

HUG

HOUSTON USERS' GROUP
[FOR THE TI-994A & COMPATIBLES]

APRIL
1987

HUG TIBBS - (713) 475-8909
24-hour BULLETIN BOARD

MEETING SCHEDULE
FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
(2nd Sunday if 1st Sunday
is on a holiday weekend)

AT THE NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1987 2:00 P.M.

St. John's School - 2401 Claremont

The program scheduled for the April meeting is "Networking". A tour of Comuserve, the Source, and GENIE will be made.

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TO ALL FELLOW HUG MEMBERS

Due to a recent accident our president had while fileting "Finger"lings the "Notes from the President" does not appear in this issue. In it's place is the following message from the editors which appeared on the HUG TIBBS in June 1986.

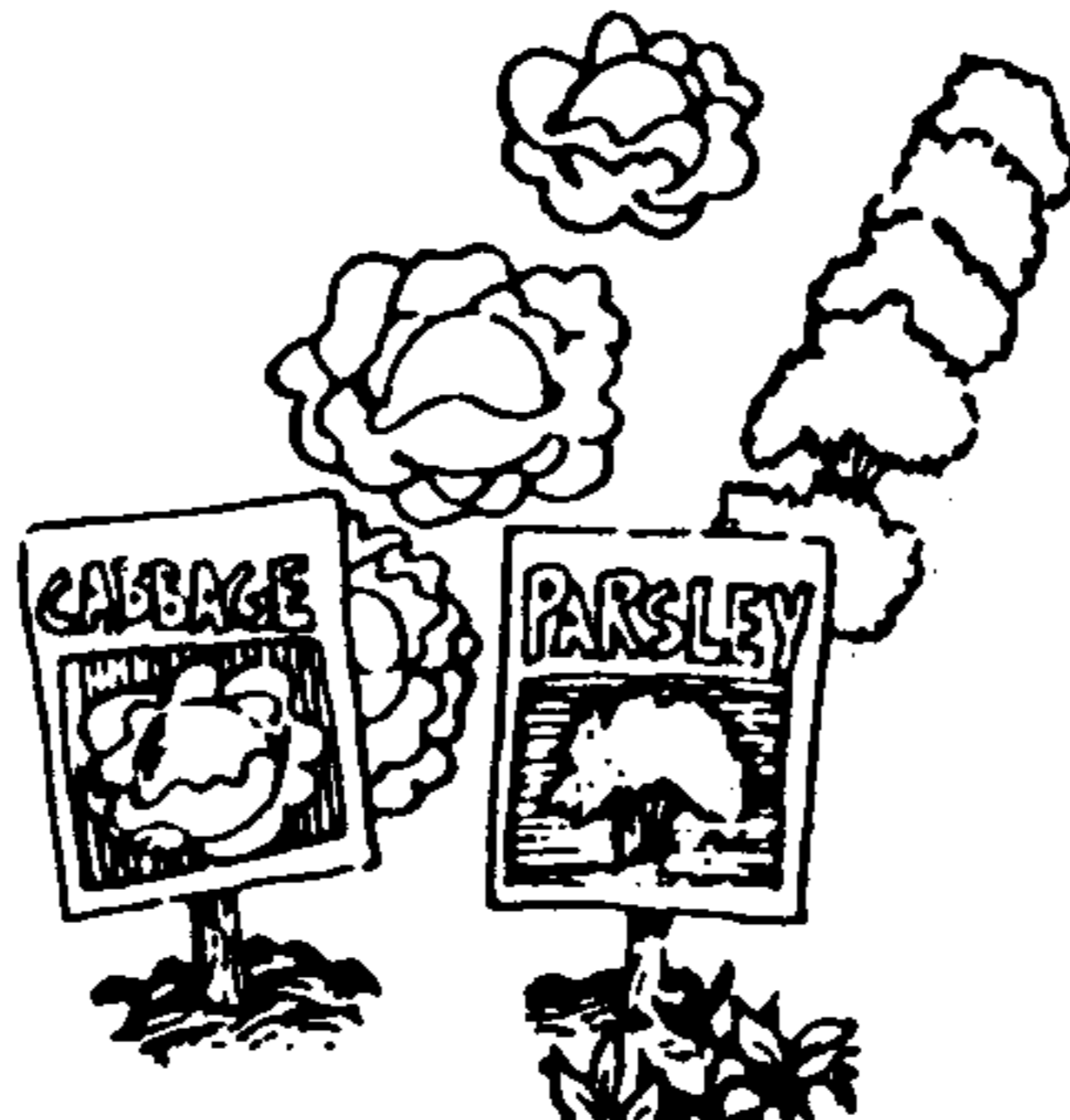
HOW TO PLANT A "USERS GROUP" GARDEN

First plant four rows of peas:

