



# Topics

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October 1990

## RAMBLIN' THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

HEAR IT IS!! TIME AGAIN TO PUT FINGERS, KEY-BOARD, AND GRAY MATTER TO WORK; ANOTHER ARTICLE.

STANDING IN LINES. HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF HOW MANY MINUTES WE STAND IN LINES PER DAY, PER WEEK, PER MONTH? THER IS NEVER A TIME I DON'T THINK ABOUT IT, BUT SATURDAY AFTERNDON MY WIFE AND I WENT TO A LOCAL GROCERY STORE. IT WAS VERY CROWDED AND THE LINES WERE LONG. WE DID NOT HAVE ANY THING ELSE IN PARTICULAR TO DO AND THUS NOT IN TOO BIG OF A HURRY. WE MUST HAD CHOSEN THE STAND WITH THE SLOWEST CLERK IN THE WHOLE STORE. IT SEEMED LIKE WE WERE IN THE CHECK OUT LANE FOR A HOUR AND A HALF, ( ABOUT 20 MINUETS I GUESS ) I DID NOT TIME IT.

IF YOU WOULD ADD THAT TIME UP OVER A WEEK, A MONTH, A YEAR, WHAT WOULD IT ADD UP TO? ADD THE TIMES IN GAS LINES, BANK LINES, AND LINES OF TRAFFIC, I BET IT COULD ADD UP TO QUITE A CHUNK OF TIME OUT OF A PERSON'S LIFE SPAN.

I KNOW THAT THIS IS SUSPOSED TO BE A COMPUTER RELATED NEWS-LETTER. SO WHY DO I WRITE ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE NOT COMPUTER RELATED?

WELL, I HAVE RECEIVED NO COM'LAINTS YET ABOUT WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN IN THE PAST, BUT AS THEY SAY, THERE IS A FIRST TIME FOR EVERY THING! I DON'T WRITE ABOUT THOSE THINGS BECAUSE IF I DID YOU WOULD FIND OUT HOW LITTLE I KNOW ABOUT THE SUBJECT. I AM LEARNING ALL THE TIME, BUT MY LIMITED KNOWLEDGE IS SOMENHERE JUST ABOVE A BEGINNER.

I HAVE BEEN ON VACATION THE LAST TWO DAYS AND I GO BACK TO WORK ON WEDNESDAY. ( VACATION?? ) MY WIFE DECIDED TO MOVE OUR BEDROOM AROUND, YOU KNOW; ( SWAP WALLS AND CORNERS WITH EVERYTHING. ) NO VACTION HERE...THAT'S WORK. BUT I FORGIVE HER BECAUSE WE SEEM TO HAVE MORE ROOM.

WHEN I GO BACK TO WORK, I'LL BE PREPARING FOR A DIFFERENT JOB. I WILL BE USING A COMPUTER TERMINALL MORE! I AM LOOKING FOWARD TO IT AND JUST MAYBE I CAN WRITE ABOUT THAT IN THE FUTURE.

I HAVE HAD TWO PHONE CALLS THIS MONTH FOR INFORMATION ON PRICING OF HARD- WARE. I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT EQUIPMENT IS COSTING THESE DAYS. THEY HAVE COMPLETE SYSTEMS, FULLY LOADED AND COMES WITH A LOT OF SOFTWARE.

WE STILL APPRECIATE INPUT FROM YOU PEOPLE, SO PLEASE WRITE, CALL, SCREAM, AND HOLLAR. WE WANT TO HERE FROM YOU!! SPEAKING OF NEEDS, WE STILL NEED A LIBRARIAN. OUR LIBRARY IS NOT GETTING UP-DATED. WE NEED HELP!! I SEE BY THE NUMBER OF LINES ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE SCREEN AND THE CLOCK ON THE WALL THAT IT IS TIME ONCE AGAIN TO SAY GOOD-BY TO ALL. SO SO-LONG TILL NEXT TIME..

YOUR PRESIDENT

EDGAR A. MAY

## USING THE 2COLUMNS PROGRAM By Earl Raguse

This article was printed out in two columns with the 2COLUMNS program.

I am not sure of the origin of this program. I got it from Newt Armstrong who in turn got it from the Topics in an article by Tom Freeman. Everbody that uses it makes changes to it to make it more useful to them. The original program was a truly quite complex "Do Everything" program, but since then it has been simplified, by deleting the options mostly. The options are placed in your text file with CTRL U codes. I was no exception.

The subject program has only the options for the number of lines per page, it defaults to 66 lines per page, since Topics uses Pica font, spaced for 66 lines to the page, top to bottom. Not all lines are printed of course. I typically put 56 actual printed text lines, per page, leaving 5 blank lines at the top and 5 blank lines at the bottom for titles and page numbers etc. That's your choice. So much for generalities, So how do you proceed? Like So--:

You must generate a DV80 file, ie a standard TIW file, any way you can. References to TIW in the following may be read as FUNNEL WEB, GK, TK, ect etc WRITER, or any other compatible program; also when I say column, I refer, not to individual character spaces, as in "80 column printer", but to the two columns of text we are going to print. Your file should be of the desired width as determined below, right justified with FORMATTER or not as you choose, and contain no carriage returns or line feeds. The file further must contain at least twice the number of lines per page that you will

specify in answer to a prompt, by the 2COLUMN program. If you have less, the program may not work as you expect, and you may get an error message.

If your text is less than the required number of lines, pad it out with blank lines. TIW FCTN 8 does this nicely.

