

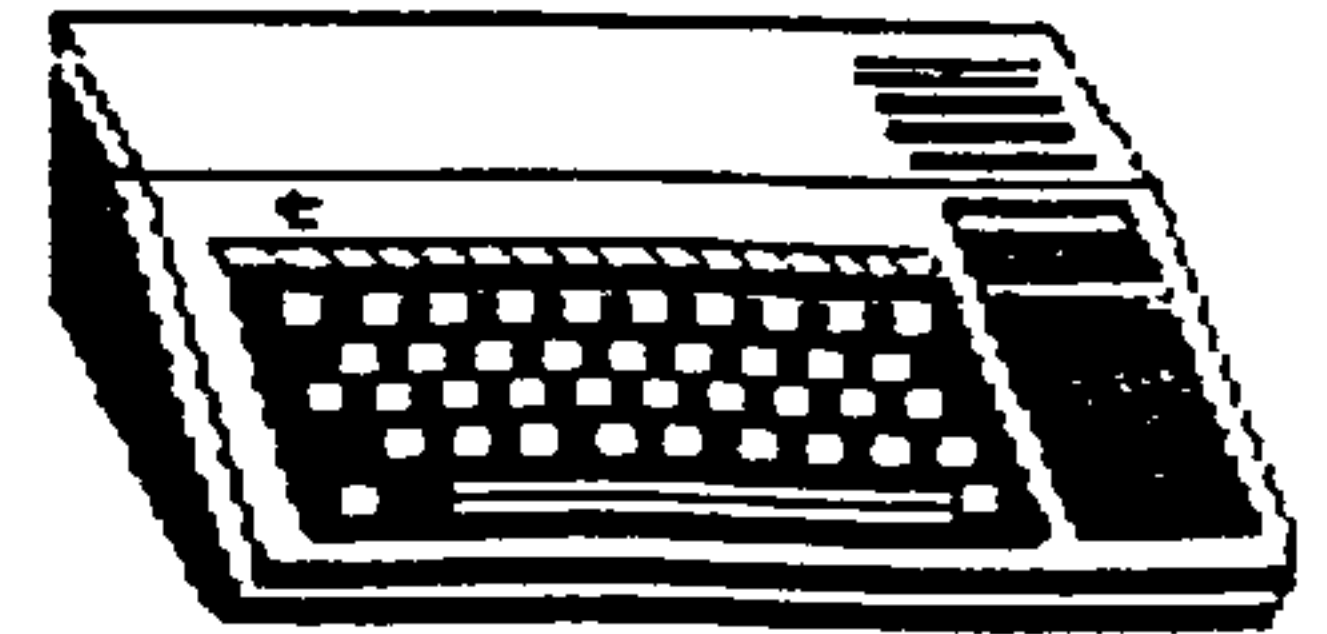


# CLEVELAND AREA

## TI-99/4A

# USER GROUPS

January/February 1994



OFFICE	TI-CHIPS	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Glenn Bernasek 238-6335	10:00 AM
CO-PRESIDENT	Virgil Thomason 1264-7779	M. Royalton
TREASURER	Lin Shaw 235-3912	County Library
MEMBERSHIP	John Parken 331-2830	State Rd. 50. of
	4172 W. 217th St.	Route 82 1/4mi
	Fairview Pk., OH 44126	EVERY THIRD SAT.
SECRETARY	Dan Williams (Temporary)	
DISK LIBRARY	Les Kee 238-6938	JAN 15, 1994
TAPE & MDDS	John Parken 331-2830	FEB 18, 1994
HARD COPY	Harry Hoffman 631-2354	MAR 19, 1994

OFFICE	NORTHCOAST	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Ken Gladyszewski 1357-7274	1-4 P.M.
CO-PRESIDENT	Walt Ryder 921-8223	Euclidian Room
Treasurer	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	Euclid Sq. Mall
MEMBERSHIP	Martin Smoley 1-257-1661	E.260th off I-90
	6149 Bryson	(South)
	Mentor, OH 44060	EVERY THIRD SAT.
SECRETARY	Bernie Zuckerman 381-4088	
DISK LIBRARY	Martin Smoley 1-257-1661	JAN 15, 1994
TAPE & MDDS	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	FEB 18, 1994
HARD COPY	Dick Alden 1-352-9172	MAR 19, 1994



### From the Editor's Desk:



Hi Tiers,

Here's hoping 1994 is much better for everyone than '93! Even if '93 was good to you!!

This newsletter is covering two months because Nina and I will not be here during February. We are going out West to visit our sons in Arizona and California! Also, before returning we will be attending the Fest West fair which is close to them in Tucson, AZ.