Programs
Promptness
Perseverance
Politeness

Next plant three rows of squash

Squash Gossip
Squash Criticism
Squash Indifference



Then plant three rows of lettuce:

Let us be Truthful
Let us be Unselfish
Let us be Contributors
Let us be Thankful

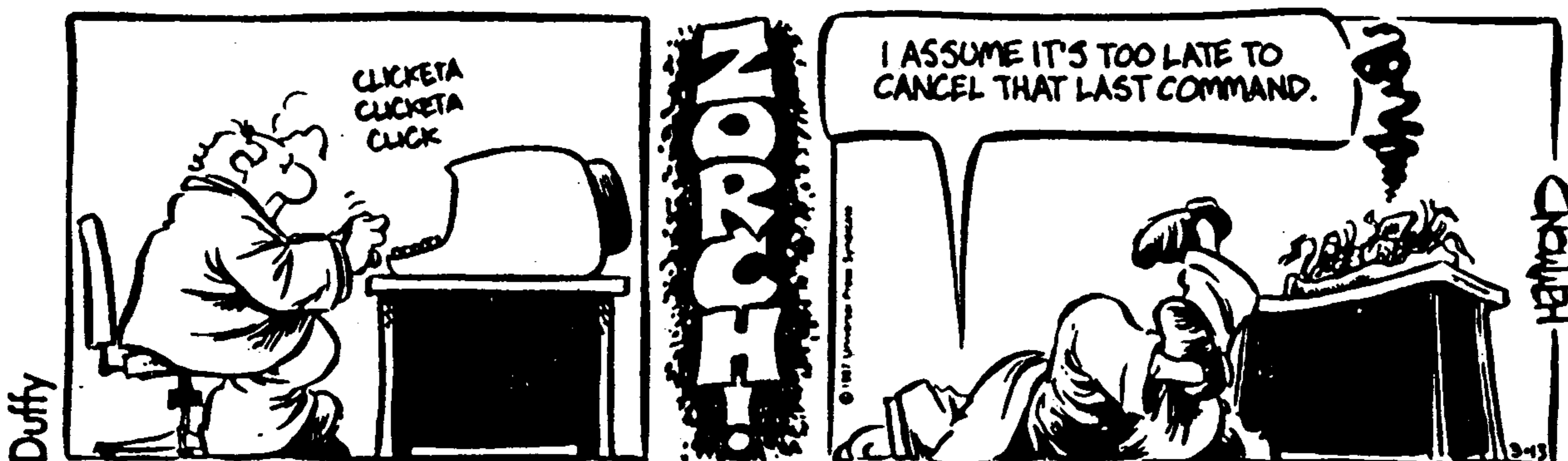
No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for Meetings
Turn up for Volunteer Work
Turn up with Determination

Let's all get to work on our garden!!

##Adapted from "Where n' When"

Houston Square Round Dance Council



EDITORS SOA-pBox

Not that this is a reminder to HUG members who still have not filed their income tax return this year, but I am sure that many of you have developed tax templates for Multiplan or tax aids for other programs. Well, this is a call for donations to the library in the way of general tax aids which do not need to be updated each year for tax recordkeeping. Additionally, if you keep track of a hobby (ie stamp, coin, or record collections) using a data base or spreadsheet pass your knowledge on. As in anything if you can avoid a duplication of effort everyone may benefit.

Do you have a NEW program of which you are particularly proud? Submit a review of that program to this newsletter. There are a number of new software packages available which could be reviewed. This applies to commercially available and "Fairware" programs.

Original material submitted is given priority over articles reprinted from other sources. Reprinted material is selected by the editors for exceptional merit for either its timeliness or being of particular interest.

Scott Medbury
Editor

"PROGRAMMING GRAPHICS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN"

Whether you do your own programming or use programs from other sources, you can make the graphics more enjoyable by the use of "CALL MAGNIFY(4)".

