NOVEMBER

WE GATHER

TOGETHER

Central Ohio Ninety Niners Inc. is a non-profit organization comprised of MEMBERS who own or use the TI99/4A computer and it's related products and have paid a yearly membership fee of $20 and whose main objective is the exchange of Educational and Scientific information for the purpose of computer literacy.

C.O.N.N.I. meetings are held the 3rd saturday of each month at Chemical Abstract, 2540 Olentangy River Road Columbus, OH. Meeting time is 8:30 AM til 2:30PM, Meetings are open to the public. Membership dues ($20.00) are payable yearly to C.O.N.N.I. and cover the immediate family of the member. Please send check to our membership registerar and join C.O.N.N.I. Please address it to:
Everett Wade
179 Erie Road
Columbus, OH 43214

MINUTES OF THE C.O.N.N.I. MEETING SATURDAY 16 OCT. 1993

The 11th anniversary meeting of the Central Ohio Ninety-Niners was held in the party room of McDonald's restaurant in Westerville, due to conflict with football parking at our usual location.

Attendance was better than usual. Carol Parkins procured a decorated birthday cake and other snacks for the festivities, and our photographer member Jack Montag took pictures for the newsletter.

There was no formal meeting, but president John Parkins brought up the question of what to do with our excessive stocks of old C.O.N.N.I. newsletters. It was decided to keep five of each for possible future sales, and to take the rest to the next Lima Fair to sell cheaply or give away.

Ken Marshall described the contents of the Disk of the Month.

Respectfully submitted,
    Co-Secretary Jim Peterson

BLESS THIS BEAUTIFUL LAND!

Left to Right: seated on floor - Carol Parkins, Jean Hall, Jim Klein; 2nd row: Everett Wade, Irwin Hott and Tonka, John Parkins, Dick Beery, Jim Peterson;
3rd row: Lindsey, Sabrina Marshall, Ralph Lathouse, Chuck Grimes, Ken Marshall, Bill Shepherd, Harley Ryan, Harold Timmons

DUES ANNOUNCEMENT

Local dues are usually paid at or before the March meeting, and are $20 per year for full membership, library and voting privileges, plus the newsletter. You may also pay your dues in two installments if desired: $10 in March and $10 in September. Those who join during other months of the year pay a lesser, pro-rated amount:

MAR-20.00 APR-18.33 MAY-16.67 JUN-15.00 JUL-13.33   AUG-11.67 SEP-10.00 OCT-8.33 NOV-6.67 DEC-5.00   JAN-3.33 FEB-1.67

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--SUBCRIPTION RATES--
Annual membership including newsletter:
$20 (U.S.A.)
$25 (outside U.S.A.)
DOM $35 (U.S.A)
$40 (outside U.S.A.)
Everett Wade, Membership
Central Ohio Ninety-Niners, Inc
179 Erie Road, Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 262-6346

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Name _____   Type of disk drive:

Address _____   ___ SSSD

State, Zip or Country _____   ___ DSSD

                                                         ___ DSDD

Make check payable to C.O.N.N.I.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Send all inquiries to: Asgard
                         1423 Flagship Dr.
                         Woodbridge, VA 22192

Effective Nov. 1, 1993, ownership of Asg ard Software is being transferred to
Harry Brashear.

Nothing worthwhile comes easy, and Lord knows running a TI software business
has never been easy. When I founded Asgard in 1983 (in fact, almost 10 years
ago exactly), my software company was one of perhaps over 100 TI software
providers. Over the years, I've seen all of my original competitors, almost
all of the ones that came after them, and most of the ones in the "generation"
after that, disappear by the wayside.

I stuck with it despite many opportunities to move on, and despite setbacks
similar to those that wiped out many of my peers. I don't regret it — I learned
a lot. I learned a lot about computers, business and loyalty. I learned how to
tell who was honest and who was a charlatan.

When I started this business I was a teenager in high school. Ten years later,
I run the Computer Department for a major non-profit organization here in
Washington, D.C. The TI-99/4A introduced me to computers in general, and
opened many opportunities to me. In many ways, it made me what I am today.

However, my professional and family obligations over the last 2 years have
forced me to change my priorities. I haven't been able to spend much time on
Asgard, and it has n't been fair to the community, so I decided to give the
company to the one person in the community I felt whose experiences and
beliefs matched my own.

Over the years I have received and generated much criticism. While the TI
community has been hard on me at times, through it all I've tried to be hard
back. Why? I really cared about what happened to my little black and silver
box — and people who care about something aren't silent when they think
something is wrong. In my drive to do what I felt was best for the community, I
ran over more than a few toes. I've also had my toes run over many times in
return.

In retrospect, I was too hard on some people and not hard enough on others.
I'd like to apologize to a few:

Craig Miller: I was one of your earliest and most persistent critics. While I
still think you were trying to sell yourself as a programming genius, I
slighted you by not recognizing the high quality of your work.

