

# 99'er Online

January 1986

p.o. box 11983 Edmonton, Alberta Canada T5J3L1

to:



99'er ON LINE is the news letter of the Edmonton 99'er Computer User's Society published ten times a year. Unless otherwise stated, all material contained in this news letter may be published in other news letters provided that source and author are identified. We welcome correspondence from all TI User Groups and we will credit authors quoted in 99'er ON LINE.

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PRESIDENT--PAUL HELWIG.

DISCLAIMER: All information published in this news letter is, for the most part, the fruits of the labors of agateurs, therefore, we cannot guarantee that the information presented is always correct.

REGULAR MEETINGS: Regular meetings of the Edmonton User's Group are held on the second Tuesday of each month on the 8'th floor of the General Services building of the University of Alberta from 7:00 till 10:00 PM and are open to all members in good standing. Non-members may attend their first meeting free of charge. The Executive Committee meets monthly. Members may attend these meetings as observers or to address a particular issue. Arrange with one of the officers listed above if you wish to attend.

ADVERTISING: Commercial advertising space is available in this news letter at the following rates: FULL PAGE-\$20.00, HALF PAGE-\$15.00, 1/4 PAGE-\$10.00. Discuss your commercial needs with JIM MULLIGAN at 467-6021, at the next meeting or write to the P/0 Box above. Members may advertise their personal computer related items for free but are asked to limit their ads to about 50 words. Mail your ads to the EDITOR'S ADDRESS or hand it to him at the general meeting; newsletter deadline 15'th of the month.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: FAMILLY---12 MONTHS, \$20.00, 6 MONTHS, \$15.00, 6 MONTHS, \$10.00.

The Edmonton 99'er Computer Users' Society

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## USER GROUP NEWS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS... helping to keep the group remining are non-elected volunteers who are in many ways the soul of this User's Group:

Newsletter Editor - Bob Pass Advertizing & Editor's Assistant - Jim Mulligan Newsletter-Library-Ron Hohmann Disk Library - Ken Godbeer Book Library - Gord Bradlee Bulletin Board Sysop - Tom Hall

If you see a job that needs doing that is not covered by the above departments, how about volunteering your services at the next meeting; you will find that it is worth the effort.

BULLETIN BOARD... a BBS service is operated for us by Tom Hall. To get on line, dial (403) 424-3258. In addition to news and the usual BBS offerings, there are programs available for downloading to your II machine.

WANTED... any clippings from newspapers, magazines, or comic strips that you think may be of interest to other members of this User Group. Please forward to the editor, Bob Pass, to Jim Mulligan, or to the P/O box address on the fly leaf.

ALSO MANTED... your advertising. Don't forget that members can advertize their computer related merchandise or requests in this news letter for free! Give your ad to Bob Pass or Jim Mulligan by phone, mail, or at the next meeting. See the fine print on the newsletter fly leaf for further info.

TIME LINE... the super BBS reported to you earlier this year. Tom Hall has joined and he says that he is quite happy with the service. Tom feels that it is excellent value for the money.

### TI-TRIVIA

by: Jie Mulligan

Here are this month's noggin knockers. You can find the answers further along in the newsletter.

- Will Editor Assembler utility references run in XBasic or MiniMemory?
- Is the start of the MiniMemory REF/DEF table at hex 6F38?
- Can the Terminal Emulator II module make Basic and XBasic program debugging easier?

# NEXT MEETING

The next meeting.our fifth of the season, is scheduled for Tuesday. Jan 14'th at 7:30 pm in room 849 of the U of A's Seberal Services building on 116 St north of the Jubilee Auditorium. Doors open at 7:00 pm.

As of this writing, there is nothing specifically scheduled for this meeting so it may be a good time for you to bring along some blank diskettes and peruse the disk library.

### DECEMBER MEETING

by: Bob Pass

The December meeting was once again well attended and two new members signed up for membership.

Visiting us was Paul Meadows, president of the Halifax User's Group. Paul gave a brief discussion on what was happening on the east coast. It was good of Paul to take time from his busy schedule and spend the evening with us. Many good tips were passed along to some of our attendees.

Minutes of the November 25'th executive meeting were read and discussed.

- Newsletter trading with other groups has been cut from 64 to 39 as an economy measure (see last month's 99'er ONLINE).
- We will be setting up a "Trading Post". You can bring in your surplus software or hardware for trade or sale. Software must be on original media and include original documentation. All items will be pre-priced at 50% of market value (list available) or less. The society will extract a 10% handling fee on all sold or traded items.
- 3. Martin Kratz will be speaking at the COCO user group meeting on January 20'th in the Northwestern Utilities hall on 107'th Ave. This event is jointly sponsored by us so all our members are welcome to attend. If you have not had a chance to hear Martin's presentation on computer and copyright law, here's your chance.
- 4. Treasurer's report shows \$281.14 in the bank.

