE, ONT. (100)	41 DAY/JOUR DEC./DÉC. 27 FORT ERIE-DUNNVILLE, (90) ONT.			52 DAY/JOUR JAN. 7 SHANTY BAY - CALLANDER, ONT. (49)	53 DAY/JOUR JAN. 8 CALLANDER - MCKERROW, ONT. (56)



Mark
Pacem
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick
Ont.
L0S 1C0
08/30/87

K. HALBERT
5488 Green Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ont, L2H 1P6



Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: March 29, 1987

ISSUE: NL-45

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 12, 1987

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Confederation High School, Welland

EDITORS: H. Van Dyke, Ivan Horvat...356-3370

ADVENTRESS: Pat Chamberland.....357-3462

STOREKEEPER: "QC" John Handley734-3061

ARCHIVES: John "Knitter" Felker....682-2595

EPROWNER: "Engineer" Bob Patty....937-6794

COCO III'er: Ken "Hick" Wiseman....774-3682

ARCHIVES: Russ "Moneybags" Hall....735-2136

TESTING: Mitch "Stovepipe" Smith...357-0377

GROUP LEADERS: Clem Faucher.....934-1175

PRESIDENT: Rob "Forgetful" Lawson.....354-7113

VICE PRES.: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward.....871-7235

SECRETARY: Ken "Penguin" Halbert.....354-9061

TREASURER: George "Dizzy" Dean.....356-8037

MS DOS BOS: "Dapper" Dan Veysey.....295-6254

MEMBERSHIP: "Dirty" Gerry Chamberland..357-3462

TECHNICAL: Walter "Stairman" Jutting....641-0798

BILINGUAL: Flo "Frenchy" Martel.....354-2252

PURCHASING: Bill "Tightwad" White.....227-6836

ACTIVITIES: "Dependable" Jerry Secord..358-9996

INFORMATION: Harry "Ex Pres" Van Dyke..356-8005

OS9 GROUP: Steve "Call Me" Philip.....892-3686

REFRESHMENTS: Debbie "50cents" Secord..358-9996

GENIUS: Dave "Binary Breath" Roach.....688-0657

"check your label for expiry date"

DEAR MEMBERS:

Unfortunately, due to prior commitments of a great magnitude, I was unable to attend the last meeting.

I was really looking forward to being able to sit in amongst the riff-raff and torment our new president.

Did Rob live up to your expectations?

I understand he was giving out Burger King coupons as bribes to keep the rumblings down.

One thing that I really regret missing is the demonstration that Binary Breath gave on the music synthesizer. I heard a lot of good comments about it.

Maybe Dave will bring his music making stuff back to the next meeting for those of us less fortunate ones that missed it.

Forgetful tells me that Dave had to "cannibalize" the P.A. system to get the sound output to work properly. I can't imagine why Binary Breath would want to eat the P.A.....maybe he's been hanging around Q.C. too much.

CRUMBS IN THE P.A. SYSTEM?

Try to be tolerant in the future, when the P.A. starts to sound a little raspy.

The reason for the deterioration of the sound quality, will be OREO crumbs.

You see, Scruffy now has care and control of the P.A.

I heard that he is taking it with him to work to make sure no one touches it.

That's how the Oreo crumbs get on it. It's difficult to avoid, when you are working on the Oreo line, slapping the SINGLE layer of creme on the cookies, with wild abandon, creme and crumbs flying about, everywhere.

One good thing about this is that now Forgetful will keep close to the mike. He'll have to, to lick off the Oreo creme. That's what all the slurping noises were that you probably heard.

HOW WAS THE FRESH AIR?

Forgetful's first duty as new president, was to ensure that everyone got lots of fresh air before the meeting.

(He probably figured there was going to be a lot of hot air inside)

Did everyone enjoy standing outside at the mercy of the wrath of nature, while the bonehead ran around looking for a crowbar to open the door with?

Very good first impression eh Rob? All the Burger King coupons in the world won't erase the memories of this one.

EPROM BITS

Engineer Bob has melted down the eprom programmer. There was a failure in the control system and the programmer ran wildly out of control, threatening to contaminate the universe with binary bits.

After dousing the flames, Engineer Bob, still maintaining his composure, suggested that the club pry some money out of Dizzy Dean to purchase a new unit.

The decision was taken at the last executive meeting to do so, with the greatest of haste.

Those of you wanting to reprogram or buy a new eprom, would be well advised to use some discretion when expediting your purchase or you may be the unwilling recipient of an old burned out programmer. I expect it will be a month or two before it is business as usual.

SLIPPED DISKS

Dirty Gerry has purchased some more diskettes and they should be available from the club stores.

Right now, all he has are the double density type, but hopefully

will soon have some high density types for the AT compatibles that the MS DOS group uses.

SPEAKING OF RENEGADES...

You may have noticed that the MS DOS group haven't done anything yet.

As a matter of fact, it's hard to even notice that there is such a thing.

The reason is that no one has taken the initiative to organize the outcasts.

Soooooooooooo.....

As it stands right now, there are about a dozen of us that own MS DOS machines. There is a large library of software that is semi-organized (again for lack of a volunteer) that is being passed around from member to member.

If you are an outcast like us, and would like to have a look at the MS DOS library, give one of us a call. As long as you are a member of the club, you are entitled to partake of the library, since the club helped fund it.

A few of the members that you can call are, me (Harry Van Dyke), Lloyd Geake, Ken Cote, Mitch Stovapipe Smith, Ken Penguin Halbert, or Bill Tightwad White.

One of us should know where the goodies are. There are presently two boxes floating around with a good variety of P.D. software.

IVAN IS MISSING

I'm pretty sure, anyway.

There was no offensive launched against me in the last newsletter.

I haven't seen Ivan around for some time now and he hasn't even had the courtesy to phone in a derogatory remark just to let me know he still cares.

All of the above reasons lead me to the inescapable conclusion that Ivan is deceased. He has travelled on to the land of the plentiful computers.

Maybe Ivan will give us a sign from above (below?) Go ahead Ivan, make my cursor's day.

WHAT A SALESPERSON!

Lori, undaunted by the ravages of nature, was desperately selling 50/50 tickets outside before the doors finally opened.

Most people gave her the 50 cents just so she would get away from in front of the door and let them in. I heard that Lori flung her body in front of the door with one hand out.

The draw prize of \$21.00 was won by Lloyd Hodges who didn't deserve it at all.

BASICALLY SPEAKING

Scruffy has planned to hold a Basic Seminar at the April meeting.

This will be most helpful for those just starting out and want to know a little more about what the COCO can do and how to make it do it.

This will be an open type seminar where you can ask questions about anything at all and get help from people that have been there and already made all the same dumb mistakes that you have.

Look for the Oreo King in the first or second class room. There will be an announcement before the meeting telling you where to go (and how to get there)

OS9 GROUPIES

The OS9 hackers are still hacking away with Steve Philip in one of the classrooms.

Steve was going to try to set up the BBS system again, but I have not heard whether he is on the air or not.

Maybe he will let us know at the next meeting how he is making out.

If your tendencies lean, or would like to lean toward OS9, join the group at the next meeting. It's never too late to get some benefits out of the seminars.

UPDATES and OVERTURES

Moneybags has gone through and updated the whole library listing. You can now print out the listing yourself if you want, since the listing is broken up on separate disks.

If you want a copy, let Moneybags know and he will be pleased to help you get one.

I know that Russ has spent countless hours on this project and I'm sure everyone will be very pleased with what he has come up with.

Clem Faucher has gone through the group leader list again and made some changes...

This is another area that takes a lot of work to maintain, and we are much obliged to Clem for his efforts.

Copies of the updated list will be available at the next meeting from Q.C. at the stores, free of charge to members of course.

O WOE IS ME!!!

That's what people say that have a J & M disk controller and try to use it on a COCO III.

Because they don't work very well, if at all.

There is not much you can do if you are having problems getting your J & M controller to work, except maybe find a sucker to buy it from you.

The older Radio Shack controllers work just fine, apparently.

There are now at least 12 people in the club that own COCO III computers and thanks to Binary Breath and the efforts of the COCO III group, a considerable amount of software is being accumulated.

If someone out there has some marketing savvy, there is a great potential for bucks to be made by selling some of the stuff that Dave Roach is coming up with.

NEWTON'S LAW IS...

To learn about spread sheets you should come to the seminars.

Roy Newton is willing to spend some time with people that want to learn about spread sheets, and more specifically, Dynacalc.

If Forgetful can remember, and if he can lick the creme off his mike at the next meeting, he will ask for a show of hands to see if there is enough interest to hold the spread sheet seminar.

So, bring your hands with you to the next meeting and don't be afraid to use them when called upon.

AT LEAST MY DONUTS WERE FRESH!

One of the most important jobs that the president has, is to bring donuts to the executive meetings.

In the business world, all the higher-ups have various perks that make life worthwhile.

A perk is what your peers and others judge you by.

Your value as a human being depends on how good your perks are. Perks, could be a company car, private bathroom, private jet, private secretary, free vacations, etc.

An executive without perks is like liver without onions.

Liver is bad enough by itself, but at least with onions, some people can tolerate it.

Now you can understand the importance of the one perk that the NRCC executives enjoy.

The simple pleasure of have FRESH donuts at the executive meetings.

When you are faced with the awesome responsibility of making decisions that affect the very lives of the multitudes in our club, you have the PREROGATIVE of FRESH donuts.

As president, I always took this responsibility very seriously.

I never toyed with the sensitive egos of the people that expected nothing less.

Last executive meeting was a travesty of justice. There were NO FRESH DONUTS.

Our new president had the unmitigated gall to bring STALE DONUTS to the last executive meeting.

The only reason I mention this is at all is so you folks can see what dreadful hardships we go through at some meetings.

I trust this will not happen again ROB.

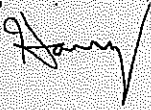
THE HIND END

Since I didn't make the last meeting, there is not a great deal to talk about here.

Hopefully, some of the other groups will contribute a page or two to make this a worthwhile newsletter.

I will see you at the April 12 meeting.

Have fun...

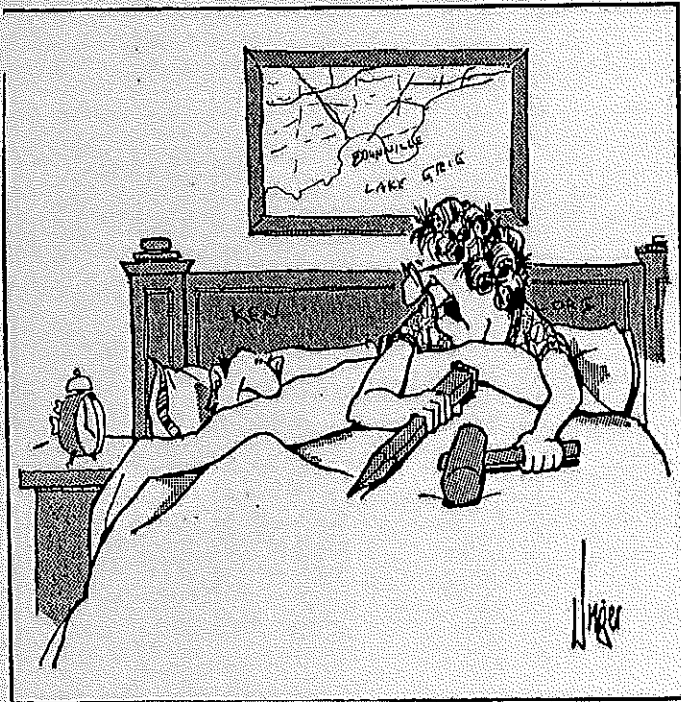


The Origin of Species

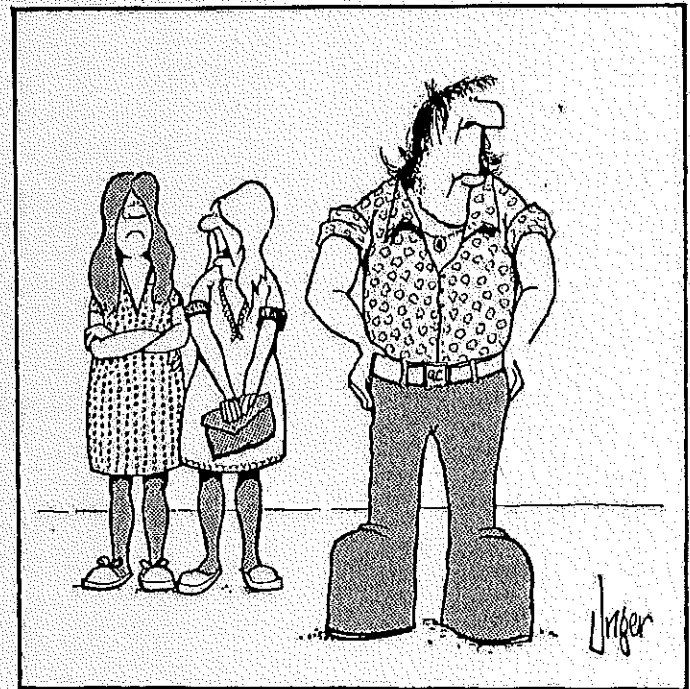
IT MAY not have been the first time that a mysterious mechanical failure was blamed on a "bug," but Grace Murray Hopper, one of the first computer programmers and a navy captain, says she was there when the term was first applied to a computer failure — and she has the bug to prove it.

At Harvard one summer night in 1945, Hopper and her associates were working on a "granddaddy" of today's computers, the Mark II. "Things were going badly — something was wrong in one of the relays of the long, glass-enclosed computer," says Hopper. "Finally someone located the trouble spot and, using ordinary tweezers, removed the problem, a moth. From then on, when anything went wrong with a computer, we said it had bugs in it."

The historic moth's remains are taped to a page of Hopper's 1945 logbook, and a picture of the bug appeared in the July 1981 issue of the *Annals of the History of Computing*.



"Three nights in a row I've dreamt you were Dracula."



"I can always tell when they're wearing 'elevator shoes.'"

And he gave unto them.. French Fry Coupons

.....So he handed out 35 french fry coupons! courtesy of Burger King on Lundys Lane in the Falls. Did Harry EVER do anything like that? NOOOOOOO!!!!

We had a great meeting that Sunday. For such a nice day, there was a lot of people there (although we were almost locked out). How do you like that Harry; he gets bumped from the presidency and whats he do? He steals the key!

I suggested we hook up our computers to the car bateries & have the meeting outside, but some smart alec little kid said it was the wrong voltage. I'll have to talk to Roy Fisher about this.

Let me tell you about the pressures of being president. I purchased 3 diskette cases for the club. Well, 2 of them don't lock properly (they're lucky they even have locks on them). The guys blamed me for buying cheap cases, but I notice they didn't bring them back. They even criticized the donuts I bought, and whats worse, they didn't even pay back the \$3.85 (yes GEORGE, I said \$3.85) that I paid out of my wifes grocery money. I fee like Rodney Dangerfield. I DON'T GET NO RESPECT!

Dave Roach had a great demo with his COCO, synthesiser and a music program called Lyra (even though him & Tim Woodward mutilated my P.A. system). Rumour has it that Stevie Wonder started out with a COCO and a keyboard. There's hope for you yet Dave!

Good news from Tim Woodward! We're finally going to have a seminar for us ordinary people. We're going to learn how to program in basic. First we're going to start with standard and work up to extended basic. Now I'll find out what makes that stupid monkey chase the litle Italian guy all over my screen.

Roy Newton has also volunteered to run a DYNACALC seminar after this. YOUR COMMITTED ROY!!! I've got witnesses. If not I'll bribe some. French fry coupons can get you anything.

SEE YOU ALL AT THE NEXT MEETING!!!!!!

FROM THE PRINTER

DEPENDABLE IS ALIVE

We have it from a very reliable source that dependable Jerry RECORD is alive and well, and he admits that "50cents" Debbie is well also. It appears that they have been going to the church at 1.00 o'clock each Sunday and selling the pop and doughnuts (fresh ones) as they are making more money for them at church. Possibly we had best offer them 4.51 each. It is evident dependable has been out selling new memberships for the full price of \$35.00 per year. Keep up the good work Jerry!

