



THE PUG PERIPHERAL



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
PITTSBURGH USER'S GROUP

JANUARY, 1988

Club News - [REDACTED] - President

GARY IS A FORMER DTI HCG member

The disk of the month is a great utilities disk that was downloaded from Compuserve this month by Jim Alexander. The executive board has decided to reduce the cost of the Disk of the Month to 3.00 because of our strong financial position which is a direct result of your continued support of our user's group.

The club's modem has been upgraded to a 2400/1200/300. The modem failed after 72 hours and had to be returned to the supplier for a replacement. The new one was installed on January 2, 1988 and is working fine at 300 BPS. In order to take advantage of the faster speed we have to rewrite or replace the existing BBS software. I will be obtaining copies of two fairware BBS programs that should work at the faster rates. So look for some down time on the BBS this month.

The raffle prize this month is a series of programs on tape that will help prepare one to take the SAT tests. The SAT tests are given to high school students to determine their suitability for college entrance. There are seven different programs on the tape, which can be transferred to disk, that were written to prepare and test one's ability to take the SAT tests. This series of programs is called ANALOGIES.

Testing of Marty Kroll's CATLIB COMPANION disk will be completed by the time you receive this newsletter. Again, this program will take the files that were created using CATLIB and allow you to add a description for each file or program that has been cataloged. If all goes well this program will be available to the general TI community in February or March, at which time we will form a library committee to catalog our library. Any volunteers?

My demonstration class will be shorter than usual this month from 3:00 to 4:00. I will be demonstrating the TI-writer hints suggested by Stan Katzman's article that appear in this newsletter. Additionally, I will be demonstrating Barry Boone's Archiver version 2.3 which compresses as well as appends files together..

The reason the class is shorter is because from 4:00 to 6:00 we will be moving the hardware class from the theoretical to the practical. There are two modifications, improved video and the alpha lock fix, that can easily be made to your console. Under the auspices of John Willforth we will help you install each of the required components. The club will furnish all the parts and tools to accomplish this. You will have to provide the console and some labor. No charge will be made for this. A 40% improvement in the video display can be realized by simply replacing a resistor and you can avoid that nasty interference that the alpha lock key causes when you use your joysticks by installing a diode onto your alphalock key. So bring your consoles to the next meeting and take advantage of this offer from your club.





SOFTWARE & HARDWARE NEWS



by Gary Taylor

1987 was a great year for our computer. I went to a few computer shows this year and want to share some of the new products that were new in 1987.

On the hardware side Myarc finally shipped the Geneve in the spring of the year. The machine was sold with a promise to send the registered owners the software as soon as it was available. I can speak from experience that they have kept their word on this. In addition Myarc is offering dynamic Ram disks, Extended Basic II, and hard and floppy disk controllers.

Ram disks are getting bigger and are being offered by several manufacturers, including Horizon and Databiotics. We will be having a demo of the clubs ram disk in February.

You can purchase clock cards, print spoolers, disk controllers that will format from SSSD 90k to DSDD 360k, RS232 cards, and more. Companies like Rave99 Inc. and MLsystems offer interfaces that allow you to connect an IBM type keyboard to the 99/4A. DIJIT systems has a conversion kit to bring you RGB video graphics. You'll be able to read FORTH screens in the 64 col mode. McCann Software has developed the Avanti-99 powered by the NC4016 Forth Engine which will execute 5 to 30 million instruction per second, ideal for CadCam applications. A mouse is available from the Mechatronics people in Germany and can be purchased from T.A.P.E ltd. in Canada. Our own Scott Coleman and John Willforth are marketing a Prototyping board for the PEB that is generating a lot of new home built products as well. AND THIS IS ALL FOR A MACHINE THAT WAS DISCONTINUED IN 1983!

The new software is equally exciting. We now have graphic packages like "The Printer's Apprentice", "Print Wizard", "Font Writer II" and "Character Sets and Graphic Design III"... You can create banners, cards, letterheads, and signs with these programs. You can create Certificates, slide shows, and convert Run Length Encoded files to the TI.

Software companies like Asgard, Disk only Software, and Great Lakes Software are satisfying our hunger for great programs like "Legends" and "Spad XIII". They also have catalogs for the asking.

The Fairware programmers have had a busy year too. Mass Transfer version 4.3 was released last year and supports Xmodem and Ymodem transfers and features a menu driven dialer for use with smart modems for only 10 bucks. Version 4.0 of Funnelweb has hit the states by storm. This great utility program effectively eliminates the need for any cartridge except Extend Basic. PRbase 2.0 was released last year and is fast becoming my favorite database program. Marty Kroll released his CATLIB program last year to rave reviews from the TI community. We can expect his Companion program soon. Barry Boone has created a great Archiver and has released version 2.3. The graphic label maker is another outstanding example of Fairware programs available.

