

CLEVELAND AREA TI-994/A USER GROUPS NEWSLETTER DECEMBER, 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 JANUARY 20, 1990 FEBRUARY 17, 1990 MARCH 17, 1990 APRIL 21, 1990
SECRETARY	CHUCK POULIN 731-6473	MARY PHILLIPS 582-5009	
LIBRARY(DISK)	MARTIN SMOLEY 1-257-1661	HARRY HOFFMAN 631-2354	
(TAPE & MODS)	TOM NELLIS 475-4067	JOHN PARKEN 331-2830	
HARD COPY)	DICK ALDEN 1-352-9172		

AS YOU CAN SEE BY THE REPORTS WE HAVE PRINTED OF THE CHICAGO FAIRE, THERE IS STILL A LOT OF LIFE LEFT IN OUR TI. THERE WERE MANY INTERESTING NEW SOFTWARE PROGRAMS AND HARDWARE PROJECTS INTRODUCED. HARRY HOFFMAN DID NOT COME BACK WITH HIS USUAL STACK OF DISKS OF FREEMWARE. THAT IS BECAUSE FREEMWARE JUST HAS NOT WORKED! THOSE WHO ARE PROFICIENT PROGRAMMERS AND STILL WITH US, HAVE STARTED MARKETING THEIR SOFTWARE COMMERCIALY. EVEN AT THAT, WE ARE STILL GETTING A BARGAIN. HARDLY ANY PACKAGE COSTS OVER \$25 AND MOST IS \$10 TO \$15, NO MORE THAN THE FREEMWARE AUTHORS WERE ASKING. AT LEAST THIS WAY, THEY GET SOMETHING FOR THEIR EFFORTS.

I AM STILL DOWNLOADING FOR THE CLUBS, BUT FIND THERE ISN'T NEARLY AS MUCH VOLUME AS WE WERE USED TO IN THE PAST. I ONLY FOUND TWO NEW PROGRAMS ON COMPU SERVE FROM THE PRIOR MONTH. I AM NOW ON GENIE WHERE THERE SEEMS TO BE A LITTLE MORE ACTION, AND WILL PLAN TO HAVE PROGRAMS AT THE NEXT UG MEETING. I CHICKENED OUT THIS PAST MONTH WITH THE SNOW WE WERE HAVING AND STAYED HOME (SINCE I REMEMBERED AN ALMOST-WRECK I HAD IN A SIMILAR STORM LAST YEAR).

SOME OF THE PROGRAMS I HAVE DOWNLOADED RECENTLY, OR GOTTEN AS GIFTS FROM OTHER UG'S ARE:

- COLUMTEXT - ANOTHER TWO-COLUMN PRINTING PROGRAM.
- BOOT - NEW VERSION, ESPECIALLY HELPFUL TO THOSE WITH THE GENEVE OR A HARD DISK.
- PEBMANUAL - TECHNICAL MANUAL FOR PEBOX
- PIXARC - CONVERTS GRAPHIC FILES BETWEEN SEVERAL FORMATS. PUBLIC DOMAIN VERSION OF PIX PRO SOLD BY ASGARD.
- PPRENA - LOOKS THROUGH A FILE AND CHANGES ALL DSKI. DEFAULTS TO THE DRIVE YOU SPECIFY. ANOTHER USEFUL TOOL FOR RAMDISK AND HARD DISK USERS.
- PPTIPS - AUTOMATICALLY TRANSFERS TIPS PICTURES TO PAGEPRO FORMAT.
- SWAN - DRAWS GRAPHICS FOR TI-WRITER LETTERHEADS, ETC.
- PLOT - FROM GERMANY. A PLOTTING PROGRAM WITH SUPER HI-RES GRAPHICS.

- TIPS C1 & C2. GRAPHIC FILES IN TIPS FORMAT.
- JAMBREAKER - NOW IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.
- TETRIS - NEW GAME ORIGINATED IN RUSSIA, NOW ON ALMOST EVERY COMPUTER.
- PEA/TIPS - TIPS GRAPHICS OF PEANUTS CHARACTERS.
- HOCKEY - ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE 2-PLAYER HOCKEY GAME.
- CTIPS - ASSEMBLY PROGRAM TO CONVERT TIPS PICTURES TO INSTANCES.
- TIPSYU - ASSEMBLY PROGRAM TO VIEW TIPS GRAPHIC FILES.
- BIBLE TRIVIA - GAME.

I HAD HOPED TO HAVE SPACE TO EXPLAIN THE TIPS GRAPHICS, BUT DID NOT AND WILL DO SO NEXT MONTH. I ALSO HAVE LOTS OF MACPAINT PICTURES I DOWNLOAD FROM MY IBM AND TRANSFER TO MY TI. ASIDE FROM MY GRAPHIC GROUP, I AM NOT SURE WHO IS INTERESTED IN THEM, AND I HAVE BEEN LAX IN GETTING THEM INTO THE LIBRARY (SOMETHING CALLED 'TIME'). LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. WILL CHECK OUT COMPU SERVE AND GENIE AGAIN ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING. DIDN'T MEAN TO TAKE UP THE FRONT PAGE WITH THIS, BUT RAN OUT OF SPACE.

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL OUR REGULARS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MAKE OURS ONE OF THE BEST NEWSLETTERS IN THE TI WORLD! SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

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A "CALL KEY" SCREEN SAVER
 BY GLENN BERNASEK
 TI-CHIPS CLEVELAND, OHIO

THE TI-99/4A HAS A SCREEN SAVING ROM SUB-PROGRAM THAT WILL SHUT-DOWN SIGNALS TO THE CRT IN THE EVENT THAT A SCREEN DISPLAY HAS BECOME STATIONARY FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME (10 MINUTES). THIS SITUATION IS USUALLY BROUGHT ABOUT THROUGH A BREAK, STOP, END, INPUT, LINPUT OR ACCEPT AT STATEMENTS WHICH WILL SUSPEND PROGRAM OPERATIONS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS ROUTINE IS TO PREVENT IMAGE BURN-IN ON THE CRT, RESULTING IN THE FAINT GHOST LIKE IMAGES THAT SEEM TO BLEED THROUGH ACTIVE DISPLAYS ON OLDER T.V.'S AND MONITORS.

HOWEVER THE TI, AS WELL AS OTHER PCs, DO NOT HAVE SCREEN PROTECTION AGAINST EXTENDED IMAGE DISPLAY TIMES RESULTING FROM WAITING FOR UN-SUSPENDED KEYBOARD INPUT TO A CALL KEY STATEMENT. IN THIS CASE, THE IMAGE WILL REMAIN ACTIVE ON THE CRT SO LONG AS A KEY IS NOT PRESSED. THIS CAN RESULT IN "IMAGE BURN-IN" JUST AS EASILY AS THE SUSPENDED PROGRAM.

WITH THIS IN MIND, I WROTE THE FOLLOWING EXTENDED BASIC ROUTINE CALLED S/SAVER. THIS IS A MERGEABLE SUBROUTINE THAT IS SAVED AS: DSKN.S/SAVER,MERGE.

JUST LOAD YOUR OLD PROGRAM, AND THEN TYPE IN: MERGE DSKN.S/SAVER. ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO IS TO (INSERT THE CALL KEY LINE MODIFICATION) AS DESCRIBED BELOW, REPLACE "AAA, BBB AND CCC" WITH THE APPROPRIATE LINE NUMBERS, AND YOU'RE IN BUSINESS! (NOTE: THE "N" IN DSKN IS THE DISK DRIVE NUMBER.)

```

20000 FOR ROW=2 TO 17 STEP 5 ::
      CALL CLEAR [:: RANDOMIZE ::
      SCN=INT(RND)+3 :: CALL
      SCREEN(SCN)
      !([THIS IS AN OPTIONAL COLOR
      ROUTINE] DON'T TYPE IN THE
      [])'S OR THE REMARKS.
20010 DISPLAY AT(ROW,6):"***** (18
      *S)*****" :: DISPLAY
      AT(ROW+1,6):" (16 SPACES) "
      :: DISPLAY AT(ROW+2,6):"
      SCREEN SAVER "
20020 DISPLAY AT(ROW+3,6):" PRESS:
      <ENTER> " :: DISPLAY AT(ROW
      +4,6):" (16 SPACES) " ::
      DISPLAY AT(ROW+5,6):"***** (18
      *S)*** "
20030 FOR WAIT=1 TO 250 :: CALL
      KEY(0,K,S) :: IF S=0 OR K<>13
      THEN 20040 ELSE COUNT=0 ::
      CALL CLEAR :: RETURN
      !ADJUST WAIT (FOR-NEXT) TO
      DESIRED TIME LIMIT (250 =
      APPROXIMATELY 10 SECONDS).
      DON'T TYPE THESE REMARKS.
20040 NEXT WAIT :: NEXT ROW :: GOTO
      20000
  
```

THE FOLLOWING IS A "GENERALIZED" EXAMPLE PROGRAM TO SHOW

HOW THE CALL KEY (LINE INSERTION) IS ACCOMPLISHED.

```

AAA!(FIRST LINE OF THE PROGRAM'S
      SCREEN DISPLAY ROUTINE.)
:
:
:
:
BBB CALL KEY(0,K,S) ::
      (COUNT=COUNT+1 :: IF COUNT>5000
      THEN GOSUB 20000 :: GOTO AAA
      ELSE) IF S=0 THEN BBB
      !([INSERT INTO LINE.] ADJUST
      COUNT LIMIT TO DESIRED TIME
      (5000 = APPROXIMATELY 4
      MINUTES.) DON'T TYPE IN THE
      [])'S OR THE REMARKS.
CCC!(CONTINUE ON WITH THE PROGRAM
      OPERATION.)
  
