TRI CITIES 99er COMPUTER GROUP

JULY 1984 NEWSLETTER

****

WELCOME!!

We have two new members in the club--

   Clive Bergland of Richland
   Hugo Liddy, also of Richland

Please make them welcome next time you see them.

KING of the CASTLE

As an official TI Users Group, we were recently offered a deal the board just couldn't pass up. It seems some programmers down in Portland came out with this neat game just as TI called it quits. Their timing was not great, but their offer to us was; we buy the game along with a limited license to copy it for our membership. You all know my thoughts about users groups copying programs for each other illegally. This is legal! And besides, the game is good. It's written in assembly language, so you need either 1) Extended Basic and 32K, 2) Editor Assembler and 32K, or 3) Mini Memory cartridge. Now we know you all don't have this kinda equipment; however, we felt there were enough folks either with or intending to get the equipment to justify the acquisition. Sue has it in the library in either tape or disk format.

DID YOU KNOW?

The TMS9918A video display processor found in our computers is the same chip used in the ColecoVision, Coleco ADAM home computers, and the Japanese MSX standard. This little piece of silicon is the magic behind our 16K RAM. Its primary purpose is to run the TV screen, but what's left over (more than 16,000 bytes!) is used as memory space.

SYSTEM FOR SALE

The response to my ad was underwhelming (1 to be exact!), so I've decided to break up the system and sell portions. See the attached sheet for specifications, groupings, and prices. These items go on sale beginning July 21st.

FREE COMPUTER NEWSLETTER

The publishers of the Computer Data Report are willing to give you a free quarterly subscription on the chance that you'll like it so much you will sign up for a year ($48).

The newsletter specializes in identifying sources of free-but-legal data in a whole variety of areas. Of course, you must have a modem and the TE II to tap into these databases and most are long distance phone calls, but some may be just what you've been looking for.

   Computer Data Report
   Information USA
   12400 Beall Mt. Road
   Patomic, MD 20854
   (301) 983-8220

28 COLUMNS

This next tidbit may not be of much interest to some of you, but I just have to share my solution to the "28 column question". Now just what might that be, you ask incredulously. Well now, suppose you wanted to share a program listing with your friend and you wanted it to be in 28 column format so that it looks just like the TV screen when your friend goes to type it in. (You just gave her the listing, not a program tape. Cheapo.) We all know it's easy to get the computer to LIST a program by just typing LIST. And it will LIST to a printer by

typing LIST "RS232". But the printout is 80 columns wide for the long program lines, not the 28 you wanted. The solution requires a disk drive and X Basic.

Step one is to select X Basic, then load the program you want into the memory.

Step two is to now LIST the program (in memory) onto a disk rather than the screen or printer. This puts the program into DIS/VAR 80 format. The command to do this is LIST "DSK1.xxxxxx", where xxxxxx is a name for the program. Keep the name short and don't use the same name as the original that you loaded in step one.

Step three is to clear the memory by typing NEW and (Enter). Then load the following conversion program:

```
100 REM ******************
110 REM * 80 TO 28 COLUMN *
120 REM *    CONVERSION    *
130 REM * X-BASIC & DISK   *
140 REM *        BY        *
150 REM * D ARTER   JUN84 *
160 REM ******************
170 CALL CLEAR
180 PRINT "NAME OF FILE TO B
E CONVERTED"
190 INPUT "IS: DSK1.":F$
200 OPEN #1:"DSK1."&F$,INPUT
,DISPLAY ,VARIABLE 80
210 OPEN #2:"DSK1."&F$&"C28"
,OUTPUT,DISPLAY ,VARIABLE 80
220 PRINT "CONVERTING LINE N
UMBER";
230 X=1
240 LINPUT #1:A$
250 A=1
260 B$=SEG$(A$,A,28)
270 IF LEN(B$)=0 THEN 320
280 PRINT X
290 PRINT #2:B$
300 A=A+28
310 GOTO 260
320 X=X+1
330 IF EOF(1)THEN 350
340 GOTO 240
350 CLOSE #1
360 CLOSE #2
370 PRINT "CONVERSION COMPLE
TED"
380 END
```

