

**THE CLEVELAND AREA 99/4A USERS GROUPS  
NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER, 1984**

**NORTHCOAST**

**SOLON**

**NORTH ROYALTON**

**GOLDEN CRESCENT**

**EXECUTIVE NOTES -- SOLON**

Thank you Steve Sobol for your October presentation on sprites.

The November presentation will be the Mini Memory command module.

Following in December, we will have a presentation on the Multiplan command module.

See you at our next meeting.

Walter Ryder  
President

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**SOLON ELECTIONS**

It is that time of the year again, time to elect next year's officers. The way this works is as follows:

At this point in time, a nominating committee is being formed. This committee will meet and nominate a slate of officers, one for each office.

If you have anyone in mind for an office or are interested yourself, please write the name and office on this slip and turn it in at the November meeting or mail it to Walter Ryder, 3642 Daleford Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120.

At the January meeting the slate will be presented and the election will be held. Nominations can be made any time between now and the time of the election.

**NOMINATION:                      NAME                                      OFFICE**

## EXECUTIVE NOTES - NORTHCOAST

We had another beautiful day for our October meeting. It seems as if the last few meetings have fallen on the best day, weatherwise, for the month. This one was no exception. In spite of that fact, we had a great turnout. Those in attendance were treated to the two greatest graphics packages available for the TI99/4A, Super Sketch by Personal Peripherals and Draw-A-Bit by Data Force. Thanks to Ken Gladyszewski for a job well done in demonstrating these two programs on such short notice. I would like to thank Dan Davenport for taking charge of the meeting due to my being late. A great job, Dan.

Because we didn't have an Editor Assembler cartridge available we were unable to run the Forth demo's. We will, however, have it at the next meeting.

Also, at the next meeting, Dan Davenport will be demonstrating a driver package called Fingerprint for the Epson printer (yes, the TI Impact also) which will give an additional 10 to 15 character fonts to choose from.

The club will be purchasing some replacement keyboards for the TI99/4A at \$13.95 plus tax. These will be available at the November meeting. We also hope to have additional copies of Micro Compendium magazine for purchase. This is the only magazine on the market which caters only to the TI99/4A. This publication gets better with every issue.

I would like to thank Elmo Iacobucci for taking over as Recruitment Committee Chairman. We look forward to Elmo's help. If you have any questions about your membership, you can reach Elmo at 585-5413. This month we will be celebrating our first anniversary. Several of our memberships are up for renewal. Elmo will be contacting you about this. Please give him your cooperation.

Those who signed up for the TI-Writer seminar will be contacted this month regarding the time and place. If you haven't signed up yet, please be sure to contact me as soon as possible. This will probably be a two session seminar due to the amount of material to be covered. Robert Van Etten and myself will be conducting it. Those who have heard Robert in the past, know what a fine job he does of teaching.

Due to Thanksgiving, our November meeting has been moved up to 11/18, a Sunday. The December meeting will be 12/22 as usual. Starting in January, our meetings will be the 3rd Saturday of the month instead of the 4th. This will result in less conflicts on holiday weekends.

### NEXT MEETING

WHEN: November 18th  
WHERE: Euclidian Room  
Euclid Square Mall  
TIME: 6:30 PM - Please note time change

Jim Cline 261-2463

# GOLDEN CRESCENT MOONLIGHTER

● O C T O B E R 8 4



## TIPS

IF YOU'D LIKE A SHORT PROGRAM TO STOP OTHERS FROM RUNNING THE PROGRAM THAT YOU SPENT HOURS TYPING IN, ENTER THIS LISTING AT THE BEGINNING OF IT:

```
100 A$="HELLO "
110 INPUT "ENTER CODE: ":C$
120 IF C$=A$ THEN 200
130 PRINT "SORRY, CODE NOT
ACCEPTED."
140 STOP
200 PRINT "PROGRAM CONTINUES."
```

WHEN THE PROGRAM RUNS, THE COMPUTER WILL ASK YOU FOR THE CODE. IF YOU TYPE IN THE CORRECT CODE THE PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE; OTHERWISE, THE PROGRAM STOPS.

" A\$" CAN BE CHANGED TO ANYTHING YOU LIKE BUT ANYONE LISTING YOUR PROGRAM CAN FIND OUT YOUR CODE. TO HELP PROTECT YOUR CODE WORD TYPE IT INTO THE PROGRAM WHILE HOLDING DOWN THE CONTROL KEY WHILE YOUR TYPING. NOW IF IT'S LISTED IT WILL PRINT OUT EITHER SPACES OR FUNNY LOOKING CHARACTERS. JUST REMEMBER YOUR CODE WORD!!!

## OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Chuck Mareno  
324-4388

VICE PRESIDENT - Dick Berger  
967-1317

TREASURER - Dale Shcieferstein  
988-5150

SECRETARY - Position Open

LIBRARIAN - Judy Hayden  
988-5597

EDITOR - Ken Vargo  
1111 Middle Avenue  
Elyria, OH 44035

## EXECUTIVE NOTES

As you can see from the changes in our section of the Newsletter, we now have an Editor for our group.

His name is Ken Vargo. I've spent some time with Ken and I can tell you he is excited at the prospect of working on the Newsletter and has many ideas for improvements.

Ken will need help to accomplish all he wants to do, so please send in material for him to use. We all benefit from this type of cooperation.

We have given much thought to changing our present meeting dates from Saturday to a weeknight evening in order to increase attendance, we would not be able to obtain the fire station on a suitable week night due to prior commitments.

If any member knows of a suitable (free) meeting place we might be able to use (our target night is the 2nd Thursday of the month from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM) please let any of the listed officers know. It is our feeling meeting on a week night would be better for the majority of our membership as many members have stated they work and cannot make a Saturday meeting. Any help on this matter will be appreciated.

By now I'm sure most of you know prices have been dropped on the majority of T.I. products. There are many good buys out there.

Our two fine dealers in this area have a good supply of items for sale. They have supported us by ads in our Newsletter. Let's support them by giving them our business. They are:

RAM ENTERPRISES . . . . .967-1317  
EDU-COMP. . . . .327-6579

## LIBS

\* CLUB TI COMM  
Chuck Mareno Sysop  
324-4388  
Sundays - 9 - 11 PM

\* OTHERS TI COMM NORTH COAST  
1-289-7311  
TIBBS #2 - ATLANTA  
1-404-928-4278  
Both 24 hours

## EDITORS NOTES

Welcome one and all. I'd like to introduce myself to all our members. I'm Ken Vargo, the new Editor of Golden Crescent's Newsletter. As you can see, I've instituted some changes in our section and will be covering some new areas. This issue is just the beginning and will give you some idea of what's to come. In the next few issues we'll recap what has been done so far and develop a path in the direction that most of us are interested in the most.

To start with, we'll review some of the features of basic for the new people (and myself), then we'll start up an extended basic column along with alternate language columns. There'll be a column on applications of programs out there and the way you, the user can tailor them to your needs.

Being the Editor of our Newsletter doesn't mean I know all about the T.I. Computer (far from it). I'll be learning most of this information along with you. What I really need is for those of you with suggestions, programs, questions, programs, tips, and most importantly programs to please share them with me and the rest of the group. Those of you that would like to give me a hand or help, please get hold of me. I'm available almost any week day evening at my home.

I'd like to close by suggesting that all our members go and open the manuals and reread them. A lot of time and money was spent in preparing those manuals and they are among the best that come with a computer. Take a look and see what you've never seen before. See you next time.

## SUBSCRIPTION

Meetings: 2:00 PM  
4th Saturday of Month  
Amherst Fire Station  
Church Street  
Amherst, Ohio

Subscriptions: \$12.00 Single  
\$17.00 Family

Newsletter published 12 times/year

## MEETINGS

Our next meeting is November 24th at the Amherst Fire Station in Amherst. The meeting is from 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

# MOONLIGHTER

## PROGRAMMER'S

## NOTEBOOK

## REVIEW

CHAOS DEMONSTRATES HOW EASY IT IS TO CONSTRUCT A COMPLICATED SPIRIT-GRAPHICS DISPLAY WITH T.I.'S EXTENDED BASIC. IT USES 5 OF THE 9 SUBROUTINES BUILT INTO EXTENDED BASIC FOR SPIRIT CREATION AND MANIPULATION, PLUS THE CHAR SUBPROGRAM, WHICH CREATES THE SPIRIT BIT MAPS THEMSELVES, BUT CAN ALSO BE USED FOR CHARACTER GRAPHICS. SPIRIT AND MAGNIFY ASSIST IN THE CREATION OF SPIRITS, WHILE MOTION, PATTERN, AND DELSPIRIT LET YOU MANIPULATE EXISTING SPIRITS, CHANGE THE WAY THEY APPEAR ON THE SCREEN, AND ERASE THEM.

