



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE K-TOWN 99/4A USERS' GROUP

AND

THE ATHENS COMPUTER CLUB

JUNE, 1989

JUNE MEETING

The K-TOWN 99/4A Users Group will meet at the MLB (Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, Beaumont) Building on the second Thursday of the month. The date is JUNE 8. Doors open at 6:30 P.M. This meeting will be devoted to a learning experience. If you have disks in your library with files that you can't identify, then this meeting is for you. Some helpful hints on this subject are included in this newsletter. We may also take a look at these files with a sector editor. If time permits we will also take a look at whats stored in sector >0< of every disk. Please remember that we must vacate the building by 9:30.

DISK OF THE MONTH

There will be no DOM for this meeting, however the library and equipment will be on hand and if anyone wants copies of the software being demonstrated (except copyrighted programs) copies will be made available to those who bring a formatted disk.

KINDER KORNER-19
GRADUATE SCHOOL-4

By Bob Buehler

VOLUMES ARE COMING, BUT ONLY AFTER THIS.

A guy is at high risk (That's state of the art meaning "plain stupid") to develop and publish a computer program in staged increments like I've been doing! A sensible guy would complete and test an entire program. Then he would cut it up into bite-size pieces, describe them beautifully, and only then publish them, all spit and polish, in serial form. That kind of guy gets credit for brilliant programming no matter how many bumbles were made and fixed along the way.

But guess what. I consider Kinder Korner to be a 'learning together' thing, including me. Especially me! So I took the risk. Now I'm paying the price: Admitting bumbles and correcting them. But, best of all, **LEARNING** thereby.

KINDER KORNER-18 offered a small addition to the FILE subroutine of KK-17. LINE 1062 was inserted to GOSUB 3500. This was a SUB within a SUB to convert STATION using surveying terminology, like 2+35.67, to people language like 235.67. When I put that little trick in the SUB of LINE 3500 I thought it might be

needed elsewhere in the developing episodes. That didn't happen. As it turned out the conversion took only the one line and was needed only in this one place. So, for goodness sake, why make it is a SUB when it would be more comfortable right there on the inserted LINE 1062.

So now comes this great TI capability: Bring LINE 3500 to the monitor by typing in 3500 and pressing FCTN X. Then press ENTER. Optionally, press enter again. Now press FCTN 8, which is REDO. Back comes LINE 3500, **BUT WITH A SIGNIFICANT, USEFUL DIFFERENCE!** Now the cursor is positioned at the far left. Soooooo, just type in 1062 and press ENTER. Presto, that conversion thing now is an integral part of FILES, in LINE 1062. It still remains on LINE 3500. So why not remove it? You should know how. Why do I think so? 'Cause I'm sure you've done it accidentally many times. So now, just do it on purpose.

A Touch of Brilliance.

Well, it would have been, and I was so, so proud of myself, but it plain **BOMBED**. Moreover, mysterious, unbelievable, unexplainable things happened!! I've spent a few dozen haunting hours trying to decipher, but without success!! I'm describing this weirdo because the idea was good and I'm hoping someone will figure how to make it work. But the description is long and likely to be boring to all but dedicated programmers. So, read it at

your own risk.

If you look back into KK-18 I was losing sleep for making you key in A\$=DSK2.SCN for every 'cottin pickin' surveyed cross section. I was thinking then about the AREA routine (KK-18), but soon I realized it would apply even more usefully in the earlier FILE routine (KK-17). It would have relieved a bunch of drudgery in both places, if it had worked!

So, backing up to FILE, line 1130 would be changed to read A\$="DSK2.J\$N", making it a program statement instead of a keyed-in INPUT. Note that J\$ and N already had been INPUT manually in LINE 1060. I tried several variations until finally the quotation marks seemed to turn the trick. I was sure it OPENed #1: for OUTPUT in LINE 1150 because I could see the DSK2 light come on. I was positive that data got PRINTED onto DSK2 because I could hear the "workings." As final proof it would reOPEN #1: for INPUT, return the data with proper lights and sounds, and show correct data on the monitor with lines 1180-1200. That night I slept like a baby!!

I reveled in my "brilliance" for several days. Then the bubble burst when I tried to run the AREA routine, beginning on LINE 3000 using the cross section dimension stored with the "brilliantly" modified FILE routine. DSK2. refused to OPEN!

Then I remembered the INTEROGATION routine that I had cleverly tucked into DITCH-FILL in LINES 2000-2060 and told you about in KK-17. It was to bring to the monitor for review the dimensions for any wanted cross section. WELL it wouldn't load those rascals either. Then I realized that the INTEROGATION thing still has A\$ input the hard, manual way, so I changed to the same brilliant A\$="DSK2.J\$N" technique used in the FILE 'improvement.'

Then, by gosh, I could load, store, bring back with FILES, SECT 1, then SECT 2, followed by SECT 3 and SECT 4. (Have patience, because here comes the weirdo!) Then I could transfer to INTEROGATE and call up dimensions for SECT 1. The monitor quickly filled with authentic dimensions, but they were for SECT 4, not SECT 1. Trying for SECT 2 also returned SECT 4. The same for SECT 3.

So I dumped the program with NEW and reloaded DITCH-FILL; immediately called on INTEROGATE; got dimensions alright; but, regardless of which section was called, I got back only those for SECT 4. That's what was loaded last before NEW and RELOAD. Evidently A\$="DSK2.SC4" remained imbedded somewhere in Computer Memory from when last used in the FILE routine.

