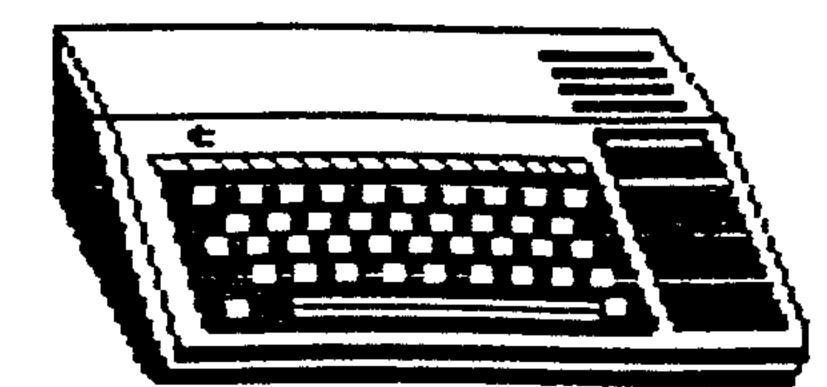
WITH GOD, ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE...

## CLEVELBILL BEREIL

## TI-99/4R USER GROUPS

January 1993



OFFICE	TI-CHIPS		MEET INGS	
CO-PRESIDENT	61enn Bernasek	238-6335	10:00 AM	
CO-PRESIDENT	Dinny Stockdale	1345-5239	N. Royalton	
TREASURER	Lin Shaw	235-3912	County Library	
MEMBERSHIP	John Parken	331-2830	State Rd. SD. of	
	4172 W. 217th	St.	Route 82 1/4mi	
	Fairview Pk.,	OH 44126	EVERY THIRD SAT.	
SECRETARY	Tim Bodenmiller	234-4297		
DISK LIBRARY	Matt Andel	676-9759	January 16,1993	
TAPE & MODS	John Parken	331-2830	February 20,1993	
HARD COPY	Harry Hoffman	631-2354	March 20,1993	

OFFICE	NORTHCOAST		MEETINGS	
CO-PRESIDENT	Ken Gladyszewski	1357-7274	1:30	PH
CO-PRESIDENT	Walt Ryder	921-8223	Euclid	ian Room
Treasurer	Frank Jenkins	283-8526		SQ. Mall
MEMBERSHIP	Martin Smoley	1-257-1661	E.260th	off I-90
	6149 Bryson		(Sout	h)
Mentor, DH 44060		EVERY THI	RD SAT.	
SECRETARY	Bernie Zuckerma	an 381-4088		
DISK LIBRARY	Martin Smoley	1-257-1661	January	16,1993
TAPE & MODS	Frank Jenkins	283-8526	February	20,1993
HARD COPY	Dick Alden	1-352-9172	March	20,1993

#### EDITOR'S DESK

H1 99ers,

Another year gone by and we're still II'ing. Isn't that something! There have been a lot of new and exciting products come out last year and hopefully all of them will be 100% by the end of this year. Some of the biggest innovations are not quite finished yet, though they are being sold to the people who have faith in the makers. That's what keeps the programmers and hardware hackers in the II world.

This month's Newsletter is full again thanks to Deanna and her terrific review of "First Draft/Final Copy". (Three Pages!). It would really be great if some of the quiet folks would come forward with something to say. I know you are out there with some program you've written, something you've changed to meet special needs, the story of how the II became part of your life, a fix to some problem that's been bugging some people, a complaint about a program that is hard for you to handle, or even just telling us what special task you have your II doing for you. You never know how much it means to others that there is someone else out there with the same problems. Telling others very often gets the ones who know the answer moved to write the solution down and pass it on. That would make a Newsletter editor's job much easier.

The Christmas meetings were great with much bakery brought in and Ada making coffee for everyone. There were cookies (would you believe the pretty and tasty mashed potato candy?), cake, brownies, and nut rolls. The Chips meeting lasted so long that those who attend the Northcoast meeting got there a little late.