I work with computers all day including Micros, Minis, medium and large mainframes and I can honestly say that I enjoy my TI the most. Except for speed, this powerful computer can do anything I ask of it, from controlling my thermostat thru the Home Control 99 program to keeping track of my auto repairs on PRbase to communicating to the world thru Mass Transfer to writing this article. =gmt=

FROM THE LIBRARIAN. . .

Well, the more things stay the same, the more they change! Of the entries into the Library this month we have an UPDATED version of FUNNCLWEB. If you picked up FUNNELWEB before the meeting last month, you got version 3.2. Version 4.0 is now available, and will be at the January meeting. If you have 3.2, bring it to the meeting for a swap. If not, version 4.0 will be there for you for \$5.50.

Let me explain the prices. Disks in the library are either \$2.00 or \$3.50. All shareware is \$3.50, and \$1.50 of that is sent to the creator of the software. That is NOT instead of each person sending in a donation, that is in addition to! Funnelweb is a two disk set, therefore \$2.00 per each disk plus \$1.50 for Shareware donation= \$5.50. I hope that clears everything up.

Also new this month is a Dissassembler program from Marty Kroll, and a Disk Utilities disk from Marty as well. The Disk Utilities was demoed at the December meeting. THANKS MARTY!

John Wilforth has donated two utility programs, one is a DV80 cataloger and the other a memory chip identifier for minimemory. THANKS JOHN!!

RAPID SCROLL, a freeware utilities disk is also new this month to the library.

From the DDM NOVEMBER we also have added Applejam and Atari- two graphics programs, Bowling, City Attack, and Perplex in the games area, a Hockey program to keep stats, and two terminal programs, Phonemake and Pterminal.

Last month we sold approximately 40 disks from the DDM and the library. This kind of support is great. If you have some programs that you think should be in the library, or an idea for a type of program you would like to see in the library, let us know. We will not accept copyright programs, but any public domain, freeware, shareware, ect. are welcome. Cataloges are available, and ideas are always welcome. There will be a list at the library table of what's new in the library each month, and don't be surprised to find more new stuff than is listed here! It all depends on how things go at work!

The librarian now has a modem, and will eventually figure out how to use it. If you would like, leave me a message on the BBS, but do check to make sure I got it if you do! So far I have managed to tell another BBS that my monitor is only ten characters wide! Out of room! See you at the meeting!

FROM THE MAILBOX

HANDY TIPS FROM THE HOOSIER USER GROUP

If you have the speech synthesizer and the TEII cartridge, here is a trick for debugging programs. All you have to do is enter your program, type LIST "SPEECH" and hit enter. The computer will read your listing back to you.

If you are going to save a program to tape and type OLD CS1 instead of Save CS1, don't panic. Press FCTN and E together and then press <ENTER>. This will take you out of the tape loop.

You can add comments after a GOSUB or GOTO. They won't interfere with the program and you don't need REM or !

When hooked up to a black and white TV, use CALL SCREEN(15). This will disable the color generator and remove the vertical lines you may have seen.

****WELCOME****WELCOME****WELCOME****

The FUG would like to extend a warm welcome to Tippi Comden who is our newest member. We would also like to convey our continued welcome to Jerry Petrulak, Art Gardner, Tom

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR CASSETTE SYSTEM
BY MICKEY SCHMITT
NUMBER 10
UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES
PART II

UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES IS NOT QUITE AS DIFFICULT AS IT SEEM. UNFORTUNATELY, TRYING TO FIND A LIST OF THE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES THAT SPECIFICALLY WITH THE CASSETTE RECORDER HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT TASK! IN DOING MY RESEARCH FOR THIS PARTICULAR ARTICLE, I HAVE HAD TO COMBINE MANY DIFFERENT SOURCES OF INFORMATION - IN ORDER TO BE AS INFORMATIVE AND AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

BASICALLY, CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES CAN OCCUR DURING ONE OF TWO DIFFERENT TYPES OF COMMANDS. MORE SPECIFICALLY, I AM REFERRING TO THE "LOADING" (OLD CS1 PROCEDURE AND THE "SAVING" (SAVE CS1) PROCEDURE.

THIS MONTH I WILL BE EXAMINING THE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES THAT CAN OCCUR DURING THE "SAVING" (SAVE CS1) PROCEDURE.