I cannot tell a lie; I got the idea for this program from Kevin Lillard's column in the July issue of the Computer Shopper (which, by the way, is an excellent issue for those of you into modems and tele-computing). The reason that it requires Extended Basic is in line 240, LINPUT, which tells the computer to ignore commas in the program lines. The reason for the disk is, of course, the ease of sucking up lines and laying the converted ones back down really fast. Those of you without disk drives can try to modify the program for dual cassettes; good luck!

Step four is to RUN the Conversion program, entering the name you used in step two as the program to be converted. The computer gives your 28 column listing the name xxxxxxC28. That's why I said to keep the name short in step two.

Step five is to clear the memory again by typing NEW and (enter). Now load the following program, which I call "Print":

```
100 REM ******************
110 REM * SIMPLE PRINTER *
120 REM *     PROGRAM     *
130 REM * X-BASIC & DISK *
140 REM *       BY        *
150 REM * D ARTER JUNE84 *
160 REM ******************
170 CALL CLEAR
180 PRINT "FILE TO BE PRINTE
D"
190 INPUT "IS:DSK1.":ZZ$
200 OPEN #1:"DSK1."&ZZ$,INPU
T ,DISPLAY ,VARIABLE 80
210 OPEN #2:"RS232.BA=1200"
220 LINPUT #1:XXX$
230 PRINT #2:XXX$
240 IF EOF(1)=1 THEN 260
250 GOTO 220
260 CLOSE #1
270 CLOSE #2
280 END
```

RUN the Print program, using xxxxxxC28 for the name of the program to print. You may have to change the baud rate setting in line 210 to match your printer.

Step six is to give your friend her copy of the program, now in 28 column format. As a final note, those of you with TI Writer can load the converted program into the text editor and play with it from there.

NEW PROGRAMS -

TCM-2001. SORT TESTER. A programmer's utility to test 17 different sorting routines, four shoehorns, etc., etc., on alphabetic lists of selected length and randomness. The results will surprise you, and will help greatly in selecting the best sort for various jobs. On disk only, requires Extended Basic, Memory Expansion.

TC-132. SCRAMBLE TEST. A programmer's utility to try out four different scrambling or shuffling routines, to find the one best suited for a particular purpose.

133 PROGRAMS ON CASETTE OR DISK, JUST $3.00 EACH!

CATALOG $1.00, REFUNDED ON YOUR FIRST ORDER.

You're thinking that a $3 program can't be much good? You've sent for bargain programs before, and got junk? Well, I can't offer an unlimited moneyback guarantee because there are some folks who would order a hundred programs, copy them all into their library, and then demand a refund! But, send me $3 for any one of my programs, plus $1.50 for my actual cost of casette, package and postage...and if you don't think it's a good program at any price, send it back and I'll refund your money in the next mail!

If I can't soon convince some of you folks that I have something worth buying, I'll be closing up shop!

And the Tigercub was much disturbed to read in one of the newsletters a proposal that the members should buy some of my programs to swap into their user's group library! Can you think of a better way to ruin what little business I have?

The expression "borrow and review before you buy" is nothing but a euphemism for "copy instead of buying" and the copying of copyrighted programs is a violation of Federal law. User's groups which loan out copyrighted unprotected programs are encouraging stealing - and when you copy Tigercub programs you're stealing pennies from a beggar!

Fortunately, the great majority of the user's groups are very conscientious about observing the copyright laws, and I am very grateful to them.