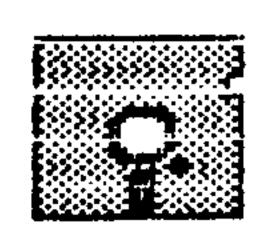
MICROpendium had a lot of response to their question about raising subscription price to get more pages and the answer most people gave was an emphatic YES! I agree totally, although it wasn't in writing until now. Being the only II Magazine left and a well written one, makes it a worthwhile investment. Ron always has copies on hand at a reduced rate and I don't understand why he doesn't sell out at the meetings. I know that everyone doesn't subscribe, yet some show no interest in getting this terrific source of news and good programming. Enuf!

There were a couple of people at Chips who signed up with Les Kee to try and write a program for Bowling League stats and it should prove very interesting. If anyone else is interested and didn't sign the sheet, call Les or tell him at the meeting. You do not have to be a programmer to try it out. They let me come!

I recieved the new Funnel Web v.5.0 disk from Charlie Good. This is the 80 column version and can only be used with an 80 column card or a Geneve. This is the Editor only, with many different character fonts, help files, and special features. Mr. McGovern is still working on the 40 column version and will give it to Charlie when it is done to his satisfaction. I urge anyone who is using Funnel Web in ANY version to send the McGoverns some money as they have spent countless hours developing this wonderful program. I'll have some copies at the meeting for those with 80 col. capacity. Start getting ready for the Lima Faire! I read in one of the Newsletters that it will be May 14-15th. Now is not too early to start planning for the best II Faire in the country!

See you all at the meeting. I hope.

Harry



## NORTHCOAST 99ers

By Bernie Zuckerman

DEC. 19, 1992

The December meeting of the Northcoast TI-99er's group was called to order by Co-President Ken Gladyszewski at 1:40 PM. There were 18 members present. The financial report was given by Treasurer Frank Jenkins who reported that the club's expenses for the month ending 12/19/92 was \$71.31 with income of \$42.73. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

As part of old business, Jerry Reising reported that he is still waiting for a reply from Bowman and will write him again.

Under new business, Ken asked for volunteers to take over as new officers for the coming year, reminding the membership that all offices are open for the new year. He asked all members to consider helping out and will open nominations at the next meeting. Any members that would like to take a more active part in running the club will have the opportunity at the next meeting to volunteer. It was felt that the idea of Co-presidents has worked out very well - it does not put too much of a burden on any one man.

There was a suggetion made to review the printing of the Newsletter. The last issue (December) was somewhat blurry. Deanna pointed out that the original of the newsletter does not have to be extra dark since in the process of copying the print builds up and provides a darker copy. Inasmuch as the "price is right" there were not too many complaints. Frank said he will follow up on the technique used. (Later, Harry said he was using Near Letter Quality on his printer and not overprinting it.)

Jim Harris, in following up on the issue of Funnelweb 5.0, heard that it may be ready for release. He wrote to Charlie Good who had been working on the Beta version. Good sent some of the corrections to Australia but

McGovern had been remodeling his house so was delayed in making the corrections Good had sent him. The version will be ready momentarily.

Jerry Reising discussed converting the pictures file from TIPS to PAGE-PRO. The program he has takes about an hour to convert 102 pictures onto DSSD disks. He has about 15 disks of TIPS which are archived. If there are some people interested in this he will convert the TIPS files to PAGE-PRO and make them available.

Ken had investigated whether the software is available to emulate the II on the IBM, which was demonstrated in Chicago. He received a letter that it will be available in five stages at an estimated cost of \$50 per stage.

Frank had some parts for sale and Marty had two SSSD original II drives for sale - \$5.00 each. There was a request for a monochrome monitor and a possible sale of a 9900 Microexpansion.

The meeting was then adjourned and Les Kee was called upon to demonstrate WOF (Wheel of Fortune) but without hiss White. Les was forced to show his interpretation of the lady in the title frame of the game - with much laughter from the members. The program was written by Dan Williams and his son Rob from CHIPS. The game was played with Bernie, Walt, and Les assisting to the amusement of everyone present.

Les was followed by Tim Bodenmiller of TI CHIPS who explored the capabilities of the TI in the Bit Map Mode and screen scrolling for graphics. Tim is the author of ASTROMANIA and showed how screen scrolling and much more color can be obtained in the Bit Map Mode as he did in his program. He manipulated the pixels and characters to utilize all the colors and obtain smooth scrolling. He also used music to enhance his games, including Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. He also had extensive discussions with those that were with him on good game environment, assembly language, graphics, etc.