It is being held on Feb. 19/20th, the same weekend as our meetings.

The demos at both meetings last month were excellent! John Parken gave a demo on the Ink Jet printers (HP & Cannon). Great job John! Not to be outdone, Chuck Poulin gave a demo on the MIDI interface to his keyboard. Wonderful music under the control of the TI! Way to go Chuck! This is one of the reasons I hate to miss even ONE meeting! DEMOS!

MICROpendium is using a new way of filling their magazine. Printing articles from other newsletters! Did you notice Deanna's article on laser printers! The only problem I see is that, a lot of the time, the wrong newsletter gets the credit! Other NL's copy and get credit as the origin! Not too keen of MICROpendium! Bad rapping the ONLY source of TI stuff isn't what I have in mind

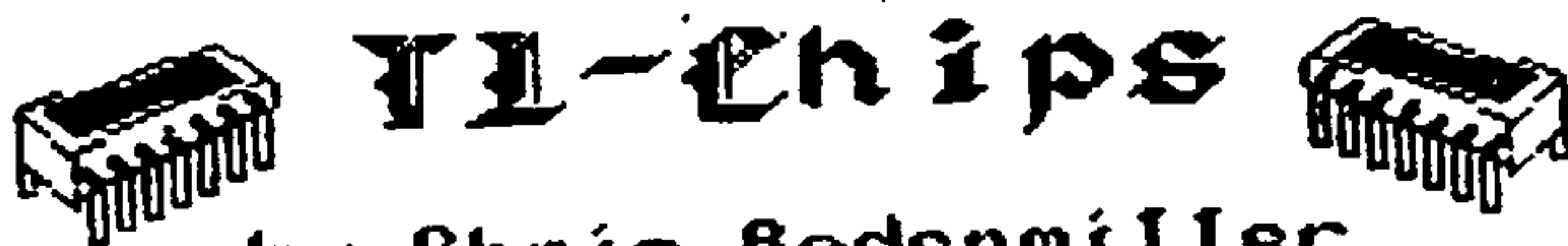
here! I just would like to see proper credit given. It still is an excellent magazine and it's read from cover to cover by this editor!

FunnelWeb v.5 is working great, with no lock-ups, since fixing the ED file according to Will McGovern's instructions! Thank you, Will! If you are using his new update, PLEASE send some money, as this is not just an update but a completely rewritten program! Just a thought! What if all those who wished to pay now would pool their \$20/25 ea. together. One person could get an international check made out (Saving money!) and enclose a list of the persons donating. Last time I sent a check, it cost 1/3 of the amount sent!! RIP OFF!

Dan Williams volunteered to be fill-in Secretary but it might be short lived! Ask Dan!

Get ready for the Lima MUG (Multi Users Group) Conference, May 14/15, 1994! For the first time, it will not be held during OUR meeting day. So, those who had that excuse before will not find it a valid one! This is by far the best of any fair attended by myself and others that I've asked! Start making plans to attend and if you need a ride, some people would love to have someone to have for company! Check it out at the meeting.

Happy computin'.



by Chris Bodenmiller

Date: Sun Jan 2 21:57:00 1994  
From: S1111965@cedarnet.cedarville.edu ("TIMOTHY CHRISTOPHER BODENMILLER")  
Subject: Minutes

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The meeting was called to order by Glenn Bernasek at 10:34. The late start allowed us to eat the Christmas goodies, and share a little of the Christmas spirit before starting.

We discussed the problem that the club is having with bank charges, because we have below the \$1000 level in a business account. Les Israel generously volunteered to help by keeping the clubs money in a personal account, but it looked to be too difficult to work around, so the offer was withdrawn. We appreciate Les's desire to help the club and keep it going. John, Harry, and Virgil said that they will check with their banks, and see if there is a way around this problem. We will hear their reports at the next meeting.

John told us that he feels the membership has reached a very stable core group of members, and said that the enthusiasm of TI'ers about their computers is a good sign. He cited Don Walden of Secure electronics as one of these enthusiastic, dedicated people, and we certainly appreciate all of the companies that continue to support the TI.

Les Kee is getting the library in order, and will have the new disks added to our library shortly. He also says that we will be getting about 12 new disks a month to add to the library (plus the disks we get at the various TI-fairs).

Virgil noted that the new disks coming into the libraries are numbered, not lettered. This is because they are coming from the Akron U6 and they will be using these numbers in our library as well. Harry has heard that Fred Moore of the LA-U6 is looking to put TI software on CD. Glenn said that this is but another example of progress of the TI world. He also said that the two main problems that we have are memory and speed, and that both of these

are being worked on.

