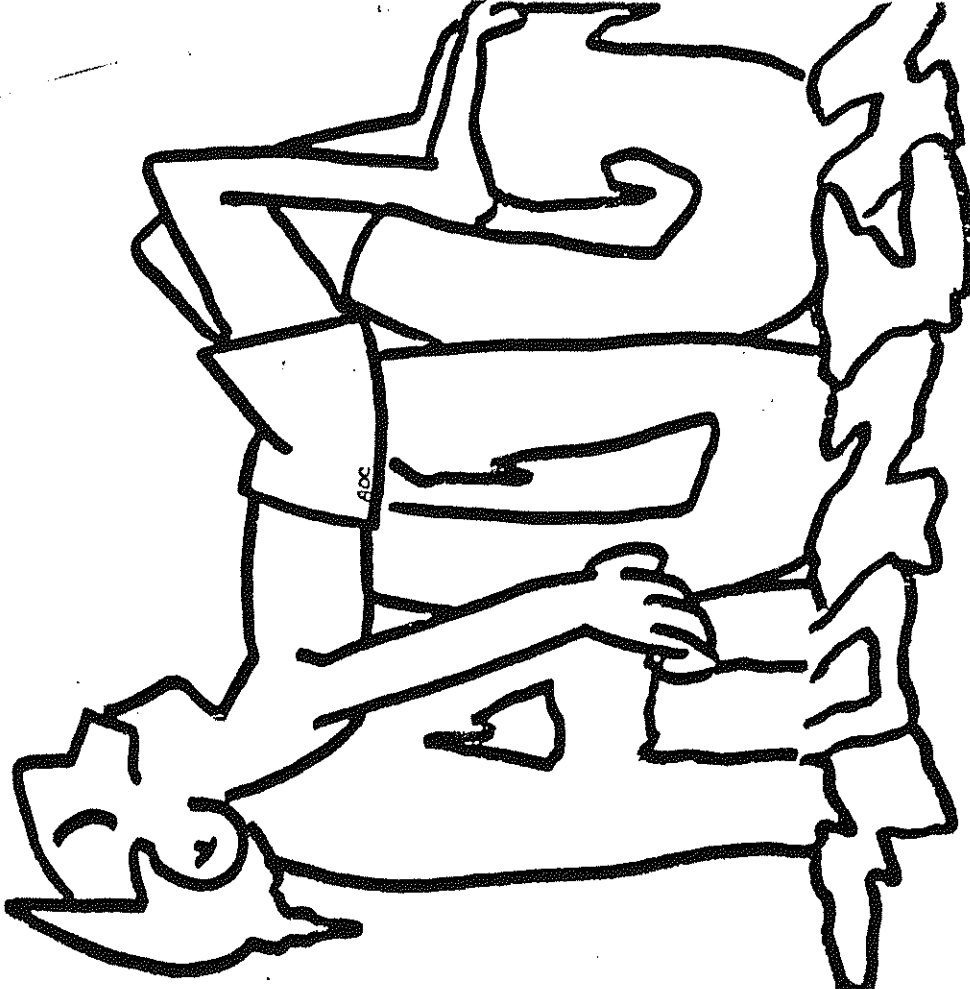


*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Mass Users of the Ninety-nine and Computer Hobbyist
AUGUST 1996 Monthly Newsletter Version 15.08



.U.N.C.H.
70 J. W. COX
05 EGDEBROOK DRIVE
OYLSTON, MASS. 01505

EXT MEETING: TUESDAY, AUGUST 13th.

POSTMASTER: Forwarding and Address Correction Requested.

FIRST CLASS!!

R. A. BISHOP
16 FRENCH AVE.
NORTHCOTE 3070., VICTOR IA
AUSTRALIA CLUB

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, August 13, 1996 7:00 PM. Good Luck Pat's!!!
OFFICERS AND NUMBERS (all in 508 area unless noted)

PRESIDENT	Walt Nowak	413-436-7675		
VP./Treas./Editor	Jim Cox	869-2704	MUNCH DUES:	
DEMO LEADERS:	Corson Wyman	865-1213	New Membership	\$25.00
	Jack Sughrue	476-7630	Renewal	\$15.00
CLERK	Ben Parda	791-9172	Newsletter Sub.	\$13.00
Advanced Programmer	Dan Rogers	248-5502		

JULY MEETING. There were six members present at the June meeting. Corson brought in an old Mac-plus computer and he demonstrated some of its uses. His employer gave him this "obsolete" computer. How things change!!

