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# **U. J. -ving**



**from New JUG/North**

**May 1988**

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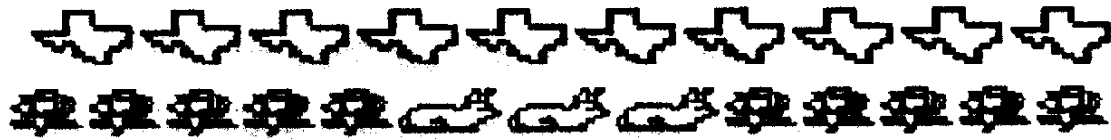
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**NEXT MEETING: May 24th, Dumont H.S. Faculty Lounge, 7-9:30 P.M.**

**Motto: We are a family enjoying the unspeakable peace and freedom of being orphans. (Paraphrased from George Bernard Shaw)**



**We're in The Merry, Merry Month of May!!!**

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**User Groups: Please Reciprocate!**



*T.L. Dings from NewJug/North*  
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The New Star NX-1000  
by Henry

Just recently I purchased a New Printer. No, not the 24 pin I was hoping to get, but a very good 9-pin job that gives very good results. I have been using the Star SG-10 for more than three years without much of a problem except that the new one is filled with significant improvements. It is fully Epson LX compatible, IBM Proprinter compatible, and guess what! It is another STAR printer, the NX 1000. It is a true multiple font printer and the MLQ is adequate, but not quite as good as its predecessor, the SG 10, but does put out MLQ in ALL fonts except in compressed mode. The fonts can be accessed by membrane 'touch' switches on the front panel. This makes a lot of 'typesetting' a lot easier. Each font has its *italic* equivalent in ALL printing modes accessible by the control panel OR program commands. It was a real buy! \$169, or about \$120 less than I paid for the SG-10 three years ago.

Another feature I liked was that this printer also has *proportional printing* in all modes but compressed, such as the mode in this printout. What I miss is the more economical ribbon replacement cost for the SG-10. Otherwise it is better for doing almost anything the Epson LX series can do. Slightly slower than most in LD (only 30 cpi) mode, it gives good resolution in graphics and text. The older SG-10 did not respond to some transliterate commands in LD mode but this new printer does them all, in ANY font I choose.

This printer is listed, often included, in advertisements in the Sunday and Tuesday editions of the *New York Times*, and monthly computer mags. Look for prices. Support is given by the Honeywell Corporation in centers located many cities around the country. Why did I choose it? My SG-10 stood up to my dust and smoke, many writes and rewrites of these articles, resumes, term papers, theses, etc., etc., etc. If THIS

company goes out of business because of putting out such a good product it would be sorely missed. How can you beat a price like that! Perhaps you can, but for sacrifice in quality? I compared it to several others for price and quality and I can't find one comparable.

It comes with a single sheet feeder, besides. It can be tractor fed from above or below and pages taken out as they are printed without advancing and resetting. Just stop the printing when the "perf" appears and rip it off at your pleasure.

True MLQ printers, the 24-pin jobs are coming down in price but I don't think they'll print out the graphics files of *ARTIST*, *GRAPH-X*, *JOYPAINT*, *PICASSO*, *CS88*, etc. At least I didn't want to take a chance on investing \$300 or more for the risk. I'm sure the latter will work well for IBM graphics programs but that's another animal.

By the way, the DIP switches are easily accessible and much more sturdily built. Switches on other machines, I found, were too delicate, tiny, and easily breakable, notably the *CITIZEN* and a few others. But they are NOT bad, either, for general and limited multifont use. There's no real variety of fonts in the latter, just a difference in size and texture of the same font.

For configuring APPLE, AMIGA, ATARI 512, etc. text or graphics programs for printer outputs all I need to do is choose from their printer choices is either Epson LX, or IBM Proprinter and off it goes on its productive way.

Somewhere in this NL I'll give sample printouts, besides these columns.

There are many good Epson compatible printers out there in the price range listed but NOT having the multiple font feature of the NX-1000. Each are good in speed and qualities of durability, notably the *PANASONIC 1080*, *1090*, series, *SEIKOSHA*, and others. All produce good MLQ and graphics. BUT..

True MLQ can be achieved with the 24-pin printers such as *EPSON LQ series*, *NEC P-2200*, and *PANASONIC 2415*. The latter comes in a 15" carriage only making it very expensive (\$500+ range) and the others around \$400, (10" carriages) a good buy, but I'm afraid of the compatibility with TI's graphic programs. They all emulate the *EPSON LQ* printer, however. The *NEC* offers

options of many fonts stored in gross cartridges you purchase extra, but not at an insurmountable cost as was the *TI-855* printer of some years back.

The printhead on this machine, *NX1000* however, much smaller than the *SG-10's*, does not seem to give as much resolution. Maybe because cartridge ribbons don't carry as much ink or the head's electromagnetic impulses are weaker. I'll try my reinking skills on it soon to find out.

I just discovered that the ink cartridge didn't have much ink in it! After a little ten minute job, my tools were ready, I got it up to par with the old *SG-10* printer in output quality. I only bought one spare since generics aren't around yet, and I'll do that one after this ML gets printed.

Star offers a 'twin' *NX-1000* to print out in color. At \$13 a ribbon, not reinkable, and only \$50 or more more, it may be more useful for making greeting cards, signs, and such, for single mailing pieces. Who has a multicolor copier? So I didn't bother. A nice idea though! It sure beats the price of the *IMAGEWRITER II*, with equal quality, made for *APPLES*.

