

*	*	#	#	@	@	%	%	\$	\$
**	**	#	#	@@	@	%	%	\$	\$
* *	* *	#	#	@ @	@	%		\$	\$
*	*	#	#	@	@ @	%		\$	\$
*	*	#	#	@	@@	%	%	\$	\$
*	*	###		@	@	%	%	\$	\$

---

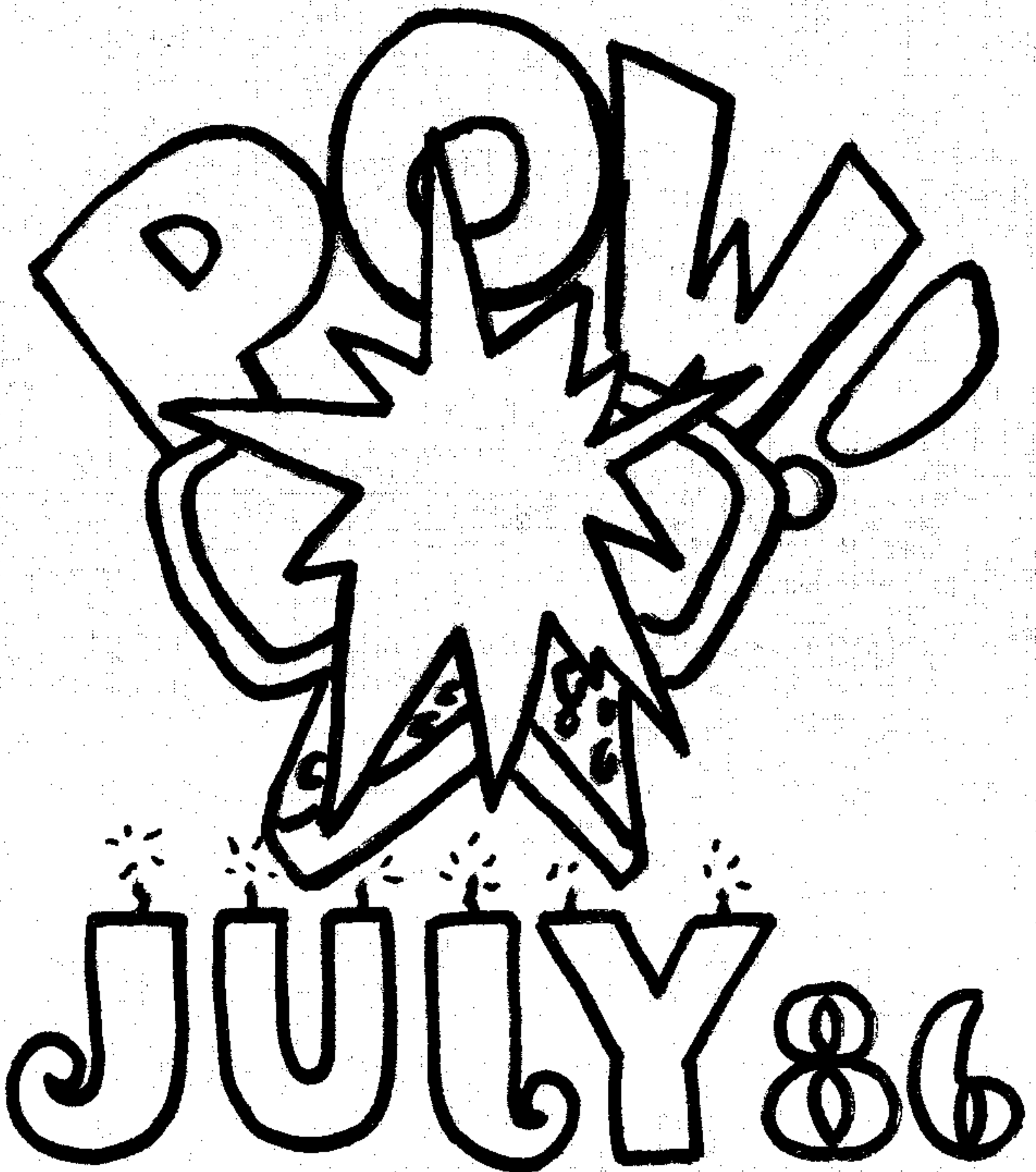
Mass Users of the Ninety nine and Computer Hobbyists

---

July 1986

Monthly Newsletter

Version 5.7



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE MEETING:

PETER HODDIE AND WALT HOWE FROM THE BCS WERE AGAIN OUR GUESTS AT OUR JUNE MEETING. NORMAN ABARE STARTED THE BUSINESS MEETING THIS PAST MONTH BECAUSE BRUCE WILLARD WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND.

