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NH

NEW HORIZONS



NEWS LETTER

WEST FIRST CHURCH COMPUTER CLUB FOR THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS 99/4A
AND THE NVARC GENEVE 9640 PERSONAL AND HOME COMPUTER

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THIS MONTHS MEETING NOV. 11, 1989 SATURDAY AT UNITY CHURCH 12:30 PM.


Behind Wendy's off Becor Road on Executive Dr.

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Mickey & Minnie

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ATT EARL H. HOFFSIS


PRESIDENT'S
CORNER 
 Don Turner

Greetings to all the members of **NEW HORIZONS** !! We had eighteen members at last month's meeting. Five prizes were awarded and one member won \$14.00 in the 50/50 drawing. The members that won were as follows:

1. JOHN DEWEY
2. GAIL DIVAN
3. JUDY FEINAUER
4. BURR MALLORY
5. DAVE ROMER

Be sure to attend or you could miss the best part of the meeting....our software demos and information. There is always something that would benefit you. We will be meeting at **UNITY CHURCH** on **Executive Pkwy** at 12:30 on **November 11th**.

This month we will have a new club disk available. The new club disks will be on sale at the club sales desk. See Earl for more details. Attendance is still down, but improving.... Myself and the officers would like to see that trend change for the better. Your attendance is what makes the club an enjoyable experience.

There will be a 50/50 raffle this month. The new ideas adopted are making a sweeping change. I would like to see everyone there to offer some added thoughts ideas and or objections.

A nomination committee has been set up to nominate club officers for 1990. A need for a Vice President and President are the only two un-nominated positions available. I'm sorry folks, but I think 3 years is long enough. Its time to get some new blood in the hot seat. Also we will be planning our Christmas party

for December to close out the year.

This month we will have at least one demo. Charles Strobbel will be demonstrating **COMMAND DOS**. Our **D.O.M.** (disk of the month). will be available as usual. I am hoping to have at least three new disks available. Anyone having anything they want to show, bring it in and give us a demo please feel free to do so.

MICROPENDIUM is available each month at the club sales desk. These are in limited quantities so be sure to get yours while they last. **MICROPENDIUM** has some of latest news and software concerning the **TI-99/4A** and the **GENEVE 9640**. Also it has reviews on software/hardware and much much more.

Anyone who has borrowed from the lending library and the exchange newsletters should return them this month so that we can update our library and get it ready for December. Please return the exchange newsletters to **BURR MALLORY** and the software to **CHRIS DEWY**.

NEW HORIZON

MEETING DATES FOR 1989

NOV 11 at 12:30 PM

DEC 09 at 12:30 pm



"No problem, Roger Feinauer will know what to do."

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1989 MEETING
OF NEW HORIZONS COMPUTER CLUB

Don Turner opened meeting at 12:40 P.M. 20 members present.

We were out of blank disks, there should be more at next meeting.

Winner of the club drawing were as follows; disc file box-Dave Romer, X-mas cards- Burr Mallory, mugs(2)- John Dewey Judy Feinauer, book on TI Basic- Gail Divan.

Prizes for next month will be a Club Disk and Page Pro 99.

Earl read the minutes of June and last months meetings. They were approved.

Jo Symington will head the nominating comm. She NEEDS 3 people to help. Nominations will be made at next months meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting.

The TI Fair will be in Chicago on Sat, Nov. 4th. Bud Mills Don Turner are attending. If anyone is interested in going contact either one.

There will be a sign up sheet for the X-Mas party at the next meeting. Ellen Thompson is going to make Sloppy Joes for the club. Be sure to sign the list for your contribution to the party.

The Treas. report was read- There was a balance on 9-9-89 of \$551.29. Receipts totaled 38.74, expenses were 96.05, leaving a balance of 493.98. The report was approved. We have our first paid member-Remember deadline for dues is Jan. 1 1990. Burr Mallory has updated all the newsletters from other clubs thru 1988. The 1989's will be finished in the next few months as Burr has time.

Roger Feinauer would like to know who was asking about MX-008. A copy has been put in the software library see John and Chris Dewey.

