

Asgard News

An Asgard Publishing Publication

Vol. I No. I

\$3.00

The <u>Alternative</u> magazine for the TI-99/4A

What is ASGARD NEWS?

Well, for the owner of one of more products by Asgard Software it is an indispensible source of tips, update notices, and new related products. It will tell you what's wrong, and what's right about our software, and what we have up our sleave next for the TI community.

For the average user, it is a source of the latest news from the grapevine, what's up, what's down, who's hot and who isn't. It will keep you informed with the kind of information you'd have to spend hundreds of dollars a month on telecommunications networks to find out 2 months after it is old news.

For the person in the market for 99/4A hardware, it is an unbiased, nuts and bolts reviewer of the latest in 99/4A technology. It will help you dissect a new device before you spend hundreds of dollars for it.

For every TI-99/4A owner it is a forum where all the issues facing the 99/4A will be discussed - from every angle. It is a magazine of opinion that will deal with the hard issues - what is the significance of the Geneve, is piracy killing software support, and most importantly - where will we be in 2 years, or 10? This magazine will also tell you where we've come from - the last days at TI, what products were never released and whose working on releasing them now?

In short, ASGARD NEWS is a news magazine for the 99/4A. We'll keep you informed, we'll outrage, we'll prove you right and wrong. If you are interested in the TI-99/4A - this magazine will interest you.

Subscribe now to this 16-32 page quarterly for only \$6.00 - 50% off our cover price. Canadian subscribers please add \$2.00 and all others please add \$4.00 for airmail delivery.

Asgard News

Volume 2, Number 1 \$3.00 U.S., \$4.00 Can.

An Asgard Publishing Publication

A Magazine for Everything you do!

Asgard News is many things. It's a hard-hitting, timely news magazine for the TI-99/4A and Geneve user that gives you the complete picture - who's up and who's down. Who's working on what, and when it'll be available. Who's arrived and who left. If you ever wanted to find out what the "movers and the shakers" in the 99/4A world are doing, this magazine is for you.

Asgard News also gives you important consumer information. Our authors discuss the many programs available for the 99/4A, and which is best for which application. Within our pages you'll find specific recommendations, as well as general discussions of new products, and new things you never knew our little computer could do.

This magazine also touches on the hard issues facing the TI-99/4A world. We've discussed the State of the User Group, as well as pondered in our pages the future direction of software and hardware development for the machine. Asgard News will tell you where the 4A community has been and give you predictions as to where we might go.

Asgard News is also a resource for the 4A user. We've published extensive, up-to-date lists of vendors, user groups and more. In the coming issues we'll provide even more valuable lists that you'll find indispensible. Every issue of Asgard News is printed on quality paper that will last

through years of hard use.

For the novice or inexperienced user, Asgard News is an invaluable collection of hints, tips and tricks on using your 99/4A. Our acclaimed "Beginner's Corner" explains all of those difficult computer terms and concepts in depth, in language the average person can understand. Our "Timely Tutorials" give step by step methods on using popular programs.

Finally, for the user of Asgard Software products, Asgard News keeps you up-to-date on bug reports, recent releases, and the current versions available of all our products.

All in all, each information-packed issue contains the kind of information you'd have to spend months or even years researching. It is written and edited by 99/4A veterans with a combined total of almost 30 years of experience with this the machine, and over 5 years of experience with the Geneve. We answer your questions, point to new directions, and show you how you can do more with what you have.

For a limited time only, subscribe to this periodical for only \$9.00 for 4 issues - \$3.00 off the cover price for 4 issues. Canadian subscriptions are available for \$12.00 U.S., and Airmail subscriptions are \$16.00. Group rates are available on request.

BATCH-IT

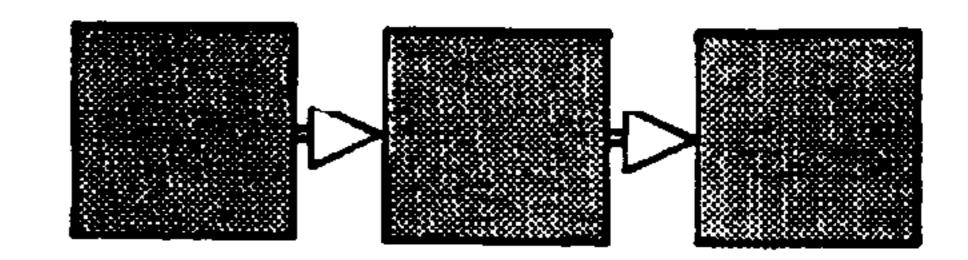
By Tom Bentley & Charles Earl



Batch-It, by Charles Earl (author of Telco) and Tom Bentley (author of PrEditor), is a remarkable program for the TI-99/4A and Myarc Geneve 9640 that allows you to "programs", and ultimately, do more on your computer with less work.

Batch-It is a programming language that produces programs that sit in a separate area of memory, and run at the same time as your assembly language applications run. Your Batch-It program can add features and even automatically run your applications for you. The big question, of course, is what this can do for you.

If you are a program user: Batch-It runs behind many popular applications - Telco, Funnelweb, BA-Writer, DM1000, and numerous databases, drawing programs, and other assembly programs. You can use Batch-It to add macros (commands that make one keystroke do the work of many) or "help" screens to any of these programs. For instance, you could make a batch program for TI-Writer that automatically saves your file to disk, quits from the Editor, runs the Formatter and prints your text file all on a single keystroke!. You can even use Batch-It to capture data or even entire screens from one program, run a second program and put the data or screen in the second program. Batch-It can be used to run strings of application programs, put data (including keystrokes) in those programs, and transfer data between application programs without you having to do more then start it all up. You can even use Batch-It to create menus so you can run any programimage assembly program from a key-stroke. If you use Telco, you could even create "scripts" that automatically dial up your favorite service, get you on-line and then even download files on the press of a single key.



If you are a programmer: You can create batch programs that automate the compile-assemble-link-run process of c99, Pascal, Fortran 99 or assembly. Imagine pressing a single key and coming back later to see dozens of

source code files compiled, assembled, linked and the program running! Also, Batch-It can be used to make automatic demos of any program-image assembly program. Imagine sitting down and spending an hour writing a complex demonstration of a program instead of spending weeks to make a custom demo version?

The things you can do with this program are only limited by your imagination. This program adds capabilities you just can't otherwise have on your 4A or 9640, and would be hard-pressed to find on other computers.

\$19.95 plus \$.75 S&H

Send to:

Asgard Software P.O. Box 10306 Rockville, MD 20850

Requires: TI-99/4A.or Myarc Geneve 9640, a disk system, and either a Databiotics Superspace, supercart or Mini-Memory module.



For TI-99/4A Computer Users

10 A.M. -5 P.M.

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Lexington, MA

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Saturday, April 9, 1988

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MUNCH (Worcester)
Greater Brockton

Los Angeles U6 Ottawa (Canada) New Hampshire 99'ers

SPEAKERS, SPEAKERS, SPEAKERS

Topics: II-Writer, FunnelWeb, Plato, Gramulator, and more....

PANEL DISCUSSION TI LUMINARIES

Barry Traver, J. Peter Hoddie, Paul Charlton, Mike Dodd, Warren Agee, Scott Darling, Chris Bobbitt, Jonathan Zittrain, Tom Freeman, and Terrie Masters, are only a few of the exciting people you'll be able to meet at this year's Fayah.

USED EQUIPMENT

Want to turn your surplus TI Equipment into cash? Bring it to the Fayah and we'll sell it for you! Disk Drives, Expansion Boxes, Modules, Keyboards, Books, whatever.....Your Trash may be someone else's Treasure!

For Further Information Contact:

BCS Bulletin Board 331-4181 or 335-8475 Or J. Peter Hoddie (School 375-6003) (Home 861-8733 during Spring Break)

Directions

Off Route 95. EXIT 31A to Route 4 towards Lexington

General Public: Take a Left at the Mobil Station (just past the traffic light) onto North Hancock Street. When N. Hancock joins Hancock Street at the Lexington Gardens, go past the front of Lexington Gardens and take the next left onto Coolidge Avenue. At the end of Coolidge Avenue, take a left onto Adams Street. The next left off of Adams Street is Hathaway Road (ignore the Fiske School on your right). Then take another Left onto Stedge Road which leads directly into the Diamond School's Main Parking Lot at the front of the building. (School is unmarked).

Vendors Entrance: Exit 31A Off Route 95 towards Lexington, left at Mobil Station just past the traffic lights onto North Hancock. When N. Hancock joins Hancock Street at a triangle, follow the road that runs behind Lexington Gardens past the side of the greenhouses for rear entrance to Diamond School (building has two parking lots that do not join each other).