THE X PRESIDENT IS A SORE LOSER AND HIS WIFE IS JUST "SORE"

We have it from good word that HARRY misses the job as President and he is taking it out on his wife. He normally has Mike fever and he was asked to be an M.C. at a party recently and Karen would not accompany him. She is now the proud owner of 2 SHINY BLACK EYES. To further complicate matters, he will not let her have any liquide and she is suffering from 2 DRY SOCKETS.

Karen is having a month that she does not wish to repeat, and I don't believe anyone would. She has the BLACK CLOUD that hovers over her head and MURPHY'S LAW PREVAILS.

She was relaxing on the couch. Harry walked up to her to smooth talk her, the way he used to have the knack to do when he was Pres. He scared the

24422^ out of her, as she rarely knows him at that hour of the day, because he is always at his computers (which he only has 2 of, and both with hard drives inserted. She got nervous, jumped off the couch and fell promptly on her nose and hit the stone on the firebox. She also had 2 teeth pulled and both turned into dry sockets.

I HOPE YOUR LUCK CHANGES NAREN.

A PORNOGROFER IN THE HOUSE

Moneybags has many hobbies, which he saw to develop before he retired so that he would be able to go out in the world and assist his fellow computer hacker. On Saturday, March 28, he apparently was at the Niagara Falls Shrine Club at which time he was supposedly video filming a wedding reception. The Penguin was supposedly doing bartending duties that eve and when the Penguin showed up, he was immediately shot by Moneybags with the camera. There was a SURPRISE PARTY in progress and the much deserved recipient was the Penguin. Believe me, that was one real shocker, as there was over 100 people in attendance and not one little hint was dropped. Even Harry had prior knowledge and he did not put a hint in the Newsletter.

HARD DRIVES

As you may have heard at the last meeting, the hard drives are available for the NS DOS machines and possibly for the CoCo. The price is \$139.00 for 10 meq, \$189.00 for 15 meq and \$235.00 for 20 meq. They are available from:

Western Systems &
Components, Inc.
950 N. Elm Street
Orange, California
92667
1-714-538-4323

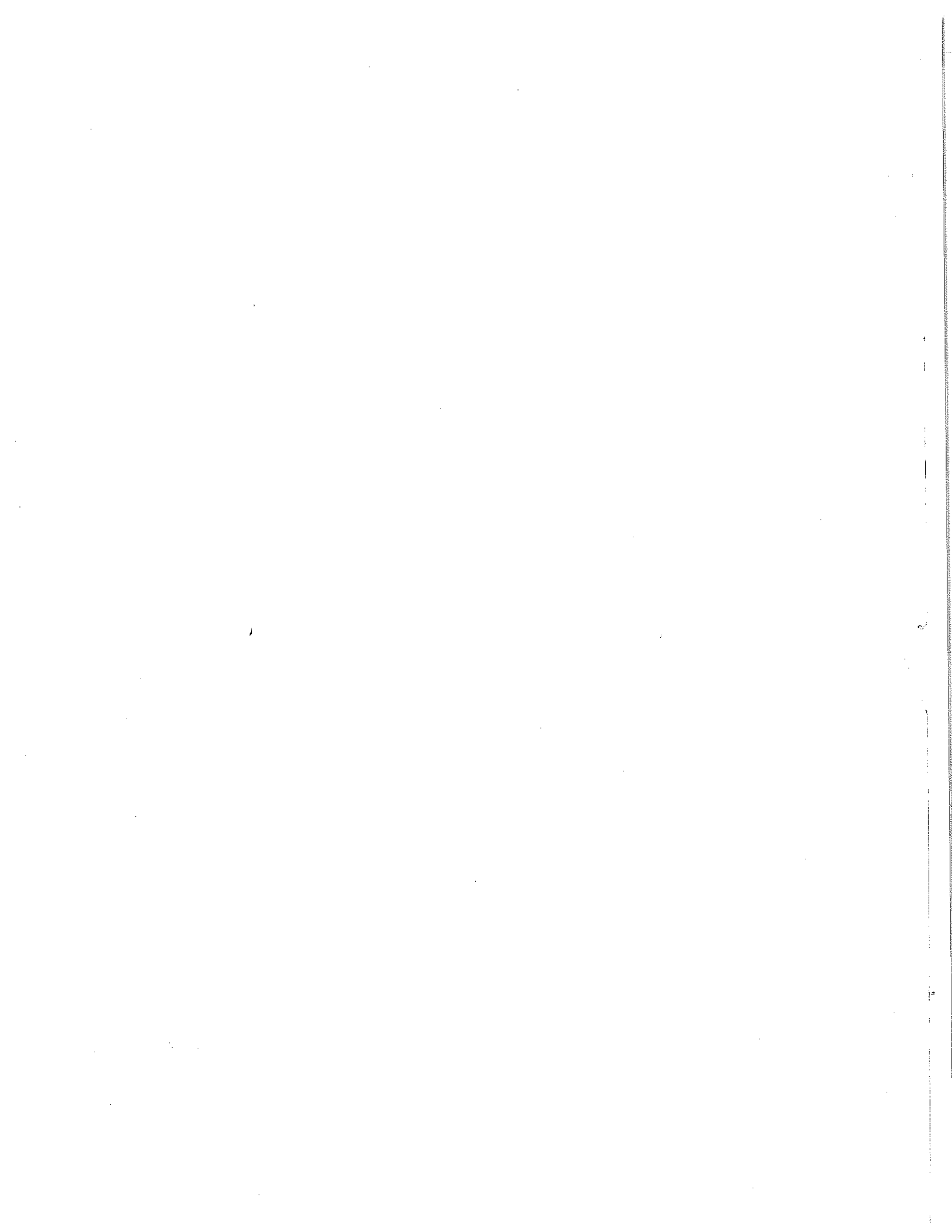
They have proven to be very dependable thus far, and we have no reason to believe that they will fail us.

Tightwad, Editor and the Penguin are proud owners thus far.

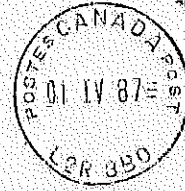
LIBRARY CHANGEABOUT

Moneybags has some to considerable expense and valuable time to change the library around so that he and we hope others can make some sense of it. He has changed the Utility Programs to read "U" prefix and Adventure "A" prefix etc. The only change is that the old disks have been renumbered. This should help now when updating as each disk should be full before proceeding to the next Adventure disk etc.

HAPPY CoCo ing or NS ing or whatever you do in your spare time. See you at the next meeting, hopefully.



K. HALBERT
5488 Green Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H 1P6



Mark Pacan
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick Ont. 08/30/87
L0S 1C0

NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER
<u>ADVENTURES & GAMES</u>			
A 1	3	A 2	5
A 3	6	A 4	13
A 5	18	A 6	22
A 7	23	A 8	26
A 9	27	A 10	28
A 11	29	A 12	33
A 13	35	A 14	38
A 15	40	A 16	43
A 17	45	A 18	49
A 19	50	A 20	53
A 21	54	A 22	65
A 23	67	A 24	68
A 25	70	A 26	74
A 27	80	A 28	82
A 29	84	A 30	85
A 31	87	A 32	88
A 33	93	A 34	95
A 35	96	A 36	97
A 37	98	A 38	99

NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER
<u>UTILITIES</u>			
U 1	1	U 2	2
U 3	7	U 4	8
U 5	9	U 6	11
U 30	15	U 7	16
U 8	17	U 9	19
U 10	24	U 11	32
U 12	34	U 13	37
U 14	39	U 15	41
U 16	44	U 17	47
U 18	52	U 19	55
U 20	59	U 21	64
U 22	66	U 23	69
U 24	71	U 25	72
U 26	73	U 27	76
U 28	81	U 29	94

NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER
<u>MUSIC</u>			
M 1	12	M 2	42
M 3	56	M 4	57
M 5	58	M 6	60
M 7	61	M 8	62
M 9	77	M 10	78
M 11	79	M 12	86

NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER
<u>GRAPHICS</u>			
G 1	4	G 2	14
G 3	21	G 4	36
G 5	48	G 6	63
G 7	75	G 8	89
G 9	91		

NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER	NEW NUMBER	OLD NUMBER
<u>EDUCATIONAL</u>			
E 1	10	E 2	20
E 3	25	E 4	30
E 5	31	E 6	46
E 7	51	E 8	91

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: April 27, 1987

ISSUE: NL-48

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 3, 1987

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Confederation High School, Welland

EDITOR: H. Van Dyke.....356-8005

ADVENTRESS: Pat Chamberland.....357-3462

STOREKEEPER: "QC" John Handley734-3061

ARCHIVES: John "Knitter" Felker....682-2595

EPROMMER: "Engineer" Bob Patty.....937-6794

COCO III'er: Ken "Hick" Wiseman....774-3682

ARCHIVES: Russ "Moneybags" Hall....735-2136

TESTING: Mitch "Stovepipe" Smith...357-0377

GROUP LEADERS: Clem Faucher.....934-1175

PRESIDENT: Rob "Forgetful" Lawson.....354-7113

VICE PRES.: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward.....871-7235

SECRETARY: Ken "Penguin" Halbert.....354-9061

TREASURER: George "Dizzy" Dean.....356-8037

MS DOS BOS: "Dapper" Dan Veysey.....295-6254

MEMBERSHIP: "Dirty" Gerry Chamberland..357-3462

TECHNICAL: Walter "Starman" Jutting....641-0798

BILINGUAL: Flo "Frenchy" Martel.....354-2252

PURCHASING: Bill "Tightwad" White.....227-5836

ACTIVITIES: "Dependable" Jerry Secord..358-9996

INFORMATION: Harry "Ex Pres" Van Dyke..356-8005

OS9 GROUP: Steve "Call Me" Philip.....?????????

REFRESHMENTS: Debbie "50cents" Secord..358-9996

GENIUS: Dave "Binary Breath" Roach....688-0657

"check your label for expiry date"

DEAR MEMBERS:

I am overcome with emotion.

Words simply cannot express the feelings that are within me. I can't even begin to tell you how surprised and dumbfounded I was to realize that you liked my HQOS so much that you had a memorial plaque made up in my memory.

This monument to my greatness will be put in a VERY SPECIAL PLACE.

Then to top it all off, the ORED KING, arranged for his company to produce a special run of DUBBLE STUFF OREOS, just so he could make a big deal of presenting it to me at the meeting.

You'd think he was presenting a golden watch the way he was carrying on. Of course it was a great sacrifice on his part, because these

DUBBLE STUFF OREOS require an extra shot of the cream stuff, so there are probably a lot of bags of OREOS out there that got ripped off because Scruff had to save up a whole bunch of cream.

If anyone out there feels like they got skinny OREOS, be content with the fact that your sacrifice has made me a happy man.

If you are not content with that, then bring over your skinny OREOS and I will gladly scrape off some of the cream from my fat ones.

EENY MEENY MIDI

The Genius brought back his music synthesizer again, just so I could hear it.

I was most impressed!

The quality of sound was simply astounding! It makes me want to run out and buy one. (almost)

If anyone has a musical talent (which I don't) and a keyboard with a Midi output, this system is a must.

I don't know exactly what the multiplexer was that Dave was using but the software is Lyra by Music Systems, which is the heart of the setup. Lyra allows you to write or modify the music which can be produced in up to 8 voices with over a hundred presets from drums, to piano, organ, trumpet, xylophone, or even studio effects like water, waves, wind or sun.

The commands are then sent from the program to the multiplexer which then feeds the amplifier.

GIVE THE GUY TWO MONTHS...

And he will destroy the P.A. system.

It's bad enough we have to endure stale donuts at the executive meetings, now we must suffer through alternating screeches and squawks from the decrepit P.A.

You may have noticed that Forgetful was quick to pin the blame on someone else's shoulders, but we all know that the President always gets the blame, don't we?

At least when I was president, I managed to keep the P.A. working.

And we had fresh donuts.

WHAT A DIRTY DEAL!

Dirty Gerry was supposed to be at the meeting with a whole batch of new disks to sell.

I was there with money in hand to buy a bunch, but where was Dirty?

Probably out selling the disks on the street.

Hopefully he will be at the next meeting. (if he knows what's good for him)

Hopefully also, he will have some high density disks also.

This is a lot to hope for.

50/50 WINNER

The winner of the 50/50 draw, was Jackie Zufelt.

She raked in \$26.50

Everyone else raked in zip.

FOR SALE

Tightwad has a 256K board for sale for a COCO.

All you need is 8 256K chips and some expertise to install the thing.

Tightwad was able to install his with no problems and he is a real

technical klutz, so any idiot should be able to hook it up.

I believe he wants \$25.00 for it.

FINALLY...FRESH DONUTS

What a pleasure to my palate!

We had FRESH DONUTS at the last executive meeting.

That was because the Penguin Jr. bought them this time, instead of Forgetful.

There was honey dips, chocolate covered, sugar twists, and cherry filled donuts.

They were heaped on a platter with enough for all.

I even had two.

I had a chocolate creme and a cherry filled.

It would be nice if Penguin Jr. bought the donuts from now on.

TALK ABOUT FUSSY!!!!

The Starman likes to have lots of decimal places in his calculations.

Not only that, but he wants accurate figures.

He was having trouble with his abacus, so he traded it in on a CoCo II to get more decimal places.

Now he can keep track of where the big dipper is all the time.

All he had to do is ask me. I can tell him where the big dipper is. Just look up and find where the thing is that is shaped like a saucepan.

It is easier at night.

Just to prove how handy the CoCo II is at calculating big numbers, Starman has done some tests and has included his findings in this newsletter.

IT'S BEEN A GAS...

The last meeting of the season is

May 3, 1987. We will be out fishing from then until September.

This doesn't mean you have to quit associating with your fellow members though. There is still a lot of activity going on and there will still be new software purchases and so on, because there is money left in the kitty that is burning a hole in Dizzy Dean's pocket.

Just keep in touch with your group leaders to find out what's going on.

Since I have a very short deadline, this will necessarily (mercifully) be a very short newsletter.

See you at the May 3 meeting.

Have fun,



FROM THE PRES.

This is going to be a short letter because we had the executive meeting a week late and the next club meeting is a week early so this just gives us 3 days to get the newsletter out and Harry said he wouldn't have enough time to key it in on his new computer and I said "Is that the one you said is a 100 times faster than my COCO?" and he said "It sure is!" and I said "Well in that case, you'd better get the letter out on time." and he threw a creme donut at me.

By the way, if any of you kids use "AND" as many times as I did in one sentence, I hope your parents ground you.

I guess Bob Patti ordered the new Eprom burner. We're going to give Walter the old one. Maybe he'll make a microwave oven out of it. We're also going to buy a COCO III for the club. We need it to get all these COCO III programs to you.

It seems we're having problems with a few group leaders. People call them up looking for a program and if they don't have it, they don't bother getting them for the people. The purpose of the group leader is to help the members get programs. If you don't want to be a group leader, let me know and I'll take you off the list. I think that a few of you said you'll be group leaders just to get the programs you want.

I guess the Basic seminar went very well. I don't know. I couldn't get in. The place was packed! Because of the great interest, I'll ask the Oreo King if he'll set up some sort of format for this seminar. Maybe if he followed the BASIC MANUAL. Any suggestions? Start reading your manual Tim. I'll be calling you.

We hope to have over 100 boxes of diskettes for sale at the next meeting. We also have the 64k chips, Eproms and library lists for sale. See Q.C. John. (What does Q.C. stand for? Quick Con? I've seen his prices.)

We also have FREEBIES!!! We have instruction sheets to adapt your J&M Controller to the COCO III for all you solder junkies. For a small fee, Walter will even fix what you've screwed up. We hope to have addendums for you and back by popular demand! Curtis McLaughlin's Modem Instructions!

A couple of people want to buy a disk drive & controller (cheap).
Call Bob Ober 935-2108
Call George Gauthier 735-8616
Tim Woodward is looking for a Y cable.

Jackie Zeufelt won the 50/50 draw; a cool \$26.50. Hey Jackie! The diskettes will be in soon so keep that money handy.

Terry Kalender has donated quite a few tape programs for the TMP 110. Russ is putting them in the library. Thanks Terri. (what'd you do, mug a TMP 110 owner for these?)

