

CLEVELAND AREA TI-994/A USER GROUPS NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER, 1989

OFFICERS	NORTHCOAST	TI-CHIPS	MEETING DATES
PRESIDENT		MATT ANDEL 676-9759	NORTHCOAST 1:30 P.M. TI-CHIPS 10 A.M.
V. PRESIDENT	MARTY SMOLEY 1-257-1661	GLENN BERNASEK 238-6335	EUCLIDIAN ROOM N.ROYALTON LIBRARY
TREASURER	FRANK JENKINS 283-8526	LIN SHAW 235-3912	EUCLID SQUARE MALL STATE RD & RT 82
MEMBERSHIP	CHUCK POULIN 731-6473 361 E. 280TH ST. EUCLID, OH 44132	JOHN PARKEN 331-2830 4172 W. 217TH ST. FAIRVIEW PARK, OH 44126	THIRD SATURDAY THIRD SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1989 DECEMBER 16, 1989
SECRETARY	CHUCK POULIN 731-6473	MARY PHILLIPS 582-5009	JANUARY 20, 1990
LIBRARY(DISK)	MARTIN SMOLEY 1-257-1661	HARRY HOFFMAN 631-2354	FEBRUARY 17, 1990
(TAPE & MODS)	TOM NELLIS 475-4067	JOHN PARKEN 331-2830	MARCH 17, 1990
(HARD COPY)	DICK ALDEN 1-352-9172		APRIL 21, 1990

WE ARE BACK TO ALL ORIGINAL MATERIAL FOR OUR NEWSLETTER! EVEN HAD TO HOLD BACK A COUPLE OF PAGES BY VES RICHARDSON UNTIL NEXT MONTH. THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT!

IF SOME OF THE ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED IN THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS AND WERE PART OF A SERIES FROM OTHER NEWSLETTERS WERE OF INTEREST TO YOU, CHECK WITH THE NEWSLETTER LIBRARIAN AT EITHER CHIPS OR NORTHCOAST AS YOU WILL FIND THEM IN THE EXCHANGES. WE GET ABOUT 40 NEWSLETTERS A MONTH AND SPLIT THEM BETWEEN THE CLUBS. NO ONE EVER SEEMS TO ASK ABOUT THEM OR CHECK THEM OUT. WHAT A WASTE!

IF YOU HAVE A MODEM, PLEASE SUPPORT THE FREE-NET (368-3888). I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO UPLOAD ARTICLES I HAVE ON DISK WHICH WE DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR IN THE NEWSLETTER. I GET ABSOLUTELY NO FEEDBACK AND WONDER IF IT IS WORTHWHILE. IF I DON'T HEAR FROM YOU, I WON'T WASTE MY TIME PUTTING THEM UP FOR NO ONE TO READ. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A MODEM, THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO BUY. THE LATEST DAK CATALOG HAS 1200 BAUD FOR \$59.

I HAVE STARTED A DOWNLOADING PROGRAM SO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET THE NEWEST SOFTWARE FROM THE COMMERCIAL NETWORKS. AT THE LAST NORTHCOAST MEETING, I TOOK WHAT I HAD AND OFFERED IT FOR \$1.00 PER DISK. I SAID IF I GOT ENOUGH TO COVER THE DISKS AND MY DOWNLOADING TIME, I WOULD DO THE SAME EACH MONTH. I FEEL THAT I DID AND ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING, I WILL GO ON AND SEE WHAT I CAN FIND. I RECENTLY PUT A LIST OF THE OFFERINGS FROM COMPU SERVE ON THE FREE-NET AND YOU WILL NOTICE THAT MOST OF THE STUFF IS GRAPHICS ORIENTED. WE ARE NOT GETTING NEW STUFF AS FAST AS WE USED TO. THIS IS NOT ESPECIALLY BAD, AS I HAVE TROUBLE FINDING NEW STUFF OFFERED EVEN FOR THE MS DOS MACHINES WHEN I GOT TO COMPUTER SHOWS WHICH FEATURE PD STUFF. MARTY SMOLEY AND I ARE GOING TO SEE WHERE WE STAND ON LIBRARY STUFF CURRENTLY ON HAND AND GET AN UPDATE OUT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

CHECK OUT THE COMPUTER SHOPPER AND NOTE THAT WE STILL DON'T HAVE A TI COLUMN. WRITE AND TELL THEM THAT WE DO

SUPPORT THEIR MAGAZINE, WITH ALL THE PRINTERS, DISK DRIVES, DISKETTES, PRINTER RIBBONS, CHIPS, ETC. THAT WE PURCHASE. I AM AFRAID IF WE DON'T YELL LOUD AND LONG THEY WILL DROP US PERMANENTLY.

IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF COMPUTER SHOPPER, THE NX1000 PRINTER HAS BEEN UPGRADED TO THE NX1000II WITH 180 CPS AND THE PRICE HAS DROPPED TO \$159. HOWEVER, IF YOU CAN AFFORD TO GO A LITTLE HIGHER, SEE MY REVIEW OF THE NEW XR1000.

CHIPS HAVE FINALLY STARTED TO DROP IN PRICE. BUD HILLS HAS THE 32K STATIC RAM WE USE IN THE RAM DISKS FOR \$16, AND MARTY SMOLEY TELLS ME HE HAS SEEN THEM AS LOW AS \$12 IN COMPUTER SHOPPER.

I WAS GOING TO PREACH ABOUT GETTING MORE PARTICIPATION FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP, BUT AM RUNNING OUT OF SPACE. JUST REMEMBER THAT ELECTIONS AT BOTH CLUBS ARE ALMOST UPON US. IF YOU LOOK AT THE PAST HEAD, YOU WILL SEE THE SAME NAMES YEAR AFTER YEAR. SOME HAVE BEEN OFFICERS SINCE THE FIRST CLUB ORGANIZED IN SOLON 6 OR 7 YEARS AGO. DON'T YOU THINK THEY NEED A BREAK! IF YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT SUPPORTING THE TI, YOU WILL VOLUNTEER FOR ONE OF THE OFFICERSHIPS IN EITHER CLUB. SOME PEOPLE ARE ON THE VERGE OF MAJOR BURNOUT IF THEY DON'T GET SOME RELIEF.

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I could attend the last meeting and it was great to be back. The attendance is getting a little better as we move into fall and it was nice to see the familiar faces of those who normally attend the meetings. The demonstration by Wes Richardson was very informative. If you were not there, Wes explained how to recover files from a disk if you have erased them, or if sector 0 or sector 1 have gone bad on you. It was also a good demo on how to use the Birdwell Disk Utilities program. I would say that most computer users have needed a good disk repair system at one time or another in the past. The club's general fund is doing quite well and most of our members are renewing for another year. We currently have around 100 members and it looks like 1990 will be another good year for the NorthCoast group. I'm sorry to see that many clubs around the country are dwindling or have vanished. The TI 99/4A is an unbelievable little computer and I have seen complete systems around for under two hundred dollars. The cost of belonging to most clubs is only fifteen or twenty dollars. If the only thing you do is write a letter every once in a while the TI will be more than worth the price. If you think that your TI is a piece of junk and you let your kids beat it to death playing games or whatever, their contact with a computer will have an educational value twenty times greater than the cost of your TI.