Have a very good New Year !!

-x- Page Z -x-

#### by Chris Bodenmiller

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 with 20 members present. The treasurer reported that we will have to pay a service charge of \$7.50 because we are under the \$1000 limit in our account. The newsletter BBS check has still not gone through. Harry motioned that we move the account to another bank. The motion was seconded and approved.

Because it was Christmas, the club had a free raffle. 1 ticket per person, and 6 prizes were given away. Several people received half height floppy drives, or software packages.

John Parken has tapes and cartridges available, as well as the video of putting XB in your console. Dan Williams suggested that we try to enhance the tape of last months demo, with Jack Koryta's help.

The elections were held, and Glenn Bernasek will return with Virgil Thomason as our new Co-Presidents. Dinny Stockdale had decided to retire from his position. I will continue as Secretary, and Lin Shaw is the treasurer. Though he couldn't take over as Disk Librarian. Dan Williams has volunteered to help Matt in any way he can as Matt's assistant librarian.

The great new program from

Asgard, written by Art Gibson, known as First/Draft was demoed by Harry. He even tried doing some of last months newsletter with the program, and he likes it alot. It starts with an all-purpose main menu, and the entire program is fully menu-driven. It works with both 40 and 80 column cards, and has plenty of wonderful features. The old. tedious Control sequences of TI-Writer have even been simplified to simple 2 key presses. This program has much to offer potential users, and is very friendly. It allows the use of graphics, and has full feature editing functions. You can view other files on the disk without losing the file in memory, and it even has a spell checking program. complete with dictionary! This just may be the program you have been looking for, it is certainly an excellent word processor, and a whole lot more.

Les Kee has started a group effort to write a bowling league program, please talk to him if you are interested. Several people have already signed up, and this is an excellent way to learn a little bit of programming. I hope that you will consider signing up.

Have a Happy New Year!!!

Respectfully submitted.
Timothy C. Bodenmiller





Page 3

## First Draft To Final Copy

REVIEW BY DEARNA SHERIDAN MORTHCOAST 99ERS, CLEVELAND, ONIO

i have been anxious to see the new word processing/publishing program that Art Gibson was writing ever since visiting with him at Lima last May. With a little work, you can do things with this that II never dreamed of when they wrote the first II-Writer program.

Before trying out any of the other features, I wanted to see if you could place text next to graphics, and with some experimentation, I was able to do so. Now that I have accomplished that, let's get into the features of the editor of 'first Draft'.

Those of you who are "fast typists" should enjoy the cursor movement in this and know that your typing errors should be cut down considerably. I have yet to have a letter drop off on me while "rounding" the end of the line as always happens in II-Writer.

This program is an extension of the Newsletter Printer that some of us have enjoyed for a little over a year. There are features to the new editor that some may like and some may wish for some of the old II-Writer/funnelweb features that were left out. Remember that the formatting depends on the DOT commands and can be done in funnelweb if you still feel more comfortable in that environment. The formatter is the work horse of the program and will read either DV80 or DISFIX80 files for printing.

If you have a 40-column sceen as most of us do, you will have 40 columns on which to type on the screen. There is no scrolling. I know of many in the II-World who did not like the scrolling and would set their tabs so that they would only type what they could see on the screen. If you have an 80-column screen, you will have 80 columns to view and can even type in 'columns' if you wish.

When running the program the first time a configuration file must be created for certain defaults, screen size, do you want word wrap, default drives for files and spell checking, etc.

#### FEATURES PULL-DOWN MENUES

After entering the editor there are five pull down menus on the command line...fles, STRINGS, LINES, OTHER and HELP. The fles menu consists of 1. Catalog. Within this function one can unprotect a file, print the file directory, delete a file, protect a file, select a new drive, mark a file. There are three "FCIN" teys that almost make this catalog a disk manager. A file can be renamed, file comments can be saved, and a disk can be formatted. How many times have you done a large file, only to find that the diskette was full, and of all times, you didn't seem to have another initialized disk anywhere. I think this is a great feature.

The other file operations are Open, Save, Close, Meview and quit. The merge function is not as flexible with funnelweb in that you cannot choose a certain number lines to merge. The entire file is merged.

