

Sorcerer Users' Group (Toronto) Newsletter  
200 Balsam Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4E 3C3  
vol. 1 no. 3  
May 1980

## EDITOR'S TURN

I have only received two small submissions for publication this month so you will probably find this newsletter a little scant on substance.

One thing I would like to mention first is that at present we have 32 paid members but we have only received 12 membership agreement forms. The agreement form is as much a part of the membership as is the fee. Until we receive your signed agreement form, your membership privileges will be limited. The form has been designed to protect your interests (especially in regards to software exchange) as well as those of others. All over this continent, people have been sending in programmes to software libraries in good faith for exchange programmes only to have small-minded, unethical businessmen capitalize on their hard efforts. Most don't even get recognition for their work let alone any payment. The worst offenders for this type of rip-off, in my mind, are the magazine publishers and those who offer terrific sounding contests (any particular companies come to mind?). As a result, many good people have become very skeptical (with good reason) and have stopped making submissions. We don't pretend to be able to stop this type of effort completely with the membership agreement form, but we do hope to limit access to our libraries to those members of our group who have indicated their intentions to us via their signature on the agreement form. We hope that all our members will feel a sense of responsibility to this cause. So get those forms in if you wish to participate in the programme and 'NUFF SAID.

At the last meeting it was indicated that people wanted the verbatim specifics of the article on duty-free importation to Canada of computers and peripheral equipment so here it is:

41416-1 Integrated circuits, light emitting diode displays, digital drivers and keyboard assemblies, for use in the manufacture of pocket type battery operated calculators.....free

41417-1 Electronic data processing machines and apparatus; peripheral equipment for use therewith including data entry, data preparation and data handling machines and apparatus; accessories and attachments for use therewith; parts of all the foregoing; none of the foregoing to include telephone and telegraph apparatus and parts thereof.....8.8% -

41417-2 Drum storage memories; disc packs; disc drives; disc files; disc cartridge cleaners; card readers; card punches; card readers/punches; paper tape readers and punches; badge readers and punches; document transport mechanisms; tape to card punches; reproducing punches; line printers and page writers; card printers; matrix printers including buffered printers; card or paper tape verifiers; collators; card sorters; process control apparatus which converts analog signals from or to digital signals, the foregoing not to include sensors; card conditioning equipment; parts of the foregoing.....free

Lastly, since the last newsletter, I have received requests for advertisements. I want to make it clear that this newsletter is published at the expense of our members and as such, is not a free advertising column for dealers. We will run ads - as many as are received - at the following fees:

(ads run as received - TEXT ONLY)

\$ .75 per line (80 character lines)  
\$ 9.00 per quarter page (15 lines)  
\$13.50 per half page (30 lines)  
\$18.00 per full page (60 lines)

Ads must be typed in proper format and specify # of lines or whether it is 1/4 page, 1/2 page or full page. The fee must accompany the ad; there is no invoicing. The newsletter is now being sent to other Sorcerer Groups around the world. We are in the process of gathering addresses for other groups all the time. If anyone has the addresses of other groups, please submit them to us so that they will receive our newsletter.

Note to other groups: If you wish to receive a monthly, complimentary copy of this newsletter, please provide us with the correct address where the letter is to be sent. A P.O. BOX number or officer's address will be fine. We would also

appreciate a reciprocal arrangement. Please send any newsletters or correspondence to:

John Roy  
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200 Balsam Ave.,  
Toronto, Ont.  
M4E 3C3  
CANADA

or Duncan E. Lang  
President SUG(T)  
762 Gerrard St. E.,  
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CANADA

I have also included with this newsletter, our last two issues for your perusal.

## SOFTWARE

Here is a small programme in BASIC that I wrote last year. The programme is used as a subroutine which controls the position of the cursor on the screen. It allows you to put the cursor on the screen at any point and start writing from there simply by passing two arguments in the variables ROW and COL. This programme actually does a lot more than it appears to do. It left justifies your screen starting at whatever column you specify. That is, when you issue a print statement, it doesn't have to start printing from the left edge of your screen. It can start from the middle or anywhere else. Further, until you change COL, all subsequent print statements will start from the last specified column without having to go through the subroutine again. If the line is too long it will wrap around. If you already have characters on the screen preceding the position, they will NOT be erased. Experiment with it. You'll be surprised with the flexibility you can attain for screen output.

