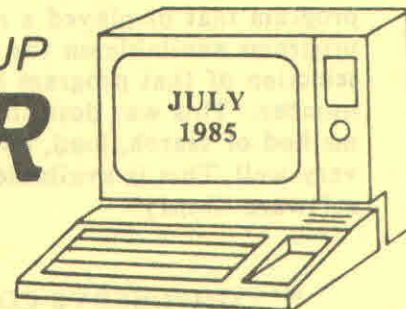


CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP

NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER TOPICS

1. Next Meeting Reminder
2. Minutes From July Meeting
3. CompuServe Conversation
4. Download From CompuServe
5. Hardware Committee Update
6. Recommended Supplier
7. For Sale
8. Terminal Emulator II Tip
9. Extended Basic Tip
10. CV99'er UG Officers
11. Programming Tips - Tigercub Software

****NEXT MEETING REMINDER****

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 12 at 7:00 PM in the J.A. building. See you there!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

****MINUTES FROM JULY MEETING****

The July meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Vice President Bruce Winter. 36 members were in attendance. It was also announced that dues were \$5.00 from now until November, and this was a family membership. The treasurer's report was not given due to personal business, and two such reports will be given at the next meeting. Minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter were approved.

Old Business - For additional ideas or enrollments in any programming classes, contact Jim Trainor. Vol 5 #3 of Home Computer magazine is still available from last month.

At the next meeting, there will be two issues available. The magazines are shipped COD, and the latest issue could not be delivered in time for the meeting. They are still \$2.50 per issue, which is a good deal, both for the club and the purchaser.

A new library software listing is available to members. We need members to contact Dave Dalton for bringing hardware to the meetings so we can continue to have our fine demonstrations. Also, if anyone has a program they would like to demonstrate, or any other topic to present, contact Dave.

New Business - New door prizes are here, and there will be two winners per meeting. The first winner will be able to choose among the fine hardware items available, such as cartridges, cartridge expanders, TE-2, etc. The second winner may select any 4 programs from our software library. Bruce Winter stated he is in the process of exchanging our software with other club librarians, thus producing a tremendous increase in our library.

The first demonstration was given by Johnathan Green on the capabilities of the Gemini 10X printer. An example was handed out, and a macro application and word processor demonstration was given.

Bob Wahlstrom demonstrated the 32K memory expansion constructed by the hardware committee. He had it installed in his Corcomp expansion box, and it worked correctly. There was much discussion as to where to put the additional memory if one does not have the expansion units, with the most talked about options being directly inside the console, or in a separate plug in box on the side of the TI, just like the speech synthesizer. It was

also pointed out that the expanded memory could be put inside the speech synthesizer, if one was available. The hardware committee will consider all the possibilities and report back.

A final presentation was for a disk loading program that displayed a menu of all the programs available on the disk, and allowed the selection of that program by just typing a number. This was described as the "lazy" method of search, load, and run, and worked very well. This is available in the club software library.

****COMPUSERVE CONVERSATION****

I had an interesting conversation last night with Ron Albright in Houston (MICROpendium author), Jim Roland, several others whose names I forget, and the whole Los Angeles User Group, all from my home. I was on CompuServe's channel 30 conversation line, which operates as part of the TI Forum similarly to CB radio, only through computers. The LA user group had advertised that their meeting program was a demonstration of CompuServe and that they would be on the channel at 10:00 CDT. We must have had at least eight computers hooked together at once, several in a listening mode only, and it got a little confusing when two or three people talked at once.

At \$8.00 per hour, we talked more cheaply than regular voice lines, to more people at once, and had more fun doing it. I intend to go back to this part of CompuServe soon, as a lot of TI information gets passed along this way. I need to get familiar with the names that we frequently see in magazines and newsletters.