Did you know that the people in Fonthill don't format their diskettes, they "formulate" them. Talk about high class!!! Right Ann

Lott* Did you also know that she tried to run her computer and left her aerial hooked on and wondered why all her programs sounded like "As The World Turns". Can she sue me if I mention her name?

Just a few words from Zebos Zoo. They're the guys who sit by the door and play with this funny looking machine called an ATARI.

"UGH, UHM, DUH! ECH, GRUNT?"

Wow! thanks for those words of wisdom guys. I think Les wants me to tell you that he has started a BBS line, but he can't spell BBS. It's called THE GREAT WHITE NORTH BBS. Call 734-3802. Seriously though, you should have a look at his ATARI. The graphics are great! (Never thought I'd admit that Les.)

Speaking of BBS'S. Curtis strikes again with more numbers.

Pace BBS	295-6139
Trojan Horse	368-5177
Ham BBS	937-2920

I don't know what the COCO III group were doing. Thiet table was so full of junk, I couldn't get near it. What's going on guys??

I was walking by this one table and I thought I heard the theme from the musical "CATS". There was a little guy there with the Musica program. He said he keyed in the whole "CATS" opera from a music book. It really sounded great! But I forgot his name. I hope he brings it back for the next meeting.

Gotta go! My wife wants me to paint the dining room and besides, it's hard to type with a paint brush shoved up my nose.

I wonder how Harrys newsletter is going?

See you all May 3rd for the last meeting of the season.

By the way, there is over a dozen donuts left over from the last executive meeting (that is if the Halberts didn't eat them for breakfast the next morning.)

ROB

How do you work a modem

Ok for all you new modem users i'm going to tell you how to use your modem. First of all you have to hook it up to the computer and to the phone. Now you'll need a modem utility program like desktop or geterm. If you are using desktop you'll have to go to the terminal section and set the parameters then go to the communication mode. Now you are ready to phone. be sure to have the modem plugged in.

If you want to call a BBS or call someone else that has a modem, look at the switch where it says answer and originate, set the switch to originate then dial the number. When you finish dialing the last number press down the connect switch and hang up the phone. If the carrier detect (CD) light does not come on in ten seconds then that means that the line is busy or the person does not have their modem on. So hang up the phone.

If you want someone to call you then set the switch to answer and press down the connect switch.

When setting the parameters you will have to know:

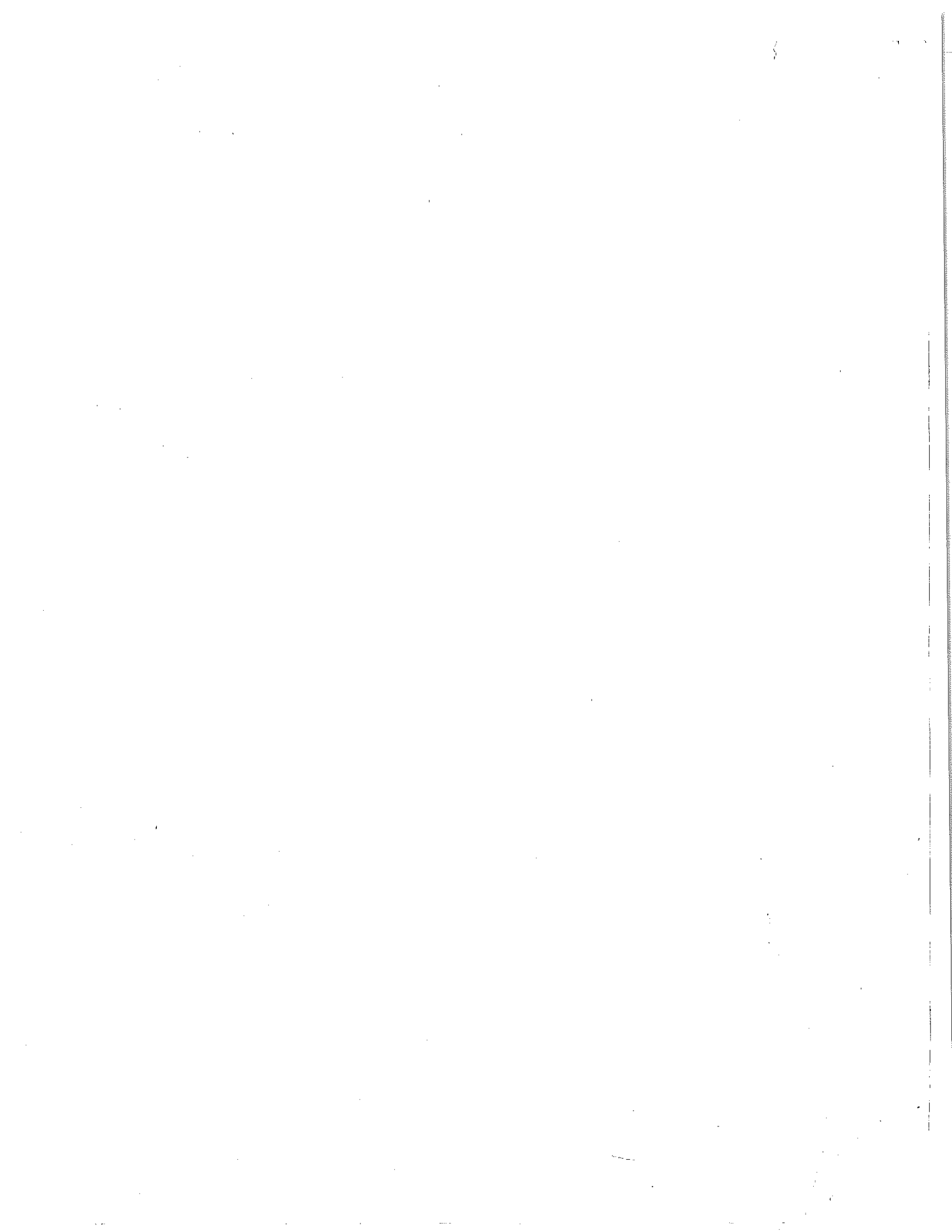
- Baud rate
- Word length
- Parity
- Number of stop bits
- Duplex
- Linefeeds
- Upload prompt

When calling a BBS or someone else make sure that it is a local call or else you will have to pay long-distance. I hope that the information i gave you will be helpful.

Some bbs numbers are:

Town Crier	646-0263
Compu AD	354-6614
Drain pipe Modern	641-7473
Vbbs	295-3073
Dom bbs	356-7457
Cemetery bbs	937-6978

Curtis MacLachlan



An article in "Sky and Telescope magazine on "Astronomical Software Benchmarks" (March 1987, p.309) prompted me to check the CoCo 2 and CoCo 3, as well as the 6802-based Flex system using XBASIC, that my son parked with me while teaching in Kenya for two years.

But first a bit of history: My original reason for buying the CoCo 2 early in 1985 was its superior accuracy (9 decimals) in the transcendental functions, compared to 6 or 7 places in most other BASIC versions. This is useless for most astronomical work, while 9 places is a reasonable accuracy; repeated calculations give successive rounding errors, and accuracy deteriorates quickly in long calculations, but the final result is still 8, or a worst, 7 places accurate.

The core of this benchmark is the following BASIC program; it works on the CoCo 2 or 3, and in principle in XBASIC, as well as in BASIC09.

```
A=1
FOR I=1 TO 2499
A=TAN(ATN(EXP(LOG(SQR(A*A)))))+1
NEXT I
PRINT A
```

In the ideal case, the result is (A=) 2500.000000000

The test results were as follows:

- CoCo 2 2500.00009 in 579 seconds (regular speed)
- 2500.00009 in 420 seconds (w. high-speed poke)
- (high speed does not apply to all operations in CoCo 2)
- CoCo 3 2500.00009 in 584 seconds (regular speed)
- 2500.00009 in 290 seconds (w. high-speed poke)
- (here high speed works on all operations)
- CoCo 3 with 069/BASIC09: 2500.02016 in 340 seconds

XBASIC presented a problem, in that it stopped with an overflow error at I=768, probably caused by a TAN argument too close to an odd multiple of PI. I fixed this through replacing the starting value of A by 1.1 (1.5 works, too)
Result: 2500.100000002 in 785 seconds

XBASIC uses 48-bit floating-point arithmetic, against 40-bit for the CoCo BASICs. This slows it down a bit, but makes it more accurate.

I Also did a short check on (A*A) vs. (A^2), only on CoCo 2 at regular speed.
Result: 100.000013 in 23 seconds for (A*A)
 100.000013 in 29 seconds for (A^2)
This makes the (A^2) version considerably slower, with the same accuracy.

Now let's see how this compares to other systems, as quoted in Sky & Telescope.

On a system with a Z80A at 4 MHz and CP/M 2.2:
 Microsoft BASIC V. 5.22 gave these results:
 2304.86 in 260 seconds (single precision)
 and 2304.862548828125 in 274 seconds (double precision)
 error: 7.8% (some precision!)

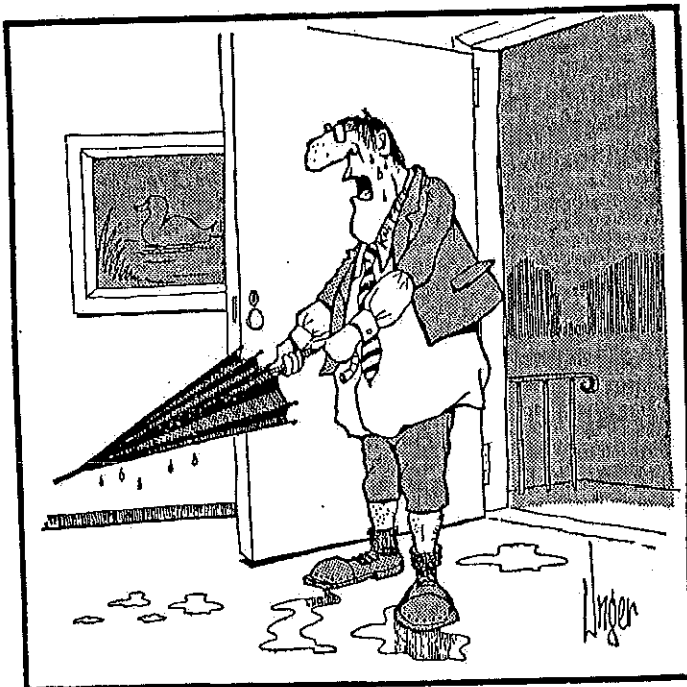
Microsoft Compiler BASIC V. 5.2 on the same system gave:
 again 2304.86 in 212 seconds (single precision)
 and 2499.999999869946 in 38 min. 22 sec. (=2302 sec.!)
 for double precision.

FORTRAN on the same system gave pretty much the same results,
 although slightly less accurate than Compiler BASIC in double
 precision format.

The closest equivalent to BASIC09 would be Turbo PASCAL; it
 gave comparable results:
 2500.0046341 in 401 seconds,
 but remember that this system runs on a 4 MHz clock!

All this shows that the CoCo's compare favorably to systems
 costing a lot more. Of course, we knew this, and that is why
 we bought them in the first place - at least I did.
 When I did some investigating in late 1983/early '84, in rela-
 tion to another complaint about accuracy in home computers, I
 found that many versions of BASIC, including those on TRS-80,
 Models I and III, as well as the IBM PC, had this problem in
 their double precision routines. Since the IBM PC was designed
 for the (optional) 8087 coprocessor, that is understandable,
 but for others, which have no such option, it is a serious
 flaw, which the CoCo finally eliminated, as shown above.

Walter Jutting



"Can you remember where I bought this suit?"

COCO III SPOTLIGHT

Well, it's time to dig out some more information on the COCO III. It seems that everytime I do, I have a hard time finding where to look next. Don't look at this in the negative aspect! When I refer to "hard time finding where to look", I mean, there is so much to appreciate on the new machine that it makes it difficult to choose an appropriate topic. I would like to start this months' column with a personal opinion about the COCO III software. It seems to me that most of the new COCO III software available to us is what I call 3rd party quickies. Now being a programmer myself, I can understand how much effort has gone into a program and how much has not. Let's take "Magic of Zanth" and "Wildwest" for example. Both are fine pieces of software and do display the new capabilities of the COCO III, but I'd sooner have waited the extra month and had an exceptional piece of software instead of an "OK" piece. It just seems to me that the third party vendors are after our buck and we are the little kids in the toy store waiting for the next GI JOE character to complete our collection. I must admit I do like having the software and I don't regret it. What I am saying (and I wish this newsletter could reach the vendors) is that lets use the machine to its' full potential. I don't feel like sifting through the wait period for good efficient programs. Again this is only one mans' opinion but I know of others that feel this same way. Now, on with the article.

I'm a little frightened that last months column might have been too technical for those in the early stage of computing. This month I have decided to lay back a BIT and slow down the pace to a little more understandable level. Although this article will still deal with the technical aspects of the COCO III, I will try to use a more Layman's approach. I'll start off with some news from the DELPHI hot line supplied via Steve Phillips. Now this may seem technical, but give me a chance to explain myself. Hitachi has introduced a 3.5 Mhz version of the 6809 microprocessor. Hold it! Hold it! Give me a chance to explain! For those of you who wonder what I just said and how it affects you, the user, I will explain this dandy new little product. To begin with, the 6809 microprocessor is the BRAIN of all COCO'S. It not only looks after everything inside the computer it also has the final say on all external aspects of the computer (i.e. disk,tape, etc) In this light, I think "BRAIN" is a suitable word to describe the function of the 6809. I bet you're all wondering where that magic number 6 8 0 9 came from right? Well, back in the stone age,(circa 1978) there existed a microprocessor called the 6800. Like early man, this particular machine had a few problems that had to be worked out. For example: it was very slow, cost quite a bit (in comparison to today),was hardly supported and couldn't support very much memory. So like evolution the 6800 went through many changes. It became the 6802,6805,6808 and finally the 6 8 0 9! Of course there were side affects to this change such as the Neanderthal 6502 chip used in machines such as COMMODORE and APPLE. But they, too, soon grew up and decided to move into the era of the 6800 family. You see, the 6809 also has big brother called the 68000. Now this chip, is the for runner to the 6809. However, the two are pretty similar and can be considered quite equal. In most cases the big difference between the 68000 and the 6809 is the fact that it can access large amounts of memory. Tandy went and solved our memory problem with the COCO III's GIME chip. Large amounts of memory can now be handled by our 6809! Which brings me back to my original topic, Hitachis' new 3.5 Mhz 6809! Well hopefully you understand the 6809 part now. All we have to work on now is the 3.5Mhz part. The statement 3.5 Mhz pronounced (Mega Hertz) is a way to tell us how fast our 6809 is thinking. Mega stands for millionths and Hertz stands for cycles/second. Now multiply 3.5 X million cycles/second and you get 3 million 5 hundred thousand cycles per second. That is what this new chip offers. To give you a comparison lets take the COCO II. Now this machine used a 6809 as well. However, its 6809 microprocessor only ran at 0.8 Mhz. That's not even a million cycles per second! The COCO III for example stunned people with its' ability to run at 1.7Mhz. The change in speed is noticed most, when running software that was designed for the COCO II. In most cases the speed up is a great asset. Now with Hitachi introducing a 3.5 Mhz 6809 our software will run almost 3 times faster than on the COCO II and exactly double of that on the COCO III in its' sped up mode (1.7Mhz) For those who are not familiar on how to switch the COCO III into high speed, try typing this in right after you have powered up. Take a good look at the cursor.

POKE 65497,0 (enter)

Did you see the cursor flash increase in speed?

Try this now.

POKE 65496,0 (enter)

Did you notice that the cursor slowed back down again?

Well, this is the internal switch the COCO III has to switch it into (pardon the phrase) high gear. Try running a basic program in both speeds and evaluate yourself the difference in speed. A word of warning however. DO NOT try to access a tape or a disk when the computer is running in high speed. You should only do so when your computer is running at the normal speed.

Since I'm on the subject of the COCO III, I've got a few little interesting things that might make a few of you laugh. It is now a well known fact that the COCO III has faces inscribed inside the machine. You acquire these faces by pressing the ALT and

CTRL keys down together while at the same time pressing reset on the far right corner of the machine. These three gentleman (I like to refer to them as the Three Amigos) have also found there place in another part of our machine. Power up your machine and then type the following into your computer.

