

THE CLEVELAND AREA
99/4A COMPUTER USER GROUPS
NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 1984

NORTHCOAST

SOLOON

NORTH ROYALTON

GOLDEN CRESCENT

EXECUTIVE NOTES -- SOLOON

Many thanks to ROGER BURGESS for his creative and well planned presentation on software under \$10. I have yet to meet anyone who enjoys using their TI more than Roger. This type of demonstration illustrates that you do not have to rely on K-MART's or BEST PRODUCTS for all of your software.

We feel we have come up with a very good deal on disks for Solon members. In a bulk purchase, we will be able to get 5 1/4" SS/SD disks with hub rings and a 6 year warranty. The disks would be packaged in envelopes in poly bags of 10 with a label kit included. The price will be under \$15 for 10 disks. Further details will be presented at the meeting. We will need your order and payment at the April meeting. If you are unable to attend but interested in ordering some disks, please call Jon Lucas.

At our April meeting, Walt Ryder will give a demonstration of using the Personal Record Keeping cartridge. His talk will include creating files and using math transformations. It should be an informative session.

APRIL MEETING

*SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1984

10:30 AM - NEW USERS SESSION

11:30 AM - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Solon Public Library -- Inwood Drive

*We are meeting the third Saturday for APRIL ONLY. In MAY, we will be back to our regular routine of 2nd Saturdays.

PLEASE PARK IN THE HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT -- turn right at the end of the drive, rather than left into the Library Lot.

Thanks,

Jon Lucas,
President
441-6256

EXECUTIVE NOTES -- GOLDEN CRESCENT

NEW MEETING PLACE GREAT!

The Amherst Fire Station is a terrific spot for our meetings. The room is quite large and should serve our membership for some time to come.

We invite all our members and guests to join us for fun, knowledge, and entertainment. Not only can you save money on the purchase of low cost tapes and disks, borrow from our extensive library of programs, but also win valuable prizes which will be given away or raffled off.

Also, be sure to attend our April meeting when we will present a very special program of interest to all members.

So...see you on April 28th at 2:00 PM at the Amherst Fire Station. The Amherst Fire Station is located on Park Avenue in downtown Amherst. Prior to this meeting, we will be holding a 30 minute educational session for new computer users from 1:30 to 2:00 PM.

Chuck Mareno,
President

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORTS: that disks will be available for loan from the library. This is in addition to the programs available on tape.

Our warmest welcome to the 5 new members who joined at the March meeting. Our roster now stands at 57 memberships.

CLASSIFIED AD:

Looking for a TI Peripheral Expansion System with Disk Drive and Disk Controller Card -- Anyone have one for sale? CALL George Spreng, 1-216-967-7257

EXECUTIVE NOTES - NORTHCOAST

It is gratifying to see how much our group has grown and developed over the last five months. It is exciting to see the members pitching in and taking a deep interest in making the meetings a success. It is each member contributing in their own way that will generate continued growth, not only in number, but in quality.

Our March meeting was a huge success with 68 people in attendance with 15 new members joining up at the meeting. That brings us up to 73 total memberships. A warm WELCOME to all the new members!!

A big thanks go to Vince Riha and John Blackmer for bringing in the PA system. It made a BIG difference.

Many thanks go to Debbie Walker of the 3M Company for her slide presentation on DISKETTES. It was very informative and very professionally done. I was especially impressed with the number of questions that were asked afterward. It shows we are opening up and are anxious to learn. For those who missed the meeting, you sure missed a good one. Those of us who took the "free" diskettes, be sure to complete the 2nd questionnaire and bring it to the next meeting.

At our April meeting, we will have a presentation by Miriam Huebscher-Alberts on TELECOMMUNICATIONS and DATA-BASE SERVICES. Joe Corbett will conduct an overview of TI-FORTH for those interested and Robert Van Etten will conduct a brief, but valuable question and answer session on programming tips and shortcuts. We would like this to be a regular part of our future meetings.

More information will be available at the next meeting on future educational sessions including BASIC programming, MULTIPLAN, and possibly TI-WRITER.

The sale of tapes went well with only about 50 left which we will bring to the next meeting. We should also have copies of "ENTHUSIAST 99" magazine available.

As you can see, there are some exciting new ideas being discussed to help each of us learn how to get more out of our computer.

The Library Committee wanted me to remind those of you who have borrowed tapes from the library to return them at the next meeting. Otherwise we may have to start charging a deposit for borrowing from the library. Thanks!

