This newsletter is published jointly by OH-MI-TI and New Horizons TI-99/4A Home Computer Users' Groups. Material may be reproduced without permission provided the author and source are acknowledged. For more information concerning TI Users' Groups in the Northwest Ohio area, contact:
                    also THE MYARC GENEVE 9640

Robert Peters   !//////////////\\\\\\\\\\\\\!   Don Turner
President, OH-MI-TI   !   (419)   385-7484   !   President, New Horizons
225 S. Wheeling   !   TICOMM BBS   !   1690 Idlewood Street
Oregon, OH 43616   !   >>>   24-HRS   <<<   !   Toledo, OH 43615
(419) 693-7934   !   !   (419) 537-1454
                          !   SYSOPS   !
Meeting; 10 June'88 Fri   !   > TURNER - MILLS <   !   Meeting; 11 June'88 Sat
Oregon #2 Fire Station   !\\\\\\\\\\\\\\//////////////!   Unity Church   Secor Road
Time 7:00 Pm.   Time: 12:30 Pm.

THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

Roger & Judy Feinauer   Earl Hoffsis   Pat Hunsinger

LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY;

Jo Symington   Bill Sager   Don Turner

A LOT OF YOU WERE MISSED LAST MONTH
EAT JELLO WATCH ME ON TV AND GO TO YOUR TI USERS GROUP MEETING
REMEMBER WHEN I SOLD TI HOME COMPUTERS?

N.W. OHIO 99'ERS USER GROUP
%First Church Unity
3535 Executive Parkway
Toledo, OH 43606
Attn. Earl W. Hoffsis

Dallas TI Home Computer GP
c/o Louis Guion
PO Box 29863
Dallas, TX   75299

THE EDITOR
by Roger Feinauer

Well the Lima Area U/G Computer conference has come and gone, but not forgotten. It is my hope it becomes a yearly event. Yes, somehow I managed to get there. The reason I put it this way is most people think all I do is play with my TI and Geneve well it's not true. As with most everyone else their is life before and after TI. Namely, work, which I have been doing a lot of lately about 10 to 14 hours. You see I work midnights and when I got home at first I wasn't going to go. As Don and I had planned to go togather but fate wasn't with us and I couldn't get with him. Well, this is the first time I would be going to something like this and I really didn't wont to go alone but, what the heck.

After drinking a pot of coffee and thinking how small the group was at the last meeting I thought maybe I could find something to spark interest into the people to start comming back to the meetings. So at about 10:00 Saturday, Judy and I piled on the GoldWing and headed for Lima Ohio.

After a three hour ride we pulled into Lima. And after getting directions at a gas station. We found we were only a mile from our destination. Upon arriving we parked the bike in the parking lot and went in.

One large room their were demo's of the latest software going on all the time we were there. Everything from Funnelweb 4.1 to a program called 1000 Words which allows you to use TI-Writer and TI-Artist to make a type of Desk Top Publishing with the 99/4A. Then in the main room there were table after table just filled with software . There must of been fifty or more TI's setup demoing different types of software in the main room amongst the tables of software. And in the middle of this were people from different walks of life, but all held togather with one common bond, their 99/4A.

People were exchanging software and ideas. And there was always someone there to help, if you needed it, and no charge. And I thought to myself this is what a Users Group Meeting should be like. Everyone taking something back with them that could help make their old 99 a better investment, and to add to the enjoyment of computting.

NEW HORIZONS NEWS
By Don Turner
New Horizons

Greetings to all the members of **NEW HORIZONS**. I would like to see June off with all of the members at this months meeting. Be sure to attend or you could miss something that would benefit you. There will be prizes and some interesting ideas at this meeting. We will be meeting at UNITY CHURCH on Executive Pkwy at 12:30 on June 11th.

This month TIM TAYLOR will demo a mail keeping program that looks quite promising. As in the past New Horizons will not be meeting during the summer. That also means no newsletter until we continue in September.

MICROPENDIUM is available each month at the club sales desk. These are in limited quantities so be sure to get yours while they last. MICROPENDIUM has some of the latest news and software concerning the TI-99/4A and the GENEVE 9640. Also, it has reviews on software/hardware and much, much more.

Anyone who has borrowed from the lending library and the exchange newsleters should return them this month so that we can update our library and get it ready for September. Please return the exchange newsletters to BURR MALLORY and the software to CHRIS DEWY.

HAVE ANY ? ? ?

GENEVE 9640
by Roger Feinauer

There isn't much this month as Myarc is very quiet. But from the rumor mill I've heard there is a combination math coprocessor and midi card in the works. And I also heard someone is in the the process of finishing a vidio grabber digitizer card for PE-Box. This one is of interest as it should be capable of inputing text from a vidio camera in a single scan , what a time saver. But this will need a math coprocessor to be of any use.

While I was in Lima I met some very interesting people one of which was Jim Peterson of Tiger Club Fame. It's funny when you think of meeting someone famous you can think of all kinds of great things to say. But when the time comes everything just seems to get forgotten. Well all I could think of was thank you for all the great software. And after I said it I said to myself that was great Roger you ding dong. Of all the things you could of said to someone who has done so much for the 99/4A. But then the more I thought about it, I guess that was enough.