For those of you who have a modem and RS232 interface, the TI Forum is as close as your phone. We have a CompuServe Starter Kit as one of our door prizes for the August meeting, so be there for a chance to open this new and fun world of national telecommunication. Jim Green

****DOWNLOAD FROM COMPUSERVE****

From the LA 99ers comes this article:

Many people have asked, "How do you download from CompuServe to the 99/4A?" Well, we're going to tell you. First, the current file transfer protocols supported by CompuServe are the CIS A, CIS B, XMODEM, and Capture Buffer (DC2/DC4). The TI Terminal Emulator II cartridge supports its own file transfer

protocol which is different from those that CIS supports. So you can not use the DOW command from the SIG/Access area. However, there is a program that runs at the command mode prompt (OK) called USR:TE2TRN that will allow TE II file transfers to be done on CompuServe. Once you use TE2TRN to upload the file it can then be placed in the public file access area.

TO DOWNLOAD A FILE FROM COMPUSERVE:

- (1) Type G COM80 from any ! prompt. This will take you to the public file area.
- (2) At the prompt, select the BROWse function or type BRO/KEY=99. This will give you a list of all the files for the 99/4A. If you see a file that you wish to download, write down the name of the file. Once you have finished identifying the file(s) you wish to download type COPY <file.ext> TO <file.ext> where <file.ext> is the file(s) that you wrote down. This copies these files into your own file space.
- (3) Once you have copied all files, exit Access by typing EXI. Then proceed to the file area by typing G CIS174 from any CIS prompt. Select the command mode from the file area menu. At the OK prompt, type the command R USR:TE2TRN. At this point, TE2TRN identifies itself. Type D for download. Then at the prompt, type the CompuServe filename that you copied a file to. Then the file transfer will start. (If you see a lot of garbage on the screen, something is wrong with your TE II. You'll have to borrow one like I did.)

UPLOADING TO COMPUSERVE:

Uploading to CompuServe is just the reverse of downloading. In the file area at the OK prompt type R USR:TE2TRN. Then type U for upload, give TE2TRN the CIS filename, use CTRL/4 to invoke the TE II file transfer screen and then supply the drive and filename. Once the file has been uploaded, you can go to the public file area(G COM80) and SUBmit the file. Be sure to include TI and 99/4A in the key words so other TI users can find it. Jonathan Green

****HARDWARE COMMITTEE UPDATE****

The hardware committee met on July 23 to plan the next steps to take in the construction of the 32K memory expansion. It was decided to have a printed circuit board made that would be a size that could fit into the speech synthesizer, the computer, or an expansion box. A company in Marion was going to be contacted to see if they would be able to make the circuit board for us. In order to plan a production quantity, we need to know how many

members are really interested in purchasing the 32K memory expansion for \$40 or less. Call a committee member, or indicate your interest at the August 12 meeting. Bob Wahlstrom/Jim Green

! Black ' Cyan \$ Dk. Grn " M. Grn
(M. Red - Magnta # Lt. Grn) Lt. Red
. Grey \$ D. Blue * D. Yellow / White
% D. Red + Lt. Yellow

******RECOMMENDED SUPPLIER******

It's nice to know that there are still companies in the electronics business that appreciate your business, no matter how small. I recently found one, and I write this for the benefit of the other UG's we correspond with as well as for our members.

In our search for cheap prices on memory RAM chips, I found an ad for Microprocessors Unlimited, in Beggs, Oklahoma. I ordered from them because of their prices, and I was pleasantly surprised with their excellent service. Not only did the parts arrive promptly, but they also sent detailed instructions on CMOS handling precautions and they emphasized the guarantee on their merchandise. Then, a week later, they sent another letter to me, just to let me know that they had shipped the parts and if I didn't have them, then my neighbor did, because UPS doesn't lose anything! This letter again emphasized the guarantee and gave instructions on how to deal with any faulty chips. All this for a small \$80 order.