THIS MONTH WE RAFFLED OFF A MONEY "DATA BANK" THAT LETS YOU SAVE YOUR PENNIES FOR A DISK DRIVE, COMPUTER MONITOR, AND OR SOFTWARE. THE RAFFLE WAS WON BY WALTER NOWAK.

LAST MONTHS BORING MINUTES WERE APPROVED.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT BY JIM COX WAS AS FOLLOWS:

INCOME FOR JUNE

DUES-----	80.00
RAFFLES-----	53.00

EXPENSES FOR JUNE

PO BOX RETAIL-----	24.00
POSTAGE-----	11.40
BANK CHARGES-----	5.80
NEWS LTR. PRINTING-----	50.00
MONITOR RENTAL-----	25.00
CHECK BOOK BALANCE TOTAL-----	approx-430.00

THROUGH THE HELP OF THE BCS AND PETER HODDIE, THE BULLETIN BOARD WILL BE UP AND RUNNING IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER. A FEW REASONS AS TO WHY IT WILL TAKE THIS LONG ARE FOR ONE THERE IS SOME TESTING TO BE DONE WITH THE SYSTEM SO THAT ALL OF THE BUGS CAN BE WORKED OUT AND THERE IS SOME CUSTOM HARDWARE TO BE MANUFACTURED. THIS BOARD IS TO BE ONE OF THREE AND WILL BE CONSIDERED BOARD THREE OF WORCESTER. BOARDS ONE AND TWO ARE UP AND RUNNING IN THE BOSTON CALLING AREA(#1 1-331-4181, #2 1-335-8475). THESE ARE CONSIDERED THE BCS BULLETIN BOARDS BUT ALTHOUGH BOARD THREE WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THEM, IT WILL FOR THE MOST PART BE OUR OWN. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UP KEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF IT. AS SOON AS THE SYSTEM IS READY TO USE, I WILL ANNOUNCE THE LOCAL WORCESTER PHONE NUMBER.

NOW, SOME OLD BUSINESS THAT NEVER WAS TAKEN CARE OF AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN!!! THERE ARE THEIVES OUT THERE THAT ARE USING FAIRWARE SOFTWARE WHO SHOULD PAY THE AUTHERS FOR THE RIGHTS TO USE THEM. AS OF THIS PAST MONTH, A FEW AUTHERS SUCH AS PAUL CHARLTON, HAVE KEPT A CLOSE RECORD OF THE PERSONS THAT HE HAS RECEIVED CHECKS FROM. MASSACHUSETTS IS THE WORST AFFENDER IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, HE HAS RECEIVED ONLY FIVE CHECKS!!! MANY OF THESE FABULOUS PROGRAMS THAT WE USE WILL CEASE TO BE WRITTEN BY THESE TALENTED WRITERS UNLESS THEY RECEIVE THE FUNDS THAT THEY DESERVE. IF ANY OF THE MEMBERS ARE FOUND INTENTIONALLY STEELING PROGRAMS, THEY WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE ASSOCIATED USERS GROUP. THIS SHALL BE ENFORCED AFTER AUGUST 1ST. SO THOSE

THAT WISH TO COME CLEAN CAN DO SO WITHOUT FEELING GUILTY. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF THE ADDRESSES WHERE TO SEND YOUR CHECKS TO, THERE WILL BE A LIST OF AUTHORS AND THEIR PROGRAMS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED FAIRWARE THAT YOU MAY CONSIDER YOURSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR.