The club then proceeded to hold officer elections for the new year. Glenn and Virgil will be continuing as Co-Presidents. Virgil was a little hesitant to continue as Co-Pres, because he lives in Wooster, and feels he is not available enough. However, the rest of the club felt otherwise. Glenn said that he has been of immense help as Co-President, and we all agreed. Lin will continue on as treasurer (keep up the good work), and I will be sharing the office of secretary (now Co-secretary) with Dan Williams.

John demoed two printers for us. First, he showed us the HP-500 Ink Jet printer. He gave us a little history on ink jet printing, up to its now near Laser quality fame. With re-inking it turns out to be about 2 cents a page. The tiny nozzles in an ink jet are a mere 10 thousandth of an inch in diameter. This printer weighs only 14 lbs. and is available in color. The demo prints that John did were very impressive. There is also a cartridge you can buy to adapt the graphics for \$60.

Next came the 7 lb. Cannon Bubble Jet. This LITTLE miracle is quite portable (and the version we were looking at is a wide carriage! This printer emulates a 24 pin Epson A0-800, but he noticed a problem printing graphics. This is because of a change in the line spacing from 1/72 of an inch to 1/60 of an inch. This problem, once understood, was easy to correct. You can simply change the data in Graphics Editor's printer codes. Both demo's were quite impressive, and we appreciated seeing these products first hand.

I hope that all of you are enjoying the new year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy Christopher Bodenmiller

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It was nice seeing our college members stopping in when they are on break! Lots of luck in your studies Chris and Matt! We know you'll do just fine!!!



# NORTHCOAST 89ERS By Bernie Zuckerman

The meeting was opened by Ken Gladysewski with a report that there would be no Treasurers report by Frank Jenkins or Secretary minutes by Bernie Zuckerman! Both called in absent!

Under old business, Marty Smoley corrected an old minutes note that said we had 69 members, but in reality it was only 59. Now we are down to 55 unless some more people renew. Also, he brought up his Library Financial report for the past year. We took in \$109.13, on 37 transactions. We paid out \$101.65, which left us with \$7.48. Still have 26 disks left at this end-of-the-year report. This expenditure of monies is not all for disks. Marty uses this money for ALL his extras, like mailings for membership, swap meets, etc. Marty will now clear out his data base & start fresh! His TI keeps track of all this business on a weekly basis and calculates the totals and prints it out for Marty! Another great demo of TI-base seems to be in the offering!

Marty brought up the lack of newsletter (NL) article situation and the reason for the 8 page NL being that of a wake up call to all the talent out there that can be tapped to keep the NL an all Cleveland one! Marty, Ken, and Deanna gave some great input and insight into why the regular writers get the feeling of writing stale material (needing new ideas from new writers). Also, when you write an article, you get more out of the research than the readers do, because you learn more by examining the process for the readers point of view. Chuck brought up a point that if everyone becomes a regular, no one will be left as an irregular! Marty volunteered to be an irregular!!!

There followed a discussion about the new DM1000. Some are having problems using it with the HRD (Horizon Ram Disk). It will not read disks above 9 or the letter designated disks (A,B,C, etc.). Some of the talk was about changes the members would like to see, and the change in 'Recover File' to 'Undelete', which some people didn't realize.

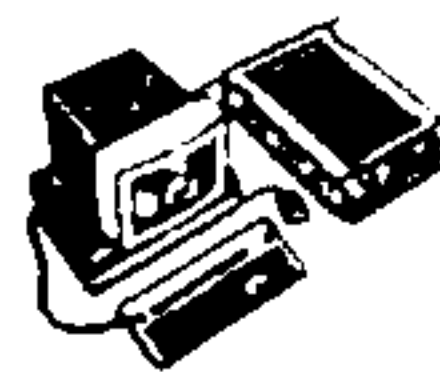
Chuck Poulin gave a demo on the Midi (Musical Digital Interface), the standard protocol used for all musical digital instruments throughout the world. Digital music has been played since the 70's, though not as sophisticated as it is now. Chuck gave us a short history of the MIDI interface but actually was very thorough and technical! Much too techie for me, but others seemed to get quite a lot of information out of it!

He then showed us how typing in a D/V B0 file is compiled and played on the MIDI keyboard. [A short break while everyone got some coffee and goodies, brought in by Ada Markus]. Chuck then played some very beautiful music on his keyboard via the interface to the TI. Here is where the tape ended and I believe that after listening to Chuck's Christmas music the meeting ended also.

Next meeting, Ken Gladysewski will give a Demo on controlling a stepper (hooe that is right!) motor with the TI. Chios is invited to come.

