



# CLEVELAND AREA TI-99/4R USER GROUPS



March, 1993  
(February)

OFFICE	TI-CHIPS	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Glenn Bernasek 238-6335	10:00 AM
CO-PRESIDENT	Virgil Thomason 1264-7779	N. Royalton
TREASURER	Lin Shan 235-3912	County Library
MEMBERSHIP	John Parken 331-2830	State Rd. 60. of
	4172 W. 217th St.	Route 82 1/4mi
	Fairview Pk., OH 44126	<u>EVERY THIRD SAT.</u>
SECRETARY	(Harry * * * Temporary)	
DISK LIBRARY	Lee Kee 238-6938	FEB 19, 1994
TAPE & MDDS	John Parken 331-2830	MAR 19, 1994
HARD COPY	Harry Hoffman 631-2354	APR 16, 1994

OFFICE	NORTHCOAST	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Ken Gladyszewski 1357-7274	1-4 P.M.
CO-PRESIDENT	Matt 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	<u>EVERY THIRD SAT.</u>
SECRETARY	Bernie Zuckerman 381-4088	
DISK LIBRARY	Martin Smoley 1-257-1661	FEB 19, 1994
TAPE & MDDS	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	MAR 19, 1994
HARD COPY	Dick Alden 1-352-9172	APR 16, 1994



## From the Editor's Desk:



Hi Tiers,

Well, as you can see, Mina and I are still in Cleveland! Sometimes, things just do not work out the way you want them to. So, here is the March edition!

This should work out for the graphics & Holidays much better!

MICROpendium has some fine features this month!

Glenn's article on Telco is in the User Notes section (With proper credit!). Bruce Harrison's E/A tutorial is coming down to my level of learning and starting from the very basics of Assembly programming. Barry Traver is back, writing about 'Protecting an XB program'. Lucie Dorais with an XB program on AI (Artificial Intelligence). As usual, there many tips and letters to read about our TI!

Jim Peterson, one of our greatest TI promoters has passed on. This is very sad for me to write! I've talked to Jim several times at the Lima Fair and always left with

a feeling that TI was going to go on forever... because of een like him! He wrote 'TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB', which was published in many newsletters and is timeless enough to be published for a long time. Jim wrote over 200 XBasic programs and fixed up many more to put in his very large 'Tigercub catalog' of public domain XB programs. We all should be thankful for knowing a great man like JIM PETERSON.

More news from Australia. Tony McGovern is still updating Funnel WEb! Most of the new stuff will be in the Program Editor and especially the 80 column version. There will be TWO 64K files to edit and transfer parts back and forth without reloading or losing any info.

Charles Good put this in his newsletter and says you could have as much as 1500 lines in each file. Of course, you would have to make it into smaller files if giving it to a friend without this feature! Just think of the possibilities of such a neat feature!

That's all for now. See you at the meeting,

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JIM PETERSON, THE TIGERCUB

by Dick Beery

On the morning of Wednesday, January 12, 1994, James Warren Peterson died in his sleep. The death was considered to be a normal event, and no autopsy was performed. Many readers will remember reading his Tips from the Tigercub, which appeared in user group newsletters worldwide. They may also remember the advertisements for Tigercub Software that regularly appeared in Micropendium until fairly recently. Jim was a brilliant man and a gifted programmer in Basic and Extended Basic, whose programs ranged among: games, music, utilities especially those for the printer, music for Mike Maksimik's Midimaster99, programming tips such as those mentioned above and as embodied in his disks of Nuts Bolts, screen and printer fonts, a program to convert Extended Basic into music for Midimaster99, etc. About a year ago, Jim switched from the Tigercub line to presenting and sharing his vast collection of public-domain and shareware disks from many authors. He sold these for a nominal price and mailed catalogs to those who requested them.

What readers may not realize is that he was particularly fascinated by mind-bogglers and brain games, some of which he produced and sold. Nor that he was active in the growing of cacti in his backyard greenhouse and was considered an authority in that field. Nor that he had, over a period of many years, amassed a superb collection of military medals. Nor that, having decided about a year and a half ago to trace his family's roots, he amassed from relatives and others such vast amounts of data that he found it difficult to keep up with the flow while typing them into the computer.

