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CEDAR RAPIDS/MARION

NEXT MEETING: 6:30 PM DEC. 10, 1991

WEST MUSIC, COLLINS ROAD SQUARE

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MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting got started at approximately 6:30 at West Music. We had 13 members and guests in attendance. We had a new member join our group from the Quad Cities area. The evening started out with membership renewals and checking out the many items that were brought in for our annual swap and sell night. The minutes from last month were approved as written in the Newsletter. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. The main item of old business was a discussion of the Chicago Fair and the trip to Sister Pat's for the benefit of our members that were unable to attend. Gary Bishop had photos of both events that were passed around.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. Gary Bishop is still in the process of obtaining a ram disk card for the club system. 2. Bruce Winter is not quite ready for his demo of FW 4.4 (maybe next month).

PROGRAM: Jim Green had his video of the MIDI program that was given at Sister Pat's by Mike Miksimik and Don Jones from the Chicago user group.

After the video Bob Wahlstrom demonstrated his midi set up that he purchased at the Dubuque meeting. There was time at the end of the program to get in some disk copying.

Submitted by Bob Wahlstrom, Secretary

PAGE 1

Chicago Times, Nov 91, Prez Sez- Faire coming. List of officers in this issue. Elections coming. Membership News..Great demos on large screen at the St. Nicoli Church meeting place. Some members fly to the Faire. Article on TI, Myarc 512 and Funlweb. A way around file copying Funnelweb. A list of Executive Board Members. SEED..An assembly subroutine for XB random # generator by Bruce Harrison. Pascal/p code part 5 6 by Stan Katzman. Back Page....Best routes to the Faire.

Lehigh 99'er Computer Group, Allentown, PA, Aug 91 rcvd 11/22: Listing of new software available: MUSIC-TK in XB, INFODISK1 AND INFODISK2 various information about TI, GRAPHICS EDITOR for CS6D, SNIPPETS information, TIPS, GIF MANIA. Accelerator update and additional enhancements by OPA; for sale; The cryptographer's aide program for codes, ANIMATOR pgm description.

" Oct 91 rcvd 11/22: TIM card received; fix for DISKREVIEW 4.40 of Funnelweb; color adjustment problem fix; quick and dirty calendar, hardware hacker PBox mods, TI Writer tips and using .IF to chain files; how to remove cover from PBox, configuring Funnelweb quick and dirty way; Rich GKXB extended basic replacement description (must have gram cracker or equiv.)

" Nov 91 rcvd 11/22: TI oddities of hardware/software nearing release when TI quit the 99/4A; TI/9640 quiz by Mike Dodd (humor), hardware hacker to add regulators to PBox for more disk drives or powering console from PBox; home computer description by Jim Peterson. Jack's Basement BBS 215-821-0469 300/1200/2400 8N1, 24 hrs, 7 days.

Western Washington Computer Club Nov 91 rcvd 11/25: message from new president, TI Writer formatter tip of how to mark the file you want to edit when doing a disk directory; Artist Printshop review by Sister Pat, for sale, TM direct has new 91 catalog 1-800-336-9966.

" Oct 91 rcvd 11/2: tips on reducing disk and head wear, for sale items, puzzle-12 (a block puzzle.)

SNUGLETter, So. Nevada UG OCT 91 rcvd 11/22: TI and PC discussion, BBS report with listing of new files; BBS report, FOG and Computer Monthly promo and good words; new Geneve software; reasons to continue with the TI. SNUG BBS 702-648-1247 300/1200/2400 24 hrs full access on first call.

" Nov 91 rcvd 11/22: problems with demonstrating PC software because no one will bring in their PCs, software available from JP Software: TRIAD, Chainlink solitaire, PC Transfer, Hypercopy, Identifile, Gen-TRI; Gen-TRI first impressions and review; a PC article written for TIers about PC world in TI terms; description of arrangement of files on BBS; BBS report; new files on BBS.