DISK LIBRARY

I'm sorry that some people had to wait quite a while for disks or replies of some sort from the library. By the time you read this I should be caught up with all the disk and info requests. If you haven't received something you requested, please drop me a note, I may have lost your first request.

DISK PROBLEMS

If you received a disk from the NorthCoast Library and you can't copy it because of Read/Write errors, send me a note and I will mail you another disk, if possible. Our club does not supply any material which is disk protected. By disk protected, I am referring to disks which cannot be copied by normal means. If the disk can be copied but you are having problems running the programs on the disk, keep this in mind. Many of our disks start out as Double Sided disks and have been separated into two Single Sided disks for the library. If the main program on the disk is looking for a segment or a file which has been inadvertently moved to the other side of the disk, the program will crash. You should list any portions of the programs and read all the instructions available. Watch for the names of files and also special printer, memory, or cartridge requirements by the program. Many new programs are sophisticated enough to check for the presents of a speech synthesizer or some other needed piece of hardware. If you can't find the problem, you should consider contacting the author of the software. There may be more instructions available or updates to the program you are trying to run. The authors name and address is normally listed somewhere on the disk or in the program. If you do decide to contact the author, you should be prepared to donate some money for the software. Remember, that the NorthCoast 99'ers is a club. We are not selling software. We supply two sides of software on a floppy, including the

disk for one dollar. Making a copy donation of one doll. does not relieve you of the responsibility to send a donation to the authors of software you use. I am glad that the NorthCoast 99'ers can help its members with this library service, but at times I think that we may be doing a dis-service to some authors by supplying disks to people who never intend to donate a dime. I should repeat something I stated a long time ago, I do not have time to answer any letters concerning how to run a program or its primary function.

THE NEXT NORTHCOAST PRESIDENT

This is an important note from yours truly, Martin S. I was the president of the NorthCoast 99'ers and I am presently the Vice President. Because we no longer have a president, I am still running the show. Well the problem is that next year I will not accept either of these positions. I intend to remain as Disk Librarian and also part of the Newsletter staff, but because of my work situation I cannot organize or conduct the meetings. We have a group of people who are currently doing all the work involved with the meetings, but we need a President to coordinate things and conduct the actual meeting. I know that I have said that I would not be President in the past, and when the club could not come up with a replacement I fell back into the job, but this is the big one folks. My job and other obligations make my availability very unpredictable. We need someone who can be at the meetings and devote a little time to organizing future meetings. Note: On experience needed, we will provide on-the-job training.

THE NEXT NORTHCOAST MEETING

Harry Hoffman is scheduled to do the demo at the next meeting. The topic will be Page Pro 99. If all went well with Harry's vacation and he was able to attend the Chicago Faire, he should have a wealth of new information about the TI World, as in past years. I expect to be at the next meeting and I hope to see you all there.

TI-Base Tutorial Disks

As many of you know, I have been supplying, what are loosely called, tutorial disks on TI-Base. The disks contain the original FunnelWeb D/V 80 files which appeared in articles in this Newsletter, along with the Command files and Databases named in those articles. The information is offered on floppy disks which I am calling A, B, C, D, etc. and each floppy contains two sides. I am currently filling side F with information which will be my sixth side or three disks. I am offering these disks for a donation of \$3.00 per disk. This would be \$9.00 for all three disks including the disks and postage. If you already have sides A, B, C and D, you can receive any two sides (one disk) you wish for \$3.00. I appreciate all of the letters and comments and I hope that you all continue to send me little notes when you can. I must apologize because I cannot answer any of your letters. I just do not have the time. I do try to use questions from letters as the basis for new newsletter articles. I'd like to thank everyone for their support and I will try to keep the tutorials going through 1990.

Hope to see all of you at the next meeting. **Marty**

KEYPAD FOR USE WITH GRAPHICS

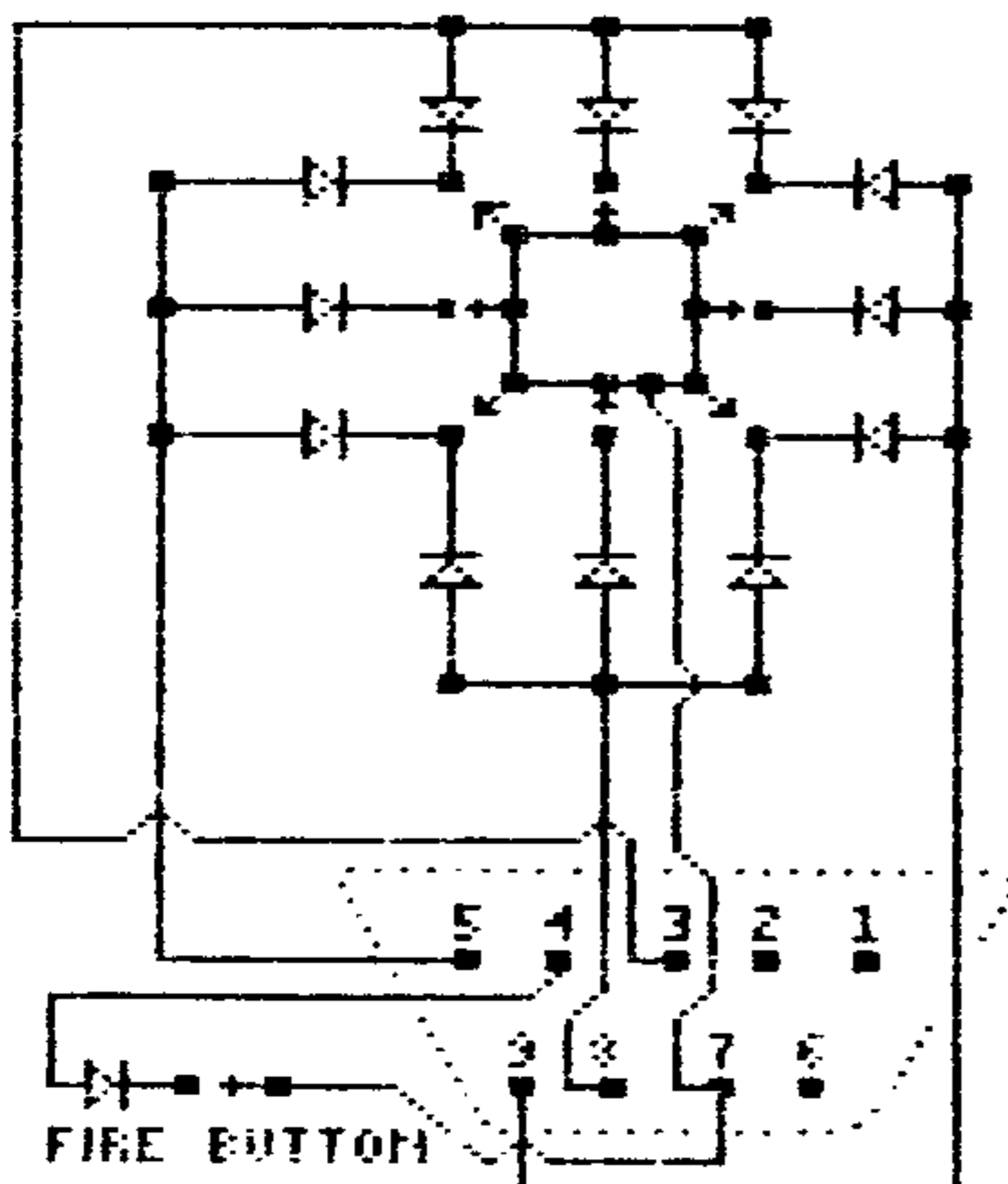
by ROBERT S. KAGY
NORTHCOAST 99ERS 1989

Do you have trouble making diagonal lines while using the joysticks when you are making graphics. If so, then the answer is a keypad. The TI joysticks only send out 4 different signals, either up, down, left or right, plus a fifth signal for the fire button. To make a diagonal line you push the joystick in a diagonal direction which then makes contacts in two directions, either up and right, up and left, down and right or down and left. The trouble with this method is that it usually makes contact in one direction before it makes contact in the other direction. This causes the line to go one way or the other before going diagonal. But when you push the diagonal button on a keypad it sends the signal to the two adjacent outputs at exactly the same time.

