

Tom had planned to demo the BBS but we were unable to gain access to a phone line so this was deferred to next month. Ken Godbeer gave a demo of PRBASE.

If you have a topic you would like to see covered at one of the meetings please call one of the Executive or leave a message on the Bulletin Board. We look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on November 10.

COMPUTERS AID HOME PLANS.

Edmonton Sun. 1985.

If you are building a house, or having someone build it for you, the first thing you do is choose a plan. The next most important question is how much will the house cost? Unfortunately it takes time to make a labour list to come up with a price. Prices and extensions have to be checked and rechecked as you are dealing with quite a few dollars. Mistakes can be made and the price could be affected. Most of the waiting is now eliminated and quotations made more accurate when it is all done on a computer.

A program called DATA QUOTE1 has been developed for the building supply and house building industry by Dyncix Green Tree Technologies Incorporated of Nepean, Ontario. The data base can be programmed to quote on materials and/or labour. The Operator simply needs a copy of your plan or a reasonable outline of what you intend to do. He can then come up with a quotation on both material and labour in about 20mins.

ACCURACY IMPROVED.

The information in the computer contains various sizes and types of preferred materials being used. The quote is very accurate - it even includes the cost of the nails -. The amount of time of construct a home can be figured to within about a quarter of an hour. Program information includes eight different roof lines, with different wall stud systems and foundations. A complete detailed quote can take one to four hours, less than half the time it takes to do it by hand. The computer readout gives you a complete list of materials. Another feature of this computer program is that if you have had a quotation a few months ago and now you are ready to proceed and need an update, it will take only a few minutes. The computer can give you quotations on options, ie., you may want the difference in price between wood windows and PVC windows or the difference in cost between a 2X6 stud system and a double offset 2X4 stud system.

The quotation is accurate to the last cent as long as the material list is correctly entered. The information that must be entered includes the number and sizes of doors and windows, the square footage of floor material and the type, the number of feet in kitchen cabinets, the types of wall, the amount of insulation and the type of exterior finish. Soon it will be possible to produce plans direct from the computer. Plans, are actually drawn on the computer screen and adjusted. Once you are satisfied with the plan, the printer will draw a complete set of Blue Prints for you.

EFFICIENCY FASTER.

More and more builders will be using the computer in the future to do their estimating as well as house control, job control and inventory control, and who knows? In the future, if you have a problem with your house, the builder may blame it on the "COMPUTER ERROR".

ON THE FASTRACK



dot command on one line, or the Control commands, but never both of them on the same line.

We will continue this in the December Newsletter.

JOHN.....

CALL KEY SUBROUTINE

by: Yves Chevalier.

This Sub-Routine is intended for multiple menu programs where the number of choices varies from menu to menu. As can be seen in the SUB KEY routine the upper limit of K is set to the menu with the highest number of choices. In this example 7 choices (K>55):

```
1000 SUB KEY :: CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 1000 :: IF K<49 OR K>55 THEN 1000 :: K=K-48 :: CALL CLEAR :: SUB RETURN
```

The menu should be followed by these lines :

```
200 GOSUB KEY 210 DN K GOTO 220,230,240,250,260,270,280
```

With a 3 choice menu within the same program, these line would be:

```
300 GOSUB KEY 310 DN K GOTO 320,330,340,300,300,300,300
```

Any entry larger than the set choice would be accepted but would prompt you for a new entry. In this manner only one SUB KEY routine is needed to perform your entry of choices.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OCT/87.

by: Roxanne Appelt, Secretary.

Our monthly Executive Meeting was held Saturday, October 24, 1987 and topics discussed include:

- Newsletter articles
- Advertising
- Terms of Reference for Libraries
- Software distribution
- Two systems at General Meetings
- Agenda for November's General Meeting
- Meetings for Special Interest Groups and SIG Committees
- Scheduling of Executive Meetings
- Setting up a meeting between the Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer User Groups

A Motion was passed regarding the Disk Library wherein Members will now purchase DISKS from the Library at a cost of \$1.00 each. This will eliminate requirement of returning disks and at the same time increase the much needed revenue for our group.(Increasing the availability of software to more at club meetings,see N.B. on back page Ed.

Details of topics discussed may be obtained from the Executive Members.

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N.B.

In regard to our suggestion about the disk library. There will be a list of new disks available each month from the Disk Library published in the Newsletter. Phone your selection from this list, to the Disk Librarian giving him ample time to make you a copy, which you will be able to receive at the next meeting. Previous listed programs are still available from the library under this same arrangement, don't forget although this material is Freeware, you are requested to forward a donation to the author in appreciation for his work should you find it to your satisfaction and intend to use the particular program. You are also encouraged to distribute this software to other users especially those who cannot attend the meetings, with only the initial payment of \$1.00 PER DISK.....Ed.

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