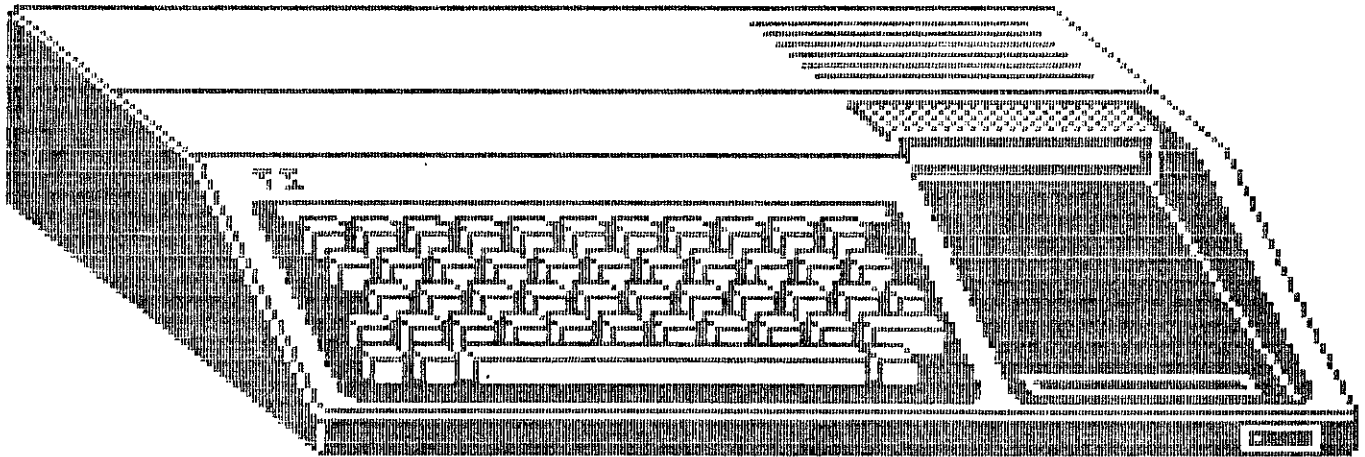
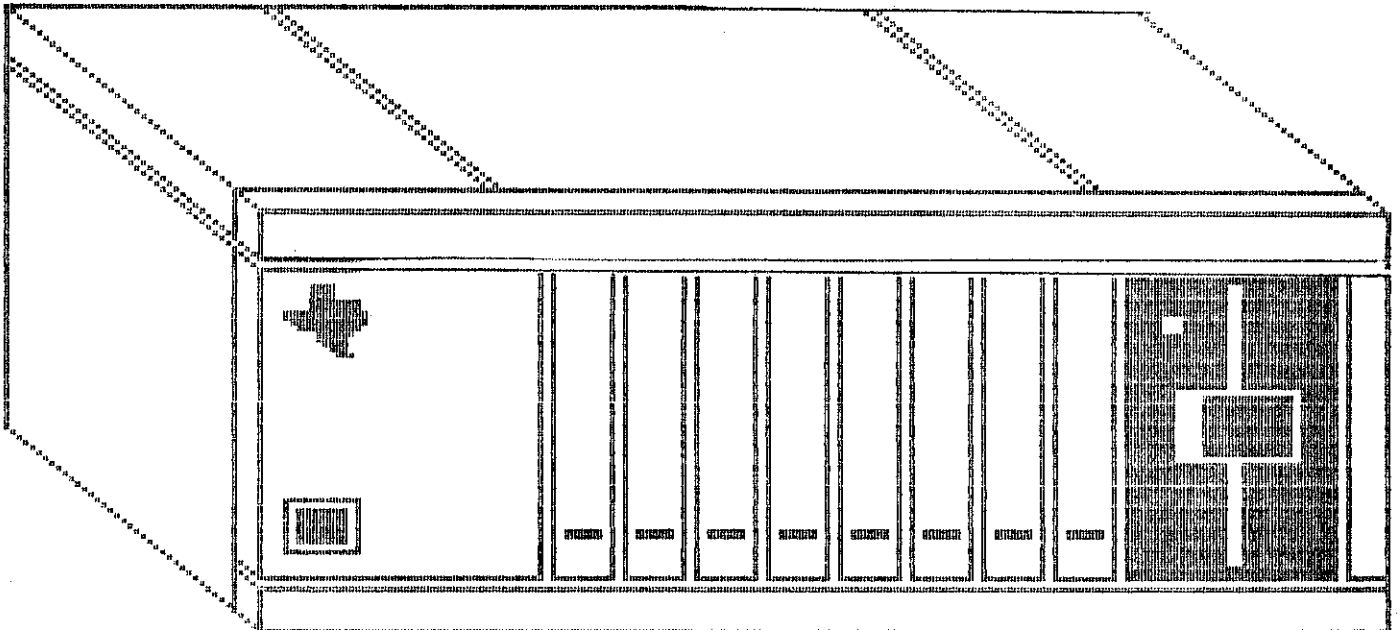
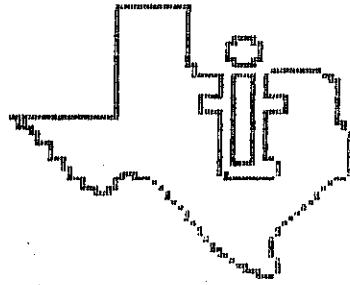