Also other people I met at the meet were Tom and Judith Thalner. Judith or Judy as she seemed to like to be called is the president of ED-COMP 6516 O'Henry Circle North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039 phone 1-216-327-6579. These people are really friendly and helpful and are a good source of both TI and Geneve software and hardware. They have such items as Myarc Hard disk Controllers which can handle up to 3 hard drives, this goes for $319.95, with cables $339.95 (this is not the floppy hard disk cont.). Another item is a Hard Disk Box and Power Supply for $159.95. They also have various sizes hard drives. 5,10,and 20 meg. Drives-> Please Call for current prices. And other TI-computers and Myarc computers and hardware plus a ton of software.

Another company to try is L.L.Conner Enterprise, Computer and Electronics 1521 Ferry Street, Lafayette Indiana 47904. Larry L Conner Voice(317)742-8146 (BBS) (317) 423-4879.

I hope these listings will help some of you to find new sorces in finding those hard to find items for your computers, or if you have only a 99/4A computer and cassette and would like to expand your system there are still places to find these items.

I also made friends with some of the people in the Cleveland area Users Groups. One that comes to mind is Deanna Sheridan of Cleveland Area 99/4A User Groups 20311 lake Road Rocky River,OH. 44116 Phone 216-333-5986. She has a special meeting every third Monday of the month where they get togather to create new graphics to use with their computers. Such as ti-artist, csgd, and TI-Writer TL codes. Maybe some of the members in our group might like to do this? Just think of what could be done with all of this information. Well Deanna said if anyone would be interested in starting this type of thing in their club to give her a call. She would be happy to give the information to get you started.

Another friend I met while in Lima is Bill Johnson ,116 Poplar Ave. New Philadelphia, OH. 44663. He lives a long ways from other people who have TI's. Bill tells me he has to travel a 100 miles to go to a Users Group Meeting. So if you could, drop Bill a line or two this kind of dedication deservers something. Bill also has a Geneve 9640 and has some interesting software to trade.

Last month I told you about the Rave99 Speech Synthesizer card, and gave it all A"s . Well, after having it for a month it's grade has gone down to a C-. The reason for this is som times when on my Geneve first loads a cartrage from disk from GPL the card light comes on and everything locks up. Another time is when I tried to print a calendar with Calendar maker 99 from Asgard Software, which can be a real pain.   If anyone out there knows a fix for this please drop me a line .

Member of the Month

by Jo Symington
NEW HORIZONS
Don and Joni Turner

Don and Joni are quite active in New Horizons Club. Don is president and Joni works the sales desk.

They just moved into their first home on Idlewood Rd. this past year. Their two sons, Don age 7 and Michael 2, are frequent guests at our meetings.

Don works for the Lucas County Housing Authority in Maintenance. He has an associate degree in Business Management and Computer Progaming. He likes to repair small engines, rycling and camping. But most of all, he "loves his computer."

Joni works for Maritz Marketing Reasearch doing Data Entry. She enjoys gardening, crosstich and camping.

They are looking forward to a camping and tubing trip this summer down the Au Sable River in Northern Michigan.

GRAMULATOR.
by CaDD Electronics

CaDD Electronics

52 Audobon Road Haverhill, MA. 01830
(617) 372-0336

Introducing the GRAMULATOR. A gram simulating device every TI owner should have.

The following is a list of the GRAMULATOR's features:

The GRAMULATOR simulates 64K of GRAM and 16K of RAM (in two 8K banks at >6000->7fff) and as an option 32K of RAM (in four 8K banks at >6000->7fff) for the Milton Bradley Expansion (MBX) cartidges.

1.   You can customize the built-in TI operating system in GROM 0 and TI BASIC in GROMS 1 and 2.

2.   You can backup your GROM and ROM cartridges to disk to protect your investment and reduce wear on the cartridge port. All TI, Atarisoft and Parker Brothers cartridges work fine.   MBX cartridges work with option installed.

3. Acts as a "Super Space" cartridge allowing you to run programs requiring RAM at >6000->7fff (including Myarc's XBII)

4.   Allows you to use a customized GROM 0, 1 or 2, while a cartridge is in the slot. One application is that you can use your own charachter set with a cartridge like TI-Writer.

5.   Capable of loading user written GPL code.

6.   A total 96K (80K available for use without /mbx option) of memory with lithium battery backup.

7.   Battery located outside case for easy replacement.

8.   All loading and saving of cartridges is software controlled for ease of use by the novice.

9.   All cartidges files saved and loaded by the GRAMULATOR are compatible with GENEVE 9640 and the Gram Kracker by MG (except MBX files).

The software needed to load and save GRAM and GROM will be built in for instant access. A memory editor, which will be supplied on disk, will allow you to alter and save any program loaded into the built-in GROM or RAM. User documentation and technical information will also be included.

Memory Expansion and a disk drive are REQUIRED to take advantage of the GRAMULATOR.

At a cost of $180.00 the GRAMULATOR, with all the features listed above, would be a worthwhile investment for any TI 99/4A owner. Information on the MBX option will be available for user installation or can be ordered at the time of purchase for an additional $50.00 (Mass. Residents add $9.00 sales tax to the GRAMULATOR's cost and #2.50 to the MBX option price.)