The keypad can have one common connection, but the other connections must be individual connections. Or you could use individual pushbuttons. You need nine pushbuttons, eight for direction and one for the fire button.

I used a surplus keypad, originally made for use with Brand A (ATARI). By completely rewiring this keypad as shown in the following diagram, it works perfectly every time. The diodes in this unit were the same as in the TI joysticks, but I believe any small diode similar to the ones in the TI joystick will work, such as RADIO-SHACK No. 276-1620(1N914). The connector that plugs into the Joy-stick Port on the Console is a 9 position, female D-SUB connector, RADIO-SHACK No. 276-1428 or 276-1538. You will need 6 wires between the keypad and the plug. These can be 6 individual wires or a cable with at least 6 wires.

CAUTION: As with any alteration or rewiring of your TI system, one does so at his or her own risk. If you are not familiar with electronics, then check with a friend or someone who knows about electronics.



Pix Pro is utility designed to allow you to take pictures stored in a variety of popular picture formats and convert them to another.

Pix Pro has two utility programs; a MacPaint converter, and Pix Pro which does all the other converting.

After loading Pix Pro the load file prompt appears. You enter the filename of any picture stored in the following formats: Graphx, Ti-Artist picture, Ti-Artist instance, Picasso, Page Pro, RLE, or Pix. To get a catalog of the disk just enter DSK1.

After loading the picture, Pix Pro will automatically display it on the screen. Now there are many things you can do to it before saving it. If you want the foreground or background color changed press the F or B keys. The color will save only in Ti-Artist picture format or Graphx format. If you want to save only a portion of the picture just press C and a little arrow will appear on the screen. Using the arrow keys move the arrow to the upper left hand corner and press enter. Now there is a little box on the screen. Use the arrow keys to make the corners encompass the area you wish to save. Now just press enter to save. This is used to save a Ti-Artist instance or a page pro picture.

After you have done all that, you will get the following menu:

1. Artist (Ti-Artist Picture format)
2. Graphx
3. Instance (Ti-Artist Instance format)
4. Page Pro
5. Picasso
6. Pix
7. Pix 128

Now choose the new format you want the picture to be saved in. If you have loaded a Picasso picture you can move the screen around using FCTN 5 to move the window to the right. Fctn 3 to move the window to the left. FCTN 4 to move the window down and FCTN 6 to move the window towards the top. Or FCTN E will move the window up 8 pixels, FCTN X will move the window down 8 pixels, FCTN S will move the window left 8 pixels and FCTN D will move the window right 8 pixels.

After loading McPix you will get this menu:

- 1 Convert Mac to Pix
- 2 Convert Mac to Page Pro
- 3 Print a Mac picture
- 4 Load Pix Pro

This section is like the program Mac Flix, but does a lot more.

Option 1 will convert a Mac Paint picture to Pix format. Then you can load the Pix format in the first utility and convert it to anything.

Option 2 will convert a Mac Paint picture to Page Pro picture format.

Option 3 will just print the Mac Paint picture out. This will also print the whole picture out. Mac Flix would only print out what could be loaded into memory.

Option 4 will just return you to the Pix Pro utility.

This program is from ASGARD, cost \$14.95. It is written in assembly and a "must" tool for the graphic user who wants to get pictures from one format to another. It opens up many more avenues for us.

JUST FOR FUN

By G.W. Bernasek
TI-Chips Cleveland, Ohio

Here's a couple of word searches I ran out for you to try your hand at. If you're interested, this is a program I had modified to give me a choice of playing the game on a screen or with a print-out. If I'm not mistaken, this program is in the Cleveland Area 99/4A User Group library as a part of a collection of programs by yours truly.

The first game is a rather simple warm-up. It's called:

THANKSGIVING 1989

T R A D I T I O N T R A V E L I
I Y Y R A M E R I C A N R S X C
F R I E N D S T H U R S D A Y J
T U R K E Y Q Q T B I N N E R P
N N O V E M B E R H G U E S T S
Y R R E B N A R C N A V P S B K
F O O T B A L L V N K N Y G Q D
T H A N K S G I V I N G K P X G
C R E L A T I V E S S W L F M A
O Y A D I L O H F A M I L Y U G
O A I P O P V T I A J I T W Z L
K U A O S I N I K P M U P I U R
I T G M C G N I F F U T S T N S
N U P I L G R I M S V A H R X G
G M B I N D I A N S P D T A Y E
I N C H D I Q U J W H R Y X S M

WORD LIST:

THANKSGIVING	PUMPKIN
TRADITION	INDIANS
RELATIVES	COOKING
CRANBERRY	FRIENDS
FOOTBALL	HOLIDAY
PILGRIMS	FAMILY
THURSDAY	TURKEY
THANKFUL	DINNER
NOVEMBER	TRAVEL
STUFFING	AUTUMN
AMERICAN	GUESTS
VISITING	

This next game is a bit more difficult. The object is to determine the missing words, and then find them in the matrix. This game is simply called: COMPUTERESE

(The answers to this game will be in the December issue.)

F V J Z L D T Q S T I B C E X
 G Q V X K R M E D O M H R S T
 M A R G O R P D Z R A A S G E
 E P A T C I S A B R W V N S D
 S E H C T I W S A T P B L R S
 B A M L G L S C F Y K A A Q V
 R X O F B I T O A Q F H J Z A
 E J D U I E S H A R D W A R E
 G D N E R F I R M W A R E E E M
 E H A L L Q B N S A T R U E J
 T S R O H M I B Y S G D V Q B
 N U P R N D N B M C E E C F O
 I P U V Z K A D B I W V I Q U
 Y B Y T E A R P O I C L E B T
 C W C N Q P Y M L T B L P I B

1. A _ _ _ _ _ is a written list of computer instructions.
2. A whole number is called an _ _ _ _ _.
3. Most programs are concluded with an _ _ _ statement.
4. It takes eight _ _ _ _ (ON/OFF _ _ _ _ _) to make one _ _ _ _.
5. "BYTE" is a computer name for a typed _ _ _ _ _ or _ _ _ _ _.
6. _ _ _ _ _ is the "native" language of a computer. (Hint: ON/OFF)
7. _ _ _ _ _ is considered to be the standard computer numeric code for typed characters and symbols.
8. Four common electronic methods of storing computer generated data are _ _ _ _ _ Access Memory, _ _ _ _ _ disk, _ _ _ _ _ disk and audio _ _ _ _.
9. A _ _ _ _ _ is used to enable one computer to "talk" to another computer.
10. As with the ON/OFF switch, computer logic test results are either _ _ _ _ or _ _ _ _.
11. The "user" language built into most personal computers is called _ _ _ _.
12. Generally speaking, a computer system contains three areas of components. The computer, keyboard, monitor, disk drives and a printer are classified as (_ _ _ _ware). The memory cards, expansion cards and operational circuit boards are called (_ _ _ _ware). While the programed instructions are called (_ _ _ _ware) .