MAY 1987
BRANDON TI
BEING GROUP
KONIGSBERG



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Newsletter Notes: Dwayne Josephson
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Welcome to this month's issue of BTIUG. Boy, seems like last month's meeting was just yesterday doesn't it! This month's newsletter is a little shorter than normal, but don't despair, it's information packed. Well that's enough of me... On to the good stuff.

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From the Presidents Desk: Gary Sweers
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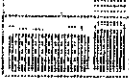
It is an exciting time for those of us who are members of the Brandon TI User Group. The many hardware advances that are coming out are truly making our machine easier to use and executing our programs faster because of the faster load times achieved by ramdisks. We have just finished a successful SuperCart club project and have now got over a half dozen of our members with the Horizon Ram Disk at 256K. For this reason, we will be demoing the Horizon Ramdisk at this next meeting and the many useful applications that our members are enjoying. Tom Austin will show how TI-Writer and Spellcheck are greatly enhanced. We also hope to have a SuperSpace Cartridge there and learn more about that piece of hardware. All in all it should be a very informative meeting. Don't miss it.

We are also beginning an exchange program with our sister user groups across the country. If any of the groups that are receiving this newsletter would like to exchange with us just mail your newsletter to my address as follows and we will put you on our exchange program. My address is Gary Sweers, 2512 Laurelwood Lane, Valrico, Fla. 33594. We are sending this copy out again in the hopes that we get a good response and can broaden our base of knowledge and exchange with other TI groups.

Dan Frantz is going to be taking over the librarian position in our club and will do a fine job. Bob Lanouette is leaving to go back up north for the summer and will be missed. Hurry back, Bob. If any of you have any questions as to what is in the library it is posted on TI-HEAVEN and probably the other TI-BBS's in Tampa, Tampa Tibbs, and Starfleet Command. Also, our user group bulletin board software has been changed to where club members with BBS access have got 4 drives which can be downloaded from. One of these is the upload drive and you can get programs that are uploaded by other users across the country via PCP. It really is getting to be an exciting world of telecommunications. If you have not tried it you truly are missing out.

I hope you are all well and enjoying your TI and if there is anything more that I or any of the officers of the group can do, please give us a call. Until Tuesday evening at 7 P.M. (earlier than normal) happy computing!

P.S. Steve has gotten disks in and there will be disks available for purchase at our next meeting. Support your club and purchase your disks here.



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The Reprint Roundtable: Robert E. Barnes
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Is it that time again already? Must be because here's the May issue of our newsletter in our hands and that means only one thing, club meeting time is at hand. Did everyone get their SuperCart at the last meeting? Have you had fun playing with it? If you got the set of floppies that were offered I bet you enjoyed playing with it. I know I did. I hope everyone had a Happy Easter last month and I am sure most of us are looking forward to the summer vacation time that is coming up shortly. (Sure hope it won't cut into our attendance to much.)

It sure looks like our exchange program of newsletters is going to give us some mighty fine information for our own newsletter. Last month I recieved the "Official Newsletter of the Tidewater 99/4 User Group Inc." January issue. There is a lot I wish I could re-print here but space is a limiting factor so I will just attempt to glean the best I can.

T I P S

Here are a few tips that you might find helpful.

When initializing a disk using Disk Manager 1000, using #6 "Box Format" is faster than #5 "Initialize Disk" because the program doesn't spend time trying to see if the disk is already initialized. This only saves time if the disk has never been initialized.

You can extend the useful life of your printer ribbons by spraying them with WD-40 when the printing gets too light. This works because the main reason for the light print is that the ink dries out. Don't use too much and try to spray the ribbon evenly. Then let it set for several days before using. This works only on fabric type ribbons - NOT ON FILM TYPE! For cartridge type, pry up the top just enough to poke the spray tip in and repeat in several spots. Doing the ribbons for STAR Gemini/96 type printers is easier (but messier). These "spool" type ribbons can also be turned over to get more use since the printhead uses less than 1/2 of the ribbon width.