Jim was born in 1924 in northern Minnesota. During 1945-46 he served with the U.S. Army in the 27th Infantry Division and in General MacArthur's Honor Guard. His service was with the Army of Occupation in Japan. He took his discharge in Japan and served as a civilian employee of the Army between 1946 and 1959, living in Tokyo. He was employed by the U.S. Civil Service in Minnesota and Columbus, Ohio, following his return from Japan. Taking disability retirement for emphysema in 1978, he taught himself computer programming on the T.I. 99/4A and rose to the position of admiration and respect now accorded him by many.

He was an active participant in, and supporter of, the Central Ohio Ninety Miners (C.O.N.N.I.), often discussing programming options and news from the TI world with the members. He corresponded extensively with other programmers and user groups and exchanged newsletters with many. He was always ready to teach a class, provide a demo, or in any way possible be of help to the group.

Jim is survived by his wife, a daughter and her husband, two grandsons, and a son. He will be greatly missed by the TI world in general, by members of C.O.N.N.I., and by his many friends.

May he rest in peace.

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May we remember Jim, always as "Mr. Tigercub"



**NORTHCOAST  
99ers  
By Bernie Zuckerman**

**JANUARY 15, 1994 MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Walt Ryder at 1:30 P.M. in the Euclidian Room of the Euclid Square Mall. Despite the below zero temperature and inches of snow there were eight (8) brave members present. In the absence of Treasurer Frank Jenkins, Walt gave the financial report. As of January 15, 1994 the treasury is in good shape. The income of \$210.05 and expenses (all for the Newsletter) of \$109.57.

Ken asked for information as to what our brother group Chios is doing regarding demos or other programs. Harry reported that their members are providing demos, somewhat similar to ours. He recommended a demo that John Parkins gave and Ken will try to get him to give it at one of our future meetings. A discussion followed about the use of TELCO and getting on the FREENET.

Due to a small number of members present it was decided to postpone discussion about officers for the coming year (1994) until the next meeting. However, Harry Hoffman agreed very graciously to continue preparing and writing the NEWSLETTER. And in his possible absence, Deanna, equally graciously, agreed to fill in - without the need for anyone to show her the "ropes". At the same time, your secretary thanked Harry for writing up the minutes of the last meeting since he was unable to attend, and for Harry giving him the credit for doing the write-up.

Ken then reported that the toy manufacturers are using the same chip he used when he demonstrated voice recognition on the TI several months ago. They'll finally catch up to our electronics expert!

Under new business, Walt asked if there are any demos that the members would like to see, or if any members would like to give a demo of their favorite subject. Bruce discussed a program that he has used that makes it possible to convert a DV80 file directly from text to Basic. Deanna pointed out that our library has several

programs that do the same job, one of them called "Basic Builder". The one that Bruce was using is called "CONVERTXTB". Bruce agreed to demo this next month. A possible demo or discussion may be given next meeting on the C programming language including an explanation of the "C SHELL". Walt explained that the C Shell is like the operating program that controls the C language. Walt will demo how to use Basic to run assembly language sub-routines.

A general discussion followed about bulletin boards and other on line services such as Genie, Delphi, Comuserve, etc. Deanna said that many TI people are on Delphi now, and Ron feels that it is the best of the services. Bruce referred to the items that are available on Genie such as the Medical Round Table, hobbies, amateur radio, and such reference material. These are also available on FreeNet. Deanna pointed out that by getting into FreeNet she can also get into other areas such as Cincinnati and Columbus. The general complaint about downloading from bulletin boards is that many of the files that are available require much more memory than most of us have on the TI.

A discussion followed on the use of the services for using reference information. Walt pointed out that the industry has not come up with a standard means of searching reference material other than the fact that there is some machine standardization. Walt, Deanna, and Bruce had a good time discussing this topic fully.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned and Ken started his demo. His subject was how we can use the TI to control motion. In his usual professorial manner, Ken gave the members a short course on how an electric motor works and then progressed to describing the stepper motor. He pointed out how the stepper motor is used to control motion. Using charts and diagrams he explained how the TI along with his electronic circuits can be used to control the operation of the stepper motor. He then described the various applications for the stepper motor in automobiles, computers, etc.



