CEDAR VALLEY 99er UG   APRIL 1993

PRESIDENT: Jack Johns   (319) 366-4541
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CV99 UG99 IOWA

CEDAR RAPIDS/MARION

Supporting the TI-99/4A and 9640 in Eastern Iowa for over 10 years!

NEXT GATHERING: 6:45 PM APRIL 13, 1993

HAPPY JOE'S PIZZA, LINDALE MALL

ELECTION OF OFFICERS
(probably by unanimous proclamation!)

THEN: 7PM — 10TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION/SOCIAL

MARCH MINUTES

Our March 16th meeting was held at West Music with 10 members in attendance. Bruce Winter gave the Treasurers' report, and it looks good. The February minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. There was a discussion about the recent computer fair by those that attended. 2. We could still use an Editor Assembler cartridge for the club system. This would be something to keep a lookout for at hamfests and computer fairs. 3. There still is a large selection of newsletters from other TI groups that can be taken home to read.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. Next month will be our club's 10 year anniversary, and also the election of new officers for next year. It looks like most of the present officers are willing to run for another year. 2. Plans were made for the anniversary celebration. The plan is to meet at West Music at 6:30 [Ed. note: This was subsequenty changed to 6:45 PM at Happy Joe's Pizza at Lindale Mall] and quickly get the election out of the way. Members and their families, and former members are invited. We have invited all the former members that started our group 10 years ago. Our treasury is not in good enough shape for a free feed so you will have to pay your own way....SORRY.... If you have any TI paraphernalia to wear, now is the time. 3. In November the 10 year anniversary of our becoming an orphan, will have to be celebrated in some sort of way. Give it some thought. 4. Bruce Winter will have the library for this month, so he is the man to see if you should need something. 5. Jerry Canady's name is still on our checking account and we are not sure if he will be renewing his membership for this year. It was decided to leave his name on the account for now. 6. The bank where we have our checking account wants a copy of our by-laws. Bruce will check with the bank about this.

PROGRAM: Jeff Craft demonstrated a program he has written for making title screens for use when making up VCR tapes that you would like to make your own titles for. The titles come out in nice large letters and numbers. -Submitted by Bob Wahlstrom.

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The Prez's Blurb

Trivia..What does ANSI stand for? Who was the first President of this club? If you look at a TIW file on another program such as the John Johnson Boot Menu, you will see a lot of garbage at the end of the file. What is it for?

Person to Person File Transfer..I realize you are all waiting to see this actually happen yet but I won't be doing this column this summer when, hopefully, Bob and I will do the demo. Let me mention a few of the details we found useful. We found a way to be online in voice mode at the start. Bob found this in one of his manuals and I prefer it to typing the whole time. I hasten to add that typing a message back and forth immediately before starting the transfer is needed to insure a good lock between the computers. Here's the sequence we used. We used Telco. As Jeff Overton states you both need to be in half duplex mode and Terminal option "c" equal CR-LF. We used ANSI for protocol but this is not terribly important. What is important is the parity which should be 8N1 for an X-modem transfer. Of course the baud rate must also be the same. To set these press "S" at the main menu. OK. At this point one of you will call the other. You have your Telco set up and running into the modem. Put telco in terminal mode. Now one of you enters ATA on their screen. -You should see what you typed in. The other enters ATD. The one who has entered ATA presses enter first then the other does the same. I don't know how important this is but you should still be able to talk to each other at this point. Neat isn't it. Now you should both hear data on you phones. Don't worry if you haven't listened to data on the phone. You will recognize it when you hear it. When you do, hang up immediately. You should now be able to communicate by typing. If so, you are ready for a file transfer. If not may I recommend reading our Newsletters dated November 1992 page 7 and December 1992 page 3.

Now the fun begins. (We hope.) The sender goes first. After informing the receiver he is about to send he will press escape (Function 9) to get to the main menu. Here he presses "U" to upload a file, then "X" for X-modem. Next he enters the name of the file and immediately presses enter. The receiver of the file goes to the main menu and chooses "Download File", "X-Modem", and then enters the filename he wants to use. (Exmpl-DSK2.Filename) He then needs to wait between 20 and 40 seconds to make sure that the person uploading the file got started first. X-Modem protocol requires the person sending (uploading) to be trying before the receiver (download) attempts its first try. There are 60 seconds allowed by the program for the downloader to get his end going. Now just sit back, watch the transfer status details furnished by Telco to see how it all is working.

The Prez's Blurb Cont.

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**************************************************************
NOTICE NOTICE  NOTICE  NOTICE  NOTICE  NOTICE  NOTICE  NOTICE
**************************************************************
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In case you missed it in the rest of this newsletter, our
next meeting is our Clubs 10th Anniversary. We will meet at
Happy Joes Pizza in the Lindale Mall. A short business
meeting for election of officers at 6:45 will be followed by
Party Time from 7:00 to ?. Our first President, Chuck Moats,
is going to try to stop by after his bowling night. I feel
safe in saying as long as you have the green stuff there will
be food available. If you have any TI shirts, buttons, etc.,
wear them. This is family and guest night.
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**************************************************************
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Trivial answers and more..ANSI is American National Standards
Institute. (I bought a book.) TI Writer end stuff is
information the program uses to determine the tab settings,
right and left margins, line spacing, etc. Here's a bonus.
In "C" language a floating point number is usually accurate
to a one millionth of a unit. A double is accurate to one
trillionth of a unit. This is for figuring the national debt
I presume.

EOF..Jack Johns..CR

Listing of recently received newsletters and correspondence:

West Penn Nov 92, Jan 93, Feb 93, Mar 93; Cleveland Area 99'er
User Groups Jan 93, Feb 93, Mar 93; HOCUS (Milwaukee) Dec 92,
Jan 93, Feb 93; Chicago User Group Dec 92, Jan 93,Feb 93, Apr
93; Oakland computer club Winter 92;; LA Topics Jan 93, Feb 93,
Mar 93; Tigercub PD#6; TIC-TOC Rocky Mountain 99ers Dec 92+Jan
93, Feb 93, Mar 93; K-Town 99ers Jan 93, Mar 93; Lehigh 99er UG
Dec 92, Jan 93; Decatur 99er UG Nov 92, Dec 92, Jan 93, Feb 93;
CVCA Feb 93, Mar 93; TI TAX ad Feb 93; Texaments ad Mar 93;
card from Stanculescu Marin, Romania Mar 93.

Absent from the above list: Western Washington Computer Club;
Net 99er HCUG. Where are you guys?

NEWSLETTER REVIEWS

>>> Reviewed by Bob Wahlstrom: The West Penn 99'ers February Newsletter had a continuing article on Page Pro Columnizer. There was a review on the program game, War Zone, a shooting-type game with F-15s, SR-71s, Sparrows, tanks and transports.   They gave it an A for a final grade evaluation. Also included is a 100% Funnelweb two column written text article showing how to use transliterate commands within your text for various printer commands. (I'm going to have to give this one a try). A procedure for transfering Multiplan files between the TI99/4A-Geneve and IBM clones, using the program "PC Transfer" and "PC Transfer Utilities". Page Pro FX, a step by step article on reducing pictures in Page-Pro 99 programs.   They also had an article on the repair of the TI RF modulator, including the value of an unmarked IC chip that often goes bad.

The West Penn 99'ers March Newsletter had an article on Page Pro Page Composer by Deanna Sheridan.

For the Cleveland Area TI-99/4A User Groups for March. This newsletter contained a "Mergeable" lowercase routine by Glenn Bernasek to provide lowercase print on the screen.   Parts 3 and 4 of Control the World with your TI Computer by Jerry Keisler. His article had information on adding a real time clock, schematics were included. (Review received via ham packet radio WA0RJT.IA.USA.NA)

>>> Reviewed by Jack Johns: Chicago Times, Feb 1993: Tony couldn't see anything in the dots on the Jan issue either; The CTIUG Library Corner..Disk reviews by Walter Ward Jr; Executive Meeting..BBS YMODEM works for downloads but not uploads yet; Geneve Library News..MDOS V1.23 is out, The major fixes are listed.   They also have TIC, the full C compiler.

Chicago Times, Mar 1993: Good Cartoons; Several systems for sale; A review of the programs demoed at the last meeting. Bit Map Graphics, Jim Peterson's programs; Membership News..Member Al Morgan is interested in instructions for assembly programs; Executive Meeting..The Club will start to provide hardware kits for the projects described in their manual, Smoking is banned from the meetings; Library Corner..More disk reviews by Walter Ward.