WIDTH40:CLS100 (enter)

What did it say in the corner of the screen??

T. Earles H. Harris

Those guys don't give up. Bad enough they're on our screen from time to time, but lets leave it at that!

For those of you who are technically minded, I know that we can replace the new J2k rom on board the COCO III with our own little baby. Wouldn't it be nice to have all the COCO III'S with our Niagara Regional COCO CLUB symbol on there rather than the Three Amigos. Or if you want put your favourite disk utility in there and have it come on when you press ALT CTRL RESET. Wouldn't that be nice?

Well that's it for this month and remember, "THE COCO 3's THE PLACE TO BE"

Till later..

Dave Roach.

Here's a little something to keep you busy all night!!

And I do mean all night!!

```

10 '*****
20 'THIS PROGRAM OPERATES THE IBM CHARACTER SET USING THE "HPRINT" COMMAND
30 'THE PROGRAM WILL RUN AND SOUND WHEN ITS READY TO GO.
40 'AFTER THE SOUND, SIMPLY TYPE AWAY AND THE COMPUTER WILL ACT AS A TYPE
50 'WRITER. HOPE YOU ENJOY THE EFFORT. IF YOU CAN MAKE IT THROUGH THIS DATA
60 'YOU CAN MAKE IT THROUGH ANYTHING.
70 'FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WANT TO USE IT IN YOUR OWN PROGRAMS I WOULD
80 'SUGGEST MAKING A BINARY SAVE OF THE DATA. SIMPLY RUN THE PROGRAM AND WHEN
90 'THE CHARACTERS APPEAR ON THE SCREEN PRESS THE BREAK KEY
100 'AT THIS POINT TYPE IN  SAVEM"IBMCHAR",&HF09D,&HF39C,0
110 'NOW WHENEVER YOU NEED TO USE THE SET SIMPLY LOADM"IBMCHAR"
120 'I WARN YOU THOUGH, THE CHARACTER SET DISAPPEARS ON RESET
130 '*****
140 '
145 HSCREEN4:HCOLOR1:PALETTE0:PALETTE1,63
150 GOSUB240:X=2:SOUND2,2:HPRINT(0,0),"I.B.M. CHARACTER SET ON COCO III  Copyright (c) 1987  Dave Roach"
155 POKE&HF015,18:POKE&HF016,18:'DISABLE THE LOGICAL "OR" TO SCREEN
160 A$=INKEY$:IF A$=""THEN 140
170 IF A$=CHR$(8) THEN GOSUB 220:GOTO160
180 IF A$=CHR$(13) THEN X=X+1:F=0:GOTO160
190 HPRINT(F,X),A$
200 F=F+1
210 GOTO 160
220 IF F=0 THEN RETURN
230 F=F-1:HPRINT(F,X)," "RETURN
240 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,18,3C,3C,1B,1B,0,1B,0,36,36,36,0,0,0,0,36,36,7F,36,7F,36,36,0
250 DATA 18,3E,60,3C,6,7C,1B,0,0,63,66,C,18,33,63,0,1C,36,1C,3B,6E,66,3B,0,1B,1B,30,0,0,0
260 DATA 0,0,C,18,30,30,30,1B,C,0,30,1B,C,C,C,1B,30,0,0,66,3C,FF,3C,66,0,0,0,1B,1B,7E,1B

```



```

270 DATA 18,0,0,0,0,0,0,18,18,30,0,0,0,7E,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,18,18,0,3,6,C,18,30,60,C0
280 DATA 0,3E,63,67,6F,7B,73;3E,0,18,30,18,18,18,18,7E,0,3C,66,6,1C,30,66,7E,0,3C,66,6,1C
290 DATA 6,66,3C,0,E,1E,36,66,7F,6,F,0,7E,60,7C,6,6,66,3C,0,1C,30,60,7C,66,66,3C,0,7E,66
300 DATA 6,C,18,18,18,0,3C,66,66,3C,66,66,3C,0,3C,66,66,3E,6,C,30,0,0,18,18,0,0,18,18,0
310 DATA 0,18,18,0,0,18,18,30,6,C,18,30,18,C,6,0,0,7E,0,7E,0,0,0,30,18,C,6,C,18,30,0,3C
320 DATA 66,6,C,18,0,18,0,3E,63,6F,6F,6F,60,3C,0,1C,36,63,63,7F,63,63,0,7E,33,33,3E,33
330 DATA 33,7E,0,1E,33,60,60,60,33,1E,0,7C,36,33,33,33,36,7C,0,7F,31,34,3C,34,31,7F,0,7F
340 DATA 31,34,3C,34,30,70,0,1E,33,60,60,67,33,1F,0,66,66,66,7E,66,66,66,0,3C,18,18,18,18
350 DATA 18,3C,0,F,6,6,6,66,66,3C,0,73,33,36,3C,36,33,73,0,78,30,30,30,31,33,7F,0,63,77
360 DATA 7F,7F,60,63,63,0,63,73,72,6F,67,63,63,0,3E,63,63,63,63,63,3E,0,7E,33,33,3E,30,30
370 DATA 70,0,3E,63,63,63,63,6F,3E,3,7E,33,33,3E,36,33,73,0,3C,66,70,30,E,66,3C,0,7E,5A
380 DATA 18,18,18,18,3C,0,63,63,63,63,63,63,3E,0,66,66,66,66,66,3C,18,0,63,63,63,63,7F,77
390 DATA 63,0,63,63,36,1C,1C,36,63,0,66,66,66,3C,18,18,3C,0,7F,63,46,C,19,33,7F,0,3C,30
400 DATA 30,30,30,30,3C,0,60,30,18,C,6,3,1,0,3C,C,C,C,C,C,3C,0,8,1C,36,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
410 DATA 0,0,0,F,18,18,C,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,3E,66,66,30,0,70,30,3E,33,33,33,6E,0,0,0,3C,66
420 DATA 60,66,3C,0,E,6,3E,66,66,66,66,30,0,0,0,3C,66,7E,60,3C,0,1C,36,30,70,30,30,70,0,0,0
430 DATA 30,66,66,3E,6,7C,70,30,36,30,33,33,73,0,18,0,30,18,18,18,3C,0,6,0,E,6,6,66,66,3C
440 DATA 70,30,33,36,3C,36,73,0,30,18,18,18,18,3C,0,0,0,E6,7F,7F,60,63,0,0,0,6E,33,33
450 DATA 33,33,0,0,0,3C,66,66,66,3C,0
460 DATA 0,0,6E,33,33,3E,30,70,0,0,30,66,66,3E,6,F,0,0,6E,30,33,30,70,0,0,0,3E,60,3C,6,7C
470 DATA 0,10,30,7C,30,30,36,1C,0,0,0,66,66,66,66,30,0,0,0,66,66,66,3C,18,0,0,0,63,60,7F
480 DATA 7F,36,0,0,0,63,36,1C,36,63,0,0,0,66,66,66,3E,6,7C,0,0,7E,4C,18,32,7E,0,E,18,18
490 DATA 70,18,18,E,0,18,18,18,0,18,18,0,70,18,18,E,18,18,70,0,30,6E,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
500 DATA 1C,36,63,63,7F,0
510 FOR T=&HF09D TO &HF39C
520 READ A$:POKET,VAL("&H"+A$):NEXT
530 RETURN

```

FROM THE LIBRARY.....

Since May is the last meeting for the summer, any questions you may have I will try to answer them at the meeting.

As I am writing this I am documenting some NEW programs, CAVEWALKER, PEEPER, KORONIS RIFF, and INTERBANK. These programs are adventures and very interesting.

Anyone that has a disk drive can access the library database and print their own listings of programs to the screen or printer. The database is available through any one of the district librarians.

The District librarians are as follows:

- John Felker.....St. Catherines 682-2595
- Robin & Jackie Zufelt.....Niagara Falls 357-8280
- Tim Woodward.....Fort Erie 871-7295
- Carol & Jerry Bunz.....Port Colborne 835-8290
- Lori & Ken Wiseman.....Dunnville 774-8682
- Russ Hall.....Welland 735-2136

During the summer you may want some information or programs, please feel free to call me, however you must take your chances on catching me at home

See you at the May 3rd meeting

Russ Hall

Russ Hall

K. HALBERT
5488 Green Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H 1P.



Mark Pacan
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick Ont.
L0S 1C0

08/30/87

Software developers seem to have made an early New Year's resolution to crack down on what they consider stealing — the unauthorized copying of computer programs.

As the Los Angeles Times reports, seven American firms have sued a software rental service in Vancouver.

Such companies are becoming increasingly common across the continent.

In the Softsave Preview Club's case in Vancouver, customers pay \$15 a year for membership, and rent programs for \$10 or \$15 that often sell for hundreds of dollars.

Customers are told to return the programs or destroy the information on the disks at the end of a 21-day rental period.

(As one customer of a Metro-area rental service told me: "Sure, I destroy the program at the end of the rental period.")

According to Tom Chan, attorney for software maker Ashton-Tate, more than 300 illegal copies of programs were seized in a recent raid on the Vancouver firm.

Robert MacFarlane, the Toronto lawyer hired to represent Softsave, says there is substantial cause to doubt whether Canadian copyright law now protects software from copying, even though "current case law is clear" that it does, the Los Angeles Times reports.

Root problem

The root problem is that it is so easy to copy computer programs.

You could duplicate an entire book if you really wanted to, but you'd stuff an awful lot of quarters into the library's copying machine and you'd end up with an unwieldy mountain of paper to wade through at the end of it.

But you can duplicate a software program worth hundreds of dollars by punching a few keys on a computer and storing the copied information on a blank disk bought for a dollar or two.

Unless, of course, the original software program was "copy protected" in some way: booby-trapped so that ordinary users can't use the standard methods that computers offer to copy files on disks.

But the copy-protection method of stopping piracy never did work well.

It infuriated legitimate software users who wanted to work with copies of the programs they



had bought for fear of something happening to trash the original, or who wanted to copy the software on to their hard disks.

And it created a market for programs that crack the common methods of copy protection.

Those cracking programs, of course, are just as useful to the legitimate user as they are to crooks who then sell the copies at cut-rate prices or deprive the software developer of sales by giving the copies to friends and co-workers.

The solution?

Lawsuits and criminal charges are all very well, but will never manage to clap prison bars around the 12-year-olds who trade copies of the games Santa just gave them for Christmas, or of the latest word-processing software that makes essay writing a breeze.

A better solution may be in the printed documentation that accompanies programs, and the telephone support that developers offer to their customers.

If the manuals are good enough, the unauthorized user will have to resort to that stack of quarters and the photocopying machine to get the best use out of his pirated program.

Manuals, meanwhile, never seem to manage to answer all of the questions that users come up with as they try to use a very flexible tool for something that the developer didn't quite think of.

That's where telephone support, and knowledgeable people manning the lines, can come in.

If that support is good enough, and offered only to users who have sent in the registration cards that came with legitimately purchased programs, then perhaps a lot more people would pay for what they're using.

And, with all those new sales, maybe we'd all pay less for what we're using.

☆☆☆

With the jingle bells of Christmas, 1986, fading away, high-tech gurus are already fine-tuning their crystal balls to focus on Christmas, 1988.

And the big letters flashing in neon for that year say: CDI, or Compact Disk Interactive, according to Robert Payne, director of research for Evans Research Corp., an Etobicoke-based company that tracks the computer industry.

CDI gadgets, he predicts, will combine the best of much of the high-tech world in a new, upscale, education-oriented toy that's likely to be the next hit in the home market.

People will use the systems for almost anything that involves a massive amount of information, or lend themselves to illustration, either audio or visual: encyclopedias, perhaps, or learning how to play the guitar.

Free of hisses

The gadgets, he says, are expected to be compatible with the current rage: compact disk players. These players "read" magnetic patterns stored on — what else? — compact disks to deliver sound that's free of the scratches, hisses and background noise common to regular records.

But the same technology now being used to store sound can also preserve massive amounts of information that can be combed through quickly and even hooked up to television sets for pictures in addition to sound.

"Finally we'll really have the kind of home entertainment device that people thought home computers would provide," Payne says.

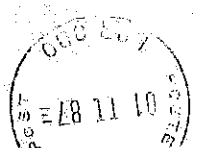
"You can imagine how much easier it would be to learn to play guitar, for instance, if you had instructions stored on a compact disk hooked up to a player, a VCR (video cassette recorder) and television set to tell you how to play the instrument, show you video stills of how to do it, and let you hear what you're supposed to do all at the same time."

Philips, a major company in the field, has indicated it will have CDI ready for the market by late 1987, but Payne pegs Christmas, 1988, as a more "realistic" date for mass marketing.

Software firms form posse
to rise against rental shops



34

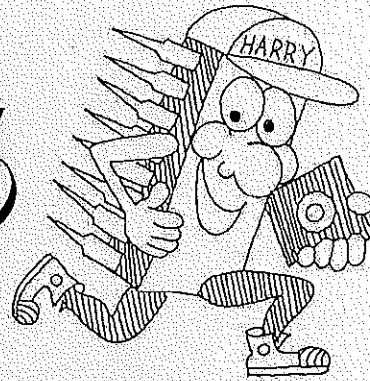


K. HALBERT
5488 Green Avenue
Mississauga Falls, Ont., L2H 1P6

Mark Pacan
1055 Chantier Rd.
Fenwick Ont.
L0S 1G0

08/30/87

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: May. 18, 1987

ISSUE: NL-47

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 14, 1987

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Confederation High School, Welland

EDITOR: Harry Van Dyke.....356-8005

ADVENTRESS: Pat Chamberland.....357-3482

STOREKEEPER: "QC" John Handley734-3081

TESTING: Mitch "Stovepipe" Smith.....357-0377

EPPROMMER: "Engineer" Bob Patty.....937-6794

COCO III'er: Ken "Hick" Wiseman.....774-3682

GROUP LEADER LIST: Clem Faucher.....934-1175

WELLAND LEADER: Russ "Moneybags" Hall....735-2136

FT. ERIE LEADER: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward..934-1175

PRESIDENT: Rob "Forgetful" Lawson.....354-7113

VICE PRES.: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward.....871-7235

SECRETARY: Ken "Penguin" Halbert.....354-9061

TREASURER: George "Dizzy" Dean.....356-8037

GENIUS: Dave "Binary Breath" Roach.....688-0657

MEMBERSHIP: "Dirty" Gerry Chamberland.....357-3462

TECHNICAL: Walter "Starman" Jutting.....641-0798

BILINGUAL: Flo "Frenchy" Martel.....354-2252

OS9 GROUP: Steve "Call Me" Philip.....892-3686

ACTIVITIES: "Dependable" Jerry Secord.....358-9996

REFRESHMENTS: Debbie "50 cents" Secord.....358-9996

DUNNVILLE LEADERS: Ken & Lori "Hick" Wiseman.774-3682

ST.CATHARINES LEADER: John "Knitter" Falke..682-2595

NIAGARA FALLS LEADER: Jackie Zufalt.....357-3280

"check your label for expiry date"

FROM THE EDITOR:

Wasn't it a great meeting last month?

I can't remember having such a great time. The air was fresh, the birds were singing, the kids were playing, the sun was shining and the pigeons were dropping.

Unfortunately it was all happening to us, as we were standing outside the meeting room doors.... gazing wistfully in, waiting for the doors to open.

In vain.

Dirty Gerry drove back and forth to a pay phone, several times to try and find someone to open the doors for us, but to no avail....

This was the first time in the history of our club, that a meeting actually had to be cancelled.

Are you proud of yourself Rob? Do you think that you deserve to continue living your miserable existence after what you have done, Rob?

Do you still have a sense of humour, Rob?

For those of you that would like an opportunity to listen to Rob try to explain why no one opened the doors for the May meeting, it was decided to have one more meeting this year, on June 14.

I know, I know, June 14 is Father's day. Well let this be the one day that all the fathers get to go to a computer club meeting without feeling guilty because they should be spending more time with their families or working their butts off in the garden.

All you ladies out there, if you really love your husbands you will show it in the one way that a computer junkie can understand. Send him to the meeting.

Tell him you will gladly do all those menial tasks that you had saved up for him to keep him so busy that he wouldn't have time to play with his computer.

You can make him pay later...

I hope he goes to the bathroom first. I wouldn't want him pontificating all over me.