NEXT MEETING:

Saturday, April 27, 1984
12:30 PM -- New Users Session
1:30 PM -- General Meeting
EUCLIDIAN ROOM -- EUCLID SQUARE MALL

Jim Cline - President

EXECUTIVE NOTES -- NORTH ROYALTON

The North Royalton Users' Group had 33 people in attendance at the March meeting. We hope all members will encourage anyone they know who has a TI computer to join us. A big WELCOME to our 8 new members.

We had an informative presentation on Data Statements by Rick Polivka and James Zbelgien. Rick advised we are going to set up program debugging sessions prior to our meetings. Call Rick at 238-3971 for information about this.

Tom Thalner of Edu-Comp made a very interesting presentation on printers -- types available and features to consider when purchasing one.

Space Cable TV was at our March meeting and interviewed some of our members on camera. Information regarding our Users' Group will be aired in the communities served by Space Cable.

We need volunteers for our various committees -- Education, Equipment, Newsletter, and Membership. You'll be surprised to find that you often get more out of a group if you get involved. Come on -- VOLUNTEER!

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, April 21, 1984

10:00 AM

North Royalton Public Library

NOTE: The May meeting date has been changed to May 26 instead of the usual 3rd Saturday of the month due to a conflict with the Library's schedule.

Jan Fedor

EDITOR'S NOTES

Last month's newsletter was the largest yet. This one will come nowhere near meeting that one in size, however hopefully the quality will remain. (Printing costs are definitely a factor.) The contribution by members of all 4 groups certainly adds to the interest and diversity of the Newsletter. This month we start with our first commercial advertising. See the article elsewhere which specifies the prices and policy. If you know anyone who might desire to have a commercial advertisement here, let me know or have them contact me for information.

Something very interesting occurred at the last Solon meeting. Roger Burgess presented a very enjoyable and stimulating program as mentioned earlier in this issue. Because of this, and because of the nature and purpose of our gatherings a number of things occurred. A lot of conversation was stimulated by his presentation during the talk. This was both positive and negative. The negative is that the conversation was disturbing to some people present and made it hard for all to hear the enjoyable comments and useful information Roger was presenting. However, the positive is that in listening to the "other" conversations, they were very much due to the quality of Roger's presentation -- mostly a sharing of the details of what Roger was presenting so that some would not miss out on such useful info. Certainly, we are not a formal group in that total silence is expected and every good presentation generates the same type of excitement from involved, interested people. However, practicality and courtesy must also be considered. (This was why the Solon group stopped any library business during the meetings.)

A very well prepared letter was received on this topic and it will be presented for discussion at the next meeting. I have not attended the other groups' meetings to see if this type of situation occurs, but excitement and stimulation are infectious. I do feel that the concerned people in this situation are also, though, within their rights to expect enough quiet to be able to hear the speaker. Maybe we can all keep this in mind during the presentations and work towards a relaxed, involved moderation of the undercurrent.

Susan Weiser
Editor

```

100 REM *****
110 REM * SNAKE DANCE BY *
120 REM * VAUGHN SOFTWARE *
130 REM *****
140 REM
150 REM
160 REM EXTENDED BASIC REQUIRED
170 REM
180 RANDOMIZE :: CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(2)
190 B=RND*190 :: CALL MAGNIFY(1):: CALL CHAR(96,"B"):: FOR A=1 TO 28 :: CALL SPR
ITE(#A,96,8,95,10,10,SGN(95-B)*A):: NEXT A
200 D=RND*20 :: FOR A=1 TO 28 :: CALL MOTION(#A,D,A*SGN(10-D)):: NEXT A :: C=C+1
:: IF C<25 THEN 200
210 FOR A=1 TO 28 :: CALL COLOR(#A,RND*14+2):: NEXT A :: C=0 :: CALL MAGNIFY(2)
220 FOR A=1 TO 28 :: B=RND*14+2 :: CALL PATTERN(#A,96):: CALL POSITION(#A,U,V)::
CALL MOTION(#A,SGN(96-U)*9,SGN(10-V)*9):: NEXT A
230 FOR A=1 TO 28 :: CALL PATTERN(#A,96):: NEXT A :: CALL DELSPRITE(ALL):: GOTO
190