If you have any technical questions please feel free to call us at (617) 372-0336 after 6:30 PM EST. THis letter is meant to answer any questions you may have. If it does not then please call or write for further information.
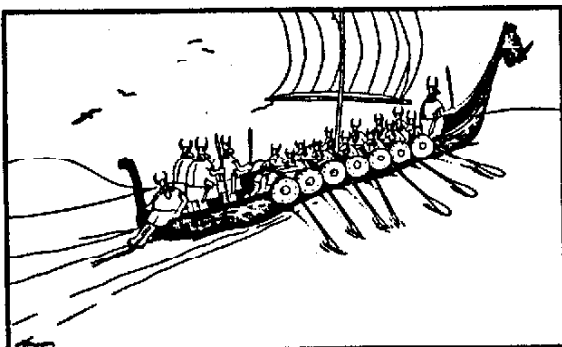
MAKE YOUR OWN DATA DISK FOR CERTIFICATE99
MATT ANDEL - TI-CHIPS - CLEVELAND, OHIO

You need Certificate99 and Ti-Artist to do this.

1) Copy the back side of Certificate99.
2) Use a disk manager program (DM1000) and rename the file name CDATA21 to CDATA21_P and CDATA22 to CDATA22_P.
3) Then load TI-Artist and choose 1) TI-Artist from the main menu. Then press S for store. Then press L to Load Picture. Now the filename is CDATA21.
4) Now you should see 12 little graphics. Now you will have to draw 3 lines going down between the pictures and 2 lines going across between the pictures.
5) Now you can erase the little graphics but not the lines you drew.
6) Then press FCTN Quit to return to the main menu. Then press 2) Enhancement. Then press S for slides. Press 6) to load instance. Now you can load your own instances and put them in the boxes you drew before.
7) When you have put your 12 instances in the boxes, press FCTN Quit to return to the main menu. Then press 1) TI-Artist. When TI-Artist comes up, get the eraser and erase the lines you drew before.
8) Now you can press S for store and S for save. The filename you will save it as is CDATA21, and you are finished with that file.
9) Now you will repeat steps 3-8, but the filename is CDATA22 and not CDATA21.
10) When you are done with CDATA22, you can exit TI-Artist and go back to your disk manager program and rename the file CDATA21_P to CDATA21 and the file CDATA22_P to CDATA22.
11) Now you can load Certificate99 and when it tells you to flip the disk around, put in the disk you just made. Your border and font choices will be the same, but the graphics will be the ones you just made.
12) And that's all there is to it!
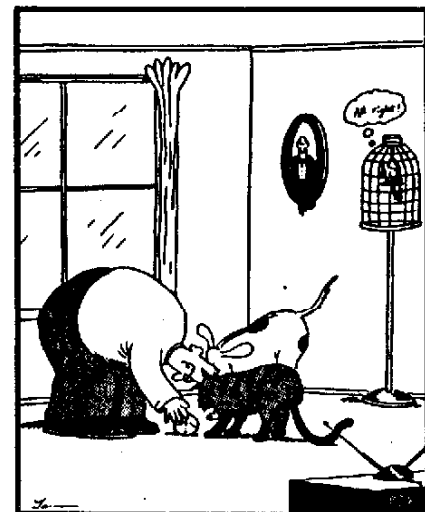
Simultaneously all three went for the ball, and the coconut-like sound of their heads colliding secretly delighted the bird.

TI-WRITER TRICKS
Ozark 99er News

retyped for
NEW HORIZONS
by Judy Feinauer

Some of you may use TI-Writer enough to be extremely proficient at it, while others may know just enough to get by. By necessity, I've had to be counted among the former. With my trusty Gemini 10X, I've written dozens of papers as well as a Master's Thesis with TI-Writer. Along the way, I've picked up a few nifty tricks that make TI-Writer perform like the software written for Big Blue. I thought that I might share a few of these tricks with you. All of you will know some of what follows, and some of you may even know everything, and still others may prefer to do things differently. But some of these tips may benefit enough readers to make this article worthwhile. Many of the hints which follow will work only with Gemini or compatible printers, so be forwarned.

IN THE BEGINNING

When writing a paper, I never worry about formatting commands--at first. I set the tabs at 2 and 38, so that all text can be viewed within the monitor screen. I then proceed to type to my heart's content, knowing that the formatting commands will be added later. When text is typed this way, you will run out of memory in about 630 lines or so. Don't type that much. Stop around 400 lines, save it, and start a new file. This is convenient for two reasons. First, it takes forever to save and load a 600 line file (about 30 seconds per 100 lines). While it really doesn't matter (technically) if a file is broken up, this may prevent comprehension difficulties when you are composing the text.