Jim Mulligan was presented with a box of ten diskettes for his prise winning entry in the programing contest to write a BASIC disk labeler.

Further items of information were presented during the open floor discussions.

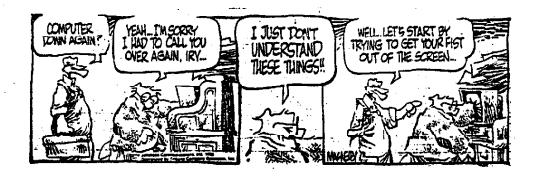
Ken Godbeer presented a list of software available in our library. It is growing nicely with some excellent programs written by our own members and some "freeware" like PTERM and KMODEM requiring cash donation to the author. It has been decided that the best way for you to get copies of this material is for you to bring your own diskettes and copy during the meeting. We will try to make our system more readily available for this purpose.

Wally Barabash has information requarding a Hayes Smart Hodem in kit form for \$120. Sounds like a good deal for the handy types.

ABT surplus sales (118 Ave 178 St) has several direct connect, 30 baud modems at \$25 each. They are Rixon T103A2/3 and some modification will be required. Phone set not included. I believe their surplus sales is only open Monday afternoons, so call first.

Judy, of NOVA COMPHITERMARE, mentioned that she has new TI software, hardware, and books in stock. Drop by with your Christmas cheque from Uncle Fred!

Finally, Bob Pass put on a 90 minute tutorial on TI-WRITER which answered many problems people were having. A diskette containing a Bob's TI-WRITER quick reference quide has been added to the software library.



## MAN 1, ROBOTS 0

by: Bob Pass

This little beauty, written by Dale AcFeatters, was noticed in a newspaper recently:

The baby was sitting on the floor, minding her own business in the place where she would most likely be in people's way.

One of her brothers sent a black, battery operated robot about 18 inches high rolling toward her. The object being to terrify baby into and outburst of hysterical sobbing, thus enlivening an otherwise slow morning.

The baby watched disinterestedly as the robot bumped up against her foot and went into its tape loop spiel: "Hi! I'm the Atomic Robot. Breetings Earthling!

The baby mulled this over for a few seconds and then clobbered the robot with a soup ladle. Thus the twentieth century passed another landmark.

The robot has met the new generation, one which greets it without fear.

Untill them, serious students knew that the evolution of the robot would be in two stages: first, they would throw everyone out of work and, next, they would take over the world. Several developments threw the forecast off track.

Economists had known for years that a worker replaced by a robot was a worker out of work. But it wasn't untill the early 1980's that the Al, Chuc, and Dave Corollary was discovered. That is, a robot that displaces one worker making \$5.75 per hour will create jobs for Al, Chuck, and Dave who will charge \$200 for service calls and they are never there when you need them. Despite commons loops in communications technology, they never call back either!

Another setback was the discovery the fact that robots have personality.

It was widely assumed that robots would have no shred of human emotion or compassion; they would be driven by cold, unrelenting logic untainted by sentiment. This being the case, it naturally followed they would get on with the task of wiping out the human race.

But the development of robot tellers, soft drink venders, and newspaper racks that talked showed that robots had the wimpish "have-a-nice-day" personality of a waiter in a California fern bar.

A machine that says "Thank you for selecting 100 percent caffein free Diet Coke" is not a good bet to lead a savage uprising to take over the world.

### TI-TRIVIA AMSMERS

- You cannot use these in REF statements in XBasic or MM while programming nor will they run in Xbasic or the MM EasyBug. However they will run in MM if you use the Load and Run option. When the MM encounters them, it can find the correct address of the required utility.
- 2. No. Even though page 72 of the MM manual says it is, the actual address is hex of OE! This is a minor error but if your program uses the REF/DEF table, it will be deadly.
- 3. Yes. With the TE II plugged into the cartridge port and option 1 (Basic) selected, load your program to be debugged. Then type LIST "SPEECH" and press enter. If your Speech Synthesizer is plugged in, the computer will speak your listing to you and you can follow along with your printed documentation. It is awazing the problems you will find this way which are difficult to find while proof reading.