TI Topics , LA 99ers Oct 91 rcvd 11/1: pen pal request; MIDI help needed; Advenure game hints; real programmer comments, joystick control program, FWB flow chart, XB miscellany #4 on error info, simple programs from Jim Peterson; TI image maker review; PC power supply in PBox #2; monitor guide list.

" LA 99 user group Nov 91 rcvd 11/26: presentation by Roger Merritt; encouraging words by Jim Peterson, TI Writer simple trick of getting everything on one screen; 50% discount on all software in stock at LA99 marketplace; review of Funnelweb 4.40, Funnelweb 4.31 hotsheet, user group list and contact sheet; TI Writer quick reference guide.

West Penn 99ers, Nov 91 rcvd 11/13: needs reviewed.

Cleveland Area 99 Newsletter Nov 91 rcvd 11/13: description of FREENET, foreign characters on TI, recipe for hungarian gulyas, TI Base V3.01 tutorial 24.1.1 printer controls, 24.1.2 more printer controls; writing variables in programs; letter to editor about Funnelweb updates.

Cin-Day UG Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec 1990 rcvd 11/16/91: create your own cursor and design your own cursor; TI logo on screen, interrupt driven clock; universal file reader program; instance printer V1.5 program, attention grabber program, decimal/hex conversion charts; arrow movement program, word count program, 40 column display, The case of the disappearing &; print head cleaning; printer ribbon re-inking; Snoopy graphic program.

K-Town 99ers Nov 91 rcvd 11/16: Potpourri, taking control of the formatter, more about Plus!V2; dust cover advise; swap shop; boiled shrimp recipe, stumblings and other misc.

FIX FOR DISKREVIEW 4.40

Having just recently updated to Funnelweb version 4.40, I was playing with the new diskreview and noticed that while you are sector editing, in hex, and you modify the most significant nibble of a byte, the least significant nibble will be changed to usually a >D or >F, and sometimes others. This isn't a problem if you were typing in a new byte, but what if you were only changing the MSnibble? I knew that sooner or later I would run into trouble because of this bug. So I fired up HotBug a few nights ago and stepped through the program until I saw the problem. So here's the fix:

(Please note that I am referring to the 40 column version of diskreview. I don't know if the 80 col version has the same bug.)

In the DS file (not DR) search for the hex string >020E P000 0A4B, and change it to: >0A4E 098B 0ACB. You should find the string at sector >009 of the file DS and at byte >50. Just type over the old string, and then write the sector back out. Diskreview works just fine to modify the DS file. After you patch the file, you must reboot to see the change. All standard warnings apply, such as don't do this to your original disk, etc.!

Brad Snyder (treasurer, L99CG)

The Prez's Blurb

Trivia...What is bigger than Cedar Rapids, hundreds of miles away, and also safer? Don't scoff until you read the rest of this article. Our November meeting went much better than I expected. With all that was planned I expected considerable chaos would develop.

Spelling Checker...I dragged out the old Dragonslayer spelling checker the other day after someone mentioned to me that its speed is much better on a ramdisk. The docs didn't say how many words it had but an inspection of an ad in an old catalog revealed it has 20,000. My attempts to run it from my ramdisk quickly showed it to be set up for DSK1 and nothing else. A couple of sessions with a sector editor produced my first success in changing the drive number. My next surprise was realizing it takes about 150k to store the program. This is more memory than I am prepared to give up at this time. For that reason the checker is staying on the disk for now at least. Like most checkers of this size it doesn't know plurals or words ending in "ing" etc. This can be very frustrating but I have a plan to keep all those words in the user dictionary the program allows you create. Hopefully there are a limited number of these words that I personally use and in time my need to update the checker will diminish greatly. Checking one page takes about 3 minutes. This is a price I am willing to pay after seeing some of my mistakes it has found. My next move is to get more ramdisk memory. Anyone have some really cheap memory chips? One final note on the users dictionary. (In case you have this particular checker.) Be sure to back up your users dictionary often. If you try to update it and the disk is full you will loose the whole dictionary. My son and I have both found this out the hard way. It is a DV80 file that you can read on TI Writer and might be resurrected with a recover file program though. It won't find words you forget to capitalize etc. But with 10-12 readings I can usually find those. Not kidding guys.