One way to proceed is to write a file in EDITOR, insert the necessary FORMATTER commands, to set the Left Margin to zero, and the Right Margin for your desired column width. Print it through the FORMATTER to a disk file. Yes, you can do that, just the same way you do for the printer, just another device name that's all. Just type

DSK2.JUNKFILE1

For this program to work, you MUST name and save your files a page at a time ending in a number, eg P1 etc. You can then use PF, for Print File, to print to disk to get rid of the LF and CR's. To do this, use PF then instead of PIO write

C DSK2.JUNKFILE1

the C strips off all control code characters. Reload the file and check.

For two columns, recall that the standard 8.5 inch wide page is 80 spaces wide for standard Pica font of 10 characters per inch pitch, leaving 1/4 inch margins. If you print only one side of the paper, the left margin should be at least 6 spaces wide for punching holes, the right margin should be a minimum of 3 spaces, and the center "gutter" should be at least 3 spaces wide. That leaves you with a maximum of  $80 - 12 = 68$  spaces for text. Dividing this into two equal halves gives 34 characters of text for each side. How nice! Note that that is

exactly what will fit across the TIW screen without "windowing", and you get to see the line numbers too. Do you think TI thought of that? I doubt it. I frequently use 33 to make the page more readable.

2COLUMNS can be used for three or more columns with only minor modifications of the program. I'm not going to discuss that today.

If you choose to use other fonts, like Elite, which is 12 characters per inch, or if you use the options that most printers give you these days, you may have pitches of 5 to 20 characters per inch. The Pica spacing above gave two text columns of 3.9 inches wide. If you select compressed (condensed) Elite at 20 pitch, each column may have up to 78 characters. Elite standard gives 46.8 characters per 3.9 inches. Better make that 46, because 8/10's of a character looks funny. Whatever you select, the file must be 3.9" wide, 2COLUMNS does not check for that, if your files are too wide they will wrap around.

What's more the text file must contain the CTRL U codes to be sent to the printer to set left margin, the tab to the center margin, the type font to use, double strike, etc, etc, and any other thing you want to instruct the printer about. This article will not cover how to do that, that is better learned from reading the TIW Manual, your printer manual, newsletter articles, asking questions and so on.

I do not however, expect you to memorize that stuff, if that was necessary, I never would have learned. What you should do is to figure out, by hard work, study, phone calls, if necessary, how to encode just one set of CTRL U page instructions, like the Left Margin,

Type Font, Line Spacing, Tab to Righthand Column, NLQ (Near Letter Quality) Double Strike, (whatever) for the kind of a page you usually write, then save as a TIW file this one short line, of less than 20 codes. Wasteful, maybe, but it pays dividends.

I saved mine to DSK6.2COLR. I call it 2COLR, for 2 column righthand odd numbered pages and 2COLL, for lefthand even numbered pages when I set up for 2 sided printing, as we do do for the Topics. I do not recommend keeping these files in DSK1 because that's where most people have their text file.

The major difference between left and right pages is the left margin. Remember the lefthand page is punched on the right side. You can make another file of CTRL U instructions for 3 columns, or a different type font.

So far so good, what do you do with it? Very simple, after you have set up your page file, as above. Just do LF for Load File, then enter

```
O DSK6.2COLR
```

The O puts this one line file of code as the 1st line of the text. This will set my page file for a righthand page. I will never have remember those CTRL U codes again! Unless, of course, I decide to insert special codes in the text. Now all you have to do is go to XB, run 2COLUMNS and answer the few simple prompts.

If I get enough response, I will try to write an article on using CTRL U codes, the difficulty is my printer does not print the symbols for the Hex numbers you see on the screen. I can however, use the the actual keystrokes, its just so much more tedious. The Hex codes are in the TIW manual.

Good Printing to One and All.