### TI-FORTH EDITOR

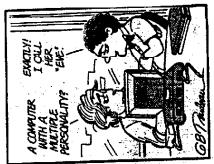
by: Michal Jaegergann

Continuing on from last month, here are remaining screens to complete your new TI-FORTH editor package. Referenced screen numbers are as on my disk. Remember to change them with LOAD statements if you need to put them elsewhere.

```
JJR# 22
( SCREEN EDITOR - 64 column support 20SEP85*Michal Jaegermann )
O CLOAD EDIT BASE @ HEX 39 CLOAD LINE 33 CLOAD TEXT
            36 CLOAD GRAPHICS2 37 CLOAD SPLIT 41 CLOAD CLIST
                                                  3 WIDTH !
VOCABULARY EDITOR IMMEDIATE EDITOR DEFINITIONS
2 VARIABLE S_H \ value for conditional compilation
: CINIT 3800 DUP ' SATR ! DUP ' SPDTAB ! 800 / 6 VWTR
 DOOD SP@ SATR 2 VMBW DROP
 0000 0000 0000 0000 1 SPCHAR 0 1 F 5 0 SPRITE
  0000 0000 0000 00E0 2 SPCHAR
 E040 4040 4040 E000 3 SPCHAR
  0 1000 10 VFILL OD 7 VWTR : \ colors of fg (10) and bg (0D)
                 O VARIABLE CLE O VARIABLE INS
O VARIABLE RATE
: BLINK RATE @ DUP 1 RATE +! 4 = IF -4 RATE ! ENDIF
   OK IF 1 0 SPRPAT ELSE 2 INS @ + 0 SPRPAT ENDIF
                       180 0 DO LOOP ;
 18 LOAD --> \ load cursor positions and auto-repeating key
SCR# 23
( SCREEN EDITOR - 64 column support 20SEP85*Michal Jaegermann )
. LINE. DUP SCR @ (LINE) ROT SMASH VMBW :
: HLIST BASE->R DECIMAL O O AT ." SCR # " . CR R->BASE ;
: .CUR CUR C/L /MOD 3 SLA 1+ SWAP 2+ 2 SLA 8 MAX SWAP
    O SPRPUT :
: /INS/ 1 INS @ - INS ! :
: ELIST SCR @ DUP HLIST CLIST 30F0 8 0 VFILL ;
        O !CUR .CUR : \ this is HOME - name for compatibility
: FLIP
       1 0 SPRPAT 30F0 8 ROT VFILL CLS SCR @ HLIST 0 IN ! ';
: EOUT
      66 EOUT :
: ED>
• >€D
        .CUR :
: BCK
        NOP FF EOUT QUIT: \ NOP is a forward reference holder
  19 LOAD
            \ load a generic (TI-Forth) editor
BASE ! :S
SCR# 24
 O CONSTANT CUR
HEX
: MAP SOR @ BLOCK + :
: *CUR CUR MAP
: !CUR O MAX B/BUF 1- MIN ' CUR ! ;
 : +CUR CUR + !CUR ;
 : %ROW CUR C/L MINUS AND ; : NXT %ROW C/L + MAP;
 : COL CUR C/L 1- AND ;
 : RKEY BLINK ?KEY -DUP IF CLE @ 1 CLE +! \ waits long enough?
   OK IF 8370 C@
                                         \ new key pressed ?
        IF -18 CLE ! ELSE DROP [ LATEST PFA ] LITERAL >R ENDIF
      ELSE -1 CLF ! ENDIF
                                         \ time out - accept
  ELSE -18 CLE ! [ S_H @ IN +! (
                                    \ conditional compilation
  LATEST PFA 1 LITERAL >R ENDIF ; ;S
  ) ] KEY ENDIF; \ wait here for some key pressed
```