With undaunted persistence I didn't give up. On a clean disk, I loaded only FILE and INTEROGATE, and then repeated the above stuff with the same results, but this time I went a step further. I cataloged that last diskette. Not a single DATA FILE existed!!

THAT'S WHAT I MEAN BY WEIRD!! Finally I had had enough, and went back to designating A\$ the original, laborious way. REPEAT: All this boring stuff to most folks is placed here in hope some genius will toss me a computer life buoy!

ANYBODY STILL HERE?
NOW, FINALLY, THOSE DITCH-FILL VOLUMES.

Would you believe? The long awaited, anxiously anticipated VOLUME routine is only 3 LINES long, actually only one LINE long. The other two are window dressing. Moreover, it is a natural extension of the AREA routine and so has been made a continuation thereof. The computed AREAS are already in computer memory. No wonder VOLUMES for the whole blame ditch can be computed and summarized, reach by reach, in LINES 3120 and 3130 as the program is now modified.

Other Improvements.

If you've stayed On Board, and if your eyes are still open, it is your right to see the final, improved program, in all it's glory on pages

In further defense of change to remedy insufficient early planning, here late in DITCH-FILE and late in the last episode, I finally realized that the routine really consisted of only four parts, none of them SUBROUTINRS:

1. INTRODUCTION AND GUIDANCE, LINES 10-80
2. FILES, LINES 1000-1260
3. INTEROGATE, LINES 2000-2060
4. COMPUTE, LINES 3000-3150
5. QUIT (A last minute thought)

Whereas the early LINES previously had been called the main program, they now identify the program and author and the date, the program purpose, and its parts. This is followed by another TI Handy Dandy: the CALL KEY gimmick, LINES 30-90. I'll not explain this now because I did so way earlier in the Acquaintance List episodes of KINDER-KORNER.

Did I tell how to compute volume? In Civil Engineering it's called the "Average End Area Method." So, on line 3130, volume, V, begins as zero. Then, in a FOR-NEXT, Section by Section: Distance between sections is multiplied by their average area and printed to the monitor in reach by reach summation. Volumes are in cubic feet and in cubic yards.

This KK exercise is not unreal. Variations are a vital part of cut-and-fill computations in highway planning; also dams and levees. Even in computing depths of water in planning dams and reservoirs, flood control, and land management.

NEXT ON DITCH-FILL.

It could be said that DITCH-FILL is completed, but I'm not satisfied. There are two things yet in mind.

- 1.) A neat summary printout on the monitor and the printer also to show: Job, Section Stations, Areas by sections, Volumes by reaches, and Total Volume. 2.) Try again to specify A\$ to OPEN a DSK Drive by program statement to eliminate keying it in manually for each Section in the FILE and COMPUTATION routines.

I can almost promise the neat print out because I did something like it way back in '84. I can promise EFFORT on the A\$ thing, but not results. Maybe a challenge would work. So, I HEREWITH CHALLENGE ANYONE TO PROGRAM A\$=DSK2.J\$N WHEN J\$ AND N ARE ALREADY IN MEMORY." ANY TAKERS?

BB 5/10/89 and a dozen earlier dates. BB 5/18 too.

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10 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT "###DITCH-FILL PROGRAM###" ::
PRINT :: PRINT " BY BOB BUEHLER,5/9/89" :: PRINT
11 PRINT "IT COMPUTES VOLUME TO FILL ANY VOID THE
DIMENSIONS OF WHICH CAN BE REPRESENTED BY SURVEYED CROSS
SECTIONS." :: PRINT
12 PRINT "IT'S PRIMARY PARTS ARE 3 ROUTINES:"
13 PRINT " FILES, LINES 1000-1260"
14 PRINT " INTEROGATE, LINES 2000-2060"
16 PRINT " COMPUTE, LINES 3000-3150" :: PRINT
20 PRINT "SELECT PROGRAM" :: PRINT " FILES = F" :: PRINT
" INTEROGATE = I" :: PRINT " COMPUTE = C" :: PRINT "
QUIT = Q" :: PRINT
30 CALL KEY(0,K,5)
40 IF S=0 THEN 30
50 IF K=70 THEN 1000 !70 = ASCII FOR F
60 IF K=73 THEN 2000 !73 = ASCII FOR I
70 IF K=67 THEN 3000 !67 = ASCII FOR C
80 IF K=81 THEN 3150 !81 = ASCII FOR Q
90 BREAK
1000 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT "THIS 'FILES' ROUTINE: #LOADS
CROSS SECTION DIMENSIONS# #REVIEWS THEM# #THEN STORES
THEM ON DSK###"
1001 PRINT "NEXT #IT RETURNS DIMENSIONS FROM DSK FOR A
LAST LOOK#, #THEN GOES ON##" :: BREAK
1002 PRINT "DIMENSIONS ARE WIDTH 'W' AT AS MANY AS 20
ELEVATIONS 'EL'" :: PRINT
1004 PRINT "INPUTS FOR EACH SECTION ARE:JOB CODE, J#,
SECTION NUMBR, N, AND STAT ION, S#" :: PRINT
1005 PRINT "EXAMPLES: J# MAY BE '8C' FORSHOPPING CENTER,
N MAY BE 1,STA. MAY BE 2+34.56" :: BREAK
1006 PRINT "INPUT EL WHEN ? APPEARS,THEN A COMMA, THEN
INPUT W, THEN PRESS ENTER
1007 PRINT "ENTRING -1 FOR EL AND -1 FORW TERMINATES A
SECTION." :: PRINT
1008 PRINT "##NOW LET'S GO WITH IT##" :: BREAK
1050 X=1 :: COUNT=1 :: DIM EL(20),W(20)
1060 INPUT "JOB CODE=":J# :: INPUT "SEC NO=":N :: INPUT
"STATION=":S#
1062 B=POS(S#,"+",1):: H#=SEG$(S#,1,(B-1))::
T#=SEG$(S#,(B+1),5):: H=VAL(H#):: T=VAL(T#):: L=H0+T
1064 PRINT "ELEVS WIDTHS"
1070 INPUT EL(X),W(X):: IF EL(X)AND W(X)=-1 THEN 1080 ::
X=X+1 :: GOTO 1070
1080 COUNT=X-1 :: PRINT :: PRINT "VIEW ENTRIES" :: PRINT
J#;N;S#;L :: FOR X=1 TO COUNT :: PRINT EL(X),W(X):: NEXT
X
1090 BREAK
1120 PRINT "STORE BY INPUT TO A#. HERE A# MEANS THE DSK
NO AND THE IDENTIFYING JOB CODE AND SECTION
NUMBER,COMBINED. THUS A# MAY BE DSK2.SC1"
1130 PRINT :: INPUT "A#=":A#
1150 OPEN #1:A#,OUTPUT,INTERNAL :: PRINT
#1:J#,N,S#,L,COUNT
1160 FOR X=1 TO COUNT :: PRINT #1:EL(X),W(X):: NEXT X ::
CLOSE #1 :: BREAK
1170 INPUT "CHECK DIMENSIONS ON DSK?(Y/N)":WHICH# :: IF
WHICH#="N" THEN 1210
1180 OPEN #1:A#,INPUT ,INTERNAL :: INPUT
#1:J#,N,S#,L,COUNT

