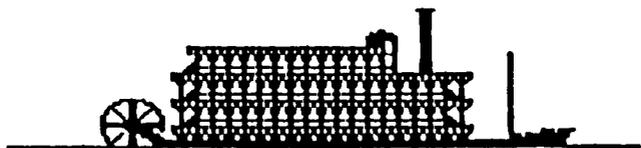


# TIdbits

MID SOUTH 99 USERS GROUP



MEMPHIS TENNESSEE

OCTOBER 1989  
ISSUE



# T I D B I T S

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# PRESIDENT'S BIT

By Gary W. Cox

The big news this month is that of the Chicago TI Faire coming up November 4th in Chicago Illinois. Since 1985 members of our group have attended the faire including myself and I plan on making this year as well. Around 10 people have showed interest in going this year including Beery Miller, publisher of 9640 NEWS and of course member of our group, who is going to have a table setup selling subscriptions to his publication.

At this months meeting we will be making final plans for our trip up to Chicago so all those interested should contact myself by then or attend the meeting. More information on the faire in IN THE NEWS found elsewhere in this newsletter.

I found another good TIBBS to call. It is the Texlink BBS operated by the LA99er users group with the Sysop being John Bohler. The BBS operates on a Geneve 9640 and is quite fast! The number is (213) 324-3185 and operates 24hrs a day at 300/1200/2400bd. Give it a try.

Texaments has offered us some very good discounts on software including the new TI ARTIST PLUS, TI BASE, TI SORT etc... We will be taking up orders for these products at this months meeting. It is a great way to save quite a bit of money!

Attendance at last months meeting was quite good with about 25 people in attendance. Those who don't attend meeting don't know what they are missing! August we had a big cartridge giveaway, September we had some great deals on used equipment for sale by members such as a monochrome monitor for only \$15! Marshall Ellis has begun publication of a new newsletter for our group called TECHNICAL INTERFACE. It is a great source of "do it yourself" hardware projects for your TI99/4a. This newsletter will be given out monthly at our regular meetings. Plus the library is usually available at each meeting and we display for reading all the newsletters that we receive from other TI user groups across the world. If there is something in particular that you are looking for those newsletters should have it! If that's not enough we have for sale Micropendiums and sometimes even have door prizes to give away not to mention the great demonstrations of the latest hardware and/or software. Then everyone is welcome to bring along any used equipment to sale at our used forsale table. Furthermore, last month Beery was kind enough to even bring along his Geneve 9640 to do the demonstrations with. In all we had four complete systems setup and running at the meeting. Good meeting attendance is a way to show your support for the group so if you live in town please come to the meetings, we need your support!

I must give a word of THANKS to Michael Dorman for the work that he did to get the Midnight Hour BBS back online after a catastrophic hardware failure last month. He even worked straight through the night to get it back online for us all to communicate! THANKS MIKE!!!!!!!!

I would also like to thank Mac Swope for such a great workshop cookout at his house last month where there was some great food and great computing fun!

C ya at the meeting...

# PROGRAM BIT

By Gary W. Cox

Meeting Thursday, October 19th, 7:00pm, Red Cross

- 6:15pm - Doors Open
- 7:00pm - General Discussion, Chicago TI Faire Plans.
- 7:30pm - Legends II demonstration by James Bennington.
- 8:15pm - TI-ARTIST PLUS demonstration by Gary W. Cox  
including a look at Star Fleet Technical Drawings II.
- 9:30pm - Meeting Closes
- 9:45pm - Late Dinner at location to be announced at meeting.

NOTE - Second Demonstration subject to change depending on if the software arrives in time.

# IN THE NEWS

By Gary W. Cox

The biggest news of the month is the CHICAGO TI FAIRE to be held November 4th in Chicago Illinois. The fair is being held at the Holiday Inn located at 3405 W. Algonquin Rd (Rt 62) in Rolling Meadows, Illinois. (312) 259-5000. The fair runs from 9am to 5pm on Saturday November 4th, admission is \$4. On Friday November 3rd a social mixer will be held from 8:00 pm to midnight, admission is \$5. Hotel room rates are \$50 for single and double bed rooms (mention the TI faire for the special rate. Saturday night from 7:00pm to 9:30pm a special dinner will be held, tickets are \$15 each and reservations are requested, call (312) 477-0690. For more information on the faire or activities call the Chicago UG hotline at (312) 869-4304 or call (312) 859-3850.