```

NOTE: "AAA, BBB AND CCC" REPRESENT PROGRAM LINE NUMBERS. WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY A QUICK TEST? THEN RUN THE FOLLOWING 3-LINER, GO TO SUPPER (OR WHAT-EVER), AND LEAVE THE TI RUNNING.

```

100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL
      HCHAR(2,3,42,500)
110 CALL KEY(0,K,S) :: IF S=0 THEN
      110
120 END
  
```

NOW INSTALL THE SCREEN SAVER MODIFICATION, RUN IT AGAIN AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS. HOW ABOUT THAT!

TI-CHIPS EXECUTIVE NOTES
 MARY PHILLIPS, SECRETARY

APPROXIMATELY 25 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE NOVEMBER MEETING AT THE NORTH ROYALTON LIBRARY. THIS SEEMS TO BE AN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR THE GROUPS WHICH HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF ABOUT 50. ONLY A VERY FEW HAD RECEIVED THEIR NEWSLETTER FOR NOVEMBER. A COUNT WAS TAKEN OF THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVING THEIR NEWSLETTERS AT ALL IN THE PAST MONTHS. FORTUNATELY, THAT NUMBER IS VERY SMALL.

JOHN PARKEN HAD FOR SALE SEVERAL DOUBLE-SIDED, DOUBLE-DENSITY DISK DRIVES WHICH CAN BE INSIDE THE PE BOX. THOSE DRIVES SOLD QUICKLY! JOHN MENTIONED THAT THE MODULE LIBRARY HAS GROWN TO OVER 80 CARTRIDGES. HE IS IN NEED OF A SUITCASE LARGE ENOUGH TO HOLD ABOUT 100 CARTRIDGES IN WHICH TO TRANSPORT THEM TO AND FROM MEETINGS.

HARRY HOFFMAN TALKED BRIEFLY ABOUT THE TI FAIRE IN CHICAGO, WHICH HE PRAISED AS THE BEST TI CONVENTION IN THIS PART OF THE U.S. HE HAS SOME NEW PROGRAMS TO TRY AND WILL BE TALKING ABOUT THEM AT FUTURE MEETINGS.

MATT ANDEL DEMONSTRATED CATALOGING LIBRARY, A DISK WHICH CREATES A COMPLETE CATALOG OF DISKS AND DISK FILES WHICH CAN BE SAVED AND PRINTED. THIS DISK WAS FROM THE DISK LIBRARY, BUT NO ONE COULD REMEMBER THE DISK NUMBER! COPIES WERE PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS REGARDLESS.

LES KEE DEMONSTRATED PROGRAMS TO BE USED WITH THE MINI-MEMORY CARTRIDGE. THIS CARTRIDGE SAVES PROGRAMS TO VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COMPUTER'S MEMORY AND IS VERY FAST. ONE OF ITS ADVANTAGES IS ITS ABILITY TO STORE INFORMATION AFTER THE MAIN POWER IS SHUT DOWN. THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED WITH ITS BUILT-IN BATTERY. IT WAS MENTIONED THAT THE CLUB HAD A MINI-MEMORY CARTRIDGE AT ONE TIME, BUT IT HAS BEEN LOST OR STOLEN AND IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

ROM MARKUS HAS NOTICED A LOSS OF SOME OF HIS SOFTWARE FOR SALE AT THE MEETINGS. HE PLEADED WITH THE MEMBERSHIP TO REMEMBER THAT HIS ITEMS ARE FOR SALE AND ARE NOT "FREWARE."

ROM ALSO TALKED ABOUT SOME OF THE IMPROVEMENTS IN COLOR PRINTERS. HE HAD EXAMPLES OF PRINTING STYLES PRODUCED WITH THE STAR XR1000 PRINTER AND THE UTILITIES OPTION OF PAGE PRO. ROM ALSO DEMONSTRATED TWO GAMES BY RAY KAZMER: TEXAS RANGER AND GONE FISHIN'.

MEMBERS WERE ASKED TO BRING PLATES OF THEIR FAVORITE HOLIDAY OR OTHER GOODIES TO SHARE AT THE DECEMBER MEETING. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ENJOYABLE TIME FOR ALL. HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

 FA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA
 MARY PHILLIPS - TI-CHIPS

THE FOLLOWING LIST OF TI CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAMS WAS RESEARCHED FROM THE NORTHCOAST/TI-CHIPS DISK LIBRARY. THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE PROGRAMS LURKING ON SOME OTHER DISKS THAT I DIDN'T FIND. I HOPE YOU FIND IT USEFUL WHEN HUNTING FOR SOME HOLIDAY MUSIC THIS SEASON!

FILE NAME	DISK NAME	NOTES
	5Q1	FREWARE DISK OF 14 SONGS
12 DAYS	5I	
12 DAYS XMAS	5H	
3KINGS1	5M	
3KINGS2	5M	
3SHIPSXMSX	5P	
3SHIPSXMSX	XMAS3	
ADESTEFIDL	5I	
ANGELSX	5G	
ANGELSX	5H	
AWAYMGRX	5M	
BELLSX	5M	
CHESTNUTS	5Q	
CHESTNUTS	XMAS3	
CHRISTMAS	5L	
CHRISTMAS	5M1	

CHRISTMAS	5B1	
CHRISTMAS	TOM59/C2MU	
COMEFATHX	5M	
COMEFATHX	XMAS3	
DECKHALLX	5M	
DECKHALLX	XMAS3	
DRUMBOY	5P	
DRUMBOY	XMAS3	
FIRSTWOELX	5M	
FIRSTWOELX	XMAS3	
FROSTY	5B1	
FROSTYX	5S	
GODRESTX	5K1	
GODREYEX	5G	
GRNSLEEVEX	5S	
HARKHERLDX	5M	
HARKHERLDX	XMAS3	
HOLLYJOLLY	5T	
JINGBEELX	5U	
JINGLEBELLS	5I	
JINGLEBELLX	5M	
JOYWORLD	XMAS3	
JOYWORLDX	5G	
LETITSHOW	XMAS3	
MERRYXMASX	5O	
MERRYXMASX	XMAS3	
MIDNITCLRX	5M	
MIDNITCLRX	XMAS3	
MYTREE	5R1	
NOELX	5K1	
OCCOMEFAITH	5M	
OCCOMEFAITH	XMAS3	
OHOLYNITEX	5M	
OHOLYNITEX	XMAS3	
OLTTLEWIX	5G	
REINDEER	5B1	
RUDOLPH	5T	
SANTA	5H	
SILNIGHTX	5E	
SILNIGHTX	5M	
SILNIGHTX	XMAS3	
SNOOPYNOEL	5B	
SNOOPYNOEL	5B1	
SNOOPYXMXB	5M	
ST/NICK	5C	
TANNENBAUMX	5M	
TANNENBAUMX	XMAS3	
TWINKLE	5B	
TWINKLE	5B1	
WOODSTOCK	5H5	FREWARE DISK
XMASCARDX	5I	
XMASCAROLX	5I	
XMASSONGSX	5E	
ZIGGYXMAS	5I	

We had a nice small meeting. The weather was bad. We were in the midst of a snowstorm, part of the Shoreway was closed due to the bad weather and there was 14 inches of snow to the east of Cleveland. About 15 people still managed to make it to the meeting. Harry Hoffman gave an interesting demo of Page Pro 99. Harry not only gave the demo, he also filled us in on gossip from the Chicago Fair, which he attended. One item that I found of interest was new software. Harry said that it looks like there will be a lot of new software for the TI. However, it will probably not be freeware. Popular software writers are teaming up with distributors like Texaments and others to sell their new programs. I know that I said I wouldn't be President next year, but I still like to participate and I really like going to our meetings. By the way, I think we have lined up Bob Kagy for our new President and Steve Bagstad for Vice President. This is still tentative but it looks encouraging. If it works out, I know that Bob and Steve will do a great job. Our membership is currently 104 and steady, plus we have plenty of money in the general fund. One of my main worries has always been the Newsletter. With a steady membership, money in the bank and several workers to help out, I feel assured that our Newsletter will continue in the future.