Last month's challenge was to write a one-line program in Extended Basic which would take only 70 seconds to scramble the numbers from 1 to 255

into a completely random sequence without duplication. Well, you do have to shove it, but:

```
100 FOR J=1 TO 255 :: M$=M$&
CHR$(J):: NEXT J :: DIM N(25
5):: RANDOMIZE :: FOR J=255
TO 1 STEP -1 :: X=INT(J*RND+
1):: N(J)=ASC(SEG$(M$,X,1)):
: M$=SEG$(M$,1,X-1)&SEG$(M$,
X+1,LEN(M$)):: NEXT J
```

The challenge for this month - can you unfurl the U.S. flag (49 stars!), from the mast out, in 2 lines of Extended Basic?

A tip for you disk drivers - flip and back up! Disk sectors don't go bad very often, but it does happen, and the program or file that you lose is usually the one that you can't replace. So it pays to make a backup, but then you need twice as many disks, and disks do cost money. Some folks say that a flipped disk is more likely to go bad, others don't think so, but anyway it doesn't happen very often. So, if you back up your program on the flip side of another disk, the chances of both going bad are almost nil, and it hasn't cost you a penny.

And don't spend $20 for one of those "disk flipping kits". They consist of a template and a paper punch. You can make a template for nothing from the cover of an old disk that's gone bad. And the paper punch you can buy in an office supply store for about a dollar - try to find one that has the plastic protector on the lower jaw to catch the punchings and to protect the disk. A square write-protect notch is not necessary, a half-round one works just as well. A bottle of typist's "white-out" is handy for marking the spots to be punched.

Do you want that "arcade effect" in your musical tones or single-note music? Instead of CALL SOUND(D,N,V), write CALL SOUND(D,N,V,N*1.01,V).

SOMEBODY ACTUALLY WROTE ME A LET-
TER AND SAID THEY LIKED THE CRYPTO-
CODER IN THE LAST TIPS. SO, SINCE
WORDSEARCH PUZZLES ARE SO POPULAR
AS SPACE-FILLERS IN THE NEWS-
LETTERS...

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 REM - PROGRAMMED BY JIM
PETERSON OF TIGERCUB SOFTWA
RE, 156 COLLINGWOOD AVE., CO
LUMBUS OHIO 43213
120 PRINT " TIGERCUB WORDSEA
RCH MAKER": : :" MAKE YOUR O
WN WORDSEARCH":"PUZZLES. USE
 THE ARROW KEYS"
130 PRINT "AND W,R,Z AND C K
EYS TO MOVE":"THE ASTERISK A
ROUND. HOLD":"DOWN THE CTRL
KEY WHEN YOU"
140 PRINT "WANT TO TYPE A LE
TTER. WHEN":"YOU HAVE FINISH
ED PUTTING IN":"WORDS, PRESS
 ENTER AND THE"
150 PRINT "COMPUTER WILL FIN
ISH THE":"PUZZLE. THEN IF YO
U WANT TO":"SAVE IT ON TAPE
OR DISK,":"PRESS P.": : : :
160 PRINT : :"PRESS ANY KEY
TO START."
170 CALL KEY(0,K,ST)
180 IF ST=0 THEN 170
190 CALL CLEAR
200 DIM L$(24)
210 R=12
220 C=16
230 CALL HCHAR(R,C,42)
240 FOR J=5 TO 12
250 CALL HCHAR(J,J,ASC(SEG$(
"TIGERCUB",J-4,1)))
260 NEXT J
270 CALL KEY(5,K,ST)
280 IF ST<1 THEN 270
290 ON POS("WERSDZXC"&CHR$(1
3),CHR$(K),1)+1 GOTO 430,300
,340,330,310,370,390,400,360
,460
300 R=R-1-(R=1)
310 C=C-1-(C=3)
320 GOTO 410
330 C=C+1+(C=30)
340 R=R-1-(R=1)
350 GOTO 410
360 R=R+1+(R=24)
370 C=C+1+(C=30)
380 GOTO 410
390 C=C-1-(C=3)
400 R=R+1+(R=24)
410 CALL HCHAR(R,C,42)
420 GOTO 270
430 IF K<129 THEN 270
440 CALL HCHAR(R,C,K-64)
450 GOTO 270
460 FOR R=1 TO 24
470 FOR C=3 TO 30
480 CALL GCHAR(R,C,G)
490 IF (G<>42)*(G<>32)THEN 5
50
500 RANDOMIZE
510 CH=INT(26*RND+65)
520 L$(R)=L$(R)&CHR$(CH)
530 CALL HCHAR(R,C,CH)
540 GOTO 560
550 L$(R)=L$(R)&CHR$(G)
560 NEXT C
570 NEXT R
580 CALL KEY(3,K,ST)
590 IF (ST=0)+(K<>80)THEN 58
0
600 PRINT "SAVE TO:":"(C) CA
SETTE?":"(D) DISK?",
610 INPUT Q$
620 IF Q$<>"D" THEN 660
630 INPUT "NAME OF FILE? ":Q
F$
640 F$="DSK1."&QF$
650 GOTO 680
660 IF Q$<>"C" THEN 610
670 F$="CS1"
680 OPEN #1:F$,INTERNAL,OUTP
UT,FIXED 192
690 FOR J=1 TO 24
700 IF INT(J/6)*6=J THEN 730
710 PRINT #1:L$(J),
720 GOTO 740
730 PRINT #1:L$(J)
740 NEXT J
750 CLOSE #1
```

OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE LUCKY
FOLKS WITH A PRINTER......

HERE'S ANOTHER MUSICMAKER FOR YOU.....