WHAT A BUNCH OF PIGS!!!

If you had been at the last "meeting" you would have been privy to a most disgusting sight.

Dependable and 50 cents Secord finally showed up with a Corvette load of donuts and refreshments.

Well, now there was no meeting to flog all this stuff at was there?

"We had no choice but to dispose of it"

We all know what THAT means, don't we? It meant that as soon as I, and some other potential squealers left, all the remaining animals (and there were a lot of them there) descended upon the Corvette like a band of starving cavemen and proceeded to jam all the goodies into their faces with wild abandon.

How nauseating!

BASICALLY SPEAKING

Scruffy had such an excellent turnout at his basic seminar, last meeting, and he is so proud of himself, that he has agreed to carry on.

He has also agreed to continue the seminars.

So...Scruffy will be carrying on and continuing his seminars...at the next meeting. He will be ranting, he will be raving, and he will be foaming at the mouth.

If you listen carefully you will probably hear the odd bit of intelligible English as he continues to pontificate on the wonders of the CoCo.

HOW ABOUT ANOTHER CONTEST?

After reading Forgetful's commentary in the last newsletter, I had an idea for another contest.

Listen to this one....

We should have a contest to see who can spot the most spelling mistakes in Forgetful's writings and ramblings. First prize could be a dictionary, or perhaps a BURGER KING coupon. We all know how Forgetful loves BURGER KING coupons don't we?

CHECK YOUR OREOS...

I heard from a reliable source that there is another serious Oreo problem in our area.

It seems that Scruffy, our resident Oreo genius had a lot of brain activity one day.... (his lone brain cell was in high gear) and he decided to design a special fork lift to handle the skids of Oreo cookies.

Well, apparently he didn't allow for the extra width of the dubl-stuff Oreos when he designed the lift so from now on all Oreos in Niagara Falls will have flat sides where the lift forks squeeze them in. Just think of Scruffy when you look at what should be a perfectly round Oreo, but is instead a horrendously misfigured, misshapen, gnarled, grotesque, victim of a misguided mind.

SPEAKING OF MISGUIDED MINDS..

The Knitter is becoming upset and unsettled.

It seems that the lack of the usual loquaciousness and verbosity

about our Knitter, has his relatives worried.

They think I don't love him anymore.

They feel that perhaps he has slighted me in some way and that I no longer care to pay homage and veneration to him. He has even stopped knitting, because how can you do the things you enjoy when life is no longer worth living?

WELL, KNIT ON ...KNITTER.

You are still the same old bottom-dwelling slug that you always were.

You still nauseate all those around you with your constant nattering and chattering.

You haven't changed a bit.

I just haven't told you lately, and I feel badly for neglecting your sensitive feelings.

I would hate to think that some poor sweaterless person out there is catching a chill because the Knitter had cashed in his needles.

THAT IDIOT DRIVER GOOFED AGAIN!!

Do you remember when that fool Radio Shack Goodie truck driver screwed up and delivered the first CoCo III to (choke!!) Dunnville.

The Hicks have never let us forget it. They still sit around picking their teeth and whittling sticks, talking about that grand day.

Well apparently Radio Shack in their infinite wisdom, decided to give that yokel driver another chance and didn't fire him.

So guess what the simpleton did for an encore?

Yup!! He delivered the first OS9 level 2 package to Dunnville.

I understand he was heading for Niagara Falls and got lost, so

he followed a manure wagon right into the main drag of Dunnville. (the manure wagon was delivering food to the downtown businessmen's luncheon)

Apparently the moron figured that anyone wealthy enough to be able to afford a whole manure wagon full of lunch had to live in Niagara Falls. That line of thought made me very suspicious so I did a little investigating, and guess what I discovered?

THE RADIO SHACK DELIVERY DUMMY WAS BORN IN DUNNVILLE.

So of course he thought a manure wagon lunch was too good for Dunnville and had to be going to Niagara Falls.

It all makes sense when you think like a hick.

I think I understand now why Dunnville was chosen as one of the towns for the Olympic Torch Relay.

They are hoping that someone will drop the torch near Minnie's Dance Palace and that maybe the place will catch fire and improve the image of downtown Dunnville.

A HAMMER AND CHISEL

And a DULL chisel at that!

That's what Penguin must have used in the last newsletter to print out his 2 cents worth.

Two cents was about all it was worth too.

I have never in my life seen such horrendous printing. I didn't think it was possible for a printer to work that badly. He must have had a wad of chewing gum jammed into the print head. You would think that a guy that gets a \$20,000.00 award from GM could afford a measly \$600.00 or \$700.00 bucks for a decent printer.

Maybe the chiseler is holding

out hoping that Radio Shack will give him a new printer to stop him from telling people that the shameful mess that he calls printing is coming from a Line Printer 8.

HOW ABOUT A DONATION?

From you moneybags?

Since you have so much money that you don't know what to do with it. Even a few bucks so that Penguin can buy some gum remover to clean his printhead.

Speaking of moneybags....he says he has a ton of new software he is going to be cataloging and distributing over the summer months.

I have heard a great deal of moaning, groaning retching, and gnashing of teeth over the library system and the group leader system and the president and the weather and just about everything else lately.

I think it is time for a reminder to all the whiners that the group leaders are doing the best they can or as well as they FEEL like doing. Not all group leaders are as generous with their time as they might be, and not all group leaders still want to be group leaders, so a general overhaul is taking place in the hierarchy, by Clem, the group-leader-organizer-guy.

I even heard a comment from one particular person who shall remain nameless, faceless and senseless, that he certainly didn't want to be group leader anymore and would certainly think very deeply about rejoining the club next year because nobody gave him any new stuff. I guess it was too much trouble to make a few phone calls

and take a few minutes of his precious time to keep up to date.

HE WAS EXPECTING DELIVERY TO HIS DOORSTEP.

I should have realized that it was the least we could do in view of the exorbitant membership fees that are being extorted from the club members.

LOOK AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE AND SEE ALL THE PHONE NUMBERS AND NAMES OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE, OR KNOW WHERE TO GET "STUFF".....IS THAT TOO DIFFICULT, OR UNREASONABLE TO ASK????

With the large number of people in the executive and operating committees, there is no excuse for anyone not to be able to get any help or information or programs that they want.

I forgot how much fun it was to rant and rave about other people.

LOOKING FOR A USED ORGAN???.

Moneybags had a used organ for sale a while ago.....

He says a woman was interested in his used organ...so he sold it to her.....

Now Moneybags is crying the blues because the woman wouldn't pay for his organ.....

Maybe she felt like the organ wasn't worth anything, Moneybags. Or maybe she didn't like your organ.

It's true.....

This ought to get a few little minds going eh folks?

WELCOME TO THE OUTCASTS..DENNIS

Dennis Beaulne is buying an MS DOS computer - the SAM 3001, same as a lot of others of us.

Now you will know what true indignity is, Dennis.

You will suffer many abuses and wounds to your intellect at the hands of cruel and thoughtless individuals that cannot understand why anyone would want a "different" computer.

You will be spit upon, and worse.

However throughout this ordeal, remember this....you are not alone. You have friends that will defend your honor and will still treat you like a human.

Hold your head high, MS DOS is NOT a disease.

(a lot of people thought H DOS was)

THIS IS A GOOD PLACE TO DIGRESS

After having used the MS DOS computer for a half year or so, I am now prepared to make some observations and comparisons.

The first thing I noticed was the nice 80 column display that you could actually read and didn't have to load in a utility or program or attach hardware stuff, to get. (yeah, I know, like COCOIII)

Then I noticed that the diskettes hold 1.2 megabytes instead of the measly 256 K I was used to.

I also noticed that I now had 10 times more memory, over 1 meg. instead of 64K.

After a while, something else became obvious. Because the MS DOS machines have lots of memory, a lot of programmers are lazy, and don't always use memory conservation techniques like the COCO programmers

do. MS DOS programs are huge compared to COCO programs. For example, a fairly simple typing tutor, that compares very closely to the COCO typing tutor, uses over 200K of memory to run.

Word Perfect, which this diarrhea is being created on, uses over 266K, the speller that checks my already perfect spelling, uses 290K and the thesaurus that provides all the terrific big and showy words that make me look smart, uses over 360K.

One thing I really, really like is the hard disk.

Every single program or file that I use will fit easily on my 20 MEG hard drive, and the programs load incredibly fast.

I also have another 20 MEG hard drive that I run XENIX on, I was told that the only way to run XENIX on an MS DOS machine was to partition the hard drive and use part of it for XENIX and part for MS DOS, or else dedicate that whole machine to XENIX.

Since the XENIX program uses about 17 meg. you can see how much room I would have had for DOS stuffso out came the drill and soldering iron, and after an hour of wiring and soldering I made a circuit that would allow me to switch from one hard drive to another.

So who cares, right?

Well XENIX is quite similar to OS9 and will allow the computer to share the hard drive and programs with other terminals in a multitasking, multisharing mode, without any special hardware or software. I have written a real neat database on the informix SQL language on XENIX for the Transit and have to admit I'm proud of myself. (pat,pat,pat)

This would never be possible

on the COCO with its memory and speed limitations.

There is one thing I really miss though, and that is the great speech and music synthesis that was possible on the COCO.

The MS DOS machines have a little speaker that can emit a little beep now and then, and some programs do use the speaker for music that can only be compared to the COCO basic "play" commands.

Also, there is not a great deal of entertainment software available yet, such as games or adventures so the decision to go to MS DOS is usually based on business reasons (which was my case).

For general home and entertainment use, I must say that the COCO is still the best bet around. I have found that the main reason people move to MS DOS machines, is because they use them at work and want a machine they can work with at home that will be compatible and that they can use to learn on and become adept on.

SO THERE....

By the way, in case you are wondering, there are two MS DOS libraries floating around from member to member, so if you want a peek at it just call around a bit to track it down.

There still is no organized group for the MS DOS folks. Nobody seems to want to take the "bull by the horns" and setup a section. Probably because most people that use MS DOS equipment tend to be busy people. If you by some chance have the time, inclination and lack of self esteem, to look after the library and perhaps organize a few get togethers, let me know and you will be immediately anointed with

the holy MS DOS oil, and you will get a spot at the top of this rag.

What an offer!!!

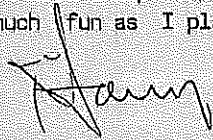
Do you know that this letter has 2617 words in it?

And very few are worth repeating. Perhaps the Genius or Forgetful will have more intelligent things to say.

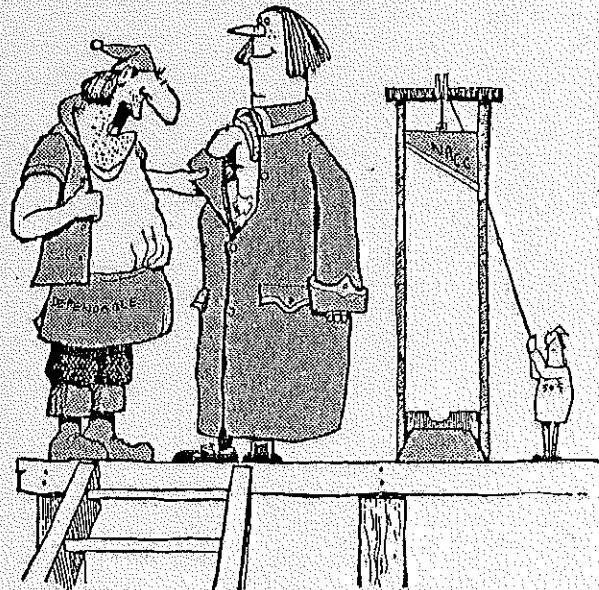
Or maybe Moneybags will explain this "organ" business.

See you at the June 14 meeting.

If I don't see you then, I wish each and everyone of you a safe, happy summer and hope that you will have a much fun as I plan to have.



"Sorry to keep you both waiting out here. Where's your wife?"



Nice try, FORGETFUL

NADA POST
8/8
399

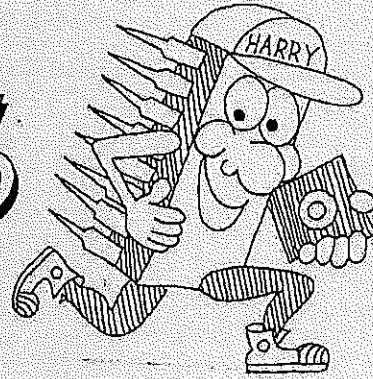
POSTAL CODE
5488 Green Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ont. L2H 1B4
CODE POSTAL

POSTES CANADA POST
4 VL 87E
L2R 9B0

1986 CANADA
POSTAL CODE POSTAL

Mark Pacan
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick Ont.
L0S 1C0 08/30/87

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: Aug. 24, 1987

ISSUE: NL-48

NEXT MEETING DATE: Sept 13, 1987

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Confederation High School, Welland

EDITOR: Harry Van Dyke.....356-6005

ADVENTRESS: Pat Chamberland.....357-3462

STOREKEEPER: "QC" John Handley734-3061

TESTING: Mitch "Stovepipe" Smith.....357-0377

EPROMMER: "Engineer" Bob Patty.....937-6794

CO III'er: Ken "Hick" Wiseman.....774-3682

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VICE PRES.: Tim "Scruffy" Woodward.....871-7235

SECRETARY: Ken "Penguin" Halbert.....354-9061

TREASURER: George "Dizzy" Dean.....356-8037

GENIUS: Dave "Binary Breath" Roach.....688-0857

MEMBERSHIP: "Dirty" Garry Chamberland.....357-3462

TECHNICAL: Walter "Starman" Jutting.....641-0798

BILINGUAL: Flo "Frenchy" Martel.....354-2252

OS9 GROUP: Steve "Call Me" Philip.....892-3686

ACTIVITIES: "Dependable" Jerry Secord.....358-9996

REFRESHMENTS: Debbie "50 cents" Secord.....358-9896

DUNNVILLE LEADERS: Ken & Lori "Hick" Wiseman..774-3682

ST.CATHARINES LEADER: John "Knitter" Felker..682-2595

NIAGARA FALLS LEADER: Jackie Zufelt.....357-3280

"check your label for expiry date"

Well, it happened again. We were locked out! Why do things like this always happen to me?

This is the story!

It seems the board of education is in the process of making up a whole new set of rules for any group who wish to use the schools. They decided that each group may have to get its own insurance policy to cover any liability. I was told that someone got hurt using one of the school gyms and the kids family tried to sue the group he was with. The group had no insurance and it seems they didn't have a permit to use the school, so now the parents are tryin to sue the school board. (Great so far HUH?)

Because there were a few "non active" groups who applied to the board, (YEH, thats us lazy slobs), they decided to review the rules and maybe waive the insurance. But while all his was going on, they wouldn't tell me if we could use the school or not.

Our application was received in plenty of time, but because of these new rules, they were backlogged at least 2 months. Our application was sent to the school board from the recreation board, but it wasn't processed yet. There were a lot ahead of ours. It then had to go to the school for processing. (Talk about red tape!)

Here's another zinger; It took almost 2 weeks for the letter to get to Welland from Niagara Falls (another fine job by our hard working postal service).

The director of recreation was very helpful and called the school board. He even went down there personally to pick up the few applications that were processed, but unfortunately, ours wasn't one of them. He apologized and said there was nothing he could do. If he heard anything otherwise, he would call me at home, even over the weekend. THAT WAS THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE MEETING!!!! The pressure was on! I didn't know what to do. I called Harry (mistake #1). After he stopped laughing for 5 minutes, he said, and I quote "OH GOODNESS, OH DEAR, OH MY!". The last time he got that excited was when he got one of his appendages caught in his disk drive. (Don't worry though, after a while, the swelling went down and he was able to pull his thumb out). Thanks for the help Harry! May a car sick dog sit on the front seat of you new car on a hot day.

I then called the helpful Penguin family (mistake #2). Ken kept on telling me to stop screaming. "I'M NOT SCREAMING!!!", I screamed. He really gave me some good advice, but sticking my head in my controller slot and turning on the power wasn't going to solve my problem. I could even hear his degenerate son snickering in the background.

I was faced with 3 choices: 1. Call everybody. 2. Put a note on the door. 3. End my life on Sunday morning.