Lincoln's Birthday - Feb 12 ->  
Washington's Birth - Feb 22 ->

Observed on  
February 21st, '94



# TI-Chips



by Harry Hoffman

Glenn brought up a group of messages that were downloaded from Usenet (Freenet). The messages were all about a new computer TI was bringing out called a TI-99/5A! This was a scandalous lie/joke brought on by two men that should use the BBS in a more gentlemanly fashion. (Freenet doesn't need this type of trash.) (= Editor's Note.

Glenn opened the meeting a little late because we were waiting for more members to show up! Guess the frigid weather kept many away (with good cause!).

First came the Treasurers report, from Lin Shaw, we gained about \$30.00 over 1993! We made a large purchase in buying a Horizon Ram Disk last year.

Glenn gave a report on finding a bank that would not charge a service charge every month. Ohio Savings... \$0.00 service charge, as long as you have \$50.00 in the account! Great work Glenn! Virgil checked out Bank One and they will charge a small service charge. Thank you Virgil, for checking this out!

Lin will check on this and report next month.

John Parken was not here to give the Membership Report/Tape Library Report. We missed John and Les Kee, who always gives a great demo on XBasic.

Dan Williams talked about getting a 486 Computer for Christmas and will use it for his Railroad club, as all the other members have IBM's. He will stay in the group, but will not be able to take the Secretaries position. He brought a tape player to record the meeting minutes.

Someone else will have to bring one at following meetings. (Harry will bring his in for the next meeting.)

Glenn brought up the controversial subject of support for members with an IBM system. Many of our members have these systems and will eventually lose interest in coming to meetings, even though they want to for the companionship and camaraderie. We decided to table the discussion until next meeting when more members can put input into it. Glenn stressed that this IS a TI-99/4A club and demos and business will be TI.

Glenn gave a demo on some of his old files that he upgraded a bit. Get the Gold now has a compass on the screen, and revised it with sound and music! Get the Gold is a word game, which Glenn prefers over a hand/eye co-ordination one! He also added a picture of the room to the game. Very interesting game!

He then showed a program called 'Statistics' which tells you how to run a statistical analysis of any data you can put in the table. It's a very user friendly program!

Harry gave a demo on fixing the 40 column editor of Funnel Web v.5.0, so it wouldn't crash when you use QQ (Quick Quit). Also, how to change DSKU so it would go back to Funnel Web instead of locking up the computer!

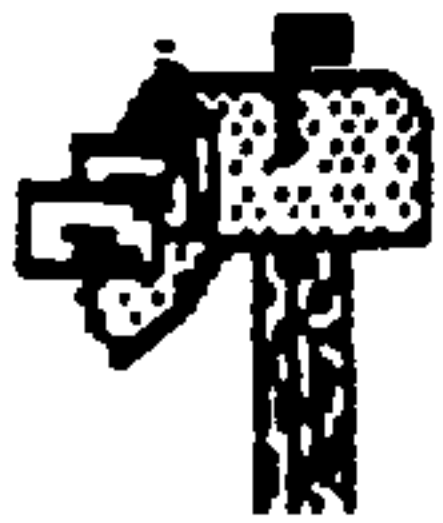
The meeting officially closed and we gathered around talking with each other and some gathered around Ron Markus' table to see what he had to offer in the way of new stuff!



I want to thank:

Frank Jenkins, for faithfully getting the newsletter printed, folded, stapled, labelled and sent!  
 Glenn Bernasek, Martin Smoley, Deanna Sheridan, Ken Gladysewski, Les Kee, Chris Bodenmiller, John Parken, Bernie Zuckerman, Nina Hoffman, for all the articles that help fill this newsletter. God Bless you all!

If I've left anyone out, please let me HAVE it!  
 Martha Petti is one; Sorry! God bless you, also!



# A Letter From Nina



Hello again.

