CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP
NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1990
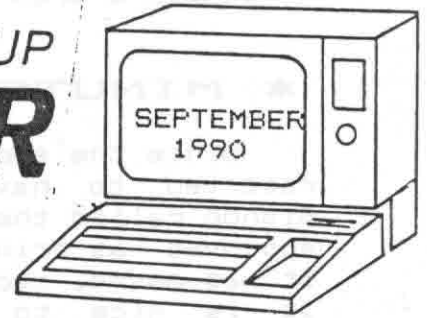
CEDAR RAPIDS/MARION, IOWA

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****NEWSLETTER TOPICS****

1. Future Meeting Dates
2. Next Meeting Notes
3. Minutes from the August Mtg.
4. Special Meeting in Dubuque
5. Minimemory Question
6. Printer Cable Fix
7. The Threat - - -
8. New-Age/99 #6 and #7
9. Ham Radio SIG Invitation
10. Exchange Newsletters

****FUTURE MEETING DATES****

Please mark the following dates on your calendar for future meetings: SEPTEMBER 11, OCTOBER 9, NOVEMBER 13

********NEXT MEETING********

The regular monthly meeting will be TUESDAY, SEPT. 14, at West Music, Cedar Rapids, with open discussion starting at 6:30 PM. Let's have a spirited discussion on how to use the famous ARCHIVER program! Did you know that all versions are not the same?

* MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST MEETING *

Since the secretary was late in arriving the following is only reported to have happened at the August UG meeting. President Gary Bishop called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the NEWSLETTER. The treasurer's report was read. It was moved, seconded and passed that his report be accepted as read. It is nice to know that we still have money in our accounts. At this point in the meeting, the secretary finally made his appearance. His first duty was to count the membership present so that he could report there were eleven present at this meeting.

BBS REPORT: John reported that the DARKSIDE BBS has redone the format. Everyone will have to sign back on and get a new ID and password. Good luck! He did not have time to try it out.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. The news from Sr. Pat is that she is now settled in her new room. Ed reported that he has mostly finished her new Rolling Computer System. She would like for all of us to come up to Dubuque at the end of September. More on that later. 2. Reminder: We are out of disks for sale and will not order any more until there is a need for them. 3. Look for the assignment list in the next NEWSLETTER. Gary reported that it is ready but was omitted by the editor for lack of space. Isn't that great! 4. For those who would like the schematic for the clock featured in Gary's article, one is available. See him. 5. NELWSLETTER articles. Jim has several original material articles waiting for space. Several suggestions were made on this subject. a. compress print to include more material. b. "Can pictures be used?" Not very well but don't let that stop you from submitting some. c. Can more new product reviews be included? Yes, if you will write them. Gary passed around a sign-up sheet for help at the HAMFEST.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. Sr. Pat would like to see us again. Several dates were discussed. Gary will try to set up the meeting at Dubuque for September 29. 2. John wants all to know that he has SPAD and likes it very well. He's crashed landed, shotdown the Red Baron, and flown around the Eifel Tower. Now he is "thinkins of selling my computer so that I can take flying lessions".

DISCUSSION: 1. The TI and ham radio. The meeting was adjourned.

DEMO: Bob did a good job actually using "configure". Thanks, Bob. Next month we might do the same with the latest ARCHIVER.

Submitted by Bill Paeth, Secretary

* SPECIAL MEETING IN DUBUQUE *

Subsequent to our last meeting (see above), Gary has established a date for our visit to Sister Pat and friends. We will hold our special meeting on Saturday, October 6th, just before our regular Tuesday meeting. This date is acceptable to the administration at Marion Hall, so plan your carpools now. Let's have a large turnout for this once-a-year event!