JUST FOR FUN

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

Here's the missing words to the word search:
COMPUTERESE I had promised.

NEXT YEAR

*	*
* 01/20/90 *	I have listed all the meeting dates for 1990. They remain the third Saturday of each month. Please note the meeting dates so you can be there. We'd like as many members as possible to attend the meetings. You'll have a great time and learn something new about the 99/4A. We have the large side of the Euclidian Room except for January. I decided that we should not request the whole room as we have never had enough attendance to fill the half we normally use.
* 02/17/90 *	
* 03/17/90 *	
* 04/21/90 *	
* 05/19/89 *	
* 06/16/90 *	
* 07/21/90 *	
* 08/18/90 *	

RENEWALS

*	*
* 09/15/90 *	Check the label on your newsletter for the date your membership runs out. We have a wonderful group of people in the NorthCoast 99'ers, and we don't want to lose even one of you. So, when your membership is due, stay with us. Things are getting better and better for the TI.
* 10/20/90 *	
* 11/17/90 *	
* 12/15/90 *	

THE NEXT NORTHCOAST MEETING

At the next meeting I will give the demo. I will give a loosely knit demo of FunnelWeb and some TI-Base, with a lot of question and answer. SPECIAL NOTE: There will not be a demo in February of 1990. We will have a swap meet in February and we plan on inviting other clubs and old members.

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

See you all at the next meeting. Marty

Disk Fix

by WESLEY R. RICHARDSON
BLUEGRASS 99 COMPUTER SOCIETY, INC.

When you have a disk with several files that you have been working on and you do a catalog and it comes up DISKETTE IS BLANK, or DISK NOT INITIALIZED, it can be very frustrating. There are times when the sectors used and available get changed to values like 2389 free and 7887 used, but you know you have a single sided, single density (SSSD) disk drive, with a maximum of 360 sectors. It is also possible to have a disk which will not catalog, yet when Extended BASIC is selected, the disk will run the LOAD program and continue without a problem. These have happened to me and I am sure it has happened to others, so I thought I would document a way which may recover your disk for you.

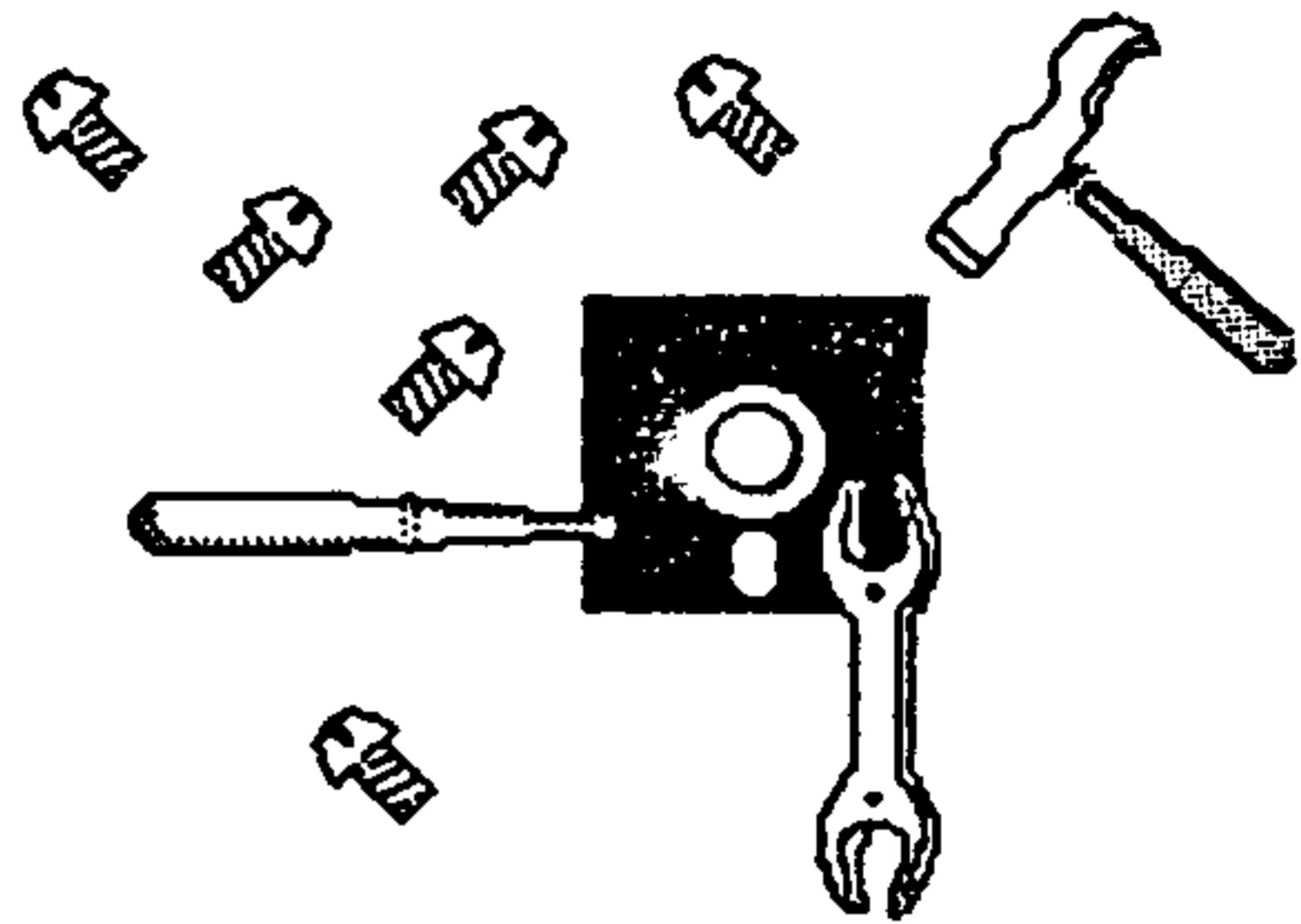
The items which you will need are your blown disk, two blank disks, Disk Manager 1000 v3.5, Disko or Disk Patch, and a sector or track copier program, or the equivalent of any of the above. I will use the Funnelweb v4.10 DISK-PATCH for the sector editor.

1) The first step is to initialize a disk in the format which you believe the blown disk was, for example SSSD. For the disk name, use the name that you want on the blown disk after it is restored.

2) Using the sector copier or track copier, make a copy of the blown disk. If you get a read error in sector 0, just tell the program to ignore the error. If you are unable to copy the disk with the copier programs which you have available, you may still continue the following steps with the original disk, but be advised that you may lose everything on the disk.

3) Load DISK-PATCH or DISKO and then insert the back-up copy of the blown disk in drive 1. Select option 1 for disk sector editor. Then disk 1, and sector 0. The screen should come up with the data from sector 0. Pressing FCTN 2 will change the screen to ASCII and pressing FCTN 1 will change it to HEX. In ASCII, the first ten characters will be the disk name. In HEX, at byte 12h (h=HEXADECIMAL) will be 01 for single sided and 02 for double sided. At byte 13h, will be 01 for single density and 02 for double density.

4) Press FCTN 4 to go to sector 001h. You should



find groups of four digits of HEX numbers such as 0002 0003 0009 0015 and so on. These indicate where the file names and file maps may be found. Write down each of these numbers in the order which they are found when read from left to right and top to bottom on the screen. Note also if the first number is 0000, then the disk will catalog as being blank and no file names will appear.

5) Press FCTN 4 to go to sector 002h. In the first ten ASCII characters you will find a file name. Write this down next to the appropriate four digit number you had in step 4). Do this for each of the numbers from step 4). If there were several files on the disk, you may need to press FCTN 9 and then option 1 again to go directly to the location. While in sector edit mode, pressing FCTN 6 will take you to the next lower numbered sector.

6) You now should have a table similar to the one below with the file name and location of each file on the disk.

0000	A-SECTOR2	000D	PACMAO
0003	CENTIPEDE	0005	PINBALL
0009	DEFENDER	0006	PINBALLM
000A	KONG	0007	POLE/POS
000B	KONH	0008	POLE/POT
0004	LOAD	000E	TI/INVADER
000C	PACMAN	000F	TI/INVADES

7) Note in the case that we did find a 0000 but a file was there, as in this case file A-SECTOR2 directory was located at sector 002h, then use the sector editor to view sector 001h. Move the cursor to the first 0000 in HEX and change it to read 0002. Then press CTRL W to write the sector back to the disk, and answer Y to the question RE-WRITE SECTOR?