I recommend Microprocessors Unlimited to anyone who needs IC's. Their address is 24000 S. Peoria Ave., Beggs, OK 74421, phone 918-267-4961. They are regular advertisers in Computer Shopper. Jim Green

******FOR SALE******

- Three items are for sale by Dave Dalton:
1. Typewriter(word processor), (Disk and Demo's) -- \$7.00
 2. Computer paper (1500 sheets) -- \$3.00
 3. RS-232 Cable -- \$5.00

******TE II TIP******

The following tip was found in the Atlanta CALL NEWSLETTER and written by Mike Kelly of San Diego, CA: If you are tired of the TE II screen colors, the next time you are ready to go on-line, enter all the default values and have your modem on, then type CTRL ., SHIFT G, FCTN V, CTRL ., SHIFT 9, SHIFT = and then choose a foreground and background color with:

******EXTENDED BASIC TIP******

Again from the CALL NEWSLETTER: Those of you with Extended Basic may not know that the ACCEPT statement will accept up to 255 characters unedited characters (comma and quote marks are okay). It also is not screwed up by edge characters (as in LINPUT), and can be used in the Command mode. The restrictions are that the SIZE and AT options cannot be used, and the screen scrolls, just as it would with an INPUT command. A typical line would look like this: 1000 ACCEPT BEEP: X\$
Try it. It is very useful for text processing applications.

******CV99'er UG OFFICERS******

President: Jim Green
288 Windsor Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
377-4073 (Home) or
395-1898 (Office)

Vice President: Bruce Winter
242 11 St NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
362-6196

Secretary: Gary Bishop
860 Westview Dr
Marion, IA 52302
377-9574

Treasurer: Ed Hayek
3864 Lost Valley Rd SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
366-4793

*****REM*****

The CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP NEWSLETTER is published by the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group in the Cedar Rapids/Marion, Iowa area. Members are encouraged to contribute articles. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group, its Officers, editor, or members. Other user groups may copy or use any article published in this newsletter, without the written consent of the CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP, as long as credit is given to our group.

Copyright 1985

TIGERCUB SOFTWARE
156 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43213

Distributed by Tigercub Software to TI-99/4A Users Groups for promotional purposes and in exchange for their newsletters. May be reprinted by non-profit users groups, with credit to Tigercub Software.

The entire contents of Tips from the Tigercub Nos. 1 through 14, with more added, are now available as a full disk of 50 programs, routines and files for just \$15.00 postpaid!

Nuts & Bolts is a diskfull of 100 (that's right, 100!) XBasic utility subprograms in MERGE format, ready for you to merge into your own programs. Contents include 13 type fonts, 14 text display routines, 12 sorts and shuffles, 9 data saving and reading routines, 9 wipes, 8 pauses, 6 music, 2 protection, etc., and now also a tutorial on using subprograms, all for just \$19.95 postpaid!

And I have about 140 other absolutely original programs in Basic and XBasic at only \$3.00 each! (plus \$1.50 per order for cassette, packing and postage, or \$3.00 for diskette, PPM) I will send you my descriptive catalog for a dollar, which you can then deduct from your first order.

TIJ
UDS:TDFIFA
BJIF
JDIF
SURS
STSA
SFBF
TRA

The above is a long division problem in the proper format, with each numeral replaced by a letter. Can you solve it?

My program TC-41 Long Division Cryptograms, will generate an infinite number of such puzzles for you, and help you to solve them - and it only costs \$3.00. It took me a week to program, and I've sold 12 copies in 2 years! Doesn't anyone like to exercise their brains anymore?

TIGERCUB CHALLENGE

```
100 FOR J=1 TO 7 :: READ M%
:: PRINT M% :: NEXT J
30000 DATA AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAA,BBBBBBBBBBBBBB,BB
BBBBBBBBBBBB,CCCCCCCCCCCCCC,
DDDDDDDDDDDDDD
30010 DATA "TESTING",,,,,,
,,,,,,""TEST
ING""
>RUN
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
BBBBBBBBBBBBBBBB,BBBBBBBBBBBBBB
CCCCCCCCCCCCCC
DDDDDDDDDDDDDD
"TESTING"
,,,,,
""TESTING""
```

\$ READY \$
Can you run this program and get these results? You won't even be able to key in that last DATA item! So, how was this programmed? No, there are no redefined characters!