Well, I have been playing around a little with the computer trying to write a few things for the family and I am finding out that most of my problems with the computer is that I am not using it enough. Practice does make it easier. Harrison also made me a cheat sheet, so that I can get in and out of the computer most of the time without yelling HELP!!!

I even surprised myself and set up this program all by myself, so I guess that my teacher is doing a pretty good job. I find that there are so many questions that come up as I go along that I almost need a full time teacher right next to me. However, I think most of the problem is insecurity in myself and what I am going to do to the computer because I do not want to mess it up. I am afraid that I will do something wrong and everything will go kafluee. If that happens, does anyone out there need a permanent roomer?

Seriously though, I find that I am becoming a little braver than I was last year. After playing solitaire for almost a year I was getting a little bored and this is fun. I do enjoy writing and the computer is a great place to do it. It is so easy to correct mistakes and to revamp what you have already written and add or subtract things. I think too that the unknown is always a little scary and all this equipment seems overwhelming. Its just something I am not used to. I also thought about the cost factor and didn't want to add any more expense to our budget, if I broke something. I have found however that most problems are solvable with someone elses help and that if you have a little patience to wait till they are available you're OK. I have panicked a few time when no one was home and wondered...oh boy, did I do it this time, but somehow or other Harrison always gets me out of the mess. I am not into the technical part of it yet. Margins and other data is done by Huffy. All that I have to do is use my info sheet and type away. So for this month my main objective is practice, practice, practice.

For all of you family members out there who, like me, didn't want to venture into this strange new world, I encourage you to try it. As you know, I started with a game and found it fun and believe me time consuming, but that isn't so bad. It sure beats watching what has been on T.V. lately. If you are a braver person than me, try starting out like I am now, writing either letters to friends or just putting around. I promise, if you perservere, you will like it. If you need a cheat sheet like I have, just let me know and I will have a copy made for you but I think that most of us have different set ups so maybe your family member will have to make one up for you. Please don't get discouraged at your first few attempts, after all Rome wasn't built in one day. God Bless and have a Happy time playing with the computer.