AUGUST MEETING. We will continue our discussions on what is new in the T.I. world. We will also cover anything new in the computer area.

HELP WANTED. The following disks in the Tigercub Collection are missing from our set, if you have them please send them to Jim Cox or bring them to a meeting. They are 603, 1079, 1260, 1261, 1309.2, 1382.2, 1472 and 1520.1. The following have read errors 1157, 1297, 1411, 1423, 1436, 1439.1, 1474 and 1487.

REPRINTS. Reprints are permitted as long as credit is given to M.U.N.C.H.

ARTICLES. I am always looking for articles for this newsletter, anything which interest you will probably interest other members of the T.I. community, so please share your ideas and opinions with all of us.

DISK LIBRARY. The disk library is at all meetings. We have copies of all disks in the library and they are available to members for just \$1.00 for each disk unless otherwise specified. You can order them through the mail, please add \$1.00 for the first disk and \$.40 for each additional disk ordered to cover postage and handling.

DISK OF THE MONTH. This month we have Wheel of Fortune II as our DOM. This disk #156 includes Wheel of the Century and People, Places and Things. Last month we had disk #155 Wheel of Fortune with wheel programs by McDonald and Johnson. Speech was used in the second game and it is very well done.

ADVENTURE II. This is our fund-raiser for now. The cost to members is \$4.00, add \$2.00 for first class postage. The regular price is \$6.95 plus postage. This is a two DSSD disk set, archived. There is also a special on The Adventure Compendium and Adventure II for members it is \$8.00 plus \$3.00 for first class postage.

FOR SALE: Al Eisenhower of Hyannis, Mass. has T.I. equipment for sale. He is especially interested in trading T.I. stuff for American Flyer trains or other trains. Call him after 5:30 p.m. EST at 508-775-4289.

ARTICLE BY BILL GASKILL

© 1995 BY BILL GASKILL

THINGS THAT HAVE COME AND GONE
AND SOME THAT NEVER WERE

June 1996

This month we'll finish up our discussion/tutorial on the Navarone Data Base Management System and how you can get the most out of it for your money.

SUBFILES:

If you had intended to create a subfile rather than sorting the file, the only thing different that would have been required was an entry in the STRING prompt and the entry of an E or an N in the parameters prompt.

To create a subfile, you must enter a search parameter in the STRING variable that will be found in the field that is being sorted on. For example, assume that you wished to create a subfile of all records that contained the phrase REVIEW-HARDWARE in the TYPE field. TYPE is the second field in the file so you would enter 2 as the sort selection field and then 31 and 22 as the beginning field position and LENGTH of the sort field. You would enter the phrase REVIEW-HARDWARE in the STRING prompt and then an E at the E/N prompt to tell the sort program that it is to sort only those records that are EQUAL to REVIEW-HARDWARE in the TYPE field.

The resulting file would then need to be RUN through the SETUP program to generate a SETUP file as per the instructions in the SORTING DATA paragraphs above.

PRINTING REPORTS:

To print a report enter the report generator by pressing 4 from the DBMS menu. When prompted for the SETUP file name, which is the name of the report definition, enter DSK1.INDEXRPT1 and then press <ENTER>. Next, press Fctn 5 (BEGIN) and then type in DSK1.INDEX at the DATA FILE prompt. The default printer configuration of PIO appears. Alter it to fit your printer if needed, press <ENTER> to accept it if it fits your system, or erase it and press <ENTER> if you wish to print the file to screen rather than to a printer. In this case we will actually generate a printed report, so after taking care of the printer name, press <ENTER> and answer the remaining prompts.

At the;

LAST LINE OF PAGE HEADER

enter a 01 and then press <ENTER>. At the;

LAST LINE OF RECORD FORM

enter a 02 and then press <ENTER>. Press <ENTER> through the remaining prompts for suppression of detail and pauses between pages (unless you are not using continuous feed paper) and the report printing process will begin.