### CURSOR CONTROL

```
REM PASS ROW(1-30) IN 'ROW' AND COLUMN(1-64) IN 'COL'
REM
REM ADJUST FOR MONITOR AND SET BOUNDARIES.
ROW=ROW-1:IF ROW<0 THEN ROW=0
COL=COL-1:IF COL<0 THEN COL=0
REM
REM ROW AND COL CALCULATED TO THE SPECIFIC SCREEN LOCATION
LOC=ROW*64+COL
REM
REM CONVERT TO HIGH AND LOW BYTES FOR THE MONITOR
RH=INT(LOC/256)
RL=LOC-RH*256
REM
REM BLANK PRESENT CURSOR OFF SCREEN
POKE 260,232:POKE 261,233:M=USR(0)
REM
REM NOW PUT NEW CURSOR LOCATION IN MWA
```

```

POKE 32761,RL:POKE 32762,RH
REM
REM LAST TWO POKE LOCATIONS WERE VERY SPECIFIC
REM SO WE ZERO THE OTHERS
POKE 32763,0:POKE 32764,0
REM
REM BASIC ONLY INTERFERES SO SHUT HIM OFF
POKE 398,0
REM
REM NOW WE TELL MONITOR TO PUT CURSOR BACK ON
POKE 260,204:POKE 261,23:M=USR(0)
REM
REM ALL DONE NOW SO...
RETURN

```

The following article was submitted by Dereck Gomes and instructs those who have SARGON 1 on the command structure.

#### NOTES ON SARGON CHESS

Without a doubt, SARGON CHESS is one of the more popular games that can be played on a personal computer. To get the full benefit of it's capabilities, here is a brief list of user commands and functions.

The SORCERER's GO address is 6000H. Moves are made as 'X#-Y#' [Ed. that is, column(letter)-row(number)] and input is received directly without the need for a carriage return.

To CASTLE: Enter the king's move and watch the rook follow.

To CAPTURE EN PASSANT: Enter your pawn's move. SARGON's pawn will blink and disappear..

#### ANALYSIS FEATURE:

Note that you can stop the game at any time by entering 'CTRL Q' when it is your turn to move. Replying 'N' to 'CARE FOR ANOTHER GAME?' gives the analysis feature.

(1) To enter a piece: The format is 'piece-code,colour-code,moved-code', where:

piece-code is K-king, Q-queen, R-rook, B-bishop, N-knight or P-pawn.

colour-code is B-black, W-white

moved-code is 1-moved, 0-not yet moved. (This is

important as some moves, such as castling, cannot be done if the pieces were previously moved.)

E.G. 'N,B,1' for a black Knight which has moved.

(2) Pressing the SPACE BAR or <CR> will leave the contents of the square [being examined] unchanged and moves on to the next square.

(3) 'CTRL H' backspaces 3 squares

(4) The 'RUB' key will empty the square.

(5) Press 'E' to end the analysis feature.

Now so forth and topple that king.

#### HARDWARE

The following pin-out schematic to interface the IDS 440 Paper Tiger dot matrix printer to the SORCERER's parallel port was submitted by Duncan Lans.

#### PAPER TIGER

#### SORCERER PARALLEL

1-----	GND-----	1
22-----	ACK-----	2
3-----	STR-----	4
15-----	DATA6-----	5
9-----	DATA5-----	6
10-----	DATA4-----	7
7-----	GND-----	8
14-----	DATA0-----	16
13-----	DATA1-----	17
12-----	DATA2-----	18
11-----	DATA3-----	19
19-----	BUSY-----	25

#### GENERAL NEWS

Michael Kriz is able to get Exidy Expansion boxes at a large discount (\$375.00) on a group order of 6 or more. He already has 3 orders. If anyone else is interested in this savings, contact Mike at 699-0319. People are waiting.

For those people who are taking the second half of my Z-80 programming course, I am arranging a tour of the IBM System 370/168 installation at Centennial College. The tour is about 95% sure. The system is running a very unique and very powerful library management system called DOBIS which operates under IBM's very popular CICS/OS (pron. Kicks). The system gives ON-LINE

immediate access to information of library records from its main database of over 1/2 million entries to dozens of terminals at colleges all over the province as well as its normal daily routines. We expect, also, to have a short lecture and demonstration by their systems programmer. (Probably after my lessons on DATA STRUCTURES and DATABASE MANAGEMENT>)

Our president, Duncan Lang, is presently trying to organize some very informal monthly meetings for Sorcerer owners who are running CP/M. If you are interested in attending, please call him at 461-2224.

North American Software (Tony Lautenbach and Tony Basshaw) have very generously donated some of their early release software to our software library. Those members who have returned their agreement forms may copy them from the librarian, David LeBlanc. I'm sure you'll find these programmes interesting, fun and of high quality (oodles and oodles of graphics is their standard).

If anybody has any copies of newsletters from other groups or from Exidy, etc., we would appreciate it if we could make a photocopy of it (them) for our library.

WAC 1218  
NEW RELEASES FROM DIGITAL MAGIC -

DMI/OS - is an enhancement to Standard Basic and features:

- 1) dynamic I/O specification
- 2) 80 character printer lines
- 3) automatic carriage returns
- 4) full string storage on tape
- 5) real time inputs from keyboard
- 6) all I/O data visible all the time
- 7) function key emulation routine
- 8) full serial and parallel I/O

PRICE- \$24.95, 5-9 \$19.95, 10 or more \$15.95 each

Digital Magic  
60-151 Parnell Rd.,  
St. Catharines, Ont.

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