Small children sometimes do not appreciate the cute small sprites in programs simply because they are SMALL. So, this can be easily achieved by changing the appropriate Call Magnify (3) statements to Call Magnify (4). This will create placement problems in some programs providing humorous results at times. (Such as in Bill Knecht's "Houston" in which the sun will set in front of the Astrodome. Try it and see the first eclipse of the Dome!) This makes little difference to children such as my four year old who view the programs solely for their entertainment value and not necessarily for being visually correct.

A REM or Tail Remark may be placed near the beginning or end of a program you want to change letting you know in which lines CALL MAGNIFY statements occur. This is useful in changing the program back to it's original form should you wish at a later date. (It is also a good idea to make the changes to a back-up in event of a foul-up.)

So -- EXPERIMENT, have fun, and you will provide some moments of enjoyment for all. You will also develop a high regard for those who have written the fine graphics programs available. Many of us forget that many of the programs available in the public domain may easily be modified to best serve the individual user.

by Scott Medbury

TI WRITER PRINTER DEFAULT

To change the default printer option on TI Writer to PIO.LF you can do it with the DISKO program. Load Disko and select option 1. Select sector 58 and use FCTN 2 to go to ASCII mode. On line 3 you should see (RS232.BA=1200.LF), move the red cursor over the (R) and type in (PIO.LF) deleting the rest of the old command with the spaces. Press FCTN 8 and answer "Y" to the question. This will change it (or use DISKO to locate FORM1 and count 10 sectors to find th printer default information.

PRINTING DV80 FILES

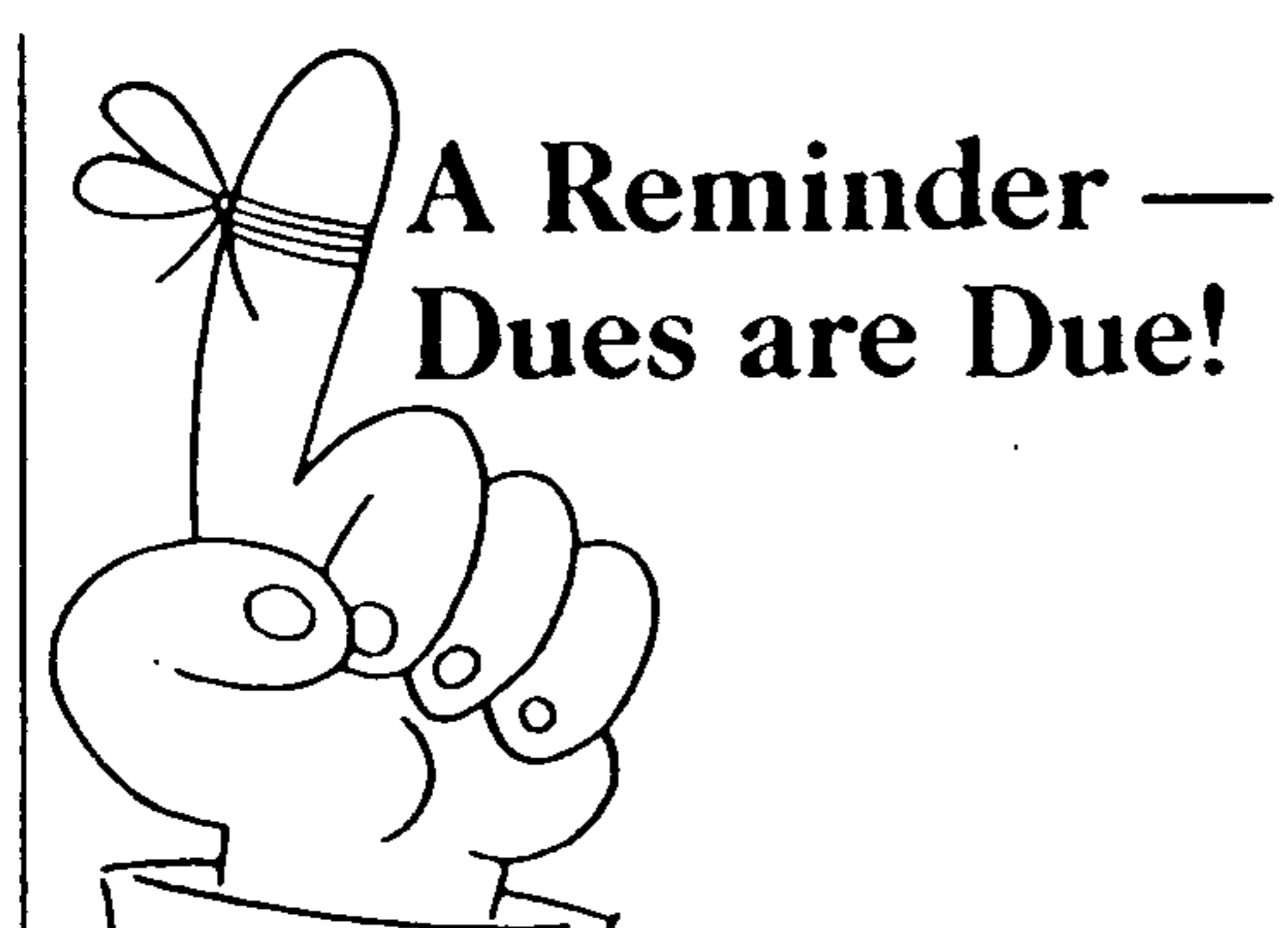
from Bill Knecht (9/84)