Larry Hughes: At the time I felt it was wrong for you to sell the kind of
software you sold. It was wrong for me to say this publicly. You did some
original things, and your customers found out about the rest without my help. I
made much ado about nothing.

Chris Faherty: I wrote an article published in MICROpendium comparing GRAPHX
to TI-Artist that was wrong. At the time I wrote it, I was angry that you took
several original ideas I had and improved on them. While I still think GRAPHX

was a very elegant program, and I stand by most of my opinions, it was petty of me to let my feelings interfere in such a comparison.

The 70 or so people who paid for Press in Chicago, 1987: I wanted it so much I sold myself, and then sold it to you. It was a beautiful idea - I just wish it had been a beautiful reality. My apologies for raising expectations, and holding onto your money for 18 months before realization struck, and I returned it.

As for those I wasn't hard enough on: well, most of them have long since left the community. Some of them have already gotten what they deserved. I'm fairly confident that the rest will in time. I'm not going to name names - endings are times for reconciliation, not vindication.

Unfortunately, the TI community was what really suffered at the hands of these people.

The TI world has had more than its share of frauds - those that would talk up something and then disappear with the money. The worst scam artists, though, were those that would talk about something for years, have endless conferences, mail out scads of detailed announcements, and then lose interest and drift away. They may not have taken too much money from people, but they did worse - they took their hopes.

It isn't the people who try and fail that harm our community as much as the people who like to talk more than try, and make claims they know they can't meet. While most of these people have moved their games to greener pastures, a few of them remain in the TI community. To the few remaining unwary 99/4A owners - beware.

I learned this truth the hard way - my own experiences. I haven't been perfect over the years and led a few wild goose chases myself, as well as have been taken in by a fraud or three. I just hope that when others judge me, that what I have done for the community outweighs what I couldn't do, or did wrong.

In any case, I'd also like to thank a few people in particular for help and wisdom over the years:

John Koloen and Laura Burns of MICROpendium: In too many ways to enumerate. The TI community was very lucky when they got these two devoted supporters.

Jack Sughrue and the guys at M.U.N.C.H.: For not looking too askance at the teenager trying to sell them software, and for supporting me through good and bad times .

Barry Traver: Tough but fair for all these years - and I don't have any hard feelings over Peter Hoddie.

Jerry Coffey, Ed Hall, Jim Horn and many others at the recently departed Mid-Atlantic 99'ers (MANNERS): For a "home" these last 8 years.

Jeff Guide: For help in making Asgard more business-like, and for your wry sense of humor.

I'd also like to thank the many people at the TI shows around the country - especially those in Seattle, Tucson and Ottawa - that hosted, shuttled, fed and sheltered me at the 30-40 or so TI conventions I've attended over the years .

Additionally, I'd like to thank the many authors that entrusted me with their programs.

Finally, I'd like to thank the 12,000 or so people that have bought software from me over the last 10 years — my customers. THESE are the people that I worked for for 10 years, and in the bottom line, whose opinion mattered most.

As of Nov. 1, 1993, the new address for Asgard Software will be:

        Asgard Software
        2753 Main Str.
        Newfane, NY 14108
        716-778-9104

All hardware products, including the Asgard Mouse, AMS memory cards, the Extended BASIC 3 and other cartridges will be available from:

        Asgard Peripherals
        1423 Flagship Dr.
        Woodbridge, VA 22192

My involvement in the TI community will be limited solely to the hardware products sold by Asgard Peripherals. No phone calls will be accepted — all orders or inquiries should be placed by mail.

Thank you.

        Chris Bobbitt
        October 11, 1993

REVIEW OF POP/CART by MARTIN MARCINKO
Lima Ohio User Group
31 JULY 1993
The pop/cart is made by : OPA (Oasis Pensive Abacutor)
    GARY BOWERS
    432 JARVIS ST. #502
    TORONTO, CANADA M4Y-2H3
    PHONE NO. 1-416-960-0925

I got my pop cart from L.L. Conner Enterprise. He got them from Gary at the Lima TI fair MAY 14/15 in Lima Ohio. It has the OPA Micro/Manager V1.10.9102.27 and RIB/CART V1.21.9303.17 #3428751. Here is a little review of my pop cart.