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1190 FOR X=1 TO COUNT :: INPUT #1:EL(X),W(X):: NEXT X ::
CLOSE #1
1200 PRINT "VIEW STORED DATA" :: PRINT :: PRINT J#;N;S#;L
:: FOR X=1 TO COUNT :: PRINT EL(X),W(X):: NEXT X :: BREAK
1210 INPUT "WANT HARD COPY,(Y/N)":TELL# :: IF TELL#="Y"
THEN 1240
1220 INPUT "ANOTHER SECTION COMING (Y/N)":WHICH# :: IF
WHICH#="Y" THEN 1050
1230 GOTO 20
1240 OPEN #2:"PIO",VARIABLE 80 :: PRINT #2:J#;N;S#;L ::
PRINT #2:"ELEVS WIDTHS" :: FOR X=1 TO COUNT :: PRINT
#2:EL(X);W(X):: NEXT X :: PRINT #2 :: CLOSE #2
1250 INPUT "ANY MORE SECTIONS (Y/N)":SAY# :: IF SAY#="Y"
THEN 1050
1260 GOTO 20
2000 PRINT "INTEROGATE DIMENSION FILE" :: PRINT
"DESIGNATE DEVICE LIKE A#=DSK2.S C1"
2010 INPUT "A#=":A#
2020 OPEN #1:A#,INPUT ,INTERNAL
2030 INPUT #1:J#,N,S#,L,COUNT :: FOR X=1 TO COUNT ::
INPUT #1:EL(X),W(X):: NEXT X :: CLOSE #1
2040 PRINT :: PRINT "VIEW THEM" :: PRINT J#;N;S#;L ::
PRINT "ELEVS WIDTHS" :: F OR X=1 TO COUNT :: PRINT
EL(X);W(X):: NEXT X :: PRINT
2050 INPUT "WANT TO SEE MORE?(Y/N)":SAY# :: IF SAY#="Y"
THEN 2010
2060 GOTO 20
3000 PRINT "ROUTINE TO COMPUTE AREAS OF CROSS SECTIONS"
:: DIM D(30),A(30)
3010 INPUT "NO OF SECTIONS?=":K :: FOR Y=1 TO K
3020 INPUT "A#=":A# !LIKE DSK2.SC1
3030 OPEN #1:A#,INPUT ,INTERNAL
3040 INPUT #1:J#,N,S#,L,COUNT :: FOR X=1 TO COUNT ::
INPUT #1:EL(X),W(X):: NEXT X :: CLOSE #1
3050 A(Y)=0
3060 FOR X=1 TO COUNT-1 ::
A(Y)=A(Y)+(EL(X+1)-EL(X))*(W(X+1)+W(X))/2 :: PRINT A(
Y):: NEXT X
3070 D(Y)=L :: PRINT D(Y);A(Y)
3080 NEXT Y
3085 PRINT "AREAS SUMMARY"
3090 FOR Y=1 TO K :: PRINT D(Y);A(Y):: NEXT Y
3095 BREAK
3110 PRINT "ROUTINE TO COMPUTE VOLUME" :: PRINT
3120 V=0 :: PRINT " VOLUMES" :: PRINT " CU FT CU YDS"
3130 FOR Y=1 TO K-1 :: V=V+(D(Y+1)-D(Y))*A(Y+1)+A(Y))/2
:: PRINT V;V/27 :: NEXT Y
3150 END

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PRESIDENTS FORUM

E.M. Smith

Here I sit with my mind divided between two
subjects. One is to make a list of the things I need to
pack for my adventure with Bill Sheridan to the Lima Ohio
Multi-Users Computer Conference in Lima this weekend.
The other subject of concern is material for the June
Newsletter which will have to be to the printer just a

week from tomorrow. This along with all the yard and garden chores set for next week is pressing this old man for time. Normally, writing this article would be on my Saturday or Sunday afternoon agenda but since I will be on the road this weekend I thought it best to get this article off my mind before we go to Lima.