...DISK FIX

8) Remove the copy of the blown disk and insert the formatted blank disk in drive 1. Select the sector editor, giving drive 1 and sector 0. After the sector comes up, remove the blank disk and insert the blown disk copy in drive 1. Press CTRL W to rewrite the sector.

9) Load Disk Manager 1000 version 3.5 (DM1000), and then put the blown copy disk back in drive 1. Select option 1, File Utilities. Then select option 2 for Recover file. Give the drive as 1. Enter the first file name on you list and press enter. The program will say SEARCHING DISK, then RE-BUILDING LOST FILE, then FILE RECOVERED. Press enter and then 2 for Recover file. Repeat these steps until all of the files are recovered.

10) Press 1 for Copy/Move/Delete... and give the disk number as 1. Your disk free and used does not match up with the sum of the file sizes plus 2 sectors, then go to step 11), otherwise you are done.

11) Do this step only if the disk free is not correct. Place a D in the left column to delete all of the files and a U in the right column to unprotect all of the files. DM1000 will unprotect and then delete all of the files. At this point a catalog should show free 358, used 2 for a SSSD disk. Go back to the recover file section of step 9) and recover each file again.

One other piece of advise, if you have a disk with a bad directory, do not write any files to the disk until you have a chance to fix the directory. If you write a new file, then you are taking the chance that part of another file will be over-written. This can happen because sector 0 may show that a location is free, when in fact it has part of a file in it.

The other advise is to always keep a back-up copy of anything which you do not want to lose. It is a good idea to keep a write protect tab on your master disk and keep it away from your work disk. On documents or programs, save your work to disk every 15 minutes so if the power goes off or your computer locks up, you only lose 15 minutes worth of work. Alternate saving to two disks when you have a large and important program or file.

If you always keep back-ups, I hope you will not need to use DISK-FIX, but if that time comes when the disk is blown, now you have something to try.

DISK NAME

BYTE	0	2	4	6	8	A	C	E	DSK
0	5353	5344	2020	2020	2020	0168	0944	534E	
1	2028	0101	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	
2	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	
3	0000	0000	0000	0000	FFFF	0000	FCFF	FFFF	
4	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
5	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
6	FFFF	FFFF	2FFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
7	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
8	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
9	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
A	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
B	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
C	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
D	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
E	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	
F	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	FFFF	

Handwritten notes:
 - NO. OF SECTORS 168 x 360 = 60480
 - 28 = 40 TRACKS
 - 1 = SIDES
 - 1 = SINGLE DENSITY

F = USED SECTORS

BYTE	0	2	4	6	8	A	C	E
0	0002	0003	0004	0005	0006	0007	0008	0009
1	000A	000B	000C	000D	000E	000F	0000	0000
2	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
3	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
4	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
5	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
6	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
7	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
8	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
9	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
A	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
B	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
C	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
D	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
E	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
F	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000

Handwritten note: **ALPHABETICAL LIST OF FILE DESCRIPTOR RECORD**

BYTE	0	2	4	6	8	A	C	E
0	4345	4E54	4950	4544	4520	0000	0100	0020
1	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	23F0	0100
2	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
3	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
4	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
5	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
6	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
7	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
8	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
9	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
A	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
B	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
C	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
D	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
E	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000
F	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000

Handwritten notes:
 - 1 = PROGRAM TOTAL SECTORS
 - START SECTOR > 023
 - OFFSET (LENGTH) > 01F

**I-BASE - From INSCEBOT
 ORIAL 14.1.1 By Martin Smoley
 NorthCoast 99'ers - Nov. 19, 1989
 Copyright 1989 By Martin A. Smoley**

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Welcome to a session of total insanity with Martin S. I discovered a bunch of things lately that changed my thinking about all the tutorials I previously produced. I went several months without using TI-Base. A few days ago I thought I'd rev up my system and jump back into writing the Tutorials. What a surprise! The system decided it didn't like me. I gave it all kinds of different commands, but it wouldn't do what I wanted it to do. At the same time I was having all these problems I was leafing through my old notes and letters and I found that many other people had the same problems at one time or another. To cut this story short, I came to the conclusion that many of my explanations of TI-Base functions were inadequate. They were only useful if you already knew what you were doing. While my memory was giving me problems, due to a lack of use, I had great difficulty using my own Tutorials to re-educate myself on intricate functions of this language. If I have this much trouble interpreting my own work, I can imagine that there are a lot of people out there saying to themselves, "This guy is crazy. I don't understand a word of this junk". So I'm going to try to regroup my thoughts and try again. It may not be any better than before, but this time I will try to include more of the antics I go through to accomplish a task in hopes that you will pick up some ideas along the way.

For this months article I decided that I wanted to start working with more numbers, and possibly, with the use of numbers from more than one Db at a time. I decided to work with utility bills for 1989 and a checkbook-type Db. I do not keep track of my bills or my checkbook on my computer, so I thought I could do this project as a beginner. I expect to make a lot of mistakes in planning and will probably change the Dbs several times in the next couple months. I started with a pencil and paper, as usual, and listed some utilities with

Listing of BILLS database SORT ON MODATE. 11/20/89

REC	MODATE	PHONE	GAS	ELECTRIC	SEWER	WATER	TAX	PCHK	GCHK	ECHK	SCHK	WCHK	TCHK
0000	01/15/89	56.16	110.41	68.88	.00	43.14	627.48	248	249	250		252	253
0001	02/15/89	111.32	97.71	58.24	46.20	.00	.00	255	256	260	261		
0002	03/15/89	86.02	99.64	53.42	.00	.00	.00	265	266	267			
0003	04/15/89	44.81	69.83	54.39	.00	.00	.00	270	271	272			
0004	05/15/89	77.50	50.64	52.45	46.20	43.14	.00	275	276	277	280	281	
uuu6	06/15/89	63.34	26.53	58.10	.00	.00	627.48	285	686	287			290
0007	07/15/89	89.27	24.69	59.48	.00	.00	.00	293	294	295			
0008	08/15/89	49.77	28.73	50.89	.00	.00	.00	300	301	303			
0009	09/15/89	81.01	22.99	54.49	.00	.00	.00	305	306	310			
0010	10/15/89	46.82	30.39	43.76	.00	50.64	.00	311	312	315		320	
0011	11/15/89	59.35	48.40	46.81	46.20	.00	.00	325	326	327	329		
0011	12/15/89	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00						

dates and checknumbers. I came up with the BILLS Db you see at the bottom of this page. I'm not happy with it, but it's a start and it contains dates, payments and checknumbers. This will give us something to play with. I created this Db to the specifications you see in the bottom right corner of this page. When TIB asked if I wanted to enter data, I answered yes, and just held the ENTER key until I had twelve blank records. Then I pressed FCTN 9 to get out of APPEND and typed EDIT (E). Using EDIT to enter your data into blank fields is helpful, because you can page up to see numbers in the previous record. If you use this idea, you must remember to use FCTN 8 to record the data as you enter it. Unfortunately there are some things you will learn the hard way. I filled in a bunch of dates, payments and checknumbers in what I hope is a logical manner for now.

```
* NUMBER CHKBK Db      CHKNUM/C
LOCAL NUMBER N 4
REPLACE NUMBER WITH 245
USE CHKBK
WHILE (NUMBER<330)
APPEND BLANK
REPLACE CHKNUM WITH NUMBER
REPLACE NUMBER WITH NUMBER + 1
ENDWHILE
CLOSE ALL
RETURN Copyright Martin A. Smoley 1989
```

```
* MOVE NUMBERS TO CHKBK FLCKBKP/C
SELECT 2
USE CHKBK
SELECT 1
USE BILLS
WHILE .NOT. (EOF)
SELECT 2
FIND 1.PCHK
IF .NOT. (EOF)
REPLACE 2.DATE WITH 1.MODATE
REPLACE 2.PAY'DEBIT WITH 1.PHONE
REPLACE REMARKS WITH "Phone ,"
ENDIF
SELECT 1
MOVE
ENDWHILE
CLOSE ALL
RETURN Copyright Martin A. Smoley 1989
```

 * Continued *
 * Next Page.*

CREATED 11/16/89 CHANGED 11/19/89

FIELD	DESCRIPTOR	TYPE	WIDTH	DEC
1	MODATE	D	008	
2	PHONE	N	007	02
3	GAS	N	007	02
4	ELECTRIC	N	007	02
5	SEWER	N	007	02
6	WATER	N	007	02
7	TAX	N	007	02
8	PCHK	C	004	
9	GCHK	C	004	
10	ECHK	C	004	
11	SCHK	C	004	
12	WCHK	C	004	
13	TCHK	C	004	
	.SNAP			004
000	1 BILLS		00000/00012	

TIB-Base - From INSCBOT
 TUTORIAL 14.1.2 By Martin Sooley
 NorthCoast 99'ers - Nov. 21, 1989
 Copyright 1989 By Martin A. Sooley