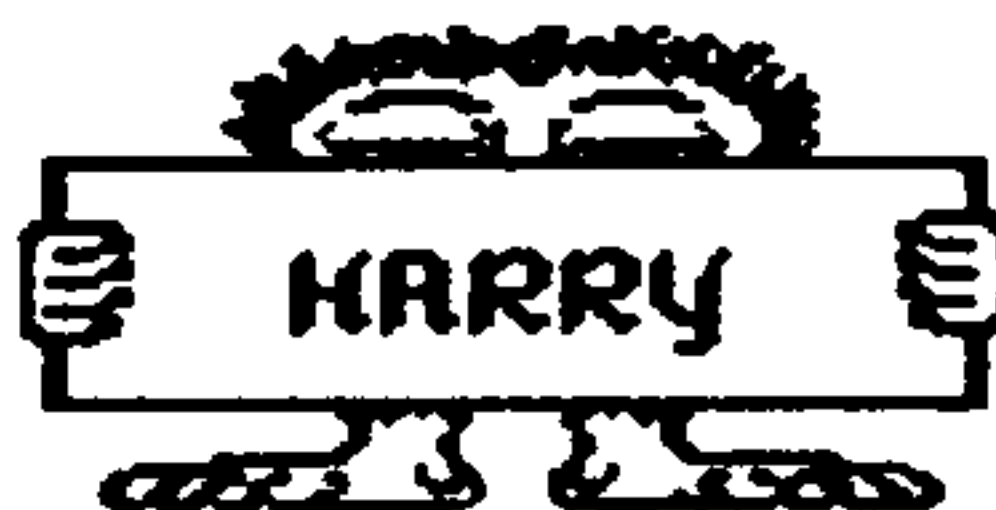
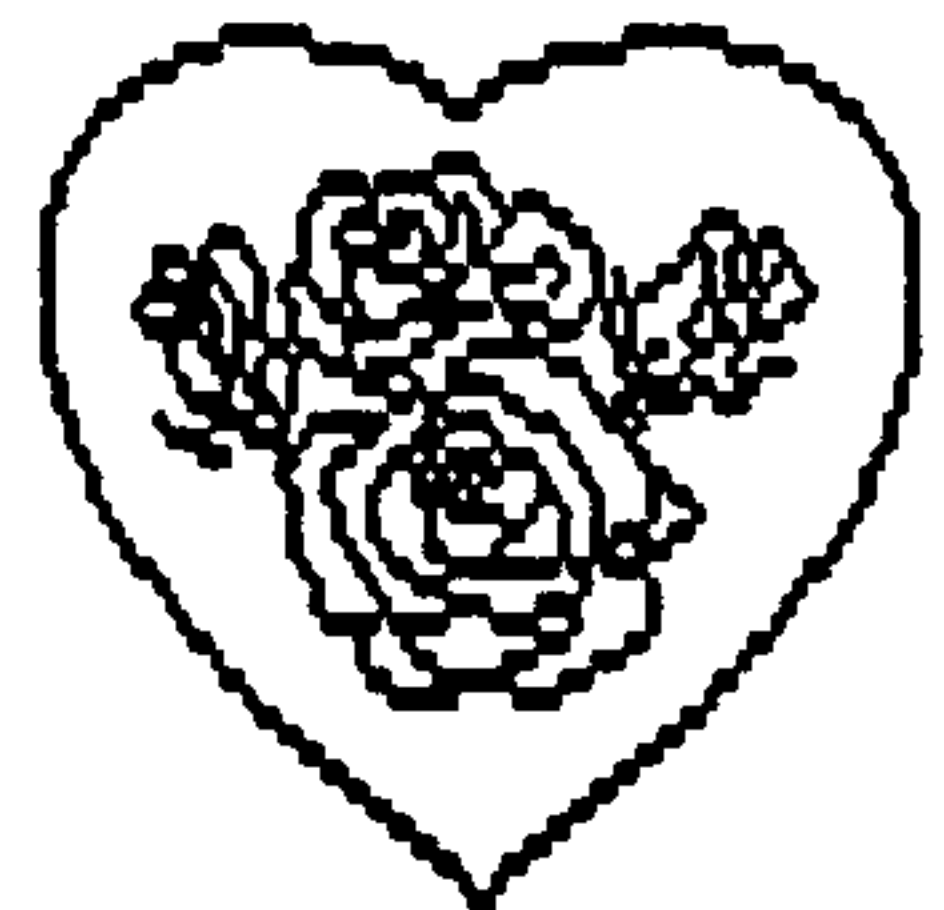
## Happy Valentines Day!



I Luv You



To all our friends in the  
TI-99/4A World !!



Date: Wed Feb 2 14:31:28 1994  
From: aa604@cleveland.Freenet.Edu  
(Martha Petti)  
Subject: Petti Family Computer History

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Around 1982. we ordered a kit for a Sinclair ZX81 computer. Ernie (the older) put it together and we all enjoyed playing around with it. It had a couple of very primitive games and needed a cassette recorder to save anything, which was very sensitive.

Later the Sinclair Co. was bought by TIMEX and more software was written and more memory added (total 2K).

Not much later, we heard about demos of a new color computer out out by TI. at Westlake YMCA. They had free classes there and our whole family went to check it out. They seemed to be especially proud of the LOGO feature. We thought it was a little expensive at first, but soon they were giving large rebates and had employees demonstrating it at Kmart and other locations. When it came down to \$100 (with a \$50 rebate ) we bought several and resold them to friends and relatives, keeping two for ourselves. By this time they were also getting hard to find. I also remember going early to Gold Circle to be among the first to get the PE Box. Using disks sure beat cassette tapes in speed and ease of use.

It wasn't long before the company announced they were going out of business and software prices dropped dramatically. We bought typing tutor, and Ernie (the younger) learned to type at age 9 or 10. I also wrote some simple programs to help the children learn their math flashcards better.

Our first modem was a Volkemodem (300 baud) used with Terminal Emulator II, and 3 of us got accounts on Freenet. In its infancy it was a small, friendly system, with few users but has changed a great deal in the last few years, since it was taken over by CWRU. It is now a global system, with thousands of users.

