

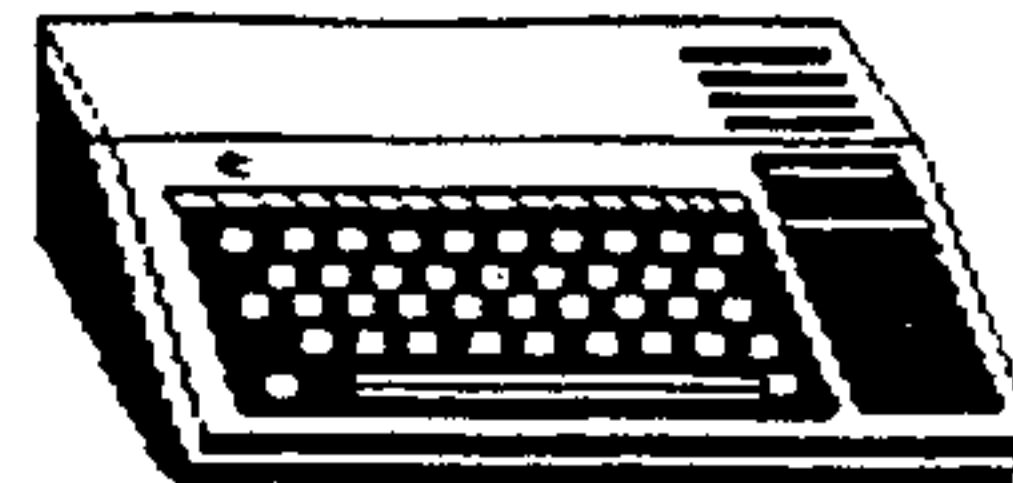


CLEVELAND AREA

TI-99/4A

USER GROUPS

JULY 1993



OFFICE	TI-CHIPS	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Glenn Bernasek 238-6335	10:00 AM
CO-PRESIDENT	Virgil Thomason 1264-7779	N. Royalton
TREASURER	Lin Shaw 235-3912	County Library
MEMBERSHIP	John Parken 331-2830 4172 W. 217th St. Fairview Pk., OH 44126	State Rd. 50. of Route 82 1/4mi EVERY THIRD SAT.
SECRETARY	Tim Bodensmiller 234-4297	
DISK LIBRARY	Matt Andel 676-9759	JULY 17,1993
TAPE & MODS	John Parken 331-2830	AUG 21,1993
HARD COPY	Harry Hoffman 631-2354	SEPT 18,1993

OFFICE	NORTHCOAST	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Ken Gladyszewski 1357-7274	1-4 P.M.
CO-PRESIDENT	Walt Ryder 921-8223	Euclidian Room
Treasurer	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	Euclid Sq. Mall
MEMBERSHIP	Martin Sooley 1-257-1661 6149 Bryson Mentor, OH 44060	E.260th off I-90 (South) EVERY THIRD SAT.
SECRETARY	Bernie Zuckerman 381-4088	
DISK LIBRARY	Martin Sooley 1-257-1661	JULY 17,1993
TAPE & MODS	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	AUG 21,1993
HARD COPY	Dick Alden 1-352-9172	SEPT 18,1993



From the Editor's Desk:



Hi Tiers,

4:50 A.M. and still working on the newsletter because I erased my editors column when typing in the review of DM1000. Frank Jenkins is waiting for me to deliver and it isn't finished yet. One of these days it will be in early and Frank will faint!

Tim "Chris" Bodensmiller of TI-Chips is doing a series of articles on TML (The Missing Link), a program using Xbasic environment with enhancements of EA sub-programs. It has been around for quite awhile but is getting to the attention of more programmers and is taking off. TML has

many features that gives exciting and colorful programs. It is worthwhile purchasing TML even if you are not a programmer as it is used to run programs already in existence.

MICROpendium published Glenn Bernasek's article on "Lithium Batteries" that was in our newsletter. Great work Glenn. It sure is nice having such talented people to help us out when we need it.

I have to make this short as it is getting late! See you at the meetings.

Happy computing!