# Doonesbury

By GARRY TRUDEAU









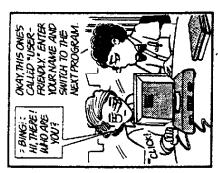
```
( SCREEN EDITOR - marking & deleting 900185*Michal Jaegermann )
: REDRAW ELIST . CUR UPDATE :
: RELINE OD EMIT CUR C/L / LINE. UPDATE ;
    1 VARIABLE UNMARKED
: MARKOUT DUP C@ 7F AND SWAP C! ;
: MARK *CUR DUP DUP C@ 80 OR SWAP C! UNMARKED &
   IF NXT 1- 0 UNMARKED ! ELSE SWAP MARKOUT ENDIF ELIST .CUR :
: ~MARK UNMARKED @ 0=
     IF 2 0 DO MARKOUT LOOP 1 UNMARKED ! ELIST .CUR ENDIF :
: MYMARKS UNMARKED @ IF *CUR NXT ELSE 2DUP *MARK
         2DUP > IF SWAP ENDIF 1+ ENDIF : \ unsigned comparison
: RIP PAD C/L BLANKS OVER - C/L MIN PAD SWAP CMOVE> ;
: YANK MYMARKS RIP :
: "TAIL MYMARKS 2DUP RIP OVER - BLANKS REDRAW :
: TLINE THARK &ROW ! CUR MYMARKS 2DUP RIP SWAP OVER
    B/BUF MAP - MINUS CMOVE 3CO MAP C/L BLANKS REDRAW :
SCR# 26
( SCREEN EDITOR - moving text 17SEP85*Michal Jaegermann ) HEX
: ROOM >R OVER + R> OVER - CMOVE> : ( from cnt below -- )
         SROW DUP ! CUR MAP DUP C/L B/BUF MAP ROOM ;
: MDOWN
          MDOWN C/L BLANKS REDRAW :
: OLINE
: RWORD *CUR DUP BL ENCLOSE DROP SWAP DROP + BL ENCLOSE
   DROP DROP + - MINUS +CUR : \ move cursor to the next word
: RMOVE RWORD .CUR :
: ILINE INS &
    IF PAD BL ENCLOSE DROP DROP C/L OVER - >R + R>
    -TRAILING 1+ *CUR SWAP 2DUP
       NXT DUP >R ROOM OVER R> - MINUS MIN CMOVE
    ELSE MOOWN PAD SWAP C/L CMOVE ENDIF
                                                 REDRAW :
: DEL BL NXT DUP *CUR DUP 1+ DUP >R SWAP ROT R> - CMOVE
    1- C! RELINE .CUR :
( SCREEN EDITOR - cursor control 17SEF85*Michal Jaegermann )
        +CUR .CUR ;
: +.CUR
: NWL C/L COL - +.CUR :
                                      1 +.CUR ;
LEFT
         -1 +.CUR : ! RIGHT
: UP C/L MINUS +, CUR ; : DOWN
                                     C/L +.CUR ;
: PUTCHAR *CUR INS @ IF DUP 1 NXT ROOM ENDIF C!
               RELINE 1 +.CUR :
: NEWSOR CLS COL 22 > S_H ! ELIST .CUR :
: +SCR SCR @ 1+ DISK_HI @ < SCR +! 0 :CUR NEWSCR ;
                           SCR ! O !CUR NEWSCR :
: -SCR SCR @ 1- 0 MAX
```

1 EDS RS DROP : IMMEDIATE

· ED. XE









```
SCR# 28
( SCREEN EDITOR - execution table 30SEP85*Michal Jaegermann )
: DOIT IF QUERY ELSE ( adr -- ) RWORD *CUR OVER - 1-
        C/L MIN TIB & 2DUP + 0 SWAP C! SWAP CMOVE> ENDIF
    INTERPRET .S >ED ; IMMEDIATE
: WAIL 7 EMIT :
                                            ' "TAIL CFA , \ 01
' WAIL CFA DUP VARIABLE ACTION
       DUP , ' DEL CFA , ' /INS/ CFA , ' -SCR CFA , \ 05
'ILINE CFA , '~LINE CFA , 'LEFT CFA , 'DOWN CFA , 'UP CFA , 'RIGHT CFA ,
                                            ' RIGHT CFA , \ 09
                                            ' NWL CFA , \ OD
                                     DUP ,
                                           ' TWODO CFA , \ 11
' FLIP CFA . ' BCK
                    CFA ,
                      DUP ,
                                     DUP ,
                                            ' "MARK CFA , \ 15
 RMOVE CFA ,
                                            ' YANK CFA , \ 17
              ' ONEDO CFA , ' +SCR CFA ,
       DUP ,
' MARK CFA , ' ED.XE CFA ,
                                     DUP ,
                                                    DUP , \ 1D
                                                          \ 1F
' OLINE CFA .
SCR# 29
( SCREEN EDITOR - main loop & entry 30SEP85*Michal Jaegermann )
                                                        HEX
: EDI BEGIN RKEY DUP BL <
   IF 1 SLA ACTION + @ EXECUTE ELSE PUTCHAR ENDIF AGAIN ;
" "MARK CFA " BCK ! 1F WIDTH ! FORTH DEFINITIONS
              [S_H@ [N +' (] \ conditional compilation
: ER EDITOR
   VDPMDE @S = 0 = IF SPLIT CINIT ENDIF [ 2 IN +! ) 1
 1 INS ! /INS/ NEWSCR BEGIN EDI [COMPILE] DOIT AGAIN ;
                                                                oonesbu
: WHERE EDITOR SCR ! 2- !CUR ER ;
: ED@ EDITOR O !CUR ER ;
: EDIT
           SCR !
                           ED@ :
; S
```

# Doonesbury









By GARRY TRUDEAU

# Universal software package unveiled

will allow computers of different makes and models to talk to each of British Columbia researchers have developed a universal

keted by Sydney Development Corp., coulc be adapted for the home computer market if it proves The Sydcom Messenger 400, dereloped by the university and marpopular with computer users.