WHEN THE CASSETTE RECORDER FINISHES SAVING YOUR PROGRAM - THE COMPUTER WILL TELL YOU WHETHER OR NOT THE PROGRAM WAS RECORDED SUCCESSFULLY. IF THE PROGRAM WAS RECORDED SUCCESSFULLY, YOU WOULD SEE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN AFTER YOU COMPLETED THE NECESSARY STEPS IN THE "CHECKING" PROCEDURE:

```
* DATA OK
* PRESS CASSETTE STOP    CS1
  THEN PRESS ENTER
```

IF, HOWEVER, THE CASSETTE RECORDER DID NOT SUCCESSFULLY RECORD YOUR PROGRAM ON THE CASSETTE TAPE, AN ERROR OCCURS AND THE COMPUTER PRINTS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES:

```
* ERROR - NO DATA FOUND          * ERROR IN DATA DETECTED
PRESS R TO RECORD                CS1  PRESS R TO RECORD          CS1
PRESS C TO CHECK                 PRESS C TO CHECK
PRESS E TO EXIT                  PRESS E TO EXIT
```

WHEN THIS OCCURS - YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE OPTIONS. NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SINGLE-LETTER RESPONSES (R - C - E) THAT YOU TYPE IN AT THIS TIME MUST BE IN UPPER-CASE CHARACTERS!

1. PRESS R TO REPEAT THE RECORDING PROCEDURE. HOWEVER, BEFORE REPEATING THE PROCEDURE, CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE PUT THE CASSETTE TAPE IN CORRECTLY - THAT THERE IS ENOUGH BLANK TAPE LEFT ON THE CASSETTE TAPE IN WHICH TO RECORD THE PROGRAM. THEN FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN.

2. PRESS C TO CHECK THE DATA YOU HAVE READ INTO MEMORY. AT THIS POINT YOU MAY WISH TO ADJUST YOUR CASSETTE RECORDER'S VOLUME CONTROL AND TONE SETTING. THEN FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN.