PETER HODDIE ANNOUNCED TO OUR GROUP ABOUT COMING TO THE BCS MEETING AT A NEW LOCATION IN BOSTON. PAUL CHARLTON WAS THERE. PAUL HAD THE NEW COMPUTER WITH HIM TO DEMO FOR THE BCS GROUP. IT IS CALLED THE 'GENEVE' MODEL 9540 FAMILY COMPUTER. I, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER CLUB OFFICERS FROM ALL OVER WENT TO SEE THIS MARVEL.

PETER SHOWED AT OUR MEETING THE NEW TI MOUSE FROM NEBATRONICS AND A COPY OF THEIR VERSION OF EXTENDED BASIC 'I'. THE NICE THING ABOUT THE XBII FROM NEBATRONICS IS THAT YOU DON'T NEED ANYTHING TO USE IT. IT IS A STAND ALONE CARTRIDGE THAT GIVES YOU MORE COMMANDS THAN THE REGULAR X-BASIC.

THE NEW HERIBSON RAM DISK WAS TO HAVE BEEN SHOWN BUT WAS NOT YET FULLY BUILT AT THE TIME. IT WAS HOWEVER READY AT THE BCS MEETING THE FOLLOWING NIGHT. IT WILL BE SHOWN AT OUR JULY MEETING.

PETER'S ASSEMBLY CLASS WILL BE HELD IN WALTHAM. IT WILL MEET ON THE 9TH WHICH IS A WEDNESDAY AND ON EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY THERE AFTER EXCLUDING THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH WHICH IS THE BCS MEETING. IT WILL COST ABOUT 20.00 FOR MATERIALS THAT YOU WILL NEED FOR THE CLASS. IT'S NOT FOR PAYMENT TO TAKE IT. FOR DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO GET THERE, PLEASE CALL PETER AT 1-861-8733.

JACK SUGRUE SUGGESTED THAT THE MINUTES SHOULD NOT BE PUBLISHED ANY MORE BECAUSE MY COLUMN MAY BE TAKING UP TOO MUCH ROOM, WHERE AS SOME OTHER INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE MORE INTERESTING THAN WHAT I HAVE TO SAY. I HOPE I HAVE THE READERSHIP WHO WILL AGREE THAT MY MINUTES ARE NOT PUSHING OUT ANY SUCH ARTICLES OF MORE IMPORTANCE. IF WE HAVE SUCH AN ARTICLE WE PRINT IT AND STILL HAVE THE ROOM FOR EVERYTHING.

THE MEETING THEN CONCLUDED.

SEE YOU THIS JULY!!!

DORSON

#### RANDOM BYTES

\*\*\*\*\*

WANTED: Upgrades on 1984 TI Tax Plan put out by Aardvark Software (now owned by McGraw Hill). Write to Al Cecchini at the MUNCH Group address.

Looking for used 300 Baud Modem, acoustic coupler or direct connect. Contact Brad Clark at 617-866-2188.



# AGENDA for July 15, 1986

7:00 - 8:00 Open Demonstrations  
New Member Registration  
Software Exchange (members only)  
Special Interest Group meetings  
    Basic Programming -- as required  
    Assembly Language -- by Dan Rogers  
    Kids Corner -- with (to be announced)  
    New Horizon RAM Disk -- by Peter  
        Hoddie of BCS TI Group  
    New MYARC Computer demo most likely

8:00 - 8:20 Raffle  
Business Meeting:  
Approval of Minutes  
Treasurers Report  
Committee Reports  
Old Business  
New Business  
Announcements

8:20 - 9:30 CONTINUATION of:  
    Special Interest Group Meetings  
    and Open Demonstrations and Discussion  
  
Plan for August meeting  
  
    Software library demos by -- to be  
        announced  
    Continuation of other SIG's

\*\*\*\*\*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to notify you of my plans for another tour in August through OMNI Resources, the floppy disk manufacturer. We are limited to only 20 people. The entire tour will take about an hour. If you are interested, please submit your name and telephone number. You can notify me by phone, drop me a note, or see me at the meeting to reserve your place on the tour.