Saturday night crept by and still no phone call. I was doomed. I made out my will, kissed the kids GOODBYE, told my wife that she could have my computer and quietly crawled into bed "FOR THE LAST TIME". On Sunday morning, I was going to do myself in.

As I lay in bed trembling and sobbing, a little voice (that sounded a lot like my wife) said to me "If you die, I'm going to sell that stupid computer and buy a hot tub."

HENCE THE NOTE ON THE DOOR!!!! I did call a few of you and had a few of you call a few more, but I couldn't call all of you. Well excuse me!

I raced down to Welland early Sunday to stick this note on the door, hoping to avoid seeing you and raced back before the wife woke up (the post office was never that fast!). When she got up, she said "seeing you have no meeting today, you can take me to the Flea Market in Welland at 12:00.....OH NO!!!"

And thats what happened on the weekend of Sept 12, 1987. One I'll never forget.

By the way, at the time of this letter, I still don't know if we will get the school for our next meeting. Our application still hasn't been approved. I called the director of recreation again and he said that we should be "OK" for this month even though it isn't in writing. If you want call me the night before the next meeting at 354-7113. As far as I know, the meeting is ON! Be there or be square! Now on to business.

TO PROGRAM OR NOT TO PROGRAM

We are going to learn BASIC PROGRAMMING! The Scruff (Tim Woodward) is going to hold a Basic Programming seminar. If you want to attend, bring your "GETTING STARTED WITH COLOR BASIC" manual and some paper and a pen. You don't need your computers. He'll start off with standard basic for a couple of months and then advance to extended basic. If you have any questions, call me or Tim before the next meeting. I asked Tim why they call him 'Scruffy'. He looked at me and scratched his unshaven face and said "I don't know!" Remember, try not to get ahead of Tim. Stick with the course outline. He was told to jump on your face if you get off the topic.

A DISK BY ANY OTHER NAME IS STILL A DISK

Clem has some new programs for the COCOII and the COCOIII. He'll get them to Russ who'll update the library and get them to us. We hope to have an addendum for the next meeting and a new group leader list.

We've still got a few boxes of diskettes for sale. They're still the same price (ask QC, cause I forget) and we've got chips for sale. I think the Eeprom burner is in, so 'Burnin Bob' Patty might have a few eeproms for you. I called him one night, but his wife said he was in the shower and he'll call me when he gets out. That was 2 days ago. I'll bet he looks all wrinkley and pruned up by now.

TO PLAY YOU GOTTA PAY

It's time to pay your dues. Check you membership cards' expiry date and PAY UP!. It's only \$35.00 a year. My wife spends more than that on underwear and socks for the kids.

Seriously thought; we CANNOT loan you any programs unless you have a valid membership card. The group leaders should take note of this for their own peace of mind. It's their responsibility to ask you for your card.

I'm going to have a suggestion box at the next meeting, so make them good! If I get any written in crayon, I'll know they're from Zebos Zoo, so watch it guys.

Does anybody want to volunteer for the position of 'GAMESMASTER'. You get to organize any contests, we may have and you get your name at the top of the newsletter under 'GAMESMASTER'. Call me if you want the job, it's easy. We'll all help you.

CHECKED RADIO SHACK LATELY?

There's a lot of good buys for COCOII accessories lately if you can find them (they're selling fast). Every time I go in there, something else is marked down. The Basic programming manuals are on sale for 99 cents each. What a bargoon! I was told the COCOIII will go on sale before Christmas. If you are interested, see Roy Fisher. Maybe he can help you out.

FORSALES & TOOBUYS

If you have anything for sale or want to buy something, let me know and I'll announce it or put it in the newsletter (computer related please). By the way, I've got some great 8 X 10's of some guy on Hillcrest doing weird things on his roof for sale, but they're still a bit damp.

I've got a lot of cassettes for sale. When my kids were younger, I used to put one program on each tape 3 times because they used to come to me with a hand full of tape and say "it broke!". If I had that tape full of programs, I would have killed them by now. I'm selling the TAPES for 50 cents each. What a deal! I'll even sell the neat shelving unit the tapes are on for \$5.00. I must be a real sucker! So what are you selling or buying? Sorry Ken, you can't sell your degenerate kid.

MS DOS GROUP

I don't know what they're doing. I don't think they know what they're doing. As far as I hear, thier library is still in a state of national disaster, but I guess it's still being circulated. If anybody is interested in buying a PC or just interested in talking PC talk, get ahold of one of these guys. They'll be more than happy to talk to you. I think the leader is the infamous Van Dyke.

WALTERS FIXIT SHOPPE

If you see this strange looking guy sitting at the front table with a hot soldering iron in his pocket, give him something to fix, even if it's your digital watch. You see, thats Walter, our Technical Genius. He gets very upset if he has nothing to do, or no questions to answer. Last meeting he tried to solder my shoe laces together. Walter knows quite a bit about the COCO. Rumour has it he's going to put something in this newsletter.

LETS MAKE A DATE

I don't want any wise cracks about this heading. Keep these dates open, mark them on your calendar or scratch them on your living room wall.
Sept.14 Oct.11 Nov.8 Dec.13 Jan.10 Feb.14 Mar.13 Apr.10 and May.1.
Unless otherwise notified, these are the dates for this years club meetings.

IN SUMMARY

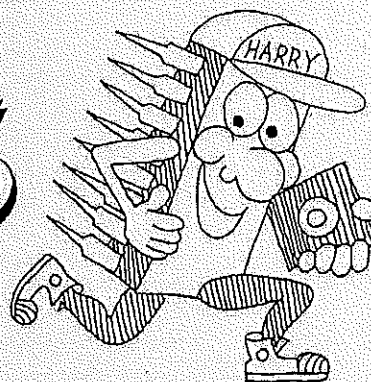
The next meeting is OCT. 11, I just found out that's Thanksgiving weekend. Tough! I'm not changing the date. I'll go there and sit alone if I have to, but I have to be home early for my Turkey. She'll get mad if don't get home on time to eat the ham she cooked.

In closing, I tried to make fun of a very serious matter. We almost didn't have a place to meet (could you imagine 100 people in Harrys rec room. I don't think he has enough plugs!). Some people were worried that the club was going to fold. Let me put your mind at ease. This club won't fold. We've got too many good people and too much going for us to let it fold (I

think I hear the National Anthem playing). A lot of people were calling around to get some answers and nobody knew what was going on. I knew, but nobody called me. Remember me? I'm the PRES. X

Rob

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3482

* N E W S L E T T E R *

DATE: Aug. 24, 1987

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 NIAGARA FALLS LEADER: Jackie Zufelt.....357-3280

"check your label for expiry date"

FROM THE EDITOR

My how time flies!

It seems that I just finished hurling my last batch of insults, and here it is, time for a fresh start.

I trust you all had a great and terrific summer. You all got tans in the right places?

Depends on your version of the "right places", I suppose.

My annual burn is healing nicely thank you.

This will be a rather unforgettable summer for me, I suppose I got the punishment that a

lot of you figure I deserved.

My wife and I planned a nice relaxing vacation to Boston, Cape Cod, Vermont, etc. Well we relaxed alright.

For about two days.

Then we phoned home.....

BIG MISTAKE!!!!

My wonderful, great, terrific, "teenage", son smashed up his car. Fortunately he wasn't hurt but you can see where the rest of our "relaxing" vacation went.

After the accident fiasco was all straightened out, we thought we

would spend a nice "relaxing" weekend up in Elmira and St.Jacobs.

Wrong again!!!!

That turned out to be the weekend of the monsoons. Remember the big storms we had that turned the whole weekend into a watery wonderland? Well there we were waddling through puddles and rivers trying to play tourist during the torrents of rain unleashed upon us from the vengeful rainmakers.

We are never going to try to go away again!

So how was your vacation?

NRCC NL-48

Did you manage to get in a little computer time?

It will be interesting to see what new software and hardware will be up and coming this fall.

The genius has been busy with a lot of new programs and we will probably see the results shortly after the season starts again.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE "SHACK"?

Advance publicity has mentioned quite a number of new computer products coming off the SHACK SHELF.

The Tandy 4000, which is a 16 MHz, 80386 based, machine with a 1.44 meg 3.5 inch floppy, serial and parallel port, room for 16meg ram, comes with 1 meg for \$2599.00 (U.S.)

The Tandy 3000 series which is a 12 MHz, 80286 based machine, is sleeker and faster. Priced at \$1999.00 (U.S.)

The Tandy 1400 LT is a laptop portable running a V20 at 7.16 MHz with two 720K, 3.5 inch floppies, CGA & composite video ports, serial and parallel ports, and backlightsupertwist display. It runs at \$1599.00 (U.S.)

Finally, Tandy is releasing a Laser Printer. Everybody else is kicking them out the door, so why not Tandy?

They are selling the LP-1000 for \$2199.00 (U.S.)

This makes it an expensive printer, but anyone wanting to get into the Laser Printer fad will find this a rather inexpensive HP Laserjet compatible.

I hope you don't construe these remarks as advertising for Radio Shack. Far be it from me to ever do such a thing!

I just think you would be interested in hearing what's new.

WANT ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE??

Hi-Tek International, where some of us bought our MS DOS computers, has just come out with an IBM XT compatible for \$459.00 (U.S.)

This is a real inexpensive way to break into the MS DOS world if you are so inclined.

All you need is a monitor (for about \$150.00) if you don't already have one, and you are off and running.

If you want more information, let me know.

MONEY BEGETS MONEY

We have another Moneybags in our club.

You all know him better as Penguin.

We have the richest Penguin in the world, in our club.

We probably have the ONLY Penguin in the world in our club.

This rich Penguin has just bought ANOTHER new car!!

He just bought a new car a few months ago. Now he is buying another new car because his other new car is lonely!

The rich Penguin is trying to keep the GM assembly line going, singlehandedly.

He bought this big, richly appointed, overly loaded, Buick just to go to the club meetings in.

Don't bother waving to him if you see him driving by, he will just ignore you unless you look rich.

He would probably wave to Russ Hall though.

These moneybags guys stick together you know.

Don't think that he will stop to help you if you are stuck somewhere in the desert, a thousand miles from civilization with no water to drink. He can't be seen stopping to help a commoner.

He would probably pick up Russ Hall though.

These moneybags guys stick together.

SOME PEOPLE NEVER LEARN

Do you remember a few months ago when there was all this hoopla about Forgetful neglecting to bring donuts to the executive meeting?

Well we had our first executive meeting a few days ago and guess what???

Yep, the bonehead forgot again.

How can anyone concentrate on business with the thought of starvation hanging over your heads?

I was going to lay off Forgetful for a while, but how can I ignore such a wanton disregard for protocol?

There are certain things that are holy and sacred within this club and bringing the donuts is one of them.

I hope we will not see a recurrence of this shameful oversight, Forgetful.

Well I have to leave room for some kind of back-stabbing rebuttal from our President so this will be short and sweet.

See you at the Sept. 13 meeting.....

Have fun.



Unger

"Keep in mind you're a guest on this bench."



Unger

"Ignore him. He knows he's due for his annual shots."

FROM THE PERS

Wipe the dust off your computers! Take the locks off your computer room doors! We're BACK IN BUSINESS!!!!!!

I'm going to start this newsletter with some good news; the Clubs Financial Statement! (thanks to George Dean). If you have any questions, bring them to the next meeting, and fire them at George.

NIAGARA REGIONAL COCO CLUB FINANCIAL REPORT

November 12, 1986 to July 21, 1987

<u>Assets</u>		<u>Liabilities</u>	
Opening Balance	1532.48	Newsletter	1449.60
Membership Dues	1595.00	Contest Prizes	270.00
50/50 Draw	130.00	Purchases	2614.15
Stores (Disk, Chips)	2202.44	Programs	218.62
Misc.	57.62	Eprom Burner	150.00
Interest	27.64	Coco III	352.03
		Misc.	71.20
		s/c on account	4.70
		Cash on Hand	520.88
Total	5651.18		5651.18

As you can see, we have a little float to start our year. It has been planned to be a "HAPPY USER'S GROUP" of which the benefits are that we can learn from each other and have buying power and capital from working together. We also have the opportunity for our \$35.00 membership to serve on the Executive and/or with the Club. None of us are immune from serving. Some of us have a very limited knowledge on the computer and we are here to learn; however the best way to learn anything is by being involved. If you feel that you are not able to feel that you are part of the Club, then by all means contact me and I will see that you have a very useful function in the Club Activities.

As you have probably heard by now ---- I forgot to buy the donuts for the executive meeting. This saved the Club a bunch of bucks, for which I will not likely get credit for, but it is better to put the onus on the executive that is hosting the meeting. Laurie usually bakes home-made banana bread, but she felt that she had to leave it at home with Ken, who was stuck in the haymow looking after Joey. The 5 or 6 of the Executive that could make the meeting that I almost forgot to arrange until I was given a blunt hit on the reminder by another of the Executive looked as though they could miss the snack without any undue loss. I noticed that our editor (No names) had a very difficult time fitting into his sons CORVETTE. (This is the poor side of the Executive) They are the only ones I know of that put the Vette on blocks during the summer and drive it during the winter (Must be scared of the tourists).

Let me tell you what is lined up for the next few meetings:

We are going to have a Seminar(s) in Basic Programming. There will be 3 classes; beginners course, graphic course and OS9 Course. (If I can remember to find 3 Volunteer teachers). If you are knowledgeable in these subjects, please contact me as we can use your assistance.

We are planning more games contests.

The Club will be comprised of the founding CoCo, the CoCo II and CoCo III along with the MS Dos Groups. We

are very light in the Tandy 1000 and multiples, but we are here to learn and teach and we can again use experts in all these machines.

The suggestion box will be eager to accept any constructive ideas.

WALTER'S FIXIT SHOP and BOB PATTY'S EPROM BURNER will be open again (I hope)

Of course, this will happen, if I can remember to arrange to have the door opened.

Come on out. Bring a friend who who you feel will benefit. Membership is due for quite a number of the original members, as the dues are for a full 12 month period for \$35.00 and most of us have the September 1 dueline.

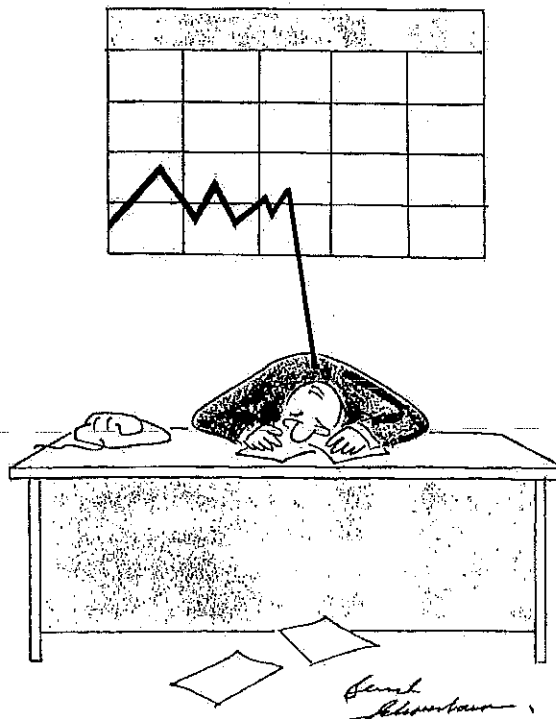
Of course, we will be losing the expert Dave Roach, who will be off enjoying the College life by the time we meet. I am sure that you will see some new faces, some old faces, some pratty faces and some that you may not care to admit to. The Club depends on your participation and involvement to be successful. Don't be shy -- just think 2 years ago I was shy and didn't know what a President was or how to spell it -- no I are won.

As you may have heard, Our Transit Maintenance Manager and Editor did not have a good summer. He used to have more fun when he was the president. This article was found in the local paper, could it be that he doesn't know what to do for entertainment any more or has he gone #####.

Get off the roof

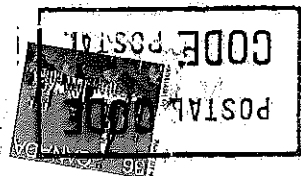
Would the man on Hillcrest Road stop throwing pop cans, urinating and dancing on his roof?

