



# Topics

Vol 10 No 8

August 1991

## RAMELIN

### THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am going to write about Soft Ware authors this month. most of them do a good job on the documentation and it usually looks good too. But if the users don't understand the acronyms and special codes and they are not explained clearly enough all that effort is wasted. have you ever bought a piece of Soft Ware and it took you weeks and months sometimes to finally figure out how to use it. If I buy a piece of Soft Ware I want to be able to use it right now.

I am not a Computer wiz. I have learned a lot with my T-1 and the people that I have delt with are nice and helpful but when I ask a question about how come it didn't work, I feel like I just fell off the melon truck.

I had an instructor once that told me there is no such thing as a dumb question and hopefully he would not give any dumb answers. but that does not stop me from feeling like dummy.

we wish to thank all the people who showed up on the 31 of last month. we had a problem trying to get the printer to work. Tom Freeman demonstrated a utility disc that was in the market place.

We also want to thank our new News Letter Editor for doing a great job on the new look and lay out, this is his first one by him self. I heard several good comments about it at the meeting. new ideas always follow change

I had a strange thing happen to me the other night. I was using TI-Writer upgrade and my enter key started to print ( ? ), my space bar printed dashes, ( f2 ) key printed the ( ? ), and function plus would not work. I had to reboot. I felt like booting it out the window, but I thought twice about that one.

I see it time to close, so here I goes, so long for now.

YOUR PRESIDENT, EDGAR A MAY

## LA99ers

### MEETINGS

7:30pm  
TORRANCE LIBRARY

AUG	28	THUR
SEPT	26	THUR
OCT	30	WED
NOV	25	MON
DEC	19	THUR

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
SUPPORT YOUR CLUB, ATTEND  
THE NEXT MEETING ON  
THURS AUG 28  
Chick De Marti WILL DEMO  
FUNNELWEB'S MERGE FEATURE  
AND LABEL MAKING. IT'S NOT  
TOO EARLY TO START THAT  
XMAS MAILING LIST.

SEE YOU THERE!

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# Crackerbarrel

by Chick De Marti

\* AUG. 1991 \*

DM1000 TIP (June 1991)

I received a letter from Richard R. Hay, secretary of the NORTH COUNTY ears, asking about a clarification of the 'TIPS' by Bruce Rodenkirsh, I had quoted in the Crakerbarrel for June. I will take this opportunity to use it for material for this month's Crackerbarrel.

Regardless which version of Funnelweb you use, you will now find they are using the 3.5 Vn. of DM1000. So this information will probably be useful to everyone.

When DM1000 first comes up, you will see this screen.

DM-1000 Vn 3.5 --- FUNNELWEB

Select Option: 1 <-cursor

1. FILE Utilities
2. DISK Utilities
3. Misc Utilities

Pressing 1 .. will display:

FILE UTILITIES

Select Option: 1 <-cursor

1. Copy/Move/Delete/Type/Print  
Prot.Unprot/Rename/All/None
2. Recover File
3. Funnelweb Vn 4.1 (your vn)
4. Cartridge ROM

From here, if you press 1, you will be in the "copy mode" for files. Let's look at the options available in this mode.

The cursor will now be on drive #1...enter your drive #.

When the files that are on your disk are displayed, the cursor will be in the "CMD" column (as Richard stated)...(I can only suppose that Bruce in his TIPS preferred to call it the "operations" column). From here:

- Pressing 'C' tags a file for copying.
- Pressing 'M' tags a file for moving.
- Pressing 'D' tags the file for deleting.
- Pressing 'A' will tag all files. for Copying.
- Pressing 'N' (stands for NONE) clears all previous tags (allowing you to change your commands.

With the cursor on a DV80 file, pressing 'T' will type the file to the screen, while pressing 'P' will print it.

To RENAME a file, simply move the cursor over the existing name and retype a new name.

To Prot/Unprotect a file (using the back-arrow) move the cursor to the protect column and enter a 'P' or 'U' as desired.

~~~~~

That's the end of my expertise of the "File Utilities" menu. I presume the "2. Recover File" will do just that, recover

a deleted file(?). (I've not tried that one yet).

"3. Funnelweb Vn n" allows you to switch back and forth between DM1000 and Funnelweb.

"4. Cartridge ROM" does NOTHING on my copy of DM1000.

NOTE: To get a printed copy of the directory, use Fctn-7

I hope this has been of some help to those using DM1000 Vn 3.5.