Ken is looking for ANY hardware that is not working and about to be thrown out! He uses good parts in his projects. A good time to get rid of that thingamajig that don't work right and make room for more stuff!!!

How about calling on Ron Markus when you need hardware or software? He has just about anything you need. If not, he will get it for you! See him at every meeting and talk it over and you will see how to save money on postage, handling fees, and retail prices! Try it, you'll like it!



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# Ink Jet Printers

by John Parke - TI-Chips

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Ink jet a new technology, no! It is approximately 40 years old. I personally worked on a small conveyor for Eveready battery to date code watch batteries. The technology was ink jet. The dispensing unit was made by the AB Dick Company; big bucks and messy. That was about 15 years ago. IBM commercially produced jet style printers 25 years ago. These printers needed special paper, were slow, and prone to clogging. New ink jets use replaceable print heads with a new supply of ink each time the old supply runs out. The new print head for the HP Desk Jet is about \$22. Ink refills can be purchased which will refill the head about 2 times giving about 2000 copies with each refill. The refill cost \$10.

How does it work? A small drop of ink is forced out of a very small tube (about done by heating the ink likened to a tea kettle boiling or a small electronic bellows forcing the ink out. You must remember this takes place many times a second and these printers have from 50-60 jets.

Ink jet in the future will not replace laser jet printers. The Cannon bubble jet has a resolution of 360 dots per inch. The HP Desk Jet 500 has a resolution of 300 dots per inch. New laser jet printers can work in a 1200 dots per inch resolution. For graphics laser jet gives superior gray shading. Where ink jets excel is in text with good graphics but don't forget about size. The print head is the same for 8.5 inch paper or 24 inch paper. The thing that is different is the paper handling. The laser printers hardware is much more expensive. Color printing is another thing the ink jets does well too, for not too much more money.

I was able to borrow a HP Desk Jet 500 from work to play with. First, I must say, I think HP builds Quality equipment. This printer weighs 14 lbs. It has a nice tray to hold paper to be printed and stacks copies on top of the supply tray.

Santa and the finance company, plus some discount coupons, and a company discount, are helping purchase a Cannon Bubble Jet 230 (the wide version of the BJ-200) for cad drawings 11 X 17 is a respectable size. It is so small, when we went to buy it, my wife said, "It's so small and so expensive!". It is also so light, about 7 lbs. The infeed paper tray holds 100 sheets and sits angled into the printer. The paper is bent less by the Cannon than by the HP. Question who cares? Labels tend to peel when bent around a small diameter. I have yet to figure out how to print just 1 label for a letter out of a sheet of ink jet labels and not waste the sheet, but some

answers will come in time.

The HP came with a good manual, newer ones do not, and the manual needs to be purchased separately. You can't keep cutting costs without cutting out something. The HP Desk Jet 500 sells for about \$250. The manual is important if you plan to use control codes to print. It also explains PCL (printer control language) and this language is pretty standard to laser copiers. Cartridges can be added to emulate Epson FX printers but I never got a chance to try this with TI graphics, but don't see why it wouldn't work, cost about \$60. Also font and memory carts are available, but not free. A driver disk for IBM users of windows is included.

The Bubble Jet came with a manual which gives much information but could give more examples. Because the BJ emulates an IBM X24E and an Epson LQ 510 they give you few examples, an Epson LQ manual would be handy. It does not use PCL but comes with a printer driver for IBM user of windows as a Cannon Bubble Jet. I did print out some TIPS graphics and they came out higher than they should have. A problem using 24 pin printers with 9 pin graphics. If I can get it to emulate a 9 pin printer this could solve the problem. Maybe some reading and work might help.

With the current \$30 rebate from Cannon you can get the BJ-200 for about \$250. Both HP and Cannon offer voice help lines and both offer automated fax help lines. Cannon also offers a BBS. In some recent reviews the Cannon came out preferred over the HP. Maybe the resolutions helped the Cannon and it is also a newer design. A key when the technology changes so fast. Each offer nice features and both work with TI or IBM. The HP without the emulation cartridge will not work with Epson codes in TI writer but a transliterate file can fix that. Basic code can be written without much trouble. PCL codes are different. The Cannon in Epson emulation takes very few changes for text, but for graphics I am not sure. Maybe someone with more expertise could help me over this hurdle. I think either would be a good addition to your computers output. Lucky for us the TI is compatible with standard centronics output. Making what you purchase never obsolete.

PS:

After finishing this article I found the line spacing to be the problem when printing graphics. 24 pin printers define the 9 pin increment as a different value.

IE:

ESC A is n/72 9 pin and ESC a is n/60 24 pin

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Ed.Note:

This is NOT an example of Ink-Jet printing! Just a regular Star!