Sunday November 5th a continuation of the Chicago TI Faire will be held in Milwaukee from 9am to 5pm at the Quality Inn located at 5311 Howell Ave, Milwaukee, WI. (414) 481-2400. Admission is \$2.

Remember to be at this months meeting for plans on our group to attend the Chicago TI Faire!

If you couldn't find the TI FORUM section in the October issue of

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Computer Shopper it was kinda hidden! It was missing from the table of contents but it was in there on page 652. According to someone on Genie who contacted the publisher of C.S. there are no plans to drop the TI FORUM section.

Texaments of 53 Center Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 (516) 475-3480 has released TI ARTIST PLUS! The new version of TI ARTIST called TI ARTIST PLUS is said to have a total of six individual modules within the program including a drawing module, enhancement module, vector module, font module, print module and movie module. Among the many features is the movie module allowing the creation of short animation sequences... With the print module 1 to 3 pictures can be printed simultaneously... The vector module can be used to scale your drawings... In all TI ARTIST PLUS looks full of new features and the old version of TI ARTIST was great as it was! Current owners of TI ARTIST can upgrade by sending the original TI ARTIST disk and the front page of the original manual along with \$14.95 plus \$2.50 shipping. New purchasers can purchase TI ARTIST PLUS for \$24.95 (group discount for \$19.95) plus \$2.50 shipping. The program requires a disk system, 32K and XB or EA or mini memory to run. TI ARTIST PLUS is also compatible with the Geneve 9640 in GPL mode. Plus a whole list of printers are supported! I have a copy of TI ARTIST PLUS on order and will hopefully have it for demonstration at this months meeting.

Also new from Texaments is Starfleet Technical Drawings II. A collection of drawings associated with Star Trek. The pictures are compatible with TI ARTIST, TI ARTIST PLUS and possibly other graphic programs as well. Cost is \$9.95 plus \$2.50 shipping or drawings I and II can be purchased together for \$17.50. I have a copy of this on order as well.

Also new from Texaments is TI BASE version 2.02 where some minor bugs have been corrected and hard drive support has been added. Owners of TI BASE 2.0 and higher may upgrade to 2.02 by sending the original disk and \$2.50 shipping. Earlier versions of TI BASE (before 2.0) can be upgraded for \$7.95 plus \$2.50 shipping.

According to rumor a computer student working on his doctorate in Computer Science is attempting to complete an MS-DOS for the TI99/4a. Also according to the same rumor a preliminary version of this TI99/4a MS-DOS is to premier at the November Chicago TI Faire.

Speaking of rumors, Press is supposed to be ready by the time of the Chicago TI Faire, nearly one year after it's announced release.

Eric Zeno of 414 Highland Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15235 (412) 371-4779 is offering a chip which can be added to your Corcomp controller cards to allow the use of quad density disk drives. No information is available as to the price and availability.

That's the news for this month...

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# FOR SALE

2 Silver & Black consoles, 1 PEB with RS232, 32K, disk controller, SS/SD drive, Speech Synthesizer, joysticks, Magnavox Green Monitor, Leading Edge Printer, XB cartridge, two level desk with printer stand attached, swivel chair, plus software including, TI Writer, Multiplan, Genealogy Workshop, TI Count including, General Ledger, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Inventory Payable, Inventory System, Payroll System, Mail System, Auto Count Automobile and Truck Management System plus seven game cartridges. All is complete with manuals and documentation. Asking \$500 or best reasonable offer. If interested contact Walker E. Morris at (901) 761-5354.

For more for sale deals check out the used for sale table at each meeting. Feel free to bring your own used equipment to sell at the table!

# FOUR-A/TALK

Random ramblings about things TI.

By Bill Gaskill

October 1989

ANNIVERSARY MONTH

WHAT'S HOT:

GRAPHIC EDITOR, HARDMASTER sector editing utility for Myarc HFDC.