Chicago Times, April 1993: Editors Comments..The address of a computer junk yard in Chicago, For sale- A Myarc 9640 (Geneve?), Anyone play TI Runner?; Library Corner..Orders by April 30 have free shipping and handling, Are Fineline Software programs now in public domain?; A four page review of Midi Master by Jim Peterson; A one page article on printer ribbons by Jim Peterson(?); An eight page review of TI Writer by Tom Kennedy; A two page list of available Fairware programs by Dick Altman and Ed.

CVCA, Feb 1993: Note- The CVCA is not a TI club. It is associated with Collins Radio and operates a large BBS locally. It also supports a large variety of computers. A review of Wincat; An article on the reliabilty of vendors from PC magazine; Reading the BBS mail offline- article.

CVCA, Mar 1993: Ramblings From President..The BBS has a new Co-SysOp, The Cedar Rapids Public Library BBS is discussed in some detail.   Minutes of Feb meeting..BBS operation was discussed in detail. New officers were elected; How Club money was spent; Minutes of March Meeting..A written contract between the Club and the BBS SysOp was presesnted to a committee, The Mac Club BBS is probably going down.

>>>   Reviewed by Bruce Winter: Hocus, Milwaukee 99-4 user group. December 1992: Mini review of Identifile, a program that identifies file types: The Hard Corner,

a preview of the May 1983 Home Computer Magazine: An article about transferring files between the T.I. and an I.B.M. PC: RF modulator repair: Scroll Demo: 3 BASIC tips: Exploring BASIC programs by Tim MacEachern: Multiplan Reference Card.

January 1993: Make Ms. Pacman compatible with the Geneve: Compress It Anyway, a program that takes object code and compresses it while still allowing it to be loaded as before, by Mark Schafer: Programming music the easy way Part #5, by Jim Peterson: Control the world with your T.I. by Jerry Keisler: Picasso and Joypaint Reference Cards.

February 1993: Software Update Info: Preview of March 1983 Home Computer Magazine: Multiplan Tips: GPL (Graphics Programming Language) Info: Disk Protection Info: Tigercub Tip #70.

>>> Reviewed by Gary Bishop: Oakland Computer Club, Jan 1993, issue 10: Booket use in learning the TI, for sale items, notes from the advisors, merged use of Tigercub software, printing Christmas trees, making pointed branches on the Christmas trees, blinking lights with angels program, Christmas word search, making a robot using HCHAR and VCHAR, a leprechaun tale.

>>> Reviewed by Jeff Craft: LA Topics, March 1993: XB misc #19 by Earl Raguse on "Display AT, Accept at." Page Pro connectivity chart; a comparison chart for 80 column cards; control the world with TI article on: optocoupler use and controlling PIO fromthe joystick; graphics manipulation with TIPS, TI Artist Plus, and Designer labels.

TIC-TOC Feb 93: QuikAccess article and program creates a data file with TI Writer that can be accessed from XB; upgrade CC40 computer from 6K to 18K ram; Bill Gaskill's search for information on certain modules for the TI.

TIC-TOC March 93: Article on different types of disk protection schemes; manipulating data file recores with the TI computer by Jim Peterson; other names and uses for the CC40 computer; Tips from the Tigercub #68.

>>> Reviewed by Bill Paeth: K-Town 99'er March 1993: Potpourri by Bill Sheridan - A tip concerning the use of FCTN-X and FCTN-8 in entering a program. Chatterbox XXV by Bob Buehler - Recipe for Kentucky Colonels. Lots of Data by John H. Bull - Keeping XB records.

Lehigh 99'er Winter 1992: Batteries by Gina Roos - The expanding battery technology. The Home Computer by Jim Peterson - "a few more words."

Lehigh 99'er Jan 1993: The new Funnelweb V5 text editor described by Charles Good. Modulator repair by Ron Warfield. You don't have to have it all! by Jim Peterson. On using a ramdisk by Vic Sterup - Part 1 and 2.

If you are planning to place an order with Jim Peterson, contact Jeff Craft no later than the next meeting. He will place an order the day after the meeting, and wishes to save everybody some postage if the order can be grouped. -Ed.

## THE PAST: 10th Anniversary Facts and Figures
by Gary Bishop

On the eve of our 10th anniversary, and the beginning of our eleventh year of existence, I thought you might like to hear about our club's history. Well, here goes:

The club was formed in early March, 1983. Weekly meetings were held for the first few weeks. A copy of the 24 charter members is on page 8. At this time, the club was a Rockwell employee-only group. This quickly fell by the wayside, due to the tremendouse popularity of the computer, and the desire to include family members in the computer learning experience. The first public meeting was held on April 10, 1983 at the JA building on Collins Road.

The following charts describe the life of the club:

Number of members, years 1983-1993
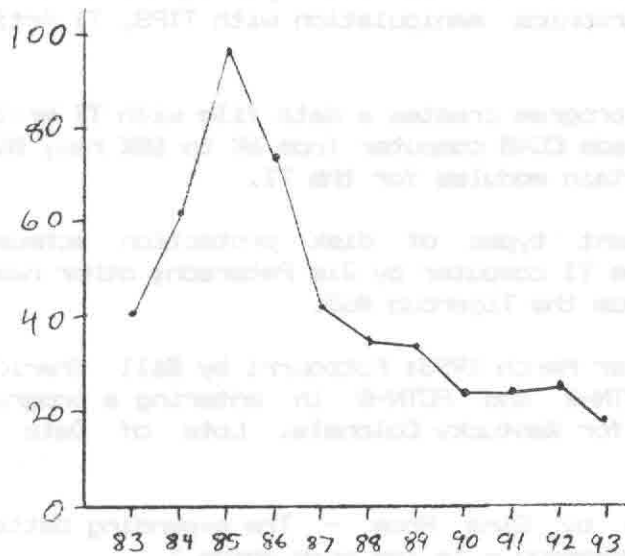
Years of membership, for all members 1983-1993.
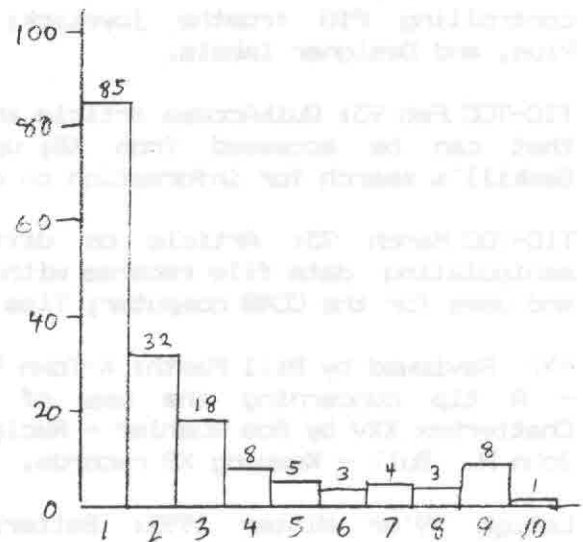
Average number of years per member is: 2.51.

Longest continuous membership: Jim Green (Thanks, Jim!)

We have been exchanging newsletters with the Rocky Mountain group for all 10 years. They produce the TIC-TOC newsletter. Back in the beginning, it was called the TIC-Talk. WOW. Thanks, guys and gals from Colorado. Also, I noticed many years ago that you do not use mailing labels on your newsletter, but instead print the entire page in a printer, then photocopy the rest of the pages. Saves sticky labels!

Our meeting attendance had a high of 62 members and guests on Nov 1983, to a low of zero several times (the meetings were cancelled due to bad weather.) The meeting average attendance for our membership appears to run about 45% or so. This has flucuated considerably, and is also influenced by the fact that we have many out-of-town members that can never make a meeting.

Our treasury has spent $1912 on postage, $138 in bank charges, has received $2400 in dues. (This is not a complete accounting, just a highlight of the largest numbers to ponder.)

The first meetings were held in conference rooms inside Rockwell, and the first outside meetings were held at the JA building on Collins Road. We met there from April, 1983 to May, 1988. All meetings since June 1988 have been held at the West Music Company's performance room in Collins Raod Square. Thanks to Kurt and his crew for putting up with us, even when other clubs using that room have caused some concerns.

Presidents: Chuck Moats 1983; Jim Green 1984,1985,1986; Jerry Canady 1987,1988,1989; Gary Bishop 1990; John Johnson 1991,1992,1993.

Vice Presidents: Joel Zamkoff 1983; Bryan Hawkins 1984, 1985; Bruce Winter 1986,1987; Gary Bishop 1988,1989; John Johnson 1990, Wayne Betts 1991,1992; Bob Wahlstrom 1993.