This pop/cart has these things in it. They are in two pages; one is the (cartridge) MODULES and the other is the PROGRAM page. Put the pop/cart into the cartridge port and turn on the TI. It says with speech 'READY TO START' then it shows this:

```
[            COLOR BAR            ]
---------------------------------

              []

        OPA  MICRO-MANAGER
          V1.10.9102.27


      READY-PRESS ANY KEY TO BEGIN
      RIB/CART V1.21.9303.17  # 3428751
      PRODUCED BY OPA c1993 BY R.L,B.
        c1991 OASIS PENSIVE ABACUTOR
```

When I PRESS ANY KEY it says with speech 'MODULE' then shows the modules page. The modules that are on my pop/cart are:

```
    XB/CART V1.21.9303.17      #3428751
    PRODUCED  BY  OPA   c1993 BY R.L.B.
    _____

        RICH 6K X/BASIC V5.40
        RICH EDITOR/ASSEMBLER
        TI-WRITER
        TI-BASIC
        TERMINAL EMULATOR II
        HANG-MAN GAME
        HANG-MAN DEMO
    _____

    BEGIN  TOGGLE RAM  :  SPACE  PROGRAMS
    E/X    MOVE LINE    :  BACK  TO OPA MM
    _____

    ENTER SELECTS HIGHLIGHTED MODULES
```

To move from one to the other you need to use 'E' to go up or the 'X' to go down. Push ENTER on the selection highlighted or you can push the SPACE BAR to go to the programs page. When you do it will say with speech 'PROGRAM' and show this:

```
    XB/CART V1.21.9303.17      #3428751
    PRODUCED  BY  OPA   c1993 BY R.L.B.
    _____

        DISK MANAGER 1000
        ARCHIVER V3.03
        GRAPHIC EDITOR
        REMIND ME!
        TI-WRITER 'EDITOR'
        TI-WRITER 'FORMATTER'
    _____

    BEGIN  TOGGLE RAM  :  SPACE   MODULES
    E/X    MOVE LINE    :  BACK  TO OPA MM
    _____

    ENTER RUN THE HIGHLIGHTED  NAMES
```

I am using the TI-WRITER 'EDITOR' to write this review. Here is a a little information on each of these items.

1. DISK MANAGER 1000 This one is v6.1. It looks like the one I have on disk that was on the disk of the month #69 January 1993 as send out by the Central Ohio Ninety-Niners Inc. user group. But it will not copy the disk I am putting this review on. A little bug!

2. Archiver v3.03 is the archiver III - version 3.03g 8/5/89. I tried to use this to un-archive and it would not work. Another bug!

3. Graphic Editor this is version 3.0 by Rejean Felton 1989 CLM 99 Montreal. This does not have any docs, so I can not use it now. Here is what is on it's master selection list:

```
              1. DESIGN GRAPHIC
              2. LOAD & SAVE
              3. PRINT
              4. CATALOG
              5. LABELS
              6. DEFAULTS
              7. EXIT
```

4. REMIND ME! This is v1.2 (c) 1987 by John Johnson. This one does not have any docs, so us new TI users can not use it. This program makes a month of the year so you can put notes on the days you have something to do.

NEXT PAGE

5. TI-WRITER "EDITOR" This is like the other TI-WRITER that I have used and I am using it to do this review.

6. TI-WRITER 'FORMATTER' This is the last on the program page, but it DOES NOT WORK. It looks like the TI-Formatter but it is the (1993 by O.P.A. V1.20.PC). On the top of The page is:

TI WRITER FORMATTER 5.0

Enter input filename:
'DSK1.POP/CART'
Enter printer devicename
'PIO.LF'
Use mailing list ? 'N'
What page(s)? (ALL)
'A'
Number of copies: '1'
Pause at end of page? 'N'

(after all of this I get)

INPUT ERROR
WORKING....
PRESS ENTER TO CONTENUE

I have tried some of the DV 80 files that I used and also tried to print this review and it did not print out. This part of the pop/cart DOES NOT WORK, another bug.

I did find another page in the module. By using the 'FCTN 9' key you will get this:

U P A   MICRO-MANAGER   V1.10.9102.27

CART   :   TI BASIC
DSK 1   :   POP-CART PROGRAM MENU
DSK 2   :   RICH GK XB   V=5.40
DSK 3   :   RICH GK EA   V=5.40
        :   TI-WRITER
        :   DEFAULT OPTION TE II
        :   TERMINAL EMULATOR II
        :   HANGMAN
(1)   :
        :
        :
        :
        :

| SPACE | LEFT/RIGHT | : | BEGIN | NEW DRIVE |
| E/X | MOVE LINE | : | BACK | TO PARENT |

ENTER SELECTS DEVICE TO CATALOG

(1) This part will show more if you have a ram card in the expansion box.
This page will let you catalog a drive and go to a disk program. After I have some more information on this I will do another review.

I also found that the RICH GK X/BASIC V5.1 when I call up that program and push ENTER with no disk in the drive it tried to load DSK1.UTIL1 and you can not get out of that without turning off the computer. That is another bug.