The LAST LINE... prompts are somewhat confusing to the new user. What they allow is control over header inclusion in the report and spacing between lines printed on the report. Thus, if you entered a zero at the ...PAGE HEADER prompt the field names would not appear in the report. If you entered 03 at the ...RECORD FORM prompt each record would have one blank space printed between it and the last record.

The Navarone report generation system also supports other advanced features besides the cut and paste layout capabilities. Among the neatest are the ability to inbed printer control codes in a report definition and the ability to define break fields that, when coupled with the detail suppression option, can count the number of occurrences of a break field in the file. Consult the system manual for more detail on these options.

HORIZON RAM DISK:

The Horizon Ram Disk may be used both as a program disk and/or as a data file storage disk. If it is to be used as a program disk, you must configure it as DSK1. DBMS treats it exactly as it does a mechanical floppy.

HARD DISK USAGE:

DBMS supports the Myarc HFDC for both program access and data file storage. The programs found on the DBMS system disk must be copied to the DSK1 emulation subdirectory for system programs access. Data file storage capabilities may be created in any subdirectory on your hard disk, as long as the WDS1., subdirectory name and then the file name, when combined into one string of characters, do not exceed 15 spaces. For example;

WDS1.DBMS.FILES

is acceptable because it is 15 or fewer characters in length. But,;

WDS1.DBMS.FILENAME

would not work because it exceeds the 15 character combined path and filename limitation.

see "GASKILL", page 4

VAST NEWS

FUNCTION KEYS:

FCTN 1: Erases a data input block in the DBM SETUP screen editor.

FCTN 2: Inserts a data input block space in the DBM SETUP screen editor.

FCTN 4: Halts reports printing process in the DBM REPORTS program. Deletes the current record in the DBM ENTRY program.

FCTN 5: Begins entry of a new record in the DBM ENTRY program. Begins the printing process in the DBM REPORTS program.

FCTN 6: Accesses the key field information screen in the DBM SETUP program. Accesses the field length definition screen in the DBM REPORTS program. Also used the same as the <ENTER> key when using indexed method for data access in the DBM ENTRY program.

FCTN 7: Displays a help window at the base of the screen in the DBM ENTRY program. Accesses the report format editor in the DBM REPORTS program.

FCTN 8: Accesses the first sequential record in the DBM ENTRY program.

FCTN 9: Backs up one screen from the current screen in almost all situations, in any DBM program. FCTN =: Quits the current program.

EXTENDED BASIC DATA ACCESS:

Because DBMS data files are created in standard 99/4A Display/Fixed format, they may easily be accessed in an Extended Basic environment. This means that data can be manipulated outside of the DBMS environment so that features not provided by DBMS can be created for further manipulation of data. For example, the Extended Basic program listed below may be used to display the contents of the sample data base we have created.

```

1 !DBMS file access routine 40
100 CALL CLEAR :: R=2      140 CALL HCHAR(23,2,80,1)::
110 OPEN #1:"DSK1.INDEX",INP  DISPLAY AT(23,1):"ress any k
UT ,DISPLAY ,FIXED 172    ey to resume scrol" :: CALL
120 LINPUT #1:B$ :: DISPLAY HCHAR(23,31,100,1)
AT(R,1):B$ :: R=R+4 :: IF R  150 CALL KEY(C0,K,S):: IF S=0
>18 THEN R=2              THEN 150 ELSE 120
130 IF EOF(1)THEN 160 ELSE 1 160 CLOSE #1