Secretaries:Bryan Hawkins 1983; John Elam 1984; Dean Helander 1985; Gary Bishop 1985,1986; Bill Paeth 1987,1988,1989,1990; Bob Wahlstrom 1991; Jim Green 1992; Wayne Betts 1993

Treasurers: Bruce Graves 1983; Ed Hayek 1984,1985,1986; Jim Harrington 1987; Bruce Winter 1988,1989,1990,1991,1992,1993.
Librarians: John Johnson 1989,1990,1991; Jim Green, 1991; Bob Heiderstadt 1992.

Newsletter Editors: Pat Hoyt 1983; Chuck Moats 1984,1985; Dan Davis 1985,1986; Jerry Canady 1987; Jim Green 1987,1988,1989,1990; Gary Bishop 1991,1992,1993.

I have made the astounding predictions for our next elections: The unopposed nominations will sweep the ticket! The nominees for 1993 have been included in the above list. Thanks for serving, fellows.

In an attempt to persuade our former members to come out for the celebration, I mailed out over 80 invitations. The invite is printed on page 9. By the time you read this, the number of invitations mailed may exceed 100!

Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group

Charter Members

President: _Charles W. Moots_

Vice President: _Joel Zankoff_

Secretary _Bryan Hawkins_

Treasurer _Bruce Graves_

Members:

1. _Richard J. Plasencia_
2. _Donald L. Story_
3. _James E. Henderson_
4. _Paul Rogers_
5. _Verle Reid_
6. _Thomas Ubriaco_
7. _Dave Hume_
8. _Ray Schmacl_
9. _Richard Andersen_
10. _Charles W. Kirkpatrick_
11. _William L. Geers_
12. _Louis A. Louwerse_
13. _Johnny B. Elam_
14. _Gary Kristiansen_
15. _Gary W. Schwab_
16. _Roger L. McCullough_
17. _Chris T. Kelly_
18. _Kathy Kelly_
19. _Don Barcett_
20. _Patricia Hoyt_
21. _Charles Bolon_
22. _James C. Green_
23. _Dan Davis_
24. _Glenn J. Scherb_
25.
26.
27.
28.
29.
30.

TO ALL FORMER CEDAR VALLEY 99
TI CLUB MEMBERS:

The Cedar Valley 99er User Group is 10 years old! As a former member, you and your family or friends are invited to an anniversary celebration at Happy Joe's Pizza Parlor, lower level of Lindale Mall, Cedar Rapids, Iowa on Tuesday April 13, 1993 from 7 PM until ? This is an informal social event, and we sincerely hope you can attend.   The club is not in a position to help pay for any food, so you will be responsible for your own purchases. Even if you can't stay to eat, just stop by sometime during the evening and say hi. Please come out and help us celebrate, renew old friendships, and hear stories of how far the TI has come in the last 10 years.

While I have the opportunity, do you still have your TI? If so, we have been helping out a very worthy cause. The Atwood-Tapley Elementary School in Oakland, Maine has a thriving TI computer following, headed up by one of its teachers, Mrs. Eunice Spooner. She provides her elementary students a TI console and cassette system to take home for the school year, and also conducts evening classes for parents to help them operate the TI. They are able to put the computers in the hands and homes of students. The consoles don't fetch much of a price when sold, so why not donate them, and any educatinal cartridges, or anything else to the Atwood-Tapley Elementary School? Their address is:

Mrs. Eunice Spooner,
for Atwood-Tapley Elementary School
RFD #1 Box 5860 Pond Road
Oakland, ME 04963

If you can't mail your console, bring whatever you might want to donate with you to the birthday celebration on April 13, and we will collect   what is brought in and ship it to the school. If you won't be able to attend the gathering but still want to donate your console, contact me, and I will make arrangments to pick up your equipment. Thanks for considering this, and I hope to see you at the party!

RSVP not required, but it would help us in our planning.

Gary Bishop 319-377-9574 (X2780 inside Rockwell)
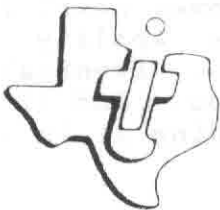
CEDAR RAPIDS/MARION

Supporting the TI-99/4A and Geneve 9640 in Eastern Iowa

A Look Into The Future

By Jack Johns

Recently I saw a television program host interviewing Steve Allen. Because I only saw the end of the program, the discussion I viewed never mentioned the names of two of Steves books that they were discussing. I was particularly interested in the first one mentioned. I had the name of the author and the subject of the book. It shouldn't be hard to find it with that information, I thought.

The next day I explained my problem to the B.S. Dalton Bookstore in the local mall. They said that their system only listed by authors first initial and last name. This meant they had to check every book written by anyone with the name S. Allen. I offered to have the Cedar Rapids Public Library do the search and save us all a lot of time.

After returning to my car it occurred to me that this was a job I might do using the Library BBS. As soon as I got home I called and got a pleasant surprise. They now operate at up to 9600 baud on both their phone lines. My new setup in the basement didn't have a hard copy of their users hints, so I dumped that on the first call and printed it out before calling back for the info I wanted. The first number was busy so I tried the second and got through. Entering the authors name as Steve Allen yielded three possibilities. One of them listed 23 entries. Knowing Steve was prolific I tried that one first. There he was. Using Telco's review buffer and screen dump feature I printed out all the info I needed including a full description of the subject matter and the fact that it was available. Elapsed time..about ten minutes.

I couldn't get the book immediately because it was already past their closing hours. I knew that from the Library hours screen I had also dumped earlier. The next day was Sunday and they opened at 1PM. At 12:45 I was amazed to find people standing at the door waiting for them to open. They open promptly and we all entered. With print out in hand I headed for section 200. I stumbled into it on my first try and was the second one to check a book out.

I now realize that this was not the future but is the present. Then I started wondering. What comes next? The next improvement I predict in this area is the ability to dump the book chapter headings and index on line. Eventually the computer could read selected sections for you. And if it is a good book, the computer could finish reading it in its spare time.

The following is a transcript of a recent Delphi TI Net conference. Enjoy it. Please do not distribute it in part, or without the accompanying Delphi signup information. Several others will follow if everyone abides by these simple rules. Thank you for being considerate.

Jeff White   jhwhit01@ulkyvx.louisville.edu

Winfried Winkler Talks About Asgard XB3

TI NET Conference Friday, March 26, 1993

Attendees:

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JHWHITE      JeffW
COGUEST      Winfried (Winkler)
C_BOBBITT    Chris B
KRESCH       J W Krych
BRADSNYDER   Brad
D24          (Don Mahler)
LEIGHTYM     Michael
KICHER       Dano
RMARKUS
GREGRPH
EGERKEN      Ed
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PRE-CO CHIT-CHAT

[Cedar Valley 99er newsletter editor's note: The pre-conference chit-chat was deleted. Yes, I know the header requested that the conference be distributed in its entirety, but the chit-chat just doesn't qualify for wide-spread publication. All other references to "Ed." are to the original poster of the conference, not to me.]

<JeffW> Well, we are already half past the hour. Let's start on XB3 discussion. Winfried, do you have any opening remarks for our guests?

<Winfried> Any questions ? :->

<JeffW> I'll ask: Why another Extended BASIC?

<Winfried> There are already three (TI, Mechatr., SuperXB) and I wanted a faster "catch-all" as each of the new ones had nice additions, all should be a little bit faster. By now the list should be longer ? What about other XB's ??

<JeffW> I know of Triton SEB and RXB (your present competition). I also own MYARC XB II Level 4 v2.12 for the MYARC 512K.

<Winfried> Only heard of RXB have never seen one, TSEB   never heard of ...
<Chris B.> Jeff: Triton SEB is basically Miller SXB

<JeffW> Another question on XB3. Does the present version support AMS? I assume because of your troubles with your AMS card, it does not...

<Winfried> It should be easy to insert a few asm statements in the only two places necessary - then banking could be used instead of the third ROM bank. As soon as I get an operational AMS, I'll do that. Further support (CALLs to address AMS-banks or such) is not included yet.

<JeffW> Brad or Jim, if you have a ?, you know what to do.
<Chris B.> ?
<JeffW> What runs faster in XB3?

<Winfried> Everything that uses memory heavily . Program loading, saving, string-handling, resequencing, garbage-collection, Mathematical functions (SIN,COS,SQR,...) and Sprites, too - but not to that extent.