Now here are some things that need to be looked at by Gary Bowser:
1. Need better docs so we know how to use it.
2. It needs a way to change the color of the screen.
3. It needs a way to exit or quit without a reset switch. Thats so you do not have to turn off the power to go into some other setup. I was in the CERTIFICATE '99 and I could not quit or get out of it. I had to turn off the computer. We all know doing that can be bad on our computer and disk files.
4. It needs better control of going down the main screen. it moves too fast and you have try some time to stop it at the line you would like to be in. The menu is all together too flashy and pooly written. It should resemble more the original ti menu.
5. When not in use or any key is not pushed it will put the screen black. This may make you think you have turned off the computer.
6. I tried to use the DSK1.UTIL1 part of the loading page and it would not load and i could not get out of the loading program. I had to turn off the computer.
7. The pop/cart should have gold plated connection that plugs into the module port of the console. Also the pop cart connection is a little smaller than the one that are used on the other cartridges that I have. If it had gold plated connectors it whould make better electrical contact. I have some trouble with the contacts.
8. When I put in PAGE PRO 99 with the RICH GK X/BASIC it loads ok but when I try to load a page program the computer locks up.

I sent for some back issues of the MICROpendium and I found a MULTI-CARTRIDGE BOARD under development by OPA. My pop/cart is like that but smaller. You can see a photo of these on page 26 volume 6 number 10 of the nov. 1989 issues of MICROpendium.

At this time I can not say for someone to buy this cartridge when the person that made it can not send out the manuals on this cartridge. But if Gary Bowser reworks the bugs and sends some information on the programs that were put on the pop/cart and removed the program hang-man and put on a program like a disk jacket program I would say to buy it. I would then have all of the programs I will need to run on my computer without trying to finding a disk or a cartridge all of the time.

I have Martin's POP Cart on loan. The whole thing is packaged inside a Parsec game cartridge. All of the various bugs mentioned in Martin's article have been verified. Archiver packs, but doesn't unpack. The Formatter doesn't work. DM1000 will display disk directories but won't copy disks either file by file or sector by sector. Etc, Etc. These problems are NOT found in the disk versions of the software. They are, perhaps, unique to the batch of pop carts purchased from Gary Bowser by L.L. Conner Enterprise at the May 1993 Lima MUG conference. Or maybe the problems are found on lots of pop carts.

GENEALOGY:TRANSLATE THOSE GRAVESTONE INSCRIPTIONS TO BIRTH DATES by Jim Peterson

```
90 DISPLAY AT(20,1)ERASE ALL
:"Does not include leap year
":"days but the calculation
of":"age probably did not in
clude":"those days."
100 DISPLAY AT(2,1):"THE 887
0 FORMULA" :: DISPLAY AT(4,1
):"Date of death":"   Year":
"   Month No.":"   Day"
105 DISPLAY AT(9,1):"Age at
death":"   Years":"   Months
":"   Days"
110 ACCEPT AT(5,9)VALIDATE(D
IGIT):Y :: IF Y<1000 THEN 11
0 ELSE Y$=STR$(Y)
120 ACCEPT AT(6,14)VALIDATE(
DIGIT)SIZE(2):M :: IF M<1 OR
 M>12 THEN 120 ELSE IF M>9 T
HEN Y$=Y$&STR$(M)ELSE Y$=Y$&
"0"&STR$(M)
130 ACCEPT AT(7,8)VALIDATE(D
IGIT)SIZE(2):D :: IF D<1 OR
D>31 THEN 130 ELSE IF D>9 TH
EN Y$=Y$&STR$(D)ELSE Y$=Y$&"
0"&STR$(D)
140 ACCEPT AT(10,10)VALIDATE
(DIGIT)SIZE(3):DY :: D$=STR$
(DY)
150 ACCEPT AT(11,11)VALIDATE
(DIGIT)SIZE(2):M :: IF M<1 O
R M>12 THEN 150 ELSE IF M>9
THEN D$=D$&STR$(M)ELSE D$=D$
&"0"&STR$(M)
160 ACCEPT AT(12,9)VALIDATE(
DIGIT)SIZE(2):D :: IF D<1 OR
 D>31 THEN 160 ELSE IF D>9 T
HEN D$=D$&STR$(D)ELSE D$=D$&
"0"&STR$(D)
170 A=VAL(Y$)-VAL(D$)-8870 :
: A$=STR$(A):: DISPLAY AT(15
,1):"Birthdate ":SEG$(A$,1,4
);" month ";SEG$(A$,5,2);" d
ay ";SEG$(A$,7,2):: GOTO 100
```