* MINIMEMORY QUESTION *

I have encountered an unusual problem using the Minimemory. The problem involves the save memory to cassette function, as described on p. 69 and 70 of the Minimemory manual. In Easybug, I have used the command "SA000" to save a block of CPU expansion memory to cassette. When I perform the recording check, all seems well. However, as soon as I try to load this information back into the A000 location in memory, I receive error "07". The cassette seems to put out only the first few bytes of the block, and the error occurs immediately. It seems like the loader won't allow the cassette to load data to anyplace but the 7000-7FFF block of the Minimemory. Does anyone have a solution to this, so I can load cassette data directly to expansion memory with Easybug?

Also, I found out by trial and error that 8K is the maximum block size Easybug will allow to be saved.

Gary Bishop

* PRINTER CABLE FIX *

In February, 1988, I published an article on how to build an adapter so you could use your IBM compatible printer and cable on the TI. During the last month, a member contacted me about it, and was having trouble making it work. After several phone calls, and much discussion, we discovered the IBM printer cable being used did not bring all the ground wires through. The original IBM cable carries about 12 grounds through. My article depends upon a genuine IBM cable being used. The TI printer connection uses only two grounds. Therefore, I picked only two grounds to complete the circuits for the IBM cable. It turns out that if a clone cable, homemade cable, or a cheaper cable of some sort is in use, it doesn't carry through all the grounds. The pins I chose for TI grounds may not be connected on the clone cable. The solution is to tie all pins together that could possibly be grounds from the IBM cable, and then run it to the TI ground. Sounds complicated, so at the right is the wiring diagram for the perfected cable. GB

	TI PIO (per my drawing)	DB25F CONNECTOR
Handshake out	1	1
D1	2	2
D2	3	3
D3	4	4
D4	5	5
D5	6	6
D6	7	7
D7	8	8
D8	9	9
Handshake in	10	11
Logic ground	11	24
10K pullup	12	NC
Spare in	13	NC
Spare out	14	NC
1K pullup	15	NC
		/ All pins
Logic ground	16	< 18-25 tied
		\ together

* THE THREAT — — — *

As discussed at our last meeting, I have made a list of members that I would like to see write something for our newsletter. I took the complete list of members, and exempted a few. The main reasons for not including someone on this list is because that person's official duties require an input to the newsletter anyway. Such persons are: Librarian. Also, I exempted myself (RHIP) because I managed to hog almost the entire previous newsletter. Jim Green is not listed, because as the newletter editor, he shouldn't feel the heat of public pressure to include anything of his own in this newsletter. Besides, he has ample opportunity to include anything.

What to write about? Ask questions, tell us what you are doing with the computer, problems you have had, solutions to other problems, complaints, kudos, ideas for the next meeting, what you would like to see a presentation on, etc...   How much to write? A half of a page is a reasonable start. If you feel perky, go for a whole page! Jim will accept any and all contributions.

If possible, submit your article as a TI Writer file on a disk. I'm sure Jim would entertain accepting typewritten submissions, and possibly even hand written.

ISSUE	PERSON IN THE HOLE
OCT.	SUSAN BREINER, JERRY CANADY
NOV.	ED EDWARDS, SR. BARBARA FERNANDES
DEC.	LARRY GUHL, JIM HARRINGTON
JAN. 91	BOB HEIDERSTADT, ALVIN JOHNSON
FEB.	LOUISE KOWALSKE, BETTY HOBEL
MAR.	PAUL MORTENSEN, RAY NOVEY
APR.	BILL PAETH, LARRY PESKA
MAY	STEWART PRINCE, JIM REISS
JUNE	SR. PAT TAYLOR, BOB WAHLSTROM
JULY	REV. RICHARD WATTERS, BRUCE WINTER
AUG.	DAVID ASKELSON, WAYNE BETTS

WOW!! We can fill the newsletter for a whole year from this list. Let's get those keys a'clacking. Gary Bishop

I have a copy of Millers' Graphics Advanced Diagnostics, complete with orignal manual and disk, $10. Gary Bishop, 377-9574

NEW-AGE/99

BY JACK SUGHRUE
Box 459
E Douglas MA 01516

#6 Page Pro - Part 1

2+3=? Hmmmm!