~~~~~

If you have an Epson Printer and want it to print in the emphasized mode, you might have a line in your program similar to this:

```
400 PRINT #2:CHR$(27);"E"
```

Have you ever noticed the printer respond by moving forward a line of paper. It's almost as though the printer is answering you with a "Yes Sir". To keep the printer from advancing the line, simply add a semicolon to the command.

```
400 PRINT #2:CHR$(27);"E";
```

~~~~~

In Bob Buehler's "KINDER KORNER #9" (Aug. issue of the K.C. 99er Connection), he explains a program using the SMETSORT (that's a combination of SHELL and METZER co-authors of the sort). In it he explains the INT() command thus:

"INT means INTegeR. An Integer is the largest whole number within a numerical quantity. Thus, the INT of 1.69 is 1, as is 1.99999 or 1.00009."

While this is absolutely true, most of (in the business world) expect anything over 1.5 to = 2. To get the INT command

to come up with this value, use the formula:

$$N=INT(N)+.5$$

Here's how it works. Knowing the computer will return a value of 1 if N=1.99, in N's normal value was 1.4 (less than half), even when we add .5 to N:

$$N=1.4 + .5 = 1.9$$

it will still return a value of 1 (no harm done). However, if the original value is 1.69 (more than half). now when we add .5

$$N=1.69 + .5 = 2.19$$

the computer will respond with a 2. The choice is yours.

NOTE: As with any formula, when combining it with multiply or divide, remember the higher archei of numbers ( \* / + - )

Try this shortie, to graphically display the differences.