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```
*
MLIST/C
CLOSE ALL
PRINTER NONE
SET PRINTER=DSK2.MLIST
LOCAL TST C 2
LOCAL ANS N 2 0
LOCAL MV C 50
LOCAL AST C 2
REPLACE AST WITH "*"
USE DSK2.TNAMES
SET HEADING OFF
SET RECNUM OFF
*
WHILE .NOT. (EOF)
  REPLACE TST WITH SA
  IF TST <> "No"
    SET TALK OFF
    CLEAR
    WRITE 2,4, FN
    WRITE 4,4, LN
    WRITE 6,4, SA
    WRITE 8,4, CT
    WRITE 10,4, ST
    WRITE 12,4, ZP
    WRITE 22,2, "1=Mr.    2=Mrs.";
      "    3=Miss.    4=Ms."
    WRITE 23,2, "ENTER SELECTION =>"
    READ 23,22, ANS
    SET TALK ON
```

After all this time I still have not covered all the tricky little tasks which TIB will automatically do for you. This month I will cover a couple more items I think are very interesting. What you see above is one CF. The first line contains MLIST and the last line contains Formatter. It's too big to type in through the TIB editor unless you break it down into smaller CFs and use DO xxxxx to combine their operation. I used FunnelWeb. If you have no need for the function it performs, you may consider it a waste of time, but if you need this type of utility it could be a real lifesaver.