MILESTONES:

-Did you notice that Julian Achim (DATAx) advertised an entire 99/4A system for sale in the July '89 MICROpendium? Looks like he has given up on the 99/4A. Though DATAx has really been focusing on the IBM market for about three years now, it's never comforting to see any former 99/4A supporter leave the market. I hope that he and his company are doing well competing in the IBM rat race.

GRAPHIC EDITOR:

Rejean Felton has released Version 3.0 of Graphic Editor (GE), which is a program that allows one to edit graphic designs that are in Dave Rose's CSGD format. I have never seen versions 1 or 2 of this program and up to now, had never heard of Rejean Felton.

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Shame on me. This person has some obvious talent and the GE program is quite simply a superb piece of software. It is NOT a clone of Steven J. McWatty's Graphic Labeler program although it provides similar functions. Graphics Editor is a piece of programming art that stands on its own.

GE is written in assembler and it runs on both the 99/4A and Geneve. It provides boot tracking (except when the Myarc controller card is used) for the drive that it was loaded from and thus like FunnelWeb, allows you to run the program from any disk without it always going to DSK1 for segments of the program. Although GE can be booted from a hard drive, the author does not recommend it for a variety of reasons.

The real power of the program is its ability to edit CSGD graphics files. GE employs an editing technique similar to Picasso's in that the detail for the graphic is broken down into a 16 X 16 character grid. Each grid represents about 1/16th of the entire design. While in the edit mode, the program displays the whole graphic in the lower right corner of the screen so that you can see the immediate impact of your editing on the end product. You may use either a joystick or the keyboard to move the cursor around during editing.

Other strong features of Graphic Editor are things like a Smart Catalog that reads the contents of the disk specified and then it loads the file for you, control over your printer for double strike and double wide codes, dots per line, lines per inch and more, on-screen help at the touch of a key, the ability to do graphic labels and mailing labels and much more. What a professional piece of software!

Graphic Editor is a User Supported Software application (Fairware) that may be obtained for \$15 Canadian (about \$12 American I think) from;

Rejean Felton  
8387 Levrard  
St. Leonard, Quebec  
Canada H1R 2S7

It is money well spent.

#### HARDMASTER:

The leading distributor of programs for the 99/4A, Asgard Software, has released another innovative product in HARDMASTER, a Myarc HFDC compatible utility for hard disk owners. Written by Colin Christensen, HARDMASTER is compatible with both the 99/4A and Geneve. Using a command line interface in the Advanced Diagnostics genre, HARDMASTER provides sector editing in hex or ASCII views, a Quad-Editor that allows four sectors to be edited at once, the ability to dump a range of sectors to your printer, both in hex and ASCII format and a host of other features that, with the exception of Randy Moore's hard disk sector editor, have not been available to the HFDC driven hard disk owner.

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-Besides being hard disk compatible, the program apparently will also access Ram Disks and floppy disks from SS/SD to DS/DD format. The news release I read said that HARDMASTER requires 32K, Editor/Assembler and Myarc's Hard and Floppy Disk Controller card. I am not sure if the HFDC requirement applies only to those situations where sector editing of a hard disk is to be performed, or if it applies to the ram disks and floppy disks that also may be accessed with the program. At any rate I guess I will find out when my copy arrives. HARDMASTER is available for \$14.95 from;

Asgard Software  
P.O. Box 10306  
Rockville, Md. 20850  
703-255-3085

#### BLACK FRIDAY:

-Long time 99ers will recall that it was on Friday October 28, 1983 that Texas Instruments announced to the world that the 99/4A Home Computer would no longer be produced. In doing so, TI admitted defeat at the hands of Jack Tramiel and Company and decided to fold their hand on the home computer game. They have never fully recovered from that decision, and maybe never will.

-Many questions arose after the announcement, such as why the TI-99/8 was not brought out? Apparently the answer was, that TI filed or wanted to file bankruptcy on the Consumer Product Division's losses for the tax write-off, but could not because one division does not a company make, and companies file for bankruptcy, not divisions. With their staff of attorneys hard at work, TI was able to work out an agreement with the courts that they could take the tremendous tax write-off for the 99/4A if they removed themselves from that segment of the market totally. That was one of the reasons that a "Fulfillment House" (Triton Products Company) was chosen to dispose of remaining inventories of 99/4A stock.