## LA 99ers Topics

```
100 ! SAVE DSK1.2COLUMNS
110 ! ORIGINAL PROGRAM BY TOM
    M FREEMAN OF LA99ERS, MODIFI
    ED BY NEWT ARMSTRONG, SIMPLI
    FIED TO THIS BY EARL RAGUSE
120 DISPLAY AT(1,1)ERASE ALL
    : " TWO COLUMN PRINTER"
130 DISPLAY AT(3,1):"You mus
    t have first estab- lished
    page files in DV80 for
    mat, with no LF's or CR'swit
    h at least TWICE the "
140 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"number
    of lines per page that yo
    u will subsequently "
150 DISPLAY AT(9,1):"specify
    . Files must use samename, b
    ut ending with some con
    secutive numbers 1,2,3...":
160 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"It mus
    t also contain the right
    CTRL U codes. If you do
    n't know how to do that ca
    ll someone that does, like"
170 DISPLAY AT(16,1):"Earl R
    aguse, Chic DeMarti or Tom Fr
    eeman. "
180 DISPLAY AT(19,1):" If a
    ll else fails, read USING
    2COLUMNS Topics Oct 90"
190 DISPLAY AT(24,1):" Press
    Any Key, But Q Quits"
200 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S<1
    THEN 200 ELSE IF K=ASC("Q")
    THEN 460
210 DIM L$(160)
220 FN$="DSK1.JUNK1"
230 DISPLAY AT(9,2)ERASE ALL
    : "The file name of the first
    page is
        ";FN$
240 ACCEPT AT(12,12)SIZE(-12
    ):FN$
250 PN$=SEG$(FN$,LEN(FN$),1)
    !! FN$="DSK"&FN$ :: PN=ASC(P
    N$)-48
260 CALL CLEAR
270 DISPLAY AT(12,2):"START
    PAGE 1 END PAGE 1"
280 ACCEPT AT(12,13)VALIDATE
    (DIGIT)SIZE(-2):LN :: ACCEPT
    AT(12,26)VALIDATE(DIGIT
    )SIZE(-2):HN :: PN=LN
290 DISPLAY AT(14,0):"INPUT
    TOTAL LINES/PAGE 66 "
300 ACCEPT AT(14,24)VALIDATE
    (DIGIT)SIZE(-2):PL
310 IF*=SEG*(FN$,1,LEN(FN$)-
    1)&STR$(PN)
320 OPEN #1:IF$,INPUT ,DISPL
    AY ,VARIABLE
330 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
    L:" READING DATA FOR PAGE "
    ;PN:" PAGE LENGTH =
        ";PL
340 FOR C=1 TO PL :: L$(C)="
    " :: L$(C+PL)=" " :: NEXT C
350 FOR C=1 TO 2*PL
360 IF EOF(1)THEN 380 :: LIN
    PUT #1:L$(C)
370 NEXT C
380 CLOSE #1
390 OPEN #2:"PIO",DISPLAY ,V
    ARIABLE 136,OUTPUT :: PRINT
    #2:CHR$(27);CHR$(79)
400 DISPLAY AT(12,2)ERASE AL
    L:"TRANSMITTING PAGE";PN;" D
    ATA"
410 FOR C=1 TO PL-1 :: PRINT
    #2:L$(C)&CHR$(9)&L$(C+PL)::
    NEXT C
420 PRINT #2:CHR$(12):: CLOS
    E #2
430 IF PN=HN THEN 440 ELSE P
    N=PN+1 :: GOTO 310
440 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
    L:"PRINT MORE, PRESS SPACE,
        ELSE ANY OTHER"
450 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S=0
    THEN 450 ELSE IF K=32 THEN
    230
460 END
```

Some time ago, I shared a cute story that went something like this:

Did you hear about the computer programmer who went to the refrigerator for a drink and found a note from his wife saying, "I've decide to leave you:" ... and it was dated a month ago!

I believe that the following is a copy of the original document!  
cdm

TO MY DARLING HUSBAND

I am sending you this letter in a bogus software company envelope so that you will be sure to read it. Please forgive the deception, but I thought you should know what has been going on at home since your TI computer entered our lives two years ago. The children are doing well. Tommy is seven now and is a bright, handsome boy. He has developed an interest in the arts. He drew a family portrait for a school project. All the figures were good but yours was excellent! The chair and the back of your head are realistic. You would be very proud of him.

little Jennifer turned three in September. She looks a lot like you did at that age. She is an attractive child and quite smart. She still remembers that you spent the whole afternoon with us on her birthday. What a grand day for Jen, despite the fact that it was stormy and the electricity was out. I am also doing well. I went blond about a year ago and was delighted to discover that it really is more fun! Lars, I mean Mr. Swenson, the department head, has taken an interest in my career and has become a good friend to us all. I have discovered that the household chores are much easier since I realized that you didn't mind being vacuumed but that feather dusting made you sneeze.

The house is in good shape. I had the living room painted last spring. I'm not sure if you noticed it. I made sure the painters cut air holes in the drop cloth so you wouldn't be disturbed. Well, my dear, I must be going. Uncle Lars, Mr. Swenson, I mean is taking us all on a ski trip and there is packing to do. I have hired a housekeeper to take care of things while we are away. She'll keep things in order, fill your coffee cup and bring your meals to your desk, just the way you like it. I hope you and the TI have a lovely time while we are gone. Tommy, Jen and I will think of you often. Try to remember us while your disks are booting. Love, Mary

**T. I. MULTIPLAN V4.0  
by Audrey Bucher**

A review in the  
Pittsburgh UG NL

(Ed. note: all C.O.N.N.I. members that purchased the August 1990 DOM will have a copy of T.I. MULTIPLAN V4.0. Please send a contribution to R.A.Green if you use it).

I just received in the mail this week, (May 1990) the new Fairware enhancement of the TI Multiplan Package by R.A. Green of RAG Software. The updates have been made to the Multiplan version released by Texas Instruments to all User Groups.

The disk is a floppy and contains the standard version for those who use the MP cartridge. The flip side is for Gram devices (PGRAM or GRAM KRACKER).

Features include:

1. Almost a 50% reduction in run time.
2. Patches documented for default filenames.
3. Slight change in entering default disk, so as to accomodate Hard Disk Users.
4. An MP Startup Loader for RAM Disk or Hard Disk users.
5. Patch documented for setting screen colors.

I compared the recalculation of a large spreadsheet, using the old version and RAG's new one and did indeed find the new one to be much faster.

Simply copy the files, MPBASE, MPCHAR, MPDATA, MPINTR and Overlay to your old MPlan disk and you are ready to go. In an article I wrote on MPlan in the December 1987 issue of the Peripherel, I mentioned that the time it takes to initialize MPlan and the response time when it is working with the overlay file is affected by the location of the files on the disk. I don't know if this holds true for version 4.0, however, I did copy my files one at a time in the following order. Overlay, MPHLP, MPCHAR, MPDATA, MPINTR, and then MPBASE.

I really dislike white characters on a dark blue screen and always hit the space bar 11 times before loading the MPlan disk, so that I have black characters on cyan. Imagine my surprise, when after doing this, MPlan V 4.0 loaded with white characters on dark blue. I wasn't pleased with that.