To leave margins on paper when printing D/V80 files such as instructions, etc, do this: Set your prnter to 12 CHAR LEFT MARGIN 12 SPACES. For Gemini 10X use the following:

```
100 OPEN #1:"PIO"
```

```
110 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(66);CHR$(2);CHR$(27);CHR$(77) ;CHR$(12)
```

Turn printer on. RUN program, then print file without turning off printer.

HUG MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

HUG MEMBERSHIP FEES are\$15.00.

Initiation Fee (New Members Only) \$10.00

New members receive 6 free programs of their choice from the Library Catalog.

Please send renewal and/or new membership fees to:

Houston Users Group c/o Ruth/Sandy Herman 6219 Sanford Road, Houston, Texas 77096. Membership applications are available from Ruth or on the club BBS, HUG TIBBS (713) 475-8909.

- GRAPHICS COMPATABILITY -

by Don Macclellan

BLUEGRASS 99 COMPUTER SOCIETY, INC.

The multitude of Graphics programs available for use with the TI-99/4A computer and their compatibility with word processing programs has prompted a request for some description of the available programs. This will be an attempt to clarify compatibility among most of the printer programs. The diagram on the right does not cover everything available, but does cover all of the programs which have been sold through the Society or which are available in the Society library. This discussion is not an attempt to provide a tutorial or review of such a multitude of software, only to give you a perspective and hint of what might suit your needs.

WRITER is the only prudent choice for a word processing program for those having 32K & Disk drive. There are no others which come close providing the features and versatility. 'Companion' is probably the logical alternate if WRITER were not so available. All versions currently available (and there are several) still use TI's WRITER program files. The best and least costly is FINNELWEB's version which in addition to freeing E/A & WRITER from their respective modules, includes -C, DISKO, FORTH, FASTTERM, and your choice of any others in a disk-based program which really begins to shine when installed on a 2Disk. Almost all of the programs which we will discuss will be loaded either with Text from TI-WRITER or through TI-WRITER.

The CSGD Series of Graphics programs written by Dave Rose has been widely accepted by our members and is shown at the top of the diagram. It is compatible with both Prowriter and Epson-Gemini printers but you must purchase the correct version for your printer. The Keyboard or the JoyStick may be used in any of the Editors. The message printing program is common to CSGD-I, II, & III.

CSGD-I contains the EDITOR programs for creating your own (1) Character Sets, (2) 5x5 Graphics, and (3) Pictures. The Editors, primarily the Character Editor, have undergone 4 revisions including the most recent which was in response to suggestions by our members. Provisions are also made to jockey graphics around to convert between alternate printer types.

CSGD-II is basically a banner program which prints the message sideways and 8 times magnified. It also contains the Graphic Editor but not the other editors. It has gone through three revisions including the latest which now allows printing lower case in the Banner mode.

CSGD-III is primarily a label program which produces multi-width labels in 3 heights. It also contains the Message program and a 'easier to operate' Letterhead program. ALL OF THE FILES CREATED IN CSGD ARE I/V 254 and are not compatible with TI-WRITER. The Docuprinter is compatible with WRITER and will produce 1 or 2 column texts using a choice of 6 type fonts and D/V 88 files through the Formatter. It will not presently handle fonts of greater height than 1 row.

The CSGD programs are supported by a multitude of graphics, pictures, and over 188 fonts written by Dave Rose and contributors who use and enjoy his programs. Three of our members have contributed Character Fonts. These have been issued as UD1(1), UD2(2), UD3(2). UD4(2) will be available at the meeting !!!