```
DOCASE
CASE ANS = 1
  REPLACE MV WITH "1 Mr."
  PRINT MV
  BREAK
CASE ANS = 2
  REPLACE MV WITH "1 Mrs."
  PRINT MV
  BREAK
CASE ANS = 3
  REPLACE MV WITH "1 Miss."
  PRINT MV
  BREAK
CASE ANS = 4
  REPLACE MV WITH "1 Ms."
  PRINT MV
  BREAK
ENDCASE
IF (ANS<1) .OR. (ANS>4)
  REPLACE MV WITH "1 "
  PRINT MV
ENDIF
REPLACE MV WITH "2 " ; FN
PRINT MV
REPLACE MV WITH "3 " ; LN
PRINT MV
REPLACE MV WITH "4 " ; SA
PRINT MV
REPLACE MV WITH "5" ; " ; !TRIM(CT);
  !", " !ST!" ; !ZP
PRINT MV
PRINT AST
ENDIF
MOVE
ENDWHILE
*
SET HEADING ON
SET RECNUM ON
CLOSE ALL
PRINTER EPSON
SET PRINTER=PIO.CR.LF
RETURN Copyright Martin A. Smoley 1989
*
* CF to produce a TI Writer Mail list
* to be usable with TIW or FunnelWeb
* Formatter. Includes user screen input
```

Here is the task. I have a bunch of names and addresses in my TIB Database and I'd like to send a bunch of those people one of those neat form letters, the kind that has individual addresses at the top and maybe the persons first name scattered around in the text so it looks like I wrote each letter. They live far enough apart that they probably won't compare letters and find me out. I know that FunnelWeb or TIW will write the letters for me, but I need to take the correct information out of the DB and put it into a file that they can work with.

Continued Next Page.

REC	NM	LN	FN	MI	SA	CT	ST	ZP	PH	XP	GP	ID
0002		1	Aardvark	Grant	E. 9995 State Rt. 84	Geneva	OH	44014	1-465-9876	88/02	NOCO	071851
0003		2	Aardvark	Willard	J. No Newsletter		OH		1-465-7689	88/09	NOCO	071852
0005		3	Jones	Jan	W. 37285 Burgandy Lane	Mentor-on-the-Lake	OH	44060	257-1029	88/08	NOCO	0820871
0000		4	Smoley	Martin	A. 6149 Bryson Drive	Mentor	OH	44060	216-257-1661	89/02	NOCO	0713831
0004		5	Vivannovitch	Aulga	I. 111 E. 98th. St.	Cleveland	OH	91023	541-5415	88/05	NOCO	0712881
0001		6	Whitman	Raymond (Slim)	B. 2574 East 254th.	Eastlake	OH	44094	951-2345	88/09	NOCO	0921861

I have listed TNames at the bottom of 13.1.1 to show you the DB I am using. It is the same DB we normally use except for Jan Jones and Aulga Vivannovitch who have been created to represent female possibilities in your DB and Willard Aardvark who does not have a street address listed. These represent

only a couple of the problems I'm sure you will encounter in a large DB, but the techniques in handling these problems can be used to handle almost any problem with a little ingenuity. I'll go through the MLIST/C CF and try to explain what I'm doing. The command PRINTER NONE does not exist. "So what's up?" We are going to print selected parts of the DB to a Disk file named MLIST as you see in the next line of the CF. We need a finished file in the form you see to the left of this page. FunnelWebs Mailmerge can handle blank spaces and even blank lines, as you see, but it cannot handle CR or LF symbols at all. When TIB prints to your printer, or to a disk, it automatically sends CRs and LFs. There's no way to stop it. "Oh Yeah!" I loaded TIB and type USE DSK1.PRINTER and then EDIT. I paged through the file until I found the name of a printer I thought I would never own. I changed all the data in all the fields to zeros except for the CR and LF fields, which I changed to 20. 20 is the Hex value for a space. Then I changed the name field to NONE and pressed FCTN 8 to record my new data. Don't be suprised if the record seems to disappear at that second. TIB will instantly resort the file and stick NONE in where it belongs. If you need reassurance, page back and forth through the file and you should find NONE. Then press FCTN 9 to get out and enter CLOSE to reclose that DB. Now when our CF sends the command PRINTER NONE, TIB will load none commands and a couple space characters into its control code area. At the end of the CF I reload my EPSON codes and SET my printer back to PIO.CR.LF. The next few lines should be quite common by now. SET heading and recnum off is needed or you'll find more junk in the disk file which FunnelWeb can't handle. The While loop will move through the TNames DB one record at a time until it finds the EOF. Next I show you only one of the many ways that we can handle Willard J. Aardvark. You may have a DB which contains a varied group of people or whatever. In that group you may have a percentage of records that you use for different reasons and therefore wish to exclude records from mailing to mailing. You might have a field that contains, No Newsletter, or Not a member, or Not married, or Not a good sales lead, or No Lamb this year. Without going into an explanation of why you might be keeping these weird records on people or sheep, I'll give you an idea on how to test for distinguishable characteristics. If you place any of the previous phrases into a 2 space field, TIB will take only the first two places from left to right and throw the rest away. So, in all of these cases you would end up with "No". If you took the first three places, you would end up with some answers of "No " and some of "Not". You can then test for the difference between the answers. This technique will allow you a greater flexibility in distinguishing between certain types of data. In the case of TNames, if "No" is found, no action is taken and that record is passed over.

If "No" is not found, everything between IF and ENDIF is performed. Briefly, if "No" is not found, the First Name, Last Name, Street Address, etc. of the current record are placed on the screen. You are then asked to determine if this person is Mr., Mrs., Miss or Ms. Entering a 1,2,3 or 4 will cause TIB to place your selection in the MLIST file as item 1. If you enter a number above or below the range, TIB enters a circueflex after one in the MLIST file. If a 1 is called from TEST1, as you see, there must be a corresponding answer in the MLIST file. When this task is finished, TIB also places the FN, LN, SA and CT, ST, ZP fields into MLIST. TIB continues this process for each record until it hits the EOF marker. It then sets the system back to its original state and RETURNS to the Dot Prompt. For those of you who don't use mailmerge here is a quick run through. You create a letter like TEST1. The numbers between asterisks tell the Formatter that there is a word or phrase in a Mail List file which it should substitute at that point. If everything is correct, in the file, you will receive a letter with all the insertions in the right places. Note: FINISHED LETTER. When you enter the Formatter use DSK1.TEST1 and PIO.LF as usual. For Mailing List enter Yes, and for Pages enter All or "1", "1,2", "1,2,3" or "1,2,3,4" for particular names on the list. Copies: 1, Pause: N, and DSK1.MLIST for Mailing list. At that point you're on your way.