```
100 REM TIGERCUB COMPOSER
110 RANDOMIZE
120 DEF A=VAL(SEG$(T$,INT(3*
RND+1)*3-2,3))
130 FOR P=1 TO 4
140 ON P GOSUB 200,220,240,2
00
150 FOR J=1 TO 4
160 CALL SOUND(-999,A,5,A*2,
0,A*4,10)
170 NEXT J
180 NEXT P
190 GOTO 130
200 T$="131165196"
210 RETURN
220 T$="123147196"
230 RETURN
240 T$="110131175"
250 RETURN
```

OUT OF MEMORY IN LINE 250

HAPPY HACKIN'   JIM PETERSON

SOUND EFFECTS

Here's some interesting sound effects you may wish to try out. The first resembles a crash:

```
100 REM **CRASH**
110 FOR A=1 TO 28 STEP 3
120 CALL SOUND(130,-5,A)
130 NEXT A
140 FOR B=29 TO 30
150 CALL SOUND(250,-5,B)
160 NEXT B
```

This next is a sound like footsteps:

```
200 REM **FOOTSTEPS**
210 FOR C=1 TO 10
220 CALL SOUND(80,-6,8)
230 CALL SOUND(30,-7,1)
240 CALL SOUND(30,-7,1)
250 FOR D=1 TO 100
260 NEXT D
270 NEXT C
```

This one sounds like one of those European sirens going down the road:

```
300 REM **SIREN**
310 FOR E=1 TO 5
320 CALL SOUND(500,400,0,401
,0)
330 CALL SOUND(500,510,0,511
,0)
340 NEXT E
```

For the grand finale, you bike lovers will enjoy this next one:

```
400 REM **MOTORCYCLE**
410 CALL SOUND(3000,250,30,2
50,30,400,30,-4,0)
420 FOR F=1 TO 600
430 NEXT F
440 FOR G=630 TO 510 STEP -4
0
450 FOR H=G TO G+300 STEP 10
460 CALL SOUND(-500,250,30,2
50,30,H,30,-4,0)
470 FOR I=1 TO 2
480 NEXT I
490 NEXT H
500 NEXT G
510 CALL SOUND(-4200,250,30,
250,30,820,30,-4,0)
```

LIBRARY

Cassettes

Arithmetic Teacher
Exchange Series 1 thru 10
Games Pak 1 thru 4 (Arter)
King of the Castle
Loan Amort/Trails West/Tic-tac-toe
Outer Spelling
SAMS 51 Fun and Education Programs
Teach Yourself BASIC

Disks

Education
Games Pak 1 thru 4 (Arter)
Home Computer Magazine Games
King of the Castle
Quick Copier
Teach Yourself Extended Basic
TI Public Programs III
Utilities
10 Basic Games

Magazines

99er/Home Computer
Enthusiast 99
Computer Shopper
Byte
Micropendium

Other

TI FORTH (Manual and Disk)
Mini Memory Manual
Atlanta 99ers Software Library Listing

INDEX
  0 = PAGE #
  1 = LNAME
  2 = FNAME
  3 = ST1
  4 = ST2
  5 = CITY
  6 = ST
  7 = PHONE
  8 = SINCE
  9 = NUM
 10 = PAID
 11 = OFFICE

0	2	1	5	9	8
1	DENNIS R.	ARTER	KENNEWICK	A001	83/06
2	PAUL & KARLA	RANDLEMAN	KENNEWICK	A002	83/06
3	BERNIE/JOANNE	WOEHLE	RICHLAND	A003	83/06
4	DUANE & TRINA	DUSTIN	RICHLAND	A004	83/06
5	SUE	CARVER	RICHLAND	A005	83/06
6	RUSSELL L.	ARCHIBALD	KENNEWICK	A008	83/06
7	DAVID	WOOTAN	KENNEWICK	A012	83/06
8	GORDEN/CHRIS	COWAN	RICHLAND	A013	83/12
9	"J.R."	MC KENZIE	RICHLAND	A014	83/12
10	CANDY	PEARSON	RICHLAND	A015	83/12
11	EUGENE J.	WALTER	RICHLAND	A016	83/12
12	LYNN	MILICIA	RICHLAND	A017	83/12
13	MEL	FAUGHT	KENNEWICK	A018	83/12
14	R.K.	SPEER	RICHLAND	A019	83/12
15	M.V.	FOOTE	RICHLAND	A020	83/12
16	BILL	JACKSON	RICHLAND	A021	83/12
17	MIKE	PATTERSON	RICHLAND	A022	83/12
18	TERRY	TERRASS	RICHLAND	A023	83/12
19	BILL	YOUSEY	SUNNYSIDE	A024	83/12
20	TROY	KLINGELE	PASCO	A025	84/01
21	DAVID	HANSON	KENNEWICK	A026	84/01
22	CLINARD V.	HILL	KENNEWICK	A027	83/12
23	KEVIN	TATUM	KENNEWICK	A028	84/01
24	DONALD	FARQUHAR	RICHLAND	A029	84/01
25	JERRY/GLORIA	STARR	RICHLAND	A030	84/01
26	JAY	DUCE	RICHLAND	A031	83/12
27	GARY/MARLENE	CLEVELAND	KENNEWICK	A032	84/02
28	GARY	MEERDINK	KENNEWICK	A033	84/02
29	WILBUR	ASH	GRANDVIEW	A034	84/01
30	MARC	NORMAN	RICHLAND	A035	84/04
31	JAMES & KAY	DIVINE	RICHLAND	A036	84/05
32	LARRY & SALLY	POWERS	RICHLAND	A037	84/05
33	LYNN	ORR	RICHLAND	A038	84/06
34	CLIVE J.	BERGLUND	RICHLAND	A039	84/06
35	HUGO	LIDDY	RICHLAND	A040	84/06

TI-99/4A COMPUTER SYSTEM
DENNIS R. ARTER
1117 W. Park Hill Drive
Kennewick, WA 99337
(509) 586-3423

No.	DESCRIPTION		BOUGHT	COST	CURRENT PRICE	SALE PRICE
A	COMPUTER	99/4A	SEP 82	$229.80	$79.95	
	CASSETTE CABLE (DUAL)		SEP 82	$12.75	$14.95	
	TAPE RECORDER (USED) GE		DEC 83	$15.00	$20.00	
	JOYSTICKS	PHP 1100	OCT 82	$29.75	$27.95	
	46 GAMES ON TAPE		N/A	$42.00	$30.00	
				$329.30	$172.85	$125.00