```

Other programs may be created that can be used to merge two or more data files into a single file, create subfiles from a main file, convert data to TI-WRITER format and more.

```

1 !DBMS file merge utility  :: IF VN$<>"Y" THEN 110
100 CALL CLEAR             160 IF IN1$=ON$ THEN 250
110 DISPLAY AT(5,1):"First f 170 IF IN2$=ON$ THEN 250
ile:" : "Merge file:" : "Sav 180 OPEN #1:ON$,UPDATE,DISPL
e file as:" : "Correct? (Y/N  AV ,FIXED 172 :: OPEN #2:IN1
):"                          $,INPUT ,DISPLAY ,FIXED 172
120 ACCEPT AT(5,12)BEEP SIZE :: DISPLAY AT(22,1):" " : "Rea
(15):IN1$                    ding from:";IN1$
130 ACCEPT AT(7,12)BEEP SIZE 190 LINPUT #2:A$ :: PRINT #1
(15):IN2$                    :A$ :: V=V+1 :: DISPLAY AT(2
140 ACCEPT AT(9,14)BEEP SIZE 2,1):"Records merged:";V
(15):ON$                      200 IF EOF(2)THEN CLOSE #2 E
150 ACCEPT AT(11,16)BEEP:VN$ LSE 190

```

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO:

□ Seagull Software Box 611 Keyport, WA 98345. They offered 99/4A software such as Coin Management System, Disk Library System, Saving Zort, Teaching Time and Trivia back in November 1984, but seemed to have disappeared after that. I ran across an ad for their products in the November/December 1984 Home Computer Digest, but don't recall seeing it anywhere else? Anyone have more info on the firm?

WANTED:

I would like to add the following items to my collection of original TI-99/4 and 4A products. If you have any of the items listed below, and they are in new, or near new condition, with original documentation, labeling, and original packaging, please contact me. But PLEASE call before you send anything, unless you are sending it as a gift.

- AVERAGE BEAR WRITER by DataBioTics
- DCEB Word Processor by DC Software Writers Box 335651 Northglenn, CO 80233.
- PAGEWRITER 99 by VMC Software
- MICROPAL Extended BASIC cartridge. I'll either buy yours, or trade you for an original Texas Instruments Extended BASIC cartridge.
- MINI-EDITOR for Mini Memory cartridge by Amerisoft
- TIPROCESSOR II and/or TIPROCESSOR III that was offered by TISOFT out of New York City in 1984.

=eof=

MEMO from Russy-poo & computer missionaries

As you requested, here's hot news about **The Secret Guide to Computers**, the top-rated computer tutorial published by computer missionaries.

The Secret Guide's 22nd edition has come off the press! To get your copy of this new, hot edition, use the coupon on the back page.

The Secret Guide and our other services have been rated "best". They've been praised on *The Wall Street Journal's* front page, and praised & used by *CBS News*, *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *PC Magazine*, *PC World*, *Infoworld*, *Byte*, *Mac User*, *The Australian*, and dozens of other publications around the world.

This 22nd edition contains over 1,000 improvements on the 21st edition.

Internet

We've added a super chapter that turns you into an Internet expert fast! In a few minutes, you become an Internet master who knows the tricks of using:

Eudora (to send, receive, and reply to e-mail)

Microsoft Internet Explorer (to browse the World Wide Web)

Netscape Navigator (which handles everything: e-mail, the Web, and newsgroups) search sites (such as Yahoo, Excite, and Deja News)

We include advice on getting an Internet service provider and Internet software.

Windows 95

The Secret Guide makes Windows 95 easy. Start reading its Windows 95 tutorial, and within a few minutes you'll be doing sophisticated word processing in Windows 95 — even if you've never used a computer before! The Secret Guide trains you hands-on, fast! It zooms you immediately into accomplishing real work on your computer, instead of detouring you through swamps of muck.

We've doubled the size of our Windows 95 tutorial. Now it even explains how to use *all* the Start menu's features, create Shortcuts, use Windows 95 versions of ScanDisk & Defrag, control music CD's, change mouse-pointer trails, customize the OEM version, and use HyperTerminal. Our new Windows 95 advice about CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT will surprise you!

Hardware

We reveal new secrets about which computers to buy — and which computer companies to avoid! We analyze hot new discount deals on computers, printers, hard drives, CD-ROM drives, memory chips, Pentium chips, clone chips, Macs, and Mac clones. We expose how the "best" computer companies have become the worst and how a 150-megahertz Pentium chip is *slower* than a 133!