Fed Up



5021

Mark Paean
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick Ont.
L0S 1G0 08/87



K. HALBERT
5488 Green Avenue
Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H 1P6

Niagara Regional CoCo Club



6843 Cumberland Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-2J9, 416-357-3462

***** N E W S L E T T E R *****

NEXT MEETING: *NOV. 8, 1987* 1:00 PM. CONFEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL, WELLAND

ISSUE: NL-50

DATE: OCT. 20, 1987

PRESIDENT: Rob Lawson.....354-7113	TREASURER: George Dean.....356-8037
VICE PRES.: Tim Woodward.871-7235	SECRETARY: Ken Halbert.....354-9061
EDITOR: Harry Van Dyke...356-6005	MEMBERSHIP: Gerry Chamberland.357-3462
ADVENTURIST: Pat356-3462	TECHNICAL: Walter Jutting.....641-0798
STORES: John Hadley.....734-3061	BILINGUAL: Flo Martel.....354-2252
TESTING: Russ Hall.....357-0377	OS9 GROUP: Steve Philip.....892-3686
EPROMMER: Rob Patty.....937-6794	ACTIVITIES: Jerry Secord.....358-9996
COCO III: Ken Wiseman...774-3682	SNACKS: Debbie Secord.....358-9996
GROUP LIST: Clem Faucher.934-1175	DUNNVILLE: Ken, Lori Wiseman...774-3682
WELLAND: Russ Hall.....735-2136	St. KITTS: John Felker.....682-2595
FT.ERIE: Tim Woodward...934-1175	N. FALLS: Jackie Zufelt.....357-3280
N. FALLS: Rob Lawson.....354-7113	GENIUS: Dave Roach.....688-0657

FROM THE PRES.

Where was everybody last month? Didn't you know there was a meeting going on? Oh, I get it; you thought that just because it was Thanksgiving, there would be no meeting. So what if your wives slaved for two days preparing a turkey dinner. You should have been like me and said "I'VE GOT MY COMPUTER CLUB MEETING TODAY! I'M GOING! HOLD SUPPER TILL I GET BACK!" (By the way, does anybody know how to remove a half frozen turkey from a certain part of my body?)

Our permit troubles are now over! I received a call from the recreation board saying that our permit is in the mail. THE MAIL!!! OH NO!! That will take another month to reach me!

About the last meeting.

I thought it went pretty good for the small group that was there. Nobody put a suggestion in my suggestion bag. (I forgot to make a suggestion box, so I got an A&P bag).

Tim Woodward's BASIC PROGRAMMING SEMINAR went pretty good (so he says). The attendees seemed very interested. Everybody walked out of there scratching thier heads. I think they caught something from the SCRUFF. You can still get in on Tims seminar at the next meeting (Nov.8). Bring your Basic manual or whatever you may need.

We had no coffee corner!!!!!! The pop machine didn't work and we had no donuts. QC John came up to me shaking like a leaf. "I've got to have a coffee. I can't go through the meeting without a coffee. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE SITTING THERE WITHOUT A #%%&% COFFEE! I said "Hey John, somebody wants to buy a box of diskettes!" He was gone like a shot!

While I was talking to QC, I noticed that he'd hold up 3 fingers and nod his head, then he'd hold up 5 fingers and shake his head. I said to myself "THIS GUYS GOING BONKERS." Then I saw who he was looking at. His daughter was trying to con this guy out of \$16.00 for 2 boxes of diskettes. She's a natural born salesperson. She could probably do a better job than QC (and she's better looking than John).

By the way, if you ever buy anything from QC, don't give him these new LOONIE dollars. His son Mark keeps biting them to get the chocolate out.

I saw Ken Halbert there renewing memberships and signing up new members and TAKING IN MONEY! Is your membership due? If so, fork over \$35.00. Where else can you get a monthly multi coloured rag like this for only \$35.00? If you didn't get your last newsletter, Ken has it. He thought with the present mail situation it would be best if he didn't mail them out. The problem with him is that he has no faith in the post office. For those of you who did get yours, you'll have probably noticed by now that the YOYO didn't change the date on the front page.

Some kids were interested in joining our club, but they have COMMODORES (not the group; the computer). Is it possible we might have a Commodore section? What do you think? Put it in the suggestion box.

Dennis Dubois won \$12.00 on the 50/50 draw. Too bad Dennis! If there was more people there, you might have won \$50.00 or more. HA HA HA HA HA!

We talked about buying a couple of new programs. The following were suggested:

1. MICRO SURGERY (OH NO! Another COCO III program.)
2. OS9 DEVELOPEMENT SYSTEM (COCO III).
3. RUSSIAN ASSAULT (a great game for the old reliable COCO II).
4. HOME PUBLISHER or PRINTSHOPPE (COCO III).
5. SCULPTURE (\$400.00)...Are you nuts?
6. KINGS QUEST I,II,III (COCO III, 512k)
7. MULTI VIEW WINDOWING SYSTEM (COCO III, 512k)

We feel there isn't enough people with 512k, so it might be wise to skip items 6 and 7 but of course thats up to you. If you have any more suggestions, shout out at the next meeting (Nov.8). Maybe we can take a vote and buy a couple of programs. I know for a fact that George Dean collected some money at the last meeting. Correct me if I'm wrong George, but we have around \$500.00 in the bank?????

WHATS UP?

Scruffy Woodward is going to start a new column in the old COCO Rag. Anything you may want to know about computers, programming, how a game works, why he never shaves or what makes Halberts car talk; you can JUST ASK TIM! He will have a "QUESTION BOX, probably beside my SUGGESTION BOX. I could picture some Junior Space Cadet calling him at 5:00 oclock in the morning saying "When I'm playing a game and my stupid little sister throws up on the computer, why won't the game work any more? HUM?" Tim will provide all the details.

He could very well be the ANN LANDERS or the DOCTOR RUTH of the Niagara Regional COCO Club. Don't burden him with your problems about how your wife doesn't understand you and won't let you go to your monthly meetings or how you aren't able to communicate with your kids because they are always parked in front of their computers.

If you can think of a good name for Tims new column, write it down on a piece of paper and hand it in at the next meeting. The person with the best name will win 5 silver dollars. (sorry OC Jr., you can't eat these). George, I need 5 silver dollars for the next meeting!

512K UPGRADES FOR THE COCO III????????

And to think, I was happier than John Felker at a Jello Wrestling Contest when I got my 64K upgrade a few years ago. Now you can go 512K. That means you can pretty well load a whole disk into your computer instead of one program at a time. The Wild & Wooly Wisemans are weawy happy with thiers. They ordered it from DISTO in Quebec for only...\$150.00 (I think). It seems it's easy to install. Ken had set aside 2 days to hook this thing up. He said he had 3 soldering irons, all his tools and a blow torch spread all over his kitchen table. He said "Sorry Lori, I can't tend the sheep today, I've got electronic things to do, and keep that kid of yours away from my blow torch! He's setting the kitchen on fire!"

All you do is take out 4 chips, cut a capacitor and snap this 512K board in. There's no soldering involved. Lori got all upset over nothing. I don't know what she did with the blow torch though, but I wondered why Ken couldn't sit down at the last executive meeting. By the way, if anybody has seen 27 sheep running around Dunnville, let the Wisemas know.

If anybody is interested in purchasing a 512K upgrade, let me know. Maybe we can make a BULK purchase (remember the good old days when we used to buy 50 disk drives at a time?) Maybe Ken can run a 512K upgrade workshop at some future meeting.

STORES

We're still selling diskettes for \$8.00 a box. I got a great testimonial from John Felker about them. Out of the 190 diskettes he has used, only 2 were no good. WOW!!! Where can I buy some of these great diskettes! I had a box of DYSAN diskettes (cost me \$35.00) and out of 10, 2 were no good. It just goes to show you.

We still have a few 64K chips left. I saw Walter doing a 64K upgrade at the last meeting. He was happy. I was happy because these chips are still selling

FORSALES & TOBUYS

Korean COCO II

Reactoids rom pack

HDOS chips

***** \$110.00 Call BRAD DEMERS 735-0516

64K COCO II EXTENDED,

Radio Shack single upright drive,

Direct connect modem,

Cassette player, (lots of cassettes),

Joy sticks

**** only \$650.00 Call CRAIG METHVEN 358-3166 *****

A couple of people were interested in buying a disk drive. If you have one for sale, let me know and I'll pass the word (I'll even forego my commission).

WHATS NEW AT RADIO SHACK?

I heard that Radio Shack is coming up with this new policy about selling programs. They will only stock one of each program for demonstration purposes and if you want to buy one, they will order it for you. Is this true Roy? (Roy works at Radio Shack on Dorchester Rd. in the Falls.) I'm still waiting for the COCO III's to go on sale.

THE CLUB LIBRARY

I don't know if I have mentioned this or not, but Russ Hall has done a fantastic job putting the club library on a data base. The library is now sectioned off by Games, Utilities, Music, Graphics and Educational data bases. By running his program and loading a specific data base, you can find out whatever you want about a certain program without spewing off reams of paper. You can display the instructions for one program on your screen or print out that one program. You can print a list (this is great!) of all the program names and which disk they are on (alphabetically & 4 col. across). Russ has spent a lot of time creating this data base and it works great.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST: 1 husband in the Welland area. Last seen loading a bunch of computer stuff into his van on the second Sunday of March. REWARD!

I know you haven't seen your husband for a long time Mrs. Hall, but if you'll look in that little room at the end of your basement, I think you'll find him under a pile of dirty coffee cups. By the way! If he disappeared in March, why are you just getting around to looking for him now? Oh, I get it, he usually disappears for weeks at a time to work on his computer. I had a cat that used to do that (disappear a lot). After 6 months of doing the wash, Mrs. Hall just realized that Russ had no dirty underwear in the laundry basket!!!!. Maybe you should just put a lock on that door at the end of your basement. If he hasn't changed his shorts for over 6 months, there's no way in the world that I'd open that door.

NEWS FLASH!!

RUSS AGREES THAT HIS DATA BASE IS GREAT! BUT I FORGOT ONE THING... IT ONLY WORKS ON DISK... OOPS! HE'S SO PROUD, THAT HE WILL DEMONSTRATE IT AT THE MEETING.

MISCELLANEOUS (did I spel it right?)

Some Junior hacker needed the last page of a libray list that he bought last spring. Well I finally got one. (I forgot his name).

Remember the SUGGESTION BOX and the QUESTION BOX at the next meeting.

Let me tell you how well your club is being run:

1. Over half the executives didn't show up at the last exec. meeting.
2. Woodward spilled coffee all over Ken Halberts rug and immediately blamed Kens dog.
3. Ken Wiseman wanted a donut from the bottom of the bag but didn't know how to get it out. I said "dump the bag out so the ones on the bottom will now be on top!" He said "OH!"
4. John Felker was so proud that he could make litle pumpkin pictures with his PC PRINTSHOPPE program.
5. Walter Jutting was writing down notes with his soldering iron.

YES FOLKS, these YOYOS are running your club!

I was told that Rainbow on Disk now has a warning on it that it is for single users only. Clubs aren't allowed to copy it. WHERE WILL IT END!!!!!!!!!!!!

IN CLOSING

Meeting dates: NOV.8 DEC.13 JAN.10 Feb.14 Mar.13 APR.10 and May.01. Mark them down on your calendar. Check your membership card date.

To the execs who spend a lot of time running this club; THANKS, I REALLY MEAN IT. To George Dean (the treasurer); where's my \$3.00 for the donuts???? Remember me, I'm the PRES.

Rob

A NEW COLUMN

How do you start a column that doesn't exist yet?

If I learned anything from the "Great Van Dyke" ,past president, past editor, current Oreo Double Stuff Lover, it was to listen carefully to everything anyone says or does and then use it against them in the form of insults in our newsletter.

To follow in His (may His computer never I.O.Error) footsteps, but to never fill His shoes, I got some juicy stuff from the last executive meeting.

If you remember the past newsletters over the last 4 Or 5 years you'd see how the "Great Van Dyke" ,henceforth "G.V.D", progressed in His skills of penmanship. He started with, from what I remember, first hand writing them, then Scripsit, advanced to V.I.P. Writer, then to an electronic typewriter hooked up to His COCO, and lastly to His (may it never fail Him) I.B.M. compatible (the actual name of the computer eludes me at the moment) , using a program that automatically columnizes what He (may His printer ribbon never fade) writes.

Professional or What ! ! ! !

Well, talk about total regression.

Our new President Rob "forgetful" Lawson uses "C H I L D W R I T E R" (may I stop laughing to finish this letter). And then when I constructively bring to his attention the numerous spelling errors throughout the newsletters he wrote, he blamed it on the K E Y B O A R D.

Now that I've stopped rolling around laughing my fool head off and climbed back in front of the computer, I'll explain what the reason for this new column is.

What I'd like to do is to start a column to answer any and I mean any questions to do with the computer or programs used on the computer or just programming.

I'm not saying I can answer them all, but if I can't I'll try to find someone who can.

No question is too simplistic or unimportant. If you don't know the answer, then that makes it very important to me. There's nothing worse than an idle computer because of not understanding something, especially when you know someone out there might be able to help.

Don't be afraid to ask. All questions put in the newsletter will be without reference to the questioner, unless specifically requested.

A box will be put on the front table at the meeting so you can drop your questions into it. If you require a prompt answer, find me at the meeting or

put your name and phone number and the best time to call on your question paper and I will try to answer them as soon as possible. You can even call me at home if you need to, but please call at a reasonable time. (after supper and before 9:30 p.m.).

I've yet to find a name for this new column so we are running a small contest to pick a name. 5 silver dollars to the winner. Some that I've thrown around for ideas have been T.L.C. (Tim's Learning Corner) or P.T.L. (Pages for Teaching and Learning). The latter example, I've learned, is already being battled for, (I don't want any trouble from Tammy), so I dropped them ideas like a hot potato. So we need your input. Drop an idea in the suggestion box or the new column box up front and we'll let you know who won in the next newsletter.

Anyway, before I go, I just want to say that I really do respect Rob "forgetful" Lawson. He's got a lot of guts to take over Presidency of the Club, something I don't think I could ever do. I've been sitting comfortably back as Vice President for three years now, so I'm in no place to judge Rob.

Rob has been working extremely hard to manage this club, and to carry on after the "G.V.D." (may He always succeed in His ventures) is a tough act to follow.

ATTA BOY ROB !!!

Tim

"Scruffy"

"I Love My Computer"

Woodward Sr.



POSTAL CODE
CODE POSTAL



POSTAL
CODE POSTAL

Mark Pagan
1055 Chantler Rd.
Fenwick Ont.
LOS 100 08/88

Y
100 08/88

100 08/88

Niagara Regional COCO Club



6483 Kendale Court, Niagara Falls, Ont., L2H-1Z2, 416-354-7113

***** NEWSLETTER *****

NEXT MEETING: Dec. 13, 1987, 1:00 PM, CONFEDERATION HIGH SCHOOL, WELLAND

ISSUE: NL-51	DATE: Nov. 20, 1987
PRESIDENT: Rob Lawson.....354-7113	TREASURER: George Dean.....356-8037
VICE PRES.: Tim Woodward.871-7235	SECRETARY: Ken Halbert.....354-9061
EDITOR: Harry Van Dyke...356-6005	TECHNICAL: Walter Jutting.....641-0798
STORES: John Hadley.....734-3061	TESTING: Russ Hall.....735-2136
OS9 Group: Steve Philip..835-2079	GAMES MASTER: ??????????????.....????-????
EPROMMER: Bob Patty.....937-6794	COCO III: Ken Wiseman.....774-3682
GROUP LIST: Clem Faucher.934-1175	DUNNVILLE: Ken, Lori Wiseman...774-3682
WELLAND: Russ Hall.....735-2136	WELLAND: Geoff Lee Ott.....734-9246
FT. ERIE: Tim Woodward....934-1175	PT. COLBOURNE: Jerry Bunz.....835-8290
N. FALLS: Rob Lawson.....354-7113	N. FALLS: Jackie Zufelt.....357-3280
ST. KITTS: John Felker...682-2595	ST. KITTS: Ray Zason.....682-2081

FROM THE PRES.

In the good old days when we all had 16K, everything was great.

When some of us went to 64K, the 16K users complained when we bought 64K programs. Then they went to 64K and everything was OK.