Back to the *CORE!*

Happy writing! Happier printing!

R A N B L I N G S  
By Henry

Haven't gotten the *MINUTES* yet but I'll proceed without them. The grapevine told me that those who attended were given a demo of the latest *FUNLWEB*, v. 4, to be exact. Wasn't it great!? Only about 10 of you folk showed up. Well, next month, ol' Bill will show some tricks with the old *MULTIPLAN*. No treasury report got to me. With the increase in postal rates we could be out of business by Christmas.

NL writers from all over who experimented with other word processors and computers are saying pretty much the same thing. "Stick with what you got." Yes, me too! The simplicity of our *TIM* (*FUNLWEB* versions) should take the prize for any I've seen. Yes, the 40 column screen does make it somewhat awkward but with all the other features on that *FWEB* disk sure enhance writing, disk manipulating, and some other items worth mentioning. Overall, it does many

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things better than those high priced WP's with so many complicated commands. It's not because I'm so used to it, either, that I write this! I have APPLWORKS, MOUSEWRITE, EASYWRITER, and others for my APPLE. None are simple to as the T1M in desirable special character effects. Radio Shack's DESKMATE, DESKMATE II, and the PRO DESKMATE, ALL lack this ability. Of the other WP's for IBM/clones the one I like best is the CHI WRITER, a Fairware program, first for its simplicity, and second for its built in multiple fonts. A mathematician or scientist could do his/her thesis with all those special math characters, Greek characters, super and subscripts, et al. PC-Write comes in a good second, but the latter has too many unnecessary menu items for an occasional writer. WORDSTAR! Forget it! Even T1M can beat it if it weren't for the limited screen size! Besides, we can use our own D/V 80 file system to do some manipulations with some of our data bases, MULTIPLAN, and the Household Budget Management files. And graphics trix, too!

In a previous ML I included a page of transliterate commands devised by Jack Sughrue that could be added to make many more special character uses, perhaps even making your own math symbols, double sized and quad sized characters, that is, if your printer is capable like my new one is. Even after we've been orphaned for quite a while now I bet the TI manufacturers never new how good the T1M really was!

Maybe it was a good thing for us to be on our own. Imagine what they would have charged for the equivalent of the NYARC 80 cotuan GENEVE. No, I never got it, maybe never will, but for those who did do rave about it, and I DO envy them!

As far TI clubs (user groups) are concerned, we seem to have the most sharing experiences as compared to any other groups. Getting all these newsletters from them testify to that, among many other things. The camaraderie at regional fairs is another testimony of it. Yes, our memberships are dwindling and individual enthusiasms are giving way to 'bigger and better' (?) things. Some owners of the latter get into it but don't seem to really get down to the nitty gritty bits

and bytes, especially with the tremendous memories their new devices have. "Why worry?" they say. Yes, they are greater conveniences, but why do they need so much for a "home" computer?

The March 88 TWIN Tiers ML (western NY Elmira area) is also very outspoken in this matter. They ask 1) What computer offers the use of an inexpensive powerful data base? 2) "An extraordinary WP that could open up ALL the possibilities of your printer? (see above) 3) A high res graphics screen for dynamic arcade games (written in ANY language available) 4) A disk manager that could do all the disk and file manipulations usually only found in mainframes (and improved disk managers such as DM-1000 et al. 5) ability to run FORTH, "c", PASCAL, and LOGO, 6) built-in BASIC that could include subprograms, and other items unique to any other computer, 6) Untapped features constantly being uncovered, 7) inexpensive updates of all peripherals, hardware and software.

All in all, we have the most inexpensive base of support compared to to any other computer. And since we already have this TI beastie, it is the most affordable, adaptable, and powerful 'home' computer still around.

All of these arguments mentioned by the TWIN Tier's UG are still as sound as ever! Why give up a good thing when we're already ahead of the game?

Rather than spending two or more hours of type copy I'll do some cut and paste of two interesting reviews from K-Town, March 88, on The PRINTER'S APPRENTICE and FONTRITER II programs. Read 'em well!

Also included in this issue is a review of "The last word?" on FUNLWEB V.4, and PICASSO's docs. I hope the latter whet's everyone's appetites!

Gleanings from Micropendium

Vol.3 No.2, March 1988  
by Frank Filice

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May 88 Tidings

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* PICASSO PUBLISHER V1.1 \*  
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 (c) Arto Heino 1987

I hope this program fills the needs of those of us who like to create.

1. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

XB or EA or MM, 32K Memory, Disk System  
 EPSON compatible printer & JOYSTICK

2. LOADING PROGRAM

MINIMEMORY & EDITOR ASSEMBLER:

OLD DSK1.LOAD  
 RUN

EXTENDED BASIC:

WILL AUTO LOAD

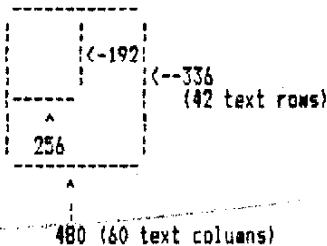
OR (MM, EA, XB)

CALL LOAD("DSK1.P/LOADER")  
 CALL LINK("PLOAD")

4. STARTING

Once the Title screen has loaded, press 'FUNC 4' to clear the screen. Picasso Publisher defaults to the drawing mode, so you can start drawing straight away.

The viewing area of the screen is a small window onto a large 480x336 area, which can be scrolled by moving to the edge with the pointer. Your starting screen is at the top lefthand corner:



The large screen area is also where you load your text files. Each text char is 8x8, you have 42 lines of 60 columns of text input area, this will be important to remember when you prepare your text files for loading.