DESKTOP PUBLISHING FINALLY ARRIVED FOR OUR 99. THERE ARE MATURE COMMERCIAL AND FAIRWARE AND PUBLIC DOMAIN GOODIES ALL OVER THE PLACE. THERE ARE SO MANY, IN FACT, THAT IT IS QUITE IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP UP WITH THEM.

BESIDES TI-ARTIST-PLUS, WHICH WILL BE REVIEWED SOME OTHER TIME, THERE ARE PILES OF INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS FROM COMPRODINE WHICH I'VE READ AND HEARD ABOUT BUT HAVE NOT YET EXPERIENCED. THERE ARE CSGD'S GREAT PROGRAMS AND NUMEROUS PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FAIRWARE PROGRAMS FOR BANNERS, LETTER-HEADS, LABELS, AND SO ON.

YOU HAVE TO BE TO FIGURE OUT SOME OF THESE PROGRAMS.

MANY OF THEM ARE SEVERELY LIMITED [THOUGH SOME LIKE GRAPHIC LABELER DO EXACTLY WHAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO IN A FANTASTIC WAY].

NOW THERE ARE A PAIR OF WONERFUL TREASURES FOR ALL 99ERS WITH DISKDRIVES AND PRINTERS:

TIPS

[TI PRINT SHOP - PUBLIC DOMAIN PROGRAMS WITH A HUGE COLLECTION OF PIX]

& PAGEPRO

[FROM ASGARD, THE BEST PAGE MAKER AVAILABLE FOR THE 99 AND GENEVE]

RON WOLCOTT, WITH ABLE HELP FROM BARRY TRAVER AND OTHERS, HAS GIVEN TIPS TO THE TI WORLD FREE OF CHARGE [SEE YOUR USER GROUP OR CONTACT JIM PETERSON FOR THIS AND OTHER PD AND FAIRWARE GRAPHICS PROGRAMS]. TIPS LETS YOU MAKE BANNERS, LETTERHEADS, LABELS, GREETING CARDS, AND MORE. WRITTEN IN XB, TIPS TENDS TO BE SLOW AND A BIT CUMBERSOME. YOU MUST PRINT OUT THE DOCS AND FOLLOW THEM CLOSELY TO USE THE PROGRAMS SUCCESSFULLY!
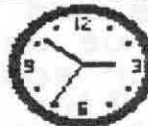
BUT IT TAKES A LITTLE TIME TO MASTER AND TO PRINT.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF TIPS IS ITS COLLECTION OF GRAPHIC ART FROM THE BIG BLUE WORLD. THERE ARE ABOUT 5,000 PIX NOW A PART OF THIS PACKAGE, WHICH INCLUDES PROGRAMS TO CONVERT TO TI-ARTIST AND PAGEPRO, AMONG OTHER ITEMS.

THIS REVIEW USES ALL TIPS PICTURES WITHIN THE SUPERB FRAMEWORK OF PAGEPRO.

WHICH, OF COURSE, BRINGS ME BACK TO THE TOPIC OF THIS REVIEW. THE DAY I GOT THE ORIGINAL PAGEPRO I WAS UP TO THE VERY WEE HOURS PLAYING WITH IT IN ALL KINDS OF INGENIOUS WAYS. WITH PP YOU CAN PUT ANY GRAPHICS [OVER 5,000 IF YOU HAVE TIPS] ANYPLACE ON YOUR PAGE. YOU CAN TYPE OVER OR INTO THESE PIX [AS IN THE TOP AND MOON PIX]. THE ORIGINAL PERMITTED 28 PIX PER PAGE. VERSION 1.5 ALLOWS UNLIMITED GRAPHICS BY SAVING PAGES FULL AT A TIME, ALONG WITH ALL TEXT.

Because of this saving method, PAGEPRO also permits an unlimited number of fonts per page:

Gothic 2 Sample, Script 1 Sample, TULO Sample, etc.

If you've written your text on FUNNELWEB or any DV/80 textfile maker, you can easily import that text into your PAGEPRO pages, though personally, I find it just as easy to type right onto my pages and place the graphics (TIPS) and borders and fonts (PAGEPRO) just where I want as I'm going along.