After I filled BILLS, I decided that a checkbook-type Db would also be interesting. I then proceeded to CREATE CHKBK. The STRUCTURE of BILLS is located in the bottom left corner of 12.1.2. After the CREATE screen, when TIB asked if I wanted to enter data, I answered no. This left the DB empty. First of all I hate to enter data, and second, this is a programming tutorial, so I wanted TIB to move the data for me. I used MODIFY COMMAND CHKNUM to whip up the little CF in the middle of the previous page. The top line of this CF is a comment line. The next line LOCAL NUMBER N 4, tells TIB to allocate space that I will use to store a Number, with a length of 4 and label the space NUMBER. You should create the LOCALs you need at the beginning of the CF. If they are all together and up front, they are easier to examine when you are having problems. Note: It is unwise to create locals within a WHILE loop. REPLACE NUMBER WITH 245 puts the number 245 into NUMBER. I chose 245 because it seemed like a good place to start numbering the checkbook. If you wanted the first check number to be 1, you could use 1 instead of 245. USE CHKBK opens the checkbook Db. WHILE (NUMBER<330) is a loop that will go around and around as long as the value in NUMBER is less than 330. As long as NUMBER is less than 330, all the commands you have placed between the WHILE and ENDWHILE will be carried out, if possible. The first command, APPEND BLANK, sticks one whole empty record on the end of CHKBK. Now that we have some space, let's store some data there. The next line takes our NUMBER, which is 245, and places a copy of it into CHKNO. CHKNO is my abbreviation for check number. The next line takes our number out of NUMBER (245), adds 1 to it (=246), and sticks that back into NUMBER. Without this line the check numbers would not increment by 1, and we would never reach 330 to get out of this loop. So this little CF takes the Db named CHKBK and fills it with numbers from 245 through 329. A short version of CHKBK is on the right side of this page. I added the deposit items at the top by hand, the check numbers were put in with CHKNUM and the other data was moved to CHKBK by modified versions of the CF named FLCKBKP, short for Fill Check Book Phone. At this point there are many blank spaces in both of our Dbs, but that doesn't matter now. I want to press on with more refresher info and also some new commands.

CREATED 11/19/89 CHANGED 11/20/89

FIELD DESCRIPTOR TYPE WIDTH DEC

FIELD	DESCRIPTOR	TYPE	WIDTH	DEC
1	CHKNO	C	004	
2	DATE	D	008	
3	PAY'DEBIT	N	009	02
4	RET	C	003	
5	FEE'CHRG	N	008	02
6	DEP'CREDIT	N	009	02
7	BALANCE	N	010	02
8	REMARKS	C	040	

000 1 CHKBK 00084/00108eof

REC	CHKNO	DATE	PAY'DEBIT	RET	FEE'CHRG	DEP'CREDIT	BALANCE	RE
0085		12/31/88	.00		.00	.00	2349.23	
0086		01/01/89	.00		.00	389.23	.00	Pay
0087		01/16/89	.00		.00	421.56	.00	Pay
0088		02/01/89	.00		.00	265.98	.00	Pay
0089		02/16/89	.00		.00	398.12	.00	Pay
0090		03/01/89	.00		.00	267.61	.00	Pay
0091		03/16/89	.00		.00	404.63	.00	Pay
0092		04/01/89	.00		.00	376.39	.00	Pay
0093		04/16/89	.00		.00	267.22	.00	Pay
0094		05/01/89	.00		.00	449.99	.00	Pay
0095		05/16/89	.00		.00	329.94	.00	Pay
0096		06/01/89	.00		.00	502.34	.00	Pay
0097		06/16/89	.00		.00	359.33	.00	Pay
0000	245							
0001	246							
0002	247							
0003	248	01/15/89	56.16					Phone
0004	249	01/15/89	110.41					Gas
0005	250	01/15/89	68.88					Electric
0006	251							
0007	252	01/15/89	43.14					Water
0008	253	01/15/89	627.48					Tax
0009	254							
0010	255	02/15/89	111.32					Phone
0011	256	02/15/89	97.71					Gas
0012	257							
0013	258							
0014	259							
0015	260	02/15/89	58.24					Electric
0016	261	02/15/89	46.20					Sewer
0017	262							
0018	263							
0019	264							
0020	265	03/15/89	86.02					Phone
0021	266	03/15/89	99.64					Gas
0022	267	03/15/89	53.42					Electric
0023	268							
0024	269							
0025	270	04/15/89	44.81					Phone
0026	271	04/15/89	69.83					Gas
0027	272	04/15/89	54.39					Electric
0028	273							
0029	274							
0030	275	05/15/89	77.50					Phone
0031	276	05/15/89	50.64					Gas
0032	277	05/15/89	52.45					Electric
0033	278							
0034	279							
0035	280	05/15/89	46.20					Sewer
0036	281	05/15/89	43.14					Water
0037	282							
0038	283							
0039	284							
0040	285	06/15/89	63.34					Phone
0041	286	06/15/89	26.53					Gas
0042	287	06/15/89	58.10					Electr
0043	288							
0044	289							
0045	290	06/15/89	627.48					Tax
0046	291							

Continued Next Page.

**TI-BASE - From INSCEBOT
 TUTORIAL 14.1.3 By Martin Smoley
 NorthCoast 99'ers - Nov. 23, 1989
 Copyright 1989 By Martin A. Smoley**

The CF named FLCKBKP is small but very powerful. If you can grasp the logic in its functions your well on your way to figuring out the use of TI-Base. "All right." The top line of FLCKBKP is for comments only. SELECT 2 tells TIB to switch to workspace 2 and open (USE) CHKBK in that workspace. Next TIB is told to go to workspace 1 (SELECT 1) and open BILLS in that area. We now have 2 Dbs open, CHKBK in work area 2 and BILLS in area 1. You will have trouble remembering where things are found, but TIB will not and when you forget and make mistakes, TIB will ask you what the heck you are doing. SELECT 1, USE BILLS and WHILE .NOT. (EOF) must be tied together in your mind. We want to leaf through BILLS one record at a time and do everything inside the WHILE loop until the End Of File (EOF) of BILLS is encountered. Note: At this point we are automatically looking at record number one in BILLS. SELECT 2 tells TIB to forget about BILLS (in 1) and start looking at CHKBK which is located in work area 2. TIB must be looking at CHKBK to use the FIND command in this situation. FIND 1.PCHK is a very powerful little statement. It says, go to work area 1 and find the value stored under PCHK. TIB doesn't care which record it is currently pointing at, that is up to you to remember. As I just said, we are looking at record one. Therefore, if you look across record one, just below the heading PCHK, you will find 248. That is the same thing TIB will come up with. CHKBK must be SORTed ON CHKNO. We are now looking at CHKBK (in 2), and the FIND command tells TIB to look at whatever field is sorted. TIB is looking through the CHKNO field for the number 248, which it just got from BILLS. If it finds a match for 248, it will not do anything, it just stops there with the record of the first Db aligned with the record in the second DB. This alignment will allow us to move data from one record to a corresponding record. If TIB searches the entire file and can't find a match, it will stop at the End Of the File and there will be an (EOF) true. TIB doesn't tell you this, you must test for it. So the logic is this, if we hit the EOF then we didn't get a match and that means we don't want to do anything. However, if we did not hit the EOF, or IF .NOT. (EOF), then we found a match and we can move data from BILLS to CHKBK. In this case we REPLACE 2.DATE WITH 1.MODATE, REPLACE 2.PAY'DEBIT WITH 1.PHONE and REPLACE REMARKS WITH "Phone ,". Note: I have future plans that require the equal length of the first item in the REMARKS field. Also note that remarks have a length of 40, but I chopped off the extra length for this printout. As we pass out of the IF statement at ENDF, TIB is working in area 2. We must switch back to area 1, where BILLS is and MOVE to the next record. When the ENDF is encountered its job is to loop TIB back to the WHILE. The WHILE then tests to see if we have hit the (EOF) in BILLS. Note: If you didn't reSELECT 1 just before the ENDF the WHILE would look for the (EOF) in CHKBK. It doesn't care or know which Db it's working on. You must realize these things and tell TIB exactly what you want it to do. If it goes well, FLCKBKP will match up one of the PCHK field in BILLS with a CHKNO field in CHKBK and copy the date, amount and "Phone ," into CHKBK. This CF only covers the Phone data. I have my data disk in drive 2 and TI-Base in drive 1, so I typed COPY DSK2.FLCKBKP/C DSK2.FLCKBK6/C 60<E>, then COPY FLCKBKP/C FLCKBKE/C 60 <E>, etc. until I had a copy with the name changed for Gas, Electric, Sewer, Water and Tax. Then I used MODIFY

COMMAND to edit each CF. I changed the first letter in the FIND statement field (PCHK) to represent Gas, or Electric, or Sewer, etc. I also changed the last fieldname in the middle REPLACE statement (PHONE), to GAS, or ELECTRIC, etc. Last I changed the REMARKS entry from "Phone ," to "Gas ," , or "Electric", etc. to correspond to the CF I was working on. You need six different CFs to handle all the xCHK fields in BILLS. It's really not that hard to do, plus you'll make a lot of mistakes and by the time you correct everything you'll have a lot of experience working with CFs.