3. COMMANDS

- B = BRUSHES
  - C = CIRCLE
  - D = DRAW
  - F = FILL
  - G = GET FILE
  - I = INVERT
  - K = REVERSE
  - L = LINES
  - M = MIRROR
  - N = TEXTURES
  - O = BOX
- WINDOW ACTIVE
- WINDOW ACTIVE
- WINDOW ACTIVE
- WINDOW ACTIVE

- P = PRINTOUT
- R = RAYS
- S = SAVE FILE
- T = TEXT INPUT
- U = TOGGLE ON/OFF
- W = WINDOW
- Z = TOGGLE MOVE/COPY WINDOW ACTIVE
- + = JOYSPEED FAST
- = JOYSPEED SLOW
- 1 = SAVE FONT
- 2 = LOAD FONT
- 8 = UNDO
- FUNC 4 = CLEAR SCREEN
- FUNC = FILE UTIL MENU
- ENTER = FONT EDITOR
- SPACE = ZOOM

4. COMMANDS in detail

B = BRUSHES

You can choose from 32 different brush shapes. After pressing 'B' move your joystick left or right to select which brush, when you have made your choice press the joystick button and you will return to where you were before pressing 'B'.

C = CIRCLE

Place your pointer at the center of where you want the circle then press the joystick button. You can now vary the size you want by moving the joystick away from the center. When you are satisfied press the joystick button to draw the circle. Press 'D' to abort.

D = DRAW

This will return you to the normal drawing mode from what ever function you were performing previously.

F = FILL

You must have the WINDOW mode active and an area framed. This will only fill with solid black.

G = GET FILE

This will give you a prompt to put in a file name. If you want to abort just press 'FUNC 8'. The file type is DISPLAY VARIABLE 80, so be careful what you load in.

I = INVERT

You must have the WINDOW mode active and an area framed. This will turn the area enclosed upside down,

K = REVERSE

You must have the Window mode active and an area framed. This will turn OFF all dots that are on and turn ON all dots that are not.

L = LINES

After pressing 'L' choose the start position of line and press joystick button, now move the

joystick until you have located the end position of the line, then press the joystick button. You exit this mode by pressing 'D'.

M = MIRROR

You must have the WINDOW mode active and an area framed. This will turn the area enclosed into the mirror image of itself.

N = TEXTURES

You can choose from 32 different textures. After pressing 'N' move your joystick left or right to which texture, when you have made your choice press the joystick button and you will return to where you were before pressing 'N'.

O = BOX

After pressing 'O' move your pointer to the position you want one of the BOX corners to be then press the joystick button. Moving the joystick you can expand the box into what ever size you want. To leave this mode press 'D'.

P = PRINTOUT

This will give you a prompt to put in the print DEVICE name. To abort just press 'FUNC 5'. Here is a list of the PRINTERS it will be compatible with:

- EPSON FX80 graphics
- BROTHER M1009
- BROTHER M1109
- IBM graphics
- other EPSON COMPATABLE PRINTERS

R = RAYS

First position your pointer to where you want then press 'R'. Move the joystick around and press the joystick button when you want the rays to be drawn. Press 'D' to abort function.

S = SAVE FILE

This will give you a prompt to put in a file name. If you want to abort just press 'FUNC 5'. The file type is DISPLAY VARIABLE 80, so be careful what name you use.

T = TEXT INPUT

You can enter text in either upper or lower case. You can pixel adjust where your text line by moving the joystick up or down. Function keys 'S D E X' are active. If you press enter the pointer will return to the left most column. To exit press fire button.

U = TOGGLE ON/OFF

This will toggle your pixel status either ON or OFF. Also works in ZOOM mode.

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## W = WINDOW

Position the pointer to the desired location then hold the joystick button while moving the joystick. A wire frame window will outline part of your picture. To abort function press 'D'.

## Z = TOGGLE MOVE/COPY

Once you have enclosed an area with the window function, move the pointer inside the frame and press 'Z' to toggle from 'M' to 'C' on the little hand.

To MOVE or COPY a section hold the joystick button while moving the joystick to your new position. Release the joystick button then press it again to activate function.

You can only MOVE/COPY in the visible screen area, if you go to the edge, the screen will scroll and your original frame will shift its position. To abort frame press the joystick button outside the window.

## + = JOYSPEED FAST

This will speed up the operation of the joystick if it has been slowed down by pressing '-'.  
WARNING: If you have pressed it too often the pointer will seem to stop, just press '-' till you can move it again.

## - = JOYSPEED SLOW

This function is handy if you want to draw carefully. To speed up again just press '+'. You have 65000 increments to slow down with.

## 1 = SAVE FONT

This will give you a prompt to put in your file name. The format of the file is DISPLAY VARIABLE 80.

## 2 = LOAD FONT

This will give you a prompt to put in your file name. The format of the file is DISPLAY VARIABLE 80.

## 8 = UNDO

This will undo anything that has been done on your screen since SCROLLING, SAVING OR LOADING.

## ENTER = FONT EDITOR

The screen will display the ASCII CHARACTERS in a magnified form. To turn pixels ON or OFF press the joystick button. To locate any char press that letter on the keyboard. To abort press enter.

You can define your own texture pattern by choosing the last char.

## SPACE = ZOOM

The screen will display the screen area in a magnified form. You can move all over the bitmap screen in this mode. Press 'U' to toggle the

pixel status. To abort press 'D'.