USING TI-WRITER to LF FROM AN RS232

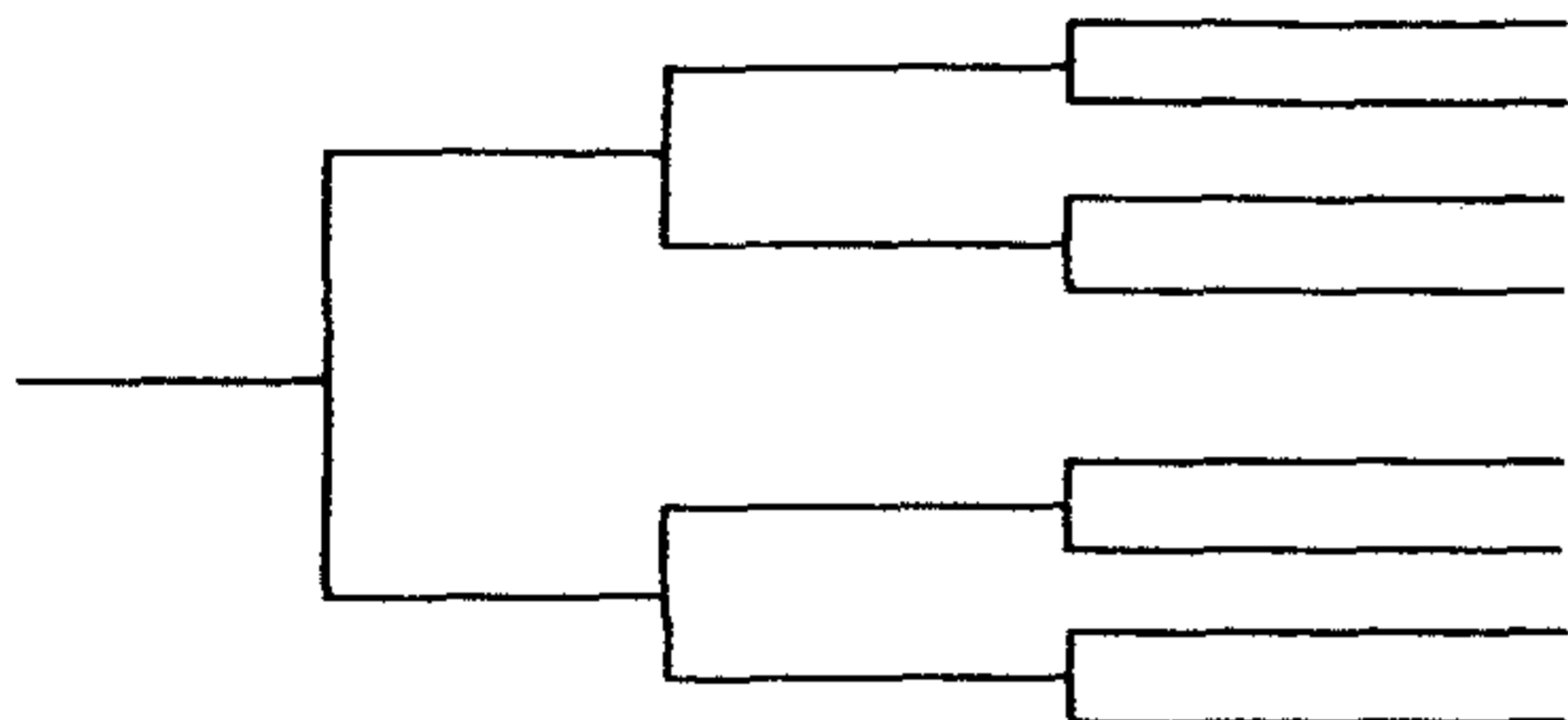From TI-D-BITS via Lima UG Newsletter

You can hook two different kinds of computers together with a cable linking the RS232 ports of both computers. The TI serial printer cable will do the trick. You can then load text files directly into TI_Writer (or the Funnelweb editor) from a word processor program on any other computer. You don't need a modem or a terminal program, and the other computer doesn't have to be compatible with the TI.

After cabling the two computer's RS232 ports together, boot TI-Writer, type LF (Load File) and press <ENTER>. Then type RS232.CR for the file name and press <ENTER>. The TI's screen will appear to be locked up as the TI waits to receive the file from the RS232 port. It may be necessary to specify a baud rate in the R232.CR file name if the default 300 baud is not satisfactory. However, TI-Writer (and Funnelweb) will not accept baud rates higher than 600. With the other computer, save or send a text file already in memory, specifying RS232 as the save file name. (PC users may have to specify a COM port rather than RS232 - ED.). Text will then flow into TI-Writer. When transfer is complete, press FCTN-4 on the TI and the received text file will be displayed.

Since I don't have the TI99/4A HexBus interface, this is how I transfer text from my CC40 to my TI for processing with Funnelweb and printing with my Star printer.

GENEALOGY PLUS!

BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI

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* TI-Base is required for our TIBBASE data base.

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by John Van Weelie

9T9 Toronto User Group
September 29, 1993.