I am much concerned with the low attendance at our last two monthly meetings. Believe me, it is very difficult to justify all the time I spend on group matters when so few members attend our montly meetings. With so few participating in the meetings and writing articles for the newsletter the burdens of the newsletter and programs for our meetings is being shouldered by far too few persons. If this continues, burnout is certain to overwhelm even our most dedicated workers. I hope each of you will give some serious thought about how you can share part of the load. Your attendance at the meetings helps to bolster the morale of the group and different faces doing demonstrations adds to our enthusiasm.

In our April issue I submitted an article that was designed to emit ideas from our members as subjects for newsletter articles. Bob Buehler is the only member thus far who has responded (I thought he did an excellent article of interest) but I keep hoping that more of you will share your thoughts with us through the medium of our newsletter. I particularly solicit articles from our members who live too far away to attend our monthly meetings. We would like to know more about you and how you make use of your computer. Your inquiries relative to hardware and software problems could be addressed in newsletter articles. This would help us in knowing that we are rendering you a useful service. Perhaps you have resolved a hardware or software problem on your own. If so, share it with us through the newsletter.

Another question, which I raised at our May meeting, and is relative to attendance at our meetings, is whether we shall continue to meet at the MLB Building? The space they provide for us is much, much more than adequate for our total membership in attendance. If we are faced with continued "no growth" and even smaller attendance do we need such a large meeting place? Frankly, from my personal viewpoint, I would rather have us meet in my home. Such a move would relieve me of the responsibility of bringing in the club equipment and setting it up, repackage it, and returning it to storage in my home. Those of you who have visited my home know that I can easily accommodate a group twice the size of our current attendance rate. Would such a change be good for the attendance at our meeting? Would such a change cause more "no shows" in attendance at our monthly meetings? This question may come up for a vote at our June meeting. Think about this possible change and be present at our June meeting to express your viewpoints. The deciding factor should be what is in the best interest of the group. Not necessarily what is most convenient for me personally.

For the past several years I have made it a practice to read all our guest newsletters. I read with special interest the articles which report the programs on the

agenda of each monthly meeting. Often times these reports translate into a similar program for our group meetings. The big problem with this is that I have my own special areas of interest and consequently if what they do doesn't suit my fancy then the idea is discarded for use in our group meetings. It would be fine for our group if some of you with different perspectives would make a practice of reading these guest articles and make recommendations for our group meetings based on your perspective. This could broaden the areas of interest for our group. Do I have some volunteers who will assume this responsibility?

Rambling along to a different subject, at our May meeting it was pretty well determined that we lacked sufficient numbers of workers to bring our disk library up to an understandable listing of what is in the library. Consequently, that project has been abandoned as an immediate goal. Bill Sheridan has volunteered to "comment" the library listings on a more timely basis and could use some additional volunteers to help with the project. Bill has already learned that some of the files on disk defy loading as well as identification. As a part of our learning process Bill will bring problem files to the attention of our members and it is hoped that with the combined skills of the group such files will be identified and the information recorded for future reference. Even a novice could learn a lot while working on this project. Who wants to help Bill?

In the interim, it was decided to make available to the membership a listing on disk of the LA 99ER's User's Group Library. This listing is well "commented" so that one knows a little about what he or she might be purchasing. Our members can order direct from the LA 99er Librarian at a cost of \$2.00 per disk plus \$0.25 for postage. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the LA Library Listing on disk it is available for \$1.00 if you furnish the disk or \$1.50 if we furnish the disk. If you care to have us furnish the disk and mail it to you the fee is \$2.00. We can also furnish you with a disk listing of the Lima OH Library, The Tigercub Software, and the K-Town listing (less comments). Any of these listings can be viewed on screen or formatted to your printer. More about this in another article later if not in this issue of the newsletter.

Of special interest to our group is a software review of Irving Crowley's CHECKBOOK III in the April issue of Micropendium. Irving is a member of our group who lives in Pine Level, AL and joined our group as an associate member of the Athens Group. We salute and congratulate Irving for a job well done and are glad that he has received this much deserved national recognition. Had Joe Simmons been present at our May K-Town meeting I would have requested that he or Irving avail me of a copy of the latest version of this fine program to take to the Lima Conference. Bill Sheridan and I wanted to do the same thing for John Bull's Bridge Program but Bill was unable to contact John before we left for Lima.

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POTPOURRI

by Bill Sheridan

TI-Writer hints seen in LA 99ers newsletter by John Owens of JUG-TX.

FAST CURSOR MOVES

1. Jump to first line of text:
Fctn-9 "S"(Showline) <Enter>
0 or 1 <Enter>
2. Jump to end of text:
Fctn-9 "S"(Showline) <Enter>
"E"(End of text) <Enter>
3. Jump to 1st usage to a word:
Fctn-9 "FS"(FindString) <Enter>
/string/ <Enter>
4. Jump to left margin:
Ctrl-V (left margin same line)
5. Tab to right margin:
Fctn-7 or Ctrl-I
6. Delete from cursor to end of line:
Ctrl-K

EDITING SPEED-UPS

1. Duplicate line:
Ctrl-S (Will dupe line above cursor)
(Handy for setting up vertical)
(lines in a table)
2. Case change:
Ctrl-. (period) change to lower case.
(For instance to change heading)
(above, place cursor on the E of)
(EDITING and press Ctrl-. at each letter)

Ctrl-; (semi-colon) change to upper case.) (Works
same as above but changes)
(to upper case)

The following was edited from an article written by Len Smith in the GREAT LAKES COMPUTER GROUP, INC. newsletter.