The directions to OMNI Resources are very easy to follow. Just get on Route 20 and head for the section of road between Routes 122 and 146. On that section you will come to a traffic light with Russell-Salo Florist and



an Accountant on the east side of the road. You can't miss it, because there are only two traffic lights between Routes 122 and 146. Granite Street crosses over Route 20 at the other traffic light. If you're heading toward Boston on Route 20 take a right at the Florist. That's Millbury Street. Go straight until you come to factory buildings on the left. As you are passing that group of buildings you will see the OMNI Resources sign. We will enter the nearby door.

I am also opening this offer to any other TI User Groups in the area. Please notify me early to reserve a spot. Then I will notify the people on the list when the date and time has been set.

Some time ago, one of our members "fried" his TI equipment due to a household power surge or spike. Around the same time another friend of mine also burned up some electronic equipment from a similar occurrence. That got me to thinking very seriously about my system. Could this happen to me? You bet your life it could. It could happen to virtually anyone whose equipment was unprotected. About a month ago I bought a device which isolates and surge/spike suppresses. The model is the ISO-2 from Electronic Specialists, Inc., in Natick, MA. It has very impressive specs. You can isolate from equipment interaction, from damaging spikes, and from AC line noise, EMI and RFI. It will filter 100 KHZ to 200 KHZ, give 25 db EMI/RFI attenuation, give a balanced Pi, and has an inductively isolated ground. For spike/surge suppression it will respond in 1 nano-second and handle 19,500 amps peak. It has two banks of three outlets each. Each bank is electrically separated and filtered. The unit retails for \$69.95 plus tax. As a user group member, you can get a 10 percent discount. I paid \$65.00 including tax. This is a worthwhile purchase since I have invested so much in my system. Many of the other units on the market can't respond as quickly and will ultimately not beat the spike to your equipment. Most of the lower priced units are incapable of protecting against surges and spikes. Think about it. Better to be safe than sorry. I will have catalogues at the meeting.

If you have a program you would like to demo at the monthly meeting, please let me know. Very soon we will be demonstrating some of the very fine software that we have in our own library. I think you will be amazed at the quantity of professional looking programs we have.

Have you found any programs in the library that won't run? If so, again let us know so that we may check them to find out why. Your officers want to be sure that all the programs in the library run properly.

You might want to make an extra effort to be at the July meeting. It is very likely we will have the new MYARC computer at the meeting. What a fabulous machine!!! Also, the Horizon's RANDIEK will be there.

Hope to see you there.

----- Bruce Willard, Pres. -----

## MUNCHing BASIC (2)

-John Dowd JR.

I would like to begin by appologizing for getting so caught up in work and school that I was unable to get this article into the May newsletter. Let's jump in and look at a few more statements and commands.

**GOTO** - (statement) Gives what is called an unconditional transfer of control. It allows the programmer total control of program flow by redirecting to a new line number.

10 GOTO 10 creates an infinite loop.

-----

10 GOTO 30 \*another infinite loop

20 REM NEVER EXECUTED \*which switches between

30 GOTO 10 \*lines 10 and 30.

**GOSUB** - (statement) This is also an unconditional transfer of control, with an added feature. It allows RETURN to the line after that of the GOSUB so that normal flow may be continued.

100 GOSUB 1000	order of execution:100
110 REM	1000
120 END	1100
1000 PRINT "IN SUBROUTINE"	110
1100 RETURN	120

**RETURN** - (statement) The statement which tells the computer to go to the line immediately after the most recently executed GOSUB and then to 'eliminate' that GOSUB from memory so that on encountering another RETURN the computer will RETURN to the line after the corresponding GOSUB.

100 GOSUB 2000	Exex.order:100
110 GOSUB 1000	2000
120 PRINT "Main Prog."	2100
130 END	110
1000 PRINT "Sub.#1"	1000
1100 RETURN	1100
2000 PRINT "Sub.#2"	120
2100 RETURN	130

**IF-THEN-ELSE** - (statement) This type of statement is known as an unconditional transfer of control statement. Based on a mathematical statement the computer will decide between two different line

numbers to transfer program flow.