For TI-99/4A Computer Users

10 A.M.-5 P.M.

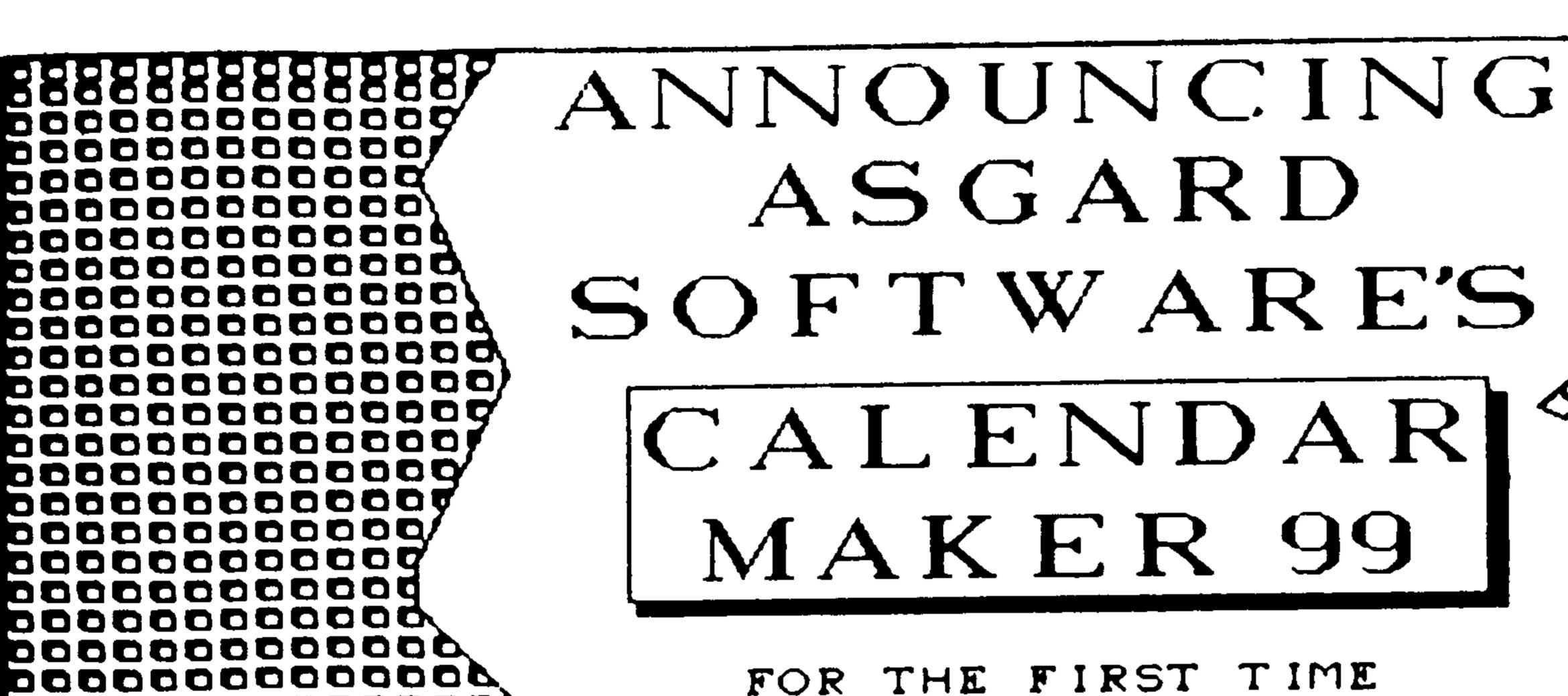
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FOR THE FIRST TIME

Create full-rase ongmonth ricture. calendars rase full-year oalendars aulokly and easily!

CALENDAR MAKER 99 is program calendar generate custom beautiful pictures on calendar calendar ricture create a gun hegt or any month of Get 1600-2400 from



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SATURDAY FRIDAY THURSDAY WEDMESDAY TUESDAY MONDAY SUNDAY Lousin Ithel's Birthday Stay in bed from too much July 4th celebratins Aunt Frick gets out of Prison arranse bus ticket. Cecil Broderick Drum set -arranse to sell house.

> ASGARD SOFTWARE Box 18386 Lekville, MD 20850

CALENDAR MAKER 99

lalendar Maker 99 is the only program hat allows you to create large. letailed, picture calendars on a 1-99/4A or Myarc Geneve 96401

deal for the teacher, student, business person, office worker, or anyone else hat wants to create a calendar, CM99 vill let you create customized calendars quickly and easily.

CM99 has the following features:

- time for any year between 1600 and 24001
- Put small pictures or text notes on any individual day of the calendar. CM99 lets you zoom in on a day and type a note or place a picture.
- Desine the border style, all the typesaces and calendar headers.
- Print month calendars with or without a half-page picture and a 3-13 line user-definable message!
- Print year calendars 2 months to a page.
- Easy-to-use, even an adult can use itl
- Use TI-Artist Instances on the days.
- A complete library of small pictures, typefaces, borders and example files are provided with the program get started right out of the box!
- Fast.
- Extensive documentation included.

CALENDER MAKER 99 can be used to create customized calendars for any application. If you use calendars, and don't want to pay the high printing and typesetting costs of creating a custom calendar for your business, work, school or home, then Calendar Maker 99 is for youl Requires: 32K, TI Extended BASIC, Epson or compatible (Panasonic, TI, NEC, HP, IBM, etc.) printer, and a disk system. Functions fine with a single drive but two are recommended. The Picasso drawing program is also recommended, but not required. Available for only:



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Box 18386

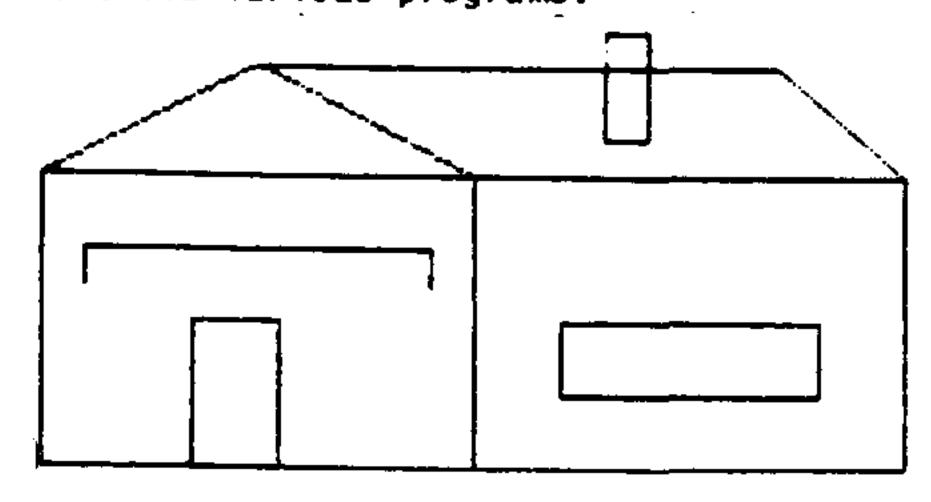
Rockville, MD 28858

ASGARD SOFTWARE P.O. BOX 10306 ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 (301)559-2429

C L A S S © by Bill Harms Copyright Jan. 1988

Create Letters And Special Shapes for Signs, screens Add a touch of it to your work. A bold new program to make signs, posters, and generate draftings, and otherwise put the Triton SXB Module's drawing commands to work with pixel perfect accuracy!

REQUIRES Triton Super Extended Basic, 32k memory, disk. Compatible printer and Joystick recom'd. COMPATIBILITIES -- OTI-Artist's P Picture or Instance files for great effects and via DISPLAY-IT or OART-CONVERT to put pictures, letters, etc. into text documents using OTI-Writer's Formatter to print, and convert the drawing to be usable directly by TI's Extd Basic via various programs.