```

```

100 REM *****
110 REM *
120 REM * TELE TUNES *
130 REM *BY VAUGHN SOFTWARE*
140 REM *
150 REM * TI BASIC *
160 REM *****
170 CALL CLEAR
180 DIM TNS(9)
190 DATA 948.01331.7,699.11215.9,699.11331.7,699.11471.9,766.21215.9,766.21331.7
,766.21471.9
200 DATA 847.41215.9,847.41331.7,847.41471.9
210 FOR A=0 TO 9
220 READ TNS(A)
230 NEXT A
240 INPUT "PHONE NUMBER?":PH$
250 FOR A=1 TO LEN(PH$)
260 C=VAL(SEG$(PH$,A,1))
270 CALL SOUND(50,VAL(SEG$(TNS(C),1,5)),0,VAL(SEG$(TNS(C),6,6)),0)
280 NEXT A
290 GOTO 240

```

OXIDATION PROBLEM?

E.A.P. Company of Keller, Texas is now marketing gold plated edge connectors for the 99/4A called the GOLD PLUG 80.

According to the company, GOLD PLUG 80 is a cure for the intermittent contact problem that exists on the computer due to the absence of gold on the card edge connectors of the keyboard, expansion interface, disk drives and disk controllers. The GOLD PLUG 80 is a male gold plated card edge that is soldered directly to the existing tin/lead plated card edge plug on the expansion port on the computer. This card edge helps eliminate the sudden death or disk errors that sometimes occur due to oxidation of the tin/lead surfaces. NOTE: Installation of the GOLD PLUG 80 requires disassembly of the computer.

If you have been having a problem with excessive oxidation on the expansion port connector you might want to write for additional details.

E.A.P. Company
Box 14
Keller, Texas 76248

*****%*%*****

ADVERTISING POLICY

This Newsletter is now accepting commercial advertising with the goal of offsetting the cost of the printing. Rates per issue are \$20 for a full page, \$12 for a half page and \$6 for a quarter page. Discounts are available for multiple issue commitments. We reserve the right to refuse any or all advertising which it deems inappropriate or in conflict with interests of the group. Ads should be camera ready and this group is not responsible for inadvertent or advertiser errors. For further information, call Susan at 248-5530

DISK COPIES -- LIBRARY PROGRAMS?

If you would like copies of any of the programs in the DISK MASTER PROGRAM LIBRARY and do not want to supply the disks, or want the convenience of not having to do so, each disk with whatever programs you desire (that will fit on the disk) can be obtained, prepaid at \$1.75 each, by giving the money to Susan Weiser or Frank Jenkins of the Solon group. Susan also must know which programs, source disk (check our catalog printed in the last issue of this Newsletter, and whether your drive is single or double. Arrangements for obtaining the disk should be made with Susan. Mail return is possible if postage and packaging is supplied.