-Although officially out of the Home Computer market, TI has continued to support 99/4A owners with repairs. They also have apparently continued to make periodic contact with Users Groups that were active during the days of 99/4A production. Most recently, I have discovered that the Mid-South 99ers in Memphis, Tennessee and the Kawartha 99ers in Peterborough, Ontario were contacted by TI Consumer Affairs representative Lois Brock, to see if their groups were still active. So there is still some interest stirring in Lubbock involving support for those who went out on a limb to support Texas Instruments. If your Users Group is still active, perhaps a letter to Lois would be a good idea. The information just might be passed around for the benefit of all. Write to;

Lois Brock  
TI Consumer Affairs  
P.O. Box 53  
Lubbock, Texas  
79408

DISCOVERIES:

-Jim Peterson, the old TigerCub, will be releasing TI-Public Domain Catalog #2 shortly, which contains 300 additional disks of public domain and "by-permission" Fairware programs. Those who have ordered from Catalog #1 will receive Supplement #4 listing all additions to the original catalog.

I recently purchased 24 PD disks from Jim, and was really pleased with the prompt service and the neatly categorized manner that he has organized the programs into. I didn't realize that there was so much public domain software out there for the old 99/4 and 4A. If you want to find out what is available, contact Jim at;

TigerCub Software  
156 Collingwood Ave.  
Columbus, Oh. 43213

-BJ Mathis, President of the SouthWest 99ers in Tucson, has put together a "Best of Newsletters" book covering club newsletters from 1983-1988. It provides information on a variety of topics from hardware to TI-Writer. As with all of BJ's fare that I have seen, the book is cleanly laid out and professionally presented. If you would like to find out more, or order a copy right away, the price is \$5.

SouthWest 99ers  
Box 17831  
Tucson, Az. 85730

-Marc Levine, the Illinois 99er who first brought the DKM Basic Compiler to my attention, is hard at work trying to accumulate the specs to archive algorithms for other computers. His goal is to provide enterprising 99/4A and Geneve programmers with the information necessary to enhance archiving capabilities even more for the TI Community.

-Jim Reiss, the assembly language wizard who brought us TYPEWRITER 99 has released a Fairware offering called PIX. It is a graphics picture display program with a new format that is apparently faster and more efficient for two color displays than the Run Length Encoded (RLE) format that is currently the standard. PIX supposedly stores color pictures in a single file and will handle TI-Artist, Graphx and RLE format files, including saving them. It is available on Delphi, Genie, probably CompuServe and perhaps your local BBS.

-Alexander Hulpke has written a 99/4A version of the classic game TETRIS that IBM'ers have had for a few years. The program is 100% assembly and works beautifully. In case you are not familiar with TETRIS, it is a quick-reflex game that requires you to stack and organize geometric shapes, that "fall from the sky", in the most efficient way possible. The more figures you are able to stack in the available box, the more points you make. Engrossing and difficult. A must for the intellectual game player. Mr. Hulpke asks only \$10 for his efforts. I found the program on GENIE, but it is probably available on all of the major TI-SIGs and BBS's around the country. To order a copy or to send in the FairWare

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fee, write to;

Alexander Hulpke  
Sadowastrasse 68  
D-5600 Wuppertal 1  
West Germany

TRIVIA:

Did you know that;

-Among all the other game modules AtariSoft offered for the 99/4A, they listed one (that I've never heard of or seen) called Super Storm?

-Gary Kaplan's 99'er-Ware spin-off from 99er Magazine offered several products including the TI-Sette cassette recorder adapter, a single sheet feeder for the MX-80 printer, a disk caddy called the Mini-Flex File, some nice binders to keep your back issues of 99er safe and a complete typing course on cassette called Key Master?

-Fred McCarty, author of Textiger, one of the early extended basic word processors for the 99/4 and 4A (before TI-Writer appeared in August of 1982), marketed his program under the company name Patio Pacific Inc. before changing the name to Textiger to match the name of the product?