Do you need something educational? Here is a little routine to give the plural endings for most words. I will leave it to you to develop further - and see if you can teach the computer the plurals of PANTS, TOOTH, MAN, FUNGUS, DATA and the other inconsistencies of the English language.

```
100 REM PLURAL ENDINGS
    by Jim Peterson
110 INPUT W$
120 Z%=SEG$(W$,LEN(W$),1)
130 Y%=SEG$(W$,LEN(W$)-1,2)
140 ON POS("EFHSXYZ",Z%,1)+1
    GOTO 270,150,190,180,250,25
0,220,250
150 IF SEG$(W$,LEN(W$)-2,2)<
>"IF" THEN 270
160 PL%=SEG$(W$,1,LEN(W$)-2)
    &"VES"
170 GOTO 280
180 IF (Y%="CH")+(Y%="SH")TH
EN 250 ELSE 270
190 IF (Y%<>"LF")$(Y%<>"RF")
$(Y%<>"AF")$(W%<>"HOOF")THEN
270
200 PL%=SEG$(W$,1,LEN(W$)-1)
    &"VES"
210 GOTO 280
220 IF (Y%="AY")+(Y%="EY")+
(Y%="OY")+(Y%="UY")THEN 270
230 PL%=SEG$(W$,1,LEN(W$)-1)
    &"IES"
240 GOTO 280
250 PL%=W%&"ES"
260 GOTO 280
270 PL%=W%&"S"
280 PRINT PL$
290 GOTO 110
```

If you want to turn that into a quiz, change line 110 to READ W\$, change line 280 to PRINT W\$;" PLURAL?":. Add lines -
281 INPUT Q\$
282 IF Q%>PL\$ THEN 285
283 PRINT :;"RIGHT!":
284 GOTO 110
285 PRINT :;"WRONG! PLURAL OF ";W%;" IS ";PL\$:
300 DATA BOX,WATCH,WIFE,BOY
(And as much more as you want)

Just one more optional refinement to my Menu Loader. If you want to use a filename ending in an asterisk for those Basic programs which will not run in XBasic, this change will keep you from loading and crashing them.

```
420 CLOSE #1 :: IF SEG$(PG$(K),LEN(PG$(K)),1)=""$ THEN D
ISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL:"RE
```

TURN TO BASIC AND LOAD BY:" TYPING OLD DSK1."&PG\$(K):: S TOP

The idea of a program that writes a program has stirred up a little interest, so here's another. This routine will aid you in formatting your screen text into neat 28-column lines, and will save the text in program lines of DATA statements. When you are ready to save, type @@@ and enter as the last line, then NEW and MERGE DSK1.LINEFILE

```
100 !LINewriter
    - by Jim Peterson
130 CALL CLEAR :: OPEN #1:"D
SK1.LINEFILE",VARIABLE 163 :
: LN=30000
140 FOR R=1 TO 24 :: DISPLAY
AT(R,1)SIZE(1):" " :: ACCEP
T AT(R,0)SIZE(-28):A$ :: IF
A$="@@@" THEN 180 :: B$=B$&C
HR$(200)&CHR$(LEN(A$))&A$
150 X=X+1 :: IF X/4=INT(X/4)
THEN 160 ELSE B$=B$&CHR$(179
):: GOTO 170
160 GOSUB 210 :: LN=LN+10
170 NEXT R :: X=0 :: CALL CL
EAR :: GOTO 140
180 IF B$="" THEN 200 :: IF
SEG$(B$,LEN(B$),1)=CHR$(179)
THEN B$=SEG$(B$,1,LEN(B$)-1)
190 GOSUB 210
200 PRINT #1:CHR$(255)&CHR$(
255):: CLOSE #1 :: END
210 PRINT #1:CHR$(INT(LN/256
))&CHR$(LN-256*INT(LN/256))&
CHR$(147)&B$&CHR$(0):: B$=NU
L$ :: RETURN
```