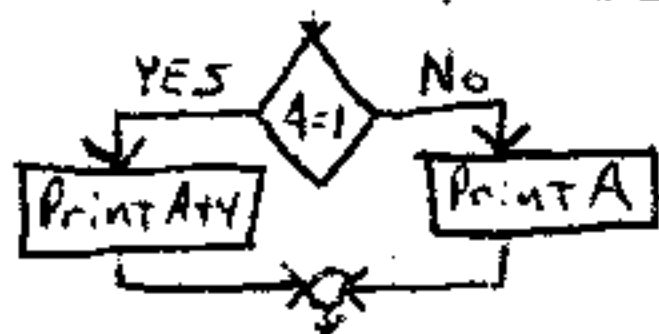
Examples:

1. 10 IF A\$="GOTO 30" THEN 30 ELSE 50  
20 REM NEVER EXECUTED  
30 PRINT"at 30"  
40 STOP  
50 PRINT"at 50"  
60 END
2. 10 IF A\$="GOTO 30" THEN 30  
20 PRINT"at 20"  
30 PRINT"at 30"  
40 END

NOTE: When ELSE is left out of an IF-THEN-ELSE statement the else line number becomes the line number immediately following the IF-THEN. Also note that if you wanted to test these programs some way of setting A\$ would have to be used (INPUT A\$, LET A\$="GOTO 30", etc.)

I would like to start structuring my programs now because it makes them easier for the beginner to understand. I will also try to include flowcharts for the same reason. Structuring is not a necessary step in BASIC and the TI does not accept indented lines for this reason (it left-justifies them). Also all REM statements may be omitted (line numbers with blanks following are REMs).

Occasionally when using IF-THEN-ELSE you may want to test more than one thing at a time. You can do this through multiplication and addition. That is, make a statement of what you want to test, then replace all the ORs with + and all the ANDs with \*. Use parenthesis to enclose the entire expression and each sub expression. Examples:



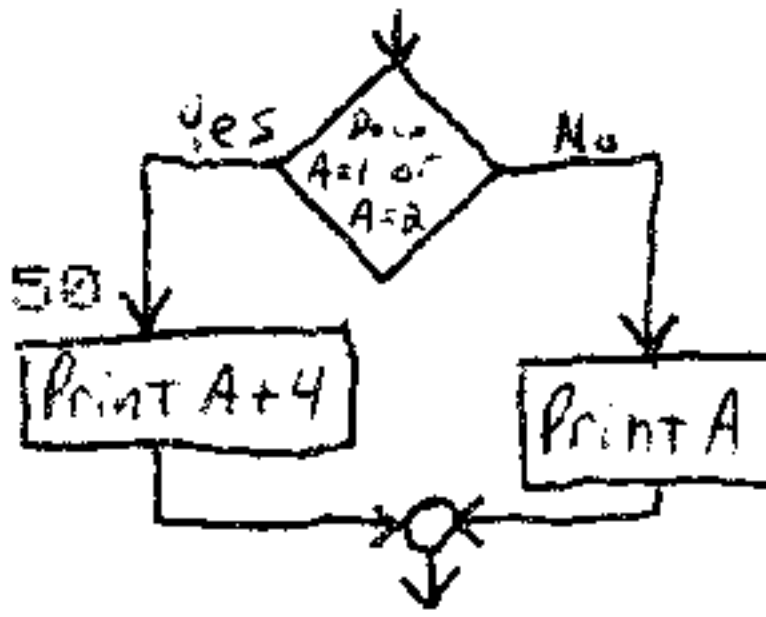
```
10 IF A=1 THEN 50
20 PRINT A
30 GOTO 80
40
50 PRINT A+4
60 GOTO 80
70
80 REM CONTINUE
```



```

10 IF ((A=1)+(A=2)) THEN 50
20 PRINT A
30 GOTO 80
40
50 PRINT A+4
60 GOTO 80
70
80 REM CONTINUE

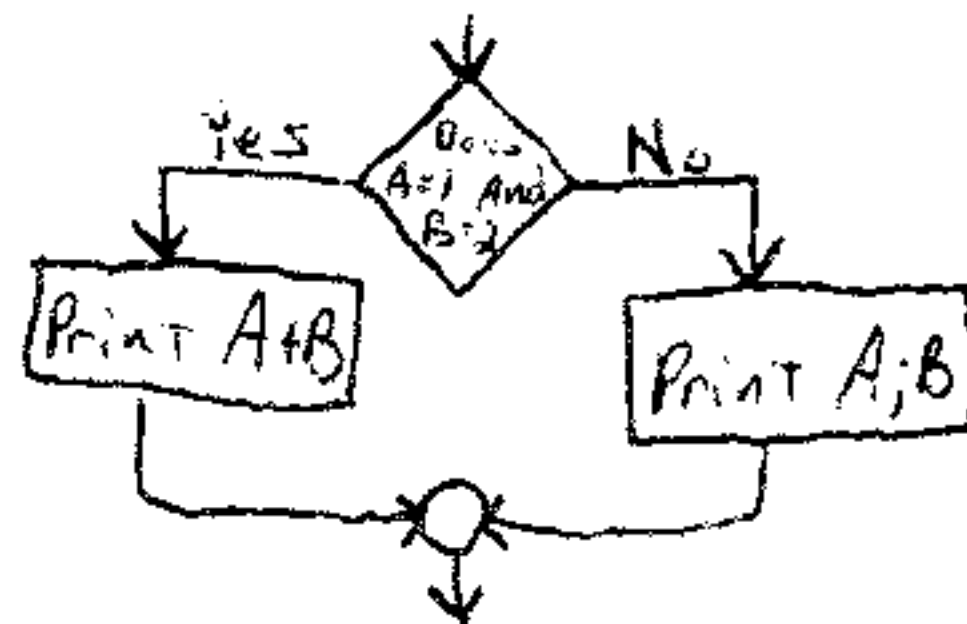
```



```

10 IF ((A=1)*(B=2)) THEN 50
20 PRINT A;B
30 GOTO 80
40
50 PRINT A+B
60 GOTO 80
70
80 REM CONTINUE PROGRAM