"Mass" Files

After typing the text, and saving it (calling it, say, DSK1.XXX), I call up my "MASS" file (I literally call it "DSK1.MASS" for lack of a better name), which I always keep nearby. As many of you know, one file (when printed) can call up another using the "Include File" (>IF DSK1.FILENAME) formatting command. To ease things a bit, I put nearly all my formatting commands in one file, with the last line being ".IF DSK1.XXX". The formatting commands I use (but you may prefer others) are:

```
!  .LM 9

!  .RM 69

!  .PL 58

!  .LS 2

;  .FI

!  .HE              % (OR.FO)

!  .IN +5

!  .IF DSK1.XXX

!  .IF DSK1.YYY
```

This will give double-spaced text, about 25 lines long, nifty margins, with page numbers, no less. Don't forget to load the file "DSK1.MASS", not "DSK1.XXX" when formatting.

Embedded Commands

You are easily able to embed two printer commands, besides the familiar and (underscoring) and **(overstriking)** commands (others can be embedded, but

with sore difficulty; these will
be discussed later). These two
commands are emphasized and
double-strike. The "Emphasized"
commands is "ESC E". To enbed
"ESC E", type the following:
"CNT U", "FCTN R", "CNT U"
(these three keystroke
combinations will henceforth be
called "ESC") "E". You will see
on the screen a funny character
and an "E". Don't put a space
bar between these characters.
These will not be printed, and
unlike "_" and "", they will work
even if you print the file (PF)
while you are in the Edit mode.
Everything following these
symbols will be emphasized. To
cancel the command, type "ESC"
"F". Important Note! If you do
not intend to "fill" you text
(i.e., include the formatting
command ".FI"), or if you are
printing in the Edit mode, then
watch out. Embedded commands
exist in the eyes of the
monitor, but they do not exist
in the eyes of the printer.
Consequently, all printed text
will be moved two places to the
left (at least for the line of
text in which the embedded
command appears). Embedded
double-strike is "ESC" "G", and
is cancelled by "ESC" "H". This
command is different from "" in
that "ESC" "G" continues to
double-strike until commanded to
stop. The same warning
concerning moving text applies
here, too.

Transliterate Statements

For some documents, I add a
few "Transliterate" commands
(>TL x:y,z). A transliterate
statement enables the printer to
print out y,z whenever it
encounters x, without actually
printing x. As an important
example, think about
"underlining". NO, not
underscoring, but underlining.
For those of us with dot-matrix
printers, this is a big
difference. Underscoring merely

puts a line under each letter,
while underlining puts a
continous line under whole
word(s). To do this, include
these two formatting lines:

  : .TL 60:27,45,1

  : .TL 62:27,45,0

With this, whenever "<" is
encountered, the printer begins
to underline, and will continue
to do so until it encounters
">". Therefore, if these
commands are used, <these words>
will be underlined, while these
words will be underscored.
ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTE: If your
left margin is other than "0",
and you are underlining a lot of
continuous text, you will have
annoying underlines in the left
margins. To avoid this, there
are two remedies. One is to
print out your document first,
and then add the ">" at the
appropriate places to cancel the
underline and "<" at the
beginning of the next word to
begin it again, and so on. The
second remedy is to place your
tabs at 9 and 69 when you are
typing your document (using
those annoying windows) and
placing the "<" and ">" at the
appropriate places in the text
(and make sure that you do not
"fill" your document). I find
this to be the easiest method.
Because of the hassels,
underlining is most ideal for
using with words or short
phrases only.

Maybe you want to italicize
certain words in your text. Put
these .TL commands in:

  : .TL 123:27.52

  : .TL 125:27,53

With these commands, everthing
following a (will be italicized
and everything following) won't

Calendar Maker
An artistic, up-to-date program

By HARRY BRASHEAR

One thing that all computers do, sooner or later, is the calculations necessary for the production of a calendar. The TI has not been left out of this basic ability and, over the years, we have had our share of calendar programs and generators. They've included everything from "teeny-tiny" wallet size, to 8½ x 11s, and in every printout style imaginable. The programmers have done their jobs very well but, to date, not one of them has treated the calendar as an art form. Yes, I said an "art form".

Take a look around your local book store in January if you question that term. There are shelves upon shelves of picture calendars covering every subject from sea slugs to nude studies. It's an "art form," designed to decorate the stark face of your refrigerator, cover the hole in the bathroom wall, or generally, prevent a 2000 year old device from becoming a boring experience. Like the bookstore calendar, the TI community will now have the ability to jazz up the mundane, common calendar.

I am speaking to you about Asgard Software's Calendar Maker, a creation, primarily, of Asgard's owner, Chris Bobbitt. An example of this program's potential can be seen here as the month of May. The original was a full-size computer page, that took about 10 minutes to print. Quite fast when you consider everything that goes into the make-up of the example.

There are a number of steps in making up such a printout, but it's not difficult. This is one of the most user-friendly programs I have ever seen. (I do not use such terms loosely.) In general, there are four steps in calendar creation:

1. Determine whether you want to do a year calendar or a month calendar.

2. Place the text and pictures on the calendar.

3. Set up the type styles, headline, and message.

4. Print out the calendar.

Building one of these calendars is like constructing a piece of fine architecture. I think that's what Asgard had in mind during the entire programming process because, looking back, it seems like I truly "constructed" the page you are looking at.

There are a couple of things you should prepare before you get going on the calendar, though, so let's talk about them first.