-MPI's 99G Omega printer, which debuted in October '82 at TI-FEST, had a unique front loader for the single sheet feeder that accepted paper from the bottom (underneath) of the printer? Whatever happened to that gem, anyway? It looked great and had good performance stats.

-Peter Cookman's Denali Data Company, which introduced the first joystick adapter for the 99/4 and 4A so Atari joysticks could be used instead of the Wired Remote Controllers, also produced adapters so that Bally, Odyssey and Le Stick joysticks could be used on the 99/4 and 4A?

-There were two numeric keypads offered for the 99/4A (that I am aware of), the Computech SpeedKey and the Denali Data JoyPad? I cannot find any evidence that the Denali JoyPad actually made it off of the drawing board however. Has anyone out there actually seen one? There was also a software program called KEYPAD II that was marketed by Tom Owens, 1937 Claremont Ave #23 Ashland, Ohio 44805, in 1984 that apparently was designed to turn the 99/4A keyboard into a numeric keypad.

-YCAN Systems Inc., producer of the YCAN Business Software package that has most recently been marketed by TexComp, Triton and others, originally started out as Paul Yates Computer Services? TexComp has recently began offering the YCAN products for \$7.95 by the way. It includes order-entry inventory tracking, mail list management and more. Although I have never seen it reviewed anywhere, I don't see how you can go wrong at that price if the product is in your realm of interest.

THIS MONTH IN TI-99 HISTORY:

<1980>

In a letter to the United Kingdom, TI tells dealers that an extended grow is under development but memory expansion is not planned. They point out that no interaction between Basic and the grows in the computer is possible, though the statement is not true as far as PRK and the Statistics modules are concerned. A February '81 date is given for delivery of the UK PAL model. Modules promised for November 1980 release in the UK are Five a Side Football and Hunt the Wumpus.

<1981>

Netherlands 99er Paul Karis reveals the hidden secrets of the PRK module in an article published in TIHOME Tidings in England.

-TEXNET goes on-line Oct. 23rd on The Source. It is the first TI-SIG offered on any commercial information service.

<1982>

The 99er Magazine TI-FEST takes place in San Francisco on the 22nd to 24th.

-TIHOME Tidings magazine publishes a CALL G,H,L,P and S article for PRK basic.

-DISPLAY ENHANCEMENT PACKAGE released by Oak Tree Systems.

-TI-FORTH is shown at TI-FEST.

-Micro Peripherals Incorporated's 99G Omega printer debuts at TI-FEST in San Francisco.

<1983>

TI announces publically (on the 28th) that it will no longer be producing the 99/4A. The \$50 rebate program is cancelled on October 31st but TI decides to continue the free Speech Synthesizer (with the purchase of six modules) offer until January 31, 1984.

-Sierra On-line agrees to produce JAWBREAKER for the 99/4A.

-Doryt Systems, Dhein Hardware and Tex-ware Associates advertise a contest for 99ers that is jointly sponsored by all three firms.

-Navarone releases the GrowBuster.

-ProStick 2002 joystick released.

-Andrew Pollack writes a multi-page article on the demise of the 99/4A in the October 29, 1983 edition of the New York times.

<1984>

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Mikel Labs releases an RS232 standalone unit for the 99/4A.

-Infocom releases SEASTALKER adventure game.

<1985>

Myarc's Lou Phillips announces that the 256K 99/4A compatible computer will be demonstrated at the Chicago TI Faire.

-CAN INC. of Longueuil, Canada announce the release of MAXIMEM.

-Myarc announces the shipping of XBII.

-"CRACKING THE 99/4A" book released by Midnight Express Publishers.

-Crow Software releases TRIBE scanner for dialing into "other" computers.

-Shipping of CorComp's Triple Tech card begins.

-VMC Software, Box 326 Cambria Heights, New York, announces HIMS, a new Home Information Management System.

<1986>

MYARC announces intentions to produce a hard disk controller for the 99/4A.

-MG (Millers Graphics) announces a disk of utilities for the GRAM KRACKER.

-Last REGENA or any other 99/4A article appears in COMPUTE!.

<1987>

First checksum program for proofing TI BASIC/XB programs appears in MICROpendium. Written by Los Angeles 99er Tom Freeman.