LOAD LIST CLUES

(A little insight and to ease the task of loading "unknown" or unfamiliar files or programs on your TI.)

The direct approach, putting in a disk, and then trying all avenues to load each file may work fine for some, but we believe a little more organized effort pays off in less frustration, or at least you don't spend so much time to reach the frustration point. We recommend that each "unknown" disk be cataloged first. This will

give you the name, size, and format of the "programs" and "files".

Note: Our designation "program" file refers to a "how to" source, data "file" describes a "what" source of information. Historically and confusingly they have both been described as files.

An excellent catalog is contained in Funnelweb which answers a lot of questions directly without resorting to Sherlock Holmes deduction.

A disk contains two categories of information; first is the header which controls the introduction between disk and machine. Secondly comes the information which is recorded on the disk.

Information comes in two forms; programs and files. This is our first clue to what the disk contains. A program consists of lines of instruction in various line lengths of random size. 1st clue - random. We can conclude that "programs" will catalog as D/V (display/variable) or I/V (internal/variable). "Display" files are ASCII text, meaning you can read them. "Internal" files are in hexadecimal coding, readable by the computer and some dedicated programmers.

A disk "file" on the other hand is an organized collection of information. That means each item occupies a certain position in the file in an ordered and regular manner. This file must be organized to have just so many characters or digits in such and such a place - in other words, it has a fixed pattern. 2nd clue - fixed. We can now conclude that "files" will be D/F (display/fixed) or I/F (internal/fixed).

So far so good - but watch out! Some files are variable! We can discover them by the 3rd clue - size.

Let's back up though and discuss size in conjunction with "programs". Size is related to the number of sectors it takes to store the information. Basic and X-Basic can be most any size and will be stored as shown in the chart below in a D/V 163 form. X-Basic over 45 sectors will require extra memory and will be stored in a I/V 254 form.

Now, the good part - and instant recognition - "E/A S RUN" programs are stored in 33/34 sector size. Note that TWRITER 3.UTIL is also stored in this manner. Most any other size category will be a graphic program of one sort or another. Look at the chart and you will see two most popular categories - 54 sector and 25 sector.

Back to files - they can be any size with only two exceptions - SA adventures and T.of Doom adventures which have been set up in a fixed size. So, now the 4th clue - random size. But this clue does not stand alone as a criteria, it must be accompanied by a distinction in format type. From here on it is easier to refer to the chart for the required combinations rather than describe the distinctions.

A quick glance will show that a D/V 80 file can be used for many different forms. A D/F 80 file though is invariably an E/A S LOAD/RUN. A I/F 128 file may be a graphic or a squeezed file. A popular format is the D/F 128 used for archiving.

Remember, these are rules of thumb. You have a good chance of success if you use them. They are not

infallible, however, as innumerable schemes can be devised and implemented, and only the programmer knows the key. TI computerist are fun hobbyist, not CIA cryptologist. If it takes more effort then described, forget it. It is probably not worth it anyhow.

LOAD LIST					
PROGRAM	SIZE	D/V	D/F	I/V	I/F
Basic	163				
X-Basic	<45	163			
X-Basic	>45		254		
E/A 5 RUN	33/34				
TIWR 3.UTIL	34				
RLE	54				
GRAPHX	54				
DRAWABIT	54				
DRAWABIT II	57				
DRAWNPLOT	25				
TIARTIST	25				
XB (merge)	163				
FILE	SIZE	D/V	D/F	I/V	I/F
DATABASE	163				
TI WRITER	80				
E/A 1 EDIT	80				
TI ARTIST	80				
IN:LD:LINK	80				
SPEC.LOADER	80	80			
E/A 3 LD/RUN		80			
C66D			254		
JOYPAINT				128	
CLIPART				128	
SQUEEZED				128	
ARCHIVER			128		
S.A. ADVENT	54				
T. OF DOOM	52				

NEW HARDWARE PROJECT

by Richard Miller

For those of you who don't read the newsletters from other UGs(which includes most of you), here is an example of the informative articles that you are missing. This article was copied from the April issue the Mid-South(Memphis) 99 Users Group.

There is a new memory chip just on the market. It is made by a new company by the name of JAPE. This all American company is going to beat the heck out of the Japanese competition. For one thing, their memory chips are made right here and are selling for much less then a comparable chip from abroad. The kicker here is the competition won't be able to out sell these guys. "Why?", you ask. Because it is a new idea as well as a new design in memory chips. In a 28 pin package they have placed 1.5Mbytes of virtual memory. The chip works much like a static ram chip, but its neither static nor

dynamic. The chip works in the circuit just like a static ram chip but needs no battery to hold its memory. Instead, it has a special capacitive cell built on the chip, which holds a charge almost indefinitely. It can hold a full charge for 3 months and 80% is still there after 16 months. I can't go into any detail about how they are able to get as much as they do on one chip, because they won't release any of that information.