- 1 Mr.
- 2 Grant
- 3 Aardvark
- 4 9995 State Rt. 84
- 5 Geneva, OH 44014
- 8
- 1 Ms.
- 2 Jan
- 3 Jones
- 4 37285 Burgandy Lane
- 5 Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060
- 8
- 1 Mr.
- 2 Martin
- 3 Smoley
- 4 6149 Bryson Drive
- 5 Mentor, OH 44060

.FI;LM 0;RM 62;PL 20
1 *2* *3* TEST1
4
5

Dear *1* *3*

This is a test *2**, to show the use of FunnelWebs mailmerge. I know your address is *4* *5**, and I'll be contacting you again. Until then *2**, please try to find some new and interesting uses for the TI 99/4A.

Mr. Grant Aardvark FINISHED LETTER
9995 State Rt. 84
Geneva, OH 44014

Dear Mr. Aardvark

This is a test Grant, to show the use of FunnelWebs mailmerge. I know your address is 9995 State Rt. 84 Geneva, OH 44014, and I'll be contacting you again. Until then Grant, please try to find some new and interesting uses for the TI 99/4A.

TI-ARTIST PLUS

MATT ANDEL
TI-CHIPS

Ti-Artist has finally been updated to Ti-Artist Plus. There has been a lot of changes, plus there are three new sections.

The first section is A) Artist. There have been a few changes in this section. You now can control the cursor speed from fast to slow and also one step at a time. Another change is the fore and background color. The top colors are the background and the bottom colors are foreground. The circle and disc function has been modified to let you draw circles and discs and now also ellipses. There are also two new

functions on the menu:  and 

The arc function lets you pick two points and it will draw an arc between the two points. The color function will put the color bars at the bottom of your picture and you don't have to be going back and forth to change colors.

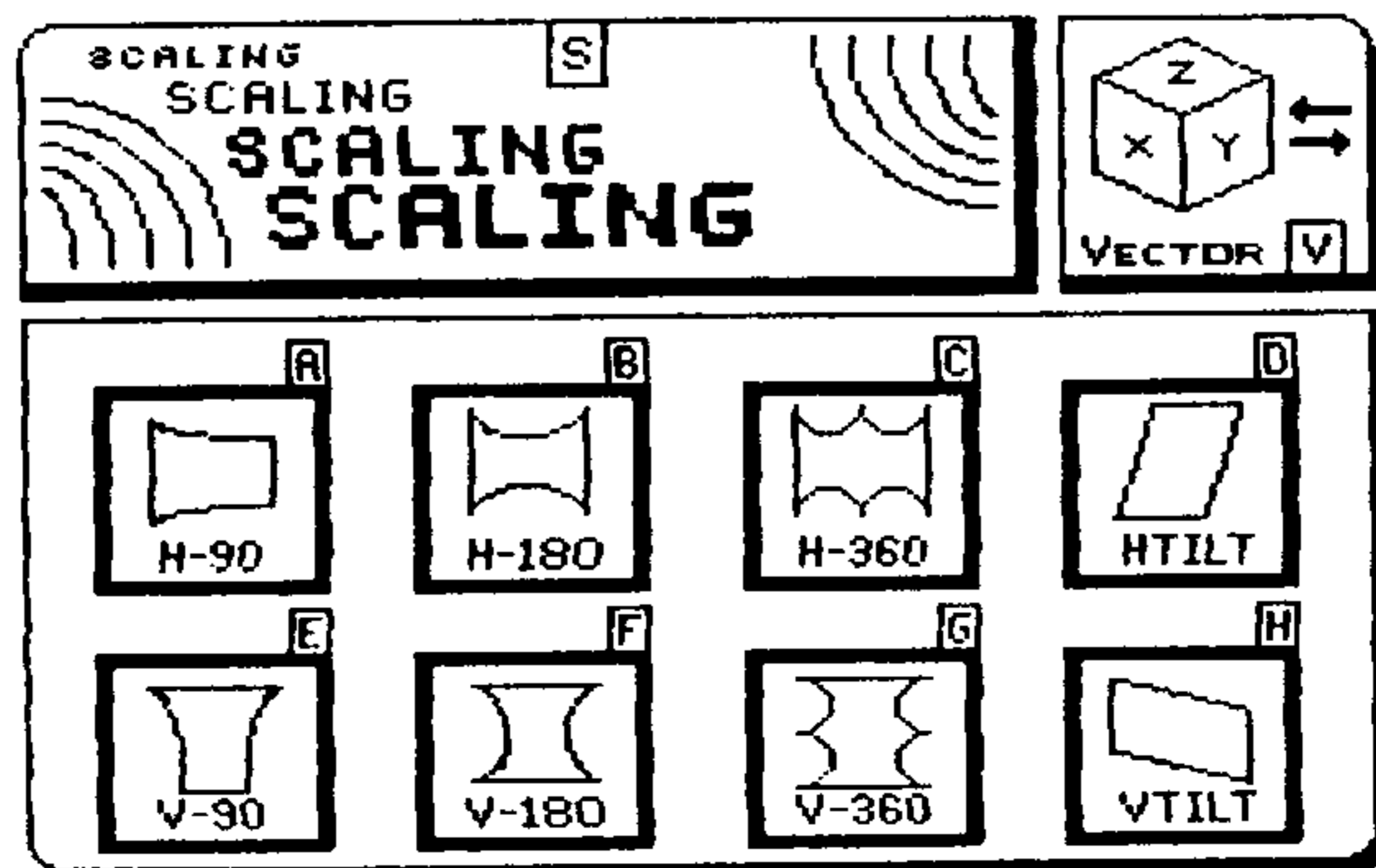
The second section is E) Enhancement. The only change here is that, there is no more font section. The new

function is:  This function is not new but it

used to be under the slides function but not no more.

The third section is F) Font section. This is now under it's own section. The only new function here is you can now add a shadow to your letters.

The fourth section is brand new the V) Vector section.

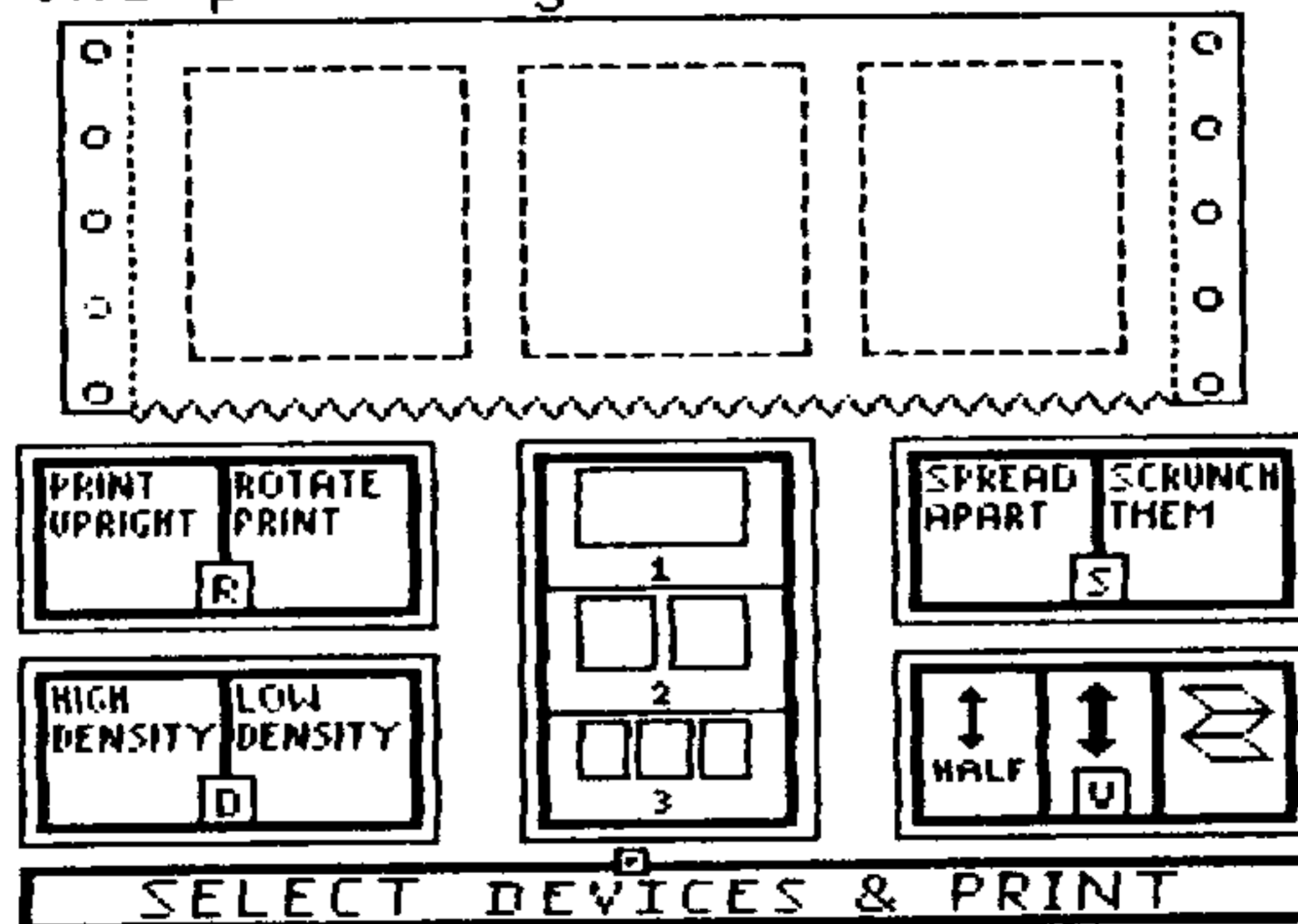


This is like a mini 3d cad program. You can save part of your picture as a vector. Then when you load that vector you can rotate it, spin it, tip it, or change the percentage of the X, Y, or Z scale. Changing the X, Y, or Z scale will enlarge or reduce that vector.

There is also a scaling function that will just enlarge or reduce your picture. This function is just like the program Artist Enlarge. (But Artist Enlarger will also enlarge or reduce font.) There are also eight choices A-H which are special effects. These will change your picture into a different effect. I like this section because I can rotate the vector to any angle I want.

The fifth section is M) Movies. This section will let you make your own movie or animation. This is just like the program Animator. To make a movie go to the movie section and create the file. Then go back to Ti-artist and make the first picture. Then go back to the movie section and use the file you made. Then append that picture. Now go back to Ti-artist and change your picture a little. Then go back to the movie section and append that picture. Keep doing this till you're done. Then just play your movie and watch.

The sixth section is P) Print section. This section does all the printing. Here is the menu:



You can print 1 to 3 pictures at once. You can rotate the picture, print it on a half of the page or the whole page. If you print more than one picture you can spread them apart or scrunch them together. Once you have set the option the way you want them then press P to print. If you have a color printer this will let you print in color. The only bad part about this section is that it takes forever to print.

The last two section are Input device and conversions. There has been no changes to these section.

When you save a file in Ti-Artist you will get an extension: _C for color of picture, _P for pattern of picture, _F for a font, _S for a slide file, _I for an instance, _V for a vector and _M for a movie.

THE NEW STAR XR1000 PRINTER
DEANNA SHERIDAN - NORTHCOAST 99ERS - CLEVELAND, OH

The newest printer in the Star line is a real winner!! A few years ago, I would never in my wildest dreams have thought it possible for the "man on the street" to own a printer with all these features for the price.

To recap, my first printer was a Gemini 10X, no letter quality, about the only font enhancement was italics, speed was 120 CPS (one of the faster printers on the market for the price, tho) and I paid \$299. My next printer was the 5610 which was basically the same as the 10X except that it had a NLO (Near Letter Quality Font). I still like the crispness of that font. I paid \$259 for this one. Then last year, I thought the NX1000 was a real breakthru for the individual computerist. It had some speed increase..up to 144 cps and 4 built-in letter quality fonts which could be accessed from a front panel. I only paid \$179 for this printer.

Compare the above with the specs on the XR1000:

300 CPS - 72 NLO

8 Letter-Quality Fonts

32K print buffer

Inexpensive color kit (\$45)

Cost (MICRO PERIPHERALS IN COMPUTER SHOPPER) \$327

The eight letter quality fonts are:

COURIER - This is Courier

SANSERIF - This is Sanserif