-Myarc releases first version of MDOS for the Geneve 9640 computer.

-A comprehensive comparison of database managers for the 99/4A is published in MICROpendium.

-Datax announces move to Florida.

<1988>

Long time LA 99er Users Group member George Steffen dies in New York.

-Dr. Ron Albright, author of the Orphan Chronicles leaves his post as a writer for the TI Forum monthly column.

-MICROpendium begins a new monthly column entitled MICROreviews. Author is Harry Brashear.

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-PRESS word processor is scheduled to debut at the Chicago Faire on Nov 12.

-HyperCopy by Mike Dodd is said to be ready for release at Chicago Faire.

-Tex Comp Box 33084 Granada Hills, Cal. 91334 announces that it will begin sale of the Collins Starter Packs for game programmers.

# TI-SORT REVIEW

By Berry Miller

TI-SORT is one of those programs that comes along and takes care of everything you need when something has to be done. With TI-SORT, it's application is towards sorting data files. No matter what format they are stored. Since it's author is also the author of TI-BASE, TI-SORT will handle files created by TI-BASE without any problem at all. TI-BASE data files are the easiest to handle when using TI-SORT. The best thing about TI-SORT is that it can handle an unlimited amount of data which no other program can claim. It can also sort on up to 8 fields which no other program can do. And it is extremely fast. Second in sorting speed only to J. P. Hoddies Sort Experiment which was limited and could not sort on as many fields or handle as much data.

When things become a little bit more difficult, the manual that is provided with TI-SORT steps in and explains what is needed for TI-SORT to handle your file. The manual is really only required when working with delimited files, fixed length files, basic and/or extended basic files. In those other non-standard formats, knowledge is required about the file structure and fields and the character that terminates each record. This is explained in the manual provided.

And to top things off even more, the author has built in help menu's at nearly every prompt by just pressing F7 that tells what is required for input... and the information is in a window overlay format similar to TELCO. Support is even provided for the Geneve since it runs so much quicker. Since the Geneve has quicker keyboard response, a built in keypress will automatically slow down the repeating feature often seen on the 9640 to that on the 4A.

This program is a definite hit on my list. Textaments is offering the program for \$14.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling at 53 Center Street, Patchogue, NY 11772.

# TECHNICAL INTERFACE

By Marshal H. Ellis

This is not a new device of some kind! This is the title of a new package of information for the members of the Mid-South 99er User Group.

You will not find this to be another newsletter. Our current club newsletter is a great one, it tends to cover current (new) articles and news. However, THIS somewhat monthly, pamphlet will be tuned in to articles from older exchange newsletters which most of our club members may not have seen. Some of it has simply gone unnoticed. Programs copied from these same sources will be submitted to the library on disk.

The main focus will be on hardware and programming information. This will be from copies of or information from our club's exchange newsletters or by direct submission. All articles will be aimed at individual use. That is to say that a team of experts will not be needed. A cover sheet, carrying the title, logo, and index will be used and credits will be on the pages within.

These newsletters, which I keep track of, have developed a life (nearly) of their own. Our club exchanges newsletters with a dozen, or so, other clubs in order to keep up with information of what's going on. A lot of information comes to us this way. I originally set out to keep track of all the club's exchange newsletters. As part of getting an idea of what we had, I started a database system for tracking the articles in the newsletters. Of course, I also have the newsletters available for reading. This reading and note taking lead to a heightening of my own interests. As I was able to share some of the ideas with people in the club, the database became more important. Now, I can locate articles on items of interest and copy pages from the newsletters. And, as this comes full circle, the information can be returned to others again.

Our first edition, Sept. 1989, was given out at the Sept. club meeting, so most of our members have already seen the pamphlet. At this time the pamphlet costs are being covered by our club, and the issues will be for each regular meeting. I hope that everyone takes a good look at this material. Give some thought as to the content of this pamphlet. Have you got any ideas on its direction? Let me know!