<JeffW> A followup: Is this speed increase because you have shifted some code to assembly rather than depend on GPL? Thus the need for another ROM.

<Winfried> Yes. And I've used ROM code that was there more often. This leads to one minor compatibility problem, as these ROM routines issue certain error messages -- some errors are now different. The main point is: TI NEVER could have written this XB for 32K users. All code dealing with memory expansion looks like "hacked into it" after it was finished -- otherwise it couldn't have been sooo stupid... Oh - just forgot to mention: in order to work around that, a 32K now is a MUST, otherwise it's unable to run ....

<Chris B.> Thank you Jeff: point of clearification on your (Jeff's) earlier statement -- Triton SEB is simply Miller SXB and the only XB you mentioned that is available today is GKXB. Myarc XB2 requires a Myarc 128Kor 512K card.

<Chris B.> Anyway, Winfried since, how long have you been working on XB3 and what kind of problems did you fix in the original XB?

<Winfried> As I had to disassemble all GPL/Asm for myself and then trying to understand that - I don't remember when I decided to write my own... probably three years ago. That "TI intern" (commented console disassembly) was a good starting point, all that I had. Fixed: Now "DEF"ined user variables are active after <BREAK> for easier debugging

[pause for link to catch up]

<JeffW> I'm still here, Chris.
<JeffW> Just waiting. Winfried may have a line problem.
<Chris B.> oic
<Chris B.> (long way to Germany)
<J W Krych> :)

<Winfried> [RE: delays to Germany] Yeah that line is a little bit too slow and then half a screen pops up out of nowhere

<JeffW> Chris, maybe it just seems like a lot of XB's out there. MicroPal and Exel'Tec repackaged and remarketed TI XB under their respective names.

<Chris B.> True: Millers XB was reallyjust TI XB with a few added CALL LINKS The only original XBs are TI XB, Myarc XB2, GKXB and XB3.

<JeffW> The RND-generator would be a good check.

<Winfried> No - it is completely independent... If you want to check, you have to check all - routine by routine ... PS: These sources are no "big secret", I've given away already GPL versions of them (for replacement in GROM#0 EPROMs) they need a little more memory, but are done strictly by one book (forgot the title - I'll look it up, if you wish). I would make them public, if there's enough interest. ga :->

<JeffW> Have you fixed the problem of not being able to keep sprites in motion at contant distances? (as is done in the Missing Link package)

<Winfried> Sorry, don't know for sure ...

<JeffW> (Not having seen XB3 in action, I am not sure what questions need to be asked.)

<Winfried> I've "inlined" many very short subroutines and sprites are faster. At least there is one way, when it comes to "gliding" during speed-changes: disable all motion, set new speed values, enable motion with the new value set. I've seen some video games unplayable, because target isn't hit due to the faster routines.

<JeffW> With normal XB, you cannot start all sprites at once. I think that the problem. Or maybe I recall incorrectly.

<Winfried> You are right, Jeff - now it's possible.

<Brad> c: Jeff you can do in XB if you use a call link to disable sprites, then setup all sprites, then another call link to enable.

<JeffW> c: CALL LOAD(INTFLG,DISALL),
        CALL MOTION's here,
        CALL LOAD(INTFLG,ENBALL) is what Brad suggests, I think.

<Brad> c: that's it Jeff. It works beautifully. How do you think I start all those running cats in my animator demo at the same time? :-)

<Winfried> c: to Brad & Jeff: now just "CALL MOTION ON/OFF", no need for CALL LOAD (That looks like C64 poke-ing :->)

<JeffW> c: CALL LOAD also only works with 32K and TI XB, but XB3 needs 32K, so that is a moot point.

<J W Krych> c: CALL LOAD was implemented on the 99/8 extended basic II Jeff
<J W Krych> c: I wonder what it would take to port the 99/8 xb II code?

<Brad> My question [to Winfried] was, how will XB3 support the AMS? Bigger programs possible?

<Winfried> With this version: not. I've to check out sources of the CALL LINK & Asm subroutines in the development package - BUT I've not enough time at this moment, and I don't have an operational AMS.

<Winfried> (One example of things only working as intended *without* 32K ...) DSRs can now be part of programs (with certain limitations coming from those DSR-CALLs itself), i e: "CALL FILES(7)" or so could be first statement in a program, but must be followed by RUN to take effect. RUN now works with variables that should be the most important fixes I've done. Most other stuff is "added" CALLs, statements and even some new tokens like TIME$ and DATE$ and such.

<JeffW> Winfried, about those fixes... "DEF"ined variables being active after a
<break> -- Does this mean I can change the value of a variable after a
<break> and the program will CONtinue when I type "CON"?

<Winfried> That means no error message if asking "PRINT a,b$", because these are no >true< variables, but "DEF a(x)=..." type of things. Changing a value - if meant as setting up a new 'DEF.....' statement for this same DEFined variable still can only be done in program.

<Chris B.> Winfried: when I first got my copy of XB3 I ran a number of benchmarks compared to TI XB, I found an increase in graphics speed from 25-110% increase in file I/O of 10-14% increase in math speed on average between 20-200% and in string functions around 25%. Were these results because of changes in coding of specific routines, low level changes in the interpreter or the more efficient use of memory?

<Winfried> Mathematics: completely re-written in assembler, in part other algorithms, no use of GROM number constants. Low-level changes in interpreter: only a few, but at effective places... Memory usage: simply kick out "double, unnecessary work" caused by doing the same thing twice, if 32K is present.

<JeffW> My followup: Does changing the mathematics routines affect accuracy? We TIers pride ourselves in having a very accurate and precise BASIC/XBASIC.

<Winfried> According to my book about numerical methods -- not. It seems to me the history has gone like that (Maybe someone from TI can clarify ?)

<JeffW> We could write some tests.

<Winfried> 1- lets write good routines, without knowing what the implementation of the simple add/subtract, mult/div will look like. 2- we take the same algorithms from GROM#0 for XB ROMs -- we know they work. I've just taken into consideration that we HAVE addition with more digitals than kept unto next operation (for example). Therefore: add one, if you want (No need to add "0.5" two times to keep accuracy in a certain implementation ...). I have done short cross-checks to assure (to a degree - I'm a chemist, no mathematician) the same results will occur on all re-written routines, including the RND-generator, as it may be used for encoding and such.

<Chris B.> Jeff: one point, the accuracy of a floating point system usually relates to the degree of calculating precision and numer of bits of accuracy assuming he is using a similar size number, it should be just as accurate and further, I will gladly run any numeric tests and post results promptly.

<JeffW> Winfried, I think we missed the first part of your reply. All I saw was "e ?" of the first part. [that line omitted here - Ed.]

<Winfried> c: That was just a "Still there ?" message... to test the !@#$ lines :->

<Chris B.> First question was: can you describe some of the most important additions to the language. Second question was: (understanding the problem with developing for an AMS you can't get to work for you) Brad wanted to know if you had anything specific in mind for how XB3 will use the AMS card.

<Winfried> 1—switching (via "RUN" sort of thing only !! all variables lost!) between XB programs in different memory banks - instead of loading from disk 2— calling assembler subroutines / programs in different banks (supporting E/A-setup in another part of the AMS under XB, for example). Cause: all VRAM usage is (compatibility & lack of time :->) the same as by TI XB, all tables, variable-pointers, strings still in VRAM.

[Cryptic comment: There is (at least) one trick for passing variables in a RUN "DSK..." XB statement -- i.e. coding the values in CHAR definitions and decoding them in the called program -- a routine to handle this in assembly would be a nice addition to XB variants. Ed.]

<JeffW> c: Could possibly copy VRAM to banks of memory, and restore later.

<Winfried> One had to come up with another way (longer 3-Byte pointers...) for XB lines if one want to use more memory (store banking #, too!). BUT: all XB programs are saved as memory image (only in different file types) that prevents that -- Compatibility!

<Brad> c: I have implemented #1 for TI XB, it's called XB/PACKER.

<J W Krych> c: Winfried, Joe Delekto of the AKMS Team has developed 32bit pointer routines

<Winfried> As far as I know 99/8 xb II was written entirely in assembler (or VERY little GPL, compared to what we have here).

<Winfried> c: 32-Bit pointer routines are no problem PER SE, BUT: how do you "insert" additional 16 bit into all these program files ... One had to come up with a new SAVE/OLD format to ensure compatibility - at least

<JeffW> My question is: Does XB3 depend on the console ROM/GROM very much?

<JeffW> Winfried? Still there?