My son, Ernie, and I became eyeops when the original 3 abandoned the TI SIG and no one was around to take care of it, not that it is exactly teeming with users anyway.

Now my son has graduated to an IBM compatible, but I still use my trusty TI, especially when he is away at school, and takes his computer with him. Mostly I use it with the modem, which is a 1200 baud Easydata, as I have not kept up with all the latest software. But my TI has served faithfully and well for the past 10 years.

time is flying, never to return.

- Virgil



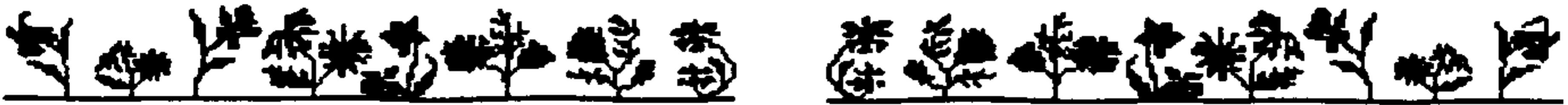
**Saint Patrick's Day - March 17, 1994**



**Have a Safe and Merry time of it!**



-\*- Page 6 -\*-



**"Looking forward to SPRING !!!**

Newsgrups: freenet.sci.comp.ti.general  
Subject: White House Communication  
Date: Wed Dec 29 07:10:45 1993  
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Did you know that you can write by email directly to the White House?  
If you are a member of freenet! Just ONE of the perks of belonging!

The addresses are :president@whitehouse.gov  
AND  
:vice-president@whitehouse.gov

Just in case anyone is interested....

They send a standard reply to let you know the message was received, and ask that you only address one subject per letter.

!====!  
!xx025 Ernie Petti Martha Petti !  
!Co-sysops of the Texas Instruments SIG!  
!====!

Editor's note: There are 100's of SIG's (Special Interest Groups) on Freenet. and you can send Email (Electronic Mail) all over the world. if you have a valid address to send it to! You can get the address of anyone already using freenet, usenet, internet (all available through Freenet!). Pick a subject, any subject, and you will probably find a SIG Question and Answer section for that subject! Warm up that modem and try it out. you'll love it! AND, it's FREE! It's easy to sign up. Using TELCO, put phone #3683888 on "Auto Dial" and when you get to freenet, type "2" for visitor, then freenet will walk you through the sign up procedure. Ask someone who is using freenet how to do it!



**Kathy Strauss, a former member of the North Coast 99er's has a TI-99/4A system for sale:**

**Includes: 2 Computers, a PEBox with 1 full height SSSD disk dr. Spech Synthesizer, and lots of software.**

**Call Kathy at 366-0722 & make an offer!**

TO THE FAMILY OF JIM PETERSON:

Please accept the heartfelt sympathy from the  
Greater Cleveland TI-99/4R User Groups.  
The following poem has helped us in our grief.

\* Forever and Ever \*

Do not stand at his grave and weep,  
He is not there. He does not sleep.  
He is a thousand winds that blow.  
He is the diamond glints on snow.  
He is sunlight on ripened grain.  
He is the gentle autumn's rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
He is the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
He is the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at his grave and cry;  
He is not there, For with the Lord,  
He is everywhere.



We sincerely hope  
and Pray  
This poem does  
a little good!



Harry & Nina Hoffman



# LIBRARY UPDATE \* February 19, 1994

93056: A collection of XB games and utilities as follows: AIRGUIDE, ALLIGATOR, B6PRNT, CASS-FIND, CHAOS, CHARADES, CHARADES2, COLBARGRPH, CRAWL, DECTONEX, DISKLISTER, DISKLISTDIS, ECHO, ELESOR, FRENCHTECH, HEXTODEC, KENO, KEYWORD, LOAD, LOWERCASE, LUCKYSEVEN, MAILWRITE, MINILOT, MORSECODER, MOVIEQUIZ, MURDERMYST, MUSDURTRAN, MUSFRETRAN and TI-GUESS

93057: Most of these are XB games: ARROWZAP, BIORHYTHM, BLACKTUNML, ELEVATOR, GODZILLA, GOLDBAG, GUNNER, HILLSTREET, LOAD, MEMORY/JOG, MONEY/PLAN, MONKEY/BIZ, MYSTNESS, PATIENCE, POISONIVY, REDRINGER, SUPERMAZE, TANKATTACK and WTRBALLOON.