### EXPLANATION OF LINES:

LINES 20-70 DEFINE BIT-MAP IMAGES THAT WILL APPEAR AS SPIRITS SOMETIME DURING PROGRAM EXECUTION.

LINES 90-140 A LOOP THAT CREATES 28 SIMILAR SPIRITES OF VARIOUS COLORS AND POSITIONS THEM RANDOMLY ON THE SCREEN. IT ALSO CALLS THE SUBROUTINE THAT PLAYS THE SOUND.

LINES 1000-1030 SOUND SUBROUTINE.

THE REMAINDER OF THE PROGRAM MAINTAINS THE RAPID, RANDOM VARIATION. SCREEN COLORS AND RANDOM SPIRIT VELOCITIES AND DIRECTIONS OF MOVEMENT ARE MANIPULATED WITH INCREASING RANGE, AND EVENTUALLY ENTIRELY NEW IMAGES COME INTO PLAY. IT TAKES ABOUT 25 MINUTES UNTIL THE PROGRAM STARTS TO REPEAT ITSELF.

ENTER PROGRAM WITH ALPHA LOCK KEY DOWN.

REQUIRES EXTENDED BASIC.

```

10 CALL CLEAR
20 AS=RPTS("O",14):: BS=RPTS("O",10):: CS=RPTS("O",6)
30 CALL CHAR(96,AS"0101"BS"8888"CS"8888")
40 CALL CHAR(100,BS"070405050407"CS"8888"EO20A0A020EO"
"8888")
50 CALL CHAR(104,CS"1F10171415151417101F"CS"8888"FS08
E828A8A828E808F8"8888)
60 CALL CHAR(108,"007F405F50575455555457505F407F0000FE
02FA0AEAZAAAAZAEADAF02FED0")
70 CALL CHAR(112,RPTS("F",64))
80 RANDOMIZE :: CALL SCREEN(2)
90 LOW=110 :: FOR A=1 TO 28
100 COLOR=INT(RND*16)+1 :: ROW=INT(RND*159)+1 :: COLUM
N=INT(RND*223)+1
110 CALL SPRITE(A,96,COLOR,ROW,COLUMN)
120 CALL MAGNIFY(4)
130 J=50 :: K=25 :: GOSUB 1000 :: LOW=LOW+10
140 NEXT A
150 FOR A=1 TO 28
160 J=255 :: K=128 :: GOSUB 1000
170 LOW=LOW+20 :: SC=INT(RND*16)+1 :: CALL SCREEN(SC)
180 NEXT A
190 CALL SCREEN(2)
200 FOR A=1 TO 28
210 CALL PATTERN(A,112)
220 NEXT A
230 FOR A=1 TO 28
240 GOSUB 1000 :: LOW=LOW-10
250 NEXT A
260 J=0 :: K=0
270 FOR A=1 TO 28
280 CALL PATTERN(A,96):: CALL MOTION(A,J,K)
290 NEXT A
300 FOR A=1 TO 28
310 GOSUB 1000 :: CALL DELSPRITE(A):: LOW=LOW-20
320 NEXT A
330 GOTO 90
1000 FOR X=1 TO A :: XVEL=INT(RND*J)-K :: YVEL=INT(RND
*J)-K
1010 CALL SOUND(1000,LOW,1,LOW+20,1,LOW+40,1):: CALL M
OTION(X,YVEL,XVEL)
1020 FOR Z=96 TO 108 STEP 4 :: CALL PATTERN(X,Z):: NE
XT Z
1030 FOR Z=108 TO 96 STEP -4 :: CALL PATTERN(X,Z):: N
EXT Z :: NEXT X :: RETURN

```

FOR THOSE OF YOU INTERESTED IN WRITING YOUR OWN ADVENTURE GAMES THERE IS AN EXCELLENT BOOK ON THE SUBJECT OUT THERE. "CREATING ADVENTURE GAMES ON YOUR COMPUTER" BY TIM HARTNELL DISCUSSES THE WRITING OF ADVENTURE GAMES. HE GOES IN GREAT DETAIL ON HOW TO PROGRAM GAMES AND SHOWS STEP BY STEP THE SUBROUTINES THAT ARE USED TO STEP UP ADVENTURES. THE ONLY DRAW-BACK IN THE BOOK IS THAT THE PROGRAMS ARE SET UP FOR THE IBM PC BUT THE FIRST FEW CHAPTERS SHOW HOW TO CONVERT THEM TO YOUR COMPUTER.