Well, on to the project. First, I thought of buying the Horizon Ramdisk and supplying the ram chips I had on hand. But when I read of these new chips, I had the thought "Wouldn't it be great if these chips could be used instead of just ordinary rams!". That was, I thought, too good to be true; but I was wrong! When I called the Jape Co. they let me talk to one of their engineers, and he told me that any place you could use the standard 28 pin memory chips, you could substitute their memory chip. The price was as I stated, comparable; so I bought three of their #4189 chips. Just for the fun of it I placed them in sockets and replaced the two static ram chips in the console. Lo and behold they worked. In fact, so well that for all practical purposes I don't even need a PE box. I could load most of what Funnelweb has and even write this article and still have memory left over to load and play two games. And when I turn off the computer the programs are still there. Even when I turned it back on the next day. Except for the times I need to use the modem, printer, or disk(to load or save a program or file) the PE box is off or disconnected. Of course, as with the 32k upgrade of the console you're only using one of the chips. But I can't wait to try 6 of these chips in the Ramdisk of memory. Who needs a hard drive now. If you would like to try any of the suggested upgrades and need help, please feel free or contact Jape listed in your local dictionary and don't forget the number - 4189.

Ed. note: Much to our sorrow Jape Co. didn't have a representative at the Lima UG conference on May 20th.

JUNE MEETING

The Athens Club's JUNE MEETING will be held on Thursday, the 15th at 7:00 P.M. at either Joe Simon's home in the Seven Cedars Subdivision in Etowah, Tennessee or at the Etowah Church of Christ building. As is becoming the custom, we may very well be meeting during the month at one another's homes and may not have an organized meeting. Those who wish to come to a meeting should call Joe at home or at 3367475. Also, be sure to bring those programs with which you are having troubles and we will try to debug them.

MAY MEETING

Our May meeting was very well NOT attended. From the grapevine it appears that this may very well be our last year of active meetings. Most of us are content to bug each other during the month on the various problems

and solutions we have found. Some of our out of town members do the same thing via gram bell and the rest of us read the newsletter and do not become offended when we read our names.

We have just ordered another 100 diskettes for the club as well as some HD diskettes for one of our members who has both TI and IBM computers.

The give and take, the adventure, the disappointments, the comradeship found at meetings is what makes computing what it is.

Respectively submitted, May 20, 1989...jns

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STUMBLINGS

by

Joe M. Simmons

Have you ever stumbled on to a new technique either at the computer or in another club's newsletter? If so, this column is for you. The geniuses will be so deep in thought that they will never know that they missed these stumbles! Enough gibberish.

I am happy to report that my leg/back ailment has improved. While I am still aware of the potential pain with each step, I am able to proceed and imagine others are unaware that I have any pain at all. Perhaps Dr. Drury did know about what he was talking. I have always been a bit of a skeptic on doctors opinions.

This has been an eventful month. My youngest daughter spent a week at the Huntsville Space Academy. She said it was similar to the Space Camp movie but very much different. As Commander of the Shuttle Atlantis while returning to Earth at Kennedy Space Port, the Atlantis blew its front tire. Evenso, she, her crew, and the Atlantis had a safe landing. To say the least, she had a ball! And she is trying to get us to send her back next year.

I missed the K-town meeting due to our company having its annual staff meeting in Gatlinburg and the Athens Club meeting due to too many other activities.

Ellen and I visited Lloyd and Carol down in Vinemont, Alabama. They have been busy remodeling their home and have just recently returned from a private cruise in the waters off St. Thomas Island in the Caribbean. While there, Lloyd and I played with both the TI and IBM computers. I gave him a very poor demonstration of TI Base and he demonstrated to me a Foxware Base and the latest Yeager flight simulator on the IBM.

During the month, I visited Joel Braddock at Spring City. He is having a very difficult time trying to utilize pictures in TI Artisit with the Geneve. He can load them and see them; but he can not print them or change and save them. If anyone can help him out, drop Joel a card at Rt#2, Box 126B; Spring City, Tennessee, 37381 or give him a call at 615/365/5822. Trudie, Joel's wife, is really spoiling me. On this visit, she treated

Joel and I to a freshly baked Cherry Pie with Ice Cream.

Joel asked me to go to the Lima Computer Conference in Ohio and I would have agreed if Ellen and I did not have so much going on. He is up there today and is going to drop off two VHS tapes at the Lima User Groups table. The Lima group has graciously offered to tape the various presentations and to send them back to all User Groups who will provide the two tapes and postage. Hopefully, we will have these tapes available for the June meeting of the Athens Club.

For those who have not seen the April issue of MICROpendium, be sure to get a copy and read Harry Brashear article starting on page 36 about the Athens Club's Irving Crowley! Yes, how about that? Irving is finally getting the credit he so richly deserves.

I gave Irving a phone call and congratulated him. During the phone call which lasted more than 30 minutes, Irving related to me that he has recently upgraded his Checkbook Manager III to version 5.6 (he has since sent me a copy). The new version has help screens through the use of control keys which are very helpful and he has done extensive error checking to correct errors which usually occurred when making corrections using the file editor in version 5.3.1. Eventhough I have not checked the time sequence between the various procedural steps, it appears to me that 5.6 is faster.

Also this month we received an answer to a letter we mailed back in the Fall of 1988 to Steven DeBears who wrote a nice little Bible Trivia program. We had received his freeware from the LA99er Library and had sent him a donation. In his short note, he apologizes and says he just recently found our letter and check. Along with the letter he has sent his latest version (2.02) of Bible Trivia. To those of us who feel we know our Bible well should take this little trivia test and find out if we do or not. It continues to tell me that I really need to study my bible!