Here's something for "JET" and Danny and Gene and all the rest of my friends in Alabama - and in all the rest of Dixie. You've never seen fireworks quite like these before!

```
100 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT TAB(
5);"ALABAMA 4th of JULY":  
: : : : : "programmed by  
Jim Peterson" :: FOR D=1 TO
200
110 NEXT D :: RANDOMIZE
120 DIM S$(12),A$(16),S(16),
```

```

SX$(15)
130 DATA 196,220,247,262,294
,330,349,392,440,494,523,587
,659
140 FOR J=4 TO 16 :: READ S(
J):: NEXT J :: FOR SET=2 TO
14 :: CALL COLOR(SET,1,1)::
NEXT SET :: CALL SCREEN(2)
150 DATA 00,18,24,3C,42,5A,6
6,7E,81,99,AS,BD,C3,DB,E7,FF
160 FOR J=1 TO 16 :: READ A$(
J):: NEXT J
170 FOR CH=40 TO 136 STEP 8
:: FOR L=1 TO 4 :: X=INT(16#
RND+1):: B%=B%&A$(X):: C%=A$(
X)&C% :: NEXT L
180 SX$(CH/8-4)=B%&C% :: CAL
L CHAR(CH,B%&C%): 60SUB 350
:: B%=MUL% :: C%=MUL% :: NE
XT CH
190 FOR J=1 TO 12 :: FOR L=1
TO 6 :: X=CHR$(INT(13#RND+
5)+8):: B%=B%&X&X% :: C%=X%
&X%&C% :: NEXT L
200 S$(J)=B%&C% :: B%=MUL%
: C%=MUL% :: NEXT J :: CALL
MAGNIFY(2)
210 FOR J=1 TO 12 :: DISPLAY
AT(J,3):S$(J):: NEXT J :: X
=1 :: FOR J=13 TO 24 :: DISP
LAY AT(J,3):S$(J-X):: X=X+2
:: NEXT J :: CALL DELSPRITE(
ALL):: FOR D=1 TO 200 :: NEX
T D
220 DATA 1,11,7,1,9,7,2,7,4,
2,4,7,1,7,4,1,4,8,1,4,9,1,4,
10,2,11,7,2,7,11,2,11,7,2,9,
4
230 DATA 2,12,5,2,5,12,3,12,
7,1,11,7,3,12,5,1,11,7,1,12,
5,1,13,4,1,14,5,1,15,10
240 DATA 6,16,7,1,14,9,1,11,
7,6,14,4,1,11,7,1,9,4,6,11,6
,1,8,6,1,9,7,6,7,4
250 DATA 1,11,7,1,13,4,2,14,
9,2,16,11,3,15,4,1,14,9,2,12
,10,4,14,10,2,12,7,6,15,10,2
,12,8
260 DATA 6,15,6,1,11,6,1,13,
4,2,14,9,2,16,14,3,15,11,1,1
4,9,2,12,10,2,13,7,3,14,10,1
,12,10
270 DATA 2,11,7,2,9,4,3,14,9
,1,9,5,2,9,4,4,8,4,2,9,4,6,7
,4,2,9,4,6,8,4,2,12,5
280 DATA 2,11,7,2,9,4,3,14,7
,1,16,7,2,15,10,4,14,9,2,9,4
,6,7,4,2,9,4,6,8,4,2,12,10
290 DATA 2,11,7,2,9,4,3,16,1
1,1,14,9,2,15,4,2,14,7,2,14,