For all your TI needs -



EDU-COMP

North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039

1-218-327-8578

TI Hardware & Software
Cor Comp Hardware
Printers & Modems

```

100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(5)
110 FOR I=1 TO 8 :: CALL COLOR(I,16,1):: NEXT I
120 DISPLAY AT(5,1):" USE JOYSTICK TO ROTATE GUN":" PRESS 'FIRE' TO FIRE"
130 DISPLAY AT(8,10):"PROGRAME BY":" GENE KRAWCZYK ":" CARE OF TI
TTIC"
140 DISPLAY AT(14,4):" CORNER WARS "
145 DISPLAY AT(24,8):"PRESS ANY KEY"
150 CALL KEY(O,K,S):: IF K>0 THEN 160 ELSE IF K<0 THEN 150
160 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(2)
170 CALL MAGNIFY(3)
180 SP=4 :: X=4 :: COL=11 :: SCORE=0 :: HIT=10
190 CALL CHAR(96,"00000000FF")
200 CALL CHAR(97,"000000FF")
210 CALL CHAR(104,"00000000FF")
220 CALL CHAR(105,"000000FF")
230 CALL CHAR(112,RPT$("08",8))
240 CALL CHAR(113,RPT$("10",8))
250 CALL CHAR(120,RPT$("08",8))
260 CALL CHAR(128,"0008090B0F1F3F3F3F3F1F0F07030100001090D0F0FBFCFCFCFCFBFOEOC(
000")
270 CALL CHAR(140,"000003070F1F3F7F7F3F1F0F070300000000COE0FEF0FBFCFCFBFOFEFOCI
000")
280 CALL CHAR(132,"000103070F1F3F3F3F3F1F0F0B090B0000B0C0E0F0FBFCFCFCFCFBFOD09(
000")
290 CALL CHAR(136,"000003077F0F1F3F3F1F0F7F070300000000COE0F0FBFCFEFEFCFBFOEOC(
000")
300 CALL CHAR(40,"02074A72424262520A0602020202010020F02927212123252B3020202020
80")
310 CALL CHAR(88,"0103040404040CA4A4C4B484E4940C0700B04040404060504A4642424E(
40")
320 CALL CHAR(92,"3F12112040FF404040FF402011123F00000000B040FC020102FC40B00000
00")
330 CALL CHAR(44,"000000001023F40B0403F020100000000FC48B80402FF020202FF02048E
FC")
340 CALL CHAR(116,"00000040211B1F071F77050B1B3244B44042C4CEB061C2FC0F05B67203C
042")
350 CALL CHAR(121,RPT$("10",8))
360 CALL CHAR(33,"0000000000000000FF")
370 CALL HCHAR(11,1,33,32)
380 CALL CHAR(34,"FF")
390 CALL HCHAR(14,1,34,32)
400 CALL CHAR(35,"0101010101010101")
410 CALL VCHAR(1,15,35,24)
420 CALL CHAR(36,"B0B0B0B0B0B0B0B0")
430 CALL VCHAR(1,18,36,24)
440 CALL CHAR(37,"01010101010101FF")
450 CALL CHAR(38,"B0B0B0B0B0B0B0FF")
460 CALL HCHAR(11,18,38)
470 CALL CHAR(39,"FF01010101010101")
480 CALL HCHAR(14,15,39)
490 CALL HCHAR(11,15,37)
500 CALL CHAR(58,"FFB0B0B0B0B0B0B0")

```


FOR SALE: 2 Speech Synthesizers, the proceeds of which will go towards the purchase of a club system for the Northcoast 99'ers. Donated by Ken Gladyszewski and Jim Cline. \$50.00 each, never used! Call 261-2463 after 6:00 PM.

FOR SALE: Adventure Series on cassette or disk. \$10.00 each or \$50.00 for set.

The COUNT
MYSTERY FUN HOUSE
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE
PYRAMID OF DOOM
SAVAGE ISLAND I & II
GOLDEN VOYAGE

CALL 261-2463 AFTER 6:00 PM.

TI ADVENTURE COPIES?

There is a use for the Tunnels of Doom cartridge that is undocumented. Those who bought a number of TI's Scott Adams Adventure games on tape and have since purchased disk drives may be frustrated by the fact that they can't copy the tape to disk.

Here's what you do: With the Tunnels of Doom cartridge in the console, load the adventure game data from tape. After it's loaded, do not start the game. Instead, press Function BACK and then save the data to disk, giving it whatever file name you like. The adventure appears to play normally, though there may be some random graphic characters that may have gotten transferred. -- From Home Computer Compendium.

FORTH MASTER DISK ERROR

For those members who have obtained copies of the Forth Language Disk that was released public domain to our Users Group and the others, there is an error on one of the screens. To fix it, enter forth and call the editor by typing: -EDITOR, type EMPTY-BUFFERS DECIMAL, then type 72 EDIT. Of course you must press ENTER after each of the above commands. Or line 5 change PAB_ADDR @ VDP to PAB-ADDR @ VDP. Press FCTN 9(back), type in FLUSH and press ENTER.

CORRECTION

Introduction to Assembly Language for the TI Home Computer -- by Steve Davis Publishing.

Page 112: Change "SG2" to "MSG2"
Page 115 and 121: Insert into "PBASIC" routine after "BLWP @VSBW" and before "DEC R3":
"INC RO INCREMENT SCREEN ADDRESS"

CURSOR PROGRAM

This little program from the Sydney Users Group will permit you to move your cursor around the screen. It uses 416 bytes of memory and takes roughly 12 seconds.

```

100 CALL CLEAR
110 CALL CHAR(44,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
120 R=1
130 C=3
140 CALL HCHAR(R,C,44)
150 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
160 IF S=0 THEN 150
170 IF K=68 THEN 210
180 IF K=69 THEN 230
190 IF K=83 THEN 250
200 IF K=88 THEN 270 ELSE 150
210 C=C+ABS(C<30)
220 GOTO 280
230 R=R-ABS(R>11)
240 GOTO 280
250 C=C-ABS(C>31)
260 GOTO 280
270 R=R-ABS(R<24)
280 CALL HCHAR(R,C,44)
290 GOTO 150

```

TWO SHORT PROGRAMS FROM KERRY MARTIN

(L A 99er UG)

The program that follows is a short example of a way to make a character move. It will help those who wish to make a game and will help any beginner understand Basic. For those of you who are already programmers please look to other programs for I am just a beginner, too.