```



STOP/END - (statements) These stop the program execution. Generally I use STOP for early breaks or debugging and END for the final exit.

CALL KEY - (statement) Allows single key input without using enter.

CALL HCHAR - (stmt/cmd) Places characters on screen at given locations.

CALL GCHAR - (stmt/cmd) Returns ASCII code of character on screen at given location.

I will cover the last three above in more detail in my next article.

```

100 REM THIS IS A FULL SCREEN TEXT EDITOR
110 REM BY JOHN DOWD MAY 88
120
130 REM VARIABLES USED:
140 REM K...ASCII code through CALL KEY
150 REM S...Accepted character flag
160 REM X...column
170 REM Y...row
180 REM A...ASCII char. 'under' cursor
190

```

```

200 CALL CLEAR
210 PRINT"Do you need instructions?Y or N"
220 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
230
240 IF ((S<>0)*((K=ASC("Y"))+(K=ASC("N"))))THEN 280
250     CALL KEY(0,K,S)
260 GOTO 240
270
280 IF K<>ASC("Y")THEN 330
290     PRINT"Type what you wish.Arrow keys to move."
300     PRINT"Use <backslash> to exit."
310     GOTO 340
320
330     GOTO 340
340 X=1
350 Y=1
360 CALL GCHAR(Y,X,A)
370 CALL HCHAR(Y,X,30)
380 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
390
400 IF K=ASC("<backslash>")THEN 11200
410     IF S<>0 THEN 470
420         CALL HCHAR(Y,X,A)
430         CALL KEY(0,K,S)
440         CALL HCHAR(Y,X,30)
450     GOTO 410
460
470     IF((K=8)+(K=9)+(K=10)+(K=11)+(K=92))THEN 650
480     CALL HCHAR(Y,X,K)
490     X=X+1
500
510     IF X>32 THEN 540
520     GOTO 600
530
540     X=1
550     Y=Y+1
560
570     IF Y>24 THEN 600
580     GOTO 620
590
600     Y=1
610     GOTO 620
620     GOTO 630
630     GOTO 1180
640
650     IF K=11 THEN 1100
660     IF K=10 THEN 910