When some of us went to disk, the tape users complained when we bought disk programs. Then they went to disk and everything was OK.

When some of us went to the COCO III, the COCO II users complained when we bought COCO III programs. Then they went to the COCO III and everything was OK.

When some of us went to 512K, the 64K users complained when we bought 512K programs. When they go to 512K, everything will be OK.

I could just imagine that in 10 years when my son (PRES JR) is up there and the laser card users will be complaining because we are buying programs that only the fibre optic users can use.

For those of you who weren't at the last meeting, this is what happened. As you know, we haven't purchased any new programs for a long time. Being the nice guy that I am, I thought I'd let you, the people vote on what programs we should buy. Suggestions for COCOII, COCOIII and for 512K programs were given. This was when the war of the COCOs started. The COCOII'ers only wanted COCOII programs. The COCOIII'ers wanted COCOIII programs. The OS9'ers wanted OS9 programs. The 512'ers wanted 512K

You have 3 different groups who want 3 different types of programs and the programs each group wants won't work on the other groups computers.
SO WHAT!! You say.

P.T. Barnum once said: "YOU CAN SATISFY SOME OF THE PEOPLE SOME OF THE TIME, BUT YOU CAN'T SATISFY ALL OF THE PEOPLE ALL OF THE TIME". He was right! Remember a couple of years ago when we used to vote on programs. Harry (remember him?) would read a few suggestions to the people and with a show of hands, we would vote on a couple of programs. It was usually a game and a utility to keep both players and hackers happy. That was back when we didn't have this THING called a COCOIII. Harry made it look so easy.

It seems those days have "gone by". You can't do these things anymore, so I've just found out. It was suggested that the execs earn the donuts that the club buys for them and make the decisions themselves. Now why didn't I think of that?

By the way, while all this was going on, I nervously glanced over to the corner of the room and through the sweat pouring down from my forehead, I could see Harry Van Dyke rolling on the floor laughing his furry little head off. Some people have no respect! Now on to business.

THE COCO FLEA MARKET.

I was quite surprised how well the "Sale Table" turned out. People brought things to sell and SELL they did. It was like shopping at Towers on Christmas Eve. I had 2 computers that I was supposed to sell for \$100.00 each or "Best Offer". My thick headed son sold the first one for \$75.00. I thought I taught that kid to "Start High and Work Down". I think he takes after his mother.

If you have any computer junk to sell, bring it out and put it on the table. I think it was P.T. Barnum who once said "There's one born every minute". To the gentleman who bought the computer from my "no brain" son: Please see me at the next meeting. I have the cables for you. To the sucker, I mean person who bought the genuine gold watch with the built in computer and VCR from John Felker: It doesn't work (there's no such thing as "Micro Beta").

FORSALES & TOOBYS.

COCOII 64K EXT> basic computer
\$100.00 or best offer
Call Geoff Lee Ott (his names at the top of the newsletter).

TP10 Printer - best offer
256K Ram disk for COCOI or II - best offer
Hayes Modem \$125.00 or best offer
set of 64K chips for COCOII (8 chip set)
Call Steve Philip (his name's at the top of the newsletter).

People still want DISK DRIVES so let me know if you are selling yours.

NEW PROGRAMS.

We, the executive have ordered 4 new programs for you.
1). COCO GRAPHICS DESIGNER for the COCOI,II,III. It includes lots of fonts and pictures and supports ALL printers. \$70.00 US.
2). RUSH N ASSAULT- commando type game. \$38.95 CDN.
3). KUNG FU DUDE- karate type game where the guy walks around and meets different apponents. \$24.95.

4). WIZARDS DEN- 64K, COCOIII compatible.

Clem placed the order and we'll let you know when they arrive.

BULLETIN BOARD SERVICE.

Steve Philip has started a new BBS. "The OS9 Connection" is now up and running. Steve is the SYSOP. It took me 3 hours to figure out that meant "system operator". The BBS phone number is 835-2349. Also, if you need any help with OS9, level 1 or 2, call the BBS or call him at home (his numbers on the front of the newsletter). Don't be afraid of him because he wears a Harley Davidson Tshirt. He's really a PUSSY CAT!

For those of you who are interested, Steve is going to have an OS9 seminar at the next meeting. If you want, you can bring your computers or just a pencil and paper. Steve said he will hook into his BBS and run OS9 from his home base. This way he can kill 2 birds with one stone. He can demo the OS9 and show of his BBS.

You might find Steves seminar very interesting as have a lot of people in the past. With all the new programs coming out in OS9, you really should learn it. Thanks for all your help Steve.

SUGGESTIONS.

These were suggestions that were left in my suggestion tub.

- 1). "Everyone gets a newsletter": Sorry, but we had a mixup in sending out the newsletter last time. My son wiped out my Childwriter disk.
- 2). "Start Meeting on Time". The meeting did start on time. I just started talking late.
- 3). "Get more COCOII programs Ex. Cavewalker". We've had this program for a long time. Russ is still working on the OS9 library. Call your group leader.
- 4). "Purchase more games like; Demolition Derby-this is Rom Pack only
Dragon Fire -this is Rom Pack only
Vortex Factor -If you mean "Warp
Factor X", we have it. If not, put a description and a price in the suggestion tub.

5). "Pay the Pres a monthly retainer (\$50.00)". I dont think the president should be reimbursed for his time spent on this club. I enjoy doing it. Besides Mike, you know your mother will take it from me as soon as I get home.

NEW MEMBERS.

We had a lot of people renew thier membership and some new members sign up for the first time. That is what I like to see. Two women asked me what they could get for their \$35.00. Clem said I should have sent them to him. Ladies, he isn't worth \$35.00. He may be easy but he ain't cheap!

This is what you get for your \$35.00...

- 1). A chance to share a common interest (the COCO).
- 2). A chance to met new people and exchange ideas.
- 3). A chance to get in on the great deals the club gets for you at time to time (diskettes, upgrades, chips, etc).
- 3). If you have any problems with your computer, etc, we have the experts who can fix it for you (for a fee much smaller than Radio Shack charges).
- 4). Access to the clubs software library.

- 5). Join one of the special interest groups.
- 6). Lots of other neat stuff.

The group leader list has been rewritten. Look on the front of your newsletter. Call your group leader for any information you may need. We'll be glad to help.

MISCELLANEOUS.

I heard the washrooms were locked at the last meeting. Maybe that will explain why the hall cleared out so fast.

I also heard that the Harry Van Dyke was honoured with a certificate from the Scarborough Heights Institute of Technology for all the good deeds he has done in the computer field. Congratulations you old pirate. I'll bet that with Harrys ambition, in a year or two, he could even become the head of the Scarborough Heights Institute of Technology. I've always said that some day he will be a real Scarborough Heights Institute of Technology HEAD!!

I tried to call Tim Woodward's number on the front of the newsletter. CLEM answered! I said "What are you doing there?" He said "I live here." I said "OK, is your wife Tim home?" He hung up on me. It seems that Tims number has been by Clem's name for the past year or so (I think). Sounds like another one of Harrys goofs.

Woodward forgot the sound system for the second month in a row. (Haven't we been through this before?) Clem volunteered to be the new sound man but the last time he borrowed the PA he broke it. When he tried to explain, he said "Gee, it worked when I used it at the wedding I was at last week. Imagine the nerve of that guy, using OUR sound system for his own personal gain! He probably had his wife make sandwiches to sell to the guests. If you ever have a wedding, don't hire Clem the disk jockey.

FOR 512'ers ONLY!!!

Here's a tip from Ken Wiseman for you 512K people. Remember him? He was the guy who couldn't figure out how to get the bottom donuts out of a little paper bag. I don't guarantee anything he says.

The OS9 game ROGUE has 512K graphics. Here's how to access 512K.

- 1). Type DOS to boot up
- 2). At the OS9 first prompt, type MAKEGW
- 3). At the OS9 second prompt, type ROGUE

VOALA!!! 512K graphics!!!

Lori loves playing the game. She said she can get up to level 5 but she always gets slined! She giggled when she said that. I think there is something weird about that woman.

A few of you expressed interest in buying a 512K upgrade for your COCOIII. The boards cost \$135.00 each or 10 for \$115.00 each. If you want one, call me. If I can get 10 people, we'll get them at the cheaper rate (this is one of the benefits of joining our club). Clem said he can have them here in 3 days from order but we want cash up front (it seems he has all his money tied up in cheap DISCO records). Call me before Dec.1st if you want one and we'll set something up. Ken Wiseman has volunteered to have a 512K upgrade workshop. C'mon Ken, don't be sheepish!

I'm still looking for a 'GAMESMASTER. Tim and I have some great ideas for games contests, but nobody to run them. There's not much work involved. You can even come to the exec meetings and fight Wiseman for the bottom donuts.

At the last meeting I mentioned that Radio Shack would only stock one copy of their software for demo purposes and order a copy for you to buy. I was wrong! They will stock as many copies as they need to. Sorry Roy!

TIMS TIPS???????????????

That's the name of his new column. The space cadet who suggested this ingenious name has won himself 5 silver dollars (no loonies). You'll get them at the next meeting if George Dean shows up.

Tim and I got our wires crossed. I thought we'd take a vote on names at the meeting. Tim wanted names put in his suggestion box and he'd chose a name later. Sorry Tim! I didn't know that his whole family stuffed the ballot box with their own suggestions.

He was so proud when he got some questions until he read the first one. It was something about "memory management". He had NO IDEA what it was! Why he can't even manage his chequebook, never mind managing memory.

50/50 DRAW.

The winner of the 50/50 draw was Curtis McGlaughlin. Would you believe he drew his own number? The con artist won \$24.25. Talk about luck, or was it? I was watching him and I assure you, it was all quite legal. By the way Curtis, you said you'd split it with me if you won. REMEMBER?

LIBRARY DATABASE DEMO.

For those of you who could squeeze in behind Russ Hall to see his screen, I hope you enjoyed his demo. That is his pride and joy. He really put a lot of work into it (as you probably know from past newsletters). People that I talked to were amazed how easy it was to look up any program. I've already had 2 people call me for a copy of the database. ATTA BOY RUSS! (Rumour has it that Russ is going to run for MAYOR of Welland).

QC John has volunteered to take over selling coffee (anything for a buck!) I hope yours tastes better than Seconds.

IN CONCLUSION...

As of September we had 145 paid up members. We deleted those who hadn't paid their dues for August and that left only 59 members in the club. Check the expiry date on your card. You might not belong to our club anymore!. It only costs \$35.00 a year. I should know. I paid my dues. Remember me? I'm the PRES!

Rob



Tim's Tips

I guess I asked for it. The first Question asked of me, totally boggled my mind. But as I told you I would try to find a answer, I did and I thank the questioneer for asking.

Question One: How do you use the Memory Management Unit in the CoCo3?

First I had to find out what the & it was. Well here goes.

The CoCo having the 6809 8 bit microprocessor (the heart of the computer) can only address 64k of memory at a time.

So Tandy developed the CoCo3, still having the 6809 for compatibility with it's predecessor, but with many new registers, some of them being used to access the added memory of the CoCo3.

These are the task register (TR) and two Memory Management Units (MMU) each containing 8 registers. Only 8 are needed to define the 64k workspace that the microprocessor sees, but the other 8 registers can be used and toggled into the workspace when needed giving the programmer much added speed in manipulating information.

The 64k workspace directly accessible from the microprocessor is a separate entity from the rest of the added memory.

What the MMU does is divide the microprocessor's workspace into eight 8k slots and then points to them with 16 registers. The MMU also divides the extra memory into 64 8k blocks numbered from 0 - 63 (0 - 63). On the 512k computer, blocks 0 - 63 (0-63) are available, whereas, on the 128k computer, only blocks 30 - 63 (48-63) can be used.

The MMU registers are at memory locations \$FFA0 to \$FFAF (65440 - 65455).

To simplify all this, all you have to do to use an 8k block of the added memory is to POKE the number of the block you want into the memory location of the register that specifies the 8k slot of accessible memory you are going to use.

EXAMPLE: POKE &HFFA3, &H3F or
 POKE 65443, 63

This moves the 8k block of added memory numbered 3F (63) into the accessible workspace memory pointed to by the register at \$FFA3 (65443). This workspace memory referred to in this example is the 8k slot from \$6000 to \$7FFF (24576 to 32767).

Another thing to mention is that when a new block of memory is placed into a register that already has information in it, the information is not destroyed, but just moved back into it's appropriate 8k holding area.

EXAMPLE :

MMU register \$FFA0 (65440) was previously POKed with 30 (48). You now want to work with block 32 (50) in the same workspace, so \$FFA0 (65440) is now POKed with 32 (50). The 8k block of information designated by 30 (48) is moved back up to its own area and can be used again in any register you choose.

Here is a chart to explain what 8k slot is being handled by specific MMU registers:

(TR)	MMU REGISTER			BK WORKSPACE SLOT	
	DECIMAL	HEXIDECIMAL		HEXIDECIAML	DECIAML
0	65440	\$FFA0	-	\$0000 - \$1FFF	0 - 8191
0	65441	\$FFA1	-	\$2000 - \$3FFF	8192 - 16383
0	65442	\$FFA2	-	\$4000 - \$5FFF	16384 - 24575
0	65443	\$FFA3	-	\$6000 - \$7FFF	24576 - 32767
0	65444	\$FFA4	-	\$8000 - \$9FFF	32768 - 40959
0	65445	\$FFA5	-	\$A000 - \$BFFF	40960 - 49151
0	65446	\$FFA6	-	\$C000 - \$DFFF	49152 - 57343
0	65447	\$FFA7	-	\$E000 - \$FFFF	57344 - 65535
1	65448	\$FFA8	-	\$0000 - \$1FFF	0 - 8191
1	65449	\$FFA9	-	\$2000 - \$3FFF	8192 - 16383
1	65450	\$FFAA	-	\$4000 - \$5FFF	16384 - 24575
1	65451	\$FFAB	-	\$6000 - \$7FFF	24576 - 32767
1	65452	\$FFAC	-	\$8000 - \$9FFF	32768 - 40959
1	65453	\$FFAD	-	\$A000 - \$BFFF	40960 - 49151
1	65454	\$FFAE	-	\$C000 - \$DFFF	49152 - 57343
1	65455	\$FFAF	-	\$E000 - \$FFFF	57344 - 65535

To conclude:

What I found in the two week search for this answer (through 12 rainbows and CoCoIII Secrets Revealed by Spectrum Projects, the CoCo3 manual having nothing) was a wealth of information about the CoCo3 which included POKEs and programs, some using the MMU registers. I will try to put them in further newsletters.

Scruffy's Scribbles

I would like to comment on the remarks about the Club made at the last meeting by one individual, regarding the purchasing of CoCo3 programs and the people that own CoCo3s.

To start: There are at least 20 (x) members which now own CoCo3 computers times the \$35.00 (y) membership fee, X times Y equal \$700.00. Seeing that this is the first purchase of a CoCo3 program this year (Our year going from September to August, obviously), plus the program having a rather low price, justifies the purchase. Plus, we are buying CoCo2 programs also.

Looking back through the years of the Club's existence, this kind of comment was used, when the members wanted to buy 64K programs when some people still had 16K computers and then again, when Disk Programs were being bought, while people still owned systems with only tape recorders.

Most members realized that in this constantly progressing Computer World these forward steps were necessary to keep up to the flow.

That's not to say that the CoCo2's are out of date. My family owns 2 of them and we still swear that they blow away any other computer as far as user friendliness, graphic capabilities and the amount of Basic commands in their class.

It's just that the CoCo3 has expanded these same capabilities plus added many others. Why take 5 apples when their trying to give you 10.

I'm hoping that this minor thorn in our side won't faster to infect the Club. I'm sorry to say that an episode of this nature happened last year and We lost some long-standing, extremely active members of Our Club, the like we can never replace. It shook me up pretty bad and I'd rather not see it happen again.

This Club was started so that we could share Our knowledge, Our problems and Our love for Computers with everyone who wants it. I've yet to miss a meeting in the four and a half years I've being a member, even through, as my friends can remember, several times I've hobbled in on crutches or had my arm in a sling or my neck in a brace or just forgot to shave (hence the nickname), because of my love for computers and the People of this Club.

Lets work together , PLEASE.

Tim "Scruffy" Woodward