So much for so little

This massive edition's 639 *big* pages cover everything important about computers — *thousands* of topics ranging from "accounting" to "zany sex", all neatly grouped into 8 sections:

Buyer's guide: chips, disks, screen, printers, other hardware, software, IBM-compatibles, Apple, alternative computers

Operating systems: Windows 95, Windows 3.1 & 3.11, MS-DOS, Mac system

Word processing: Microsoft Word, Ami Pro, Q&A Write, Word Perfect

Databases: Q&A File, advanced databases

Spreadsheets: Excel, 1-2-3 & Quattro

Wild applications: graphics, desktop pub, multimedia, modem, Internet, LANs, accounting, personal programs, games, AI

Programming: BASIC, DBASE, PASCAL, "C", LOGO, FORTRAN, COBOL, strange tongues, assembler

Endnotes: repairs, our past, your future, numerical analysis, index, coupons

It's up-to-date, detailed, frank, and easy to read. Kids love its easy English; adults love its ruthless truths.

Since we're computer missionaries who don't care about profit, we charge just \$15 list, give discounts up to 67% (bringing the price down to \$4.95 in quantity), offer our earlier books for as little as 20¢, provide *free* shipping to all countries, and let you make copies of all our books, *free!* We also offer consulting about computers (and life!) free, day & night on our 24-hour live hotline, 617-666-2666.

But that's not all! Read on. . . .

COUPON

To get books or free brochures, you can use the coupon below. If you have questions, **phone us at 617-666-2666**, 24 hours (almost always in).

To become totally up-to-date, **order the 22nd edition**. Editions 11, 18, 19, and 20 cover similar topics, with classic charm & lower cost; they're ideal low-cost gifts. Not sure whether to order? Do it! Return unused books anytime for full refund.

You can order by phoning 617-666-2666 (or using a purchase order) if you're employed by an established computer company, bookstore, school, government agency, or public utility or if you bought at least 10 books from us before. Give us your address *and phone number*. We'll ship the books with a bill, due in 30 days.

If you write reviews for magazines, run a big computer department, teach many students, or will introduce the book to at least 100 people, phone for review copies.

Cut out this coupon

New 22nd edition

How many copies do you want of the hot, new 22nd edition? _____

1 copy costs \$15. 2 copies cost \$12 each. 4-39 copies cost \$9 each. 60-549 copies cost \$6 each. 666 & up cost \$4.95 each. (Don't order 3, 40-59, or 550-665 copies.)

Classic editions (with blemished covers)

How many of 11th edition's vol. 1 (The Main Secrets), 40¢: _____

How many of 11th edition's vol. 2 (The Deep Secrets), 40¢: _____

How many of 18th edition (\$3): _____ 19th (\$4): _____ 20th (\$5): _____

Free brochures

How many *free* copies do you want of this letter, for friends? _____

How many *free* brochures about blitz courses in many cities? _____

Final steps

PRINT your name and address:

Compute total price of all your books. *Just if you're in Massachusetts*, add 5% tax:

Price	40¢	80¢	\$3	\$4	\$5	\$15	\$15.80	\$24	\$27.80	\$36	\$45	\$360
Tax	2¢	4¢	15¢	20¢	25¢	75¢	\$.79	\$1.20	\$1.39	\$1.80	\$2.25	\$18

We ship all over the world. We charge nothing for standard shipping. If you pay extra, we'll use extra-fast shipping methods. Mark the shipping method you prefer:

Standard shipping usually takes 1 week to ZIP codes below 27000, 2 weeks to the rest of USA, 3 weeks to Canada, 6 weeks to other countries; usually by post office. We charge nothing.

UPS usually takes 2 days to ZIP codes below 27000, 1 week to the rest of the USA. You must order at least 2 books, be in the 48 states of DC, and give a street address (not just a PO Box, APO, or FPO). We charge \$2 to ship a box holding up to 4 books, \$4 to ship a box holding up to 10 books. If you're ordering over 10 books, we charge just \$6 total, even if your order is huge.

Air usually takes 2 days to USA (Priority Mail), 2 weeks to other countries (post office Air Book). We charge \$2 per book to the USA, \$3 per book to Canada, \$14 per book to other countries.

Make check or money order payable to The Secret Guide to Computers. Mail to The Secret Guide to Computers, 22 Ashland St., Somerville MA 02144-3202.