```

```

670         IF K=8 THEN 740
680             IF K=8 THEN 700
690                 GOTO 720
695
700                 X=X+1
701
702                 IF X>32 THEN 705
703                     GOTO 710
704
705                     X=1
706                     GOTO 710
710                 GOTO 720
720             GOTO 880
730
740             X=X-1
750
760             IF X<1 THEN 730
770                 GOTO 680
780
790             X=32
800             Y=Y-1
810
820             IF Y<1 THEN 850
830                 GOTO 870
840
850                 Y=24
860                 GOTO 870
870             GOTO 880
880             GOTO 880
890             GOTO 880
900
910             Y=Y+1
920
930             IF Y>24 THEN 960
940                 GOTO 980
950
960                 Y=1
970                 GOTO 980
980             GOTO 990
990             GOTO 1180
1000
1100             Y=Y-1
1110
1120             IF Y<1 THEN 1150
1130                 GOTO 1170
1140

```

```

50      Y=24
60      GOTO 1170
70      GOTO 1175
75      GOTO 1180
80      GOTO 400
90
99      CALL CLEAR
10      PRINT"END OF PROGRAM - AUTHOR, JOHN DOWD"
20      END

```

te: See if you can make the right arrow key move you down line when you hit the end of a line.

\*\*\*\*\*

ADVERTISING RATES:

Double Page	(10.5" by 8")	\$25.00	per insertion
Full Page	(5" by 8")	\$13.00	per insertion
Half Page	(5" by 4")	\$ 7.00	per insertion
Quarter Page	(5" by 2" or 3.5" by 4")	\$ 5.00	per insertion

Classified (non-commercial) Ads are FREE for MUNCH members.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Don Mason  
 10 Princeton St.  
 Worcester, Ma. 01610

Bruce Willard  
 1 Marmion Ave.  
 Worcester, Ma. 01606

Bob Doyle  
 10 Sewall St.  
 Weymouthston, Ma. 01505

M.U.N.C.H.  
 P.O. Box 7193  
 560 Lincoln St.  
 Worcester, Ma. 01605

Jim Murphy  
 1 Annisquam St.  
 Worcester, Ma. 01602

Brad Clark  
 Paddock Road  
 Rutland, Ma. 01543

" . . . RAFFLE . . . RAFFLE . . . "

In June we had one raffle, it was won by Walter Nowak and was two educational cassettes.

This month we will have a choice of either a ten pack of OMNI diskettes donated by OMNI Resources in Millbury or a 12 pack of C30 cassettes donated by Hector Beaudreau of Bailey's Audio Visual.

The raffle is open to all who attend. The drawing will be held just prior to the business meeting. Remember:

\*\*\*\* YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

MUNCH OFFICERS AND NUMBERS (all in 617 area)

President	Bruce Willard	852-3250
Vice President	Norman Abare	297-2100
Secretary	Wm. Corson Wyman	839-5116
Treasurer	Jim Cox	869-2704
Editor	Jim Murphy	756-9900
Asst. Editor	Brad Clark	886-2188
Hardware Chair		
Programs Chair		
Adv Prog. Chair	Dan Rogers	248-5502
Club Reviewer	Jack Sughrue	476-7630
Library	Al & Lisa Cecchini	
Software Library	Don Mason	754-6630
	Hector Beaudreau	
Mail & Messages	Direct to Editorial Staff	

## TEXTWARE/SOFTWARE REVIEWS

by JACK SUBARUE

Scarcer than hen's teeth, as my old Paopy used to say when things were truly rare. That's a good expression to describe the number of textware items being published for the 99er.

They are scarce, but those that are still being published are good. Now that *MINIMAG 99* died an ignominious death and *HOME COMPUTER* seems to have done the same we are having our text resources badly diminished. These losses are coupled with the facts that *COMPUTE! MAGAZINE* no longer acknowledges our existence and *SUPER 99 MONTHLY* (which really served the spectrum of our 99er community) has supposedly merged with *SMART PROGRAMMER* to give us the latest extended Miller Graphics advertisements under the guise of (and the title of) *SMART PROGRAMMER* (which, though claimed to be a monthly, will probably come out with the erratic frequency of each of Craig Miller's latest pieces of software and hardware).