93058: A mix of XB games and utilities: ADDFILE1, ADDFILE2, ADDR, ADDR/INIT, COSMICGUNS, DUNGEON/X, HELP, HOMEBOUND, KILLERCRAB, LOAD, METEOR/RES, PHOENIX and TYPE/GAME.

93059: More XB games and utilities: BASEBALL/0, BILL/FILE, BIRTHDAY, BLACKJACK, BS/MAGNIFY, BYTE/MAN, CIRC/PLOT, CURVEPLOT, DEATHMOBIL, DOODLE, DOXOLOGY, FLASHCARDS, GEEN/GAME, LOAD, S\*AM, SKEETSHOOT, SPELLTEST, SPRITE/DEF, WRDSRCH and WRDSRCHIMP.

93060: Have you ever found an "unlistable" program. Wes Richardson gave a dissertation on this at one of the Northcoast meetings. This disk from the English TI\*MES contains a couple of RAMBLE files which explain how this is done and how it can be reversed. There are mergeable programs which can do this. Be sure to read the 'READ' file first!

93061: Another disk from the British User Group TI\*MES with some 1990 news, a program called BULL RUN, (no relation to the Civil War), a long tutorial on use of a program (TI SBUG) to "debug" your A/S programs and a type in copy of the program. It also contains a game of tiles called TRUCHET. CONVERTXB and Docs were added to save the trouble of typing these DV/80 programs.

93062: This disk is also from TI\*MES vintage 1987. Two file lists of suppliers (mostly now obsolete), a series of short routines to get you familiar with C99, some magazine and newsletter reviews, some tips for A/S programmers, a program of music from the TV show Peter Gunn, instructions on using PRK to access CALL routines, and a file of tips from newsletters. CONVERTXB and Docs have been included to save the trouble of typing the programs.

93063: Another TI\*MES disk. This one contains a BASIC maze game called WOKAPILAR, a review of books of 1984-5,

a file on using the MINI-MEMORY, a tutorial on sector sharing by Mark Shafer of Bluegrass U6, and a program review of TI-Runner for MICROpendium. CONVERTXB and XB have been included to save the trouble of typing the programs.

93064: Still another TI\*MES disk. It contains four long files. The first gives the history of the TI99 in the UK, tutorials on A/S for MINI MEMORY, and graphics for cassettes. The next three give detailed reviews of 36 modules available for the TI, most from TI but also some from other sources. Great information if considering a Module purchase. Some programs in DV/80 format are in these files and I have added the CONVERTXB program to save having to type them in. There was no room for the DOC file but it is on some of the following disks.

93065: This TI\*MES disk is from the 1987/88 period. There are six text files. First reviews 7 modules/disks and 2 books. Others introduce a TurboPascal game, BASIC compiler, Spider game, a LOADMAKER program which reads a disk then writes a load program for it, and finally, a Supplier review. I added the CONVERTXB and Docs to save having to type in the programs.