```

```

9,6,14,11
300 FOR M=1 TO 96 STEP 3 ::
READ T,A,B :: CALL COLOR(A-2
,A-2,1):: CALL COLOR(B-2,B-2
,1):: FOR TT=1 TO T :: CALL
SOUND(-999,S(A),0,S(B),5)::
NEXT TT
310 CALL COLOR(A-2,1,1):: CA
LL COLOR(B-2,1,1)
320 NEXT M :: RESTORE 220 ::
FOR M=1 TO 252 STEP 3 :: RE
AD T,A,B :: CALL COLOR(A-2,A
-2,1):: CALL COLOR(B-2,B-2,1
):: FOR TT=1 TO T :: CALL SO
UND(-999,S(A),0,S(B),5):: NE
XT TT
330 CALL COLOR(A-2,1,1):: CA
LL COLOR(B-2,1,1)
340 NEXT M :: FOR J=5 TO 30
:: CALL SOUND(-999,S(A),J,S(
B),J):: NEXT J :: RESTORE 22
0 :: FOR CH=40 TO 136 STEP 8
:: 60SUB 350 :: NEXT CH ::
GOTO 190
350 CALL MAGNIFY(1):: CALL S
PRITE(CHR/8-4,CH,13#RND+3,20
0,128,-30,RND#20-RND#20):: R
ETURN

```

The Home Computer Magazine, Vol. 4 No. 3, had a program called Elementary Addition and Subtraction, which generates random numbers between 1 and 5 for elementary math practice.

The first time I tried it, it asked me for the answer to 1 + 1. When I answered correctly, it produced another random problem - 1 + 1 again!

This is known as the idiotic computer syndrome, and it helps us to remember that our computers are still no smarter than their programmers!

Fortunately, this bit of idiocy is easy to cure. Try this -

```

100 RANDOMIZE
110 X=INT(5#RND+1)
120 IF X=X2 THEN 110
130 X2=X
140 PRINT X;
150 GOTO 110

```

Do you see how it works? The first time you

get a number, X2 will equal 0 because it has never been given a value. X will be selected as a number between 1 and 5. Let's suppose it is 2. Line 120 compares it with X2; 2 is not equal to 0, so the program continues to line 130, where X2 now picks up the value of 2, then on to print the value, and back to 110. Now, suppose that the random factor in line 110 picks 2 again. Line 120 finds that 2=2, X=X2, and sends the program back to 110 to pick a different number.

If you want to avoid a repeat until after two times, change line 120 to read 120 IF (X=X2)+(X=X3)THE N 110 and add a line 125 X3=X2.

For a longer series without repeating, it might be better to use this method.

```

100 A$="ABCDEF6HIJ"
110 FOR J=1 TO 10
120 RANDOMIZE
130 Y=INT(RND#LEN(A$)+1)
140 X=ASC(SEG$(A$,Y,1))-64
150 A$=SEG$(A$,1,Y-1)&SEG$(A$,Y+1,LEN(A$))
160 PRINT X
170 NEXT J
180 GOTO 100

```

That will give you a random series of 1 through 10 and then repeat with a different random series. Adjust the number of letters in the string A\$, and the corresponding "TO" value in 110, for whatever you require.

Several newsletters recently have published articles on the "program that you never run" - because it consists entirely of REM statements!

For instance, you can keep a list of the members of your users group, using their membership number for the program line number,

followed by REM (or ! in XBasic) and their name and address. For a printed list, just LIST the program to the printer. To change someone's address, or to delete a deadbeat who doesn't pay his dues, just edit the program. You can also LIST the program to disk to create a DIS/VAR 80 file which you can then load into TI-Writer and use its editing features, FindString, etc.

The same method can give you a tickler file, or appointment calendar, which is just as good as some rather complex disk filing programs written for this purpose. Just use the month number (1-12) and date (always in two digits, 01-31) for the line number - 1000 !buy birthday pres sent for wife!

```

1009 !wife's birthday!
1010 !apologize to wife for
forgetting birthday

```

You can schedule several things in one program line -

```

1011 !get haircut/change oil
in car/pinch secretary.....
- but it might be better
to add an extra digit (0-9)
to the line number and
schedule separately -
10110 !get haircut
10111 !change oil

```

Then, if something doesn't get done, just use the REDO key to change the line number and reschedule it for another date. You can print out a list of the day's chores by simply LIST "PID":7010-7019 (did you know you could do that?)

MEMORY FULL IN LINE 470

- Jim Peterson

Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group
288 Windsor Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

GARY BISHOP
124-222
860 WESTVIEW DR
MARION IA 52302