TI-ARTIST is an extremely versatile drawing program written by a talented young man, Chris Faherty, which many of the Society members have purchased. It allows creating, loading and modifying, size changes and many other features using the Keyboard or a combination of the Keyboard and Joystick.

NONE OF THE PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN THIS DISCUSSION CAN BE "LEARNED READING THE MANUAL. You must use them and make your mistakes: It helps you to remember. TI-ARTIST is in its second revision which now includes Prowriter as well as Epson-Gemini versions. The 2.01 RamDisk configured version is also now available.

The only files that were available with ARTIST were ART-AS however, Dave Rose has converted his I/V 254 files to D/V 88 files which can be loaded as 'Instances' and they have been released as the COMPANION I-III series. IV should follow soon since UD4 has now been released. In addition, TI-ARTIST allows the loading of GRAPHX files so that a rather large base of graphics is available to use and modify or create your own.

GRAPHX is a program with quite a few similarities to ARTIST; was written in Australia and introduced in the USA in 1984. It allows use of the Joystick ONLY, and is not compatible with any but the Epson printer. It is a quite versatile drawing board in the hands of an experienced user.

The support graphics available consist of **GRAPHX COMPANION-I thru III** and **GRAPHX PICTURES**. They are all well done though I personally have not purchased the program because of the printer limitation and my distaste for the Joystick. The availability of additional graphics is made possible through TI-ARTIST which will load and save to the Image (FGM) format. Several of our members prefer to do their creative work with GRAPHX and use ARTIST only as a transport.

JOYPAINT & JP PAL are Graphics Drawing Boards well spoken of by their owners. I am not aware of any Society members who own this 'Joystick' only Program. It does have options which allow loading from and saving to ARTIST &/or GRAPHX filetypes. It is currently only compatible with the EPSON printer.

ARTCONVERT is a Program which we purchased in Chicago that converts TI-ARTIST files to TI-WRITER files. It is supported by 4 diskettes of files; **ARTDATA-I thru IV**. This permits anyone with TI-WRITER to have the ability to print graphics. It will also merge and print two graphics but there are no provisions to include text in the graphic file to complete a document.

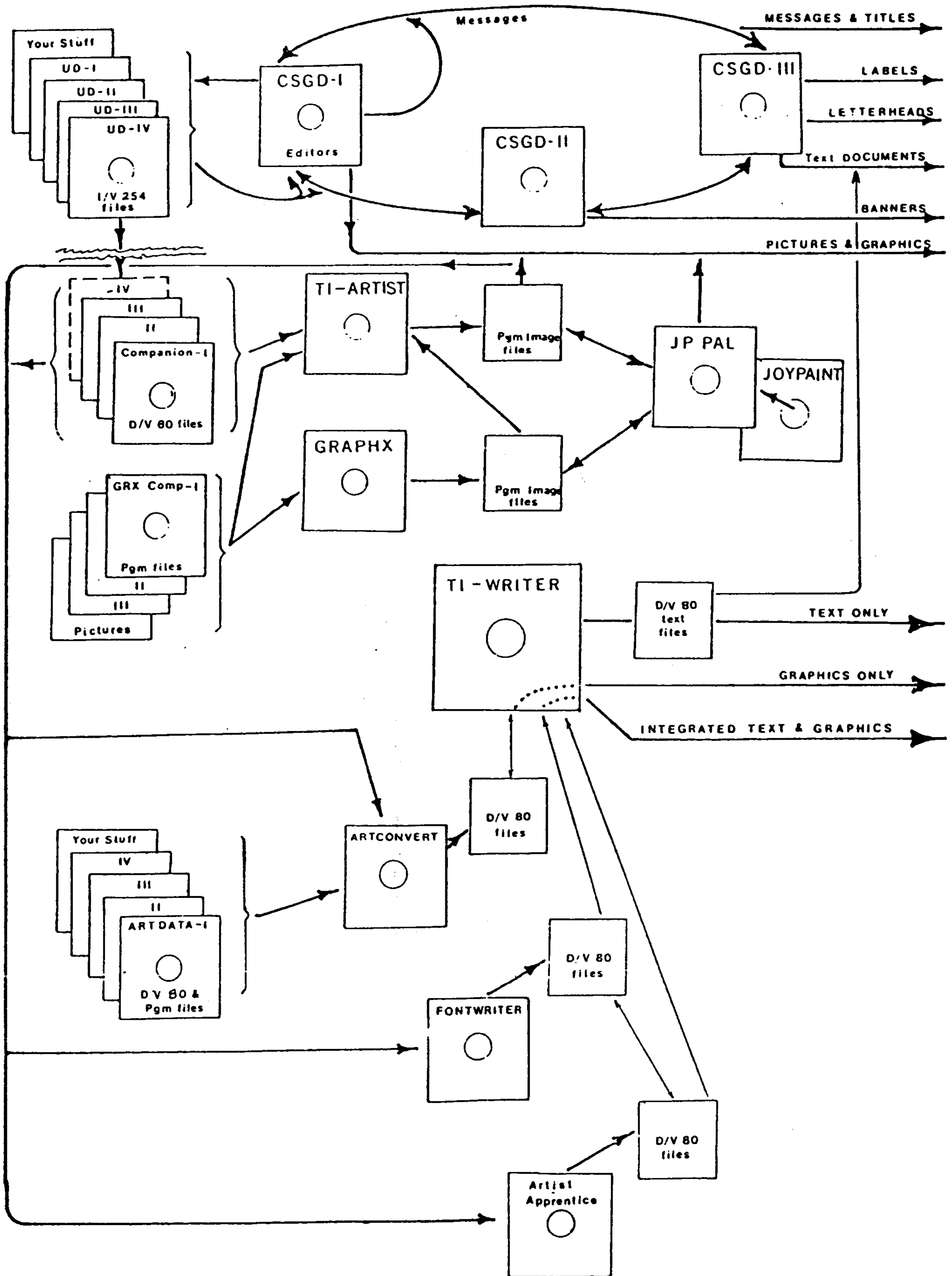
One unique feature of ARTCONVERT allows the user to convert one row high TI-ARTIST fonts for use thru TI-WRITER. This would allow conversion of all of Rose's 1 row high fonts in Companion I-III to be used though they contain only 78 of 96 Typewriter keys if you do not have the COMPANION series. Compatible with Prowriter and Epson-Gemini.