FOR THE \$9.95 ASKING PRICE, THIS 196 PAGE BOOK IS A REAL BARGAIN FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN WRITING THEIR OWN ADVENTURE GAMES OR WANTING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PROGRAMING. I'D GIVE THIS BOOK AN "A" BECAUSE OF THE PROGRAMS BEING WRITTEN IN IBM BASIC OTHER THAN THAT IT SCORES AN "A+".

THOSE OF YOU WHO TRANSLATE THE LISTINGS INTO TI BASIC OR EX-BASIC I HOPE YOU SHARE THEM WITH THE REST OF USE. ANY OF YOU THAT COME UP WITH YOUR OWN ORIGINAL GAMES I ALSO HOPE TO SEE THEM TOO. NOW GET OUT THERE AND START CREATING. THIS BOOK SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AT COLE'S, WALDENS, AND POSSIBLY BOOK SELLER.

## SOLICITATION

We need our members to contribute programs (no matter how big or small) to help our Newsletter. We need articles, reviews, T.I. tips, news, or anything that may be of interest. This is your Newsletter as well as the other members, so why not help and contribute. Send all matter to our Editor.

## WANTS

Do you have anything you want or want to sell? Send your wants or diswants to our Editor - c/o Wants and Diswants. No commercial ads accepted in wants and diswants

Wants-First 6 issues of 99'er Magazine. Send asking price. If unwilling to part with them, how about lending them? Desperately needed!! Contact Ken Vargo, 1111 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035

Wants-book and magazine contributions to our user's group library. We need all donations and we also need all back issues of our Newsletter for our library. If unwilling to part with them how about letting us copy them for our group. Contact our Editor.

## TI CHIPS -- EXECUTIVE NOTES

We are glad to welcome three new members into our group in October. Welcome!!

Jim Cline, President of the Northcoast TI Group came and gave us a very interesting demonstration of the new TI Bulletin Board. Thanks Jim for the fine demo and for all the work you and the others have put into the design and start-up of this really great Bulletin Board.

We now have copies of the listing of all programs available in our Library. If you have not received one, please ask the Library Committee at the next meeting.

**Attention all members!** We are going to have a Programming Contest. What is needed is a program which displays TI CHIPS on the screen with a different color for each letter. The contest will run through November and December. The winner will be picked in December and announced in January when the prize will be awarded. Here's a chance to use your programming ingenuity.

Another thanks goes to Tom Thalner of Edu-Comp for his fine demonstration of Cor-Comp's new disk controller card. These educational programs are really great in that our members can better evaluate what they want to purchase if they can first see it in use.

We are again asking our members to PLEASE let us know what they want to see or hear about at our meetings. The officers really need members' input in order to gear the meeting to the needs and desires of all the members.

The next meeting will be on November 17 in the North Royalton Public Library at 10:00 AM. See you there.

Jan Fedor

## Fast File Transfer Without the TEII

When transferring files over the phone, the easiest and most reliable method is to use the Terminal Emulator. The price for this ease of use and error checking is that the process is very slow. Fortunately, there is a way to transfer Basic and Extended Basic programs at five times the speed of the TE.

First, both the sender and receiver must select TI Basic. Then, load the program to be sent into memory and type "SAVE RS232", but do not press enter yet. The receiver should type "OLD RS232". When you are ready, switch over to the modems and press enter. The receiver should wait about five seconds and then press enter also. Both users should see a number, corresponding to the number of blocks of the program, at the top of the screen. This number will slowly count down to zero at which point the transfer is complete. Since the program is loaded directly into memory, the receiver must remember to save the program to disk or cassette.

Obviously, this method is limited to programs which can run in Basic or Extended Basic. The procedure for transferring assembly programs or text files is a little more complicated but still faster than the TE.

To use this method, both users must have an editor assembler module. First, select the editor assembler and press "1" for the edit section. The receiver should do the same. Then select option 4 for print. When you are asked for a filename, enter "RS232.BA=300.CRLF". The receiver selects option 1 for load (make sure Disk A is in the drive) and uses "RS232.BA=300" as a filename. When both sides are ready, switch over to the modems and press enter. Again, the receiver should wait five seconds before hitting enter. With this method, there is no way of telling how much more of the file is left to be sent so just sit back and wait until it is finished. The file can be saved to disk by using option 3.

If you have any questions about this method, just leave a message for me on the Northcoast TI-Comm BBS.