# Glenn's Tips

by Glenn W. Bernasek

## A WAY TO LOCK THE PEB FIREHOSE CONNECTOR INTO THE I/O PORT

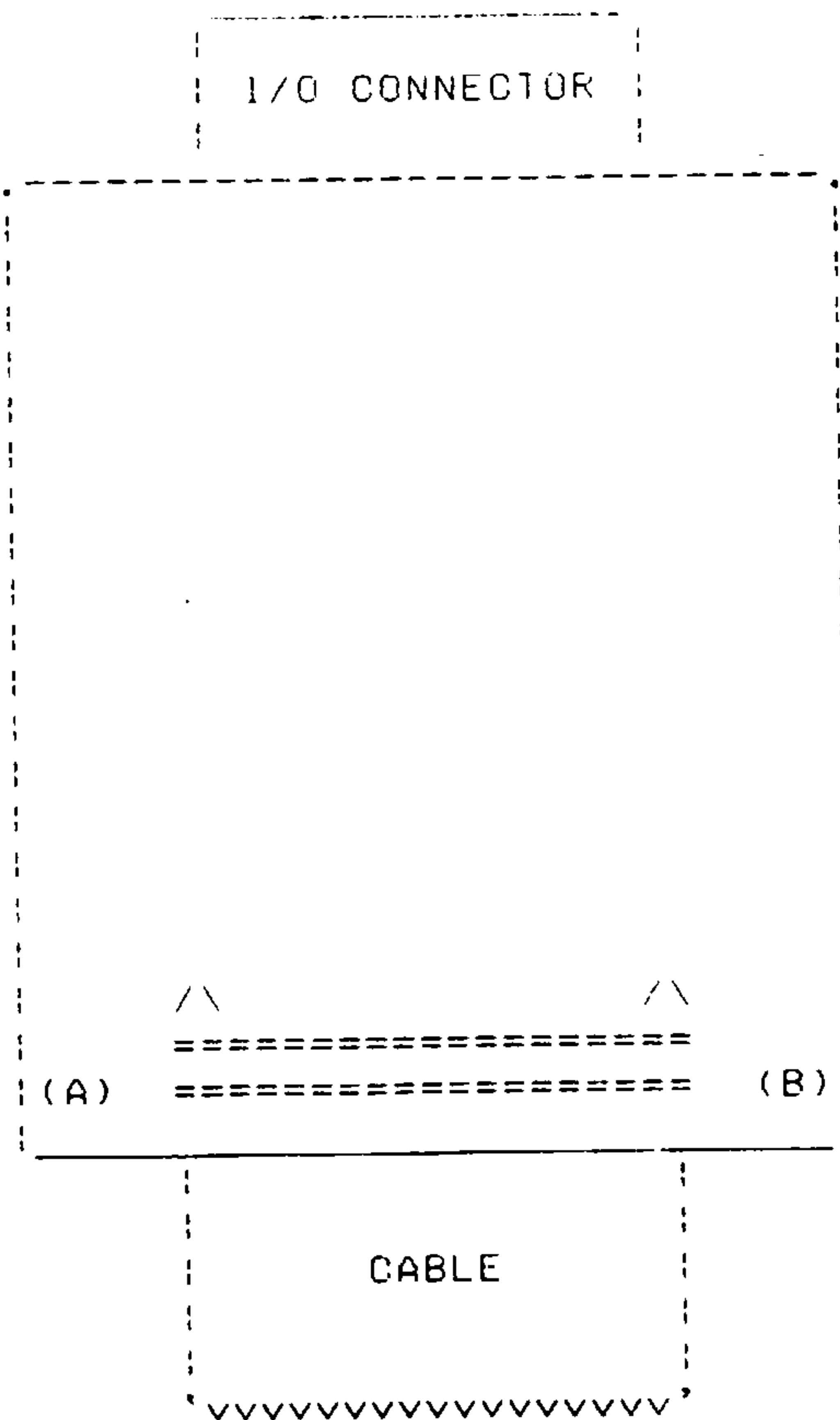
One of Texas Instruments' design shortcomings of the TI-99/4A is the lack of a positive locking mechanism for card edge connections. One of the non-locked connections is at the I/O port. The firehose connector is held onto the motherboard card edge by friction only. If the connector is bumped or moved, the system will tend to lock up. This is because the contacts in the connector shorts or crosses contact points other than the desired connection.

I was able to solve this problem, ON MY SYSTEM, by drilling a clearance hole for a #8 wood screw in an empty corner of the connector box. I then screwed the connector box, while installed in the side of my TI, to the surface on which my TI sits. This eliminated lockups due to accidental movement of the fire hose connector.