However, included with MPlan V 4.0 is a public domain program called Ragpatch that will lay assembly patches into your program.

In his review in the March MICROpendium, Harry Brashear mentioned that he had read the docs for RAGPATCH, and couldn't understand a single word of them. Needless to say, when I read the docs, I didn't

understand them either.

But since the desire to change my screen colors was so great, I decided to brave it and use the patch included on the disk. I loaded SETUP/STD into Funnelweb and proceeded to change the screen color from F4 to 17. While I was at it, I also edited the Default drive to DSK2. I saved the file and then loaded RAGPATCH thru the option 5 loader (Program file).

Presto, in a matter of seconds, the patch was made. Now I no longer need to use the space bar to obtain the colors I want and no need to use a sector editor to permanently change the default drive.

I'm sure I will never write a patch (which is what the docs for RAGPATCH are explaining) since I don't understand assembly language. However, I was happy to have a patch available to edit and use. Also included is a patch for setting up Hard Disks and RAM Disks.

If you use MPlan, I'm sure you will appreciate version 4.0. It is available from:

RAG SOFTWARE R.A.Green  
1302 Chanteny Dr.  
Cloucester, Ont.  
CANADA  
K1C 2K9

FORTH



<\*& FORTH and X-BASIC SIMILARITIES \*>

| BASIC (or Extended)                                  | FORTH                                    | Section Location |
|--|--|------------------|
| 1. " (to enclose a string)                           | ." (needs an ending " )                  | RESIDENT         |
| 2. : : (2 blank spaces                               | CR CR (carriage returns)                 | RESIDENT         |
| 3. CALL CLEAR  | CLS (also same on apple)                 | RESIDENT         |
| 4. CALL CHAR(42, '1234')                             | 0 1 2 3 CH                               | -GRAPH           |
| 5. CALL COINC(#1,#2,8,C)                             | 0 1 8 COINC                              | -GRAPH           |
| 6. CALL COINC(ALL)                                   | COINCALL                                 | -GRAPH           |
| 7. CALL COLOR(3,2,1)                                 | 0 1 2 COLOR                              | -GRAPH           |
| 8. CALL COLOR(#1,12)                                 | 11 0 SPRCOL                              | -GRAPH           |
| 9. CALL DELSPRITE(#1)                                | 0 DELSPR                                 | -GRAPH           |
| 10. CALL DELSPRITE(ALL)                              | DELALL                                   | -GRAPH           |
| 11. CALL GCHAR(R,C,A)                                | C R GCHAR                                | -GRAPH           |
| 12. CALL HCHAR(5,3,96,28)                            | 2 4 28 96 HCHAR                          | -GRAPH           |
| 13. CALL LOCATE(#2,80,120)                           | 119 79 1 SPRPUT                          | -GRAPH           |
| 14. CALL MAGNIFY(2)                                  | 1 MAGNIFY                                | -GRAPH           |
| 15. CALL MOTION(#1,X,Y)                              | Y X 1 MOTION                             | -GRAPH           |
| 16. CALL PEEK(-31880,A)                              | -31880 @                                 | -GRAPH           |
| 17. CALL PEEK(-31880,A):: PRINT A                    | -31880 ? or -31880 @ .                   | -GRAPH           |
| 18. CALL POSITION(#1,Y,X)                            | 0 SPGET                                  | -GRAPH           |
| 19. CALL SCREEN(7)                                   | 6 SCREEN                                 | -GRAPH           |
| 20. CALL SPRITE(#1,65,10,80,120)                     | 119 79 9 65 1 SPRITE                     | -GRAPH           |
| 21. CALL VCHAR(R,C,CH,COUNT)                         | C R COUNT CH VCHAR                       | -GRAPH           |
| 22. DISPLAY AT(12,18):ERASE ALL BEEP,"WE WANT FORTH" | 11 17 GOTOXY CLS BEEP ." WE WANT FORTH " |                  |

|                              |  |           |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 23. FOR I=1 TO 500 :: NEXT I | 501 1 DO LOOP  | RESIDENT  |
| 24. (fctn)+ (Quit)           | MON  | -SYNONYMS |
| 25. IF...THEN...ELSE         | IF...ELSE...ENDIF<br>(can also use THEN)   | RESIDENT  |
| 26. LIST 'PI0'               | 93 96 TRIADS (lists 6 screens)   | -PRINT    |
| 27. PRINT A (a number)       | . (EXAm. 4 6 + . )   | RESIDENT  |
| 28. PRINT (Text)             | ." (needs an ending " )  | RESIDENT  |
| 29. PRINT (A Character)      | EMIT (Prints ASCII CHAR )  | RESIDENT  |
| 30. QUIT (End transmission)  | MON  | -SYNONYMS |
| 31. REM (for REMARKS)        | ( needs an ending ' )'   | RESIDENT  |
| 32. (RND*25)+1               | @ 24 RND   | -SYNONYMS |
| 33. SAVE DSK1.XXX            | FLUSH (Copies current screen to disk   | RESIDENT  |
| 34. TAB                      | 1 SPACE (for 1 space)<br>(n) SPACES (for more than 1)<br>enter an number for 'n' | RESIDENT  |

This list of comparisons shows the similarities of some FORTH words ie (RND,IF..THEN..ELSE,GCHAR,HCHAR - etc)and those of BASIC or EXTENDED BASIC. It also shows that 'LEARNING THE LANGUAGE' isn't all that hard.