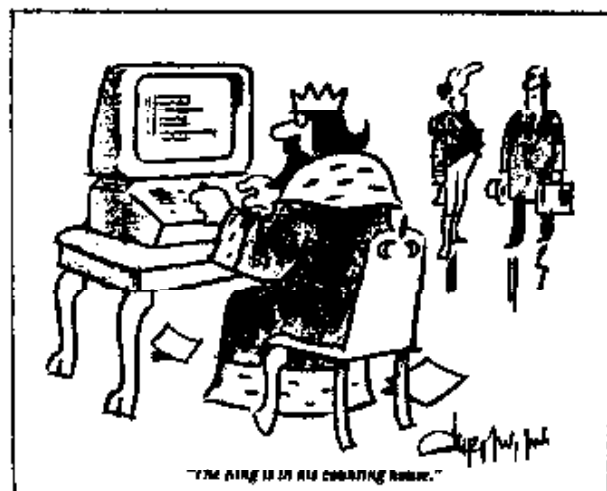
Earl Hoffsis is sending out Newsletters to other clubs on a Bi Monthly bases to save on postage. Roger Feinauer asked if it wouldn't be less costly to put them on disk. It was decided that it would be cheaper to just send the newsletter.

We had a 50/50 drawing. the winner was Judy Feinauer-she won \$14.00 and the club made \$14.00. This will be a monthly event to help bolster the Treasury.

Bill Tiep Demonstrated the club disk. "PINBALL, BARRAGE, POWERBALL, SUPER TREK, IM LOST MAZE, AND BREAK OUT" which uses an EA opt3 loader (run and load) sells for the club material was \$24.00. the meeting was closed at 2:10 PM.

respectfully submitted

Jo Symington





Hello again, and hope everyone has had a great month. Coming up this November is the nominations for officers for 1990, so if you don't have anything to do why not giving a thought of running for office. The dues for 1990 will be coming soon so start saving your fortune for the \$15.00 yearly dues. This is got to be the best bargain around.

Well, at work the other day I was trying to make some data collection sheets for the job I work on. There are seven manual stations. What we needed was some custom data sheets. My boss wanted something with lines, text and graphics. To make a long story short EDB, (you guess it) I work for General Motors, brought out to our computer Micro Soft Windows, PC Paint IV, and about eight manuals. Looking at all of this, there was no way I would be able to do what I needed to that day. The guy from EDB said it wasn't unusual for it to take about three weeks to become proficient with these software packs. Working with the software and not getting anywhere fast. I took my notes home that night. While messing around with my TI I remembered a program I purchased while I was in Lima this spring. That is PAGE PRO 99, to my surprise it had everything I needed to get my job done, with-

out the need of a dozen manuals to learn. Using my notes I produced what I needed in about 2 hours. The only thing that I cheated on was the graphics as they were I felt one of a kind and couldn't see any use taking the time to draw them. I use the magic of the coping machine and pasted them in, that was that. And everyone at work liked them, Also a couple of persons wanted to know what software I used and if they find out where they could by it and all I could say was it dont run on a PC.

This month Charles Strobell will be demoing 4A/Command Dos for the TI. If there is time left I will demo Page Pro 99 and maybe something else I've been working on. So please come to the meeting I think this month will be special.

I hope there will will be blank disk on sell as I'm getting a little low, only 40 disk left.

Does anyone know how to load a CHARA1 file from Extended Basic this would sure make loading screen fonts a lot easier then having to redefine them for each change. It would also make graphics a hole lot easier. While I'm at it how about a routine that allow you to merge in a file into your program from the edit mode, allowing you to specify what line numbers you want it to load at instead of first merging in a routine RER the line numbers then saving it in merge format with a new file name. Just use it in what ever program your working on. Lastly, what about a run command that will allow you to load a file using a string name like SUPER EXTENDED BASIC does.

Well so much for this month see you at the meeting, Roger.

Roger S. Fin

ASGARD SOFTWARE

P.O. Box 10306, Rockville, MD
20849, (703)255-3085

For more information contact: For
Immediate Release
Chris Bobbitt
(703)255-3085

Asgard Software begins
manufacturing TI-99/4A Modules

Vienna, VA, Oct. 10, 1989: After
months of work designing,
planning and manufacturing,
Asgard Software is pleased to
announce that we've become the
first new original equipment
manufacturer (OEM) of modules for
the TI-99/4A in over 4 years.

Virtually all modules available
today for the 99/4A are leftovers
from stocks constructed by
various companies in 1983-84
(primarily TI), or were
manufactured more recently by
Databiotics, Inc. for various
distributors. Asgard Software
originally purchased finished
module versions of its software
products from Databiotics, but
because of quality, cost and
flexibility considerations, we
decided to begin manufacturing
cartridges in Spring of 1989.