3. PRESS E TO EXIT FROM THE SAVING PROCEDURE. AT THIS TIME ANOTHER ERROR MESSAGE IS DISPLAYED, INDICATING THAT THE CASSETTE RECORDER DID NOT PROPERLY SAVE YOUR PROGRAM ONTO THE CASSETTE TAPE.

```
* WARNING:
CHECK PROGRAM IN MEMORY
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* I/O ERROR 66
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IF I/O ERROR 66 APPEARS, SOMETHING DEFINITELY WENT WRONG. BUT DON'T PANIC! GENERALLY SPEAKING, WHEN THE ERROR MESSAGE "ERROR - NO DATA FOUND" OCCURS - THE COMPUTER DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE CASSETTE RECORDER AT ALL DURING THE "SAVE" "SAVE CS1" ROUTINE. ON THE OTHER HAND - WHEN THE ERROR MESSAGE "ERROR IN DATA DETECTED" OCCURS - THE COMPUTER RECOGNIZED ONLY PART OF THE DATA THAT THE CASSETTE RECORDER WAS SENDING TO THE COMPUTER. WHEN THIS HAPPENS, RECHECK YOUR CASSETTE RECORDER'S VOLUME CONTROL AND TONE SETTING. THEN RECHECK YOUR CASSETTE CABLE. MAKE SURE THAT BOTH ENDS OF THE CABLE ARE ATTACHED TO THE COMPUTER AND TO THE CASSETTE RECORDER. WHILE YOU ARE AT IT - MAKE SURE THAT THE COLOR-CODED WIRES LEADING TO THE CASSETTE RECORDER ARE CONNECTED CORRECTLY. THE CASSETTE RECORDER WILL NOT OPERATE PROPERLY IF THE COLOR-CODED WIRES ARE REVERSED!

NEXT MONTH I WILL CONTINUE WITH THE TOPIC OF UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES. MORE SPECIFICALLY I WILL BE GIVING YOU A GENERAL LIST OF AREAS THAT SHOULD BE CHECKED WHEN CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES APPEAR.

IF YOU NEED ANY HELP UNDERSTANDING THE CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES OR IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING CASSETTE PROBLEMS, PLEASE CONTACT THE AUTHOR AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

LET'S TALK RAM DISKS PART II

By JOHN F. WILLFORTH (Dec. 1987)

LAST MONTH I ATTEMPTED TO PRESENT A FOUNDATION FOR US TO SPRING INTO THE SUBJECT OF RAM DISKS BY DESCRIBING WHAT THEY ARE AND WHAT FEATURES THEY GENERALLY POSSESS. THIS IS THE MONTH THAT I WILL BEGIN TALKING ABOUT SPECIFIC RAM DISKS. THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY ARE PRESENTED MONTH BY MONTH IS NOT RELATED TO MY PERSONAL PREFERENCE OR THEIR PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE.

THE HORIZON RAM DISK WAS NOT THE FIRST RAM DISK ON THE MARKET, BUT IT WAS THE FIRST WITH STATIC RAM AND LOW POWER AT THAT. THIS ENABLED THE UNITS TO SAVE THE ROS AND THE FILES IN THE EVENT OF POWER OUTAGES AND NORMAL POWER-DOWN OF THE PEB FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME (WEEKS AND PERHAPS MONTHS) WITH THE USE OF ONLY THREE "AAA" NI-CAD BATTERIES. THE ORIGINAL CAPACITIES OF THE TWO VERSIONS AVAILABLE FROM HORIZON COMPUTER LIMITED WERE 104K (360 SECTORS) AND 192K (720 SECTORS), THE DIFFERENCE, IF YOU CALCULATE FOUR SECTORS PER EACH ONE K. OF MEMORY, IS THE MEMORY USED TO STORE THE ROS (RAMDISK OPERATING SYSTEM).

THERE WERE LARGER RAM DISKS ON THE MARKET WHEN THE HORIZON CAME OUT, BUT NONE THAT OFFERED THE SOURCE CODE OPENLY TO ANY WHO WANTED TO DEVELOP NEW APPLICATIONS FOR THIS CARD. THIS DECISION WAS A FACTOR IN MAKING THE HORIZON RAMDISK THE POPULAR UNIT THAT IT IS TODAY AS WELL AS THE TERRIFIC ENHANCEMENTS BOTH HARDWARE (MIKE BALLMAN) AND SOFTWARE (JOHN JOHNSON) WISE. MORE ON THIS SUBJECT LATER.

THE HORIZON RAM DISK (I'LL REFER TO AS HRD) WAS DESIGNED TO OPERATE WITH ALL OF THE DISK CONTROLLERS ON THE MARKET (T.I., MYARC, CORCOMP, AND PERCOM) AND WITH MOST 32K MEMORY EXPANSIONS (T.I., MYARC, FOUNDATION, BOXCAR, ETC.) THE HRD IS NOT YET ABLE TO OPERATE IN THE GENEVE (9640) ENVIRONMENT, BUT EXPECT THIS TO CHANGE SHORTLY. WITH THE UNCERTAINTY OF THIS MARKET, AND THE ADVANCES MADE EVERY DAY, THE AREAS THAT I TALK OF HERE ARE ONLY ONE MORE RUNG OF THE LADDER HIGHER TOMORROW, SINCE WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN THE APEX OF THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE TI-99/4A AND IT'S FAMILY OF PERIPHERALS.

THE HRD SUPPORTS NEARLY ALL SOFTWARE THAT CAN BE LOADED ONTO A DISK DRIVE IN THE NORMAL FASHION, FILE OR DISK COPY WITH DISK MANAGER II, DM1000, OR THE MYARC AND CORCOMP DISK MANAGERS. IF THE PROGRAM IN QUESTION HAS SOME SPECIAL TRACK/SECTOR PROTECTION YOU WILL PROBABLY HAVE TROUBLE INSTALLING IT ON THE HRD, OR FOR THAT MATTER ANY RAM DISK.

THE HRD HAS A SWITCH SELECTABLE CRU ADDRESS, WHICH ENABLES YOU TO SELECT IT'S CRU ADDRESS EASILY. THE ROS TALKED OF EARLIER, IS RAM, AND CAN THUS BE ALTERED EASILY AS THE NEED ARISES (IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OPERATING SYSTEM OR CUSTOMIZING). THE HRD HAS A COMPLETE SET OF "CALLS" AND CAN EASILY HAVE NEW CALLS WRITTEN BY THE USER. YOU DON'T NEED AN EPROM BURNER TO IMPLEMENT THEM ON THE CARD. THESE CALLS ARE SUMMONED IN BASIC OR EXTENDED BASIC. THEY INCLUDE:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <u>CALL DN(N)</u> SET DRIVE NUMBER | 6) <u>CALL EX</u> USED WITH CALL CO/CF ALLOWS THE USER TO LINK TO THE ROS FROM BASIC. |
| 2) <u>CALL WO OR WF</u> SET/CLEAR WRITE PROT. ON THE DRIVE. | 7) <u>CALL DM</u> USED TO LOAD A DISK MANAGER WHEN THE DISK MANAGER FILES ARE ON THE RAMDISK. |
| 3) <u>CALL MS (N)</u> SETS MAX. SECTORS THE ROS WILL RECOGNIZE. | 8) <u>CALL NF (N)</u> ONLY USEFUL WHEN CRU BASE ISN'T <1000 TO ENABLE BASIC AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO ACCESS THE RAMDISK. |
| 4) <u>CALL CO OR CF</u> TURNS CARD ON/OFF | 9) <u>CALL ?</u> USERS CAN CREATE THEIR OWN USER-DEFINED SUBROUTINES. DOCUMENTATION INCL. |
| 5) <u>DELETE "XBCALL"</u> EXECUTED AFTER CALL INIT TO MOVE ALL THE CALL ROUTINES TO THE LOW 8K. OF EXPANSION MEMORY. CALL LINKS THEN CAN ACCESS THEM. | |

THE HRD CAN BE PURCHASED AS A 192K. UNIT FULLY ASSEMBLED AND WARRANTIED FOR 90-DAYS FROM HORIZON FOR \$195. OR AS A BARE BOARD W/DOCS AND SOFTWARE FOR \$45. OR JUST THE BARE BOARD FOR \$38. IN ANY QUANTITY. I TALKED TO RON GRISE JUST YESTERDAY 12/25/87, AND WAS TOLD THAT THE LAST UNITS HE SENT OUT WERE SET UP TO BE EASILY UPGRADED TO THE HRD+ (USES 32K. BYTE CHIPS AND CAN BE EXPANDED TO ONE-MEG.). THEY INCLUDE MENU 7.01 AS WELL AS THEIR OWN OPERATING SYSTEM. BUD MILLS SERVICES PROVIDES THE COMPLETE KIT ASSEMBLIES FOR THIS UNIT AND THE HRD+. MORE ON THE HRD+ NEXT MONTH. THERE IS JUST TOO MUCH DIFFERENT TO INCLUDE THIS MONTH. HORIZON COMPUTER, LTD P.O. BOX 554, WALLBRIDGE, OH 43465 AND BUD MILLS SERVICES, 166 DARTMOUTH DR., TOLEDO, OH 43614.

ED. NOTE: I HAVE BEEN USING THE HRD FOR NEARLY AS LONG AS IT'S BEEN AVAILABLE, AND HAVE HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH IT, EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT ROS REV.'S HAVE BEEN SO SELDOM IN COMING.

MULTIPLAN

BY
AUDREY BUCHER

Part 3 GETTING STARTED