Under STRINGS, you can find a string, change a string, or check your spelling. One word at a time can be checked or the entire document. For the first time, TI99 people can check a document while still in the editor. The entire document or just the word at the cursor can be proofed. I have never been a fan of spell checking on the TI because you still need to know the correct spelling, and it is extremely slow. I know a lot of people have wanted this feature though and will probably make good use of it. I usually print out my document, mark the typos and then use the replace string function to do my corrections. It is a lot faster.

LINES lets you go a certain line number, copy lines, or move lines with the same paramaters that funnelweb uses.

OTHER is where tab settings are changed; columns can be set up with an 80-column device; screen colors can be changed; dictionary drives can be changed and files can be converted between DV80 and DISFIX80. The editor only loads DISFIX80 files. Therefore, if you have a II-Writer file, you want to use in first Draft, it must be converted. DISFIX80 files tate up a lot more room than DV80 files. Remember that the formatter will read either type, and after you have finalized your copy, you may wish to convert it to the DV80 and delete the DISFIX80 file.

By hitting fCTN2 (Insert), typing can be done in insert mode without the line splitting. Hitting the FCTM2 key again, puts you in overtype mode. CTRL3 toggles the cursofrom the left to the right margin. CTRL4 sends you to the next paragraph. CTRL5 goes to the beginning of the file. CTRL6 goes to the preceeding paragraph and CTRL7 goes to the end of the file. CRTL8 and 9 are used to display chars 38 and 31 used for printer commands. CTRL8 erases to the end of the line.

Comparing the above features, you can decide if you want to use the FIRST DRAFT editor or stay with the funnelweb editor. NONE of the above features has anything to do with the way the pages are printed. These are done with DOT commands which can be placed in any editor.

#### DOT COMMANDS ARE THE HEART OF THE PROGRAM

If you have used Newsletter Printer at all, most of the dot commands will be familiar, and you know that you will need to build a printer definition file to customize the features of your printer. A file is included which is based on the Geminitel. A lot of us have never printers that print with several fonts, quad high, reverse line feed, etc. These will need to be placed in the file. There are 17 user defined dot functions that will accept up to 30 characters.

Quickly running through the commands, some are similar to funnelseb and others peculiar to first Draft. BP begin a new page. Cl x,y will set condensed print with one columnsetting the left margin at 'x' and running for 'y' characters (length). C2 does the same thing for two

next line. fC is a footer, center justified. fI is the fill command. FL is a left justified footer. FR is a right justified footer. Gn is the graphic name of your II-Artist Instance or Page Pro Picture. You can have up to nine of these.

length of a graphic cannot be more than 60. GR prints the graphic. GR 1 prints graphic 1 at the margin set by GM. Up to three graphics can be printed across the page at a time. GR 1,2,3 would print one on the left, one center and one on the right. HC prints a header center justified. HL prints a header left justified and HR prints a header right justified. If is include file. IN indents x number of spaces. LJ left justifies a set number of lines. LS sets line spacing up to 255. Pl serves the same purpose as Cl except the type is PICA. P2 sets 2 column pica. PA resets the page number when using automatic page numbering

PL sets page length, PI is a prompt command to allow the entering text at the time of printing. RJ right justifies x number of lines. These commands are preset and not changeable.

The following commands can be customized for any printer. I think Marty could even set up a printer driver for his laserjet with the options available here.

There are 9 available An commands. These commands do not require an on/off function such as underlining on and underlining off. So each command can stand on its own. It can be used similar to the transliterate code in funnelweb. Several examples are given for printing small graphics such as a smiley face, copyright symbol and heart. I developed a number of these type of graphics a few years ago when I did a Christmas disk of graphics. These could all be used in the An commands in first Oraft.

The BD commands prints in bold. BS is the backspace. DP is double wide print. HP is high print (superscript). IP is italic. L6 is six line spacing. L9 is 8 lines for graphics. LP is low print (subscript). NB is no bold (cancels bold). ND is no double wide. Nh is no high print. NI is no italics. NL is no low printing. NU is no underline. PC is print condensed. PD sets printer name for either serial or parallel. PI c is the prompt input char. PP is pica print. PS defines page number character. RS defines require space character. UN underlines text. There is a set of nZ user defined commands and related Nn commands for custom on/off functions. In fact, you could combine bold printing and underlining in one command for special effects.