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 CALL CHAR(94,"7EFFFCFOFOFCFF7E")
120 CALL CHAR(95,"7EFFFFFFFFF7E")
130 CALL COLOR(8,11,1)
140 CALL CHAR(96,"0000001818")
141 ROW=1 :: COL=1
142 CALL HCHAR(1,1,96,700)
145 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,95,1)
150 REM MAKE PACMAN MOVE
160 CALL KEY(3,KEY,STATUS)
170 IF STATUS THEN 200 :: GOTO 180
200 IF KEY=69 THEN 1000
210 IF KEY=88 THEN 2000
220 IF KEY=68 THEN 3000
230 IF KEY=83 THEN 4000
240 GOTO 180
1000 REM MOVE PACMAN UP...
1010 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,32,1)
1020 ROW=ROW-1
1030 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,94,1)
1040 GOTO 145
2000 REM MOVE PACMAN DOWN
2010 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,32,1)
2020 ROW=ROW+1
2030 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,94,1)
2040 GOTO 145
3000 REM MOVE PACMAN RIGHT
3010 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,32,1)
3020 COL=COL+1
3030 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,94,1)
3040 GOTO 145
4000 REM MOVE PACMAN LEFT
4010 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,32,1)
4020 COL=COL-1
4030 CALL HCHAR(ROW,COL,94,1)
4040 GOTO 145
```

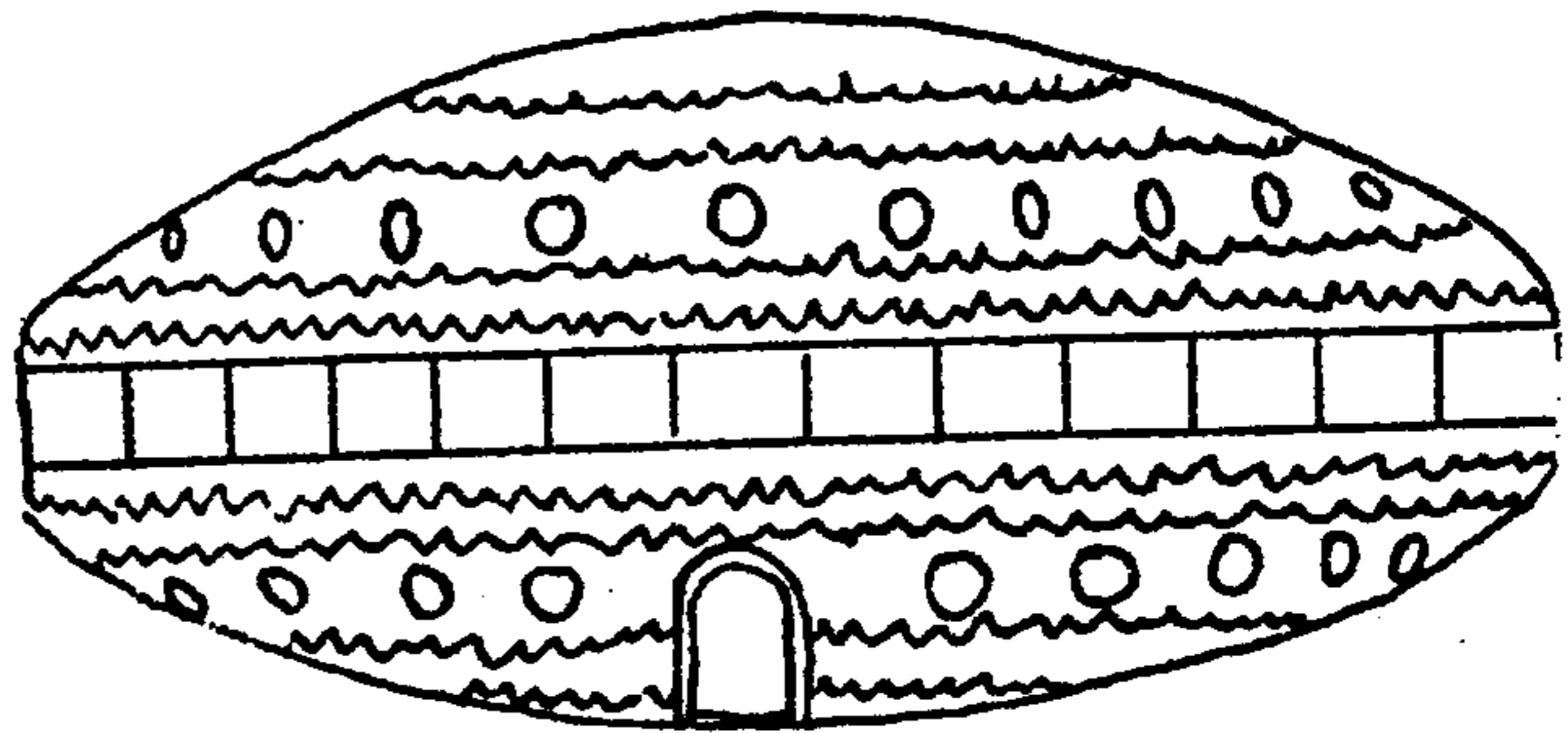
This program is a short program that shows random accessing. It is called Russian Roulette. Please use for fun only!