Now before you get too concerned about drilling holes

into the top of your desk, be advised that my TI is configured and positioned differently than many user's systems. I use a remote keyboard and my TI is on a piece of shelving off to the side of my desk. Therefore this modification works very well for me.

If you want to give this a try, just drill a clearance hole for one or two 2 inch #8 wood screws through either or both of the empty corners of the connector box as shown in the approximate positions (A) and/or (B) in the illustration below, and secure it in position with the wood screw(s). I TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE TO THE PEB CONNECTOR OR YOUR SYSTEM FROM THIS MODIFICATION. If you look inside the connector box and are careful where you drill, you shouldn't have any problems. (By the way, a 5/8 inch piece of an old BIC ball point pen body makes an excellent stand-off support for the screw.)



# Glenn's Tips

by Glenn W. Bernasek

Date: Wed Dec 29 00:49:11 1993  
From: dd314@cleveland.freenet.edu (Glenn W. Bernasek)  
Subject: UP-LOADING TEXT WITH TELCO  
\*\*\*\*\*

TI-CHIPS Cleveland, Ohio

Those of us who have placed messages or full fledged works of prose onto free-net, or any BBS, with the TELCO line editor or the editor provided by the BBS has experienced the ultimate pain in the (you know what). Keep in mind that the line editor is just that be a complete word processor by any stretch of the imagination.

So what do you do when you want to put a message, longer than two or three lines, on the BBS? You up-load the pre-recorded text file from a disk drive. Therefore you can create a finished text, spell checked and all, save it to disk and finally up-load it from the disk to the BBS. All without the headache of fumbling with a line editor.

But how is this miracle of miracles accomplished? Well, "rather simply" is a phrase that comes to mind, and what follows is how it can be done.

First, you must configure the FILE TRANSFER SET-UP routine in TELCO. Choose the "Setup options" from TELCO's main menu. Then choose "File transfer setup" from that menu, and set the file transfer defaults. The file transfer defaults that work well for ME are as follows:

- A) Abort downloads : Discard
- B) Default error check : CRC
- C) Echo locally : Off
- D) Blank lines : Off
- E) Character pacing : 000
- F) Line pacing : 010
- G) Pace character : 000
- H) Stripleading space : Off

- I) Line by line send : Off
  - J) Send at end of line : CR
  - K) CR translation : Strip
  - L) LF translation : Strip
- (Press <FCTN/9> and "save (C)hanges")

Once the file transfer defaults are set and saved, you can up-load any text file with the greatest of ease, using the following five simple steps. (See, I do use the word "simple".)

1. Whether you are contributing an article or an answer to a BBS or writing to somebody by E-mail, and are cued, on the screen, to enter your file: just press <FCTN/6>.

2. Choose ascii option by pressing <ENTER>.

3. Type the full disk.filename into the filename block (i.e., DSKn.FILENAME), and press <ENTER>.

4. Your text file will then be quickly up-loaded, and you can monitor the progress by the up-loaded line numbers shown at the bottom of the screen.

After which, a "Transfer Complete-Press a Key" message is shown. So- Press a key.

5. The very last line of your text file will be shown at the bottom of the screen, and then the cursor will appear on the next blank line. To signal End-of-File:

Type in the familiar "###" and press <ENTER>.

That's all there is to up-loading text files with TELCO. It's quick and it's SIMPLE. And best of all, NO MORE STRUGGLING WITH A LINE EDITOR!!!

---

January 17.... Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 2.... Ground Hog Day  
" " 12.... Lincoln's Birthday  
" " 14.... St. Valentines Day  
" " 16.... Ash Wednesday  
" " 22.... Washington's Birthday

If all goes well this should appear in the January newsletter. I wanted to make a few comments however about the numbering system and the format. When Jim Harris and I slogged through the batch of disks Harry Hoffman had copied in Lima we found hundreds of old programs which are probably in the Northcoast library. However, we have no idea what you have in your collections. Many of these programs are new to some of our members and some are fun to run again. It would be a monumental job for us to run each program and write a review so we decided to give a general description and list the filenames from the catalog. You should be able to judge from this listing if you want to add a disk to your collection.

We also chose to use a numbering system which included the year of entry into the library, rather than trying to put each disk in its own category. Thus the number 93XXX for 1993. When we got this batch of disks we assigned 93XXX numbers and all the disks have this number for various reasons. Therefore, you will see the 93XXX number well into 1994. Also, since the disks have been prenumbered a problem came up as to how to add new disks without having to mark them with numbers that won't appear for awhile. Thus you will see our "borrowing" from the Dewey decimal system with numbers 93044.2 etc. As we get new disks you will see more of that.