Because you set the printer definitions yourself according to your printer manual, any of the above could be changed to a command you might use. For instances, I probably would MEVER use italics, superscript and subscript. I could change all of those to commands for fonts that my XR1000 supports. Thus, building a special printer driver only limits you by the effects supported by your printer.

Thus far, there are THREE Artist instances in this printout. The title and the two small subheadings. The printer command for reversing to the top of the page is 27,12. Either change one of the preset commands to this or

Change the page length to double the 66 lines. Print out a sample copy. Insert the command to reverse to the top of the page. Insert the command and change your left margin to correspond to where you want it to start on the right hand side of the page. For some reason, I found this very tricky and had to try many many times before it finally worked for me. I don't know what I did differently to finally make it work, so be patient because it does work. When I had the first page full, I inserted a page break to make it go to the second page. If you want to insert a graphic within the text, you will have to create a blank area for the graphic, send the reverse line feed command and then line feed down to where you want the graphic printed. If necessary, line feed again to where you want to pick up text.

An entire newsletter could be printed from one file. At about 199 lines, the file is saved and then that many lines are brought in at a time to view (similar to the way a picture is brought in in Page Pro.) About the only drawback to this is that DISFIX80 files are large. You will need a lot of disk space for a large article.

#### CONCLUSION

When using Newsletter Printer, I thought it was one of the easiest programs I ever picked up to master for the features it provided. I feel the same after writing this article with the first Draft editor. There are only minor problems that I noticed. One, when a file is saved, there seems to be no opportunity to change the name of the file. Sometimes we like to save a file under a different name than when it was loaded or to a different disk drive. I can find no way to to this. One way around this would be to go to the cataloging function and change the name of the old file before saving.

There was a comment at the Northcoast meeting this month that one of the members would like to be able to merge only parts of files, or save parts of files. You loose both of these with First Oraít. It's all or nothing. I have already come to enjoy typing with this editor and feel l would choose it over the Funnelweb environment. However, I understand there are major changes in the 5.0 funnelweb soon to be released, and you may find reasons to choose that environment when it arrives. I tried the replace string function, and believe me, you will enjoy this compared to the funnelweb version. Remember, this program was conceived to assist newsletter editors and that is still the thrust of the program. You may or may not want to use it if you are just printing a letter without special formatter features or graphics. I am continually amazed that people are still coming up with new hardware and software for the TI 10 years after we have become an orphan.

#### SOAPBOX!

Speaking of our 10th anniversary of orphanage, I was extremely impressed with Chris Bodenmiller of the Chips group and his demonstration at our December meeting. Another Bill Gates in the making!

I made this comment another time while still newsletter editor. We, in the II world made a major error in our direction when II bailed out on us. We were determined to prove to the world we were more than just a game machine. A lot of time and effort was expended to bring out applications to prove same. It is great that we now have Il Base, Page Pro and some of the other business/graphic applications. However, had that same effort been applied to creating gaming and educational applications, we could have blown Mitendo away with our 16 bit graphics. sound capabilities and a \$50 machine on which to play them. we done this, we would still have a sound base of home users on which to build for the exciting new hardware projects with expanded memory that are now starting to become available.

I admire the developers of these projects for bringing forth new products, but worry that our base has grown so small, we will never see the full benefit of them. Unless we fill a nitch for games or educational packages to keep our kids at the machine, they will all soon end up at flea markets. I wonder how many already have been thrown into the trash piles.

Unfortunately a lot of these new devices are not inexpensive. The developer must try to get back his costs and make a little money on a very small base. All the while, the MSDOS machines are getting cheaper and cheaper. They can't give away XT's anymore. A 486 with 2 to 4 mg of ram and 85 to 100 mg hard drives are selling for about what I paid for my first TI system with the PEBOX. As home users, most of us cannot afford to have both a Il and MSDOS system and keep up with the latest on both. Guess which one loses out. The other item that works against us is time. I know that is why I spend less and less time on my TI. Since I have an MSDOS machine at home. I end up bringing home work from the office rather than working late there at night. I don't know how other offices are, but in mine, people think they can just load a program and run it without training time. Somehow I have become the default person to make sure they can do that which means I bring the program home and run it through it's paces and have an understanding about it

before installing it on the office computers.