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by Jack Sughrue
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#5 McGUFFEY's

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Bits, Bytes and Pixels
Lima UG Newsletter

Before we spend a class on the TI textbooks I mentioned at the end of our last session, I'd like to mention McGUFFEY's ECLECTIC READERS from the 1890's. They were the major source of formal, academic learning for young scholars 100 years ago. Today's McGuffey is Don Shorock. Let's analyze a bit of Shorock's eclecticism of the 1990's.

Ms. Bronte, I already gave you his address in my notes three or four classes ago.

Very well. He can be reached for these educational goodies - mostly fairware (and let's hope I don't have to explain that again) at P.O.Box 5#1, Great Bend, KS 6753#. Got that? Good. Now try not to interrupt with questions that have already been answered if you were paying attention during our other classes.

I'm going to be using the overhead for this lesson, as some of the intricacies of this educator's materials are fascinating and unusual.

Last session, Class, we had a couple questions from Mr. Shakespeare over there by the window. He said he had a nephew in junior high and two elementary school grandchildren. I think Mr. Shorock's eclectic disks will be of great help here.

First, let me mention that Mr. S has the most extraordinary data base structure built into his programs.

Second, let me put up the menu of his first disk on the overhead here. He has four educational fairware disks: EDUCATION #1, 2, 3, and INVENTIONS.

This is the first menu for #1:

a) AMERICAN PRESIDENTS
b) ENGLISH MONARCHS
c) ANCIENT GREEKS && ROMANS
d) JOYSTICK AMERICA
e) WORLD MILEAGE
f) STATES && CAPITALS (groups)
g) SOLAR SYSTEM
h) WORD MATH
i) GAGGLES OF GEESE
j) ESTIMATING TRIANGLES
k) FACTORING
l) AUDIO MATH
m) CATALOG
n) DOCUMENTATION
o) EXIT

There are 12 programs, plus a chance to look at the catalog from the disk, plus a chance to read all the documention. By using the alphabet instead of numbers, he is able to have the menu items lined up perfectly (as "1#" and beyond would push everything one character to the right). Very neat is our Mr. Shorock. If we pressed "a" for the President program another menu appears, as you can see on this transparency:

1) NAME YEAR
2) NAME PARTY
3) NAME PRESIDENT
4) NAME STATE
5) FOR QUIZ
6) LEAVE (to go back to main menu, which is nice, and only "3" and "j" are unable to within their activities)

If, at this point, we press "1" and type in "1962" at the cursor, we get the following:
"Year #2 of the Presidency of John Kennedy; 35th President; Democrat of Massachusetts; served 1961-1963."

Typing "1963" would give both Kennedy and Johnson (who served from 1963 to 1969).

Pressing "2" above will give you the listing of all the parties under which our Presidents have served: 1) Federalist 2)Democratic-Republican 3) National Republican 4)Democratic 5)Whig 6)Republican. xnd choosing "Whig," for example, will give you William Henry Harrison, 1841-1841; John Tyler, 1841-1845; Zachary Taylor, 1849-185#; and Millard Fillmore, 185#-1853.

When choosing NAME PRESIDENT and typing "John," you will get all the Johns: Adams, Adams, Tyler, Kennedy with all their accompanying info. So you can enter first OR last names and have the program seek out the proper data for you.

To enter STATE you must type in the full name, however, as the program will not accept MA or MASS for MASSACHUSETTS. When you type that full name, though, it will list its four Presidents and their biographical sketches. Entering the name of a state with no President will give you the cursor, just as typing in wrong info will.

Now, when you have mastered this info, you will have the QUIZ (a yes/no job): "Did Benjamin Harrison Rule in the year 1811? (No. His term, as we all know, was from 1889-1893.) [I don't like RULED, however, which is the reappearing term for SERVED that Mr. Shorock (probably a native of England) keeps using: Did Ronald Reagan Rule in 1818? (No. That's right, Class. Ronald Reagan RULED America from 1981 to 1989, though he may have behaved as if he RULED America in 1818).] Actually, I just listed the program and changed the RULE to SERVE, and it made the program so much better in our Democracy. Particularly if this program will be used with children.

The English Monarchs and Ancient Greek and Roman programs are structured similarly.

I don't intend to go through each of his delightful program packages for learners during our time today. Suffice it to say, Class, that you can see the amount of work that goes into a program like this and, by studying the program itself, the unlimited kinds of applications for which one may use these programs.

I would, however, like to delve into a couple of completely different educational programs here. WORD MATH

deals with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division as the bane of all elementary and junior high students: Word Problems. The answers may be typed as "SEVENTEEN" or "17," as in this problem: "Ellen has nine dandelions and Kent has eight marigolds. How many flowers do Ellen and Kent have altogether?" At the menu you may choose specific processes (addition) or all. A running score is kept (as with most of Shorock's games and quizzes), and a wrong answer is corrected and explained. At the end of this program a flashy countdown in words from 100 to 1 takes place, using the TI's built-in wonders, and more options are given, including continuing the game.