I continue to stuable through TI Base and continue to change to and from ti's memory expansion card to Bob Bueler's Myarc 512 card. I do not know just what it is, but there must be an incompatibility between either the TI disk controller card or Craig Millers Gram Kracker or McGovern's FunnelWeb or all. At times it works just fine and other times it bombs. As I have time to fiddle, I will continue to play with it. One feature the Myarc card is supposed to have is the ability to become a print spooler. I am hopeful that I eventually will be able to get this feature to work. I dislike being tied up waiting on the printer to print.

Enough stumbling for this month...Joe//12:38 hrs.
5/20/89 at Etowah, Tennessee.

JUST A BIT MORE:

TODAY, I gave Joel a call and found that he and Trudie had completed the journey up to Lima and back safely. On Saturday morning they ate breakfast with someone named E.M. and Bill. He said he left our tapes with the Lima Group and is anxious to see them when they are returned to us.

During my conversation with Joel he mentioned that he would like to visit our famous computer buddy and see his computer set up a way down south in Dixie Land. Yes, Irving we are asking that you invite us down to see you and your computer. I do not know about you and Joel, but my summer weekends are full. A Friday or perhaps a Thursday would be better for me. Let's have some dates to mull over. If worse becomes worse, perhaps we can indulge on Lloyd to suggest a ham fest somewhere in Alabama convenient to all.

Gram Kracker Users:

Do any of you have an explanation for me why it takes 3 to 5 minutes or so for the GK to warm up to the point that the E/A and XB will work properly? The problem I encounter is that the computer will either hangup, initiate the load sequence and the screen turns blue to green to black. I feel certain that it is in the GK since I do not have this problem when I only have the XB inserted in the computer without the GK. I hope that like Mrs. Audrey Bucher there are others of you out there in the 99er world who can give me an explanation.

Mrs. Bucher:

Can you give me an explanation as to how I can get the Myarc 512K card's print spooler to work? It appears that the computer II controller card is giving the Myarc card the data. But it doesn't result in printing!

GOTA GO! ENOUGH STUMBLINGS; 0010 HOURS 5/22/89 JNS

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MINUTES OF MAY 11, 1989

This was a repeat of low attendance but it was a profitable evening and a forecast of good things to come. Proxy E.M. Smith had correctly judged the lack of enthusiasm for merging our two libraries. Suvvoo, both libraries will be available for testing and description by selective K-Town members. The selection process is not yet firm. Rndy heat of about 98.6 degrees is one likely criteria and 20-50 vision, or better, with correction, is another likely requirement. When descriptions have been added to the catalog, members may secure desired disk copies under terms not yet decided.

As a substitute to the "merge" project, EM brought the cataloged and described LIMA USER library. We had our choice at 50 cents per floppy, stuff on both sides. EM will deliver our 50 centeses, Bill Sheridan Body Guard, to LIMA, OHIO, get the flippies on May 20 at a computer fair, and return them to Knoxville May 21. One of my choices was Funlweb 4.13. We couldn't get that version to work a couple of months ago. Here's hoping. I don't remember my other three choices, but at that price they are bargains no matter. EM didn't disclose his profit margin.

Too bad there weren't more members present to share this good deal, but all may not be lost. EM will provide copy disks of the LIMA library to those who will cough up \$1.50 per mailed disk or \$1.00 if picked up at his home or our meeting. But you gotta let him know. You yourselfs would order direct from LIMA.

EM also has the Los Angeles Group library catalog with descriptions on disk. This too is available to K-Towners for a comparable \$1.50 or \$1.00 deal. Again, let him know. Again, you place your own orders.

Come to think, maybe these would be proper disk-of-the-months. We've not had one since Good Guy Mike Epperson left the group.

There was also discussion of a Public Service Announcement in the MEDIA about K-Towner, and about how past promises pooped! I agreed to give it a try. I can't do worse.

Hauling the computer system to meetings for the small use usually made was also discussed. An option, with a group as small as recently, is to meet at EM's home. As many as three systems could be available there if needed. Sounds good if membership doesn't increase. The meeting began and ended on time. BB 5/12 and 5/19/89

K-TOWN LIBRARY POLICY

As most of you should know by now, the K-Town Users Group has two disk libraries. Most probably, there is much duplication in the two libraries. The problem with the two libraries is that there is no easy way to determine the duplication nor can one determine from the diskname just what is on any given disk. This creates a nightmare for the librarian and since the task of correcting this dilemma is very time consuming the group decided to take an easy way out. We will continue to maintain the K-Town library for perusal at our group meetings. In due time we hope to correct the deficiencies in our library. In the mean time, in order that our membership might have access to a reliable and well documented disk library we will do the following:

We have a listing on disk of three libraries. One disk includes the K-Town and Joe White libraries with the CATLIB program. The CATLIB program permits you to view on screen or print to printer a listing of the K-Town libraries by filename or diskname. If any member wishes to copy any disk from the library whether single sided or double sided, or a floppy, the charge is \$1.00 if you furnish the disk, or \$1.50 if the group supplies the disk. Add an additional \$0.50 for mailing to either option. The disk with library listings is in a DSSD format and is available in this format for \$1.00 if you furnish the disk plus \$0.50 for mailing. If your system requires SSSD format the library listing will require two disks at \$1.00 per disk. When ordering be sure to specify which format your system requires.