# 9640 NEWS

By Beery Miller

## NOW INTRODUCING.....MIXPICTURE

9640 News is proud to announce one of the finest utilities to date to enhance MYART by Myarc. Running from MDOS only and taking advantage of the high resolution graphics (256 \* 192/212) created by MYART, it is now possible to actually 'overlay' MYART pictures to your preference. Portions of pictures may be saved and reloaded to overlap in any desire you prefer. An infinite number of pictures may be overlaid creating as interesting display as you wish to create. Sample overlays are provided, along with one of the truly most enhanced 'Boot Screens' to have ever been displayed on the 9640 (almost as close to 3D as you will ever see).

As an added incentive, the author has made available the source code to this program if a diskette and mailer is provided. To obtain this program and the information to order the source code, you must be a subscriber to 9640News.

At present, with the use of Picture Transfer[(c) by Paul Charlton], an infinite number of pictures can be created by mixing various portions of low resolution GIF pictures converted to MYART format and loaded with MIXPICTURE. The possibilities are limitless. And I am sure there is more to come in future releases. This is only V O.01 as released by the author as he apparently has more in mind.....

If you are not a subscriber to 9640NEWS, you may order on DELPHI (credit card orders available only on DELPHI) in the Magazine subscription area, or you may mail a check or money order to:

Beery W. Miller  
5455 Marina Cove #1  
Memphis, TN 38115

5 Issues for \$25.00 (US or Canada)  
\$30.00 (foreign delivery)

Please specify maximum disk capacity along with whether you wish to begin your subscription with Vol 1 #1, or Vol 1 #4 to be released in Mid October (sooner if I can type just a little bit quicker).

## 9640 NEWS Vol 1 #4

What will Vol 1 #4 contain:

9640 NEWS Vol 1 #4 is going to be jammed packed this issue. There will be more reviews, news, ads (with savings if you are a 9640 NEWS subscriber), tutorials (in 9640 Fortran which demonstrates

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disk I/O, arguments, string manipulations, and strategy in planning a fortran program by Al Beard), the latest releases of XHI that now permits 3 different screen modes in extended basic, and much much more. Also, there will be an implementation of 'framing' text from MDOS batch files with a special program I wrote, and the list goes on.....

If you miss this issue, you will regret it.

# IN THE MIDNIGHT HOUR

By Michael Dorman

## Some good reasons to attend this month's meeting

1. The new Technical Interface handout - a collection of some articles from other TI user groups.
2. Handout of console overlays reprinted from Australian newsletter.
3. Chicago trip planning meeting. Time to make arrangements for going to the annual Chicago TI Faire. The MidSouth 99 Users Group has always been well represented. (Information on the TI Faire can be found on pages 17-18.)
4. Good Times and good presentations.

## Local GENie access

The local phone number for GENie (761-7884) now supports 2400 bps modems. Previously only 300/1200 bps was supported. GENie non-prime hourly rates are \$6.00 for 300/1200 and \$10.00 for 2400 bps.

These should result in some cost savings for multiple downloads at 2400 bps. Additionally, GENie now supports the Zmodem protocol for multiple downloads. Chuck Forsberg, the creator of Zmodem, helped GENie in their implentation of the protocol.

Zmodem is not currently available in a 4A terminal emulator but is a very powerful and increasingly popular file transfer protocol. For those people with access to a computer that has an emulator that supports Zmodem, this is a great boon in downloading files.

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TI FAIRE WEEKEND

WHERE: CHICAGO  
Holiday Inn  
3505 Algonguin Rd. (Rt. 62)  
Rolling Meadow, IL

WHEN: Saturday, November 4, 1989  
9 am - 5 pm

ADMISSION: \$4.00

FOR INFORMATION CALL: (312) 869-4304

OR WRITE TO: Chicago Area TI Users' Group  
P.O. Box 578341  
Chicago, IL 60657

BBS: (312) 862-0182

VENDORS: GENie  
JP Software  
Competition Computer Products  
9640 News  
(partial Data System  
list) Rave 99 Co.  
B and D Computer Supplies  
Barry Boone  
C and D Drive  
Genial Computerware  
Asgard Software  
Will County Users Group  
Hunter Electronics  
Great Lakes Software  
L. L. Conner Enterprise  
Chicago Area Users' Group