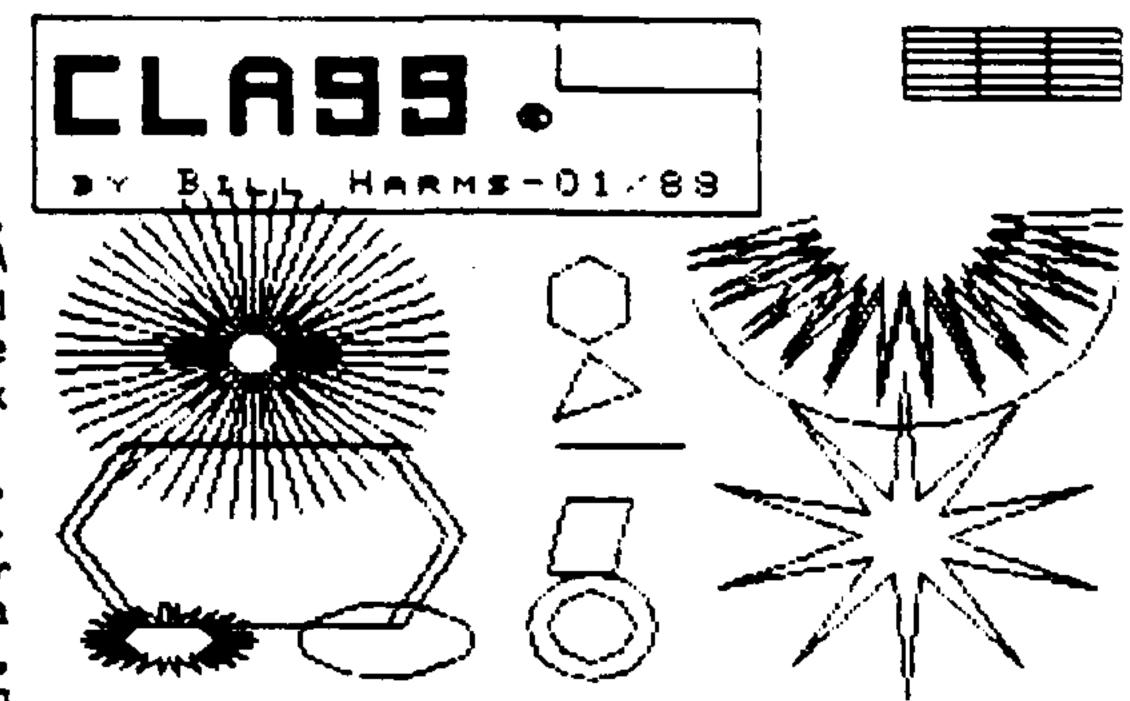


CAPABILITIES *Printouts are Super Extended Basic's screen dumps of either 4x2.5" or 7x6" approx.

*Large (and small) Letters A-Z, some punctuation, 0-9, 8ox, Star can all be done in Block Outline Style. You enter screen placement, height, width and line size. A line size of 0 or 1 gives a "pen line" letter. A bigger size (up to 26) yields the letter in big block outline form that can be Filled in the EDIT mode. Can do a word across or down, and even inc. or dec. height of letters in the word from the 1st to last letter. Also gives you ability to overlap the characters. Can put a normal text font message anywhere on the screen.

*Special and custom shapes can be done. Arc, ""

True-Circle, Oval, Triangle, bentline, Line,
Box, Rhombus, Octagon, Hexagon, Stair steps &
Grid [with step or cell size you specify], Fan,
Star and other Equal sided shapes - of any
size, anywhere on screen --- Most shapes can be
auto. repeated Across or Down or Diagonally
for n times or Fill screen equally, and
Overlapped. Most shapes can be squashed or
tall and thin. Add a text message in TI's
pormal font anywhere. Use the SHOW/EDIT option
so further customize the drawing.



On the Design Custom Shapes screen you can enter (or load from disk) the values for up to 30 points, which the program will connect, if you wish, save and print the values for future use.

*A "drawings show" or a banner, though only semi-automatic, can be set-up. Picture file names are entered in show order and saved to disk as a file to be used for the show/print. There are many other options possible while doing the show.

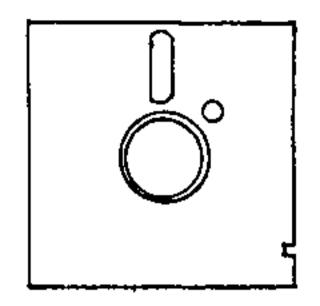
Send \$10.00 to Bill Harms, 6527 Hayes Court, Chino, CA 91710.

Look for release of CLASS-MATE to also use Triton's sxb for class jobs.



JANUARY/88 UPDATE - MORE COMMANDS B MANUAL

Command D.O.S.



new by Monty Schmidt

The final word. Command DOS is a totally unique program in the 99/4A world. Command DOS gives you the power of several utilities in one powerful package. This program gives you more control over your computer.

From power up you can auto-execute a set of "batch" files where the computer automatically performs a series of tasks. Command DOS will

allow you to format, copy, delete, protect, erase and diskcopy. You can "type" (list) files to your screen and/or printer. From Command DOS you can load and run program image and D/F files, execute batch files, directory your disks, search the REF/DEF table and more.

Command DOS will also load TI Writer to use as an editor — in 40 or 80 column mode! What's more, special commands provide utility programs: such as CHECKDISK, COMPARE, FORMAT and EDIT40 which then exit back to Command DOS. You'll find that the 34 new prompt line commands provide great flexibility and power.

Command DOS will format disks in the 80 track format required for the Myarc Disk Controller This feature gives you a total package with more power and features than Disk Manager II from Texas Instruments.

If you are a serious 99/4A user, Command DOS will provide a new operating system environment which builds on the existing TI operating system.

In fact, if you are considering a Myarc 9640 or are already using MS-DOS at work, your Ti will give you the features of that operating system. The transition is powerful, seamless and logical.

NOTE: Command DOS does not use up the usual memory areas. Another great feature of Command DOS is that it loads into the memory space >6000 to >7FFF. The first disk based version requires a GRAMKRACKER, Super Space module, Maximem, GRAM Card, Cache Card or 8k RAM E/A module.



Price: \$29.95 US funds or \$39.95 CDN funds includes two disk packages with command descriptions and printed documentation on using Command DOS.

COMMANDS:

BATCH

BEEP

CLS

COPY

DEL

DIR

DISKNAME

ECHO

ERASE

FIX80

SEE

HELP

HONK

INIT

LINK

LOAD

MORE

ONKEY

OUTPUT

P? (printer)

PRINT

PROTECT

Q (quit)

REF

REM

RENAME

SETPRINT

TYPE

UNPROTECT

VER

VOL

WAIT

WIDTH

X (execute)

- FORMAT
- DISKCOPY
- CHKDSK
- CMPDSK
- EDIT40
- AUTO-BAT

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BARRY LONG (717) 564-2975 or DAVID RATCLIFFE (717) 238-5414



PHOENIX 2001 DISKODEX

The PHOENIX 2001 DISKODEX program by OPA is designed to make up master catalogs of all your disks, and allow you to print, update, delete, sort, and display catalogs of all or some of your files/disks.

This program uses every gram of TI-99/4A power on a normal expanded system with 32K and disk drives. This being so, we have been able to design a complete program which can run at super speeds in updating and sorting your catalogs while storing a lot more information on your files than current disk cataloger programs on the market.

DISKODEX has the feature of storing the file comments and date of the disk that the shareware program DISK UTILITIES by John Birdwell uses, which allows for a much better listing of your files if you first comment your disks using DISK-U.

The DISKODEX program is the second of many programs in the PHOENIX 2001 series of programs by OPA which have been designed to have enough power and usefulness to help the TI live past year 2001.

DISKODEX is designed to operate on the TI-99/4A home computer or the MYARC GENEVE 9640 family computer. DISKODEX has been tested with all the different disk controllers and many RAM-DISK combinations. There is every reason to expect that this program will work with future cards which use standard DSR calls and DSR subroutines. Printers are used only in text mode so there should be no compatibility problems. The manual tells how your printer may be changed to your needs. Loading can be done with any one of the following modules; Editor/Assembler, TI-WRITER, or any Extended BASIC.

The DISKODEX manual contains enough information for programmers who want to interface to, or use the DATA DISK files. The format is given, plus the layout of the records in the two DATA DISK files are given, and this will prove to be valuable aid in fully utilizing all of the many features of DISKODEX.

Your catalog DATA DISK can hold up to 256 diskettes and a sufficient number of files complete with your comments, theoretically more than 30,000 on a 1.44mb diskette. If you have more than 256 diskettes, you of course can create new DATA DISKS to catalog you games, pictures, letters, utilities, or what-have-you. DISKODEX can handle any and all runnable diskettes.

DISKODEX has menus galore and you will find it incredibly easy to use. For instance, at the bottom of every single screen all your active keys are high-lighted in reverse-video.

OPA Oasis Pensive Abacutors

Specializing in 9900 based Software and Hardware

Home of the Phoenix 2001 series of software

DISKODEX 2001

Hear what some subscribers have said about DISKODEX:

"...I am also pleased you can add me to your list of subscribers to DISKODEX. A mighty impressive program, one of the finest pieces of programming ever seen in the TI world."

C.L. July 30th 1988

"... This is the super disk catalog program written by .. .OPA and is a real bargain at \$20.00. It is worth the price just to be amazed at what ... OPA has been able to do with the small memory our orphan has. Buy it, you'll like it."

Seen on a BBS in August '89.