 **TI-CHIPS**
NOTES

By **Chris Bodenmiller**



The meeting was called to order at 10:30 by Co-President Glenn Bernasen. Glenn said that he has received more E-mail from Mr. Cohen, and if you would like, you can contact Mr. Cohen and trade for some of his hardware or software.

Lin reported that we are doing fine with our account. Then John gave the membership report. John is selling some hardware, and if you are interested, give him a call.

Glenn has the tapes from Lima, and he has given them to Jack to have them enhanced. There were a few problems with the tapes, with apologies from Mr. Good, but this is definitely an excellent way for those of you who could not attend to see what is going on in the TI world.

Glenn also said that Asgard will soon be releasing a new cartridge called XB 3. This cartridge will run XB programs several times faster (Maybe this will help TIPS and some other slow but popular XB software). It will also contain other programs like TI-Writer, E/A, ect. It seems to be worth looking into.

Special thanks to the Hoffman's and to the Malcolm's for their help with all the disk copying in Lima. We have some new interesting software coming, and it's good to see the library grow. Harry said that the new Funnelweb he got locks up coming out of the editor, if you know how to

fix it, let us know. (Editor note: Dr. Good already has an update to the 40 column editor and will send them out in September). We also got a lot of European software.

Harry urges us to all make more contributions to the newsletter. We would like to see more biographies, etc.

Ken Gilliland has some great fonts and borders, and he has put together a 3 disk set which he considers to be his best work. Also, Ramcharged has an empty Ramdisk for sale. He also carries stuff from Bud Mills. For those of you who get hungry at the meeting, bring along some pocket change, because he also will be selling candy at the meeting.

Carol demoed a new version of her Label Filler Upper. This version has the previous bugs all taken care of, and it will be available in our club library. It uses Harrison software's new Ultimate Accept At, this allows for much improved data entry, and it accepts up to 255 characters as a maximum. It also restores lower case, which is a great help to programmers. This program will let you cram all kinds of text onto a label. This is the ONLY label maker I know of for those text happy people out there.

We discussed the meeting early, and then we held the raffle. Hope to see you all again soon.



FOR SALE - * - FOR SALE - * - FOR SALE



TANDY 1000 _____ 256K
Two Drives
RGB Monochrome Monitor
\$ 125.00
John Parken
331-2830
(See Front Page for Address)



We Love You!



Using The Missing Link

By Tim Chris Bodenmiller
Article #1

The Missing Link, by Texaments, is a set of assembly language routines designed to greatly enhance the Extended Basic environment. These enhancements include utilizing the bit-mapped mode, "windows" for text and graphics, better input, screen dumps, and even the ability to use TI-Artist pictures. As you can see, this adds up to quite a lot.

The Missing Link is not really difficult to use, but you do need to have some things explained to you, and you need to learn a different way to think in terms of graphics. These articles will hopefully explain this unique, and very rewarding programming environment.

First, to use the Missing Link, insert the Missing Link disk into a drive and enter Extended Basic. The Missing Link does not auto-load, so now you need to type OLD DSK1.TML and then type RUN. If you wanted too, you could save this program to disk and name it LOAD if you get tired of always having to load it yourself. Once the program begins running, you are presented with several options. First, you must tell it which disk controller you have. Now enter 1 for the number of files. This is the equivalent of a CALL FILES(number) in XB. It tells the computer how many files can be open at one time. You usually want to enter 1, because it saves memory (more on this in a later article). Now you can push one for 16-color mode, or push 2 for the 2-color mode. The two color mode also saves memory, and is therefore suited to more text intensive programs. In this case, let's push 1 for the 16 color mode. The screen will change momentarily, and finally you are presented with a green screen and a prompt similar to XB's, with the exception of a cursor shaped like Texas.