SOCIAL MIXER: Friday, November 3, 1989  
8:00 pm - 12:00 am  
Admission - \$5.00

DINNER: Saturday, November 4, 1989  
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm  
Admission - \$15.00

HOTEL ROOM RATES: Single - \$50.00  
Double - \$50.00  
Tower Room - \$50.00

TI FAIRF WEEKEND

WHERE: MILWAUKEE  
Quality Inn  
5311 Howell Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI  
(across from Mitchell Field Airport)

WHEN: Sunday, November 5, 1989  
9 am - 5 pm

ADMISSION: \$2.00 (\$1.00 in advance)

FOR INFORMATION CALL: (414) 535-0133

OR WRITE TO: The Milwaukee Users' Group  
Mr. Gene Hitz  
4122 N. Glenway  
Milwaukee, WI 53222

GUEST SPEAKERS

DOOR PRIZES

VENDORS

RAFFLES

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## NOTICE

Information contained in TidBits is accurate and true to the best of our knowledge. Viewpoints and opinions expressed in TidBits are not necessarily that of the Mid-South 99'ers. We welcome any opinions/corrections from our readers. Articles may be reprinted elsewhere as long as credit is given to the author and newsletter.

## GROUP INFO

Visitors and potential members may receive 3 free issues of TidBits while they decide if they wish to join (no obligation). On the top of your label is a code. A Y means you are a member, N means 3 free list, UG means user group and S means a business. Beside the Y is a date, one year from that date your dues are due. A dollar sign (\$) on the label will indicate that your dues are due. The library is open only to members. Library list is \$1. Mail order disk library access is \$2 for the first disk and \$1 for each additional disk - max of 5 disks per month. Order by disk number only. At meetings, library access is FREE if you exchange your disk for ours or \$1 per disk for our disks. Send all mail order library requests to librarian's address! Send dues and correspondence to group address.

## CALENDAR

MEETINGS: October 19, November 16 (3rd Thursday!)  
WORKSHOPS: October 28, November 25 (4th Saturday!)

## 24HR TI BULLETIN BOARD

The Midnight Hour BBS 300/1200/2400/9600 Hayes 501-735-9980  
Dial 735-9980 from Memphis area for toll free call.

## GROUP MAILING ADDRESS

Mid-South 99 Users Group  
P.O. Box 38522  
Germantown, Tn. 38183-0522

## LIBRARY ADDRESS

David Ferguson  
3377 Creighton Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38118

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 FAMILY  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 JUNIOR (under 15)  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ INTERESTS \_\_\_\_\_

EQUIPMENT, ETC. \_\_\_\_\_

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Detach and mail with check payable to: Mid-South 99 Users Group,  
P.O. Box 38522, Germantown, Tn, 38183-0522.

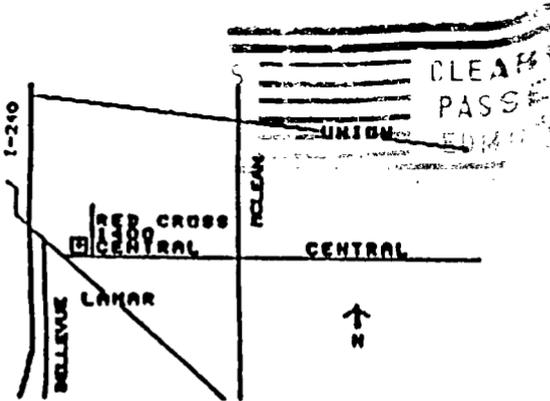
NOTICES

MEETING

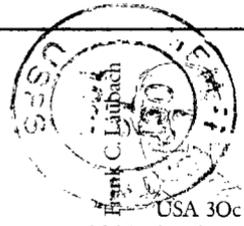
7:00 P.M.  
Thursday, October 19th  
Red Cross Building  
1400 Central Ave.

WORKSHOP

9am till 12noon  
Saturday, October 28th  
To Be Announced



Mid-South 99 Users Group  
P. O. Box 38522  
Germantown, TN 38183-0522



UG  
EDMONTON 99'ERS USER SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 11983  
ALBERTA T5J-3L1  
CANADA

FIRST CLASS MAIL