Enough gabbing, here are the "new" disks. Bruce Rodenkirch.

93044: Ten "mind games" from Jack Sughrue, Grade School teacher in Boston area. Interesting and challenging enough for adults. Load program included. A "Bonus" on this disk is a collection of recipes downloaded from Bulletin Boards. Most of them are for candies and cookies and other fattening stuff. If you don't believe me, read the recipe names: CHEEZCAKE, DANISHCOOKY, DREAMBARS, FRUITDISH, FRUITSALAD, NUTCAKE, PEANUTBAR, PECANPIE, PUNKINSQUARES, PUNKINBREAD, SUGARCOOKY1, SUGARCOOKY, WALNUTS and YUMYUMBARS.

93044.1: Funnelweb V 5.0 40 column Editor issued in June 93. This is a floppy disk. The documentation has been archived because of space limitations. There is an ARTICLE in the archived file written by Charley Good explaining this version. The original version had some bugs but this one works pretty good but is not bug free. The main problem is that it won't exit to FW from the editor when using floppy disks but it will with a ramdisk. I also

had some problems with the Replace String function but the advantages of the editor are such that you may well choose to use it anyway. I think it is a great program and will be better when debugged.

93044.2: Funnelweb V 5.0 80 column version. This works fine in my Geneve and has even more advantages than the 40 Col version. One of the features I like about both versions is the ability to scroll through the text while in command mode. This sure helps when one forgets what line numbers to delete, save etc. The extra memory of the Geneve also allows one to view a "View" file or a "Temporary" file while working on a file in the editor. The "freeze frame" function is similar to that in 40 column only better.

93044.3: This is also a floppy disk and contains the Dutch Demo Disk from the Chicago 93 meetin. BACKSIDE is a program which will initialize the backside of a SSSD disk so it can be used as a DSSD or DSDD disk without erasing the

front side. SLANG is a very good game combining features of MUNCHERS and a Caterpillar game where a caterpillar winds through a maze getting longer as it eats "energy" pellets. Program File Compressor is also here. This allows an assembly program to be compressed to fewer sectors and remain a runnable program. There are a number of other programs also. Most of the documentation is in Dutch but the programs can still be figured out. There is one which will allow copying of an audio disk from one cassette to another. This can be a data tape or a music tape!

93045: This disk is from England's TIMES User Group. Good explanation of graphic shape transfer from screen to printer with ratios to make round circles really round on paper. Reviews several Graphic Programs. HINTS is for Programmers. M/C is a machine Code tutorial.

93046: Two XB games, CRAZYCLIFF AND POMPEII/XB, and three files of articles and short programs. Several short MATH programs including fraction additions and calculation of Pi. Petersons TIPS #60 and a dozen short paragraphs of TI information such as the fuse in the power supply transformer which blows first.

93047: This disk (from TI\*MES UG in UK) contains five graphics programs and three files of tutorials on use of graphics with the MISSING LINK program. The RAMBLES files review the life of the TI in the United Kingdom.

93048: ROCKRUNNER is an excellent assembly game ROCKRUNNER. It requires the E/A module or equivalent to LOAD and RUN. It also requires JOYSTICKS to play the game. There are no instructions but it is easy to figure out. It is something like

DIGDUG but more advanced.

93049: BEETLE can be loaded from cassette only according to the instructions. There is also a CHARACTER DEFINITION program, a submarine game and a series of TV test patterns which can be generated.

93050: A collection of twenty nine games and utilities including CHUCKALUK, DOGFIGHT, MYST/MANSE, QUEST/EXAM, ROADRACE, WALLOONS and many others

93051: Eleven XB games and instructional programs including COUNT/LSN, FIR/DERBY, H/HELP/DIV, H/HELP/FR, INT/PLANET, MYST/WORDS AND N/VADER.

93052: Fourteen XB games: ACE/DUCEY, BIG/GOVERN, DEPTHCHARG, FLIP/FLOP, NAME/BONE, OVERLAND, PHASER, QUBIC, SFRAN/TOUR, SIM/SAUCER, SPACEWAR, SPC/PATROL and TYPE/ACC. NAME/BONE is an instructional game on the bones of the body.