Now that you are in the Missing Link, let's learn a little about this new programming environment. All the XB commands still work, except any statement that refers to graphics (Except for Call Screen). That's right, Print, Call CHAR, VCHAR, HCHAR, SPRITE, GCHAR, ACCEPT AT, DISPLAY AT, ECT. NO LONGER WORK IN YOUR PROGRAMS. All they will do is make garbage on the screen. BUT DON'T WORRY, the Missing Link has a whole bunch of MUCH BETTER, NEW GRAPHICS COMMANDS. All the other commands, like PI, FOR TO, ABS, CHR\$, GOTO, ASC, SUB, GOSUB, WORK JUST LIKE ALWAYS. ONLY THE COMMANDS THAT USE THE SCREEN CHANGE! And I'm sure that you will find the new commands to be quite an improvement.

All of the Missing Link's new commands must be accessed using CALL LINK. For example, the first command we will learn is CALL LINK("CLEAR"). Yep, you guessed it, this command clears the screen. Not a big feat since you haven't learned how to put anything on the screen yet, but that is coming soon.

Let's learn one of the most fun commands, CALL LINK("LOADP","DSK#.filename"). This command loads a TI-Artist picture. Put your TML (The Missing Link) disk in Drive one, and lets give it a try.

```
Enter this program.  
10 CALL LINK("LOADP","DSK1.LOGO")  
20 GOTO 20
```

This little program will load in a TI-Artist picture and display it on the screen until you push Function 4. Now you can design your own

Title screens, menu screens, ect. using a drawing program, and bring them right into your XB programs. Time to get out all those fonts and instances you have somewhere right!

Now lets look at one more TI-Artist picture, change line 10 to read:
10 CALL LINK("LOADP","DSK1.PSSCRN")

Now when you run the program you will see a sample screen from the Paper Saver program that is included with TML.

Now lets learn a new command, CALL LINK("COLOR", foreground, background). This command changes all the colors on the screen to a new foreground and background color. Lets change our program again. Type:
NEW

Now lets enter the new program. Type:
10 CALL LINK("LOADP","DSK1.PSSCRN")
20 FOR L=1 TO 1000 :: NEXT L
30 CALL LINK("COLOR",15,5)
40 GOTO 40

Remember to press Fctn 4 to stop it.

This program will demonstrate the COLOR command. Now lets clear the screen at the end. Type:

```
40 FOR L=1 TO 1000 :: NEXT L
50 CALL LINK("CLEAR")
60 GOTO 60
```

By now you are probably ready to call it quits, but before you beat your brains out pushing Fctn =, you should probably be told that it has been disabled. Don't panic, there is another way out, as uncommon as it is, try typing BYE. No more accidental program erasures.

Hopefully, from these humble beginnings, we will soon have you happily writing super, great, new programs. And before it's all finished I'll show you all about manipulating text, using windows, doing graphics, and even loading in your own assembly routines. At least for now you can get a whole lot more on your XB screens. Next time we will learn about INPUT and PRINT (the new versions!).

Oh, and if you want to try Papersaver, start up the Missing Link the way it shows above, and then type,

RUN "DSK1.PS"

HAPPY PROGRAMMING!!!



See Ron Markus of:



RAMCHARGED COMPUTERS
for The Missing Link and anything else you
may need for your TI-99/4A.



NORTHCOAST 99ers

By Bernie Zuckerman



The June 19th meeting of the North Coast TI-99 User Group was called to order by co-president Ken Gladysewski at 1:30 PM. There were 15 members present. Treasurer Frank Jenkins gave the financial report covering two months, April 17th to June 19th. We are in excellent shape moneywise.

Marty Smiley reported on the number of current members. He reported that "We are holding our own" with 63 members. During the last several months, everyone has rejoined. We have not lost any members for the last two months, and better than half the people that were sent letters this month have already rejoined. It was suggested that taking an extra few Newsletters when going to garage sales, where there is a TI set for sale, you could put a copy in the box. The 1993 date on the newsletter may raise interest in our "NOT SO OUT OF DATE COMPUTER" and bring in some new members.