TI-WRITER TIP

This information had been published in several user group newsletters and in Micropendium with original credit to Terry Atkinson of the Winnipeg 99/4a US.

You can specify the characters that turn on UNDERLINING and/or OVER STRIKE when printing through the FORMATTER and its easy to do. The normal characters are the ampersand (&?) for underlining and the at (@@) for overstrike. To change them you need to use a disk sector editor (ie. DISK0) and change 2 memory locations in the FORM1 file. Look for this hexadecimal sequence: 2A 23 21 40 26 (in ASCII it will be: * * ! @@ &?). The recommended change is: 40 (@@) to 60 (?) and 26 (&?) to 5C (\). If you are using FUNNELWRITER v3.3 then the file to change is FORMB1. Find the 1st sector of the file using the "SEARCH FOR EXISTING FILE" option of the "DISK EDIT" program. Then use the "DISK SECTOR EDITOR" option and go to the 1st sector of FORMB1.



You should be able to locate the desired characters - on my copy it started on line 9. After changing the data, press FCTN 8 (REDO) and answer Y to "REWRITE SECTOR".

If you want to have all standard characters available, you might want to do what I did. Instead of using the "tic" ASCII >60 and the "back-lash" ASCII >5C, I used 00 7F. This allows me to use FCTN V for underlining and no character is used for OVERSTRIKE. Since I use the over-strike option very little, I can use the TRANSLITERATE function to change. (By Ken Woodcock of above mentioned TIDEWATER 99/4 UG).

You know, I thought about attempting to write a review of my own instead of just copying someone else's and I almost decided what to write about when I received my issue of TIDBITS the newsletter for Mid-South 99/4A Users group. And you know what? They had a review of the very subject I was thinking on. So, not one to waste time when someone else has done the work for me, I will just copy it here, with thanks to Gary Cox of that users group.

SURVIVAL HANDBOOK REVIEW

The Orphan Survival Handbook by Ron Albright (writer of TI Forum in Computer Shopper) has just been published and I have received one of the first copies of the publication last month. Described as "the one stop information source for the TI user" it contains information compiled completely from hundreds of user group newsletters and bulletin boards. It has schematics, hardware hacks, programs, tips and tutorials. The manual is looseleaf and three-hole punched so that it can be placed in a binder and updates (which are planned for registered owners) can be easily added into the binder.

Section 1 contains several small programs, programming tips, error trapping techniques, MS/Labels program, tutorial on adding a hard copy to programs...

Section 2 is about assembly language. This section gives the 99/4A memory architecture, a screen pager utility, article on call peeks and the conversion E/A option #3 files to option #5 for faster loading...

Section 3 is all on c99 with three beginner tutorials and 6 advanced tutorials along with a pretty good c reference sheet...

Section 4 is all on Forth with articles on Forth in general. Introduction to Forth, How to boot the Forth system, Forth and XB similarities, and several tutorials on Forth with some programs...

Section 5 contains articles on Pascal (P-system) and Pilot with an index of Pilot commands...

Section 6 is the Hardware section. This section contains all kinds of small hardware projects such as constructing a Load Interrupt, Hold



and Reset switches, adding pretty lights that flash and tell what the computer is doing, wiring diagrams and pinouts for the 99/4A, hardware hints on this and that, two schematics for building a disk drive power supply. Installing a cooling fan on the console, getting rid of the fire hose connector, adding ram chips and modifying your disk drives to do weird things and an article on connecting modems...

Section 7 is Telecommunications with a look at Compuserve, Genie, Delphi and The Source...

Section 8 is about TI Writer with all kinds of tips, creating printer graphics with TI-Writer, reference sheets and an explanation of Bit-Image graphics on dot matrix printers...

The Appendix section contains TI Product Sources, user group listings peeks, pokes and call loads as well as specifications on disk drives such as power requirements or weather they run on a direct or belt drive., error code listings, a disk map, format for a disk directory article on fixing blown disks and miscellaneous other stuff with an end commentary on the Geneve computer.

The editor of the book is Ron Albright who has surely put in a lot of time reviewing newsletters putting into this 200+ page book a collection of material from many different people such as Warren Agee, Jerry Coffey, Scott Darling, Jeff Guide, Howid Rosenberg, Barry Traver, Jonathan Zettrain, Danny Michael, Tom Freeman, Dick Altman, George Stefan, Chris Bobbitt, and many many others with the help of Terry Masters and many user groups far and wide all compiled from newsletters and BBS's to create this one terrific book.