After selecting Multiplan from the main screen, you may want to change your screen colors. Do this by hitting the space bar until the background and foreground colors are to your liking. Make sure your MP disk is in the drive (any drive) and hit enter. Multiplan will automatically load. At the bottom of your screen, you will see a command line. You may select a command by typing its first letter or you can press the space bar until the command you want is highlighted and use enter to select it. Many of the commands have several options which will automatically appear on the command line when selected. Use the same method to select options. Whenever the word Command shows at the bottom of your screen, Multiplan expects you to type a command, enter a value or enter a formula. The first character you type designates what is chosen. A letter designates a command, a number designates a value and an equal (=) sign designates a formula. The most frequent mistake you will probably make is when entering text. Alpha is automatically highlighted when you enter Multiplan and is selected if you hit enter or an A. I often forget to do this when typing text. I begin typing in my text and am surprised to see that MP thinks I want to delete something (if my text began with a d) or move something (if my text began with an m) Get the picture? Thank heaven for the cancel key. Just hit CNTRL = and this will cancel the unwanted command.

The first command you will want to select after entering MP is O for Options. You will then be given another Command line. Yes is highlighted for recalc. You will want to change this to No. Do this by entering N or hit space bar until No is highlighted and then hit enter. THIS IS IMPORTANT, OTHERWISE MP WILL RECALCULATE THE ENTIRE SPREADSHEET EVERY TIME YOU MAKE AN ENTRY. Don't worry. If at anytime you want to have an individual cell recalculated, you may just move the pointer to that cell and hit E for edit. That cell will be recalculated for you. You may also recalculate the entire sheet at any time by hitting FCTN B.

Now on to making a template. Let's begin by making a simple checkbook balancing model that will allow you to balance your checkbook easily and also provide you with a means of tracking expenses for your budget on another spreadsheet using the Xternal copy command (we'll cover that in a future article). The first step I take is to change the default formatting commands to what I will most commonly use in that particular spreadsheet. Do this by selecting F for Format and then choose D for default. You then have a choice of cells or width. The preset default for width is 8 however I usually change it to 10. F for Format, D for Default & W for Width. I then change the default for cells. (F for format, D for default and C for cells) There are three characteristics of the Format Default for cells, alignment, code and number of decimal places. When you first select this command, the defaults are set to General Alignment, General Format and 0 decimal places. General alignment is fine for now so tab over (CNTRL A or CNTRL 2) and change the format code to Fixed by typing F. DO NOT PRESS ENTER as yet. Enter is the signal for MP to execute the command and we are not finished as yet. Tab over to number of decimal places and type 2. Check the format now, Gen alignment, Fixed format and 2 decimal places. If it is not correct, just tab around until you get it right, then hit ENTER.

To keep it simple, let's choose seven categories: Food, Rent, Utilities, Insurance, Charges, Auto and Miscellaneous. Let's make line one the title for the worksheet. CNTRL 1 will take the cell pointer to the first cell if it is not already there. You may want to change the format for cell one to continuous code. F for format, C for cells and tab to the code and hit C. This will allow you to make your title as many characters as you choose. Suppose we enter Checks for January 1988. Remember, first hit A or enter for alpha. If you typed quickly, you may notice your title says Cecks for.... This is because MP is primed to accept words or numbers here and it needs a

continued next page

"TIPS FOR BEGINNERS"

-BY FRANK N. ZIC

Here we go together-No.8. This time around let's do a Potpourri of some things you might have forgotten. Some are just little hints that might make your use of the TI just a bit more enjoyable. Try them at any rate, it couldn't hurt.

**--When removing the tape protect tab, try peeling it off from the back side first instead of the front. The overlap roll of the disk cover provides a natural opening for your fingernail. Often there is a (press-mark) at this location also, on some disks, that provides an easy starting point.

**--When you are winding the paper backwards in your printer, give a little tug to the rear, on the main paper feed. This will keep the paper taut and prevent it from jamming-up under the print head.

**--Remember that any adjustment to the paper positioning in the printer should be immediately followed by shutting off the printer and turning it back on again. This will keep your paper feed (starting point) where you want it, not only on the first page, but especially on the second and succeeding pages. Otherwise it will remember where you had it positioned and your second page will start somewhere down the page. Sound familiar?

**--Be careful of LOAD programs, they can only load the selected programs that the author put in the program listing. Anyone else adding programs to the disk, could mean that these files can only be accessed by the direct type in procedure.

**--Use only one(1) LOAD program per disk side. The auto-load feature of NO.1 disk drive can only respond to a single LOAD request.

**--To modify a LOAD program to auto-load your files, say a disk side with no LOAD program, first find a LOAD program you like and then print out the listing with the command LIST "P10". Now look the listing over and replace the original filenames with your new filenames.

**--Anytime you copy a disk, be sure to use the same disk name on your copy as the one found on the original. Often during the running of a program the author might make reference to the original disk name and if it is not found, the program will not run.

**--When playing the TI-RUNNER game, you can advance to a higher screen number without having to play successfully through all the lower numbered screens. In other words you can go right back to the screen that you last played. To accomplish this, hold down the FCTN key and the No.3 just at the beginning of the reload. Keep holding down these two buttons until you see the screen before the one you want. Release and the cycle will stop on the next program, the one you want.

Until next time may the good 4's be with you.