Ken apologized for not attending the last meeting. He was bringing home a 25 year old car ("Just to play around with") and was fully occupied bringing it home. When Ken asked what the surprise was at Lima, he was told it was a Pizza Party - all you could eat with drinks included - FREE. Comments were that the last Lima Conference was much better than the upcoming Chicago Faire. Considering that the LIMA group is less than half the size of our Northcoast group, it is very commendable to put on such a good show! Bruce Rodenkirch ordered the tapes from Lima but unfortunately the audio was not plugged in on the one taken in room 150, but the video is good enough to make the demos understandable.

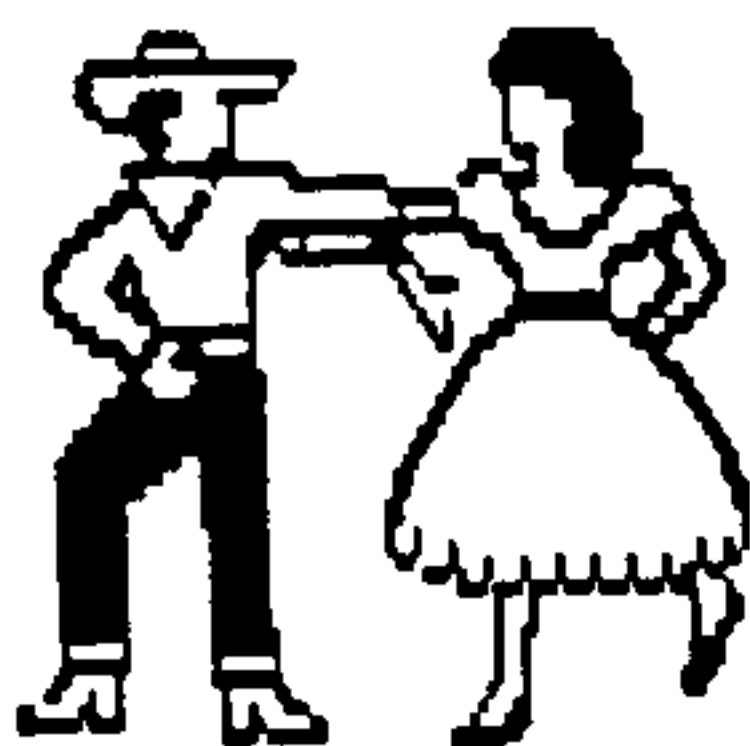
Bruce reported the dates and locations of the Hamfests, including whom to contact. He also reported on the 40 column editor in FunnelWeb. The program works great but when returning to the FNLWB it locks up. [Editor's Note: It has been fixed and will be sent in September, unless we are anxious to get it earlier. Send a disk and paid mailer to Dr. Charles Good and he will

send it back right away.]

Ken asked for suggestions on future demonstrations. Frank suggested that someone take the MICROpendium disk and demo a few of the programs on them. Ken thought that a disk could be given to members who would extract a program(s) to demo at the meetings. Harry offered to demo DM-1000 v.6.1, Ron Minadeo and Deanna Sheridan offered to do demos in the near future. This ended the business portion of the meeting.

Bruce demonstrated a program he had written for himself to keep track of his financial happenings and integrated it with a 40 column program instead of using it with the 28 columns used in Extended Basic. The 40 column program is in the library and is not hard to learn. The program also has a screen dump portion. He demoed the Stock Portfolio portion of the program, and how it calculates the status of the portfolio. He also demoed the credit card portion of the program which provides a complete record of expenditures. The program uses DATA statements as a basis of his presentation. Another program shown was "DISK SORT", which catalogs each disk as you enter them, lists all the files on the disk, alphabetizes them to help locate the programs on the disks, this can then be printed and/or stored on the disk.

Harry Hoffman requested articles for the newsletter. They should be sent to him on disk using TI-Writer or FunnelWeb. Ron Markus demoed a musical program called "The Train Lovers Music" and entertained the club with a colorful and musical display on the monitor. This was followed by the playing of the videotape taken of the installation of Extended Basic into the console. It was done at TI-CHIPS, by John Farken and Glenn Bernasek doing the installation during a meeting. The video was explained by Ken as the work was being done. The tape is available to any member who wants to install XBasic into their console. After the video the meeting ended.