The top area of the calendar is a Picasso Publisher picture. This program was selected because of the enormous working area allowed, something in the neighborhood of 480 by 360 pixels. This allows for a very quick, non-calculated picture, or, in other words, a ½-page dump. So if you intend to use pictures, you should be prepared with your favorite "Picasso prints."

The little pictures in the date squares are TI-Artist instances that I transferred over from CSGD graphics. This, of course,

Review

Report Card

Performance	A
Ease of Use	A
Documentation	B
Value	A
Final Grade	A –

Cost: $19.95 plus 75 cents postage
Manufacturer: Asgard Software, P.O. Box 10306, Rockville, MD 20850
Requirements: 32K, TI Extended BASIC, Epson or compatible printer and disk system.

ASGARD SOFTWARE PRESENTS

CALENDAR MAKER 88

BY CHRIS BOBBITT AND ED JOHNSON

TAKING THE TI TO THE LIMIT

MAY   1988

MABE BY HARRY T. BRASHEAR
2753 MAIN STREET
NEWFANE NY 14108

PC-Transfer

From April 1988 MICROpendium

A conversion utility with a future

By JOHN KOLOEN

PC-Transfer, written by MICROpendium columnist Mike Dodd, is the second program to come along that allows TI users to transfer text files between the TI and PCs. CorComp came out with TI/IBM Connection last year. TI/IBM Connection is a cartridge-based program that works only with the CorComp disk controller.

Unlike the CorComp cartridge, PC-Transfer works with the CorComp or Myarc disk controllers. A disk-based program, it is not protected, it loads from an E/A 5 type loader, including Funnelweb, or several versions of Extended BASIC, including TI, Mechatronics and Super Extended BASIC. It may be run from a TI with the CorComp or Myarc controller or from the Geneve with a Myarc controller. It won't work with a TI controller because the TI controller doesn't support double density.

Performance: Utilities such as this are generally straightforward in operation. Designed to serve a single purpose, they either work or they don't. PC-Transfer works fine. I found no problem in converting text files from TI to MS/PC-DOS format, and vice versa. I tried it using Myarc and CorComp disk controllers on a 4A and a Myarc controller on a Geneve and it performed the same on all three. It uses a 40-column screen in all three variations.

Data conversion is rapid. A file consisting of 40 sectors is converted in less than a minute. Operation of the program starts with designating one drive for the TI disk and another for the MS-DOS disk. To convert a file from one to the other, you run a catalog of the source disk. Then, with the cursor, you select the files to be converted and mark them with a "C." Having designated the files, you press "E" to execute.

However, unlike the TI/IBM Connection, there is another mandatory step before the conversion is completed. The file names selected for conversion now appear on the screen, one by one. You are required to enter a filename by which the file will be written to the target disk. At first, this may seem like an unnecessary procedure. But bear in mind that MS-DOS

Review

Report Card

Performance....................A
Ease of Use....................A
Documentation..................B
Value..........................A
Final Grade....................A

Cost: $25
Manufacturer: Genial Computerware, 835 Green Valley Dr., Philadelphia, PA 19128
Requirements: disk system with two floppy disk drives or one floppy drive and a RAMdisk, expansion memory, Extended BASIC or Editor/Assembler

filenames may include a period while TI won't. And TI will accept slashes but MS-DOS won't. For example, if you were to convert a PC file called TEST.TXT to the TI, you wouldn't be able to load it into memory on the TI because the TI doesn't recognize a period as part of a valid filename. Similarly, a TI file named TEST/TXT could be converted to MS-

DOS but couldn't be loaded into memory because the PC doesn't recognize a slash as part of a valid filename. TI/IBM Connection allows the user to change filenames prior to selecting them for conversion.

PC-Transfer works fine whether converting one or multiple files.

PC-Transfer is designed to work out of two floppies, but may be operated with one floppy and a RAMdisk. Of course, the floppy would be designated as the MS-DOS disk.

As with any conversion process, printer codes are difficult to translate. Carriage returns from a TI document won't be translated into the carriage return/linefeed combination used to mark the end of record for text files in MS-DOS. Embedded commands from PC word processors for boldface, italics, etc. won't be converted into TI executable format commands. Similarly, TI-Writer formatter commands won't be translated into PC-executable printer commands either. The manual suggests designating a character to be used in place of carriage returns in a TI document that can be globally replaced by carriage return/linefeed after conver-
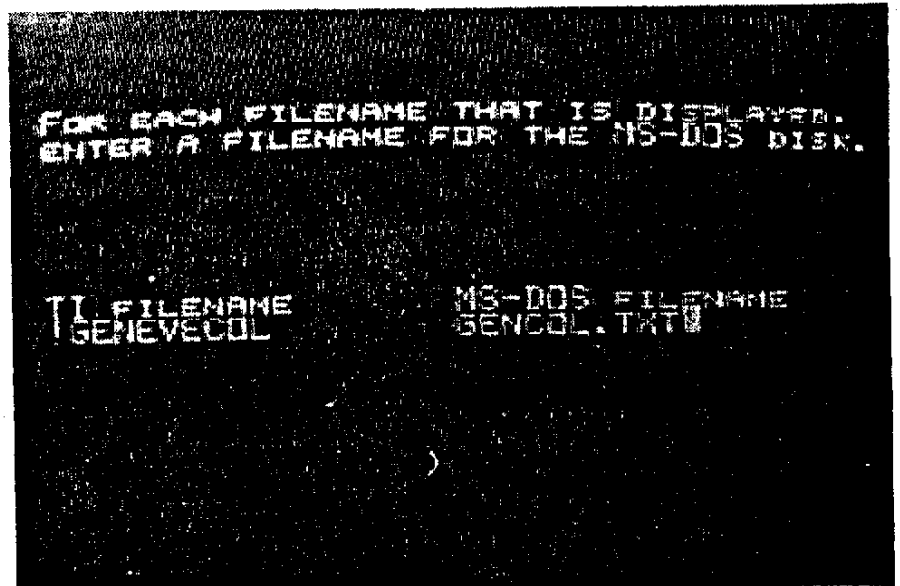
CALENDAR MAKER—