Writing An Article...Newsletters often ask for articles from their members. There is a reason for this. Articles are not, in my opinion, that easy to write and they take considerable time. Also I find it somewhat embarrassing to put something in print and then find out I have given out incorrect info. Here are some of the tricks I use to relieve many of the problems I have encountered. First I want to say that the better the article you hand in, the better it will look in the newsletter. Editors say they will correct your mistakes. I am sure they put much effort into this task but they are human and have many articles to worry about while you have only the one. You can probably do a better job than they will if you are willing to put out the effort. Here's what I do. First...brain storm. Put everything down you can think of about the subject of the article. Don't worry about spelling, organization, or restating anything now. If you do you will probably forget something you wanted to say. Decide later how important each part is. Second...Decide at this point how long the article will end up being. For me this is usually one page. Third...Now rearrange, restate, check your spelling etc. Expand or condense to fit the number of pages you desire. Forth...Pick up the pile of papers from the floor. If you have a 40 column setup like mine there should be 6-12 of them there by now. If you are 80 column you're out of my league for the present. Fifth...Look at the pile of papers, look at the clock and say "That's where the last two hours went."

Chicago Faire...Here's the trivia question answer. My youngest son Daniel and I went to the fair in a rented car. I rented it partly because I wanted to go some other places in Chicago while we were there and I didn't want to do it in our 2.2 liter 83 station wagon. I was right. Chicago traffic was as I remembered it. Also I thought if any car problems arose we would still have our old reliable to use at home. The trip was completely uneventful in that regard except for loosing a pair of leather gloves. So why is Chicago safer than CR? The following Saturday someone broke the rear window in Dan's car and ripped off his car stereo right here. I doubt this proves too much but I find it interesting.

Due to the efforts of the vendors that were at the Faire the TI is still competitive with other computers on the market today, old and new. We arrived at the Faire about 11:00 and immediately began searching the room for bargains. The first time around I saw nothing that looked interesting. Knowing my powers of observation as I do I went around again. Six trips later I was still finding bargains and interrupting Dan, who had by now retired to our room, with every new find. My ill gotten booty consisted of The Star Trek Calendar, (A surprise for my son.), another assembly manual, a DSDD drive for \$20, a 2400 baud modem for forty, and a membership card for the Chicago UG. (A \$21 bargain.) Also gained were several info sessions on MIDI, Games, and Genivive. Plus I met Bruce Harrison, Bud Mills and Eunice Spooner. The only negative note was a reduction in the value of the door prizes and the fact that the drawing lasted way past the advertised closing time of five PM.

After the Faire my son and I set out for downtown Chicago. The tollway was down to stop and go driving before we got half way there. We exited it down near my old school, DeVry Tech, and guess what. The traffic on the regular streets was just as jammed. I then started remembering about learning the busy times on Chicago streets and to avoid them at all costs. Not having that kind of time we pressed on. Thoughts of even driving by the old school disappeared when we spotted an express way going in the direction of downtown. Upon entering it we found it to be the same one we had just left except now it was moving between 45 and 65 MPH. We made it downtown and actually found a parking place that was free street parking thanks to Dan. After desending from the Sears Tower where the visibility was just barely acceptable, and looking at the traffic again, and noticing that we had less than 1/4 tank of gas we headed back out of town and toward a gas station. Tourists we definitely were. At the gas station another surprise awaited us. The engine in the car had writing on it. It said "3.8 liter fuel injected V6". Interesting. We did get back to CR without damaging the vehicle however. The next morning we headed downtown at 8:30. No one will be out except us tourists and church people I thought. Want to bet. As we entered the Planetarium to decide if we would stay for the show there or head on down Lakeshore to other things the guide overheard our plans and said "Don't leave and expect to find a parking place when you come back. There is a Bears game across the street." We stayed. After that and some lunch we headed on home. Frankly I was ready to stay about another 30 years. I have always liked the town and the people are for the most part very friendly. The weather coming and going was the same. Partly everything, snowy, clear, windy, you name it. Just like Chicago.