Do-Si-Do

I'm Happy as a



Public Notice:

Bodenmiller Computers has just released a new game called Who's Behind the Mexican UFO's. This new game requires The Missing Link (from Hexaments), DS/SD disk system, X8, and 32k. The game is a text/graphics adventure, and you select the way the story goes by multiple choice. No more will you have to type in a simple sentence five times until the computer understands, just press a key.

The game has high quality, full color, full screen graphics, and the story is displayed in text windows. Because the game uses The Missing Link, it has Bit-mapped graphics, giving you stunning graphics on your II. The game is on two DS/SD disks, and even allows you to save your game using the "Bookmark" to save your place. Order Who's Behind the Mexican UFOs now for only \$12.95.

Bodenmiller Computers also has two other games out currently, Astro-Mania and War on the Sea. War on the Sea is an X8 game requiring a disk sys. X8, 32k, joysticks, and an optional Speech Synthesizer. It is a shooting gallery type of game, where you must aim your crosshairs to hit enemy ships. On the submarine attack levels, you must carefully time your release of depth charges to hit the enemy subs. You get promoted in rank as you play, and you can even win medals for your scores.

Each mission's location is shown on the World map screen, along with a brief description. If you like action, this may be the game for you. Order now for only \$7.95.

Astro-Mania is my first game, a space game where you must defeat the aliens invading you twin worlds to shut off the huge force fields they have placed around your planets. If you can destroy all the enemy ships, and the two forcefield generators, you must fight with their Mother Ship. The Frizoids are waiting. Can you save your

worlds? This game requires 32k, disk system, X8, and a joystick. Order now for only \$7.95.

The Mexican UFOs, as well as Astro-Mania and War on the Sea, are being manufactured and distributed by RamCharged Computers. Write RamCharged Computers now at:

RamCharged Computers
P.O. Box 81532
Cleveland, Ohio 44181

or call them after 6 pm EST at:
Local number: 243-1244 or,
Out of town: 1-800-669-1214

Mexican UFO's.....\$12.95 - #7003
War on the Sea.....\$7.95 - #7002
Astro-Mania.....\$7.95 - #7001

If you would like to contact me, write:

Timothy C. Bodenmiller
Bodenmiller Computers
43 Monroe Street
Berea, Ohio 44017

Sincerely,

Timothy Christopher Bodenmiller

```

////////////////////////////////////////
\                                     /
/      Welcome to the Universe of   \
\      Bodenmiller Computers        /
/                                     \
////////////////////////////////////////

```



Frenzied Secretary: Hyper Typer
Roll Call: Baker's Inventory
Land Dispute: Ground Beef

A Woman's Point of View

hello again.

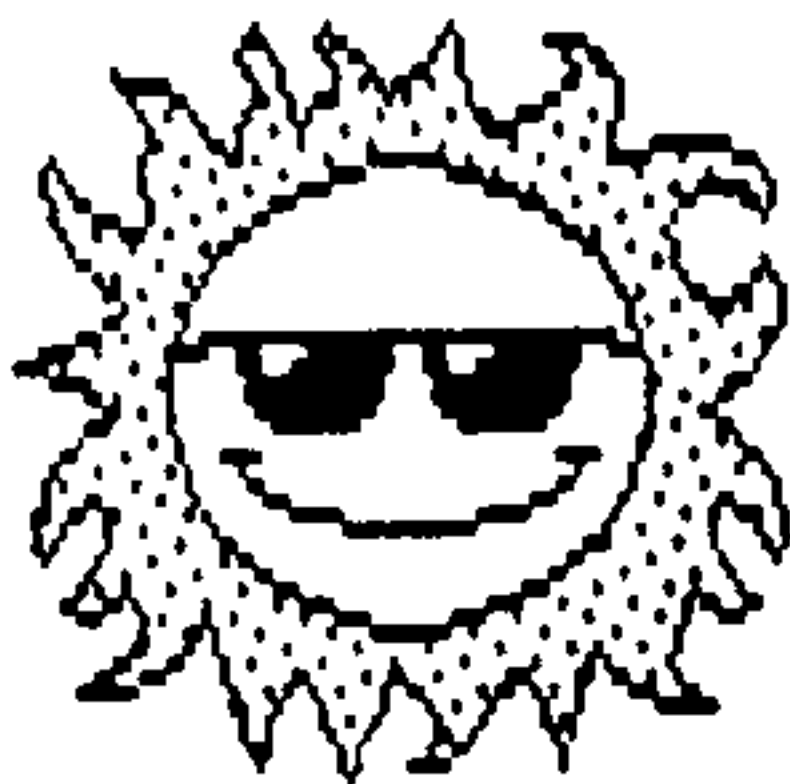
I don't know if anyone else feels like me, but I would like to make a few observations about what going to a meeting is like. I do not want to step on anyone's toes, so please excuse me if I do. I have noticed that it is the same people all the time who give the demos, and they are really great, but I know that there are others in the group that must also have something to share with all of us. I think the reason they don't volunteer is because they think they are not as good as the others and don't know too much about the computer.