"During the last few months,

from around the world came to us in Vancouver to see and negotiate

acceptance of package will

and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Neufeld finished his federal Sciences work and handed it over to Sydney

for marketing in

Computers kill driving passion

Mona Lisa must have had the highway blues: You can tell by the way she smiles

- Bob Dylan

In the inexorable march of technology, the latest casualty may be the Sunday driver.

Japanese engineers are working to perfect the driverless car. Computers take over the job, just like automatic pilot on

airplanes. No more gearing up to reach highway speed or slipping in and out of lanes like Mario Andretti. No more the sheer

pleasure of taking on a challenging road. If there's a steering wheel on these futuristic cars, it may not be connected to anything; you can spin it to your heart's

content, but to no avail. The computer is in control. The engineers concede that an automated car might not be

easy to market. For those who consider driving a pleasure, and not just a means of transport, a microchip mobil would be a soulless conveyance.

Yet for those who find every trip to the mega-mall a nervewracking odyssey, what could be better?

No more worrying about slippery roads, tailgaters or drivers cutting in front of you. The computer detects them all and keeps its distance.

And that gives cause to wonder what effect these autoautomobiles would have on insurance rates. Presumably, if there were fewer accidents, there would be fewer claims. And if fewer claims, smaller premiums.

Would different cars have different rates, depending not on how much they cost to fix but on how reliable the computer was?

And if you owned an old clunker that you had to drive yourself would you pay a higher rate, a penalty for choosing to drive rather than have the machine do it all for you?

"Drivers" wouldn't even have the pleasure of taking shortcuts. On the new cars, you would just punch up your location and destination on the dashboard computer and let it determine the fastest way to get there. Turn the key and you're off.

That's not all the computer does. It's idiot proof. It tells you when to get the engine tuned, when to fill up, when to add oil, to put on your seatbelts. What's next, a little sensor in the seat telling you when to go on a diet?

Still, the computer-controlled car would be better than a bus. You could read a book or snooze in privacy.

Drunk drivers would no longer be a menace to society.

Maybe you could adapt the video terminal to show movies or play Pac-Man while you're stuck in traffic. What a boon that would be to Calgary drivers who have little choice but to look at the city around them.

Every car could be a luxury car. With your hands free of the wheel, you could put up your feet and enjoy the view

It might be wonderful to give up driving, but controllable cars won't pass without a tinge of regret.

If the Japanese have their way, will we ever have the highway blues again?

municate with each other electronρΩ ically without cumbersome

> elecom in the U.K., Canada's mation Systems in the U.S., British

To continue development of

program, Gilmore and two

over three years on Monday

messaging networks,"

sands of dollars in royalties

after four years of deliberations, established a universal message development of a universal system called the X-400.

Customs service, Steel told a news

package for \$45 million to the U.S.

and the Olivetti Corp. of Italy. AT&T has already sold

feld started to develop ware package in 1981. Using the X-400 computer ŏ

and president of Gatling

Judy analyst

> Ş soft-

Communications Inc.,

development sounds

Paul Gilmore, who co-ordinates government grants for computer

research at the university, said now the software package at large computer users.

users are established

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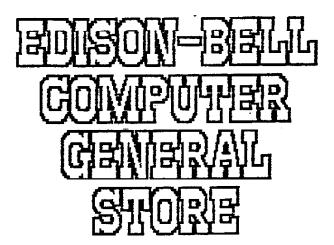
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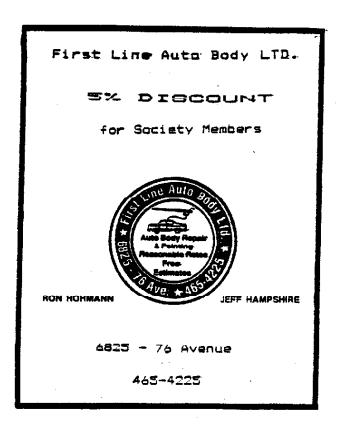
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