```
85 CALL SCREEN(4)
90 CALL CLEAR
95 PRINT "THIS IS A GAME OF"
100 PRINT TAB(28);"RUSSIAN ROULETTE"
105 REM "71-99'ER VERSION"
106 REM "BY M.J.WRIGHT"
110 PRINT
130 PRINT
135 PRINT "HERE IS A
      (REVOLVER)"
140 PRINT "TYPE '1' AND PRESS ENTER
      SPIN CHAMBER AND PULL TRIGGER"
150 PRINT "TYPE '2' TO GIVE UP"
160 PRINT "GO";
165 RANDOMIZE
170 LET N=0
180 INPUT I
185 DATA I
190 IF I<>2 THEN 220
200 PRINT "      CHICKEN!!!!"
205 GOTO 340
210 GOTO 290
215 INPUT N
220 N=N+1
230 IF INT(RND*(1)*.633333) THEN 270
240 IF N>5 THEN 310
250 PRINT "-CLICK-"
260 PRINT
265 GOTO 180
270 PRINT "BANG!!!!!!YOU'RE DEAD!"
271 CALL SCREEN(7)
280 PRINT "CONDOLENCES WILL BE SENT
      TO YOUR RELATIVES"
281 FOR X=1 TO 500
282 NEXT X
290 CALL CLEAR
300 PRINT "***NEXT VICTIM***"
301 FOR X=1 TO 500
302 NEXT X
305 GOTO 85
310 PRINT "YOU WIN!!!!!"
320 PRINT "LET SOMEONE ELSE BLOW
      HIS BRAINS OUT"
330 GOTO 130
340 END
```

```

J REM      FLYING SAUCER MUSIC
.10 REM      BY BRETT PIJAN
120 REM HERE IS A LITTLE SOUND AND GRAPHICS DEMONSTRATION
30 REM THAT I PUT TOGETHER AT A FRIENDS HOUSE ONE EVENING
40 REM THE PROGRAM DRAWS COLORED BLOCKS AND THEN PLAYS THE
150 REM 'CLOSE ENCOUNTERS' THEME STARTING AT THE SPEED YOU
160 REM ENTER AND THEN GOING FASTER AND FLASHING THE BLOCKS
170 CALL CLEAR
180 CALL SCREEN(5)
190 CALL CHAR(96,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
200 CALL CHAR(104,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
210 CALL CHAR(112,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
220 CALL CHAR(120,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
230 CALL CHAR(128,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
240 CALL HCHAR(10,2,96,6)
250 CALL HCHAR(10,8,104,6)
260 CALL HCHAR(10,14,112,6)
270 CALL HCHAR(10,20,120,6)
280 CALL HCHAR(10,26,128,6)
290 CALL HCHAR(11,2,96,6)
300 CALL HCHAR(11,8,104,6)
310 CALL HCHAR(11,14,112,6)
320 CALL HCHAR(11,20,120,6)
330 CALL HCHAR(11,26,128,6)
340 CALL HCHAR(12,2,96,6)
350 CALL HCHAR(12,8,104,6)
360 CALL HCHAR(12,14,112,6)
370 CALL HCHAR(12,20,120,6)
380 CALL HCHAR(12,26,128,6)
390 CALL HCHAR(13,2,96,6)
400 CALL HCHAR(13,8,104,6)
410 CALL HCHAR(13,14,112,6)
420 CALL HCHAR(13,20,120,6)
430 CALL HCHAR(13,26,128,6)
440 CALL COLOR(9,2,1)
450 CALL COLOR(10,2,1)
460 CALL COLOR(11,2,1)
470 CALL COLOR(12,2,1)
480 CALL COLOR(13,2,1)
490 INPUT "SPEED? ":S
500 CALL SCREEN(2)
510 CALL COLOR(9,9,1)
520 CALL SOUND(S,330,0)
530 CALL COLOR(9,2,1)
540 CALL COLOR(10,12,1)
550 CALL SOUND(S,370,0)
560 CALL COLOR(10,2,1)
570 CALL COLOR(11,14,1)
580 CALL SOUND(S,294,0)
590 CALL COLOR(11,2,1)
600 CALL COLOR(12,16,1)
610 CALL SOUND(S,147,0)
620 CALL COLOR(12,2,1)
630 CALL COLOR(13,6,1)
640 CALL SOUND(S,220,0)
650 CALL COLOR(13,2,1)
660 S=S-25
670 IF S<1 THEN 170
680 GOTO 510

```



PROGRAMMING CHALLENGE

In the March issue of this Newsletter, you were offered the challenge of coming up with a method of changing the color of the screen, cursor and text in the immediate or program entry mode using XBASIC. Here is one possible solution. Enter the following commands without line numbers.