JOYSTICK AMERICA is a geography game. Kind of a precursor, in a philosophical way, to Mr. S's highly successful AIR TAXI, his commercial venture which is a geographical masterpiece. I understand, Class, that he has a further development on even that one. When you write to him, ask. But J.A. has a golf-like scoring system. You're given a par (how many moves it should take you) to go from a random starting point in America (say Western Tennessee) to a random destination (say Ohio or Indiana). As you must move north and east in 3 moves here, you can judge how you are doing by the constantly updated "current location." Complex structure, simple execution.

Although we've analyzed just three learning activities on the first disk, you can already see that directions are kept to a minimum, partially through superb sub menus; the structure is simple; the pathways direct; the learning concrete; the adaptive possibilities endless.

A quick look at the transparency of Disk 2's menu (of math and geography activities only) will show you how Mr. S jampacks these SSSD disks:

GEOGRAPHY GAMES
0) North American Cities (comparisons: which is further north? west?)
1) Largest Cities (Chicago is the largest city in what state?)
2) World Capitals (multiple choice)
3) US Mileage (which is closer / how far is it to?)
4) Map: Eastern US (does Maine touch Vermont?)
5) Map: Europe (does France touch Luxembourg?)
6) Map: Latin America (does Equador touch Chile?)
MATH GAMES
1) Patterns (math drill with wallpaper graphics)
2) More or Less (greater and lesser numbers)
3) Roman Numerals (teach, convert, quiz)
4) Chinese Numbers (teach, convert, quiz)
5) Tardis (strictly for us Dr.^Who fans;requires SS and TEII)

PATTERNS is a flash-card-type arithmetic drill (3+17, 21X65, 14-11) on a solid background pattern that does not scroll when foreground "work area" does. The "wallpaper" changes and provides a nice 3-D effect. Score is kept as you go along; correct answers are given; a total is displayed at the end of each 10 questions before a new quiz with a new largest amount total being input again. Some toots and whistles here, also. Not a negative program.

CHINESE NUMBERS has three menu options: T - Teaches

Chinese numbers (graphically) from 1 to 9999; I - Interprets by translating any Arabic number of your choice into Chinese; Q - Quiz Giver lets you set the maximum amount and gives you 10 problems to solve, scores, and autoloads at end. Like so many of the Shorock activities, it is easy to get back to any part of the program (but not in some of these cases to get back to the main disk menu).

WORLD CAPITALS has a wonderful menu that includes 1) Latin America 2) Europe 3)Africa 4) Asia 5) Oceana 6) Entire World 7) TI Answers (instead of asks) 8) Show Off Everything 9) New Player (instead of the person who typed name at beginning of game, as this will give game competition opportunities)

I wanted to add one thing here, Mr. Shakespeare, if you use these disks with your young relatives. This program, unfortunately, sometimes repeats questions back to back (and to back again, in some cases) within the 10-question activity. This should've been eliminated. That sort of problem does appear in some of these other activities, too.

However, Class, a great opportunity to learn all those new former Soviet Union and other Eastern European and Western Asian countries would be to change this program to include just these "new" countries for flash-card learning. Mr. Shorock has made a great base into which it is fairly easy to plug new data.

I see people peering at their watches. Before we go today and before I assign homework, I have a couple more overhead transparencies to show you, such as this projection of the menu from Education Disk #3: Misc.:

A - STATES 50
B - SEMAPHORE SIGNALING
C - FAMOUS PHILOSOPHERS
D - FAMOUS COMPOSERS
E - CHEMICAL ELEMENTS
F - GEOLOGY TERMS
G - CANADIAN PROVINCE CAPITALS
H - MEXICAN STATE CAPITALS
I - FLAG QUIZ && DEMO
J - PRES. INAUGURAL DATES
K - SUBJECT/VERB AGREEMENT
L - SHORTWAVE TUNING SIGNALS
M - JULY 4TH DEMO
N - CATALOG
0 - DOCUMENTATION
P - EXIT

When I look at FAMOUS COMPOSERS, Class, I'm reminded of the time a group of music historians dug up Beethoven's grave. When they opened his coffin, up popped Beethoven, shouting, "What is the meaning of this? Can't you see I'm busy decomposing?"

L is interesting. The signature tunes which are played by different countries before they begin their shortwave broadcasts are played (Switzerland, Canada, Kuwait, South Africa, etc.). Once learned, there is a quiz, of course.

After all the playing and using and trying and testing, I finally found an error, Class. In STATES 50 the program says New Hampshire does not touch Massachusetts. It does. Not bad. One small mistake in four jampacked disks of educational

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(408)848-5947
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Mike Wright
45 Centervillw Dr.,
Salem, NH 03079
PC99 Emulator Author
Marketing-CaDD Electronics

programs.