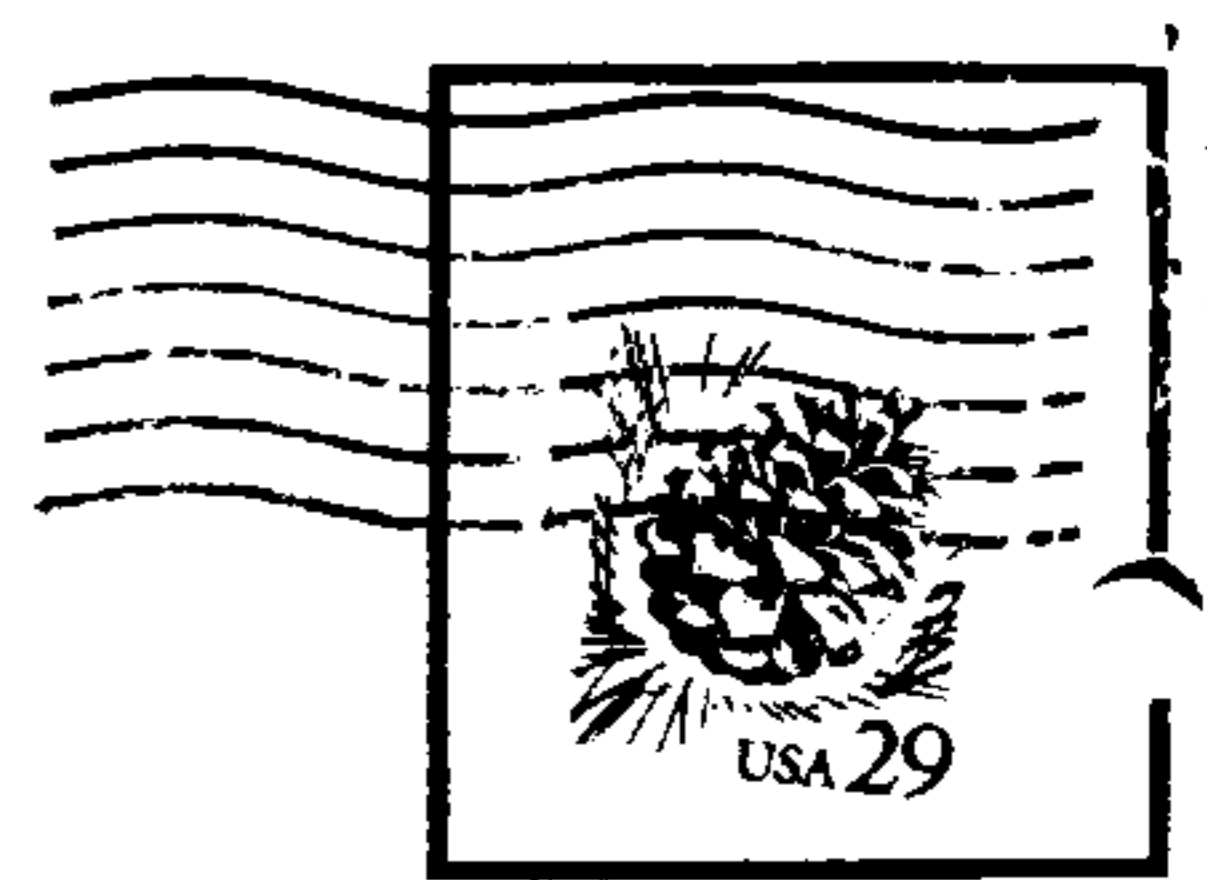
93066: This TI\*MES disk with 4 files contains a long explanation of TI Music generation by Harrison Software, a series of book reviews mostly on D-BASE use, a type-in game called QUINTUS using tiles, a series of puzzles to work on programming, and a discussion of TI-BASE and TI-SORT. CONVERTXB and Docs have been added to save you the work of typing in QUINTUS.

93067: This TI\*MES disk of 5 files discusses Fractals, 6 language originated in Adelaide, Australia, printer selection, program reviews, power supply problems, TI-BASE uses, use of XBASIC sub programs, review of Super XB, a type-in graphics program, review of TI-ARTIST PLUS, and a type in TETRIS program. I added the CONVERTXB program (no room for docs) to save having to type in the programs on these files.

93068: This TI\*MES disk contains 55 short programs some of which have been reviewed in the previous TI\*MES disks. The list has been compiled by cooperation among user groups in the United Kingdom.

93069: This TI\*MES disk of 5 files contains a tutorial on TURBO PASCAL 99, graphics comparison between several popular graphic programs, and a tutorial on using TI-WRITER as a DATA BASE including a simple sort program. I added the CONVERTXB and Docs which will save the trouble of typing these DV/80 programs.

Cleveland Area User Groups  
% Harry Hoffman  
3925 Trowbridge Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44108-1348



**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  
Full membership price - \$15.00 w/library priveleges.  
Join either club. See front cover for membership choirs.**

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