Well, I know now they feel as I also was afraid to ask questions or volunteer because I thought I was pretty dumb, but you know what? The first time I spoke up everyone went out of their way to make things clear for me. They didn't belittle me or make fun of me they were my friends and really came thru for me. I did finally understand sprites and boy a whole new window was open for me. I still don't know alot but I did find out others were there if I needed them.

I also discovered that some people are geared for some things and others have their own interest. For instance, some are programmers, some are hardware hackers, some are into graphics, some love games, and some people just like to fiddle at the computer. Some use the

computer for business and some for pleasure. We all have different approaches to the TI but we are together in our need for help and pointers from those who are a little more experienced than us, and you know what, that is okay. When you have a talent in a certain area everything comes pretty easy or with some trial and error you can make do pretty well; but there are times when you are stuck and someone's dead really rings a bell and you say boy, that sure was easy, why didn't I think of that. So I really would like everyone to look at the gifts that they have with the TI and to please share it with the rest of us. I as a beginner so maybe someone who is not too advanced could see my problem from my angle and someone who is a little further along could help someone else. Remember there are no dumb questions. Its only dumb not to ask them or to hide your talents under a bushel.

In listening to some of the sharing among people I have discovered that almost everyone is really ready to share their knowledge on a one to one basis but in front of a whole group is a different thing. But if everyone was like that and didn't make an effort to share where would we be? Sure, there are great talents and big names out there but where would they be if we didn't use the computer. Nowhere, so please be proud of your ability and share it with your fellow computer buddies. Goodbye for now...



**Come on! Make my day!
Put a little sunshine in someone's
life. Knowledge shared opens
windows!**



DM-1000 v.6.1 Review
by Harry Hoffman

DM-1000 has been around for a long time and many people use it, as it always was the best and easiest disk manager around. Funnel Web includes a modified version 6.5 in their great program! We should appreciate the efforts of the Ottawa Users Group in continuing to update this terrific program and realize that this is still a FAIRWARE and they are asking for \$10.00 if you use it. The program is surely worth more but that is a figure they give.

When you first boot up the program (whether with FNLWB or other E/A 5 loader), this is the new menu:

DISK MANAGER 1000 6.1

Select Option: 1

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. File Util | 5. Sweep Disk |
| 2. Copy Disk | 6. Initialize |
| 3. Rename File | 7. Box Format |
| 4. Undelete | 8. Misc Util |

Written by Bruce Caron
Modified by Ralph Romans
and Jack Mathis (SM 99ers)

OTTAWA TI-57/4 USERS GROUP
3489 Paul Anka Drive
Ottawa Ontario Canada K1V-9K6

As you can see, all the functions are on one menu. No more flipping screens to see other menus.

1. File Util is the directory manager, where you get a directory of the disk and do file copies, moves, protect and unprotect, change filenames, deletes, and read DV/80 files. I use the 'CTRL C' a lot, which marks all the files for COPY and copies all the files to a formatted disk. If you have not formatted a disk in advance, it will ask you if you want to format it and do it like the disk you are copying. This utility will also print your directory to the printer or even to disk (DV/80 format). It is set up for PIO but you can change that. I'll talk about that later.