"... seems to work flawlessly", Barry Traver

Computer Shopper, October 188

And part of the amazment is the different search options you will have. Here is a digest of the section in the DISKODEX MANUAL which describes it all:-

The PHOENIX 2001 DISKODEX Main Menu will start a series of prompts leading to the sorted catalog of the files and disks you wanted. Two wildcard symbols are used, and?. The represents multiple characters in a name and can be used in three ways, e.g. :-

Prefix search:

ABC*

All names starting with ABC followed by any characters.

Suffix search:

*-DOC

Any name ending in -DOC but with any DIED.

Both Prefix & Suffix search: A*-DOC

All names starting with A, and ending in -DOC but with any number of characters in between.

The question mark wildcard represents one character in a name and it use is positiondependent. More than one question mark symbol may be used in a file/disk specification if you wish to allow for multiple variable characters. The question mark may even be used with the asterisk symbol wildcard.

YOUR DIFFERENT SEARCH OPTIONS

This first prompt is for a FILE SEARCH STRING. This allows you either to have the files listed by entering a blank line, or to list only certain filenames by using wildcards. If no wildcards are used, DISKODEX will list only the matching ones. Still another prompt is for a DISK SEARCH STRING. This option is used to call up which diskettes you want in the sorted catalog. Another prompt in the search setup is for file types. Here you can turn on which file types to include in your sorted catalog. With this option, for example, you could get a listing of only the DISPLAYIVARIABLE and/or PROGRAM files. You may have any mix you wish.

SCREEN AND OTHER OUTPUTS

After going through the search prompts, DISKODEX will now ask for the type of output you want Sis for screen display only, with your SPACE BAR used to controll the scrolling. If OTHER is selected, the system will ask for the DEVICE NAME, which could be any known device like a printer or diskette. A third prompt appears if the device is an printer asking you if you want a FORMFEED BEFORE EACH NEW LETTER. This option allows you to have the B's, C's, and D's, etc. each start on a new page.

DISKODEX also makes it easy for you to have your own printer setup in any mode you wish, like compressed, etc. It's fully personalized.

And ALL of these good features, plus many more, are contained in one cohesive 100% assembly language program which fits neatly within your 32K program space. It's nothing short of amazing.

COMING SOON IN VERSION 2.0

Version 2.0 of DISKODEX is on the design board of OPA and should be ready for release in early 1990. Here is short list of the new super features planned. And the nice thing about OPA is we send out free updates to all owners of previous programs. When you buy a program from us you really are getting a lifetime subscription to updates of the same program.

- Support for RAMBO and other memory cards. like the GENEVE. This will allow for more diskettes and to able to store your whole DATA DISK right in memory for even faster operation.
- File identifition system. Tells you in detail the type of data that is stored in a file. Like, for example, an DIS/FIX128 file could contain any one of the following graphic data. RLE, GIF, MYART, MAC. V2.0 of DISKODEX will tell you exactly what is in a certain file.
- Faster operation and many more search options, like a COMMENT SEARCH STRING, and the file type select to include ones that are identified by the above mentioned system.
- Full hard drive support for a complete instant. tree type catalog, that you can search thru, print sections of, etc.
- 80 column support for users with 9938 video.

ORDERING INFORMATION

DISKODEX from OPA is available for either only \$20.00 in Canadian funds or only \$15.00 in United States funds. Make checks or money orders payable to GARY BOWSER and send your order to OPA at:

432 Jamis St. Suite 502, Toronto, Ont. M4Y-2H3

If you have any questions or want our latest catalog, drop us a line or phone Gary at (416)960-0825 8am-11pm EST. And remember even if you order V1.1 now, the latest version will always be sent to you FREE OF CHARGE.

The wait is over! Now you can create and edit your own TI Runner screens!

TI RUNNER Level Editor

Show Special \$14.95 by EB Software Show Special \$14.95

The screen editor is designed to give you the power you need to add, edit, and manage your TI Runner screens. The system's easy to use menus and editor makes creating your own levels almost as much fun as playing them.

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- 3. 44 Advanced Levels

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EB Software

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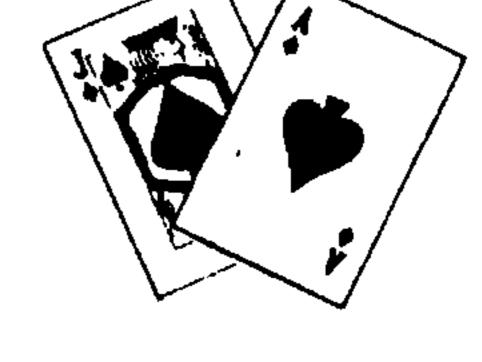
The Original TI Runner \$16.95
Galitic Battle/Spy Adventure Package \$11.95

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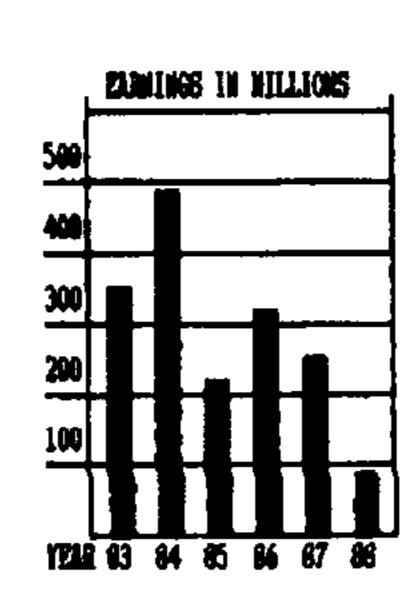
S.N.U.G. PO Box 26301 Las Vegas,NV 89126 702 -647-1062 or 702-878-3167



PSA Reservations 1-800-435-9772 TI-XPO-88 PSA Smile NO. MI586S

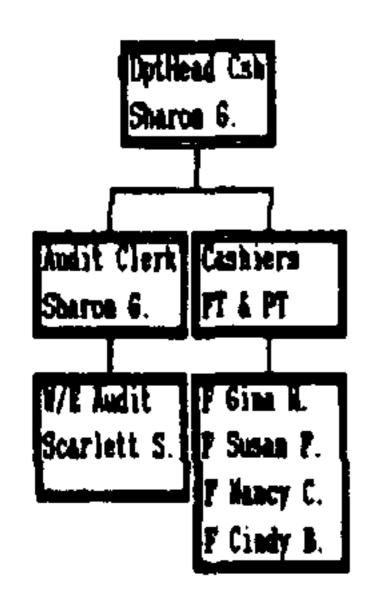
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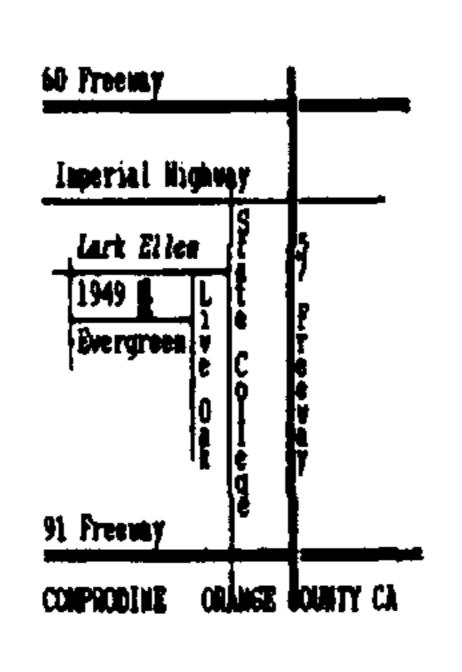
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- SMALL FONTS
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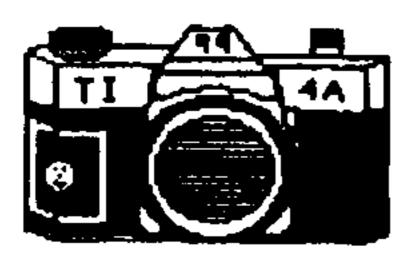
I POSTAGE

Above is a full page reduction of JIFFY FLYER

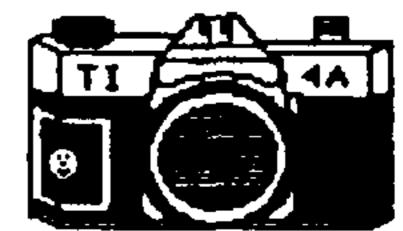
Watch for JIFFY CARD, a 4 Fold card, by Dec. 1.

Left are actual samples printed on an NX1000 and surrounding a TI-ARTIST drawing. You see these exact forms on the screen.

Below are 2 Instances converted together and printed from the TI-WRITER Formatter in 1 minute.



PICTURE IT



ti antist instances - ti writer - banners - kbasic

See the Newest Software from Genial Computerware

Today at 2:30, Genial Computerware presents its latest products. Programs that push your computer to its limits. Programs written by some of the best known authors in the TI Community.