GOTHIC - This is Letter Gothic

ORATOR - THIS IS ORATOR

SCRIPT - *This is Script*

OCR B - This is OCR B

TW LIGHT - This is TW Light

CINEMA - This is Cinema

You can choose 10CPI, 12CPI, 17CPI, 20 CPI and proportional for a wide variety of effects. As you can see from the above, with our funnelweb/II-Writer, these are all very easily incorporated into your documents. I have several word processors for my Leading Edge, none of which allow me this flexibility.

If you are tired of wasting a sheet of paper everytime you want to start printing at the very top of the paper, you will like the "auto loading feature" on the XR1000.

You are also going to find that setting dip switches are probably a thing of the past. The new printers are almost computers in themselves. You choose your favorite settings through a program resident in the printer.

By holding down the first three buttons on the front panel at the time you turn on the printer, the menu will automatically print out on a page and allow you to choose the features you will use the most. These include:

RAM USAGE - this printer has a 32K buffer which can be used as a buffer or for downloading fonts.

QUIET MODE - Will slow down the printing somewhat, and I find it unnecessary as compared with our old printers, this is very quiet anyway.

UNIDIRECTIONAL OR BIDIRECTIONAL graphics printing.

AUTO ON-LINE - Can choose to have it automatically on-line or off-line at powerup.

ZERO STYLE - Have your zeros slashed or not.

NLO FONT - Choose a default NLO font.

PRINT QUALITY - On power up will default to NLO or draft, whichever you choose.

PRINT PITCH - Again whatever you choose at powerup.

AUTO LOADING - You choose if you want it to autoloading to start printing anywhere from the top line to 6 lines from the top of the page.

PAPER OUT DETECTOR - Set this for on or off.

SHORT TEAR OFF - Will reverse line feed so you can tear off a sheet and the return to the top of form for the next printing session.

SKIP OVER PERFERATION - On or off as you choose.

LINES PER INCH - Choose the dip switch default of 6 lines per inch to any other you might wish.

PAGE LENGTH - Choose your page length.

As you can see, many of these were accessed through dip switches in the past. Probably the only time I would ever want to change a dip switch with this machine is if I wanted to use the IBM mode for the IBM graphic characters and it was not easy to do with the software I was using. Should you ever need to get to them, they are set in the front the printer under a small panel.

If you do a lot of printing of graphics and the printhead gets out of alignment, there is even a feature on the front panel which allows you to go through a routine to make the necessary adjustment and realign the characters.

I decided to go all the way this time and got the color kit. This is a small kit that fits under the ribbon cassette. You just snap it in, and if you don't get it in correctly, the printer prints out a message telling you that it is not attached enugly.

We do not have too many programs which access a color printer, but luckily I received the new II-ARTIST PLUS the same day I got the new printer. I printed out the old opening screen of II-ARTIST 2.01. I used the "high-resolution mode on the Artist menu. It took an hour, but it looks beautiful. I do not have the JIFFY CARD which prints in multi-colors, but the one we have gives you an option of printing the outside of the card in one color and the inside in another. This took no longer than printing a card with no color. Hopefully, soon we will have other programs taking advantage of color printers. If you will check the ads, almost all of the new models offer a color kit.

I have yet to find anything I don't like about my XR1000. The ribbons are slightly higher than the NX1000, but seem to be made to last longer. I got half a dozen which cut the price down to \$7.50 apiece. Also, the price usually goes down after a printer has been out a while and third-parties start offering ribbons. The colored ribbons are \$16.50 each. But, if you purchased ribbons of the seven different colors you can create with this one ribbon, they would come to more than \$16.50 total.

T. I. Writer (Part 3)
Stan Katzman

Up to now we have created a file and have made corrections of any errors produced. The next thing we have to do is save the file to a disk so we can use it in the future if we so desire. (Later when we get into the Text formatter the document must be on a disk.)

To save a document to a disk do the following: 1)Get T. I. Writer Editor, 2)remove the program disk, 3)insert a formatted disk for your document, 4)compose your document. Now we will save your document and here is how.

At the end of your document go to the command mode (Fctn 9) and now type F <enter> for Files. You will now see a menu of 'LoadF, SaveF, PrintF, DeleteF, Purge or ShowDirectory'. Now type SF <enter> and you will now see 'SAVE FILE, enter filename:' at this point for a one disk drive system type DSK1.filename <enter>. For 'filename' type anything you want to call your document. Your document will now be saved to the disk. When the 'saving' process is finished you are returned back to the Edit mode in your document. You can now add or change your document and when you go back to the 'SAVE FILE, enter filename:' section you will see the last entered filename and all you have to do is press <enter> and your entire file will be saved under that name.

If you want a different filename you can change it, if you so desire.

We can also only save part of a file, if we so desire. This is done the following way: At the 'SAVE FILE, enter filename:' enter the starting line number, a space, the stop line number, a space and then DSK1.filename. The starting and stop line numbers are obtained from those numbers you see on the left of the screen. For example you could enter 32 45 DSK1.LETTER and you will only save the material starting at line 32 and ending at line 45 to the disk.