2. Copy Disk does just that. It formats your blank disk and copies one disk to another.

3. Rename Disk will show you the disk name, ask you for a new name, and write it on the disk header.

4. Undelete will reclaim a file you deleted by mistake if you haven't written another file to the disk. You have to know the correct filename.

5. Sweep Disk will wipe out all the filenames on the filename header so the disk looks like it is empty. You can then put new files on this EMPTY disk. If you really didn't want to erase the whole disk you can still

use #4 to undelete the files you want to save, but only if you didn't write to the disk yet. That's one good reason to have a disk directory printed out! Who can remember 20 or more filenames exactly as thought up the first time? I once had to reclaim 75 graphic files I had deleted from my ram disk without saving them first! Without a directory....NO WAY!

6 Initialize will format a new or old disk. Be careful that you really want to format a disk already having files you may want to keep!

7 Box Format will allow you to format a large quantity of disks, one after the other, without setting up the parameters each time. When the disk is formatted DM will tell you to put another disk in.

8 Misc Util will allow you to change screen colors, install/remove disk protection (like putting on/off a write protect tab), remove XBasic protection (I have never tried this one!).

Now for an exciting innovation to DM1000.

You can save your configuration back to disk, so every time you boot up there will be no need to change things again, unless you wish to. This is what I was talking about before.

After setting up your favorite colors, formatting a disk to your system configuration (SSSD, DSSD, DSDD), you can now press FCTN 3 for this screen:

Enter List Device: (Cursor will
PIO (be by "PIO"
(change to your printer,
(or a DSKn.filename

This allows you to print the directory to disk as a DV/80 file. Press ENTER:

Send Control Codes: (Y/N): Y

If you say yes...you get:

Enter Control Codes: EX. 27 83 01

Enter the codes for your printer that you need for 'Condensed, Bold, etc.'