While this list may not make you a seasoned programmer in FORTH, it should help you in " STARTING FORTH "

Chick



"HE HAD A POWER FAILURE. THE COMPUTERS WENT OUT, AND SCOTT HAD TO THINK FOR HIMSELF."



You know that Virus that was in the computer? Well the bug in this program just ate it.





The Cracker Barrel

by Chick De Marti

Oct. 1990

Debugging, an important part of programming, takes a little knowledge and keen eye-sight. Here is an example:

DEBUG Prob. #1:

```

100 DISPLAY AT(4,8)ERASE ALL
: "MAIN MENU"
110 DISPLAY AT(12,3): "1 ...
Page One"
120 DISPLAY AT(14,3): "2 ...
Page Two"
130 DISPLAY AT(16,9): "Your C
hoice"
140 DISPLAY AT(23,2): "(Choos
e 1 or 2, 0 to quit)"
150 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0
THEN 150
160 IF K=48 THEN END :: !--
(48=zero)
170 CALL WIPE :: DISPLAY AT(
23,12): "What went wrong???"
:: STOP
500 SUB WIPE
510 FOR X=12 TO 23 STEP-1
520 DISPLAY AT(X,1): "" :: !-
--(a blank line)
530 NEXT X
540 SUBEND
    
```

Why won't the SUB WIPE routine do the job? (Answer elsewhere).

~~~~~  
 "An ounce of pretention is worth a pound of manure" ... this observation from "STEEL MAGNOLIAS"

Protect Your Program

(Excerpted from Jim Peterson's Tigar-Tips 58.1)

"I recently (discovered) that a large number of programs have had the author's name erased from the title screen ... that is inexcusable..If people are going to play that dirty, maybe there is

good reason for protecting your programs.

So here's how to do it. Ken Woodcock wrote this ingenious routine and published it in the Tidewater newsletter. I have modified it so that you can delete it after it's work is done. It is to be merged into any X-Basic program (32K required) and RUN, and will change the line length byte of each line to zero, so the program cannot be LISTed.

```

1 CALL INIT :: CALL PEEK(-31
952,A,B,C,D):: SL=C*256+D-65
539 :: EL=A*256+B-65536 :: F
OR X=SL TO EL STEP -4
2 CALL PEEK(X,E,F,G,H):: ADD
=G*256+H-65536 :: J=J+1 :: I
F J<4 THEN 3 :: CALL LOAD(AD
D-1,0)
3 NEXT X :: STOP :: !@P-
    
```

Save this as FIX in MERGE format. Merge it into any Prog. (RESequenced first if it has any lines lower than 4) and RUN.

Now delete lines 1,2, and 3 using the Fctn-E key.

~~~~~  
The 4's have it!

RAG Software has announced the issuance of MULTIPLAN V4.00. "If you liked MultiPlan, you'll LOVE Version 4.00. Improvements?

- \* Speed up keyboard input.
- \* RECALC time cut in half.
- \* Use your RAMDISK, Hard-drive, or GRAM device.

TI Writer V4.5 is also available. Key features are:

- \* 100% upward compatible.

Editor improvements:

- \* Move lines, instantly.
- \* Delete lines very fast.
- \* Copy lines speeded up.

(more on next page!)

(Version 4's continued...)

- \* Cursor movement improved.
- \* Word wrap faster.
- \* CHARA1 built in.
- \* Initial setting for Word wrap, Line #s, Screen Colors, and Tabs.
- \* CTRL , (Top of file)
- \* CTRL . (Bottom of file)
- \* Enter only line number for Show Line.
- \* Null command returns to Edit Mode.

...plus several Formater improvements including 8 new commands!

The address to order these is:

RAG Software  
1032 Chantenay Dr.  
Gloucester, Ont. K1c 2K9  
Canada

~~~~~

## TROUBLESHOOTING CHECKLIST

As a TV Tech. (in the days of black and white) I went to many homes to repair a TV the "won't work any more!" only to find the plug had been pulled from the wall

Before you call the local repair shop, go through this Check List.

### MONITOR

- \* Is the switch turned on?
- \* Is the power plug plugged into the wall/or extension?
- \* Try the contrast and brightness knobs.
- \* 'Replacement Artist' always replace the ailing item with another to see if it really isn't working.

### KEYBOARD:

- \* Check the (Hose)cable plugged into the side of the console. (Rarely is the connection at the back of the P-Box the of-fender, but try it!)
- \* Again, is the switch turned on?
- \* Check both ends of the AC line.
- \* Try another keyboard!

(Troubleshooting Continued...)

### PRINTER:

#### No lights on:

- Check the Power line.
- Check the extension switch.
- Check the fuse.

#### Lights on, still don't work?

- Is the Online light on?
- Are you out of paper?
- Is the paper NOT touching the paper input lever?

NOTE: After checking all the above, are you currents in a program and is there something about the program that keeps the printer from working? An example:

The screen announces:

"Set printer and press any key.

"How many copies?"

or SYNTAX ERROR LINE 450

(These have happened to me!)

### PRINTER PRINTS GARBAGE:

- \* Check printer cable (both ends!)
- \* Have you reset the DIP switches resently?
- \* On some dot matrix printer, the cover must be on securely.
- \* Swap printers if you can!

The idea for this article came from PCNOVICE Sept.'90. A fine magazine for a beginner on any computer system.

(I obviously converted some of the commands to make this article TI compatible. cdm)

~~~~~

Answers to "no SUB WIPE"