must be done outside of the CM environ-ment, but there is one other step in this pro-cess that CM does take care of. If you will take notice of the second and third Satur-days, you will see that the bottle and glass, (my pictorial selection for party time) is compressed the first time.

This is because the calendar is printed in compressed, or double-density, graphics mode. Hence, the instances are badly distorted if used as is. CM has a converter built into the program that not only changes the suffix from "_I" to ":P" but also doubles the width of the instance so that it appears normal, while in fact, it is real-ly compressed. You are given the option of doing this so I left the first bottle as it was to show you the difference.

Once you have your pictures and in-stances ready on a work disk, you go into CM and first tell it whether you want a year calendar or a month. The year calen-dar is not intended to have pictures at the top, or message lines, so instead it will print out two months on each page. It would also be appropriate to tell you that you are allowed to print up to 40 text blocks and pictures on a single month, but only 40 for an entire year calendar. If you have a big family and a lot of birthdays to remember. I would suggest you do a whole year, one month at a time. In the Create Calendar section, you make the aforemen-tioned decisions and let the program know what month and year you want. Since the program allows any year from 1600 to 2400, Asgard suggests that this may be a good program for history teachers. (Nice idea!) When you're finished, you are automatically sent to the next step.

I said this program was user friendly and the design area is the first place this becomes truly evident. The month you have selected takes up the better part of the screen, and a giant hollow cursor is used to run around and get the days you want to say something about. You have full use of the arrow keys to do this. When you get to the day you want, press enter and you are asked if you want to place a picture, text or delete something there. If you want a picture, a window opens up on the right with all of the picture file names it found on your work disk. You just go down the list with the arrow keys and hit enter at the

file you want. What could be easier!

If you want text instead of a picture, you get another window with full edit ability. Take a look at the 31st and you will see how much info you can put in. I found what I would consider a bug here, though. If you write in the first two spaces of the first and second lines, you will lose it in the printout. Once you find this out you can just avoid the spaces. I would rather you weren't allowed to use them to start with. The month is saved when you're finished and you are sent to the layout sec-tion of the program.

In the layout, you select the type of border you want around the dates, the fonts you want to use for the text, and year/month titles. There are a few of each of these on the disk to choose from, but later on, a utility disk is supposed to be available so that you can make up your own. I will be looking forward to that.

Finally, you get to print out all of your hard work. If you are printing out a month calendar as I was, you have the option of printing a three line message at the bottom. This could easly be a business name and address or anything else you like. If you elect not to print a picture on a month calendar you can make this a 13-line message. I might also point out that without the picture the calendar is centered on the page.

In summation, this is one h·ck of a pro-gram.'I haven't seen a calendar program like it for any computer.

There are a couple of things I would like to see changed, primarily the saved files. They are all default names and you lose all of your hard work if you use the same disk for each month. Also, while the pro-gram is very well thought out and friend-ly, the docs were not up to Asgard par. Since Asgard is very reliable in upgrading where and when they should. I suspect these problems will all be ironed out by the time you read this review.

※ ※ ※

be. This is great if you want to italicize just one word in the text for stress.

Perhaps you need subscript for footnotes:

1 .TL 94:27,03,0

1 .TL 92:27,84

PC-TRANSFER—

sion to MS-DOS. As for other printer and formatter commands, you'll just have to reconstruct them on the target machine.

Just in case anyone misunderstands what the function of PC-Transfer is, it is to con-vert ASCII files from TI and MS-DOS machines. It does not do spreadsheet files, nor programs. nor any non-ASCII file. You'll want to make sure that the PC word processor you use will save a file in ASCII format prior to converting it for use on the TI.

In addition to converting text files, PC-Transfer is also capable of formatting PC disks in any of four formats.

Ease of Use: Most users won't even need to skim the manual to use this pro-gram. Everything is prompted and the on-ly confusing part to me was deciding why it is necessary to rename the target files.

Documentation: The manual is a 5-page booklet that outlines the operation of the program and provides a few suggestions on handling printer codes and the like. I would have liked to have seen more in this regard.

Value: Although PC-Transfer earns its grades on the basis of its performance, there's the promise of more to come. After booting the program, there is an option to load conversion tables. At this point, only one such table exists and it is the default table that does ASCII conversions. But there is the possibility of creating other tables for conversion of other types of files (spreadsheets, databases, etc.) between the TI and PCs. This is an exciting prospect, if the capability is developed. I only wish that additional information about this capability would have been included in the manual so that users could start experimenting.