We'll be showing the following programs -- all available today:

Picture Transfer - graphics conversions, slide shows and more for the 9640 - by Paul Charlton

FirstBase - the most comprehensive and user friendly TI database - by Warren Agee

MacFlix - Macintosh MacPaint graphics on your TI - by J. Peter Hoddie

TRIAD - an integrated editor, disk manager, and terminal emulator - by Wayne Stith

HyperCopy - the fastest and most powerful disk copier for the 9640 by Mike Dodd

Browse - a text file utility by J. Peter Hoddie

We'll also be previewing two exciting new products: Erik Olson's **Green Watermelon Fractal Hacker**, and an animated assembly language version of Walt Howe's **Chainlink** updated by Wayne Stith.

At the end of the presentation we'll raffle away copies of Genial Computerware products to those in attendance!

So at 2:30 either you can either see Peter Hoddie, Paul Charlton, Wayne Stith, and Warren Agee demonstrate the cutting edge in TI software, or you can eat a late lunch...

Attention 9640 Owners

You bought your 9640 because you wanted more power. Have you been wishing for commercial quality software to finally take advantage of your 9640?

Genial Computerware's new Picture Transfer and HyperCopy are the first third party programs to run from MDOS. They're written by people who are no strangers to the 9640. Paul Charlton helped build the 9640 and wrote MDOS. Mike Dodd is MICROPendium's 9640 columnist. Their latest creations unleash the power you knew the 9640 had when you bought it.

Other Genial Computerware products such as MacFlix and Browse take advantage of the exceptional graphics capability of the 9640, while running from GPL mode. Both MacFlix and Browse were written by J. Peter Hoddie, the author of MY-Word.

So look into what Genial Computerware offers you for your 9640. You'll see why we lead the way.

Genial Computerware

P.O. Box 183 Grafton, MA 01519 WHAT U SEE IS WHAT U GET

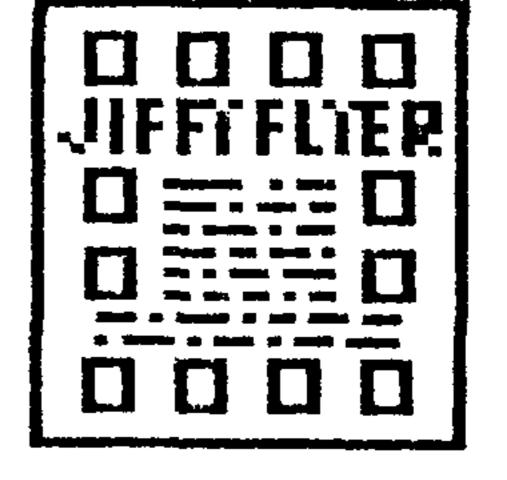
NO MENUS EASY
CREATE ON SCREEN
INSTANTLY

- 1 2 PAGE STYLES
- 2 2 LARGE FONTS
- 3 45 BORDERS
- 4 LOADS CSGD IN 15 SEC
- 5 FULL 2 SCREEN EDITOR
- 6 7 SMALL FONTS
- 7 SAUE LOAD FULL FLYERS CATALOG TO PICK CSGD
- PRINTS DOUBLE DENSITY IN UNDER 5 MINUTES SUPPORTS NX1000 COLOR

RODGER MERRITT 1949 EUERGREEM AUE FULLERTON CA 92635

USES #10 #1 POSTAGE

GAMES
OF NATIONAL SERVICES
OF PRAISE
OF MENTINES
OF PRAISE



KEY NOTES

An Asgard Publishing Journal for EZ-Keys

Vol. 1 No. 2

Spring'88

Editorial

Welcome to the 2nd issue of KEY NOTES the official (and the only) publication
for owners of EZ-Keys. While we didn't
get a heck of a lot of response from
those people that received the first
issue, we did get a lot of people
specifically request a copy. I guess
this means the idea of a newsletter
appeals to people, but the content of
the first one wasn't all that hot.

This issue may change all of that... or it may not.

As I stated in the introduction of the last issue, after this issue we are going to look at the cost of KEY NOTES and decide whether or not to continue it. Another thing we have to consider is whether anyone CARES whether we put this together or not. While the cost of the first issue wasn't too high, circulation has quadrupled, and of course the price of first-class stamps went up. We are only inclined to continue it, free, if there is substantial amount of interest in it. If there is only some interest, we may switch to a paid circulation - with the subscription cost set at our cost to . put it out. If there is no interest, well, we will merge the more-important parts of KEY NOTES into our ASGARD NEWS news magazine for the 99/4A - which is a subscription-only newsletter. So, if you'd like for us to continue this free drop us a postcard saying you like it, or send us a question, or just tell us how you use EZ-Keys. We plan to make our final decision by June 31st.

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10306. Rockville, MD 20850

Editor: Chris Bobbitt Asst. Editor: Leslie Johnson

Advisor: Harry Wilhelm

SUPER EXTENDED BASIC OWNERS! Have four modules in one with: MULTI-MOD

The MULTI-MOD is an upgrade kit for owners of Triton's Super Extended BASIC module that provides Editor/Assembler, Disk Manager III, and TI-Writer in addition to Super Extended BASIC. Once installed, the MULTI-MOD will allow the user to select any of the four modules from the TI menu screen. Selecting any module is just a matter of pressing a couple of keys. No switches, cartridge expanders, or swapping of modules is required.

Not only does the MULTI-MOD save wear on the module port, fewer operating errors caused by poorly seated modules will result. The need for cartridge expanders can be eliminated, contributing to the ease of typing. Since all four modules can be accessed by the computer, the MULTI-MOD also allows the user to write programs that access the capabilities of the other modules.

The MULTI-MOD is completely compatible with the original Super Extended BASIC. The Editor/Assembler and TI-Writer provide all the functions of the original modules while the Disk Manager III provides convenient enhancements to the Disk Manager II module. With the new Disk Manager, drives up to an including DSK9 may be accessed as either single or double sided and single or double density. Help screens with complete listings of error codes are available and the PIO printer port is now selectable as a menu option. The Disk Manager is compatible with TI, CorComp, or Myarc disk controllers.

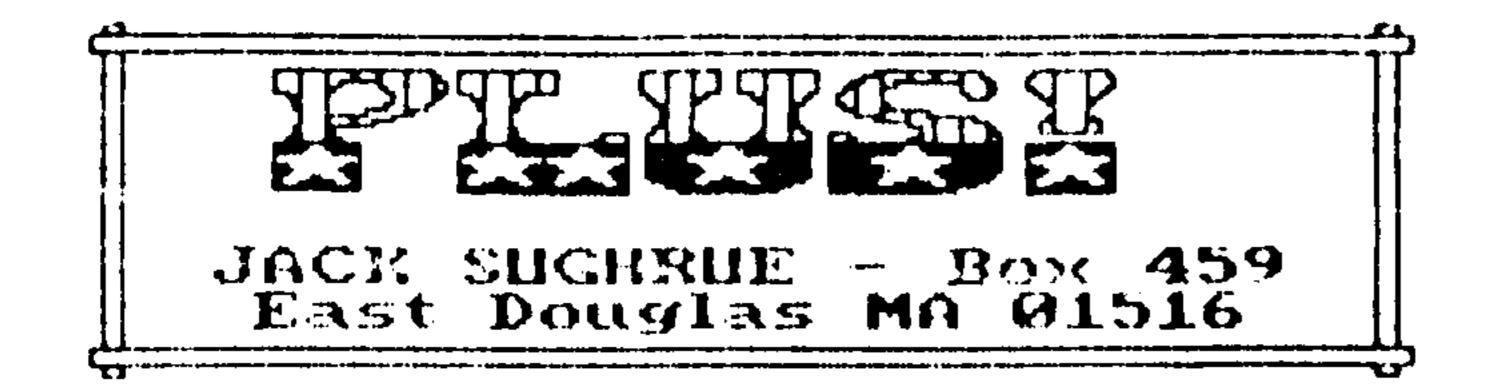
The only tool needed to install the MULTI-MOD upgrade kit is a flat-blade screwdriver (used to open the module case and remove chips). The MULTI-MOD plugs into existing sockets and no soldering is required. An illustrated installation guide is included in the MULTI-MOD manual. The MULTI-MOD may ONLY be used in a Triton Super Extended BASIC module.

The MULTI-MOD kit includes the MULTI-MOD upgrade, an instruction manual describing how to use the MULTI-MOD's features, and one diskette with the necessary support files for Editor/Assembler and TI-Writer. (Note: Complete manuals for the additional modules are not included with the MULTI-MOD. These are available from Texas Instruments.)