'STEP-1' would be necessary if we were wiping lines from 23 to 12 NOT from 12 to 23. cdm.

~~~~~

I'm out of coffee,  
See you next month  
at the Cracker Barrel

Bonus Page  
The Cracker Barrel

TI-Base v3.0

\* EZ - PROGRAMMING \*

If we would read (I said READ!) the DOCs that come with TI-Base, we would know all these things, But I don't so I don't (this means I don't read, so I don't know everything!). Here's one I'll use many times:

INSERT LINE (F4 Rave Keyboard)  
(Fctn-4 regular TI)

This Exam. comes from SUDBURY 99ers

You've typed in:

DISPALY ALL UG LASTREC LASTDATE

An error message comes up because of the misspelled 'DISPLAY'. Press Fctn-4 and the above sentence will reappear. Just correct the spelling and press <E>nter.

NOTE: XBasic programmers recognize this as Ctrl-8.

\* \* there's more \* \*

And speaking of Ctrl keys, in TI-Base pressing the Ctrl key and the first letter of a one word command, it will type the command for you. Exam.:

Ctrl-A types APPEND  
(if wrong command repeat:  
Ctrl-A types AVERAGE

\* \* still more \* \*

The \* operator allows you to 'SEARCH' through any field of the DBF (data-base-file) and either PRINT or DISPLAY the records for a match of a particular word, or sequence of letters...and SORT is not required!!! Neat Huh?

This info. thank to Tom and the OSHTI newsletter.

~~~~~

Reminiscent of the EZ-Basic series I had some time ago, MERGE seems to be a confusing option to some people, so I thought I would expound on it a bit.

Most of us have come across routines that we like and plan on using them someday. (I have a group of them that I keep in a program I call "Progstart". It contains a scroll routine, and a flashing CALL KEY I like, as examples). If nothing else, you should have a disk of MISC-FROGS with routines you can MERGE into your current program. (see:

Topics Dec.-89 Chimes, Sounds of the deep.

Apr.-90 Day of The Week

June-90 Lazer, ECHO, echo and Prof.Borders.

and last Mo. CALL INVERSE by Jim Peterson, also CALL KEY by Barry Comer.

Take the short Prog. or the routine you plan to use and:

1. LOAD it
2. RESequece it to numbers above the highest in the program to be MERGED with.

NOTE: Or using the Jim Peterson's system, he took all of his special routines, and numbered them consecutively, starting up around 10000. (See about getting a copy of his NUT & BOLTS. There you will find a wealth of ready made, and conveniently numbered routines).

SAVE DSK1.<filename>,MERGE will save a routine in MERGE format. To merge it into a Prog.

3. Reload your program.
4. Merge the desired routine: MERGE DSK1.<routine>

<<< More on this next month >>>

[ See ya then ..... Chick ]

TI-BASE PRINTER CODES

I HAVE SEVERAL PRINTERS THAT I CAN PUT ON LINE AT ANY TIME. IN USING TI-BASE PRINTER CONTROL CODES I NEEDED A COMMAND FILE THAT WOULD ALLOW ME TO ACCESS ANY OF THESE PRINTERS AT ANY TIME. THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE IS WHAT I CAME UP WITH. THERE MAY BE AN EASIER WAY BUT I DO NOT KNOW WHAT. IF YOU HAVE PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

FIRST I CREATED A NEW PRINTER DATA BASE AS FOLLO. I MADE THE DATA STRUCTURE SUITABLE TO MEET ANY PRINTER CODES THAT MAY COME ALONG. THE DESCRIPTION A-L IS USED BECAUSE THE PRINTERS CODES I USED NAMES ARE DIFFERENT SEE CHART FOLLOWING.

CREATE PRINTER STRUCTURE

| FIELD | DESCRIPTION | TYPE | WIDTH |
|-------|-------------|------|-------|
| 1     | NAME        | X    | 8     |
| 2     | FF          | X    | 8     |
| 3     | LF          | X    | 8     |
| 4     | CR          | X    | 8     |
| 5     | A           | X    | 8     |
| 6     | B           | X    | 8     |
| 7     | C           | X    | 8     |
| 8     | D           | X    | 8     |
| 9     | E           | X    | 8     |
| 10    | F           | X    | 8     |
| 11    | G           | X    | 8     |
| 12    | H           | X    | 8     |
| 13    | I           | X    | 8     |
| 14    | J           | X    | 8     |
| 15    | K           | X    | 30    |
| 16    | L           | X    | 30    |

THE HEXADECIMAL CODE FOR THE ABOVE

|    | NAME | EPSON        | MX-80    | STAR-1 | STAR-2 | STAR-3   |
|----|------|--------------|----------|--------|--------|----------|
| 1  | NAME | EPSON        | MX-80    | STAR-1 | STAR-2 | STAR-3   |
| 2  | FF   | 0C           | 0C       | 0C     | 0C     | 0C       |
| 3  | LF   | 0A           | 0A       | 0A     | 0A     | 0A       |
| 4  | CR   | 0D           | 0D       | 0D     | 0D     | 0D       |
| 5  | A    | 1B47         | 1B47     | 1B7200 | 1B45   | 1B6805   |
| 6  | B    | 1B2001       | 1B48     | 1B7201 | 1B46   | 1B2001   |
| 7  | C    | 0E           | 1B5701   | 1B7202 | 1B47   | 1B2000   |
| 8  | D    | 000F         | 1B5700   | 1B7203 | 1B48   | 1B5F01   |
| 9  | E    | 1B34         | 1B0F     | 1B7204 | 1B0F   | 1B5F00   |
| 10 | F    | 1B45         | 12       | 1B7205 | 12     | 1B5300   |
| 11 | G    | 1B5300       | 1B45     | 1B7206 | 1B5701 | 1B5301   |
| 12 | H    | 1B5301       | 1B46     | 1B45   | 1B5700 | 1B54     |
| 13 | I    | 09           | 09       | 1B5701 | 1B0E   | 1B7E01   |
| 14 | J    | 1B40         | 1B44     | 1B40   | 1B40   | 1B7E00   |
| 15 | K    | 1B481B2D3014 | 1B481B20 | 1B0F   | 1B40   | 1B580575 |
| 16 | L    | 121B35       | 201B46   | 1B682  | 1B682  | 1B6101   |