EOF...Jack Johns...CR

EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER REVIEW

Since I have been doing this newsletter, I have included a synopsis of recently received newsletters. I hope this service has been useful to you. I don't know of any other way to let our members know what is contained in the exchange newsletters we receive. The following is a list of the user groups we presently exchange with, along with the number of newsletters received from them since May 1991. May was when I took over as your newsletter editor. The list includes any newsletters received and reviewed in this month's (December) issue.

Exchange *Living Ohio*
Group name

Number received

CLUB 99 ATTLEBORD, MA	<i>continual synopsis</i>	0
LEHIGH 99ER UG, ALLENTOWN, PA		10
CHICAGO 99ER UG INC, CHICAGO, IL		5
L.A. 99ERS U.G, TORRANCE, CA		6
DECATUR 99ERS UG, DECATUR, IL		7
CLEVELAND AREA 99ERS, ROCK RIVER, OHIO		6
SUNCOAST BEEPER, TAMPA, FLORIDA		0
CONNI GROUP, WORTHINGTON, OH		6
NET 99ERS HCUG, HURST, TX		4
CENTRAL IA 99ERS UG, DES MOINES, IA		0
ROCKY MOUNTAIN 99ERS, AURORA, CO		6
SO. NEVADA USERS GROUP, LAS VEGAS, NV		10
PENN-OHIO USER GROUP, STRUTHERS, OHIO		0
WEST PENN 99ERS, TORONTO, OHIO		5
TIGERCUB SOFTWARE, COLUMBUS, OH		0
QUAD CITIES TI CLUB, BETTENDORF, IA		1
GTB (GREATER TAMPA BAY) TIUG, TAMPA, FL		0
CIN-DAY U.G, PIQUA, OH		2
OAKLAND COMPUTER CLUB, WATERVILLE, ME		2 (publishes quarterly)
WESTERN WASHINGTON COMPUTER CLUB, TOLEDO, WA		7

Some comments on the above list: Tigercub Software doesn't produce a newsletter, but Jim Peterson has kept us well stocked with information, news, and materials for the newsletter. Dropping him from our distribution would be a serious mistake, in my opinion. Some clubs mail out several issues at once. Southern Nevada UG is an example. There are only eight months since May, but we received a bunch of their letters in May and December. We just started exchanging with Western Washington in June, and they kindly send us back issues. Thanks, guys! Some clubs have stated they will no longer exchange with other groups, but our list has not been purged or updated to remove them. Of course, some groups have simply folded.

Maybe we can acquire any remaining interested members from the Quad Cities and Central Iowa groups, assuming they have folded. Any ideas or volunteers to go about this task? We have already picked up one new member from the former QC club.

(CLOSED CIRCUIT TO BOB MURDOCK: Would you check with an officer or other responsible person, and obtain the latest/last membership list for the QC club? Our intent is to solicit the ex-members to join our club.)

(CLOSED CIRCUIT TO LARRY PESKA: Same request. Would you obtain the latest/last member list for the Central IA UG for us. We will ask the former members to join our group. If the group is still going, let us know so we can send our newsletter to the correct place.)

If these leads obtain only a few new members from each group, the possibility exists that our club size could double! What a concept.

Well, members: What do you think about the user group exchange list above? Which groups should be dropped? A more important question: Are you aware of any other groups we should/could be exchanging with? I have the latest and most complete user group list from the LA newsletter for reference. Come prepared to make your suggestions at the next meeting. If you can't attend, let any officer know your feelings by phone or mail. It is your club, and YOUR MONEY that goes out in postage every month. -Gary Bishop

MORE NEWSLETTER STUFF

While I have my courage up, I want to breach the subject of compensation of the newsletter editor for supplies. In the process of putting out this fine publication every month, certain expenses are ultimately incurred. Such things as: paper, wear on printer ribbons, adhesive-backed mailing labels, and even wear and tear on a printer could be considered. I'm not going broke performing this job, its just that if such things are consumed for the benefit of the club, then the club should be responsible for those expenses. I wish to propose a stipend of 50 cents per month to the newsletter editor, payable as a one-time payment, or possibly as credit toward membership renewal. What do you think?

mailing &

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

This newsletter has been a real contributor to the TI community. When reviewing newsletters from other groups, our newsletter has been reprinted many times. We do not reprint other newsletters very often, because of sufficient input from our members. However, if I come across an interesting or informative article elsewhere, I won't hesitate to include it.