<Winfried> I said *at_least* a new format... Remember: On Top of Himem is the line-pointer-table. On Bottom of Himem are numerical variables. One had to calculate the amounts needed for both and then *move_around* parts of program after prescan, but before actually running program (only then the amount of memory needed is really known...)

<J W Krych> c: I remember the code for the 99/8 had a real neat solution to

this!

<Winfried> c: Is this solution known -- I'm not soo motivated to wade through these long sources of 99/8 .... :-> How does one assemble these ? (NOT on a TI99 :->)

<J W Krych> c: I remember that the solution had to do with checking a four k page then going to the mapper XOPS. You could load a "small" program from the 99/8 to the 4A! but a "large" program couldnt be loaded since the 99/8 saw the last two bytes in the 9995 as a mapper XOP, while the 4A saw it as end of memory.

<Winfried> c: My 99/8 sources are collecting dust anywhere, looked at them only once, quite some time ago. Kind of buried them :-> as I found out they were soo long and not written for any assembler known to me.

<J W Krych> written on their(TI) 990 mini

<Winfried> c: Have to find out, whether they are complete, to start with :->

<J W Krych> c: I think mine are fairly well organized- the full OS! All calls Xops, ETC. I also have some assembler (new EA?) support listed-even has "WDS" in the copy file!

<Michael.> Would it be possible to upload the 99/8 source code here sometime, would be very interesting.
<J W Krych> c: long files!
<Chris B.> Michael: would also get Delphi into a lot of trouble
<J W Krych> very much unfortunately!
<Chris B.> Michael: it is "under-ware"
<J W Krych> :)
<Chris B.> "under the table software"
<JeffW> How so, Chris?
<Michael.> underware<grin>
<J W Krych> c: 99/8 "unreleased" product
<JeffW> (get Delphi into trouble?? -- 99/4A source code is on Delphi)
<Chris B.> Jeff: it is still very much TI property
<J W Krych> I tried to get one for free- the guy can bury it but not give it away. :(

<JeffW> Back to XB3. How much is XB3 dependent on the console ROM/GROM?

[Nice try Jeff -- Ed.]

<J W Krych> although for "$15,000" TI would look up all docs and blueprints
<Michael.> Why would they care at this point? It is obvious they are not returning to the Home Computer.

<Winfried> Has this something to do with the fact that one can "reverse engineer" the 99/4a and say "no guarantee", but 99/8 was never actually sold ??

<J W Krych> c: some people actually have the 99/8 blueprints
<JeffW> (talking to my SCSI card, Dan ;")
<JeffW> Dan has two 99/8's.
<J W Krych> it's geting the mapper specs that may be hard but the solution is

within the source code!
<JeffW> Mapper specs, Jim? Thought it used the same mapper as the AMS.
<J W Krych> The 99/8 memory mapper Jeff- no it was the predecessor

<Winfried> c: have seen one 99/8 -- operational only for 2 minutes :->

[I believe this 99/8 may have belonged to your editor -Ed.]

<Dano> The problem is in the xformer. Standard ti xformers do not work with 99/8 and hex bus perfs. Not enough amperage? How do I know? I had the very same problem, till I discovered the solution!

[Your editor also was a source of this "solution" -Ed.]

<J W Krych> what was in the 99/8 mapper was incorporated into the 99610 for 16 Mbyte access that is.

<Winfried> Does it matter how (CRU, Memory, XOP,...) the mapper is ADDRESSED? The question is: WHAT is the SOFTWARE doing with it's capabilities ! :-/

<J W Krych> apparently to answer this, TI trapped the last two bytes in the 9995 map and used that to get the mapper XOP so a 4k page was used, as was other memory spaces to select mapper registers. But, they used a two word spec! So the 99/8 could do 4 Gigabytes but the mapper was strapped

<JeffW> Very interesting, Jim.

<J W Krych> so, XB II was built with this in that is why you see 62k available without memory expansion. Some people have working 512k cards so xb pops up with 1,131,000 bytes free! Or something close!

<Dano> Winfried. I don't know if this was brought up before, but is their any chance that you could write some articles about interesting thing you discovered about the ti/xb when doing your re-write?

<JeffW> (ah, back on topic)

<Winfried> It would take some time (I'm quite busy now) and Jeff or someone else had to agree to receive them via InterNet-K-Mail. I've no uploading capability for delphi.

<Dano> internet is fine.

<JeffW> (anyone on Delphi can be reached by appending "@delphi.com" to their Delphi username -- e.g., jhwhite@delphi.com)

<Winfried> c: OK - can everybody reply to an internet address, too ?
<JeffW> c: No. Only those who pay for Internet on Delphi can respond to Internet Email.

<Dano> Putting together such articles and having them published in micropendium would probably help generate additional sales.

<JeffW> What advantages besides the speed increase are we going to notice with XB3 in its current state?

<Winfried> A long list of additional CALLs, many of them known from Mechatr. or SuperXB, some other enhancements.

<JeffW> So basically we get everything of Mech.XB and SXB in one neat package. What additional CALLs are there?

<Chris B.> Jeff: I will post a complete list of calls here tonight to save time
<JeffW> Thanks, Chris. XB3 documentation might be nice to post in the database

<Winfried> 1- TIME$ and DATE$ are "fixed-set-variables" like PI, using any clock-device being named "CLOCK" and being software-compatible to TripleTech (CRU-address independent).   2- Ctrl-Key mapping to sequences of keystrokes, user-definable in GRAM.

<JeffW> Winfried, rather than go over all the CALLs right now, please just go over the supernice new ones.

<Winfried> OK. Short Documentation by Chris is better, I agree !

<Winfried> "Run Program File" emulation, with ability to save, too.
<Winfried> Compressed ObjectCodes and REFerences, too...

<Brad> Winfried, I was just wondering what you internet Email address is?

<Winfried> My InterNet K-Mail is : willi@wap0109.chem.TU-Berlin.DE
                            or willi@zrzsp5.chem.TU-Berlin.DE

<Brad> thanks.

<Chris B.> Jeff: I'd like to list what I feel this version of XB3 offers... with any additional comments Winfried may have.
<JeffW> Chris, should I take the other questions first?
<Chris B.> At the end of the conference would be fine
<Winfried> I'll wait -- questions first !

<Dano> Did you ever meet the guys that wrote Mech XB? Did you look at its source? How much of MECH XB was in assembler vs gpl?

<Winfried> As everybody can easily confirm: in all ROMs and the first GROMs there are only two byte changed from TI's XB (to allow more CALLs :->) Only the very last GROM of Mechatronic is an "add-on" -- or the last two, if the assembler routines loaded into memory by a call (instead loading from disk) are included -- there are these two versions Mechtr."PLUS" includes these graphics assembler routines.

<Michael.> Will there be 80 column support?
<JeffW> or support of Graphics 2 mode?

<Winfried> As said before -- all VRAM usage is (compatibility and lack of time) left as it was in TI-XB - i.e.: There are MANY "absolute adressed" tables and variable-pointers in VRAM preventing an "EASY" implementation of 80 column support or enhanced graphics.

<Winfried> FAST there could only be another "dirty hack" : copy all VRAM into XRAM (The 64K additional memory not installed on some cards & the Geneve). Only then would the complete 128K VRAM be free for Graphics and the banking could (maybe?) fit into what is left in the ROM#0 ...

<Dano> Any Mouse Support? Is Mechatronics still around?

<Winfried> I don't know the status of Mechatronics.

<JeffW> c: Michael Becker is still making V9938 boards, but the vdp is getting in short supply.

<Winfried> I could support Mechatronics Mouse, but only very few have this in the states.

<Dano> !What? Its not already built in?!

<Winfried> I don't know about the other 9938 cards - mouse-ports are there, too? compatible?

<JeffW> c: I think Asgard has routines to access the serial mouse from XB.

<Winfried> The 9958 and up no longer have mouse capabilities. RS232-based mouses are a pain to include in an interpreter -- I've tried, and it did not work good enough.

<Chris B.> Jeff: we tried that. I will add, however, the existing mouse routines for Xb are a bit more responsive in XB3.

<JeffW> XB3 -- Geneve-compatible now or in the future?

<Winfried> c: If interest is big enough, support for Mechatronics-mouse (ONLY this) would be a matter of two days (incl. testing)...

<Winfried> The problem is the third ROM bank not available in a Geneve. As soon as one sends me source (!) capable of "protecting" one 4K memory bank and the sources for banking this in/out at a given address, the port onto the Geneve can be done (in a very short time). BUT: until now nobody was able to give me that information.