Larry Prikockis

October 30, 1984

# MOONLIGHTER

## ARTICLE

NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN USING YOUR COMPUTER FOR AWHILE ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME THAT YOU SET IT UP PROPERLY. SITTING AND STARING AT A SCREEN FOR A FEW HOURS CAN BECOME A LITERAL PAIN IN THE NECK. YOU SHOULD SET UP YOUR COMPUTER IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT MAKES COMPUTING PRODUCTIVE AND LESS OF A STRAIN ON YOUR BODY. HERE ARE SOME STEPS TO HELP YOU COMPUTE PAIN-FREE:

+ YOUR SCREEN SHOULD BE ARM'S LENGTH FROM YOUR FACE.

+ IF YOU SIT AND STARE STRAIGHT AHEAD, YOU SHOULD BE LOOKING AT THE VERY TOP OF THE COMPUTER SCREEN: IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE CENTER OF THE SCREEN, YOU SHOULD BE LOOKING DOWN SLIGHTLY.

+ HERE'S HOW TO POSITION YOUR KEYBOARD. LET YOUR ARMS HANG LOOSE AND BEND YOUR FOREARMS UP TO FORM A RIGHT ANGLE AT THE ELBOWS-- THAT'S A GOOD HEIGHT FOR THE KEYBOARD.

+ YOUR CHAIR HEIGHT SHOULD ALLOW YOUR FEET TO JUST TOUCH THE GROUND.

+ YOU SHOULD HAVE AMPLE LOWER-BACK SUPPORT. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A GOOD BACK-REST, PLACE A PILLOW BEHIND YOUR BACK AT THE BASE OF YOUR SPINE.

+ THE TOP OF YOUR PRINTER SHOULD BE WAIST HIGH AS YOU SIT, AND CLOSE ENOUGH THAT YOU CAN REACH IT EASILY WHILE SITTING AT YOUR TERMINAL.

+ KEEP A SMALL FOOT-STOOL OR PHONE BOOK UNDER THE DESK. PROP ONE OR BOTH FEET ON THE STOOL TO HELP RELIEVE PRESSURE ON YOUR LOWER BACK.

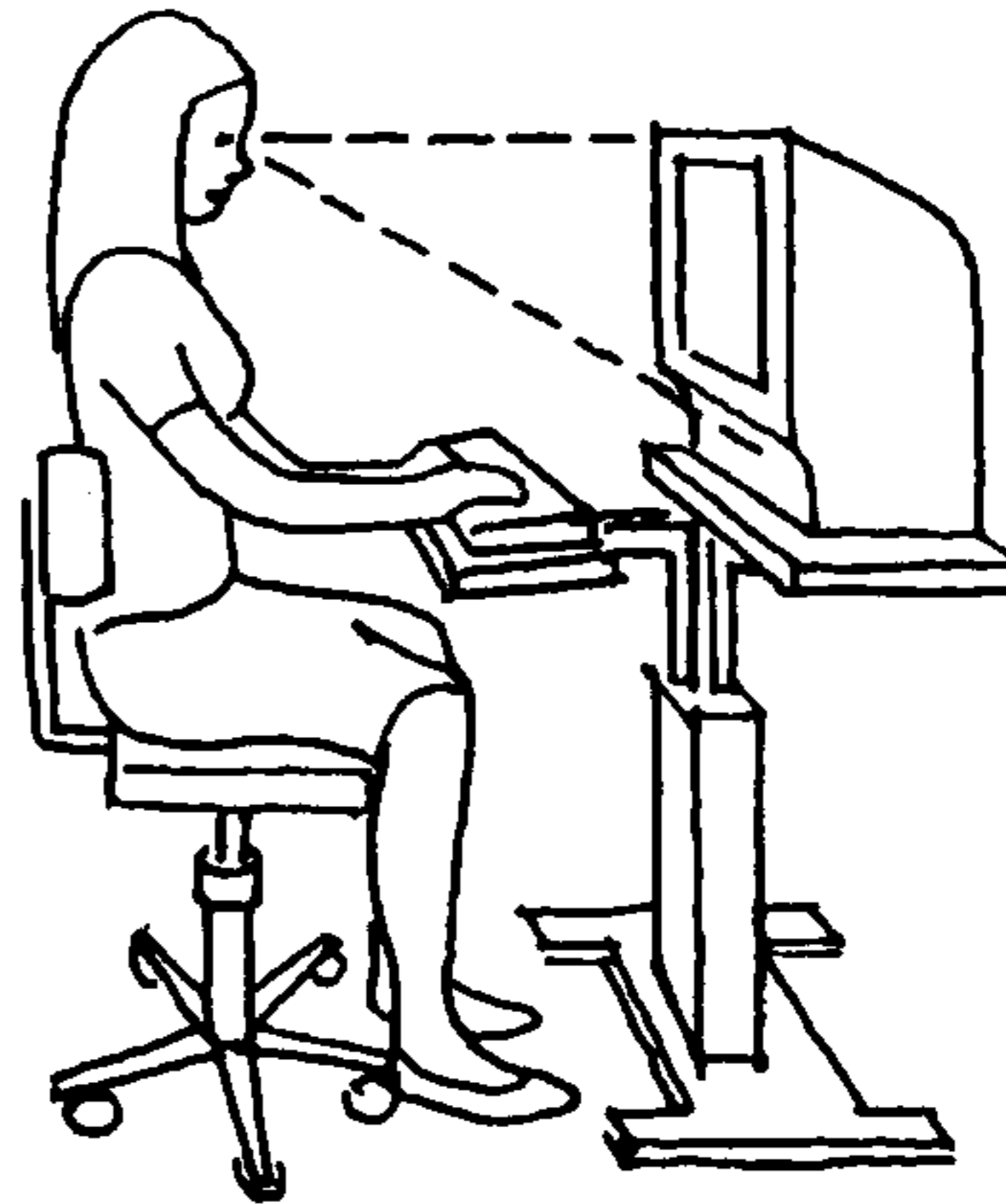
+ TRY TO SIT ON BOTH HIPS AT THE SAME TIME IN ORDER TO DISTRIBUTE YOUR WEIGHT EVENLY.