PAGEPRO us extremely user friendly. Of all the various pagemakers and semi-pagemakers I've used for the TI (and for some other computers), I've found PAGEPRO by far the easiest to use. The commands are mostly single keypress and FAST! If you have any Kind of RAM capacity, the whole activity is almost instantaneous.

It's not one of those programs where you'll stop often for tea breaks while the program churns and mopes along.
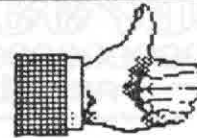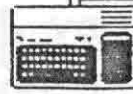
The latest PAGEPRO also has some great improvements, such as cataloging from any cursor. For me, this was a...**LARGE** improvement.

The columnizer that is part of PAGEPRO has been improved to auto indent and auto page number; two nice features.
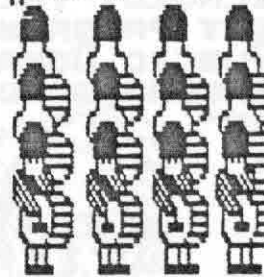

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RATING

Typing in any direction let's you make quick borders, boxes, whatever, as well as puzzles and text patterns.

There are other neato changes in 1.5 regarding importing/exporting text, printing a page, and so on. But, basically, a great program was made even better.

So while the band's playing let me add that PAGEPRO does not stand alone.

Asgard also has PAGEPRO PICS of all Kinds of pictures done in neat, thematic packages.

There is also PIXPRO which converts GRAPHX, TI ARTIST PIX & INSTANCES, RLE, PICASSO, MACPAINT, & PAGEPRO into most of the above formats. This is great even if you don't own PAGEPRO.

Also available are PP FONTS (a few of the 50 are shown on these two pages); PP TITLES (which are works of art unto themselves); PP UTILITIES (which allow some extraordinary manipulations of the graphics for all Kinds of on-screen pasteups & designs.

PAGEPRO is a WYSIWYG ("wizzywig": What You See Is What You Get) program that more than lives up to its promise. It's the standard for TI as TI-ARTIST is for drawing.

Bye!

(to be continued)

- 6 -

NEW-AGE/99

HI

#7 PAGEPRO pt 2

by Jack Sughrue, Box 459
E Douglas MA 01516

Last time our wee leprechaun wished us a happy goodbye after exploring a few PAGEPRO delights. This exciting installment will uncover & show more ways to desktop publish via PP.

In limiting these explorations to 2-page segments some of the intricate niceties of PP have to be left to your imaginations and time.

We'll show an example of the neat TITLES on the next page but will leave the greeting-card making up to you. Exploring such a program on your own is 9/10ths of the fun!

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.Okay. What do you need to make PAGEPRO the dream graphics/text program of the TI world?

Not much, really. Last time we suggested getting TIPS from your local user group or Jim Peterson of TIGERCUB for the thousands of graphics that come with it. That'll give you a big picture collection.

PAGEPRO will give you the state-of-the-art tools you'll need:

PAGE PRO 99 v 1.5 by Ed Johnson (& Chris Bobbitt) is the complete page-making software for 4A or Geneve. It includes all you need to make letter-heads, newsletters, pages of all descriptions, text conversions, etc. $24.95.

PP FONTS by artist Paul Scheidemantle comes on 2 disks. There are 50 of them (small & large); PP PICS are 7 volumes of excellent thematic pictures; PP TITLES (see next page) are pretty dramatic eye-catchers; PP UTILI-TIES are extraordinary graphic manipulation tools essential for quick layout (cards), design, inversions, rotations, etc.; and PIX PRO, the single converter you'll need for converting to and from PAGEPRO, TI-ARTIST (pix & instances, ideal for CSGD & GRAPHIC LABEL users, too), RLE, PICASSO and even MACPIX. Yes, PAGEPRO does print full-page graphics!

A NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S DREAM COME TRUE!