```
FOR I=0 TO 9 :: CALL COLOR(I,16,1)
:: NEXT I :: CALL SCREEN(14) ::
ACCEPT AT(1,1):A
```

Now press enter. Do NOT enter a number. Press FCTN 4 and see the change. Try manipulating the foreground color in the CALL COLOR and the value in the CALL SCREEN. See if you can come up with some combinations that might be easy on your eyes when you are keying in a program.

CLEVE WIZ CORRECTION

The Cleve Wiz apologizes for an error that occurred in the March newsletter. The ASCII code for the is 42, not 65.

TI HAMS

The April issue of COMPUTER SHOPPER has a very interesting article on interfacing the 99/4A for HAM and short wave listening.

CLASSIFIED AD

For Sale: Language -- TI LOGO II, includes manual, cartridge and TI LOGO II sampler on Disk and Cassette. 32K memory required. \$75. Call Curtis Collins 883-9566.

ASK THE CLEVE WIZ

CAN I USE A PRINTER WITH MY 99/4A IF I DO NOT HAVE AN EXPANSION SYSTEM AND RS-232 CARD?

YES, several companies are marketing printers with cables that plug directly into the expansion port.

Apropos Technology of Camarillo, CA markets the APROPRINT - 9/4 that requires NO interface. It is a unidirectional, 80cps dot matrix printer. The list price is \$289.95 with cable included.

Pueblo Instruments of Pueblo, CO has introduced the PICO-1 (TM), a low cost dot matrix printer. It produces draft quality printing at 80 cps. The printer requires th TIPI adapter so it can be used without the expansion system and RS-232. The PICO-1 retails for \$330 and the TIPI adapter costs \$65.

In the recent issue of HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE, Bach Company of Mountain View, CA featured the ALPHACOM 42 and ALPHACOM 81. These are 40 and 80 column thermal printers respectively, that can be used without the RS-232 interface. The Alphacom 42 sells for about \$99.95 with the interface cable at \$39.95. The ALPHACOM 42 sells for about \$99.95 with the interface cable at \$39.95. The ALPHACOM 81 sells for \$169.95 with the cable costing \$59.95.

Theses are some of the printers written up in the literature. There may be others. There may be one drawback in using this type of printer system. At the present time, you would be unable to use a disk drive with these set ups.

Contact your various TI product sources for their prices on these printers.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE

As the CLEVELAND AREA USER GROUPS continue to grow, more groups with "special interests" may begin to develop. It is our hope to serve those interests through the formation of SIGs (Special Interest Groups). This brief questionnaire will help us determine your areas of interest. This questionnaire should only take about one minute to fill out, so please do so and either mail it into your respective groups or turn it in at the next meeting.

THANK YOU!

Please check all that apply ----

I have owned my TI-99 computer for : ___ less than 3 months
 ___ 4 to 6 months
 ___ 7 to 12 months
 ___ 1 to 2 years
 ___ more than 2 years

HARDWARE:

	Presently Own	Plan to Own
Video Monitor	---	---
Color TV	---	---
B/W TV	---	---
Cassette Recorder	---	---
Joystick(s)	---	---
Memory Expansion	---	---
Disk Drives	---	---
Printer	---	---
Modem	---	---

SOFTWARE:

Extended Basic	---	---
Mini-Memory	---	---
TI Logo	---	---
Editor/Assembler	---	---
Pascal System	---	---
Forth Compiler	---	---
TI-Writer	---	---
TI-Multiplan	---	---

Other Software: (check the no. of programs you now own)

	None	1-3	4-6	7-9	10+
Education	---	---	---	---	---
Home/Office	---	---	---	---	---
Games	---	---	---	---	---
Other	---	---	---	---	---

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

As special interests develop, small groups may be formed to hold informal meetings to share ideas, information, etc. on the topic of interest. Please check all the subjects on the following page that interest you. If we have missed something that is of interest to you, write it down for us!

----- EDUCATION:

Share programs/modules, information and ideas on educational subject for all ages. Discuss and explore educational applications of the computer.