I believe there will always be II user groups even it is just 5 of us meeting in someone's basement. When I took over the newsletter in 1986, there were direpredictions that we would not last out the year, and here we still are. You can be sure the people who are left now are dedicated and will stay with us to the end.

Chris made an important point at the MorthCoast meeting. We are so small anymore, we should share any software or hardware innovations that could help others develop II projects. He has an amazing screen scrolling routine that would make backgrounds for games he says he will probably put in the public domain soon. He also suggested a new way to develop games that I thought should appeal to recreational programmers. Chris likes to program games. He suggested that the core of the program be written in assembly for speed, while the graphics and other routines be written in XBasic. The speed in running the program would not be reduced. The only reduction in speed would be a few seconds in the loading of the game. Because the XBasic routines would be available to anyone, people could write their own "levels" to the games customizing them. Or a group a people could collaborate on sections and the development time of new software would be cut down and more would be available to the community faster.

I hardly ever see any new programs posted on GENIE anymore. What happened to all those people who used to program for fun? We have become users instead of doers and we need to get back to the fun part of learning what our machine can do and how it does it. If you used to programfor the II and decided it wasn't worth it because no one ever paid their fairware request, how are you using your programming talents now? Are you programming for the IBM world and getting rich? I don't think so. Let's get back to our roots and have some fun!

First Draft is available through Ron Markus of Ramcharged or directly from Asgard Publishing. It is \$39.95, but a credit of \$10.00 is given if you already have the Asgard Spell checking program and can provide proof.



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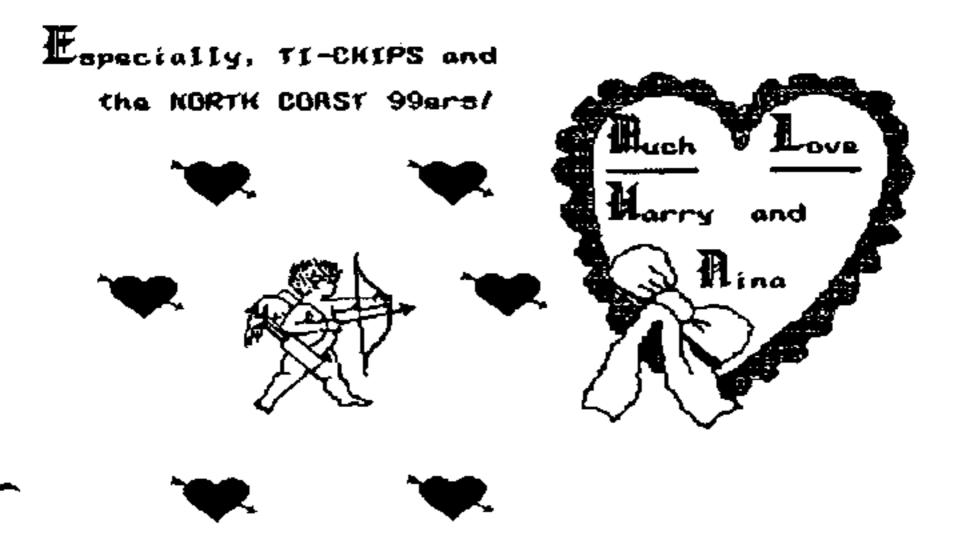




Mave a beautiful day on February 14th with your favorite Valentine

May you be in God's
Light always!

We are sending you this card now because next newsletter will come after February 14th, and we didn't want you to get this card too late, because we love all our TI friends/



# Moman's Point of View

Hello,

Well here we are at the beginning of another New Year and like most people I have been pondering over resolutions that would improve me as a person. So, after some deliberation I decided to tackle the "computer".

Many years ago I bought my husband. Harrison, a computer for Christmas -- little did I know where this gift would take us. The computer opened up new vistas for us and for our family. My husband really found a "friend", and I was happy to have him occupied. As time went on he expanded his knowledge of computers and branched out to the T.I.. He absolutely loved it!! His enthusiam was contageous and our children joined him in using the computer for games and school. However, I stayed remote -- no way did I want to become involved -no time-- no interest-- and no new language for me. I was content to type away on my old typewriter for any correspondence or term papers that I had to do. Finally. after much deliberation. I agreed to try the computer for a term paper. Harrison set the computer up for me so that all I had to do was type away and save file. This was

GREAT! Corrections were so easy, and revisions were a snap. I was hooked on this use of the II, but ventured no further.