MP...continued

second to think things over. So try to get into the habit of typing your first letter, pausing for a beat and then type the rest as quickly as you like. If you notice the error before you hit enter, you can use the back character key (FCTN 4) or back space to the letter after the missing one, type it in, hit enter and all will be well. Now for the column headings. Move the pointer to R3C1, using the arrow keys. There will be 11 columns on the spreadsheet, headed: Check #, Deposit, Food, Rent, Utilities, Insurance, Charges, Auto, Misc. and Balance. Select the Alpha Command and type in Check#, use the right arrow key and type in Paid to. press right arrow key and

TI WRITER

PART I

The following series was originally written by Stan Katzman for the West Penn '99'ers. Thanks to Stan for giving us permission to use this series.

The best place to start is at the beginning. When I first unpacked T.I. Writer, it was quite intimidating...a cartridge, a disk and that BIG manual. It is not as bad as it seems and it really is an easy program to learn to use. One must have the following: 1) Console, 2) 32K memory expansion, 3) RS232 card, 4) disk drive (2 drives are best but you can do very nicely with one) and 5) a printer. (The printer should be Epson compatible.)

First make a copy of the program and use the original as a backup. (Very important).

Place the cartridge in the port and the program disk in the drive. (I am assuming one disk drive.) Power up the system and get T.I. Writer from the menu, using the English version. Next you will see 1.EDITOR 2.FORMATTER 3.UTILITY. We will discuss the editor first because all writing is done here. Press (1) and the disk will now run putting the editor program in memory. A line will show across the top with a cursor (you are in Command mode). The line says Edit, Tabs, Files, Lines, Search, RecoverEdit, ShowDirectory, Quit. We will now just discuss Tabs and Edit.

The line starting with "Edit" is called the Command Mode. Let us now set out tabs (and margins). Press T and the cursor will move to a numbered line. First hit the space bar and remove the L, then with the "Fctn D" move the cursor to the 10 space and type L. Then move the cursor with "Fctn D" to 70 and type an R, press ENTER and you are in the editing mode and you can type anything you want with the margins set at 10 and 70. (If you want different margins just enter them as described). You do not have to press the enter key at the end of the line unless you want to start a new paragraph. You are in the Word Wrap mode.

If you want to print out your document at this stage, just press Fctn 9 and you are back in Command Mode. Now press F (files) and you will see more selections such as LoadF, SaveF, PrintF, DeleteF, Purge or ShowDirectory. At this point, type PF and you will now see "PRINT FILE", enter device name:", at this point if you have a parallel printer, enter PIO and your document will be printed out as you typed it.

Try using the word processor and reading the instructions. You will find it easy to use. More next time.

Note: Gary Taylor will go over the material covered in this series at his Demonstration Class each month.

TI WRITER TIP from Salt Lake Valley User's Group: If you are printing out of TI Writer Editor, finish your letter with CTRL U, SHIFT L, CTRL U and when it is printed, the paper will automatically feed to the top of the next sheet.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO BILL KRIEGER WHO DONATED THE PERSONAL RECORD KEEPING CARTRIDGE TO THE CLUB FOR OUR CARTRIDGE LIBRARY. WE APPRECIATE IT, BILL.

SUGGESTIONS ANYONE????????? The Executive Board will next meet on Jan. 3rd. If you have any suggestions, please contact one of the officers prior

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

#43

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TIGERCUB SOFTWARE
136 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43213

Distributed by Tigercub Software to TI-99/4A Users Groups for promotional purposes and in exchange for their newsletters. May be reprinted by nonprofit users groups, with credit to Tigercub Software.

Over 130 original programs in Basic and Extended Basic, available on cassette or disk, now reduced to just \$2.00 each, plus \$1.50 per order for cassette or disk and PPM. Cassette programs will not be available after my present stock of blanks is exhausted.

Descriptive catalogs, while they last, \$1.00 which is deductible from your first order.

Tigercub Full Disk Collections, reduced to \$10 postpaid. Each of these contains either 5 or 6 of my regular \$2 catalog programs, and the remaining disk space has been filled with some of the best public domain programs of the same category. I am NOT selling public domain programs they are a free bonus!

TIGERCUB'S BEST, PROGRAMMING TUTOR, PROGRAMMER'S UTILITIES, BRAIN GAMES, BRAIN TEASERS, BRAIN BUSTERS!, MANEUVERING GAMES, ACTION REFLEX AND CONCENTRATION, TWO PLAYER GAMES, KID'S GAMES, MORE GAMES, WORD GAMES, ELEMENTARY MATH, MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL MATH, VOCABULARY AND READING, MUSICAL EDUCATION, KALEIDOSCOPES AND DISPLAYS.

NUTS BOLTS (No. 1), a full disk of 100 Extended Basic utility subprograms in merge format, ready to merge into your own programs. Plus the Tigercub Menuloader, a tutorial on using subprograms, and 5 pages of documentation with an example of the use of each subprogram. Reduced to \$15.00 postpaid.

NUTS BOLTS NO. 2, another full disk of 108 utility subprograms in merge format, all new and fully compatible with the last, and with 10 pages of documentation and examples. Also \$15 postpaid.

NUTS BOLTS #3 is now ready, another full disk of 140 new mergeformat utility subprograms, all compatible with the previous. With 11 pages of documentation, \$15 ppd.

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB, a full disk containing the complete contents of this newsletter Nos. 1 through 14, 50 original programs and files, reduced to \$10 ppd.

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 2, another diskfull, complete contents of Nos. 15 through 24, over 60 files and programs, also just \$10

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 3, another 62 programs, tips and routines from Nos. 25 through 32, \$10 postpaid.

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB VOL. 4, another 48 programs and files from issues 33 through 41, also \$10 postpaid.

If you have as much trouble as I do, trying to get the strip labels lined up in the printer, you'll like this one