FUNCTION OF PRINTER HEXADECIMAL CODE.

|    |      |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|----|------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1  | NAME | EPSON           | MX-80           | STAR-1          | STAR-2          | STAR-3          |
| 2  | FF   | FORM FEED       | FORM FEED       | FORM FEED       | FORM FEED       | FORM FEED       |
| 3  | LF   | LINE FEED       | LINE FEED       | LINE FEED       | LINE FEED       | LINE FEED       |
| 4  | CR   | CARRIAGE RETURN | CARRIAGE RETURN | CARRIAGE RETURN | CARRIAGE RETURN | CARRIAGE RETURN |
| 5  | A    | DOUBLE STRIKE   | DOUBLE STRIKE   | BLACK           | EMPHASIZED      | NLQ ORATIO      |
| 6  | B    | UNDER LINE      | XDOUBLE STRIKE  | RED             | XEMPHASIZED     | UNDERLINE       |
| 7  | C    | EXPANDED        | EXPANDED        | BLUE            | DOUBLE STRIKE   | XUNDERLINE      |
| 8  | D    | CONDENSED       | XEXPANDED       | VIOLET          | XDOUBLESTRIKE   | OVERLINE        |
| 9  | E    | ITALIC          | CONDENSED       | YELLOW          | CONDENSED       | XOVERLINE       |
| 10 | F    | BOLD            | XCONDENSED      | ORANGE          | XCONDENSED      | SUPER SCR       |
| 11 | G    | SUPER SCRIPT    | EMPHASIZED      | GREEN           | EXPANDED        | SUB SCRIP       |
| 12 | H    | SUB SCRIPT      | XEMPHASIZED     | EMPHASIZED      | XEXPANDED       | SLASH 0         |
| 13 | I    | NEXT TAB        | NEXT TAB        | EXPANDED        | EXPANDED LINE   | NORMAN 0        |
| 14 | J    | SET TAB 40      | SET TAB 44      | RESET           | RESET           | SET LMR 78      |
| 15 | K    | RESET           |                 | CONDENSED       | QUAD            | SET LMR 78      |
| 16 | L    |                 |                 | QUAD            |                 | CENTER TE       |

(X BEFORE A FUNCTION MEAN CANCEL)

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS NEW PRINTER DATA BASE I CREATED A NEW COMMAND FILE THAT MUST BE CALLED SETUP/C. THIS AUTOMATIC LOADS WHENEVER TI-BASE IS LOADED. THE COMMAND FILE GIVES YOU A CHOICE OF THE PRINTERS AND AUTOMATIC LOADS THE PRINTER DATA BASE YOU WANT. BELOW IS THE COMMAND FILE. WHENEVER YOU WANT TO CHANGE PRINTER TYPE DO SETUP AND TAKE YOUR PICK.

```

CLEAR
SET TALK OFF
SET HEADING OFF
SET RECNUM OFF
SET DATADISK=DSK2.
SET PRGDISK=DSK1.
CLOSE ALL
LOCAL B C I
WHILE B <> "X"
CLEAR
WRITE 06,10 "PRINTER USED "
WRITE 08,09 " A EPSON "
WRITE 09,09 " B MX-80 "
WRITE 10,09 " C STAR-1 "
WRITE 11,09 " D STAR-2 "
WRITE 12,09 " E STAR-3 "
WRITE 16,09 " Z NONE OF THE ABOVE "
WRITE 17,09 " X EXIT PROGRAM "
WRITE 19,12 " ENTER CHOICE "
READSTRING 19,10,B
IF B = "X"
CLEAR
CLOSE
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
ELSE
DO CASE
CASE B="A"
PRINTER EPSON
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
CASE B="B"
PRINTER MX-80
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
CASE B="C"
PRINTER STAR-AAA
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
CASE B="D"
PRINTER STAR-BBB
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
CASE B="E"
PRINTER STAR-CCC
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
CASE B="Z"
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
ENDCASE
ENDIF
ENDWHILE
CLEAR
DISPLAY STATUS
RETURN
    
```

NOW LET TAKE A LOOK HOW THE ABOVE PRINTER DATA BASE AND COMMAND FILE SETUP FUNCTIONS. LET MAKE A LABEL PROGRAM USING A EPSON TYPE PRINTER. THE FIRST LINE THEIR NAME IN EXPANDED (C) PRINT. NEXT LINE THE ADDRESS IN BOLD PRINT (F). THE THIRD LINE THE CITY AND STATE IN CONDENSED (D) AND FORTH LINE THE ZIP CODE IN SUBSCRIPT (H).