<Michael.> I have to call it a night, Chris can I get Asgard's new phone number from you before I split?
<Chris B.> Michael: 703-491-1267
<Michael.> Thanks, night all.
<Winfried> Good Night !

<Dano> Did you update the DSR and GPL link to be "more compatable".
<Dano> c: Miller hated the xb dsr link code.

<Winfried> What are you talking about ? GPL or "CALL INIT" code ??
<Dano> Basically yes.

<Winfried> A complete new GPLLNK and a full-comatible DSRLNK routine was as "additional material" on the disk I've sent Chris. Using these ther shouldn't be a problem in assembler. In GPL, -- Was there ever a problem related to XB's DSRLNK/GPLLNK ?? P.S. one of the two GPLLNKs is completely "cartridge-independent" !!

<Dano> I don't remember, I would have to dig out my old Smart Programmer. That newsletters.

<JeffW> c: XB had no documented GPLLNK, did it?
<JeffW> c: No REF in the back of the E/A manual.

<JeffW> My question -- does XB3 scan for CALLs in other cartridges before or after searching DSR's?

<JeffW> c: TI BASIC does DSR search before GROM search.

<Winfried> Addendum: REFerences are now supported by the object code loader - separate GPLLNK & DSRLNK now are no problem anymore :-)

<Dano> Will this version run the "old" 99/8 demo that ran on Myarcs XBIII?
<Chris B.> Dan: probably not (if it contains any Myarc XB2 specific code)

<JeffW> Winfried, can XB3 use the "Review Module Library" feature to access routines in other cartridges?

<Winfried> Huuh ???
<JeffW> Guess not.

<Winfried> "Review Module Library" is intended for switching GRM-Base (9800 to 9804 and so on ... til 9820)

<JeffW> Yes, so I am asking is will XB3 change the GRM-base to look for a CALL not in its ROM/GROM.

<Chris B.> Jeff: It seems to be doing so in the module I have. I can access all the functions in the TE2 GROMs fine from XB3.

<Winfried> the "DSR/GPL-LNK" code used for DSR's and CALL routines is able (for TI-BASIC ONLY!) to use any CALL or DSR pointed to in the GROM headers, even if located on the same address in a different GROM-Base.

<JeffW> Is there some disagreement here?

<Winfried> XB will (In order not to mix TIB-Calls and XB-Calls !) NOT use CALLs located in different bases, but DSRs - Yes! Is that now clear?

<JeffW> Chris says it works. Are you saying it shouldn't, Winfried?
<JeffW> I'm a bit confused.

<Chris B.> No: just that something may have been patched (one of Gary's famous fixes for insolvable problems)

<JeffW> Wait, are you using XB3 or TI BASIC with XB3 plugged in, Chris?

<Winfried> c: In some versions of GROM#0 I've seen, the "Review..." GPL-Code had errors !! it allowed only switching between 9800 and 9804 -- but not others.

<Chris B.> Jeff: I can say "OPEN #1:"SPEECH",OUTPUT" from XB3 and send strings to be spoken.

<Winfried> To clarify: The TE2 Text-to-Speech is a DSR located in GROM. That will work ! (he had to patch something in TE2, because that Te2-DSR needs

ROM-Routines, too - maybe there's another "hidden" 4th ROM-Bank or so ...?) The thing that will NOT work is: XB "CALL" routines at other GROM bases .

<Chris B.> [Gary] patched TE2 fairly extensively - he DID buy a license from TI that provided a lot of code.

<Dano> What is the going rate to buy source from TI now a days? (because as a long term project, I have been wanting to update Video Chess -- 9938 compatable, open move library on disk, high level on etc...)
<Chris B.> Dan: depends

<Winfried> C: Why buy source ?? There is SOMEWHERE on this big earth anywhere user who knows -- from disassembling.. I've even heard rumors of P-Code Card disassembly -- writing that new for "standard GRAM's plus 2 ROMs " should be possible ...

<Dano> C: Comments can be invaluable.
<Winfried> Old Joke: REAL Programmers don't need comments ... :-> :->

<Chris B.> Gentleman: when you are developing a product for resale purposes, you should have a license or the rights to everything you are selling.

<Dano> C: Chris can you give me the number of someone at ti to talk to about it? :>
<Chris B.> Dan: we'll chat later :>

<Dano> One of the items I have always wanted in xb was a status line, something like row, col of cursor, time/date. Amount of free stack and program space. Any chance of seeing these in another release?
<Winfried> Hello, What's Happenning ?? NOTHING comes through !
<JeffW> That came through on this end.
<JeffW> Did you see Dan's question?

<Dano> I guess they actually must be running the internet connection on a geneve :)
<Dano> well I had better call it a nite. Nite all.

<JeffW> We might want to stop soon for Winfried to get some sleep tonight. It is about 4:30am Saturday for him.

<JeffW> Winfried, are you still there?

<JeffW> Chris, want to say what you planned to say at the end of the conference?

<Winfried> Size statement now lists LowMemory, too. "PRINT TIME$,DATE$" is added, but no status line. Aehmm more cursor-keys (up/down by line, move to end+1) are already there, but what do you need "row/col" information under XB for ? (No pun intended)

<Winfried> C: I'm still awake enough :->
<Chris B.> Winfried: I'm not sure I am

<JeffW> Winfried, have we not learned something about XB3 tonight that will make us want it more?

<Winfried> Better take a look at the Info-File(s?) Chris has promised to upload - But I think the most important points were mentioned ...

<JeffW> Okay. Is there anything else new coming out of Germany, related or unrelated to XB3?

<Winfried> We (My friend Jens Fiedler & I) have developed a new adapter-card for Speech Synthesizer. It includes the TE2 Text-to-Speech on DSR-ROM, has it's own RAM, can be accessed via DSRLNK (as it is now DSR**ROM* not GROM anymore) and does not need VRAM memory as buffer. "CECURE Electr." was interested in selling/producing it... Anybody knows how to contact them electronically (Standard Mail is slow & expensive ...-: >)

<Winfried> Then there is ALWAYS Michael Becker!! Now he is working on a VDP9938 card for the PeriBox, 6-Bit-per-color (!) modification included -- will come with GIF-Loader using that color resolution...

<JeffW> c: You can get messages to Don Walden/Cecure Electronics by sending them to Tim Tesch on Delphi: TIMTESCH@delphi.com

<Winfried> Thanks!

<JeffW> c: If Cecure decides not to make the speech adaptor, you know how to contact Asgard or WHT or BMS, I am sure.

<JeffW> Does Michael Becker still make the FDC?

<Winfried> Back to Mr.Becker - He, Jens and I -- We DREAM a lot about a FULL_GRAM card for the PBox, including 8 times 56K GRAM and 8 times 56K GROM, supporting all GRM-Base Addresses, with 16 * 8K ROM ... Let's see whether it will be possible to make it soon enough and cheap enough -- so far it's only a dream...

<Winfried> Yes the "BWG" DiskController (DS/DD, Clock included) is still available from Mr. Becker -- but only a few (Don't know how many). Very reliable, "best of both worlds" : TI & CorComp/Atronic

<Winfried> [incomplete transmission - see below] "rue: the hardware even offers more than currently is supported by DSRs (DiskDSR programmer left the TI-world...)"

<JeffW> c: Tim Tesch can contacted on Fidonet as well through the internet -- Tim.Tesch@f414.n154.z1.fidonet.org