After much work, and consultation
with some of the foremost
hardware designers in the 99/4A
and 9640 community, we have
constructed a completely original
device that is rugged, reliable
and of exceptional quality. The
PC board in our module features
both a capacitor and a resistor,
as called for by TI
specifications, and is designed
to fit firmly but not too tightly
within a variety of standard
module cases. The nickle-plated
edge connectors are durable and
built to TI standards.

On our modules we use genuine
Texas Instruments EPROMs which,

as we've all learned from our
99/4As, are guaranteed to be
built to exacting standards. We
have acquired the capacity to
"burn" (program) the chip on our
modules in house, saving both
time and expense. This
capability also permits us to
rapidly implement updates, as
well as service our module
software quickly and easily.

Finally, our modules are packaged
in genuine TI cartridge cases
(which we've purchased new), and
are professionally labeled. Our
high-quality modules are then
individually tested to assure
they function properly. We are
able to produce this exceptional
device at a cost comparable to
what we used to purchase them for
from Databiotics.

Currently, Asgard Software
manufactures two programs in
cartridge form - Typewriter 99
and Tris, both by Jim Reiss. In
the near future, we intend to
extend our offerings with new
productivity, educational and
entertainment software by a range
of authors. Even today, years
after TI discontinued the
TI-99/4A, tens of thousands of
new modules are still sold every
year. Even today, the majority
of TI-99/4A systems in use are
equipped with at most only
cassette recorders. Hopefully,
the products we offer will extend
the viability of console-only
systems (from which disk system
owners spring), for years to
come.

Asgard Software is currently
seeking assembly language
programmers interested in
adapting their software for
modules, or writing new items
specifically for the cartridge
market. While because of the
relatively high cost to produce
modules, we can't offer as
generous a royalty as we like,
the sheer number of copies that
virtually any module sells more

then justify the time spent to produce them (you can truly "make it up in volume").

Of course, we intend to continue extensive development of disk and cassette software for the TI-99/4A and Myarc Geneve 9640, and are always interested in new programs for either machine in virtually any language. We have acquired this capacity in order to reach more TI users, and to better serve our customers.

While on a percentage basis alone, our royalties may not be as generous as those extended by some other manufacturers, we invest the difference in advertising your program, sending catalogs to literally thousands of TI users around the world, maintaining accounts on major telecommunications networks, publishing a highly respected magazine for 4A and 9640 users (that periodically spotlights individual products we produce), and more. Asgard Software has invested almost ten thousand dollars in equipment designed to help us produce the most professional looking software possible for the cost the program sells for. A high royalty percentage doesn't assure you of high royalties - it doesn't mean anything if no one has heard of your program or knows its advantages over others.

Finally, you can be assured of professional treatment for your program because we are the only 99/4A or 9640 software firm that is run full-time by its owner - our firm isn't a hobby of the owner, it is his livelihood and he has a vested interest in promoting your program.

Asgard Software offers a full line of programs for serious TI and 9640 users by some of the best-known names in the 99/4A world. When you get serious about publishing your software,

you should contact a serious software company.

For a free catalog of our products, or for information about publishing your software with us, call, Email or write to:

Asgard Software
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20849
(703) 255-3085
Genie: C.BORBITT
CID: 72541,3211
E.B.B.B. (301-292-1482): User #95

Thank you.

I copied the following press release issued at the recent TI Expo(S.Mickelson):

R A M B O

Introducing A New Dimension

To the TI World

RAMBO is a special hardware/software expansion kit designed for the **TI99/4A** and **MYARC GENEVE 9640** computer systems to upgrade **HORIZON** ramdisks. **RAMBO** is based on a special chip which is fully software and hardware compatible with all **HORIZON** ramdisks from the first HRD to the latest 3000 series.

The current **HORIZON** was designed mainly to be a ramdisk. Its RAM was based at >4000 (TI99 DSR SPACE) with a 6K Main DSR for the RDS, etc. and 2K pages of RAM to allow reading/writing of sectors. This was fine for ramdisk operations but for writing programs which really executed from the ramdisk memory it was not easy. The program had to be divided into modules of 2K each and could not access other drives, printers, etc. since

only one DSR can be turned at a time. Due to this, many software developers including OPA dropped the idea of writing large programs which would run directly off the HORIZON ramdisk.

OPA has now broken this barrier in the TI world by designing a complex chip and PCB which plugs into a HORIZON card and allowing the HORIZON to have two completely different memory paging and access modes. We named this unit **RANDOM-ACCESS-MEMORY-BANK-OPERATOR** or **RAMBO** for short.