To order, send \$22.95 (cash or check, please) to:

John Guion 11923 Quincy Lane Dallas, TX 75230

(Super Extended BASIC is a trademark of Triton Products Company)



If you thought *FUNLPLUS* was an excellent word-processing companion with lots of unusual utilities and fun programs thrown in, just wait'll you see v. 1.0 of <u>PLUS!</u>

This brand new environmental enhancement is a remarkable (and remarkably cohesive) NEW collection of all you dreamed of in a word processor and MUCH more. It contains very updated versions of all 21 files originally contained in FUNLPLUS. (So if you've never owned THAT great disk before, it's here!). However, the larger amount of the 65 files are completely new to Il users.

In addition to the author's codes, templates, graphics, tutorials and programs, other files are included by other authors. Lots of ideas and tips have been garnered from discussions, letters, phone calls, and newsletters. Some PD programs used here have been drastically modified to fit inside this tight environment.

Although all that's needed is one SSSD drive and 32K, enhanced systems will have greater flexibility. Persons with Geneve, 512 card, RAMdisk and/or DSDD or harddisk capabilities will find PLUS! the perfect environmental package for all word-processing and many utility needs.

This new companion contains an excellent tutorial on FUNNELWEB by Charles Good; TIM references for EDITing and FORMATting; tutorials; the most compact reference chart available for instant checking of just about anything on TIM, including the mysterious Transliteration Key (and how to turn it into a macro or graphics maker).

Two of the PD programs let you type in gothic and dump your GRAPHX, TI-ARTIST, and/or RLE pix right into your printer or convert them to D/V 80 files. There are also suggestions for creating your own desktop publishing system.

PLUS there are the tiny files that FUNLPLUS was famous for: 2- or 3-sector programs, codes, and templates that let you dump a screen of text, print labels, print out any DV/80 files, design letterheads, and even use the world's tiniest wordprocessor (that'll let you write your novel on adding machine paper!).

Then there are the updatings of the taken-for-granted programs that were the mainstay of many of FUNLPLUS's 9 versions: flexible banner program, personalized desk and yearly calendar programs, on-screen workshop demonstration program (with music and fancy displays), and programs to create box patterns, labels, etc., using printer graphics (Gemini-compatible default) right within your text files.

The docs are a novice's dream. They create a manual and tutorial for even the most nervous computerphobic.

Important features of <u>PLUS</u> are the most often requested files - now a reality: the ability in EDITor LF to set margins to screen size automatically, open your include Files to resize to 80 or 134 or whatever AUTOMATICALLY in your printout, provide the centering, double-spacing, condensed-typing or ANY OTHER hardcopy combinations you want' THIS IS ALL DONE WITH A SINGLE KEYSTROKE! You want to type a friendly letter, let's say. Press L while in Load File in EDIT mode. BAM' Instant Letter File - all within preTABbed screen dimensions that includes your own letterhead, date [which will cursor before printout if you wish), name (again cursor), body to type over, properly-spaced closing; the whole No fuss. No hassle. PLUS the ability to shebang. create letter forms galore.

The one/two-stroke TIW loaders (C, L, 6 & M files) can suit whatever personal, educational, professional neeeds you have. They include one done for my kids for their college term papers, one for an aducational book ! wrote; one for normal text use; one for pack-it-in condensed use. One that lets you type 134 columns by 134 rows: 18,000 characters per page' And others, too. You'll wonder how you could have done without this high-speed convenience before. Because each of these loaders ALSO includes a complete range of enemonically-devised transliteration codes. You can use alone or in combinations the following: italics, true underline, doublestrike, super & sub scripts, condensed, enlarged, pica, elite, near-letter quality, and specially-defined (user) keys that give up whole words or sentences or any graphic designs your printer will print out. Each done by a single keystroke. And ALL within your text on the TIW version you are using.

There are lots of other text, graphic, and design programs and files, such as a program that crunches your XB programs for speed and space, a columnizer to allow your text to be printed in columns for newsletters or other uses, and even a program that prints your English into Pig-Latin! PLUS the versatile mini-manager menu/loader. All this PLUS more is on ONE FULL (719 sectors) DSSD DISK! (unless SSSD is specified)

PLUS' is - like its popular predecessor - a great Fairware buy: only \$10' (address below)

Any version of TI Writer will work with these 65 files, but the new 1988 FUNNELWEB is unquestionably the best and most convenient. If you are unable to get from your user group a copy of this incredible environment (which includes Disk Manager 1000, Editor/Assembler cartridge, Forth load, disk editor, c99 load, a manual, and lots of other things in addition to the best version of TI Writer around), send me \$3 additionally for the DISTRIBUTION COSTS ONLY for the latest version. (This is NOT paying for FUNNELWEB, as it, too, is Fairware and a fair amount should be sent to the authors' This is just my cost of handling, copying, and mailing their masterpiece.)

" JACK SUGHRUE, Box 459, East Douglas, MA 01516"

Asgard Software is pleased to introduce:



PrEditor

A Programmer's Editor
By Tom Bentley

PrEditor is the ultimate text editor for the TI-99/4A or Myarc Geneve 9640! Completely written from scratch and extensively tested in a year of development, PrEditor is the perfect replacement for the Editor/Assembler or TI-Writer Editor. This incredibly fast program is loaded with features:

- PrEditor will allow you to have up to two files in memory at once. You can switch between them at a touch of a key.
- When switching between files the environment in each area is preserved when you switch back and forth
 you are returned to exactly the point in either file that you were last at.
- You can cut and paste text between files take pieces of one file and put it in another.
- You have a full range of text editing functions insert, delete, and many others.
- PrEditor offers many block manipulation functions move, copy, and delete blocks. Forget working with line numbers simply mark the start and ending lines of the text you want to work with. All block operations are nearly instantaneous because of PrEditor's unique design
- Includes full multi-directional search and replace commands
- Built-in disk cataloger included
- Has an "as-is" mode that lets you include in your file the exact ASCII character you type, from 1-255.
- You can view a file while editing two others
- Works on the Geneve in 80-columns or with any TI-99/4A 80-column card
- Will take full advantage of Geneve keyboard
- Allows you to use memory available in a Supercart, SuperSpace or Mini-Memory module for an even larger text buffer. 22K Buffer standard.
- PrEditor can be completely customized- you can permanently set for any copy the left and right margins, screen colors, the speed of the cursor in various operations, the number of columns it windows over (1-40 at a time) as you type, the tab stops, the video display available (40 or 80 columns), and finally, you can re-assign ALL the functions to any keys that you like. If you want to make the "roll-up" command CTRL E, you can!
- Finally, You can make as many copies as you like for personal use and your personal needs. You can make custom copies for as many ways you use a text editor.

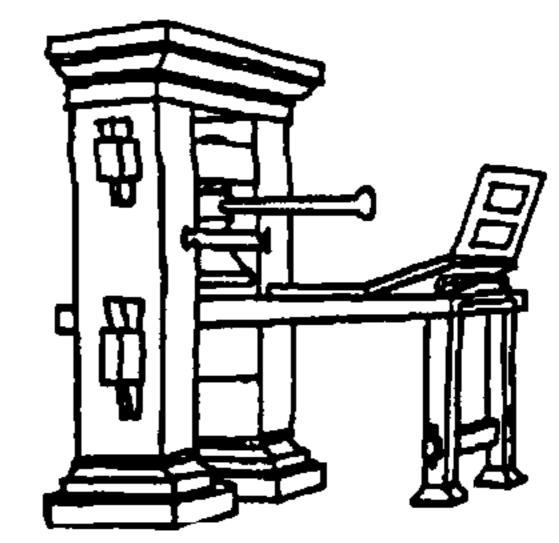
PrEditor is not only blazingly fast, it can be completely customized for any application - for writing articles, letters, or programs in c99, Fortran 99, Assembly and Extended BASIC. If you use the Editor/Assembler or TI-Writer editor and you are tired of resetting tabs (or not being able to do at all!), waiting for moves and copies, the screen windowing in big chunks, having to constantly load and save files to edit multiple files, and not being able to customize much of anything, then you need PrEditor!

\$19.95 plus \$.75 Shipping & Handling

Asgard Software
Send to: P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20850

Credit Card Orders: Call 1-800-456-9272. MC, Visa, AmEx accepted

PRESS" RELEASE



Every now and then a program comes along that redefines the way you work and play with your computer. You can literally count such programs on two hands - yet they are so useful and so revolutionary that you don't know how you ever got along without them. Where would graphics be without TI-Artist and GRAPHX, spreadsheets without Multiplan, terminal emulators without Telco, disk managing without DM1000 or databases without TI-Base or PR-Base? Asgard Software is pleased to introduce the newest addition to this select group. We are pleased to introduce a program that will change the way you write letters, reports, newsletters and even books. We are pleased to introduce something that will soon come to define "word processing" on the TI-99/4A and Myarc Geneve 9640 - the program to which all others will be compared.