B	EXPANSION SYSTEM, CONSISTING OF:					
	BOX	PHP 1200	MAY 83	NO CHG	NO CHG	
	RS-232 CARD	PHP 1220	MAY 83	$148.75	$100.00	
	32K CARD	MULTICOM 1000	DEC 83	$95.00	$130.00	
	DISK CONTRLR	PHP 1240	JUN 83	$212.50	$199.95	
	DISK DRIVE	TANDON S/S	JUL 83	$180.00	$179.00	
				$636.25	$608.95	$525.00
C	SPEECH SYNTHESIZER		NOV 82	NO CHG	$79.95	$35.00
D	EXTENDED BASIC PHM 3026		JAN 83	$90.00	$85.00	$80.00
E	TI WRITER	PHM 3111	MAY 83	$85.00	$85.00	$75.00
F	MULTIPLAN	PHM 3113	MAY 83	$85.00	$85.00	$75.00
G	PERS REC KEEP	PHM 3013	SEP 82	$42.50	$29.95	
	PERS REPT GEN	PHM 3044	JAN 84	$10.00	$10.95	
				$52.50	$40.90	$30.00
H	TERM EMUL II	PHM 3035	OCT 82	$42.50	$29.95	$20.00
I	PARSEC	PHM 3112	OCT 82	$34.00	$24.95	
	MUNCHMAN	PHM 3057	APR 83	$34.00	$24.95	
				$68.00	$49.90	$30.00
J	TUNNELS/DOOM	PHM 3042	JAN 84	$18.50	$24.95	$20.00
K	SECURITIES	PHM 3012	JUL 83	$34.00	$10.95	$8.00
L	GAMES PAK III	EXTD SFTWR	NOV 83	$26.95	$26.95	
	FROGGY	EXTD SFTWR	NOV 83	$9.95	$9.95	
	CRAZY FUN HS	MILLERS GRAPH.	DEC 83	$17.95	$17.95	
				$54.85	$54.85	$40.00
M	COMPACTOR PLUS	DYNAM DATA	FEB 84	$29.95	$29.95	
	DATA BASE 300	INTL USERS GP	JAN 84	$14.95	$14.95	
				$44.90	$44.90	$35.00

All items to be sold in the groupings as shown above. Sale
starts Saturday, July 21st. All items are FOB Kennewick.
(That means if I gotta ship out of town, you pay the extra.)
Personal checks OK, as long as they don't bounce!

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 18, at 7 pm. (Yup. That's the third Wednesday of the month.) Don will try to get us a guest lecturer on the various **programming languages** available for computers. Learn all about Pascal and ADA, FORTRAN and COBAL, and assorted other misfits!

For August, we've tentatively settled on "Inside Your Computer", where we intend to actually take a TI-99 apart. Don't you dare miss it.

As always, your Board would appreciate your views on the kind of programs you would like to see at the meetings.

FARE THEE WELL

Because I'm selling my equipment and intend to be spending considerable time in the startup of my new business, this will be my last newsletter. Now, before you all go out and jump into the Columbia River in agony, let me tell you that Mel Faught has agreed to take over as newsletter editor. I will continue to be around in the background, but Mel's got it now. Those of you in other User Groups reading this, please notice the address change.

I'm also gonna be out of town for the next two meetings (July and August), so our Vice President, Don Farquhar, will be the "President Pro Tem" until another soul volunteers for the position. It's been fun and I've enjoyed being with all my new-found friends in the group.

7/7/84

Address all correspondence to:

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