Last year, I tried something different. I assigned every member a month to submit some sort of article for publication, whether it be a software review, question on an existing program, an original program, or whatever. My guidelines were for you to fill about one-half of a page. We received several inputs from people we had never heard from, so I think that approach was a success.

After all the renewals are processed, and we have our firm 1992 membership list, I plan to do the same thing again. Please watch for your name, and try to get something to me or an officer for publication. Even humor, drawings, art, etc. would be considered, if related to computers. As a reminder, I will put a special notification sticker on your newsletter the month before your article is due. Don't worry about spelling or style. I kan't spell or rite, but I will do my best to assist your effort in any way. -Editor Gary Bishop

GREENHORN GAZETTE



LOOKING AT THE EQUIPMENT ASSESSING ITS POTENTIAL



YOUR TI EQUIPMENT

These are some of the most important pieces and their potential use:

A. Computer , electronic keyboard with capabilities for:

1. Word processing (it may be used as a typewriter with many additional capabilities.)
2. Math calculations (it surpasses calculators in speed and capabilities)
3. Creating and printing stationery, mail lists, signs, banners, and cards including pictures or graphics; in other words: desk top publishing
4. Many business applications as you become proficient and see the need
5. Recreation as it has game capacity as well as music capabilities

B. Monitor or TV, simply a viewing screen that can be connected to the computer to view or follow directives for whatever is being used.

C. PE Box , stands for "PERipheral" which means any device attached to a computer such as disk drive, cassette, printer., joystick etc. Since the PE box contains extra devices such as a disk controller, disk drives, and memory, it takes the the first two letters of the word "peripheral".

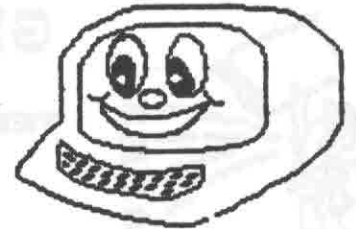
D. Printer , the equipment that prints out whatever the computer sends it. The printout is called hardcopy.

E. Joystick , a device that enables one to manipulate the screen in games and art programs.



GREENHORN GAZETTE

TERMS EVEN BEGINNERS WILL MEET
HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT THEM



TERMS EVEN GREENHORNS NEED TO KNOW EVENTUALLY

A. Boot or load, jargon that simply means you load a program from the disk into the memory of the computer. If you have Extended Basic in the module port, simply press 2 twice after you put the program disk in Drive 1, and it will load if the disk has a file that says "Load". If it does not load, typing "Old DSK1.PGMNAME" and enter will normally load it. Most programs have loads on them, at least ones that greenhorns use!

B. File, a term that refers to information stored by the computer. (e.g. When you save a sign or card on a disk, the information you saved is considered a "file" by the computer.)

C. Default, a term that describes a choice already present that you may "enter" or change. (e.g. If you are asked if you want another, and the "Y" for "Yes" is already there, you do not have to retype it. You can enter the default as your choice or if you do not want it, type "N" for No over it.)

D. Enter, the most vital word in computer language. Unlike many typewriters, you can correct, insert, delete, and move text etc. So the computer gives you time to edit, change your mind before you "Enter" which is the key that tells the computer to put what you chose in its memory. Until you enter, it is only on the screen. THIS DOES NOT SAVE IT.

E. Save, every five minutes or so, you should save any new material you are creating to disk. If a power surge should occur, you will lose anything you have not saved to disk. Each program has its own method for saving. Far better to save part than to lose all.

F. Density, how thick you want something printed. If a ribbon is fresh, Single Density should be chosen. Double requires more time as it prints twice over the same area.