Press Is the result of over a man-year of development by Charles Earl (author of Telco), Ruth O'Neill, Chris Bobbitt and dozens of others who have helped to define, implement and test the next-generation word processor for the 99/4A. Starting from scratch, we examined the best word processors on PCs and other computers, and created a new word processor for the 4A that combined the best features of those other programs with the unique capabilities of the 99/4A. The resulting program is as powerful and as professional as programs for the Apple Macintosh or IBM PC compatibles costing \$300, and even \$600. We also designed a program that would take advantage of whatever hardware you have, including super-carts, RAM-disks, hard-drives and 80-column displays, yet it will run perfectly well on a basic TI-99/4A with 32K and a single drive.

Press has hundreds of features - including hundreds available in no other word processor for the TI-99/4A or its compatibles. You can easily do things in Press that are difficult or impossible in TI-Writer or enhancements of it such as MY-Word. Some of the major features are:

- The program will allow you to set a page width of up to 256 columns, and define one or more newspaper-style "columns" on the page, each with its own width. To format the text in columns simply tell the program the page width, the number of columns on it, and start typing. At the end of one column it will automatically send you to the top of the next.
- The program is entirely "what-you-see-is-what-you-get" (or WYSIWYG pronounced "wiz-e-wig"). In other words, you'll see right-justification, centering, indentation, bold text, underline, italics, and other functions on the screen, as it will appear on the page. You don't need to learn a code language or read a printer manual to produce a great-looking page. There is no "formatter" in Press all formatting is done on the screen as you type from options you select by pull-down menus or short-cut function key presses. Even page breaks are marked on the screen.
- Unlike any other editor for the TI-99/4A or Geneve, the length of your document is limited only by the amount of disk space available. You can easily create or edit 90K, 180K, or even 360K documents without breaking it up. If you have a hard-drive you can create a 1000-page book all as a single document.
- A complete 100,000 word spelling checker is integrated into the program. To
 use it simply select a word, line or paragraph and tell it to check it. The
 program will tell you if there is a misspelling and the context it is in.
- The program supports the features of your printer simply select your printer type from a list and your printers features will be available within your document and on the screen.
- The program will accept a standard TI-Writer file none of your documents have to be re-typed to be used in *Press*.
- The program has many more features then can be listed: block operations that include column manipulation, multi-line headers and footers, footnotes, "un-delete", a keyboard buffer so that you never lose characters while typing, mail-merge, and much more.

Press requires 32K, a disk drive, and either Extended BASIC or Editor/Assembler. It can utilize any 80-column card, most RAM-disks, an 8K or 32K Supercart, a hard-disk drive, any number of floppy drives, replacement keyboards, GRAM devices, and virtually any printer. It includes an extensive manual in a professional binder and a limited-subscription to a user magazine, Press Report.

Send: \$59.95 plus \$3.00 S&H Asgard Software
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20850
(301)559-2429

Major Credit Cards Accepted. Office hours 8:00AM-5:00PM EST M-W, 6:00-12:00PM Th-Fri, 10:00AM-6:00PM Sat-Sun

Introducing the Greatest thing since sliced bread....

QUICK-RUN

QUICK-RUN is a simple idea personified in a very complex program. Why do Extended BASIC programs take so long to load and run? Why do running programs take so long to start up? Extended BASIC may be friendly to programmers, but it sure can get on a users nerves!

QUICK-RUN doesn't change all that entirely, but it can do more to make your programs fast and friendly to users then anything else! How? QUICK-RUN takes a "snap-shot" of a program while it is running, and saves it to disk. Then, any time you run the "snap-shot" version it starts exactly where it left off (unless you tell it otherwise!). That means you could save a program with QUICK-RUN, say, after all the setup and initialization part is complete, and from then on YOU WILL NEVER HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE PROGRAM TO INITIALIZE AGAIN! It will begin running the moment it finishes loading (which is just as fast as it normally loads).

What's more, you can distribute copies of programs saved with QUICK-RUN without worrying about royalties. If you program in Extended BASIC, or use Extended BASIC programs, you'll want QUICK-RUN. For only \$9.95 & \$.755&H, how can you do without?

BY: Asgard Software, Box 10306, Rock ville, MD 20850

BABHT WOM I MEMMA HOLW (THE ALL HOLH & DOE WARR HOLH & DOE WARR I TEATSTAND IS TO M.

13225 Azores Ave., Sylmar, CA. 91342 March 11, 1988

Mr. John Martin, Esq. 0/0 S.N.U.G.

P.O. Box 28301

Las Vegas, Nevada 89128-0361

Dear John,

Just a quick note to thank you (and ALL the WONDERFUL S.N.U.G folks I met) for your TI-XPO-88 bash! I can't speak for EVERYBODY of course, but I had me THE TIME OF MY LIFE! I honestly can't remember ANY TI-FEST ANYWHERE, that I enjoyed MORE than YOUR bash (and THAT'S the TRUTH!!)

Some of my more memorable moments were: Watching a beautiful little girl named KELLY, as she watched WOODSTOCK for the first time; hearing STEVE MEHR go "Banzai" as he drove into the rear of a car shead of him, as he took RODGER MERRITT and I to breakfast at CIRCUS-CIRCUS; getting in for FREE with a special "badge." (I always have to pay \$5 whenever I go to an LA FEST, even if I'm manning a booth, giving demos, etc!) That last item shows YOU folks have LOTS of CLASS!! And last, but not least, having strangers walk up to me and ask, "Are you Ray Kazmer?" and when I'd say yes, they'd hand me MONEY! EGADS, what an experience! (Usually, when I'd say "yes," I'd either have to duck or run, OR duck AND run!!)

I slept a total of five and a half HOURS in two and a half DAYS! I wolfed down GOURMET FOODS (until I had to put my fingers in my ears, to prevent it from squirting out) met THE REGENA, hit FOUR BIG JACKPOTS (2 of which were during the time my name was called for a doorprize, and I STILL don't know what the prize was! AND on top of all THAT, I returned with twenty bucks MORE than I had when I left! What a FAN-TAS-TIC trip!

One suggestion: Next time, arrange your "demos" schedule (speakers) WELL IN ADVANCE of the show. If somebody doesn't show up, just leave a spot open OR look for "volunteers" AND make SURE that RAY KAZMER'S DEMO does NOT coincide with any CHAMPAIGN BRUNCHES! (E-GADS!)

Incidently, I just got a letter from a "nut" in Ohio, who must have down-loaded BARBARA WIEDERHOLD'S piece on the TI-XPO-88, from a BB. He said, that if HE had KNOWN I was going to be there, he would've flown out! (He ALSO included \$10.00 for WOODSTOCK, instead of just \$2!) Well, I TOLD you he was some kinda NUT, didn't I?! (I LOVE nuts!)

The weekend BEFORE your XPO, my 1966 Chevy "Trashmobile" was parked at the curb (seemingly asleep) when for NO apparent reason, it suddenly BURST into flames (an INCREDIBLE phenomenon!) But AFTE.: the XPO, my bad luck has ALL VANISHED! I'm getting money for programs that have been on the market for years and YEARS! (I'm selling EVERYTHING but my shorts!) The "crowd" was a bit "thin" THIS TIME, but when "word" gets around, of ALL THE FUN we 99'ers had there, next year, WATCH OUT!! I predict: Your TI-XPO-E9 is going to draw the BIGGEST crowds of ANY TI-FEST, ANYWHERE! (Them's pretty STRONG words from somebody who can tell when a "slot" is about to pay off!) Keep up the good work and MANY, MANY THANKS, AGAIN! (I'll be there NEXT time, even if I have to sleep on the floor!!)

HAPPY COMPUTING!

S.M.A.U.6/99



South, Mobile, and Alabama User's Group /99 For Texas Instruments 99/4A Home Computer Users

c/o Ollie Hébert Rt. 4, Box 23 Brewton, AL 36426 U.S.A.



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Vice President: Pete Smith 205-478-1452
Secretary: Elwin Rozyskie 205-633-3164
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Newsletter Librarian: William York 265-476-3256
Module Librarian: Elwin Rozyskie 265-633-3164
Newsletter Editor: Ollie Hébert 265-867-7193

11 January, 1988

Sam Moore, Jr. 722 North Ross Sherman, TX 75090

Sam,

mailed separately

The current SMAUG/99 mewsletter and six public domain disks are enclosed. Although this is written on the club letterhead, personal rather than club funds were used. Only carefully selected individuals and groups will recieve the package in this manner. It is my way of saying "thanks" to fellow programmers.