Even so, or perhaps because of its pro-mise, PC-Transfer is a fine utility for anyone who needs to transfer documents between PCs and the TI or Geneve. For those with Myarc disk controllers, it's the only choice while those with CorComp controllers now have a choice between two fine conversion utilities. ※ ※ ※

When " " is encountered, everything following it is in subscript. The command is stopped when "" is encountered. If your text is not being double-struck, then after "", you should add "ESC" "H", since the superscript command automatically begins double-strike. To resume emphasized print, you must add "ESC""E", since superscript automatically cancels it.

Disc discovery reverberates

BY STEPHEN ADVOKAT
Free Press Communications Writer

The tremors are still being felt from Tandy Corp.'s recent announcement that it has developed a way to record on and erase compact discs.

"We couldn't believe it when the announcement came out," said Alan Zeichick, technical director for the laboratory at CD ROM, a trade publication devoted to computer and digital technology. "Tandy has really caught the world by surprise."

Perhaps not the whole world. But certainly many in the electronics business were surprised by Tandy's announcement.

One major criticism of compact discs has been their inability to be used for home recording. Like vinyl records, compact discs on the market today only reproduce music. But unlike vinyl, CDs reproduce near-perfect sound without the annoying hiss and crackle common to records.

Digital audio tape (DAT) was meant to fill that recording gap. DAT is a new tape format, similar to cassettes, which can reproduce CD-quality music.

Indeed, DAT is so good the recording industry has mounted a campaign to force manufacturers to include special chips in the units to prevent them from recording.

Representatives of the Recording Industry Association of America, a music trade organization, have complained that millions of dollars will be lost because consumers will tape copyrighted music from their friends' records and CDs rather than buying their own.
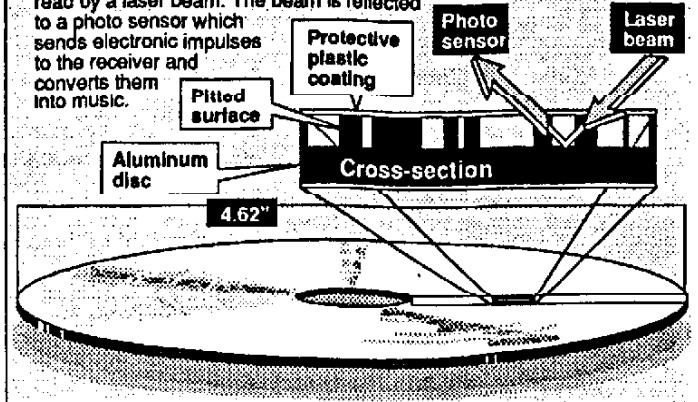
Tandy's announcement may make that debate moot. In the next 18 to 24 months, Tandy says, it will have compact disc players on the market for under $500 that will record onto special CDs.

For competitive reasons, the company refuses to say how that will be possible. But Zeichick of CD ROM has a theory.

If you cut a conventional CD in half, it would look a little like a sandwich. First is a layer of plastic, then a layer of aluminum with tiny holes punched in, then another layer of plastic.

A laser beam bounces off the disc, sometimes reflecting off the aluminum, other times not reflecting when it hits the holes. Information — often music — is encoded onto the aluminum.

Tandy's reusable discs will look like conventional CDs, although they'll be blue rather than silver.

Instead of holes, Zeichick believes Tandy may have developed a chemical that is placed between the plastic. Sometimes the chemical will reflect light; other times it won't.

"What makes it change, I don't know," said Zeichick. "But once something has been recorded, the chemical will reflect light well enough to look like holes and not-holes."

Tandy is not the only company working on a reusable CD. Sanyo and Sony, for example, are also mentioned as working toward introducing a recordable CD within the next two years.
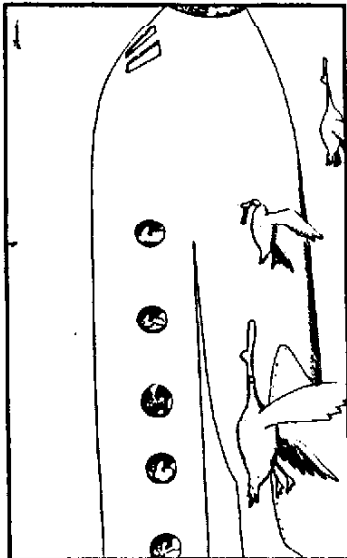
Nor does Tandy have a product to show analysts or consumers.

It announced last month that it had developed the technology and was pursuing agreements with manufacturers to produce the recorders. However, Tandy will make the blank discs and is expected to have a CD player/recorder on the market under its own name.

That's what's expected. The reality could be something different.

To the music industry, reusable CDs are an even more potent threat than DAT, because CDs are more durable than tape.

"We are concerned about any technology that permits people to copy sound recordings without authorization and compensation," said RIAA president Jason Berman. "It may well be more of threat. We are going to try to talk to Tandy and find out what their plans are."