G. Program, also abbreviated as "pgm", it is a prepared set of instructions for a commercial or non-commercial program that has in it already the directions needed to achieve what you want to accomplish. (e.g. make labels, banners, cards, signs). Programs must be loaded or booted into the memory so you can use them.

H. Menu, a list of choices from which you must select the item with which you choose to work or play. Usually, numbers or



GREENHORN GAZETTE

TERMS EVEN BEGINNERS WILL MEET
HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT THEM



letters are what you are given to indicate your choice.

I. Catalog , a term that describes a listing of everything on your disk and indicates if it is a program or not.

J. Cursor , a flashing square or other character/figure that indicates where the next typed information needs to go. If there is a default under it that you want, you may simply enter it.

K. Prompt , a character such as "?", "#" etc. to indicate you need to type an answer. Usually, a "?" requires a "Y" for YES or "N" for NO. "#" obviously needs the number you wish.

L. Input , means you need to put in something, (e.g. On a banner "input" means you have to type in what you want it to say).

M. PIO , is the printer code for later printers (RS232 is the code for older ones); it is the abbreviation for Parallel Input/Output. Just enter it when you see it or if you see "PIO.CR" which means the program needs a Carriage Return or "PIO.LF" which means the printer needs to be told (such as in word processing) to Line Feed.

N. Disk, diskette, or floppy disk refer to a thin plastic, coated with iron oxide that records the materials saved. It operates in a similar way as a record does, information is not saved in grooves but sectors and tracks, and it is read in much the same circular manner. A floppy is a disk that one can flip and use the second side.

O. Drive Numbers , Programs normally load from drive 1, program assists such as saved files, fonts graphics, etc. often are placed in Drive 2. Some programs remember which drive in which you originally saved so it is a good idea to check your screen to see if you are told to place it in a particular drive when it is not the program disk. Some programs ask for a drive number and you need only put in the number of which disk in which it is placed; other programs expect you to type out DSK1. or DSK2. with the file name right after it. If you only put in a number and get an error, or it refuses it, try the DSK1. or DSK2. DON'T LEAVE A SPACE IN A FILE NAME OR BETWEEN THE DSK1. AND NAME. Why? It will frustrate you no end as you encounter error after error.

KAWARTHA KRONICLE'S
QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

** TI-WRITER COMMAND KEY OPTIONS **

COMMAND	Ctrl+ ?	Fctn+ ?
ESCAPE to MENU	C	9
OOPS!	1	
QUIT		=
back tab	T	
begin of line	V	
cursor left	S	S
cursor right	D	D
cursor up	E	E
cursor down	X	X
delete char.	F	1
delete to EOL	K	
delete line	N	3
display ln #s		0
insert blk ln	O	8
insert char.	G	2
left mar rel	Y	
new page	9 or P	
new paragraph	8 or M	
next word	7 or W	
next paragraph	4 or J	
next window		5
previous prgph	6 or H	
reformat	2 or R	
roll screen dn	A	4
roll screen up	B	6
screen colour	3	
tab left	T	
tab right	I/Z	7
word tab	7 or W	
wd-wrap toggle	0	

* TI-FORMATTER COMMANDS *

Do not enter on text lines. To enter more than one command, use a semi-colon [;] to separate, e.g..LM;.FI

left margin	.LM n
right margin	.RM n
fill	.FI
right justify -use with fill	.AD
centre on one line	.CE
centre # of lines	.CE n
lines skip	.LS n
indent from col. #1	.IN n
indent from left mgn	.IN +n
outdent from left mgn	.IN -n

The following are entered on the text line immediately in front of the text, e.g. @TITLE for bold. To print a @ or &, just type two e.g. @@. The @ and & only work to the first space they encounter. If you want to bold two or more consecutive words, replace the space(s) between them with a ^.

doublestrike	@
underline	&
space filler	^

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: TUESDAY

DECEMBER 10, 1991 6:30 PM

**WEST MUSIC COMPANY
COLLINS RD. SQUARE, MARION
NORTH OF LINDALE MALL**

PAGE 12

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FIRST CLASS

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