+ CHANGE YOUR SITTING POSITION WHENEVER POSSIBLE. SQUIRMING AROUND CAN PREVENT MUSCLE SPASMS AND HELP KEEP YOUR BLOOD CIRCULATING.

+ FACE YOUR WORK DIRECTLY, RATHER THAN TWISTING YOUR BODY.

+ AVOID SITTING ON A WALLET OR OTHER BULKY OBJECT. IT CAN PRESS ON YOUR SCIATIC NERVE (WHICH RUNS DOWN THE LENGTH OF YOUR LEGS), RESULTING IN SHOOTING PAINS.

+ WHEN YOU START TO FEEL STIFF OR TENSE, GET UP AND WALK AROUND FOR FIVE TO TEN MINUTES. IT WILL DO A WORLD OF GOOD.



ADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR MIDDLE AND LOWER BACK.

SPLIT-LEVEL TABLE GIVES MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN SCREEN AND KEYBOARD HEIGHT AND ANGLE.

BOTTOM OF CHAIR SHOULD CURVE DOWN SLIGHTLY.

USER SHOULD LOOK DOWN SLIGHTLY TO SEE SCREEN.

CHAIR HEIGHT SHOULD BE ADJUSTABLE.

03/85



CLEVELAND AREA 99/4A USERS GROUPS  
P.O. BOX 391101  
OLON, OH 44139

FORTH MODIFICATION FROM PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER

SCR #15

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0 ( GRAPHICS EXAMPLE 1 )
1 ( ED YORK )
2 ( CIN-DAY USERS GROUP )
3 ( FROM 8/84 NEWSLETTER )
→4 ( LINE 5 FCTN 4 STOPS ACTION )
→5 : QUIT? BEGIN ?TERMINAL IF TEXT ABORT ENDIF AGAIN ;
6 : A0 GRAPHICS2 0 DMODE ! ;
7 : A1 17 0 DO I B * 191 128 191 I B * - LINE LOOP ;
8 : A2 17 0 DO 255 I B * - 191 128 191 I B * - LINE LOOP ;
9 : A3 17 0 DO 128 I B * + 191 255 191 I B * - LINE LOOP ;
10 : A4 17 0 DO 128 I B * - 191 0 191 I B * - LINE LOOP ;
11 : A5 17 0 DO 0 I B * 0 128 0 I B * + LINE LOOP ;
12 : A6 17 0 DO 255 I B * - 0 128 0 I B * + LINE LOOP ;
13 : A7 17 0 DO 128 I B * + 0 255 0 I B * + LINE LOOP ;
14 : A8 17 0 DO 128 I B * - 0 0 0 I B * + LINE LOOP ;
15 : A9 A0 A1 A2 A3 A4 A5 A6 A7 A8 QUIT? ;

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