## FUNC 4 = CLEAR SCREEN

This will only clear the visible part of the screen.

## FUNC + = FILE UTILITY MENU

### 1 = LOAD TI-WRITER FILE

This will load 42 lines of 60 CHARS wide starting at your line option.

### 2 = LOAD GRAPHIC FILE

This will load a TI-ARTIST file with suffix 'P' or any graphic file with 24 SECTORS. The picture will be placed over whatever was in the displayed screen area. If you don't want the graphic you just loaded in press '8' (undo) to clear it.

### 3 = OVERLAY GRAPHIC

This will do the same as option 2 but will overlay the picture transparently over what was on the screen previously. You cannot undo this function.

### 4 = CATALOG DISK

This option will give you a choice of disk 1-4. The file information includes the file names and their sizes and the disk name and the amount used. Maximum files visible is 44. Press the space bar to return to file menu.

### 5 = RETURN TO PICASSO

This will return you to the drawing mode.

### 6 = EXIT PICASSO PUBLISHER

This will QUIT the program and return you to the TI TILE SCREEN. All data in memory will be lost.

## 5. PREPARING FILES FOR USE

When you want to create a particular type of page with text and graphics use the following methods:

FIRST- Adjust your TI-writer editor tab setting to 60 max chars. To make an A4 size page use 84 lines. Use the powerful editor functions to lay out your page. Remember if you are going to load a picture file later, do not put your picture overlapping line 42.

SECOND- If you want to use any GRAPHX files then you will have to convert them with either MAX-RLC or TI-ARTIST. Convert your files into TI-ARTIST format so you can use the 'P' file for loading into PICASSO

THIRD- XB basic screens can be dumped using an assembly routine outlined in ENHANCED XB program.

FOURTH- Load PICASSO and CLEAR SCREEN now select your font choice to load then press 'FUNC +' to select file utilities. Load your TEXT file starting at line 1. Select the area you want the graphic file to load

use either Load or Overlay graphic option. You should have half an A4 page almost ready, SAVE your file before you go any further. Now load the second half of your Text file starting at line 43. Do the same procedure to load any graphic files. SAVE it. You should now have 2 files that contain your page. PRINT them or do some Artistic adjustments at your leisure.

## 6. XB UTILITES

I have included 2 extra programs on the disk:

### DISKPRINT

This will print your PICASSO files from disk straight to the printer. If you don't have an EPSON type printer you can change the printer codes to suit.

### XB FONTS

Contained in this program are some programming examples on how to

SAVE XB CHARS INTO PICASSO FONTS  
LOAD PICASSO FONTS INTO XB  
CREATE PICASSO FILE FROM XB

Also included on the disk is an assembly file called 'CHARS/O'. This file contains 3 links to use in XB.

CALL LINK("CHRSET",A\$,B\$,C\$,D\$,E\$)  
CALL LINK("CHAR",CHRNUM,STR\$)  
CALL LINK("CHRPAT",CHRNUM,LENG,RET\$)

You can load your Font from PICASSO into XB just to see what it looks like.

### MACDMP/O

If you have any BITMAC files you can use this utility to change the format.  
eg.

CALL LOAD("DSK1.MACDMP/O")  
CALL LINK("MACDMP", "DSK1.MACFILE", "DSK1.GRAPHIC")

The new file format can now be used from your FILE OPTIONS MENU.

## 7. ENHANCED XB

I have added another call link so you can use screens created with it into PICASSO Load Graphic File option.

CALL LINK("ARTDMP", "DSK?.NAME")

I am only asking \$20 for it. If you want the program by Post add \$2.50 postage & handling.

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*Tidings May 88*

May '88 T.I. Dings

The following articles on TPA and FW II are excerpts from K-Town 99ers. They were selected because of their valued criticism of the programs discussed and good explanations of how they function.

Enjoy! - Ed.

#### THE PRINTER'S APPRENTICE (TPA) by Mike McLean

A review by Bill Sheridan

TPA comes with two disks (SSSD) that uses both sides of each disk. The front side of the first disk has the program that is booted in drive 1 by TI Extended Basic or loaded by Editor/Assembler. The back side contains 3 fonts they call SBSM, 3 fonts called DUSH, a graphic picture, and a short text which is used in the Scripts demo programs. The other disk has 3 DUSH fonts on each side. Included are 5 pages showing examples of the 10 fonts on the second disk in single, double and quad density.

In the preface of the documentation it says, "The cycle of using TPA would be something like: Plan a page. Create and format the text in your choice of font and save this to disk in Extra format. Clip your pictures to size and print them in Extra format as well. Boot the SCHEDULER and with your page plan place each graphics object (text or pictures) in the exact location you want."

Sounds simple doesn't it? But after working with this program off and on for about 4 weeks, I've found out it can get very complicated. It will require 2 or more blank disks and a lot of trial (with a lot of error) in formatting. After working with the scripts (program examples) as suggested, and reading the documentation at least a dozen times, I tried to enter text of my own. The first problem I ran into was losing text when it was printed. Depending on the font selected, density, and number of lines of text, I was losing text if I entered 23 or 24 lines of text. So, I will not enter more than 22 lines at a time, saving any additional text under a different file name. Best bet is to print the text out in your selected font before saving in Extra file. It

would have been nice (and more helpful) if he had included a page layout using text and pictures showing how it was done.