```

100 DISPLAY AT(4,7)ERASE ALL : "TIGERCUB LABELER": : : " This label maker will allow " : "you to specify different": "printer
codes for each line "
110 DISPLAY AT(11,1): "of a 5 line label.": : : " You may stop the program": "while labels are printing": "by pressing any key,
turn"
120 DISPLAY AT(17,1): "off the printer to adjust": "the labels, turn it back on,": "and press any key to con": "tinue printing."
130 DISPLAY AT(23,1): "Printer designation?": "P10" :: ACCEPT AT(24,1)SIZE(20)BEEP:PR# :: OPEN #1:PR# :: P#,E#,DS#, CEN#="Y" ::
DW#,L#,SS#,U#="N" :: P=1
140 CALL CHAR(95,"FF")
150 FOR J=1 TO 5 :: CALL KEY (3,K,S)
160 DISPLAY AT(2,1)ERASE ALL : "Line #";J;" PRINT? "P# :: CALL QUERY(2,20,P#):: IF P#="N" THEN L$(J)=" " :: GOTO 360
170 IF J>1 THEN DISPLAY AT(4,1) : "Change codes? N" :: CALL QUERY(4,15,B#):: IF B#="N" THEN 300
180 DISPLAY AT(4,1): "Print pitch? ";P;" (1)pica": " (2)elite ": " (3)condensed" :: ACCEPT AT(4,15)SIZE(1)VALIDATE("123"):P 190
CI=(P=1)+(P=2)+(P=3) :: L$(J)=CHR$(27)" B"CHR$(P):: DISPLAY AT(5,1) ;"";"";""
200 DISPLAY AT(6,1): "Double width? "DW# :: CALL QUERY(6,15,DW#):: IF DW#="Y" THEN CI =CI/2 :: L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(14) ELSE
L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(20)

```