As a matter of fact, PAGEPRO even lets you save any part of a page or THE ENTIRE PAGE as a single picture, thus giving you endless clipping and overlaying possibilities and greater reprint abilities than ever before imagined.

[This article, for example could be saved as two pictures on disk and sent to an editor else-where who has PAGEPRO. That person would simply load the program and load a picture (not a page) & what you see printed before you, including all the graphics and borders are exactly what the editor would get fresh on his or her printer. Neat package, no?

I thought I'd complete this two-part review of PAGE PRO 99 from Asgard by a few bits of dazzle. It's so easy. Below, in case you didn't notice, is an example of PP TITLES. The font I'm using SCRIPT for small fonts. For the larger ones I'll use

Antique

which is quite different from any of the others I've shown so far in this lengthy review of PAGEPRO. Next I'd like to fill up and overlay a bunch of this page with pix of all kinds.
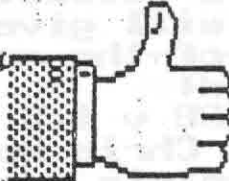
LOOK AT THIS!

WHEE!

You can see that with such a wonderful graphic program, you are limited only by your imagination.
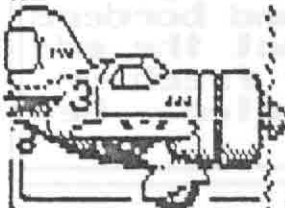
There is NO

with this program. Only   stuff.

As you have undoubtedly gathered by now, NEW-AGE/99 rates this program a solid A+. I haven't used anything so often since FUNNELWEB, nor had as much fun since the invention of the yo-yo.

To get yours contact:

ASGARD SOFTWARE
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20850   Ph. 703-255-3085

PAGEPRO
from
ASGARD

Ham Radio Special Interest Group: I want to form a loose association of the
hams in our club. I would also welcome input from anyone using the TI for ham
radio. It may not be well known, but the TI can also be used for short wave
listening, and other worthwhile radio persuits. So far, I have the following
members listed as hams:

Bob Heiderstadt WØII   Bob Wahlstrom KØEYO   Gary Bishop NQØV
Ralph Paeth   WØTUI   Sig Schmolling WAØTZP   Wayne Betts WBØFGQ
Bill Paeth

These guys aren't technically members of the User Group (yet), but I will
include them because I like them:

Wayne Baumgartner KBØFDO   Frank Fuleky WD4AFF   Matt Celichowski KBØCTT

I know of several other people around the country that use the TI for ham
radio. Maybe if there is enough interest, I will publish their names and
calls, also.

Now, what do we call ourselves? Some options considered are: THUGS (TI Hams
User Groups), HUTIC (Hams Using TI Computers), TICHUG (TI Computer Ham User
Group), ARTISIG (Amateur Radio/TI Special Interest Group), etc. Any more
ideas? Our goal: to promote the usage of the TI in amateur radio settings.
I'd like to try to find a name that is distinctive, but not quite as offensive
as THUGS.

* EXCHANGE NEWSLETTERS *

At the request of the members, I am listing here the names of some of the User
Groups with whom we exchange newsletters monthly. Several collections go back
at least two years. If you would like to check out a packet of newsletters for
one month, please call me before our monthly meeting, and I will have the
newsletters available for you. Newsletters must be returned each month so that
others members may have a chance to review them.

Newsletters received by our group:

        LA Topics   MICROpendium
        Decatur Byte-Line   Lehigh 99'er
        Newsnet99er (Texas)   West Penn 99'ers
        PUG Peripheral   Cleveland U.G.
        QB 99'er (New York)   S. Nevada U.G.
        Rocky Mountain 99'ers

I will list others next month, including those who no longer send us their
newsletters, but who have provided us a great collection from the past. JCG

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6:30 PM --- WEST MUSIC COMPANY

BEGINNING OF THE FALL PROGRAM!

Cedar Valley 99'er Users Group
377 Cambridge Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

Send To:

GARY BISHOP
124-222
3270 28TH AVE
MARION IA 52302