As mentioned in the documentation, text may be used that was saved using TI-Writer. Just be sure to set the right margin at the 40th column and save using the Printfile utility in the "fixed" format. Press PF at the command line and proceed the file specification with an Ft (i.e. FBSK2.TEXT). However, after using both the TI-WRITER and IPA Jotter (a small word processor), I prefer the Jotter as it will give you a screen 40 columns wide and 24 lines so you are not continually jumping between 2 windows. It also has most of the control commands of the TI-WRITER.

If you only have one disk drive you may run out of storage space depending on amount of text and font used. First you must save the font selected on a blank disk, then text, Extfile, and Schfile. Using identical text (9 sectors), two different fonts (68 sectors each), and identical Schfile (2 sectors), I used 212 sectors using DUMLO font on one disk and 347 sectors using DUNIVERSITY font on another disk. The difference being the Extfile where you are saving the text in the font you have selected. The text was 23 lines long. Using a print density of 88 it took 3 1/4 inches to print in DUMLO and 5 1/4 inches to print in DUNIVERSITY font. With two disk drives the font disk could be in drive 1 and the text in drive 2, saving 68 sectors.

Below is an example of how I printed graphics (text and pictures).

Boot TPA in drive 1 and type J for the FORMATTER menu then type J for the Jotter menu. If you have used TI-Writer for your text, press L for LoadF and enter filename as requested. Type E for Edit and enter text on the screen (buffer). FCTN-9 returns to the Jotter menu. Type B to return Back to the main FORMATTER menu. Decide which font you want and insert disk in drive 1. Press V for the Variables menu. I pressed enter at the Prnt Type since I have an Epson compatible printer. At Prnt Dnsy I typed 0 since I wanted double density print. At Font Style I typed 0 as I was going to use an OUSH type of print. At the next 5 lines I pressed enter for the defaults. At the Ragged/ Kern, just line, I typed N since I wanted the right edge of the text to be printed like a newspaper column. At Left Margin, I pressed enter for the default. At the Right Margin I entered 450. I wanted 2 columns of print, and since there are 959 pixels in 88 from the left to the right margin (8"), this would divide the page about in half with a 50 pixel (3/8") space between the columns of print. Press enter again at the last line which will return you to the FORMATTER menu. Check printer specifications. If you have a serial printer press P and enter your printer name (i.e. ACS32). Type B to print text from the Buffer. Press F and enter the name of the font (i.e. BSK1.DUMLO). Make sure the printer is on, then press G for Go. After checking text.

return to the letter menu. Press E for Edit again if you want to change anything(text or font). At this point you could print all your text from the buffer, but you will lose the advantages of the SCHEDULER.

If you have made any changes, I suggest you print your text again and check if the printout is what you want. If everything is OK, insert a blank disk in drive 2 and press S for SaveF. Press enter after entering the filename(i.e. DSK2.TEXT1). This will save your text on DSK2. Press B and return to the FORMATTER menu. Press E for Extfile; type DSK2.Extfile1 then press enter. Press T for Txtfile. Check names in Txtfile and Fatfile. Press G for Go. This will save the text in the font you selected in the Extfile. This may take about 10 minutes. I suggest you now go to the Directory and check the number of sectors that have been used. Remove the font disk from drive 1 and insert the TPA disk. Press I for edit to return to the main TPA menu.

Press 4 for the SCHEDULER menu; N for the ModifyS menu; then E for Edit. Enter DSK2.EXTFILE1(the Active command may be used for this operation - see the documentation). Press enter at the 0's opposite Row and Column. Enter a 1 at Rows. Press S for Size. The numbers that appear in the second column opposite Row and Column represents how far down the page the text will print(microline feeds) and how far over from the left margin(pixels). For Column you get 450(set in Variables in the FORMATTER). For row, for example, you get 448. For Epson printers that will be  $(448/216) \approx 2.07$ . You control the width of the text with Variables, and location with ModifyS. For instance, you may want to center the text and start 1/2" down from the 0 row. You will enter  $(216/2)=108$  at Row and enter  $(959/2-450/2)=254$  at Column.  $254(\text{blank space})+450(\text{text})+254(\text{blank space})=958$ (close enough to 959). The text will still be 3" long.

Press X and return to the SCHEDULER menu. Here again you may print text at this point and not use the Schfile. However, here again you will not be taking the full advantage of TPA. If you are going to have 3, 4, or more files you should use the Schfile. Press B and enter a filename(i.e. DSK2.SCHEDULER1). Press W for WriteS. This will store the position numbers in ModifyS which you just entered. Now start over with TEXT2,EXTFILE2,SCHEDULER2, then TEXT3, etc. using a blank disk for each. Be sure to keep notes of Row and Column limits of each file. For instance, in Extfile above, the text ended at line 448. If you want a 1/4" space between Extfile1 and Extfile2, then type  $(216/4)=54$ ; 702 for Row in the ModifyS menu for Extfile2.

After saving all graphics(text and pictures) you may want to save them slightly or even whole blocks for a meter appearance. This may be done by returning to the ModifyS menu and saving your new positions in the Schfile. Caution -- several times after completing the

ModifyS menu and returning to the SCHEDULER menu I changed my mind about the figures entered and pressed N again. The middle of the screen went crazy and my Extfile was erased. So now I always remove the Extfile disk first, and if the screen does go crazy, type I to edit which returns you to the main TPA menu. Type 4 for SCHEDULER, then N again. Enter new figures; return to the SCHEDULER menu; reinsert disk; then press N.