```
10 CALL CLEAR::N=5
20 PRINT "Example #1"
30 FOR J=1 TO 9
40 T=INT(N)
50 GOSUB 130
60 NEXT J
70 PRINT "Example #2"
80 FOR J=1 TO 9
90 T=INT(N)+.5
100 GOSUB 130
110 NEXT J
120 END
130 FOR X=1 TO T
140 PRINT "*";
150 NEXT X
160 N=N+.5 :: PRINT
170 RETURN
```

ADD 115 INPUT A\$

I'm out of coffee.  
See you next month  
at the CRACKER BARREL

1

**XBASIC MISCELLANY #2**  
By Earl Raguse

My son Richard had been staying at my house temporarily while his family is getting settled in Oregon. He had decided to move up there, but here is where he made his money. He is an IBM clone user, (mine while he was here) and is a fan of Microsoft Quick Basic. It is very much like (actually compatible) IBM Basica or GW Basic, except it can be compiled into machine language when you are finished. That, of course, makes it very fast. It can be run as an interpretive language via its editor while you are writing and testing it. Very slick, and I would like it except I am addicted to the 99/4A.

I have done some programming in both Basica and GW Basic, also Radio Shack Basic, and UGH! Comodore Basic, and each have something one can say for them in some way, line and circle drawing, for instance. However, TI XB has it all over them, and any other Basic I have ever used or heard of, when it comes to text handling. We have DISPLAY AT and ACCEPT AT that allows us to display and/or accept, or edit with a full editor, what we display on the screen at a specified location. Very powerful, and very friendly.

The best Quick Basic can do is use LOCATE, and PRINT to put a message on the screen at a specific location. Then it is possible to read it, using some kind of a loop, with X=SCREEN(R,C,Flag), which is the equivalent of TI XB's GCHAR(R,C,X), except that if Flag is true, SCREEN reads the character's color instead of its ASCII value.

Now the difficulty here is that there is no way to edit the text you read from the screen, short of writing a very complex program, I am not even sure how I would go about it. What programmers normally do is make you completely re-enter text that needs to be edited. Now, I know you would just love it, if FW were to put up a default file name, and all you wanted was to change the last character, or add a 1 or something, and you had to completely re-type it all over. You would if you were using some of the bigger and BETTER? computers.

OK, down off my soap box. Admittedly, one of the things I always did like about Basica, or GW Basic, was that you didn't have to write all commands in uppercase. IBM understands in lower case also. When I was typing lower case text with DISPLAY AT statements, I usually forgot to go back to UPPER case before typing the next DISPLAY AT. I was always looking at the keyboard, not the screen, I never learned touch typing. When I discovered what I was doing, I would say a few swear words and type it over, in upper case. I used to think about how nice it was that it didn't matter in IBM Basica.

Then I found out that it doesn't matter on the TI 99/4A either. Did you know that? Somehow I didn't. I knew the the 99/4A understood certain commands in either case, like RUN and LIST and RES. I have now found out that unless you use the REM (!) or quotes (") in front of statements, or if it is a legitimate variable name, XB will convert all lower case to upper case. If you enter a statement in lower case, and then FCTN @, REDD, it will still be lower case, but if you enter the line number and FCTN X or LIST it you will find that it is changed to upper case. Very nice, it saves me a lot of trouble if I just stay in lower case, and use the Shift key when I want a capital letters in text, or a variable name.

## TOKEN CODE SAMPLE

### XBASIC MISCELLANY #2

By Earl Raguse

One of the other things that tends to make programming in Basic easy is the fact that the function keys are, or can be, programmed to give you commands, like PRINT by just pressing one function key. Very Nice, but the 99/4A does even better, there is a key stroke (actually a two key stroke) for most the XB commands. This is because everything is stored as tokens, one for each key stroke code. If you press (CTRL ;) after a line number, while in the programming mode, you will not see anything but a space, but if you list the line, you will see PRINT, big as life. I will give you a few of the codes, just to titillate you, but the complete list has been printed in the newsletters several times. Just come to the Library, and I will find it for you.

| Command   | Key Stroke(w/CTRL) |
|-----------|--------------------|
| PRINT     | ; (Semi-easy)      |
| IF        | D (Dead)           |
| THEN      | O (On)             |
| ELSE      | A (Arrival)        |
| GOTO      | F (F               |
| INPUT     | R r                |
| RANDOMIZE | U u                |
| DEF       | I i                |
| RESTORE   | T t?)              |

I was told there there was only one catch, you must do CALL INIT first before this works. Well, I have found that even that is not required. I checked, I did a simple program, without CALL INIT, like this. I first did NUM 100 to get automatic line numbers, then did ! A CTRL A, after the 100 etc, on through the alphabet, numbers and punctuation. The Shift key doesn't count. Then I listed it, what do you suppose I got? The whole token list. I will print it next time. Its been fun, see you next time.

(Reprinted from SFV 99er Times, July 86)

### TI-WRITER PRINTER CODES

by Alice Cassidy, SFV 99ers

One evening as I was bragging that I had complete control of my printer by using the transliterate command, Ken Johnson (our fine editor), asked me why I went to all that trouble? He told me about page 146.