Most of the programs I think you can figure out from the titles. Now this last overhead. Has two menus shown on it: the main and the one by pressing 3 on the main:

1) USE PROGRAM
2) PRINT DOC
3) LOOK AT DOC
4) SEE DISK CATALOG

    1) A word about Fairware
    2) Why I wrote this program
    3) How to use this program
    4) Programming techniques
        segmented array items
    5) Programming techniques
        randomly filled array
    6) How LOOK AT DOC works
        you may leave docs
        for menu any time

From these menus you can see, Class, that these educational programs by the McGuffey of the 1990's are not just for children. The things you can learn about programming and data structuring from the INVENTIONS disk, alone, is worth the price of admission; which, being Fairware in the TI Marketplace is always the best buy in the computer world. So, if you are like Mr. Shakespeare or Mr. Bell over there who are always looking for educational materials for youngsters or even like Ms. Bronte who always wants to get some adult learning materials, you would all be wise to order these disks right away from Mr. Shorock. They are not available in the

campus bookstore. Send what you think is a fair amount for each of these disks ($5 to $10 per disk would certainly be fair, particularly when you know what is charged for commercialware elsewhere) and help yourself or your young learners in ways that the original McGuffey never dreamed of.

There will be items from each disk on the final.

No, Mr. Shakespeare, Mr. Shorock is not the only person or company making educational materials for the TI. Chris Bobbitt's ASGARD SOFTWARE (P.O.Box 10306, Rockville MD 20850) and Ken Gilliland's NOTUNG SOFTWARE (7647 McGroarty St., Tujunga CA 91042) are two companies that still put out various kinds of educational materials, too, and their catalogs are free.

And don't forget Jim Peterson's TIGERCUB SOFTWARE (154 Collingwood Ave., Columbus OH 43213), the very best source for excellent, inexpensive, very specific educational software on disks, including more adult learning materials for you, Ms. Bronte. The $1 catalog fee is redeemable with your first order.

But your homework, Class, is to look through all your disks and cassettes (which we'll discuss the class after next) and search for the 10 most educational items you can find - the best; ones you personally feel are the most educational, that do the learning task successfully. Bring them to class next time and be prepared to give 5-minute talks on why you chose these 10.

If you belong to a user group, have everyone in the group do the same and put together some master educational disks and cassettes. This could be a great service to all the newtimers coming into our TI World Community.

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FOR
1993

3RD SATURDAY

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18 DEC 1993
15 JAN 1994
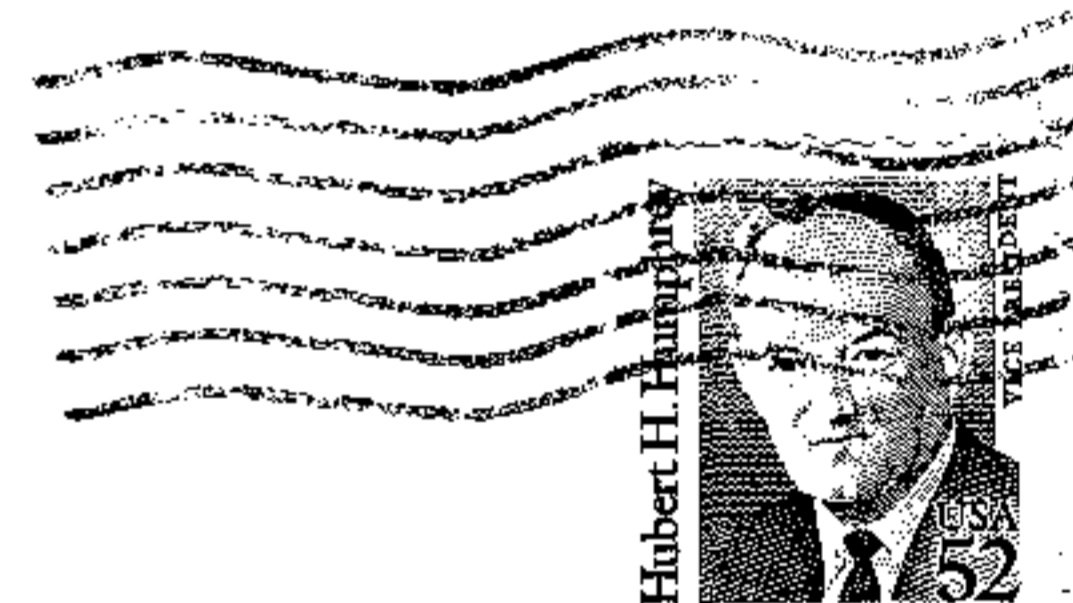19 FEB 1994
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