Here's something new. PRINT ALL ;FOR CHKNO=" ". The part that I haven't discussed before is (;FOR CHKNO=" "). This is basically a filter. It filters out everything you don't want printed. In this case I have opened CHKBK (USE CHKBK), and I would like a printout of all my Deposits. Since I know the Deposits do not have check numbers I told TIB to print everything that didn't have a check number. DISPLAY CHKNO,DATE ;FOR DATE<"01/01/89" would display the original BALANCE and all records with no date. PRINT ALL ;FOR ((DATE>"02/29/89") .AND.(DATE<"04/00/89")) would print only records dated March, (03). "The (;FOR) command is a very powerful tool."

```

*
FORTST1
CLOSE ALL
USE CHKBK
PRINT (Drft), (f)
PRINT ALL ;FOR ((DATE>"02/29/89").AND.;
              (DATE<"04/00/89"))
CLOSE ALL
PRINT (Drft), (E)
RETURN
** This Works **

```

Here is a tip that is so valuable you should all give me money, but you can have the tip for free. Try to never input commands at the command line. Always create a Command File (CF), no matter how small or insignificant. I use MODIFY COMMAND FORTST1 to create FORTST1 which tests the print line you see in my text just prior to that. I tried the command four or five times before I got the result I wanted. By the time I changed the line three times I already forgot my old mistakes and started making them over again. For this problem I use another trick. I leave the old command line in the CF, but I place an asterisk at the beginning of the line so TIB will ignore it. Then I retype the new line below that for another try. At a later date I can type LIST DSK2.FORTST1/C <E>, to get a printout of FORTST1 and see exactly which attempt worked and which didn't. You do not have to issue printer commands in these little CFs, but you should always open and especially CLOSE the Db you wish to USE. First, this habit will allow you to see the name of the Db you USED with the command and more important, it will CLOSE the database for you. Many times I have gotten discouraged and changed disks or removed the disk and turned the system off while a Db was still open. There are also many other demons that will that will tear up your database if you leave it open while you a performing TIB high disk access commands such as COPY. Because I don't remember which commands are dangerous, I try to keep all my Dbs closed unless I am performing a specific task and once again I immediately close them. You will also notice that I leave myself notes inside the CF such as, This Works, Not Yet, This One's Junk, etc. One final comment. It took me seventeen hours to complete this tutorial from the first idea to the finished product.

Continued Next Month.

7TH ANNUAL CHICAGO TI FAIRE

BY ART BYERS, CV 99'ERS.

(THIS IS AN ABBREVIATED VERSION OF ART'S REPORT)

NOV. 5, 1989 - I'D LIKE TO START THIS REPORT BY PASSING OUT SOME WELL DESERVED COMPLIMENTS: SANDY BARTELS AND MARCY BRUNN DESERVE HIGH PRAISE FOR THE WAY THIS EVENT WAS ORGANIZED. THEY MADE EVERYTHING LOOK SMOOTH AND EASY. ONLY SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF, WHO KNOWS WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES IN GETTING A FAIRE UP AND RUNNING, CAN KNOW WHAT A FINE PROFESSIONAL JOB THEY DID.

THE WEEKEND STARTED WITH A SOCIAL MIXER WHERE SOME 80 TO 90 OF THE BEST FROM ALL OVER THE NATION CONGREGATED TO TALK TI, MEET AND GREET FRIENDS KNOWN PERSONALLY OR KNOWN VIA NEWSLETTERS AND TELECOM NETWORKS. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AMONG THE MOST PLEASANT TIMES OF ANY TI FAIRE AND SETS A NICE TONE FOR THE WHOLE EVENT. I MET 99'ERS FROM FLORIDA TO CALIFORNIA TO NEW JERSEY! IT WAS REALLY A REPRESENTATIVE NATIONAL GROUP.

NOW THE FAIRE ITSELF: SOME THIRTY VENDORS FILLED 50 TABLES ON THE EXHIBIT FLOOR AND JUST DOWN THE HALL WAS THE ROOM SET ASIDE FOR THE GLITTERING ARRAY OF SPEAKERS AND SEMINARS - SOME TEN IN ALL. I DO NOT HAVE THE SPACE HERE TO GO THROUGH EACH SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION NOR TO GIVE IN DETAIL THE WARES OF EVERY VENDOR. I'LL REPORT WHAT, QUITE SUBJECTIVELY, SEEMED TO BE OF INTEREST.

ONCE AGAIN I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE HUGE ARRAY OF ORIGINAL TI PRODUCTS FOR SALE, MUCH OF IT BRAND NEW. AMONG THE GOODIES WERE A COUPLE OF DOUBLE SIDE DOUBLE DENSITY 99/4A DISK CONTROLLERS MANUFACTURED BY TEXAS INSTRUMENT. THEY FORMAT UP TO 1280 SECTORS (ONLY 8 PER TRACK) AND THAT MAY BE THE STANDARD THAT NYARC FOLLOWED WHEN THEY MADE THEIR DAISY CHAIN STAND ALONG SIDE PEB SOME YEARS AGO, AS THAT DISK CONTROLLER DID THE SAME.

IN ADDITION, THERE WERE QUITE A FEW NEW SOFTWARE ITEMS INTRODUCED BY THE LIKE OF JP SOFTWARE, ASGARD, AND OTHERS. MUCH OF IT NICE AND USEFUL BUT NOTHING OF MAJOR IMPACT. PRESS WAS STILL VAPORWARE, THOUGH THE RUMOR AT CHICAGO WAS THAT IT IS ALL COMPLETE EXCEPT FOR DEBUGGING THE SPELL CHECKER. (WELL I HEARD THAT MONTHS AGO!).

WHILE ON THE SUBJECT OF RUMORS, TALK WAS THAT A DSDO DISK TI COMPATIBLE DISK CONTROLLER IS BEING MADE IN GERMANY AND BUD MILLS IS NEGOTIATING FOR THE AMERICAN RIGHTS. CERTAINLY BUD SEEMS TO BE A VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE HARDWARE PERSON AND HAS THE KNOW-HOW TO MARKET SUCH A CARD. BUD GAVE A VERY GOOD AND INTERESTING TALK ON HIS PRODUCTS.

GARY BOWSER, THE YOUNG WIZARD FROM CANADA, DEMO'D HIS CARTRIDGE EXPANDER THAT HOLDS UP TO 8 MODULES AND ACCESSES THE SOFTWARE TI BUILT INTO THE 99/4A CONSOLE THAT ENABLES YOU TO "REVIEW MODULE LIBRARY". GARY SAID IT IS ABSOLUTELY TRUE THAT YOU CAN ACCESS THE CALLS IN EVERY MODULE. FOR EXAMPLE WHILE IN XB YOU CAN USE BASIC CALLS FROM THE PRK MODULE OR USE THE SPEECH CAPABILITY OF THE TE II MODULE. HE ALREADY HAS SOME CIRCUIT BOARDS MADE UP AND NEEDS ONLY A "COVER" THAT KEEPS THE MODULES FROM WIGGLING TO ASSURE THE INTEGRITY OF THE CONNECTIONS. GARY HOPES TO HAVE IT ON THE MARKET IN LESS THAN A YEAR AND WAS SHOOTING FOR A RETAIL

PRICE OF ABOUT \$100 "AMERICAN". IN ANY EVENT I SAW IT WORK. CHRIS BOBBIT OF ASGARD, AS IS NOW PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, IS MANUFACTURING CARTRIDGE SOFTWARE FOR THE TI AND HAS PLANS TO EXPAND HIS SERVICE AND PRODUCTS (ALREADY OFFERED IN THE PAST) TO CASSETTE BASED SYSTEMS. ASGARD IS THE FIRST NEW MANUFACTURE IN A FEW YEARS TO OFFER ORIGINAL MODULE SOFTWARE.

AS USUAL THE SHOW WOUND UP WITH A BANQUET. THE FOOD WAS BETTER THAN LAST YEAR, (NOT DIFFICULT BECAUSE LAST YEAR IT WAS POOR) BUT IT SEEMED AS THOUGH WE WERE BEING "RUSHED" TO FINISH AND GET OUT BY THE HOTEL. LAST YEAR ALL THE TI COMMUNITY CELEBRITIES WERE INTRODUCED AND THERE WAS MUCH GOOD NATURED BANTER. THIS YEAR AFTER DON JONES REMARKS, THE BANQUET WAS ABRUPTLY FINISHED. FOR THAT I COULD HAVE GONE TO A RESTAURANT WITH A FEW 99'ERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND HAD A BETTER DINNER FOR THE SAME MONEY.