I sit here with every copy of *SUPER* and *SMART* sitting on my lap and wonder what happened. The former was a boon to every 99 owner. Each issue was filled to the brim with reviews and news and programs and tips and tricks. Filled with ideas on how to use your cartridges (particularly T.I. Writer and Multiplan) and how to do things in BASIC, XB, Forth, Assembly. In short, something for everyone and information from lots of different sources for people who want to get to know their computer better but are not technicians. The people who still have their tape recorders make up the majority of TI owners. This magazine also served them.

Now SP comes along, not much changed from the old once-a-year versions of yore. The old issues were highly technical for a fairly elite audience. There was nothing wrong with this as most subscribers (such as myself) knew what they were buying into. The new "merged" SP, however, is boring, technical, and contains almost nothing that doesn't refer to (or require) Miller's Graphics software or peripherals. (I have some MG games [such as Pharoah's Tomb] and utilities [such as Advanced Diagnostics] and think they are excellent.) I'm just not certain now how unbiased any reviews of competing materials will be in the new SP. For example, there are at least two other companies making peripherals similar to the much-touted GramCracker. The old *SUPER 99 MONTHLY* might have given them fair reviews. I don't expect it from SP. Half the columns were devoted to GK use or its praise. If you don't have it and the other Miller products or if you are not very technologically oriented, you are certainly not going to get your money's worth if you had subscribed to *SUPER*. They (the merged magazines) promise



to give you the number of pages still owed on either or both of the magazines, but that still doesn't give you the diverse quality the majority of subscribers had hoped for.

But take heart. Besides *MICROpendium*, which is still doing a wonderful job for TI owners and seems to be getting better with each regular on-time delivered issue, there is also *COMPUTER SHOPPER*.

Now that Ron Albright and Jonathan Zittrain have taken over from Raving Randy, the TI columns have been expanded and are much more suited to the wider range of 99 owners. In the June issue there is an excellent tutorial on Call Key; an in-depth review of Super Space, DataBioTics less powerful and less expensive module similar to GramKracker; some Glenn Davis articles and tutorials on TI Forth; reviews and previews of new TI soft- and hardware; lots of information on faires, other languages, fairware; and newsy items all over the place.

And, of course, *COMPUTER SHOPPER* is most famous for its marketplace bargains. Be sure to read all the ads, big and small, if you're searching for anything. Even if you aren't. They are fun to read.

CS is \$2.25 on the newsstand (Open Book in Westboro is where I pick mine up.) and can be subscribed to for \$15 for 12 issues (one year) from Computer Shopper, PO Box 1419, Titusville, FL 32781-9988. If you own more than a TI your subscription is more valuable because there are articles each month for Timex Sinclair, Heath-Zenith, Sanyo, Atari, Tandy, Commodore, Apple, IBM, and others. There are also directories of bulletin boards, user groups, and so on.

*MICROpendium*, which, by the way, is still the best single source of ideas and information for the 99 owner is \$17 for 12 issues (one year) from *MICROpendium*, PO Box 1343, Round Rock, TX 78680.

Not counting your user group, of course, which is THE best source of all.

\*\*\*\*\*

## LIBRARY NOTICE

Please return all borrowed materials to the MUNCH library at each meeting. This will give other members a chance to enjoy our collection of "text-ware" as much as you have !!! THANK YOU !!!

David Clark donated 10 Compute magazines. Louis Holmes donated Free Software for your TI-99/4A. BCS donated TI-Writer Tips and Tricks.

M.U.N.C.H.

P.O. Box 7193

560 LINCOLN STREET

WORCESTER, MA. 01605

First Class

\*\*\*\*\*  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
\*\*\*\*\*

JULY meeting will be on JULY 15, 1986  
at University of Massachusetts Medical Center  
(Come to the VISITORS entrance and follow the signs for MUNCH...)