Next line: Save to Disk (Y/N): Y

ENTER

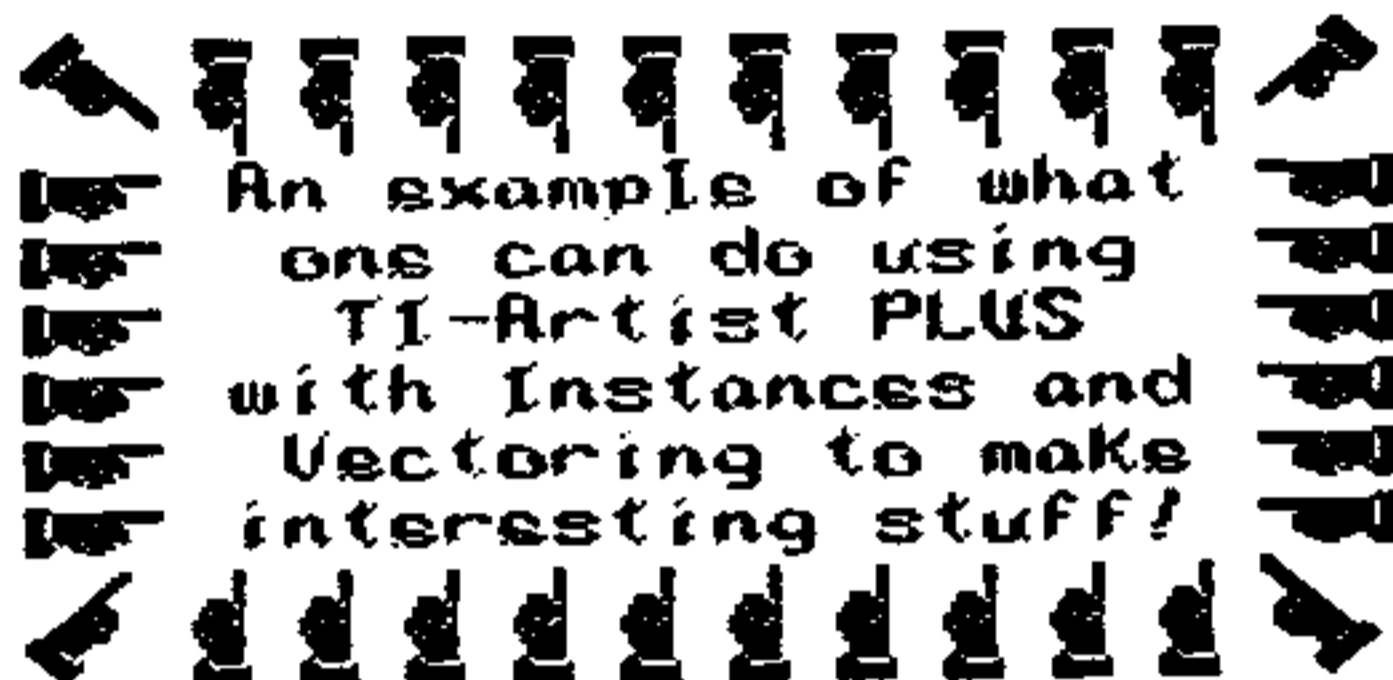
Insert Disk Manager 1000 Disk

In Drive #2

Press ENTER and your colors, format, and print parameters will be saved to disk.

That is all for now folks! Have fun with this fine program.

DOODLES by HARRY ???



An example of what
 one can do using
 TI-Artist PLUS
 with Instances and
 Vectoring to make
 interesting stuff!

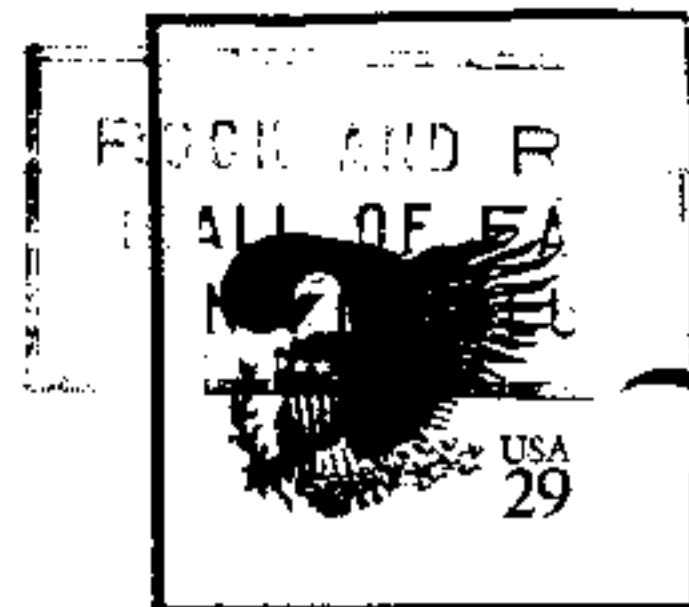
TI-ARTIST PLUS!
 makes interesting
 and easier ways of
 using the many types
 of pictures available
 come to life in all

Kinds of ways! Instances can be saved in several different manners. Upside down, mirror image, etc. In the Vector section, you can Scale, Distort in various ways, or Vector. When you Vector, you save the picture or part of it to a Filename_U format. Then you call it up in the Vector menu and it asks you several questions, such as:

Rotate:		Degrees
Spin:		Degrees
Tip:		Degrees
Horiz:		Degrees
Verti:		Degrees
X Scal:	100	Percent
Y Scal:	100	Percent
Z Scal:	100	Percent

I've tried several of these parameters but haven't quite got the handle on what some of them do yet! When you rotate, as was done to the pointing hands, you may have to go to the Artist part of the program and touch things up a bit, using the ZOOM feature and erasing dots or adding to make the picture normal!

Cleveland Area User Groups
 % Harry Hoffman
 3925 Trowbridge Ave.
 Cleveland, OH 44109-1349



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 This may be your LAST issue!**

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Due to the rising cost of the Newsletter:
 Newsletter only cost is \$12.00
 Full membership price - \$15.00 w/library priveleges.
 Join either club. See front cover for membership choirs.

44109-3742 35



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