<JeffW> c: Don Walden can likely be reached at : (1) [138,11421] #0# 0 <0
alt.best.of.internet: (1) [7,170] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.multimedia: (1) [13,513] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures: (1) [3,3803] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.d: (1) [89,8386] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.erotica: (1) [501,30299] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.erotica.blondes: (1) [4,730] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.erotica.d: (1) [241,13224] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.fine-art.d: (1) [5,96] #0# 0 <0

alt.binaries.pictures.[fine-art.digitized: (1) [0,128] #0# 0 <128
alt.binaries.pictures.fine-art.graphics: (1) [0,61] #0# 0 <61
alt.binaries.pictures.fractals: (1) [18,991] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.furniture: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.misc: (1) [339,19701] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.supermodels: (1) [53,621] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.tasteless: (1) [50,1648] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.pictures.utilities: (1) [109,3993] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.sounds.d: (1) [49,3138] #0# 0 <0
alt.binaries.sounds.misc: (1) [116,7355] #0# 0 <0
alt.birthright: (1) [0,564] #0# 0 <564
alt.bitterness: (1) [0,55] #0# 0 <55
alt.bob-packwood.tongue.tongue.tongue: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.bonsai: (1) [20,864] #0# 0 <0
alt.books.anne-rice: (1) [38,351] #0# 0 <0
alt.books.technical: (1) [17,538] #0# 0 <0
alt.boomerang: (1) [0,360] #0# 0 <360
alt.business.misc: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.cabal-tv.re-regulate: (1) [0,296] #0# 0 <296
alt.cad: (1) [13,699] #0# 0 <0
alt.cad.autocad: (1) [34,2429] #0# 0 <0
alt.california: (1) [14,2798] #0# 0 <0
alt.callahans: (1) [463,26077] #0# 0 <0
alt.cd-rom: (1) [165,7931] #0# 0 <0
alt.cellular: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.censorship: (1) [108,12943] #0# 0 <0
alt.cesium: (1) [1,94] #0# 0 <0
alt.chess.bdg: (1) [0,13] #0# 0 <13
alt.chess.ics: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.child-support: (1) [89,5911] #0# 0 <0
alt.chinese.text: (1) [244,2863] #0# 0 <0
alt.clubs.compsci: (1) [0,4] #0# 0 <4
alt.co-evolution: (1) [4,206] #0# 0 <0
alt.co-ops: (1) [4,436] #0# 0 <0
alt.cobol: (1) [21,981] #0# 0 <0
alt.collecting.autographs: (1) [23,77] #0# 0 <0
alt.colorguard: (1) [6,422] #0# 0 <0
alt.comedy.british: (1) [75,3726] #0# 0 <0
alt.comics.lnh: (1) [110,1698] #0# 0 <0
alt.comics.superman: (1) [8,113] #0# 0 <0
alt.comp.acad-freedom.news: (1) [0,112] #0# 0 <112
alt.comp.acad-freedom.talk: (1) [67,6882] #0# 0 <0
alt.comp.compression: (1) [8,187] #0# 0 <0
alt.conference-ctr: (1) [0,53] #0# 0 <53
alt.config: (1) [97,10520] #0# 0 <0
alt.config.control-freaks: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.consciousness: (1) [27,1169] #0# 0 <0
alt.conspiracy: (1) [269,19034] #0# 0 <0
alt.conspiracy.jfk: (1) [66,5007] #0# 0 <0
alt.control-theory: (1) [0,28] #0# 0 <28
alt.cosuard: (1) [1,84] #0# 0 <0
alt.crackers: (1) [0,92] #0# 0 <92
alt.cult-movies: (1) [6344,170080] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.alaska: (1) [12,465] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.argentina: (1) [21,21] #0# 0 <0

alt.culture.austrian: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.electric-midget: (1) [0,123] #0# 0 <123
alt.culture.indonesia: (1) [33,1534] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.karnataka: (1) [3,771] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.kerala: (1) [65,1932] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.ny-upstate: (1) [92,1238] #0# 0 <4
alt.culture.oregon: (1) [0,4] #0# 0 <4
alt.culture.tamil: (1) [12,716] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.theory: (1) [4,560] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.us.asian-indian: (1) [10,114] #0# 0 <0
alt.culture.usenet: (1) [66,2560] #0# 0 <0
alt.current-events.blizzard-of-93: (1) [17,1144] #0# 0 <0
alt.current-events.somalia: (1) [2,858] #0# 0 <0
alt.current-events.wtc-explosion: (1) [13,801] #0# 0 <0
alt.cyb-sys: (1) [0,10] #0# 0 <10
alt.cyberpunk: (1) [122,10101] #0# 0 <0
alt.cyberpunk.chatsubo: (1) [19,1218] #0# 0 <0
alt.cyberpunk.movement: (1) [8,574] #0# 0 <0
alt.cyberpunk.tech: (1) [61,1605] #0# 0 <0
alt.cyberspace: (1) [12,1414] #0# 0 <0
alt.cybertoon: (1) [10,95] #0# 0 <0
alt.dads-rights: (1) [50,4048] #0# 0 <0
alt.dcom.telecom: (1) [17,1354] #0# 0 <0
alt.dear.whitehouse: (1) [10,448] #0# 0 <0
alt.death-of-superman: (1) [0,8] #0# 0 <8
alt.desert-thekurds: (1) [0,12] #0# 0 <12
alt.destroy.the.earth: (1) [0,189] #0# 0 <189
alt.discordia: (1) [78,1351] #0# 0 <0
alt.discrimination: (1) [121,7998] #0# 0 <0
alt.divination: (1) [8,512] #0# 0 <0
alt.dreams: (1) [212,7648] #0# 0 <0
alt.drugs: (1) [303,30061] #0# 0 <0
alt.drugs.usenet: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.drumcorps: (1) [15,2789] #0# 0 <0
alt.education.bangkok: (1) [0,14] #0# 0 <14
alt.education.bangkok.cmc: (1) [0,81] #0# 0 <81
alt.education.bangkok.databases: (1) [0,26] #0# 0 <26
alt.education.bangkok.planning: (1) [0,165] #0# 0 <165
alt.education.bangkok.research: (1) [0,50] #0# 0 <50
alt.education.bangkok.student: (1) [0,11] #0# 0 <11
alt.education.bangkok.theory: (1) [0,48] #0# 0 <48
alt.education.disabled: (1) [0,416] #0# 0 <416
alt.education.distance: (1) [53,674] #0# 0 <0
alt.emulators.ibmpc.apple2: (1) [21,351] #0# 0 <0
alt.emusic: (1) [21,676] #0# 0 <0
alt.etc.passwd: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.etext: (1) [2,57] #0# 0 <0
alt.eunuchs.questions: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.evil: (1) [61,4701] #0# 0 <0
alt.exotic-music: (1) [10,982] #0# 0 <0
alt.exploding.kibo: (1) [1,1571] #0# 0 <18
alt.fan.albedo: (1) [0,18] #0# 0 <18
alt.fan.alok.vijayvargia: (1) [0,183] #0# 0 <183
alt.fan.amy-fisher: (1) [0,2] #0# 0 <2
alt.fan.asprin: (1) [23,298] #0# 0 <0

alt.fan.bugtown: (1) [0,93] #0# 0 <93
alt.fan.chaki.chaki: (1) [0,22] #0# 0 <22
alt.fan.charles-lasner: (1) [0,2] #0# 0 <2
alt.fan.chris-elliott: (1) [19,234] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.dan-quayle: (1) [107,9089] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.dave_barry: (1) [5,1607] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.david-sternlight: (1) [3,58] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.dick-depew: (1) [61,61] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.disney.afternoon: (1) [31,5636] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.douglas-adams: (1) [15,436] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.ecsd: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.eddings: (1) [69,2184] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.enya: (1) [0,136] #0# 0 <136
alt.fan.eric-dynamic: (1) [0,0] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.frank-zappa: (1) [44,3190] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.furry: (1) [84,4316] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.goley: (1) [0,18] #0# 0 <18
alt.fan.greaseman: (1) [13,25] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.harry-mandel: (1) [0,15] #0# 0 <15
alt.fan.holmes: (1) [14,773] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.howard-stern: (1) [44,3792] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.howard-stern.fartman: (1) [0,291] #0# 0 <29
alt.fan.hurricane.yip: (1) [0,11] #0# 0 <11
alt.fan.itchy-n-scratchy: (1) [0,69] #0# 0 <69
alt.fan.james-bond: (1) [17,962] #0# 0 <19
alt.fan.jiro-nakamura: (1) [0,19] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.john-palmer: (1) [1,454] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.ken-johnson: (1) [8,26] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.kevin-walsh: (1) [0,51] #0# 0 <51
alt.fan.lemurs: (1) [24,367] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.letterman: (1) [126,3932] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.lightbulbs: (1) [0,18] #0# 0 <18
alt.fan.madonna: (1) [36,1052] #0# 0 <0
alt.fan.maria-callas: (1) [0,64] #0# 0 <64
alt.fan.mary-chungs: (1) [0,3] #0# 0 <3
alt.fan.matt.welsh: (1) [0,168] #0# 0 <168
alt.fan.meredith-tanner: (1) [0,10] #0# 0 <10
alt.fan.mike-jittlov: (1) [32,1377] #0#and brown eyes soft and bright
without overly reflective lustre, giving her the look of
someone attractive yet less suited to this antipensive
plastic place than even I. Physically, she was admirable,
although not a goddess, with a face that was beautiful in
many lights, I supposed, but was uncertainly so now. It
felt like rain. I was attracted, and there was tugging
in my chest, which put into my mind the idea to inform
Spike and Miles that I was leaving, to grab the bag and
go, when I turned to spot them and caught her eyes
immediately. Sudden shock, and all my mouth could form
was "hi" and some kind of introductory apology, and even
more sudden shock when I noticed her purse slung to her
hip and her drink pushed ahead on the bar, as mine was.
    She responded with her pleasant voice, and her purse
relaxed, sliding resignedly down her back. She picked up
her drink, and quietly asked a few question, if I came
here often, and I managed to acceptably interact with
her, answering her questions, introduc

<JeffW> You have to be logged on to Delphi to transfer files to or from Delphi workspace via FTP.