1989 CHICAGO FAIRE REPORT

BY CHARLES GOOD, LIMA OHIO USER GROUP

(THIS IS ALSO AN ABBREVIATED VERSION OF CHARLIE'S REPORT)

NEW HARDWARE

GARY BOWSER OF OPA (OASIS PENSIVE ABACUTORS) HAD FOR SALE AT \$45 (CANADIAN OR US CURRENCY) A REALLY NEAT 1-INCH SQUARE CIRCUIT BOARD THAT CAN BE ATTACHED TO ANY HORIZON RAMDISK USING ANY ROS. THIS BOARD, CALLED RAMBO (RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY BANK OPERATOR) ALLOWS THE HRD TO BE PARTITIONED BETWEEN RAMDISK AND PROGRAM SPARE. THE EXTRA PROGRAM STORAGE AREA CAN BE AS LARGE AS THE RAMDISK IS AND ALLOWS THE CREATION OF REALLY MASSIVE XBASIC AND (I THINK ALSO) ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS FOR THE GENEVE AND THE 99/4A.

GARY ALSO DEMONSTRATED A WORKING PROTOTYPE OF OPA'S MODULE LIBRARY BOX THAT ALLOWS FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 99/4A'S REVIEW MODULE LIBRARY OPTION THAT IS BUILT INTO THE 4A'S OPERATING SYSTEM. YOU CAN PLUG ANY 8 MODULES INTO THIS BOX, WHICH LOOKS SORT OF LIKE AN EXTRA LARGE "WIDGET". THERE ARE NO LIMITATIONS TO THE TYPES OF MODULES USED, AND CALLS FROM ANY MODULE CAN BE ACCESSED FROM ANY OTHER MODULE. WE SAW A DEMONSTRATION OF THE TE2'S UNLIMITED SPEECH (OPEN #1: "SPEECH", OUTPUT) FROM EXTENDED BASIC. THIS PRODUCT INCLUDES A 2-FOOT CABLE TO GET IT OUT OF THE WAY OF THE CONSOLE KEYBOARD. THE PART OF THIS CABLE THAT PLUGS INTO THE CONSOLE MODULE PORT HAS GOLD PLATED CONTACTS. THE MODULE BOX ITSELF WILL HAVE A CLEAR PLASTIC ENCLOSURE TO PROTECT THE MODULES INSIDE. PRICE WILL BE \$100 US AND SHIPPING IS EXPECTED IN DECEMBER, 1989.

BUD MILLS (BUD MILLS SERVICES) HAD FOR SALE MEMEX 512K AND OTHER SIZE (POTENTIALLY UP TO 2 MEG) MEMORY EXPANSION BOARDS FOR THE GENEVE. THESE ARE MADE OF ZERO WAIT STATE DYNAMIC RAM CHIPS (NOT BATTERY BACKED). ALTHOUGH THESE BOARDS NORMALLY ADD TO THE MEMORY OF THE GENEVE, THEY CAN ALSO BE WIRED TO REPLACE THE GENEVE'S INTERNAL MEMORY AND DOUBLE THE SPEED OF THIS MEMORY. A REALLY FANTASTIC GRAPHIC DISPLAY WAS RUNNING AT BUD'S TABLE UTILIZING ONE OF THESE

CARDS FOR EXTRA MEMORY. A QUOTE FROM BUD'S PRESENTATION IN THE SEMINAR ROOM: "TODAY MEMEX FOR THE GENEVE, MAYBE NEXT YEAR FOR THE 4A FOR THOSE WHO NEED EXTRA PROGRAM MEMORY FOR THE 4A."

BUD ALSO HAD P-GRAM+ CARDS THAT GIVE YOU OVER 100K OF GROM MODULE SPACE AND ALLOW YOU TO PAGE THROUGH SEVERAL GROM MODULES AND ONE MODULE THAT USES CARTRIDGE RAM. PREVIOUS P/GRAM OWNERS CAN HAVE THIS MODIFICATION DONE OF THEIR CARDS FOR \$100.

RAVE 99 APPARENTLY NO LONGER HAS A SUPPLY OF 105-KEY KEYBOARDS. INSTEAD, THEY ARE SELLING 101 KEY XT KEYBOARDS INTERFACED TO THE 99/4A. THESE LOOK REALLY SLICK AND HAVE LIGHTED CAPSLOCK NUMLOCK AND SCROLL LOCK KEYS AS WELL AS A SEPARATE (ENTER) KEY FOR THE NUMERIC KEYPAD. THESE ARE FEATURES LACKING ON THE 105-KEY RAVE KEYBOARD I AM USING TO WRITE THIS ARTICLE. THERE ARE ONLY 12 FUNCTION KEYS ON THE NEW KEYBOARD, SO I SUSPECT THAT ALL FCTN AND CTRL TI- WRITER KEYPRESSES ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY SINGLE KEYPRESSES AS THEY ARE ON THE 24 FUNCTION KEYS OF MY 105-KEY KEYBOARD. THE PRICE IS AN EXPENSIVE \$224.95, OR YOU CAN BUY AN INTERFACE FOR \$149.95 AND USE YOUR OWN 101 KEY KEYBOARD.

MIKE MAKSIMIK (AKA THE FROGMAN) OF THE CHICAGO USER GROUP GAVE AN UNSCHEDULED FORMAL PRESENTATION OF A VERY CHEAP MIDI INTERFACE FOR THE 4A. THIS IS SIMPLY A CABLE BETWEEN THE RS232 AND A \$100 CASIO KEYBOARD. DETAILS OF THE CABLE'S WIRING (NO ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS NEEDED) WILL APPEAR IN THE CHICAGO UG'S NEWSLETTER. MIKE WROTE ABOUT 40 LINES OF ASSEMBLY CODE (ALSO TO BE PUBLISHED) WHICH ALLOW HIM TO CODE MUSIC IN AN ORDINARY (DV80 FILE (CAN BE EDITED WITH TI-WRITER), SEND THIS FILE TO THE KEYBOARD VIA THE RS232 AND HAVE THE KEYBOARD PLAY FANTASTIC MUSIC! I ASKED, IN ASTONISHMENT, 'IS WHAT WE ARE HEARING ENCODED ON A DISK RUNNING FROM A '99/4A?' THE ANSWER IS YES. THE DV80 FILE TELLS THE CASIO WHAT NOTES TO PLAY, THEIR WAVE FORM AND DURATION. SINCE IT IS THE CASIO THAT IS ACTUALLY PRODUCING THE MUSIC, YOU ARE NOT LIMITED BY THE CAPABILITIES OF THE SOUND CHIP OF THE 99/4A. MIKE FIGURED OUT HOW TO DO THIS AFTER READING A BOOK 'MIND OVER MIDI' PURCHASED AT A LOCAL COMPUTER SOFTWARE STORE. AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF CHANNELS ARE POSSIBLE WITH THIS SYSTEM. DATA IS SENT OUT THE RS232 AT THE BAUD RATE OF 31200.

MIKE ALSO SHOWED HOW A CHEAP (\$30) SERIAL MOUSE, THE KRAFT MICROMOUSE, COULD BE HOOKED DIRECTLY TO THE RS232 AND RUN FROM XBASIC. NO SPECIAL HARDWARE IS REQUIRED. THE NEEDED ASSEMBLY CODE EITHER HAS OR WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED BY MIKE.

SOFTWARE

I AM SURE I DIDN'T SEE ALL OF THE NEW SOFTWARE RELEASES AT THE VARIOUS TABLES AND SHOWN IN THE FORMAL PRESENTATIONS. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SEEMED PARTICULARLY INTERESTING TO ME.

FDOS - IN ADDITION TO HIS HARDWARE DEMOS, MIKE MAKSIMIK DEMONSTRATED HIS MSDOS-LIKE SOFTWARE FOR THE 99/4A CALLED FDOS. YOU NEED A SUPERCART OR EQUIVALENT TO RUN THIS SOFTWARE. ON POWERUP, AN AUTOEXEC FILE WILL LOAD YOUR

FAVORITE CHARSET, CLEAR THE SCREEN, SET SCREEN AND CHARACTER COLORS, AND SET 32, 40 OR (IN THE NEAR FUTURE FOR THE AVPC) 80 COLUMN MODE. YOU CAN BRING UP A DISK DIRECTORY AND THEN MARK AN ASSEMBLY FILE, AND IT WILL BOOT. THIS SOFTWARE IS FREE. NO DONATION TO THE AUTHOR IS EXPECTED. THE LATEST FDOS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CHICAGO USER GROUP'S BBS AND ON NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS. PERSONALLY, I LIKE THE 80-COLUMN FUNNELWEB'S QDAY BETTER, IN PART BECAUSE WITH QDAY YOU DON'T NEED A SUPERCART AND CAN BOOT XBASIC PROGRAMS FROM THE DISK DIRECTORY. HOWEVER, FDOS AND QDAY ARE NOT EXACTLY COMPARABLE.