COMMAND FILE LABEL/C

DO LABEL RESULT

\* COMMAND FILE LABEL/C

SET TALK ON  
SET RECNUM OFF  
SET HEADING OFF  
SET PAGE 000  
USE DSK2.TNAMES  
LOCAL TEMP C 40  
LOCAL BLNK C 1  
TOP

WHILE .NOT. (EOF)

REPLACE TEMP WITH TRIM(FN) : " " ;  
: MI : "." : LN

PRINT (C) TEMP (CR)

PRINT (F) SA (CR) (LF)

REPLACE TEMP WITH TRIM(CT) : ", " ;  
: ST

PRINT (D) TEMP (CR) (LF)

PRINT (H) ZP (CR) (LF)

PRINT (K)

PRINT (LF)

PRINT (LF)

MOVE

ENDWHILE

CLOSE ALL

RETURN

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44060

I PLAN TO GIVE A DEMO OF THE ABOVE TI-BASE PRINTER CODES  
AT OUR NEXT MEETING

FRED MOORE

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### TI-BASE TO TI-WRITER

IN APRIL 90 NEWLETTER I WROTE AN ARTICLE ON HOW TO CHANGE A TI-BASE DATA BASE (INT/FIX) TO TI-WRITER (DIS/VAR 80). TO BETTER UNDERSTAND MY PROCEDURE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE IS REISSUED.

1. INITIALIZE A BLANK DISK SSSD DSSD OR DSDD.
2. BOOT UP TI-BASE
3. LOAD YOUR DATA BASE (USE FILENAME)
4. PUT INITIALIZE DISK IN DRIVE 2
5. TYPE SET RECNUM OFF
6. TYPE SET TALK OFF
7. TYPE SET HEADING OFF
8. TYPE SET PRINTER=DSK2.FILENAME
9. TYPE PRINT ALL OR IF YOU WISH TO ONLY USE CERTAIN FIELD.
10. TYPE PRINT ALL AND THE FIELDS (PRINT ALL LNAME,FNAME,PHONE)
11. THIS SHOULD LOAD ON YOUR DISK IN DRIVE 2 THE FILE IN DV/80 FORMAT.
12. BOOT UP TI-WRITER (FUNWEB).
13. USE THE FORMATTER LOAD AND PRINT YOUR FILE IN DSK2.
14. IF YOU DO NOT WANT DOUBLE SPACES USING EDITOR RELOAD YOUR FILE.
15. REMOVE THE CARRAGE RETURNS AND LINE FEEDS USING FCTN/X, FCTN/3
16. IF YOU WANT PUT YOUR OWN HEADER ON.
17. SAVE THE FILE USING A DIFFERENT FILE NAME.
18. PRINT THIS NEW FILE USING THE FORMATTER.
19. NO CONTROLS CODES CAN BE USED IN THE TI-BASE DATA BASE.
20. IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE CALLING UP THE FILE TRY USING THE EDITOR OF THE EDITOR ASSEMBLER CARTRIDGE.

GOOD LUCK FRED MOORE

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE  
LAGGERS MEMBERS

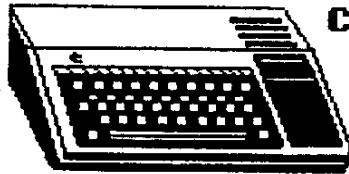
LA99 LIBRARY CATALOG DISK

I'M SLOWLY MAKING PROGRESS IN TRYING TO GET EVERY MEMBERS AN UP TO DATE DISK OF THE PROGRAMS THAT ARE IN OUR LIBRARY. I'LL SEND YOU A CATALOG DISK FREE IF YOU WILL LET ME KNOW YOUR SYSTEM (SSSD DSSD DSDD).

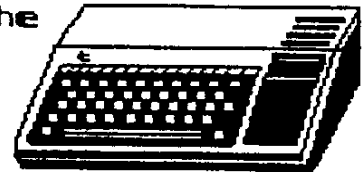
THE REASON FOR KNOWING YOUR SYSTEM IS BECAUSE THE CATALOG FILES ARE SO LARGE IT IS NECESSARY TO ARCHIVE THE DISK IN SSSD OR DSDD SYSTEM. I CAN GET ALL OF THE FILES ON ONE DSDD DISK.

FRED MOORE 7730 EMERSON AVE LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 213-670-4293





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**Fest West 91 Committee  
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Garden Grove, CA 92640**



# **FEST WEST 91**

**TI 99er Club News**

The September meeting turnout was a success (by today's standards)...with 17 people showing up. It seems ALL TI Clubs are experiencing the same participation problems. Those of us who do show up always seem to find something new of interest to re-ignite the fire we all once experienced in computing. The demonstrations were varied. I demoed DATEX, a short program to have a "Daily Reminder" automatically load when you boot-up. Fred Moore gave us another installment of his TI-Base tutorial, and Roger Slade showed some more of TI-Artist's features. Thanks to Steve Mehr we had donut holes (without coffee...still no volunteer). Too bad! But we do try to make each meeting entertaining and educational. cdm

**DOOR PRIZE WINNERS**

At the September meeting we gave away two door prizes. Steve Mehr won a Commercial Turtle Program, and Mike Hatton won an Rave Keyboard.

(Other fringe benefits to coming to a club meeting!

\*\*\*\*\*

**LA 99er Committee Members**

Equipment Mgr. John Bohler  
 Librarian: (How about you?)  
 Market Place: Fred Moore  
 Membership VP Hal Jeffrey  
 Prog.Chairman Steve Mehr  
 Refreshment: ( H e l p )  
 LA 99er STORE Gail Fair

**O C T O B E R '90**

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| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

Meeting this month - Oct. 24th

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