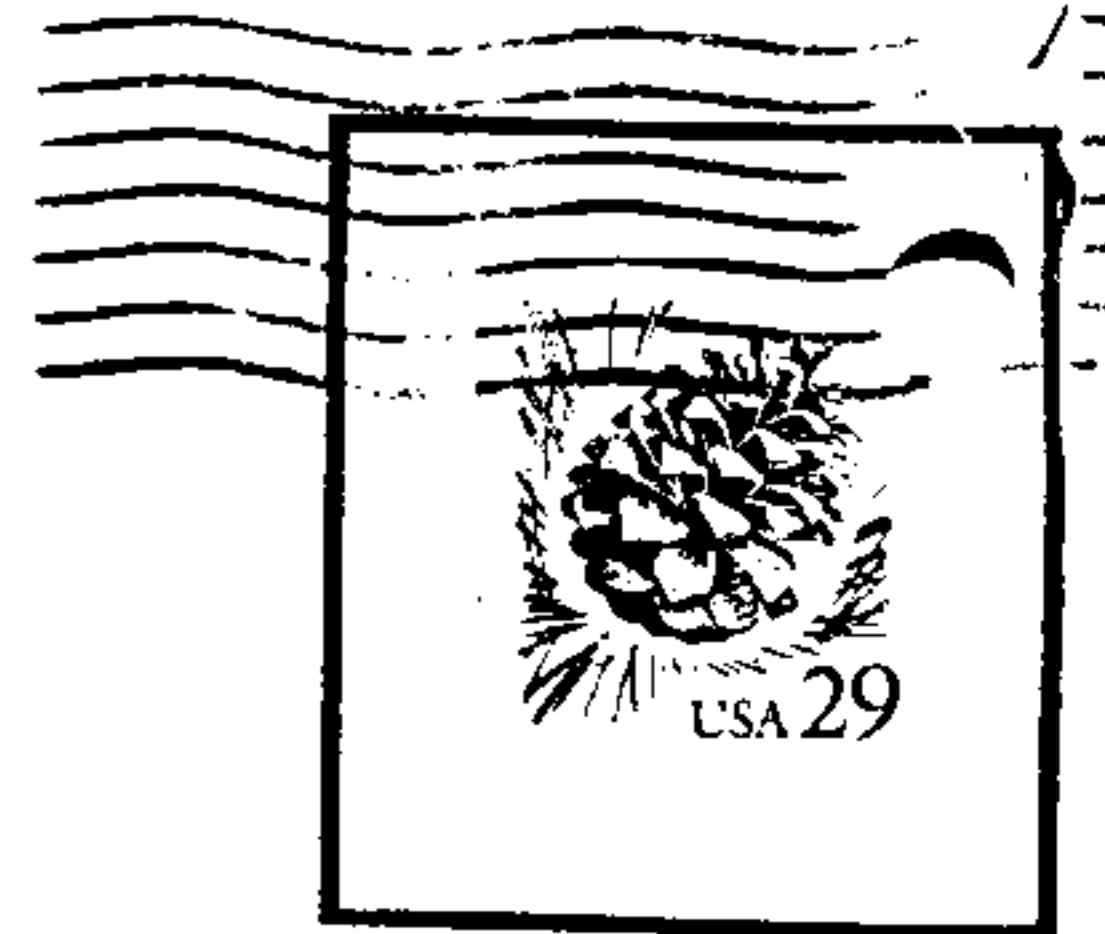
93053: An assortment of games and utilities: BATTLE/SEA, BATTLESTAR, CLORO/MAP, DODGE/EM, FORCE/I, FORMS/GEN, HOME/SEC, RULE/78, SMN/SAUCER, SPRITECHAS, SPRITER and TEX/THELLO.

93954: Nineteen games and utilities including a load program: BARTENDER, NUMEROLOGY, RAINBOW, REG-PLOT, SCREENSPT, SPEADREAD, SPEECHHELP, SPRITEDANC, TALK-CALC, TAROTCRD, TEN-UP, TI-TLES, TLKTLT, TRIP-PLANR, TVTEST, USERDIRECT, VERBOSE and VIDTAPEFIN.

93055: Fifteen utilities including a load program and a couple of XB games: 12'S-TABLE, 3-D/TICTOE, AMAZIN, BASEBLSTAT, BASIC/I, BDGT/MAINT, BIRTHDAY, BLDNGBLCKS, BOUNCEBALL, BOWL/STATS, BUDGET/YTD, GOLFHNDCAP, GRAPHFFANT, KAMIKAZE.



Cleveland Area User Groups  
 % Harry Hoffman  
 3825 Trowbridge Ave.  
 Cleveland, OH 44109-1349



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 This may be your LAST issue!

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Due to the rising cost of the Newsletter:  
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 Full membership price - \$15.00 w/library priveleges.  
 Join either club. See front cover for membership chairs.



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06	Glenn's Tip: Up-Loading Text With Telco
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10	Women's Point of View by Nina Hoffman This Page!

After two weeks of cold and SNOW, winter has wore  
 out it's welcome! More to come, I'm afraid!