THE PRINTER'S APPRENTICE (McCANN SOFTWARE) FOR THE GENEVE BOOTS FROM PDOS V1.14 AND IS 100% MEMORY RESIDENT. IT IS TOTALLY WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET WITH AN 80-COLUMN SCREEN DISPLAY, AND CAN USE TPA OR TI ARTIST PICTURES AND INSTANCES FOR CLIPART. NUMEROUS FONTS ARE AVAILABLE. YOU CAN MAKE RAYS, LINES, BOXES, ELLIPSES, TRIANGLES AND POLYGONS ON SCREEN. YOU CAN MAGNIFY TO CREATE FINE DETAIL AND YOU CAN INVERT AND ROTATE. THIS LOOKS TO ME TO BE BETTER THAN PAGEPRO FOR DESKTOP PUBLISHING FOR THE GENEVE. THE PRICE IS \$22.50.

PAGE PRO V1.5 (ASGARD) WAS PREVIEWED. THIS IS NOT YET READY FOR RELEASE. IT HAS A CATALOG ROUTINE THAT, WHEN ASKED FOR A PATHNAME, WILL PAGE THROUGH ALL POSSIBLE FILES. A BELL NOW SOUNDS WHEN YOU CHANGE CURSOR DIRECTION. ANY PART OF A PAGE CAN NOW BE SAVED AS A PICTURE FILE, AND ONE RESULT OF THIS IS THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER REALLY LIMITED TO ONLY TWO FONTS ON A PAGE. JUST ADD A "PICTURE" OF SOME TEXT CREATED USING ADDITIONAL FONTS. THE GENEVE VERSION IS STILL NOT IN 80 COLUMNS, WHICH IS TOO BAD CONSIDERING WHAT WAS SAID IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH.

PAGE PRO UTILITIES ALLOWS YOU TO MANIPULATE PP GRAPHICS. YOU CAN ENLARGE, SHRINK, ROTATE, "GHOST", AND MAKE MIRROR IMAGES. YOU CAN TAKE A PICTURE FILE THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN PROCESSED BY PP UTILITIES AND PROCESS IT AGAIN. FOR EXAMPLE, AN ENLARGED GRAPHIC COULD BE ENLARGED AGAIN SO THAT IT FILLS AN ENTIRE PAGE. ANOTHER FEATURE OF PP UTILITIES IS A FILE "STRIPPER" THAT REMOVES UNNECESSARY DATA FROM THE FILE MAKING THE FILE SMALLER WITHOUT ALTERING THE GRAPHIC. REDUCTION IN PICTURE FILE SIZE WHEN USING STRIPPER CAN BE SIGNIFICANT.

HARRISON SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATED THEIR CLASSICAL MUSIC DISKS. USING ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE THESE DISKS COME THE CLOSEST I HAVE EVER HEARD TO MAKING THE 99/4A PLAY WHAT SOUNDS LIKE REAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS RATHER THAN "COMPUTER MUSIC". DRUMS AND HARPS SOUND VERY REALISTIC. IF YOU LIKE CLASSICAL MUSIC, YOU MIGHT WANT TO PURCHASE THE WHOLE SERIES OF DISKS. EACH DISK HAS ABOUT 1/2 HOUR OF MUSIC AND A WRITTEN COMMENTARY ABOUT THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE PARTICULAR MUSIC ON THE DISK. THE COST IS ONLY \$4.50 PER DISK.

TYRO IS A FULL LENGTH JAMES BOND ADVENTURE NOVEL THAT COMES ON FIVE SSSD DISKS. THIS IS AN INTERESTING WAY FOR THE NEW AUTHORS TO GET THEMSELVES IN PRINT. FILES FOR PRINTING A FANCY MAIN TITLE PAGE, TABLE OF CONTENTS, AND CHAPTER TITLE PAGES ARE INCLUDED. THIS \$10 FAIRWARE PACKAGE WAS OFFERED AT THE WILL COUNTY USER GROUP TABLE AND WAS WRITTEN BY ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS, H. MATTHEWS MULLEN. I

BOUGHT IT SIGHT UNSEEN (YOU USUALLY GET TO TRY FAIREWARE FIRST) BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN THE FAIREWARE CONCEPT AND BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN SUPPORTING THE LITTLE GUY. MULLEN IS A NEW ENTRY TO THE TI MARKET. THE NOVEL IS SIMILAR TO OTHERS OF ITS TYPE, WITH LOTS OF ACTION AND A LITTLE SEX.

IDENTA-FILE (JP SOFTWARE) WILL SCAN A DISK OF FILES AND TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF FILE EACH IS. NOW YOU CAN IDENTIFY THE NATURE OF EACH OF THOSE PROGRAM AND DF128 FILES. SOME OF THE 55 DIFFERENT FILE TYPES RECOGNIZED INCLUDE ADVENTURE AND PRK DATA FILES AND MAC PICTURE AND TI-ARTIST GRAPHIC FILES.

PC TRANSFER UTILITIES, USED WITH PC TRANSFER WILL AUTOMATICALLY SENSE A GENEVE OR AVPC AND PRODUCE AND 80-COLUMN TEXT DISPLAY. NOW, FINALLY, YOU CAN TRANSFER MULTIPLAN TO AND FROM THE TI AND OTHER COMPUTERS.

IT WILL BE READY ANY DAY NOW!

#1 SOFTWARE THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE BUNDLED WITH EACH GENEVE COMPUTER: LOU PHILLIPS OF MYARC HAD THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS. "NON-H" MDOS IS (HOPEFULLY) FINISHED. H MDOS ISN'T. THE P SYSTEM SOFTWARE IS PARTIALLY DONE AND AWAITS CRUCIAL INFORMATION FROM THE RELUCTANT P SYSTEM COPYRIGHT HOLDER. THE CURRENT MYBASIC (AKA ADVANCED BASIC) HAS BEEN OUT 2 MONTHS WITH NO REPORTED BUGS.

#2 PRESS THIS ULTIMATE WORD PROCESSOR FOR THE TI WAS

SUPPOSED TO BE READY ONE YEAR AGO AT THE 1988 CHICAGO FAIRE, AND ASGARD HAS BEEN SAYING "ANY DAY NOW" EVER SINCE. I KNEW A WEEK BEFORE THE CHICAGO FAIRE THAT PRESS WOULDN'T BE READY BECAUSE I TALKED TO ASGARD'S CHRIS BOBBITT OVER THE PHONE. "BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT OCT 1 RELEASE DATE YOU PUBLISHED IN YOUR RECENT SOFTWARE CATALOG?" I ASKED CHRIS. "I DIDN'T SAY WHICH YEAR," WAS HIS QUICK REPLY. OH WELL. I UNDERSTAND THAT CHRIS PROBABLY CANNOT FORCE A SPEEDUP IN PRESS'S DEVELOPMENT TIME. HOWEVER, I THINK (AND CHRIS AGREES) THAT TAKING ADVANCE PAYMENTS FOR PRESS AT THE 1988 FAIRE WAS A STUPID THING TO DO. CHRIS OFFERED ON THE SPOT CASH REFUNDS OR THE EQUIVALENT VALUE OF ASGARD SOFTWARE TO THOSE AT THE 1989 FAIRE THAT WANTED THEIR MONEY BACK.

IN A DEMONSTRATION OF THOSE PARTS OF PRESS THAT HAVE COMPLETED, CHRIS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. YOU CAN SWITCH BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN TEXT AND BITMAP MODE. BITMAP IS SLOWER BUT SHOWS ON SCREEN SUCH FEATURES AS ITALIC, UNDERLINE, AND ENLARGED PRINT. THERE IS A 2K KEYPRESS BUFFER, SO IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO TYPE SO FAST THAT BITMAP MODE CAN'T KEEP UP. TEXT FILES WILL BE PARTIALLY IN MEMORY AND PARTIALLY ON DISK. THE SIZE OF THE "IN MEMORY" TEXT BUFFER IS 200K FOR THE GENEVE, 100K FOR SYSTEMS USING A DIJIT AVPC, AND 8K FOR THE TI99/4A. SUPERCARTS, GRAMCRACKERS, AND HORIZON RAMDISKS CAN BE USED TO ADD TO THIS "IN MEMORY" TEXT BUFFER.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



WHERE DID ALL THE REINDEER GO? MIME

HOW
HU-MIL-I-TA-R-I-O
GRIP-PIE

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 !!