By the way you can 'get rid' of the line numbers on the left by pressing Fctn 0 (zero). To get the line numbers back press Fctn 0 again. This is called 'toggling'. We can now save documents to disk (very important). More next time.

T. I. Writer (Part 4)
Stan Katzman

Well so far we can create a document, edit it, and save it to disk. Let us now get a document from disk into memory. This is called LoadF.

Go to the Command Mode and then press F for Files, then press LF for LoadF(file). You will now be prompted for the file name with the header 'LOAD FILE, enter filename:', at

this point enter 'DSK1.filename' (if you have a one disk system). (Before you do this you have to remove the program disk and put the file disk in the drive.) The file will then be put in the memory (Text buffer!) and the cursor will be at the beginning of the file. You can now look at and edit or print out this file.

Let us assume that you forgot what was on your disk. In order to find out what is on your disk you have to ShowDirectory. Let us discuss this process. Again go to the Command Mode and press F and this time press SD. Another line shows up now saying 'SHOW DIRECTORY, enter disk number:' at this point just enter the drive number that your files disk is in (in a one disk system press 1 <enter>) and your disk directory is displayed. At the end of this routine on the bottom of the screen it will say 'Press ENTER to continue' and you will be returned to the edit mode. While the directory of the disk is being displayed on the screen there is no effect on the material written in the Text Buffer or on the disk.

If for some reason we want to get rid of a file on the disk we can 'DeleteF' it. Let us go through this process. Enter Command Mode, press F (for Files) and then press DF <enter>. You will now see 'DELETE FILE, enter filename:' at this point (if we only have one disk drive) type DSK1.filename <enter>. The file is now deleted, removed, gone, in never-never land. Once deleted it cannot be recovered, so be sure you want this removed before you use it.

We can also load only a part of a file, this is done the following way: At the LF command stage type the line number of the first line of the file part to be loaded, space, line number of last part to be loaded, space, DSK1.filename. Example 22 55 DSK1.TEST, this will load lines 22 to 55 inclusive from the file 'TEST' in drive #1. We can also merge files into memory. Here is how: load a file (or create one) then go to command mode press LF <enter> and now type the following, the line number of the line in the text buffer AFTER which the file is to be loaded, space, and then DSK1.TEST. Example 72 DSK1.TEST, what will happen here is the file TEST will be put in memory starting at line 72 in the buffer. This could be dicey because if the sum of the two files is greater than 23K you could 'overflow' the buffer.

Well we have done enough this time. More next time.

FOR SALE

TWO TI-99/4A COMPUTERS - PEB WITH 32K; RS-232; TI DISK CONTROLLER - SS DRIVE
CONCORDE SS/SD EXTERNAL DISK DRIVE
SEVERAL CARTRIDGES, INCLUDING MULTIPLAN, TE II, AND GAMES
ASKING \$300 - BOB WITCHCOCK 216-236-5600 AFTER 6 PM



EXECUTIVE NOTES

TI-CHIPS

MARY PHILLIPS, SECRETARY

About 25 people turned out for the October meeting. Some of them even received their newsletters before the meeting!

We missed seeing Harry Hoffman as he was on vacation. He did provide several disks, however. The disks for the raffle were especially intriguing and the tickets sold briskly. We look forward to hearing from Harry about the TI Fair in Chicago.

John Parken provided a demonstration of PR BASE, V.2.0, by William Warren. This program is a personal record management system which is much more versatile than the Personal Record Keeping cartridge. The documentation alone covers 26 pages of printout. With the system, "you can design your own data screens, build up to five customized tabular report formats, customized mailing labels, and save commonly used printer control codes." John showed he could use it to keep the club's membership records.

Lee Kee showed the group how you can change a few lines in a program to improve it or customize it for yourself. He demonstrated how he made changes to a program which prints a Mini Hardcopy Catalog. He made changes in just four lines. He did point out, however, that changing a program can produce a few surprises!

Matt Andel continued the demonstration begun last month by John Parken on the new Graphic Editor program. The user

can edit the graphics used in printing labels in many ways. Matt demonstrated how that is done.

Our next meeting precedes Thanksgiving by less than one week. If you are having holiday weekend guests, you might consider borrowing one or two cartridges to keep the kids entertained. The cartridge library continues to grow thanks to many donations.

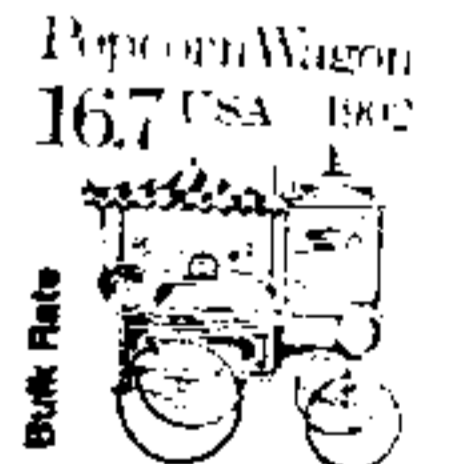
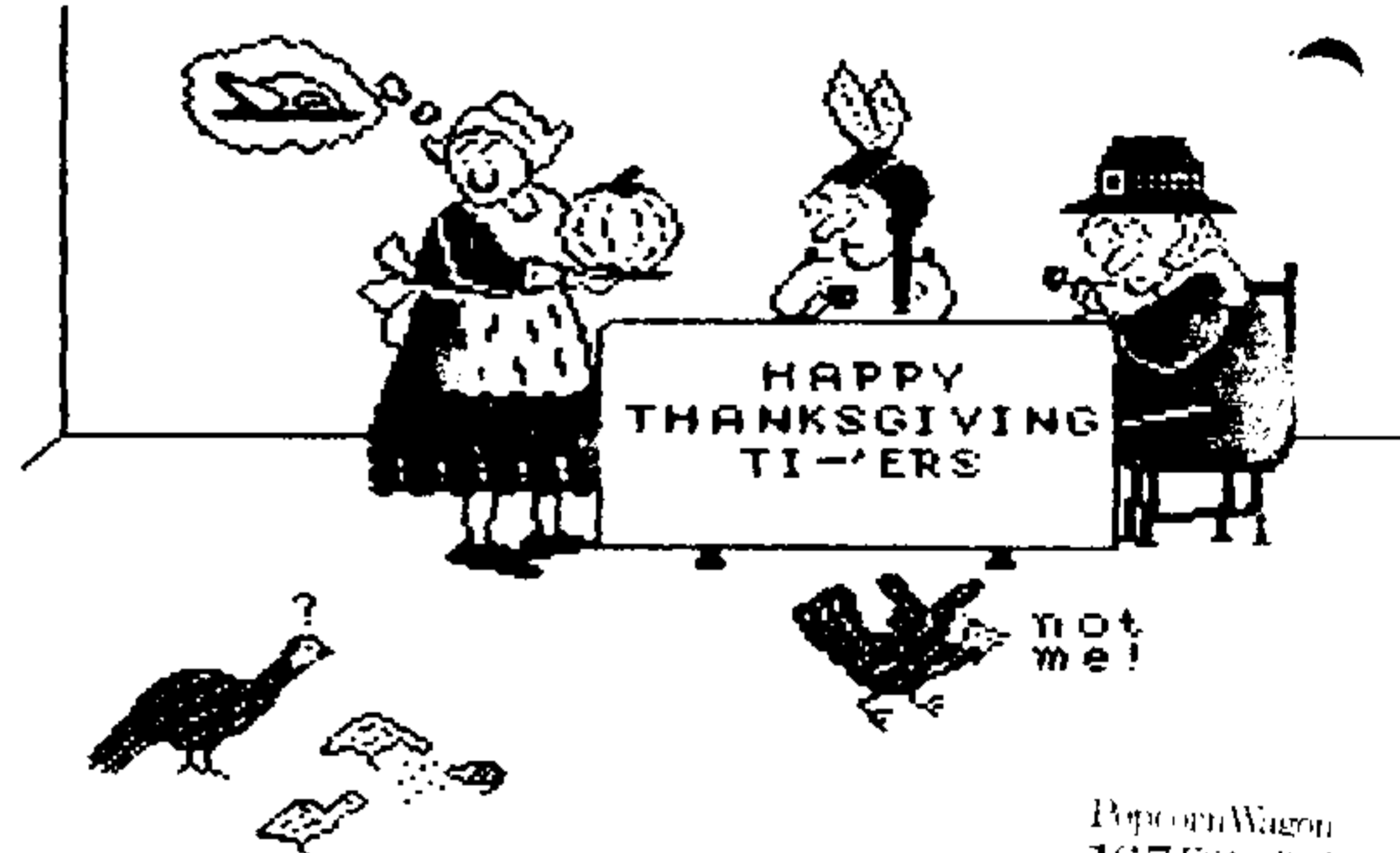
In addition, if you are thinking of Christmas gifts, don't forget our holiday special. Buy a membership in the club for only \$12 (new members only). Members in this program will receive all of the monthly newsletters. See John Parken at the November meeting. See you then!

EASY ACCESS JOYSTICK STORAGE
by D. Liken - TI-CHIPS

I hate digging out my TI joysticks when I need them and didn't like tripping over the wires when they would lie on the floor, waiting to be used. A quick fix was to put a 1 or 2 inch strip of VELCRO on each joystick's back (best place is on the end of the base away from where the wire goes into the joystick.) Please the other piece of the velcro under your computer desk in a place where they are out of the way and can be retrieved with ease. This keeps the sticks out of the way, keeps the wires off the floor and ready for use.

CLEVELAND AREA 99/4A USERS GROUPS
C/O DEANNA SHERIDAN
20311 LAKE ROAD
ROCKY RIVER, OH 44116

CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE.
THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE!



Exp Date: 90/07

!! TIME DATED MATERIAL !!

*Please deliver
by Nov 16, 1989*