After all files have been checked and you are ready to print, draw a light pencil line on the paper just above the tear bar on the printer. This is your reference line. After each printout you must return the paper to this same position. In the example of Extfile2 above where we entered the starting row of 702, the paper will move up 3 1/4" before printing. In the SCHEDULER again menu press E and check the Extfile name. Press E to return to the printer name. Check Schfile name. If OK, press B for ReadS. Then press G for Go to print. This procedure must be followed for each Extfile.

So far I haven't said anything about pictures. This is fairly easy(see Scripts). Pictures may be loaded directly from HDL-FILE or TI-Artist with a ".P" format. If you wish to use an instance then load as usual using the TI-Artist and instance disks. At the TI-Artist menu select Store and save the picture on a blank disk. This will store the picture in 2 formats(i.e. BEAR.P and BEAR.C). The latter file name may be erased since TPA will only use the .P format. Follow steps 1-5 in Script 1 and steps 1-4 in Script 2. Be sure to use the .P when loading the picture. After step 4 in Script 2 enter F for Filenam. In this case you may use DSK2.BEAR. Then enter E for Extfile. After the picture is loaded press FCTN-9 to return to the main TPA menu. Press 4 for SCHEDULER and N for ModifyS. Proceed as in text and position your picture where you wish.

There are many other possibilities that I haven't touched on such as in Variables, Picture Editor, and Character Editor. But at least I hope the above will

I downloaded the following comparison of Fontwriter II vs Printers Apprentice from GENie last weekend. Written by Scott Darling one of the hosts on GENie. Carl Ninton

#### FontWriter II vs Printer's Apprentice

During the summer I posted a message about how pleased I was with TPA (The Printer's Apprentice) and how fast it worked from a ramdisk. At that time I was also waiting for FontWriter II, here after called FWII, to make a comparison of the two pieces of software. In the previous message I said that a page (8 1/2 x 11) could be printed from the Foundation ramdisk in 6 min 30 sec and from the Horizon in 3 min 30 sec. Full formatter will not work with either ramdisk using the .IP command to print pictures so I had to make my comparison using floppy drives. The ability of a formatter to fetch files

THE NEW FEATURES OF FUNNELWEB v4.0  
by Charles Good  
Lima Ohio User Group.

The last update of FUNNELWEB v3.4 was dated May 14 1987. Subsequent improvements have all been incorporated into v4.0, and this new version has now been released as fairware. This is a major update designed to be compatible with Myarc's Extended Basic II as well as TI Extended Basic. This review describes the v4.0 release dated Oct. 20, 87. No doubt improved versions with more recent release dates will soon appear. However all v4.0 releases will have the same basic organization, so this review should remain valid for future v4.0 releases.

THE CONFIG PROGRAM:

The most obvious improvement in v4.0 is CONFIG which can be accessed from the first XB User List menu or from the central User List menu. CONFIG allows the user to customize FUNNELWEB in numerous ways without any programming. All you do is follow the screen prompts. Any idiot can do it, but in case you aren't just any idiot check out the CONFIG flow chart accompanying this article.

Although the v4.0 LOAD program remains a hybrid of XB and assembly code, the FWb authors advise against trying to directly edit the XB part of LOAD. One reason is that if you are using MYARC XBII the XB portion of LOAD cannot be resaved properly. Also, there is no longer a UPATCH file to transfer LOAD customization to UTIL1. All configuration of LOAD, UL, and UTIL1 should now be done with CONFIG. If a later release of v4.0 is obtained the newer release should be configured from scratch with CONFIG. It is no longer recommended that you customize newer releases by merging the old LOAD XB code onto the newer LOAD. If you attempt to customize future v4.0 updates this way there is no easy method to transferring the customizations to UTIL1.

CONFIG allows the user to set up FUNNELWEB on a primary AND secondary drive (or ramdisk). Configured this way, FUNNELWEB suspends boot disk tracking and expects the TI-Wr central menu files to be in one drive, and the Ed-As central menu files to be in another drive. If you run out of space on one disk for the FWb files and all of the your assembly user files which FWb expects expects to be on the boot disk, then this is a useful option.

CENTRAL MENU USER OPTIONS:

Menu item #6 in each of the two central menus now is a UTILITY option whose menu name and two character file name can be customized with CONFIG. Any PROGRAM image EA#5 software can be loaded directly from the central menus with a single keypress via these options without first having to first select the central menu User List. The FWb authors suggest that the TI-Wr central menu utility would be a good place to load a spell checker.

MULTIPLE USER LISTS:

The central menu user list now has an option that reads "Next UL". This loads another user list file named UM which in turn can be configured to another user list file UN, etc. You can load from menu unlimited numbers of assembly language user programs in this way. Each of these user lists is a copy of file UL that is configured separately with CONFIG. After all UL files are independently configured, they are renamed UL, UM, UN, etc.

TAB RULER SHOWS IN EDITOR:

The EOF line that originally showed in the editor immediately below the last line of text has been modified into a 40 column ruler similar to the tab ruler that shows at the top of the screen when you set tabs. The modified EOF line is very useful for centering text in an editor screen and for the manual indentation of paragraphs and columns. The EOF line is numbered 0, 1(0), 2(0), and 3(0) with the other positions for columns 0-39 indicated by dots. The EOF line shifts with left/right windowing and with line numbers on/off and as such is not a true tab ruler. You see the same line no matter which window you are viewing. The numbering doesn't change to 40-80 when viewing the right window, for example. The modified EOF line is only visible at the end of the text file.