<Ed> Try a small test file first to check the FTP - just a suggestion. And thanks for the response to my question.

<Winfried> Jeff: Then the only thing left would be transfer from workspace to archive - this is covered in the on-line HELP ?

<Brad> But does the COGUEST account have internet/ftp access?

<JeffW> You cannot "ftp delphi.com" from tu-berlin.de You must "ftp tu-berlin.de" from Delphi.

<Ed> Why not, if he joins internet as COGUEST? (to Brad)

<Brad> I suppose that Delphi would just bill Jeff Guide for that? :-) Not expensive anyway.

<Winfried> Ed: Anything else ? -- That InternetConnection isn't the fastest ..

<Ed> Internet is slow to me here as well, but only when leaving MAIL.

<JeffW> Can you TI-Encode files, Winfried?

<Winfried> [to Ed] I am 29, Student/Chemistry,.TI99 since 1986 or so)

<Winfried> Slow connection means: 14 to 24 seconds until my echo appears on screen !

<Ed> That slow now?

<Chris B.> Winfried, Brad, Jeff, Ed, I'm sorry I have to go now...
<JeffW> Goodnight, Chris.
<Ed> (I suspected just slow typing! (Grin!)   Take care Chris!
<Brad> Goodnight Chris.

<Winfried> I prefer Unix-UUENCODE !! (that can be done here...)   TIED only runs on my TI at home (No Net-Access there) So I have to copy TIFiles to IBM ...

<Winfried> Good night , Chris !
<Chris B.> Talk to you later, Winfried, good morning to you :>

<JeffW> UUENCODE will work.

<Chris B.> Thanks again for coming!

<Winfried> That TI<->IBM disk copy utilities are not one of my favoured games

<JeffW> It is actually quite simple to convert from UUENCODE to TI-Encode WITHOUT decoding.
<Brad> I'm going to be leaving too. Thanks for the CO Winfried, and all.

<Winfried> What about that checksum-type of thing (If I got this right) and the different line-lenghts

<Ed> I'll be taping the TV news for awhile. More Sue legal wranglings!

<Winfried> .... And keep the other conference transcripts coming - for those on internet without delphi access .

<Winfried> Thank you, for that service on comp.sys.ti too !!
<Winfried> Good night, all !
<JeffW> Sure thing.

Here is signup information for Delphi, which has the TI International Net SIG visited by many notables in the TI 99/4A community.

Cambridge MA, December 9, 1992 -   DELPHI, an international online service, now provides full access to the Internet including real-time electronic mail, file transfers with "FTP," and remote log-ins to other Internet hosts using "Telnet." With this announcement, DELPHI becomes the only leading consumer online service to offer such a wide variety of Internet features.

Russell Williams, DELPHI's general manager, explains the significance of this announcement. "Because DELPHI is a well known consumer online service, the Internet will now be easily accessible to much broader base of personal computer users. DELPHI has easy-to-use menus, low access rates, and over 150 services in addition to the new Internet gateway. DELPHI is also easy to reach; there are access numbers in over 600 cities and towns throughout the US and in many other countries. The combined resources of DELPHI and the Internet is a great package for anyone interested in online services."

The Internet is considered the world's largest computer network. It is comprised of thousands of companies, colleges, schools, government agencies, and other organizations. There are currently an estimated 4 million users. "This incredible reach of the network will mean better and more specialized services for all users" adds Mr. Williams. "For example, users can take electronic courses conducted by leading universities, access reports from government agencies, and get product information and support directly from companies. There are also mailing lists and discussion groups for almost every special interest imaginable. Electronic mail can be used to send private messages to anyone on the Internet and even many commercial networks like Compuserve and MCI Mail."

DELPHI's connection to the Internet works both ways: In addition to offering access out to other networks, DELPHI provides value-added services to people already on the Internet. Any user of the Internet can access DELPHI to use services such as Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia, the Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, Reuters and UPI newswires, stock quotes, computer support, EAASY Sabre travel reservations, special interest groups, real-time conferencing, downloadable programs, and multi-player games. All these services can be reached through the Internet simply by joining DELPHI and then telnetting to the address "delphi.com" via the commercial Internet.

In order to help new users with questions related to the Internet, DELPHI has an area online to provide support. The Internet Special

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<JeffW> Goodnight, Brad.
<Winfried> Good Night, Brad !   (Hear ya via mail...)
<Ed> Bye, Brad! -BRB the rest of you, if you're still here when I get back in a few minutes....

[the TI-Encode is Clint Pulley's program - similar to UUENCODE - Ed.]

<JeffW> TI-Encode puts a checksum at the end of the file.
<Winfried> What's this last character every third line ??
<Winfried> I've never understand that "leading ." kind of thing in the sources

<JeffW> Some systems remove the "." if a line starts with it.
<JeffW> Probably rather simple to just convert UUENCODE to work on the TI.
<Winfried> As a "dirty hack" (No I/O-error checking, ugly coded) it already works !

<JeffW> So you have a UUENCODE program for the 99/4a?

<Winfried> Main problem: the line lengths ... 128 <-> 45 char

<JeffW> I can UUENCODE and UUDECODE on the VAX.

<Winfried> My UUEncode for TI needs some cleanup (forgot: It adds some garbage after EOF, too - so far all lines in uucode contain 45 characters...) It's just Version 0.xx :-> :-> But it does its job

<JeffW> So if you want to compress files, UUENCODE them to jhwhit01@ulkyvx.louisville.edu. I can handle them.

<JeffW> I can also get them to Delphi.

<Winfried> As far as I can see, things related to this XB3 thing will be plain text (Info, Text, Sources) all the time -- I'll mail them, if necessary

<JeffW> Okay.
<JeffW> If you want any files from Delphi, you'll likely have trouble getting them.

<Winfried> text all the time -- I'll mail what's necessary, as soon as I have it ready....

<JeffW> Unless you have any more questions, I'll let you get some sleep, explore Delphi, or whatever you do on Saturday mornings.

<Winfried> I'll see - I'll mail you. If there are any problems getting what I want. (If that ftp via workspace works, there shouldn't any).

<Winfried> I think I'll go in a few minutes - good night !
<Winfried> Thank you for this opportunity - I enjoyed it !
<JeffW> I'm not sure you can get a file from the database archive to workspace to FTP!

<Ed> Thanks, Winfried!
<JeffW> Goodnight, Winfried. If you have any questions about FTP, send them to WALTHOWE on Delphi.

Interest Group (SIG) includes an active message forum where members and staff can exchange useful information. Comprehensive guide books, downloadable software, and information files are also available.

DELPHI has two membership plans: the 10/4 Plan is $10 per month and includes the first 4 hours of use; additional use is $4 per hour. The 20/20 Advantage Plan is $20 per month, includes 20 hours of use, and is only $1.80 per hour for additional time. Rates apply for access speeds up to 2400bps; 9600bps access is currently being tested in a few locations. The Internet service option is an extra $3 per month and includes a generous transfer allocation of 10 megabytes (the equivalent of about 3,000 type-written pages). Access during business hours via Sprintnet or Tymnet carries a surcharge.

Through a special trial membership offer, anyone interested in learning more about DELPHI and the Internet can receive 5 hours of access for free. To join, dial by modem, 1-800-365-4636 (current Internet users should telnet to "delphi.com" instead). After connecting, press return once or twice. At the Username prompt, enter JOINDELPHI and at the password prompt, type INTERNETSIG. DELPHI Member Service Representatives can also be reached by voice at 1-800-695-4005.

DELPHI is a service of General Videotex Corporation, a leading developer of interactive and online services based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

For further information, send email to Walt Howe, DELPHI Internet SIG Manager (walthowe@delphi.com).

NEXT GATHERING: Tuesday

April 13, 1993 6:45 PM

HAPPY JOE'S PIZZA
LINDALE MALL LOWER LEVEL
COLLINS ROAD SIDE

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Cedar Valley 99'er Users Group
c/o Jim Green
377 Cambridge Dr. NE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402-1446

FIRST CLASS

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