Have you read and understood page 146 of the TI WRITER manual? If you answered **Y E S** then skip this article. If you answered **no** then read on. If the only reason that you use the Formatter is for printer codes then read on. Look at page 146 to get an idea what it looks like. Go to page 98 and read that. If you still don't understand what it says don't worry. Below and on the next page are charts that show what keys to push for different printer commands. If you would like to print your letter in Continuous Expanded (Double-width mode) but don't want to leave TI WRITER to change the printer, just do the following on the top line of your letter.

**PRESS: CTRL U, FCTN R, CTRL U, W, CTRL U, SHIFT A, CTRL U.**

Both the Epson and the Gemini would use the above. The codes are CHR\$(27);"W1" or CHR\$(27)&CHR\$(87)&CHR\$(1). At the end of the letter you would turn the Double-width mode (Continuous Expanded) off.

**PRESS: CTRL U, FCTN R, CTRL U, W, CTRL U, SHIFT 2, CTRL U.**

All codes can be embedded in the body of your letter but be sure that you take into account the space(s) used by the codes.

## LA 99ers Topics

### GEMINI-10X PRINTER CODES FOR TI-WRITER

| SCREEN DISPLAY | DISCRIPTION        | CTRL | FCTN | CTRL | KEY | CTRL | SHIFT | CTRL |
|----------------|--------------------|------|------|------|-----|------|-------|------|
| ⌘B-3           | Condensed On       | U    | R    | U    | B   | U    | C     | U    |
| ⌘B-1           | Condensed Off      | U    | R    | U    | B   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘G             | Double Strike On   | U    | R    | U    | G   |      |       |      |
| ⌘H             | Double Strike Off  | U    | R    | U    | H   |      |       |      |
| ⌘B-2           | Elite On           | U    | R    | U    | B   | U    | B     | U    |
| ⌘B-1           | Elite Off          | U    | R    | U    | B   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘E             | Emphasized On      | U    | R    | U    | E   |      |       |      |
| ⌘F             | Emphasized Off     | U    | R    | U    | F   |      |       |      |
| ⌘              | Expanded One Line  |      |      |      |     | U    | N     | U    |
| ⌘W-1           | Expanded On        | U    | R    | U    | W   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘W-0           | Expanded Off       | U    | R    | U    | W   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘4             | Italics On         | U    | R    | U    | 4   |      |       |      |
| ⌘5             | Italics Off        | U    | R    | U    | 5   |      |       |      |
| ⌘@             | Master Reset       | U    | R    | U    | @   |      |       |      |
| ⌘T             | Script Mode Off    | U    | R    | U    | T   |      |       |      |
| ⌘S-1           | Subscript On       | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘S-0           | Superscript On     | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘--1           | Underline On       | U    | R    | U    | -   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘--0           | Underline Off      | U    | R    | U    | -   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘2             | 1/6" Line Spacing  | U    | R    | U    | 2   |      |       |      |
| ⌘0             | 1/8" Line Spacing  | U    | R    | U    | 0   |      |       |      |
| ⌘3             | 7/72" Line Spacing | U    | R    | U    | 1   |      |       |      |
| ⌘A-0           | 5/72" Line Spacing | U    | R    | U    | A   | U    | E     | U    |

### RX 80 EPSON PRINTER CODES FOR TI-WRITER

| SCREEN DISPLAY | DISCRIPTION        | CTRL | FCTN | CTRL | KEY | CTRL | SHIFT | CTRL |
|----------------|--------------------|------|------|------|-----|------|-------|------|
| ⌘              | Condensed On       |      |      |      |     | U    | O     | U    |
| ⌘              | Condensed Off      |      |      |      |     | U    | R     | U    |
| ⌘G             | Double Strike On   | U    | R    | U    | G   |      |       |      |
| ⌘H             | Double Strike Off  | U    | R    | U    | H   |      |       |      |
| ⌘M             | Elite On           | U    | R    | U    | M   |      |       |      |
| ⌘P             | Elite Off          | U    | R    | U    | P   |      |       |      |
| ⌘E             | Emphasized On      | U    | R    | U    | E   |      |       |      |
| ⌘F             | Emphasized Off     | U    | R    | U    | F   |      |       |      |
| ⌘              | Expanded One Line  |      |      |      |     | U    | N     | U    |
| ⌘W-1           | Expanded On        | U    | R    | U    | W   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘W-0           | Expanded Off       | U    | R    | U    | W   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘S-1           | Half Speed Mode    | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘4             | Italics On         | U    | R    | U    | 4   |      |       |      |
| ⌘5             | Italics Off        | U    | R    | U    | 5   |      |       |      |
| ⌘@             | Master Reset       | U    | R    | U    | @   |      |       |      |
| ⌘S-0           | Normal Speed Mode  | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘T             | Script Mode Off    | U    | R    | U    | T   |      |       |      |
| ⌘S-1           | Subscript On       | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘S-0           | Superscript On     | U    | R    | U    | S   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘--1           | Underline On       | U    | R    | U    | -   | U    | A     | U    |
| ⌘--0           | Underline Off      | U    | R    | U    | -   | U    | 2     | U    |
| ⌘2             | 1/6" Line Spacing  | U    | R    | U    | 2   |      |       |      |
| ⌘0             | 1/8" Line Spacing  | U    | R    | U    | 0   |      |       |      |
| ⌘3             | 7/72" Line Spacing | U    | R    | U    | 1   |      |       |      |