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NEW DISK DIRECTORY FEATURES:

Screen displays have been improved for disk directories called with AID (formatter, assembler, or a central menu) and SD (from the editor). A prompt line at the bottom of each directory tells you which keys to press for each feature. Pressing EQUAL after a directory is loaded shows if PROGRAM files are EA or BX (either basic) programs. This feature isn't new to v4.0 but it is worth mentioning here because it is so neat. If a PROGRAM file is not indicated as EA or BX after pressing EQUAL, the program file is a data file for the ADVENTURE, PRK, or similar module. A number (1-0) which has been added to the left of each displayed file name tells you which number key to press in order to mark a file. The marked file is put in the mail box memory and appears on the screen when you LF from the editor or when you boot the formatter or assembler.

The directory obtained from the editor with SD has some VERY USEFUL new features not found in the AID directly. Press "P" to print the directory to the editor print device, usually a printer. To delete the marked file from the disk press "D". An especially nice feature is the ability to view a marked file by pressing "V" without disturbing what you are editing in the editor's text buffer. After viewing the disk file you can then go back and continue editing the text buffer, since it is not necessary to save off what is in the buffer before pressing "V". If you press "O" (meaning 'old file', not 'load file') the current marked file becomes unmarked and the OLD previously marked file name replaces the just unmarked file as the mail box file name. It is a good idea to press "O" after viewing a file with "V" if text is in the editor's buffer. This will prevent you from accidently overwriting the viewed file when you later save the text buffer contents with SF.

OTHER MINOR CHANGES:

Disk Patch (file DP) has again been modified. The instructions are displayed on the first DP screen for easy reference. With the contents of a sector in view, pressing PROCEED brings up the previous sector, and BREAK displays the next sector. Always before in earlier versions of FWb and in the original DISKO, PROCEED displayed the next sector as would seem logical. I find PROCEED incrementing sectors in reverse to be confusing.

Color combinations can now be cycled through by pressing ZERO from almost any FWb menu that requests a number key press. In earlier FWb versions the color cycle key varied from menu to menu.

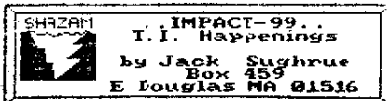
In my humble opinion (I'm modest too, just ask me some time and I'll tell you about my modesty.) FUNNELWEB is the most significant single piece of software ever for the 99/4A. These improvements make FUNNELWEB even better. You should give an additional Fairware donation to the Funnelweb authors serious consideration, even if you have paid for a previous version.

from a random is essential to a desktop publishing program to alternate disk drive wear which could be substantial because of the long printing times from floppy drive. FULL would only print 1/2 of the page vertically so I had to make two passes to print the same page as TPA did in one pass. Total printing time from BASIC not counting the time to roll back the page was 23 sec with FULL. Using the same printing procedure took 17 min 10 sec with TPA. The FULL formatter is also very limited compared to TPA.

FULL disk dump is something TPA does not have and this feature alone may be worth the cost of the software. This feature comes in very handy when when converting bit-idents to BASIC fonts to be used with the NAMEER program because the percentage of fonts that convert correctly was very small in my experience. The disk dump will allow one to see which converters will work or with the NAMEER program. The ability of NAMEER to print 9 different sizes only holds true if the font being used is very small. Most dot-fonts or CGS fonts only allow 2 or 3 sizes. FULL disk dump DOES work from random and generates a batchfile which will print fonts and instances using the formatter from random. TPA does not have a NAMEER program either so TPA and FULL compliant each other. Another feature of TPA that is outstanding is the C-print option. This is not easy to explain but I will try. As you know a computer or printer picture is made up of dots. Each dot has a height, a width, and a color. In this way, the font or graphics can be made any size or proportion one wishes within this 8 x 8 block. A square or rectangular block is the logical choice but any shape is possible.

Another excellent feature of TPA is the ability to define up to 77 boxes. I print pages 7. FULL only allows 8 and these must have 1 frame around them. Have you ever seen a magazine or newsletter with frames around every line? TPA and FULL have many more features, but the ones described interested me the most at this time. With exception of NAMEER and DISK DUMP TPA is superior in speed and versatility to any other.

Notice that Microgenius review on FULL does not mention some of the things I commented on. TPA is excellent trouble free software but requires some time to learn like TI-Writer or Multisplan. Seems like with FULL



**GOLDEN GOODIE**

There is a *Golden Goodie* I would like to share with other wordprocessor buffs out there. It is called *Utility Programs*. Written by Tom Freeman from his LA newsletter column, this disk contains some incredibly useful programs (and some less than useful [for me] but interesting nonetheless programs). The 52-page booklet (printed on gold-colored paper) is fairly easy to follow.

My primary interest in purchasing this package (for from LA and worth it) was to get a working copy of the Quad Column program. I have typed in copies from Tom's column, but I could never get the thing to work correctly. Then Barry Traver had it in Genial TRAVELER, the great diskazine (which at \$35 for six FULL issues is still one of the best TI buys around), but I could not get that to work on my Gemini 101, either.

Oh, well. Then I talked to Tom at the April Faire in Waltham and bought the updated pack.

In addition to the Quad Column, which I'll discuss in a moment, the package contains the following: variable Column Lister, Print Sideways, Print Sideways - All, Call Load to \*ASL, ASL to Call Load, Sector Checker, Xbasic Checksums, Keyboard Tap, Xbasic Takers. That's a pretty hefty selection on that disk.

But now the Quad Column. I wanted to be able to print out in two neat, right-justified columns all of the articles in our newsletter and the items I write for other newsletters (such as this column). But I also wanted to be able to keep my automatic JFFing (see last month's *IMPACT-99*) and ALL the transliteration codes I had developed into a code file. At the same time I wanted to keep the screen tabbed at L1, L4, R/31 while I typed. Then, of course, I wanted a very easy way to convert all this wisful thinking into a nice two-column format.