I found it to be very interesting and highly informative and I have already refered to it several times when someone has called me asking for information on this and that and for reference for myself. It is truely a one stop scorce to information. While the novice or beginning user may not understand some of the technical and the in depth aspects in the book I think everyone will find it to be very informative and I don't think you can beat it for the price of only \$16.95. It is available from Disk Only Software of P.O. Box 4170, Rockville, Maryland 20850 or call 1-800-446-4462 and at the tone enter 897335 for a recorded order message (touch tone required) or call 1-301-340-7179 (Voice).

Well fellow BTUGer's I think I have probably worn out my welcome for this issue so I guess I had better sign off for now. See you at the meeting..... Robert

Special Announcement By: Robert E. Barnes

I would like to announce the beginning of a TI-SIG section on Data Link BBS in Lakeland Florida Phone (813) 859-4800 Sysop Jody Large. This BBS is run on an Atari 130XE (128k ram). Following communication between Jody and myself the TI-SIG was up and running Saturday A.M. 18 April 1987.

The TI-SIG is security accessed meaning only TI users (owners) will

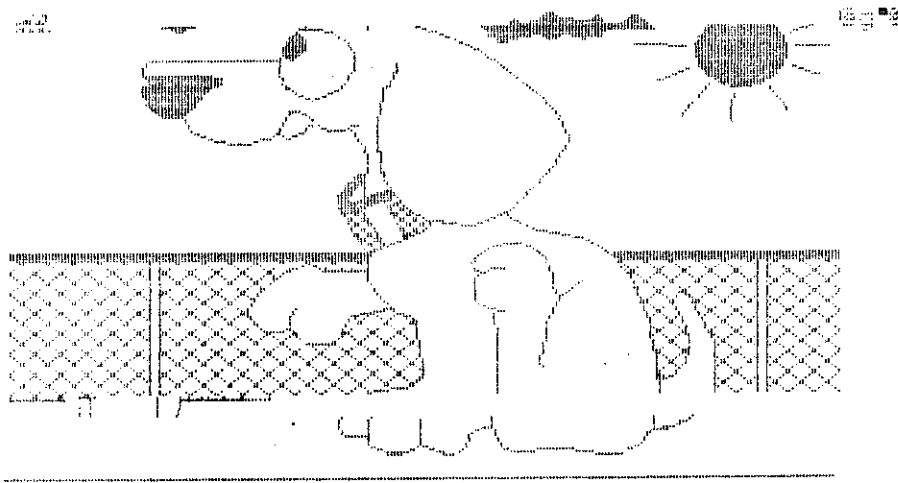


be able to access the section reserved for TI-SIG. At present the message base is limited to 10 messages of 1k each with the possibility of future expansion. Jody has also agreed to allow TI programs in the UL/DL section and is opening a category for TI file transfers. All callers to the BBS can access any part of the board not secured (at present there are 2 areas Atari-SIG and TI-SIG) such as the non-secured message bases, E-Mail, UL/DL, Library etc. If you want access to TI-SIG leave feedback to sysop.

While this TI-SIG will primarily benefit Polk County Tier's (including myself since I live in Bartow) those of you in Hillsborough County can, if nothing else, call and say Hi. Those of you in the Plant City Area, (in the Lakeland extended calling area) can call without incurring long-distance charges. Let's hear from you. And while you are on-line leave Jody a note of thanks for helping your Polk County brothers, and leave me E-Mail under the name Robert Barnee (no middle initial here) so I will know you called.

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 In Conclusion: Dwayne Josephson
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Just thought I'd mention that if you own a TI and a modem, that PC-Pursuit is out there, and there is a real wealth of software to be had on it. Hope you are enjoying your newsletter.

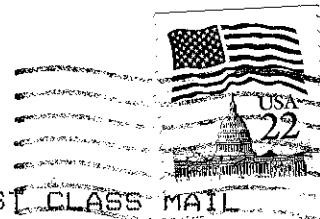


If you are receiving this newsletter the first time and would like to put us on your newsletter exchange program just send us your newsletter at the address enclosed or the return address and we will reciprocate. We are a club of about 50 interested users in the Tampa, Florida area and will be printing articles in the future about double banked SuperCarts and other hardware projects. If you have the return address on your newsletter you will automatically be put on our list otherwise enclose a note with the address and name of who you want it sent to. Thanks and Happy TI'ing!

Gary Sweers
President
Brandon TI User Group
2512 Laurelwood Lane
Valrico, Fla. 33594
813-681-8954

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NEWSLETTER
BRANDON TI USER GROUP
2512 LAURELWOOD LANE
VALRICO, FLA. 33594



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