FONTWRITER by Peter Hoddie is really the first graphics program which is compatible with TI-ARTIST and TI-WRITER. With this program you can create your own type fonts, revise TI-ARTIST and CSGD fonts and use TI-ARTIST Instances mixed in printed documents even on the same line.

Although I bought it in Chicago based on Asgard's assurance that it would work on the Prowriter, the second paragraph of the documentation states that it strictly for Epson-Gemini owners. In a late note Hoddie added a brief text to the diskette which told of the location of the printer codes and I think it can easily be made to work with the better printers. The resources for this program are as broad as all of the ARTIST files plus all of those I have indicated earlier which can be converted through ARTIST.

ARTIST APPRENTICE is similar in several ways to FONTWRITER. It allows use of TI-ARTIST type files, fonts and graphics to produce files which are printed according to a 'Scheduler'. It is limited in being compatible only with the EPSON printer.

SOME POPULAR GRAPHICS PROGRAMS



SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS:

- 1) I must admit that my perspective is colored by a need to produce an attractive and readable newsletter for this as well as ASHRAE.
- 2) Most of the Programs are, by necessity, somewhat complex. We hope to introduce you to those we have not yet had a program on in the near future. It is much easier to get started watching someone familiar with the program.
- 3) The MAX-FILE program with an almost infinite picture resource can also be used to convert files between D/V 80, GRAPHX, TI-ARTIST, and I/V 128. It is available in the library along with about 10 of the 39 diskettes of files available.
- 4) In a recent survey of our Society, we counted some 18 different kinds of printers. It is curious and disappointing the many of the authors limit their market by short-sightedly rushing to publish programs without giving some thought to making them 'user adjustable' for the multitude of available printers. With today's Computer and support technology, TI impact printers are about as standard now as SSSD disk drives.
- 5) You should note that the Chart on programs goes from cut-and-paste at the top through increasing compatibility with TI-WRITER at the bottom.
- 6) There are many more Graphic programs available, some being around for quite a while: JPGRAPHICS (a FORTH program), DRAW & PRINTABIT, BIT-MAC (acore Joysticks), the APESOFT Series, GRAVITY MASTER, the VIDEO TITLES series, 3-D WORLD, PAINTER-99, ART-UTILITY and several others which I have looked at but not used. It is no wonder there is some confusion and dismay !!
- 7) All of the programs are sufficiently time consuming to require that the need exist for reproducing and also that they be fairly small. For a one time shot like the chart accompanying this article, enough nice things cannot be said about taking pen and pencil to paper.