With **RAMBO** installed in your **HORIZON** you will be able to partition the RAM onboard between **RAMDISK** and **PROGRAM** space, allowing you to run new TI or **GENEVE** programs using this extraRAM as program space, which could be as large as your ramdisk.

RAMBO adds a whole new paging system to the **HORIZON** which gives the programmer an 8K Main DSR RAM (First 6K reserved for the ROS) at the normal >4000 space but now instead of tiny 2K pages of RAM at the >6000 (TI99 Cartridge space), **RAMBO** also makes the DSR RAM on/off control independent of the 8K page control. This means the programmer can write large programs in easy-to-handle 8K blocks and access any DRS without using any of the standard 32K CPU RAM.

RAMBO does all this on a tiny 1" x 1" PCB with two special chips. OPA has designed **RAMBO** to be easily installed in any **HORIZON** model. All the parts including the six jumper wires come already assembled on the PCB. Thus all the **HORIZON** owner has to do is plug in the PCB and solder six wires in place. After installation, the **HORIZON** card

works the same to all versions of ROS. Being so, **RAMBO** is fully software and hardware compatible with all hardware configurations and programs currently compatible with the **HORIZON** ramdisk.

Included in the **RAMBO** kit is a diskette containing some sample programs, source code, programming tutorial, RAM tester, and many other useful utilities. Coming soon from OPA is a new enhanced ROS designed to bring out all the features of **RAMBO**, and a programming newsletter on the latest ideas, etc. All of the above is included in the purchase price of **RAMBO**.

Price \$45.00 US plus \$4.50 for shipping. Canadian residents: same price Canadian, Ontario residents please add PGT., payable in Money Order or check. (Prices subject to change).

For more information contact:

OPA, Oasis Pensive Abacutors
432 Jarvis St., Ste. 502
Toronto, Ont., M4Y-2H3, CANADA

or contact Gary Bowser
(416) 960-0925

Oasis Pensive Abacutors
Specializing in 9900 based
Software and Hardware
Home of the Phoenix 2001 series
of software



**COMPUTE THIS,
SUCKER!**

TI WRITER BY STAN KATZMAN PART 12

(Ed. Note: Thanks to Stan Katzman and the West Penn User Group)

The last dot command is the transliterate command (.TL _ _) with this command you can change any character to another character in the formatter. In order to use this command we must first discuss the ASCII character codes which are listed on page 145 of the T>I> Writer Manual, plus you need to know the control codes for your printer. The control codes are given in your printer manual.

The ASCII codes are a set of standard numbers which when sent to the printer cause the printer to print a certain character. For example if your computer sent the printer a code number 65 a capital "A" is printed. Some ASCII codes do not cause the printer to do anything, for example if number 27 is sent (this is called escape) it will be a signal to the printer to do something special.

The transliterate command works in conjunction with the ASCII codes and your printer

control codes. Let's give a few examples of them. Let's say we want to make a superscript. The control code for the Epson LX-90 printer to make a superscript is 27, "S0". This is the escape, capital "S" and zero. In Basic, if we send the printer the following statement - Print #1:Chr\$(27);"S0", it will print all letters or numbers after this code in superscript mode, we must turn off the superscript mode and this is done with the code 27,"T". So in Basic we should say Print #1:Chr\$(27);"T" and now everything will be printed normally in a Basic program. Well, in T.I. Writer we have to tell the program first what we want to change one letter to something else (transliterate). We "tell" the program this by using a character that we will not be using in the rest of the document and then transliterate it. For example let us assume that we are not going to use the brackets ([]) in our document. The left bracket ([) has the ASCII code of 91. So let us use this as a signal to transliterate it in order to make superscripts. We would type at the start of our document. .TL 91:27,83,48. What this says is ASCII 91, a left bracket ([) to

transliterate into the following, 27 code to the printer to do what follows (escape), and now 83 which is a cap S and 48 for a zero. The next character the printer sees will now be printed in superscript. We now have to turn off superscript and let's use the right bracket (]). We would type at the head of the document .TL 93:27,84. This transliterates thusly, ASCII 27 is escape to the printer and 84 is the cap T which tells the printer to turn off superscript (and subscript) modes. Let's see what this would look like: .TL 93:27,84(ENTER) (changes [to turn off superscript). .TL 91:27,83,48(ENTER) (changes [to transliterate to superscript). In the making of a cake heat the oven to 300(0) F.....

You will see the braces turn the zero to a superscript and the next bracket turns off the superscript. That is why we cannot use the brackets anywhere else in the document.

Study your printer manual and you can make your printer do everything it is capable of using the transliterate mode.



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Owner

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quality printing