| ⌘A-0           | 5/72" Line Spacing | U    | R    | U    | A   | U    | E     | U    |

(more)

## EXAMPLE CODE:

In order to find the code for 5/72" Line Spacing look in your printer manual for the Line Feed Controls. The RX 80 Epson and the Gemini-10X show this code as ESC "A" n or CHR\$(27);"A";CHR\$(n) or CHR\$(27)&CHR\$(65) &CHR\$(n), where n is as n/72 for the CHR\$(n). On page 98 we are told to press CTRL U to enter the Special Character Mode. Now go to page 146 and look for the ascii code for escape which is ascii code 27. In looking across the page it shows that the key press of FCTN R is the same as CHR\$(27). So we now know that we need to press CTRL U FCTN R CTRL U, to send CHR\$(27) to our printer. Next we need to tell the printer what to do. We do this by pressing the key A, which is the paper feed command for n/72 inch spacing. Next we have to tell the printer what the value of n is. So back to page 146. We know that we want to move the paper 5/72 inch so we go down the ascii code column until we come to the 5. In the press key column we are told to press SHIFT E. We now have the entire code necessary to tell the printer to set the line feed at 5/72" line spacing. Be sure to remember that you must press CTRL U before and after each key press from the Special Character Mode (page 146).

ED Note: Last month Earl mentioned to me that part one of his XBASIC series was printed in Fica type instead of Elite, which was how his disk was set up. I wondered what I did wrong. I didn't know how to change type. It took some research, I had to learn about control codes. The Editor manual wasn't much help but this article by Alice Cassidy was, so I thought I'd reprint it. Thanks Alice. The problem was that the code for Earl's Epson and my Gemini10x are different.

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| Create allophone strings from text strings. Add English speech to your I/B programs.                                                 |                     |                  |            |
| 177                                                                                                                                  | 99/4A TEST SYSTEM   | LA99 Users Group | 9.95       |
| Diagnostic. Keyboard. Speech. Joystick. Peripheral. Pascal. Memory. RS232. Cassette. Printer. Bit-Map & Trouble Shooting Tips        |                     |                  |            |

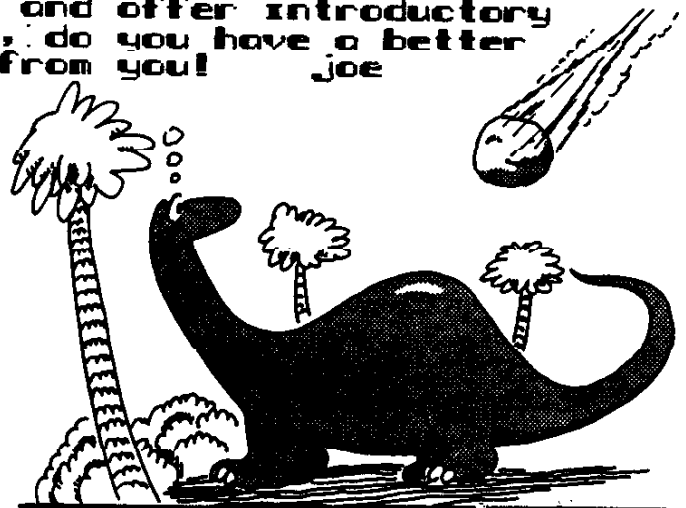
FRED MOORE 7730 EMERSON AVE. LOS ANGELES. CA 90045



IS THE TI 994A EXTINCT?

There are a lot of people who think so, yet the TI community keeps plugging along. Now I know that we are a proud group and there are many who would rather die (not literally, I hope) than succumb to the pleasures of those other computers. Well folks it's time to be realistic; it's time to take our heads out of the sand and admit that the IBM's, MAC's ect are beautiful machines and they will run circles around the 994A, not to mention ease of use, speed, resolution or available memory. Even in price by time you enhance the TI with Genivive, Ram Disk etc. you come pretty close to a low end IBM clone. Most people realize this and as a result we have lost a large part of our community, particularly the more experienced people who have need of the speed and memory available in the more modern machines. As I read through newsletters from around the country I see that almost every user's group is experiencing the same problem. Our own membership has shrunk to the point where we are sending more newsletters out of town than we have local members. So what to do? I certainly don't have all the answers, but I will say two things: 1) The problem won't go away by not talking about it. 2) The TI still has a lot to offer.

The survival of any organization requires an influx of new members, but there are very few new members joining the TI community. After all, if someone goes out to buy a computer they are not likely to buy a 994A - it's not even an option given them when they go shopping. So if we expect to add any new members we are faced with an enormous job of salesmanship. While the picture is not bright it's not impossible. First of all we have to target our "market" which I feel lies in the beginner, "unsure what I want" kind of person. Many people I know want to get into computers but they're not sure what they will do with them, so they are not willing to make a major investment. The majority if they do get involved end up using it primarily for word processing. That's all I did for several years. TI Writer is a pretty good word processor as long as you're not going to write a book. A system with console, PEBox, 32K, disk & printer could probably be put together for about \$300 depending on how hard one shops. Perhaps we could have a membership drive and offer introductory lessons in word processing. Well, do you have a better idea?...we need them let's hear from you! Joe



# CLUB MEETINGS

LA 99er User Group: Fourth Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 P.M.  
Torrance Library, 3031 Torrance Blvd, Torrance or contact:  
Pres. Ed May ... 213-644-6241

Pomona Valley 99er Computer Group (Chino, CA): For time and place  
of meetings call Pres. Bill Harms ... 714-628-1334

SFV-TI User Group (Tujunga, CA): For time and place of meetings  
contact Ray Kazmern ... 818-353-1164

User Group of Orange County (Huntington Beach): For time and place  
of meetings contact Ben Hatheway ... 714-622-2957

Brea User Group (La Habra, CA): For time and place of meetings  
contact Pres. Adrian Robinson ... 714-537-1839

Southern California Computer Group (San Diego, CA): For time and  
place of meetings contact Ken Hasting ... 619-292-9645

TI Riverside User Group (Riverside, CA): For the time and place of  
meetings contact Ed Butcher ... 714-686-0336