The prepaid return mailer is to cover your expenses <u>if</u> you feel compelled to reciprocate. No obligation - no strings. As I said, this is a "thank you" to you from me.

Cordially,

Oliver D. Hébert

THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT, BUT I NO LONGER OWN A TI SYSTEM. I AM RETURNING YOUR DISKETTES AND YOU SHOULD DROP MY NAME FROM YOUR LIST SINCE I CAN NO LONGER CONTRIBUTE.

REGARDS-Som Moon



TI-BASE

New From INSCEBOT Inc.

The perfect place for all of your data needs.

TI-BASE is the place to collect and organize your data. Record definitions are customized to your exact needs. Data may be freely interchanged between all types of records. Simple structured command language allows an easy implementation of needed functions. Address lists. check-books, business applications, all easily performed and maintained on diskette by TI-BASE.

DATA DEFINITION

- o Character
- o Numerical
- o Date
- o Literals

- o "Find"

SORTED RECORDS MATH CAPABILITY

- o Sequential o Arithmetic
 - o Trig
 - o Logical
 - o Boolean

DISK DIRECTIVES

- o Initialization
- o Catalogs
- o File Copy
- o File Deletion

COMMAND LANGUAGE

- o Nested Command Files
- o Structured Directives

ON-LINE HELP CHARACTER MANIPULATION LOCAL VARIABLES

\$24.95

Florida residents add 5%

\$1.50 postage and handling

Quantity prices available upon request.

INSCEBOT Inc. P.O. BOX 291610 PORT ORANGE, FL 32029

Requires 32k memory expansion, a minimum of one disk drive and either Extended Basic. Editor/asembler. or Mini-memory modules for the TI-93/4A.

BASIS

The Ultimate TI-99/4a Database

For years many 99ers like yourself have settled for nothing more than faricy mailing list programs to fulfill their database needs. And although they have managed small mailing lists well, these programs are too limited for any serious database work. It's now time to stop settling, and start using TI BASE: the only database system that lets you get serious.

With TI BASE you can create, access, manipulate, report, and print information the way you want, not the way some abstract programmer forces you to do. TI BASE lets you design your own database; it literally puts you in the driver's seat. Like dBASE, the most popular database system for the IBM PC, TI BASE gives you a complete procedural command language that allows you to "program" your own database system. No longer will you have to "fill-in-the-blanks" other databases force you to do. After all, aren't you the ultimate user? We think so too.

The Language

Unlike any other database system for the 99/4a, TI BASE employs a database "engine" that is controlled by a procedural command language. This command language, which consists of 45 different commands, allows you to access your own custom databases on the fly, or create powerful command (program) files for automatic and complex data processing.

The following capabilities are supported by the command language implemented within TI BASE:

- Database creation and deletion; adding, editing, deleting, searching, and sorting records within a database.
- Free interchange of data; numerical, character, date and local variables.
- Complete mathematical functions; arithmetic, logical, trigonometric, and Boolean.
- Formatted display and print capabilities; character manipulation, screen scrolling, color changing, and more.
- Structured command language; local variable creation, nested command liles, and complete logical language.
- Disk management functions; catalog and format disks, copy and delete files.

The System

TI BASE offers many features and capabilities not currently found in any other 99/4a database system, such as:

- Database capabilities: supports five active databases; each database can consist of 16129 records, with 17 fields per record, and 255 characters per field.
- Powerful command (program) language.
- Command (program) file editor.
- System status/setup; allows the definition of disk location, printer configuration, date stamping, and other miscellaneous functions.

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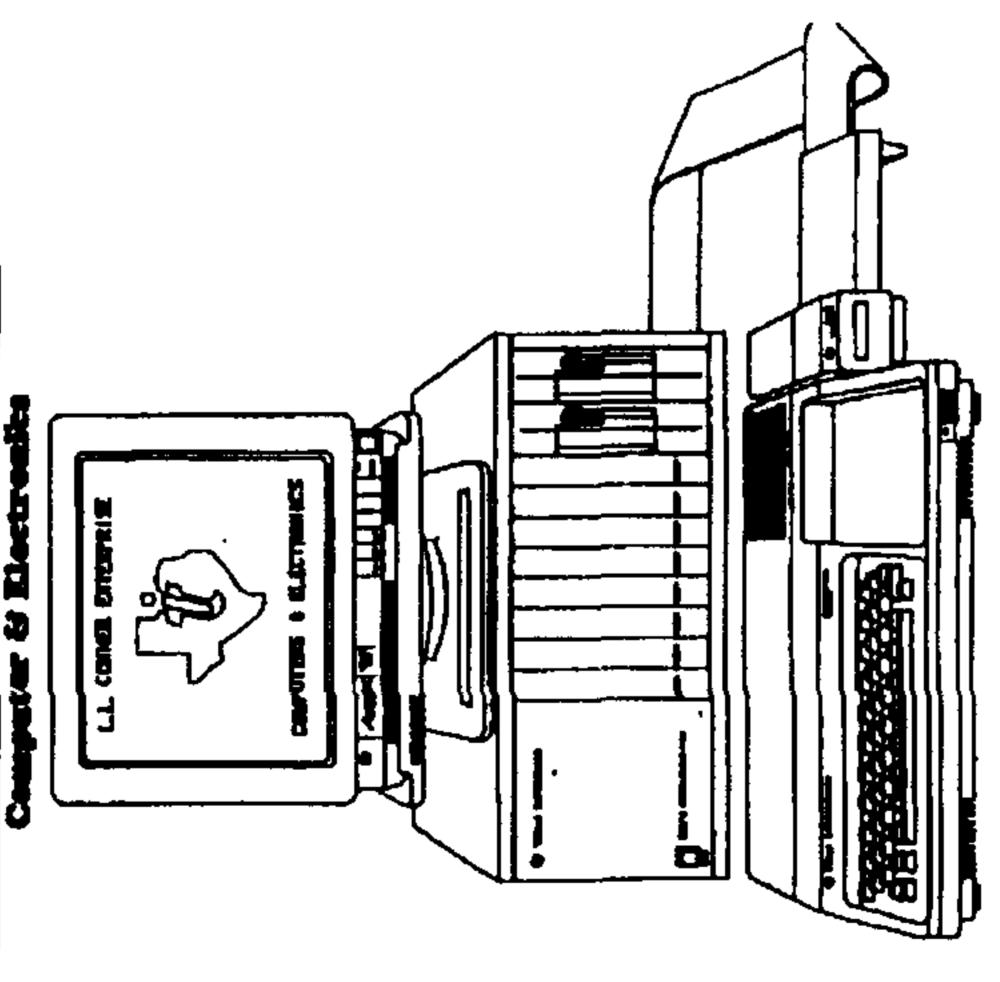
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THE "ZENOBOARD"..... (A new piece of hardware for the TI-994A) by Eric Zeno (West Penn 99'ers) December, 1988 (written by John F. Willforth) Have you had your console lock-up after you had just about finished keying in a long XBasic program, or have you had a game running under XBasic just stop when you were about to get your all time best score, or has a utility stopped as you were just about done entering the last of the names and addresses? The "ZENOBOARD" (as I call it) some reference to "ZUCKERBOARD" will accept the chips from your XBasic cartridge, as well as a 32K Byte Static Ram chip, and a battery backed clock circuit and the chips from your speech synthesizer. It will also have GROM chip locations, so you can install your most used GROM based cartridges right in your console. The Extend Basic is a very common cause of lockups, and can now be installed inside the console, almost eliminating lockups. Included , you'll get the installation instructions to aid in the 32K installation of this board inside the console and the above mentioned items on this board. Eric plans to offer this board for less than \$15. The intent here is to find out if there is enough genuine interest or need for the board for him to continue. If you would like to see one of these, and would support it write or call Eric at the address below. Specifications: CLOCK * Fits inside console above CPU board and solders directly to back of GROM conn., with just a few wires to the CPU board. * Requires no additional power. * Includes RESET circuit * Can be expanded or configured as the user requires. * Supports 32K STATIC RAM * Supports Battery-backed CLOCK * Supports SPEECH SYNTHESIZER XBASIC. * Supports EXTENDED BASIC * Supports additional switch selectable GROM * Do-It-Yourself low cost >>> SOME TECHNICAL ASSEMBLY REQUIRED<<< DO not order at this time, because the idea is quite attainable, but there may not be enough SPEECH demand to complete the project. Write/call: | ERIC ZENO (412) 371-4779 414 HIGHLAND RD. PITTSBURGH, PA 15235 (SASE Please!) NOTE: I didn't have a more recent drawing of GROM the board at this printing, but I didn't want to delay passing this new hardware effort to SPACE you until January. Eric needs to know soon so that he can take advantage of the longe winter nights to finish the board and get it out to you. JFW

FIG. 1 THE ZENOBOARD