FRANK & ERNEST



99' or ONLINE - AUGUST 1985

COMING ATTRACTIONS MAY 1987

Tentatively scheduled is a demonstration of the MYARC 9640 at the May HUG meeting, by Mr. Jack Riley, V.P. of Marketing for Myarc. The 9640 will be here and Mr. Riley will be available for a Q&A session following. All interested persons and users groups are urged to attend. Watch HUG TIBBS for more as the date draws closer.

-Bob Floyd, V.P. Programs-

(editors note: A BIG tip of the hat to Bob for a job well done.)

HUG LIBRARY CATALOG ADDENDUM
March 1987

0221 GNOMES**TUNNELS OF DOOM CARTRIDGE

A cute game that can be used with "Tunnels of Doom" cartridge. 55 sectors

0222 DO IT NOW**XB

See if you fit into the category of being a "Procrastinator". A cute test that will tell you whether you are or not. 37 sectors

1124 TI-ARTIST TO TI-WRITER**XB

A "Fairware" program that will convert TI-Artist "Instances" to TI-Writer files. 193 sectors

1125 CARE BEAR BIRTHDAY**XB

Musical and graphical program that illustrates the use of TI-Artist "Instances" demonstrated in an XB program. Written by Bill Knecht. 20 sectors

4260 FORTHPLAN**EA/3 Printer recommended

A Multioian written in FORTH. Loads in EA/3 as DSK1.PLAN. Submitted by Bill Knecht. Comes with complete documentation. 360 sectors

4261 RECORDS/PLUS**XB Printer required

A "Donation Software" program by Steve Risner of Tustin, Ca. A fantastic data base program that will do many things including reports, lists, labels and much more. 360 sectors

4262 LABEL PRINT**XB

A "Fairware" program by Doyle Batey and R. Keith Herbert of the Tyler User's Group. This program stores records and prints labels. 137 sectors

4263 GRAPHIC LABEL MAKER**XB Printer required

A "Freeware" program by Steven J. Mcwatty. This program uses the designs from Dave Rose's Character Sets and Graphic Design Package and prints labels using the graphics. 63 sectors

4264 IRS**XB

A fine program by Richard Coles that will help you figure your income taxes. 44 sectors

4265 1987 WORKSHEET**MULTIPLAN

This is a multiplan worksheet designed to calculate 1987 taxes based on the new tax laws and rates. This particular worksheet is set up for married, filing jointly. Written by Helen Girouard. Comes with complete documentation. 30 sectors

5264 GUITAR**XB

An XB program that teaches you how to play a guitar. 49 sectors

5265 KEYBOARD**XB

An XB program that teaches you how to play a keyboard. 49 sectors

```

oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
o      1 9 8 7      o
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
o
o      April      o
o
o      S M T W T F S o
o      - - - - - - - o
o              1 2 3 4 o
o <5> 6 7 8 9 10 11 o
o 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 o
o 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 o
o 27 28 29 30      o
o
o

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oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
o
o      May      o
o
o      S M T W T F S o
o      - - - - - - - o
o              1 2 o
o <3> 4 5 6 7 8 9 o
o 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 o
o 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 o
o 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 o
o 31      o
o
o

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<x>: HUG Meeting date

HUG Newsletter
c/o Kim Peterson
13107 Bafing
Houston, Tex. 77099-2244

Commercial Advertising Rates

Full Page: \$15.00/mo
Half " \$10.00 "
1/4 " \$ 7.50 "
1/8 " \$ 5.00 "
minimum \$ 3.00 "

Individual HUG Members

List your "PERSONAL"
hardware/software ITEMS
for sale for FREE in
in this section

NOBODY GOT ANYTHING OUT THERE
TO SELL ???? Common people,
unload some of that TI stuff
you've been warehousing and
haven't even used since the
GREAT FLOOD! It may be of value
to one of your fellow members.
Hey 99'ers, let's HEAR from ya!

FIRST CLASS

DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY
--- ---

--\\ HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED AN UNEXPECTED //--
> MEMBERSHIP LAPSE, RECENTLY ???? <
--// CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL EXPIRATION DATE \\--

(4-digit code left of YOUR first name)