During this time. I had begun attending meetings and faires with Harrison. We used this as shared fun times and mini vacations, he with the computer and me with my interests and new found friends. It was always a great experience. Sometimes, I stayed at the meetings and watched demos put on by various members and taped presentations at the faires, but I never really knew half of what was going on and really felt quite funny. But curiosity got the better of me so I thought for 1993 I would become a neophite and try to learn the basics about the TI 99. I also thought I would write about my experiences so that others. like me. who aren't quite sure what it is all about, might enjoy my new adventure and join me in my exploration of a new frontier. So, look for me next month and see how far I have traveled on my new adventure. But please be patient. I am a slow learner.

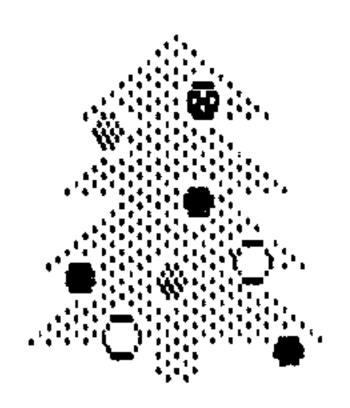
Nina

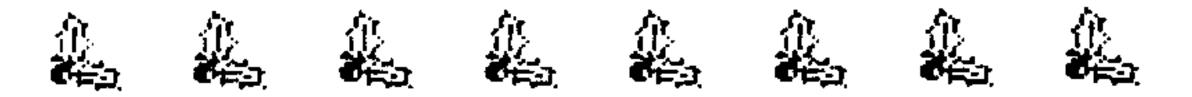


Hoping this year for a newborn effort towards peace and the love of our brothers everywhere on this planet of ours!



### Christmas Puzzle-92 Answers





- 1. Jingle Bells
- 2. Walking in a Winter Wonderland
- 3. Santa Claus is Coming to Town
- 4. Joy to the World
- 5. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
- 6. 0 Come All You Faithful
- 7. I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas
- 8. Oh Christmas Tree (Tannenbaum, O.K.)
- J. What Child is This?
- 10. We Three Kings
- 11. Deck the Halls
- 12. I Saw Three Ships Asailing

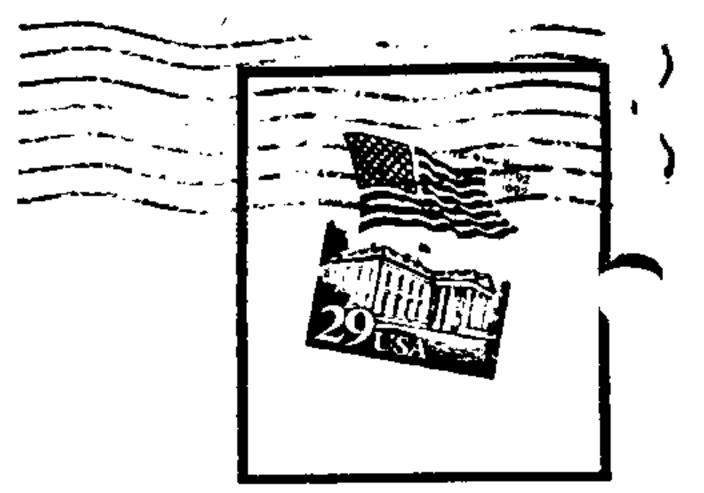
- 13. Ob. Holy Night
- 14. Noe1
- 15. Away, in a Manger
- 16. The Twelve Days of Christmas
- 17. I Saw Mommy Kinsing Santa Claus
- 18. All I Want for Christmas is My Iwo Front Teeth
- 19. The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting)
- 20. It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
- 21. Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow
- 22. Silent Hight
- 23. Oh. Little Town of Bethlehem
- 24. Silver Bells



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Cleveland Area User Groups % Harry Hoffman 3925 Trowbridge Ave. Cleveland, OH 44109-1349





Check your Expiration Date This may be your LAST issue!

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

Due to the rising cost of the Newsletter:

Newsletter only cost is \$12.00

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Join either club. See front cover for membership chairs.

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