How a compact disc plays

A compact disc has a pitted surface which is read by a laser beam. The beam is reflected to a photo sensor which sends electronic impulses to the receiver and converts them into music.

Protective plastic coating

Photo sensor

Laser beam

Pitted surface

Aluminum disc

Cross-section

4.62"

MARTHA THIERRY/Detroit Free Press

L ike vinyl records, compact discs on the market today only reproduce music. But unlike vinyl, CDs reproduce near-perfect sound without the annoying hiss and crackle common to records.

```
***********************************
*                                 *
*        The Word Counter         *
*                                 *
*       Dr. Roy T. Tamashiro      *
*                                 *
***********************************
```

Many people feel so good about their writing when they learn to use a word processor, they believe their writing deserves to be published. And they are often right. Some of their writing does deserve to be published. Are you one of these hopeful writers? If so, you have probably searched through the publication guidelines of periodicals or journals, and run across a statement like, "We invite writers to submit unsolicited manuscripts."

Your fantasy goes wild. "Unsolicited could mean me. This might be a chance for someone to discover that I'm the next Ernest Hemingway."

You read on: "The manuscript length should be 8,000-10,000 words." You're puzzled. You ask yourself, "How much is 8,000 or 10,000 words?" You search your memory. You remember that your high school English teacher mentioned some sort of formula for estimating how many words there were on a typed, double-spaced page. But you can't remember the formula. Was it 300 words per page, or 250, or 600?

The program listed below, THE WORD COUNTER, will count the exact number of words in a TI-Writer document, or other documents saved in the "Display/Variable 80" format. To get a word count of a manuscript, type the program using Extended BASIC and save it. When you RUN the program, you must indicate whether you are working with a TI-Writer document or another D/V 80 document. The program filters out "formatter commands" as it analyzes TI-Writer files. No filtering is done on other D/V 80 files. The total word count is shown after the file has been analyzed. In addition, the number of syllabified words are given -- these are words which are hyphenated at the end of one line and continued on the next line.

```
100 !*****************
110 !* WORD COUNTER *
120 !*****************
130 !AUTHOR:ROY TAMASHIRO,ED
.D
140 !APRIL 1988
150 CALL CLEAR :: S2$=RPT$("
 ",2):: WC=0 :: HY=0
160 DISPLAY AT(1,9):"WORD CO
UNTER":TAB(9);"------------"
:TAB(5):"1988. ROY TAMASHIRO
"
170 DISPLAY AT(6,1):"PRESS:"
: :TAB(4);"1 FOR TI-WRITER F
ILE": :TAB(4);"2    OTHER D
/V 80 FILE": :TAB(4);"3 TO
QUIT"
180 DISPLAY AT(22,7):"YOUR C
HOICE (1-3):" :: ACCEPT AT(2
2,26)VALIDATE("123")SIZE(1):
C$
190 ON VAL(C$)GOTO 200,200,4
00
200 DISPLAY AT(22,1):"ENTER
FILENAME:":"DSK1." :: ACCEPT

AT(23,4)SIZE(-12):F$ :: F$=
"DSK"&F$ :: OPEN #1:F$
210 DISPLAY AT(6,1):"Analyzi
ng..."
220 LINPUT #1:A$ :: CALL HCH
AR(8,3,32,532):: DISPLAY AT(
8,1):A$
230 IF EOF(1)<>0 AND C$="1"
THEN 370
240 IF A$="" THEN 360
250 IF C$="2" THEN 280
260 IF SEG$(A$,1,1)="." THEN
360
270 T=POS(A$,"*",1):: IF T>0
 THEN A$=SEG$(A$,1,T-1)&" "&
SEG$(A$,T+1,LEN(A$)-T):: GOT
0 270
280 IF (SEG$(A$,1,1)<"!" OR
SEG$(A$,1,1)>"~")AND LEN(A$)
>1 THEN A$=SEG$(A$,2,LEN(A$)
-1):: GOTO 240
290 IF (SEG$(A$,LEN(A$),1)<"
!" OR SEG$(A$,LEN(A$),1)>"~"
)AND LEN(A$)>1 THEN A$=SEG$(
A$,1,LEN(A$)-1):: GOTO 240

300 IF A$=" " THEN 360
310 T=POS(A$,S2$,1):: IF T>0
 THEN A$=SEG$(A$,1,T)&SEG$(A
$,T+2,LEN(A$)-1):: GOTO 310
320 FOR I=1 TO LEN(A$)
330 IF SEG$(A$,I,1)=" " THEN
WC=WC+1
340 IF I=LEN(A$)AND SEG$(A$,
I,1)="-" THEN HY=HY+1 :: WC=
WC-1
350 NEXT I :: WC=WC+1
360 IF EOF(1)=0 THEN 220
370 CLOSE #1
380 DISPLAY AT(6,1):"TOTAL W
ORD COUNT IS:";WC: :"INCLUDI
NG";HY;"SYLLABIFIED WORD(S).
"
390 DISPLAY AT(22,1):"ANOTHE
R COUNT? (Y/N)" :: ACCEPT AT
(22,22)VALIDATE("YN")SIZE(1)
:N$ :: IF N$="Y" THEN 150
400 CALL CLEAR :: END
```