Also available on a DSSD disk is a listing of the LA 99ers Library. This disk is a full 720 sectors, therefore one file will have to be dropped from the listing to make it available on two disks for systems which require SSSD format. For this requirement the \$README file will be dropped. The files on this disk are well "commented", therefore you will know the purpose of the program or file. This library listing contains only public domain and fairware programs and is available from K/Town at the same rates as listed above for the K-Town library listing. In addition to the library listing you

will receive a hard copy listing of what is available from their storeroom in the nature of copyrighted programs. Their charge for disks from their library is \$2.00 per DSSD disk plus \$0.25 for postage. If you require SSSD format you will have to purchase two disks for each disk which you order.

The third disk listing which we have available is from the Lima OH Users Group. We have this available in two formats. The DSSD format contains a combination of archived and unarchived files plus a copy of ARCHIVER III. ALSO available for those who must use SSSD format we have this on three SSSD disks. In the SSSD format all files are unarchived. In either format, your cost is \$1.00 per disk plus \$0.50 for mailing. The files on this listing is also "commented" for your information on the nature of the files.

To obtain copies from the LIMA OH Users Group library you have some options. Their library is maintained in a floppy SSSD format and they will copy each side of the disk to a floppy or to two SSSD disks. If you send them disks to copy to, there is no charge except postage both directions. If you choose to have them supply the disk you must send them \$0.50 per disk required plus return postage. They will not make your floppies, therefore to obtain both sides of their disk you must purchase two disks for each floppy which you want copied. Don't forget the return postage.

If you obtain the disk listings of either the Lima or LA libraries you will see what needs to be done with our library in the way of "commenting" the files. Had we been fortunate enough over the years to have someone "comment" our library listing we would not need to rely on other Users Groups to supply our membership with a reliable library service. Such is life when one must depend on volunteer help. In the early years of our group some of you might recall that I tried to volunteers for such a project, but to no avail.

E.M. Smith, 5/23/89

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JOURNEY TO LIMA

by E.M. Smith

A BRIEF REVIEW OF LIMA OH USERS GROUP CONFERENCE

On Friday morning a bit before eight Bill Sheridan and I launched his Buick Park Avenue onto I-75 North, set the cruise control at 65 miles per hour and as if on auto-pilot we cruised into Kentucky. By noon we were nearing the Ohio State Line. At the last rest center before entering Ohio we pulled in and feasted on some delicious sandwiches, deviled eggs, cake, and drinks which Bill's wife had graciously prepared for us. With renewed energy we soon took to the Interstate again and with minor delays due to construction on the bridge into Cincinnati we arrived in Lima about 3:00 P.M.. Much earlier than we had first anticipated.

After checking into our motel, with spare time on our hands we headed out to the Ohio State Lima Campus. A

beautiful campus to say the least. We whiled away some time on the campus before deciding to go find an eating place. Having chomped down again we returned to the campus to lend a hand to the members of the Lima Users Group who were busily setting up the school cafeteria for the Conference on Saturday. Frankly, we weren't of much help but at least we had good intentions.

The conference got off on schedule at 9:00 A.M. Saturday and we attended the 9:00 o'clock conference. The speaker, Barry Traver, a giant in the TI Community, treated us to an inspired speech which was very informative. Before he finished with the first session it was time for the 10:00 conference which proved to be just as inspirational. In this article I won't attempt to tell you what he had to say. I couldn't do justice to him. There were about twelve presentations in all and they were videotaped. Bill brought along two VCR tapes and left them with the Lima Users Group to make copies for our group. We will make plans for you to see these tapes some time in the near future.

Another presentation of special interest to Bill and I was held by Bud Mills of Horizon Ram Disk fame. Bud also had a table at the conference and was presenting his P-Gram card to interested parties. Bill purchased one of the P-Gram cards from Bud and just as soon as Bill becomes oriented on the use of the card we will try to get him to do a demo for us at a future meeting. The P-Gram card functions much like the Gram Kracker. The big difference being that this card operates from a slot in the P-Box and thus avoids the problems often associated with anything that uses the ground port. Bill is as proud of his P-Gram Card as a kid with a new toy. I would be just as proud. I still like to show off my Horizon Ram Disk. The HRD is still available too, but the cost of chips today makes for a pretty hefty investment. It is still a good buy, in my opinion. My HRD gets a good workout each time we publish a newsletter. It's a terrific time saver in preparation of the newsletter.

The DYNAMO behind the Lima Users Group is Charles Good. Charles, I understand is a member of the Ohio State Faculty and it is his connection that permits the campus facilities to be used for this annual conference and a monthly meeting place for the Lima Group. Charles is to be commended on the fine, dedicated efforts in behalf of the TI-Community. It would be very difficult for one to improve on his performance.

In summary, I would say that the time and money Bill and I invested in attending this conference was money well spent. Each of us came away with renewed enthusiasm for the future of the 99/4A for continued hardware and software support. In the area of home computers the TI-99/4A remains a leader in choice by many professional and amateur programmers. I doubt that any computer is more versatile and yet so user friendly. Long live the 99/4A!

K-TOWN 99/4A USERS GROUP

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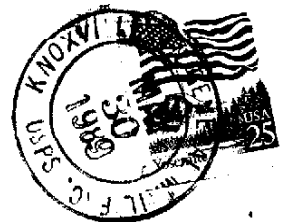
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