----- GAMES:

Share programs/modules, info and ideas about existing games. Discuss gaming strategies and how to write your own games.

----- PROGRAMMING:

Share onfo about programming in various languages (check your interests):

- ___ Basic, Ext. Basic
- ___ Pascal
- ___ Assembly
- ___ Forth
- ___ Other (specify) _____

----- ON-LINE COMMUNICATIONS:

Share info, ideas, experiences, etc. with on-line data services such as THE SOURCE, COMPUSERVE, Bulletin Boards, etc. Discuss latest software/hardware developemnts.

----- HOME/OFFICE APPLICATIONS:

Discuss the latest in software/hardware developemnts for the home or office. Share programs, modules, etc. (check your interests)

- ___ TI-Writer
- ___ TI-Multiplan
- ___ TI-Count Accounting Software
- ___ Other (specify) _____

Are there some topics that we missed? Please write them down for us:

Would you be willing to help us organize a SIG? Please give us your name and SIG(s) you'd like to get involved with:

We thank you very much for taking the time to fill out this short questionnaire. We hope to have the results to you by the next meeting. If you have any ideas concerning Special Interest Groups, please let us know!

NAME: _____
GROUP: _____

TI-WRITER "BUG"

Courtesy of MSP 99 Users Group

For those of you who have advanced to the level of using this very powerful word processor provided by TI, some words of caution: there is a problem with the program, which appears without warning and without an error message given. However, you are likely to encounter the problem only if you are a fast typist.

When you are typing a line of text in the edit mode and reach the end of the line, the program automatically wraps around to the beginning of the next line. It also takes with it the first part of the last word you were typing on that line (if it was not a complete word) and moves it down to the beginning of the next line. As fast as this process is, it apparently is not fast enough because one or more characters may get lost in the process.

This occurs because the TI 99/4A does not have a "look-ahead" buffer for the keyboard. The program only goes to the "KSCAN" routine when it is ready to accept the next character. When the program is busy moving data, it doesn't return quickly enough to recognize your keystrokes.

Sometimes it helps if you put two or more spaces before the last word on a line, but the only sure way around the problem is to type more slowly when you near the end of each line.

*****%***%*****

INTRODUCTION TO MASS STORAGE

Many people consider a reliable data storage device to be the most important part of any computer system. Without data storage, source code would have to be re-entered every time the user wanted to use the program.

The cassette tape recorder can provide the ideal data storage device. Some people work with minimal amounts of data as they use their computers for such things as arcade games, household budgets, and other such applications not requiring immense mass storage. The cassette is inexpensive and reliable. However, because access to information can only be in the same order as that of which it was saved, the cassette proves to be much too slow for tasks requiring random memory access.

Therefore, for the serious user, there are several different options. The most common are the hard and floppy disks. Both are much faster than the cassette and also much more expensive. Where speed and convenience are factors, disks are definitely preferable.

The last system being frequently used is the disk emulator. This computer installment is in actuality, a circuited memory board. They are able to allow the same approximate storage space of the floppy disk at twice the speed and half the price of the hard disk. At first glance, the emulator seems to be the best system for the serious user. However, its major downfall is that a loss of power again makes for a loss of information. Disk emulators are just for temporary memory expansion.

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!!TIME DATED MATERIAL!!