Quad Column does all these things. I created a tiny template (which I SAVED on my FONTWRITER and on my UTILITY PROGRAMS disks).

This file has the TABs set as above, has >IF BSK1:1 on Line 001; and >L1(RN50;F1;0;IN-3;PL300 (this latter as suggested by Tom in the manual). The C1 file from last month's column just opens up the TL key for underlining, italics, and the like.

Now I'm ready to go. I can see all my text on the screen clearly within the frame of the monitor. I can put all the coding I want into it. I can type up to 170 lines this way to guarantee a full-page text in double columns.

Then I SAVE my file: BSK2.FILE1. Next I LOAD the FONTWRITER, as I would to print out the file. Here it says "P10" I type BSK2.FILE2. I now go back to EDITor and DELETE all those little if (line feed marks) and SAVE

by SF or PF: BSK2.FILE2 (but FILE2 would also be okay, as you may not have use of it again - however, I play it safe). LOAD Quad Column (in BSK) and merely answer the questions. Be sure your printer is turned on.

I found for the Gemini prints best for 24/26 line spacing and 51 text lines. Everything else I use as a default.

It's one of those programs every newsletter editor dreams of. Though I've used other columnizers, this is the one for me. One can also choose 3 or 4 columns with the same ease.

To get your package, send \$9 (includes shipping) to LA 99ers Computer Group, Marketplace, P.O. Box 3547, Gardena, CA, 90247-7247. Ask for Utilities Disk/Docs.

**PRINTIT**

Probably the most exciting graphic/text *FAIRWARE* idea to come out is Rodger Herritt's *PRINTIT*. It is on a par with *CGP* and *FONTWRITER*, though it is better as a companion WITH the other two than it is as competition for the other two. In addition to having over 200 graphics that can be viewed, like *PRINT SHOP*, as a screen slide show (with magnification and speed YOU control!), these graphics can be printed in the middle of your sentences (see below) or anywhere else by using a version of TI Writer. I use *FONTWRITER*, for example. This program will let you write in beautiful script through your TI with graphics through a file called *SH TYPE*. It will also let these graphics be expanded to various sizes (including the full 8-inch size for use with the excellent banner program included). *PRINTIT* also includes the tightest professional-looking label-printing cataloger I've ever used and a program to make your own graph paper. At the end of this column are samples of the script type and graph paper and label catalog (as well as two small sizes of a horse and house all done with *PRINTIT*). Let's face it, with over 200 graphics you have a big choice. You can print a sailboat or Saturn of a mammoth or a spade (and club and heart and diamond) or a spaceship or a spider or the sun. You can even link graphics. There are five separate *GRAPH* graphics, for example, that can be linked together to make an engine and cars and cascade all across your page. Imagine the kind of best-top publishing activities you can get into with *PRINTIT*!

This is a remarkable program that takes two full floppies.

To order this *FAIRWARE* idea send the author \$15 specifying 5550 or 5500 to Rodger Herritt, 199 Evergreen Ave., Fullerton, CA, 92635 (or call 714-790-4777).

If you have a dot-matrix printer (particularly Gemini-compatible) you may disappear into the confines of your computer for the next few months as you explore *PRINTIT*. A whole new generation of computer windows may result.

**FONTWRITER II**

I hope this is not vaporware. Peter Hodlic, the

impossible to get hold of young genius who is responsible for the excellent MYADO word processor built into the GENEVE, as well as PK-SCAN II, XB-SUB, and numerous other pieces of software and textware, has announced the last stages of this program.

My back in January (1987), Peter said it would be out in a couple weeks. Then Lou Phillips really wanted his GENEVE up and running and out, so Peter's attention was needed elsewhere. He was also starting up a company with Barry Traver and Corson Lyman called Genial Computerware. He was also completing an epon for a Horizon update. He was also writing some articles for *MICROpendium*. He was also setting up the N.E. TI FAIRE. Among other things. (Is it true he is ALSO a full-time student?)

At the April Faire he said it would be "finished on Wednesday."

I've seen lots of ads for it, and there has been lots of speculation. But in a column in LA Topics, Peter said, "I can only say that I plan to start clean up work

on it as soon as I finish this file, so about 2 weeks, assuming I get that gate array from Mitsubishi!...". At least Peter has a sense of humor.

As an owner of *FONTWRITER I*, I can only assume it will be wonderful as I already is. This is a printer program that will save your headspin. I had to do a little finagling to get everything to work okay on my Gemini, but Peter said some of those text/graphics bugs have been worked out in II. I hope the manual for II is more clearly written and easier to follow. It is the only manual I've ever gotten with an Asgard product that I haven't been perfectly happy with. I eventually put it aside and played with the pull-down menus made so popular by Asgard with programs like Schedule Manager and others.

Rather than discuss in more detail and show examples from it, I think I'll hold off until II arrives (which it may have done by this printing). If you'd like further information contact Asgard Software, P.O. Box 10306, Rockville, MD, 20850, and ask for their catalog.

*This is a test of the BGS TYPE program. This will show the possible variations of printouts using the same text file and only changing the density and format.*

*The TS computer is a transliteration and part of the Script file. It can only be changed by using CHAR B.D.P. The dog is a graphic character and the print code will be taken from the disk. To do this it must be put in brackets with the graphic mode turned on.*