```

210 DISPLAY AT(8,1):"Italics ? "I$ :: CALL QUERY(8,10,I$):: IF I$="Y" THEN L$(J)=L$( J)CHR$(27)"A" ELSE L$(J)=L
$(J)CHR$(27)"5"
220 DISPLAY AT(10,1):"Superscript? "SS$ :: CALL QUERY(10,14,SS$) :: IF SS$="Y" THEN L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(27)CHR$(83)CHR$(0)ELSE
L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(27) CHR$(84)
230 IF SS$="Y" THEN 250
240 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"Double strike? "DS$ :: CALL QUERY (12,16,DS$):: IF DS$="Y" THE N L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(27)"B" ELSE
L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(27)"H"
250 IF P<>1 OR SS$="Y" THEN 270 :: DISPLAY AT(14,1):"Emphasized? "E$ :: CALL QUERY(14,13,E$) 260 IF E$="Y" THEN L$(J)=L$(J)
CHR$(27)"E" ELSE L$(J)=L $(J)CHR$(27)"F"
270 DISPLAY AT(16,1):"Underline? "U$ :: CALL QUERY(16,1,2,U$)
280 IF U$="N" THEN L$(J)=L$(J)CHR$(27)CHR$(45)CHR$(0)
290 DISPLAY AT(18,1):"Center text? Y" :: CALL QUERY(18,14,CEN$) 300 DISPLAY AT(18,1):"Type line" ;J;". Enter each":"screen n
line, enter again":"when done." :: DISPLAY AT(22,1):RPT$(" ",INT(CI*3.5)) :: R=21 :: CALL KEY(5,K,S)
310 ACCEPT AT(R,1):M$ :: IF M$="" THEN 320 :: A$=A$M$ :: R=R+1 :: GOTO 310
320 IF LEN(A$)>INT(CI*3.5)THEN DISPLAY AT(16,1):"LINE TOO LONG!" :: CALL SOUND(300,1 10,0,4,0):: A$="" :: R=21 :: GOTO 310
330 L=LEN(A$):: IF U$="Y" THEN A$=CHR$(27)CHR$(45)CHR$(1) A$CHR$(27)CHR$(45)CHR$(0) 340 IF CEN$="Y" THEN A$=RPT$ ("
", (INT(CI*3.5)L)/2)A$
350 L$(J)=L$(J)A$ :: A$="" 360 NEXT J
370 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL : "Print how many?" :: ACCEPT AT(12,17):N
380 FOR J=1 TO N :: FOR K=1 TO 6 :: PRINT #1:L$(K):: NEXT K 390 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 410 ELSE CLOSE #1
400 CALL KEY(0,K1,S1):: IF S1 <1 THEN 400 ELSE OPEN #1:PR$ 420 DISPLAY AT(12,8)ERASE ALL : "Another?" :: CALL QUERY(1,2,17,Q$)
:: IF Q$="N" THEN STOP ELSE 150 430 SUB QUERY(R,C,B$):: ACCEPT AT(R,C)SIZE(1)VALIDATE("YN") BEEP:Q$ :: SUBEND

```

More peculiarities of the TI computer

```

90 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT TAB(7); "SPRITE PUZZLE #1:" from Tigercub"
100 PRINT "A nonexistent sprite can be":"created by CALL MOTION.": "It apparently starts in"
110 PRINT "dotrow 1, dotcolumn 1, and":"has color 1, but its pattern":"is not that of any ASCII!"
120 !by Jim Peterson
130 FOR CH=0 TO 255 :: PRINT CHR$(CH);: NEXT CH
135 PRINT "CALL MOTION(#1,5,5) :: CALL COLOR(#1,16):: CALL MAGNIFY(4)"
140 CALL MOTION(#1,5,5):: CALL COLOR(#1,16):: CALL MAGNIFY(4)
150 GOTO 150

```

And another

```

100 DISPLAY AT(3,5)ERASE ALL : "SPRITE PUZZLE #2": " from Tigercub"
110 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"Nonexistent sprites can be":"created by CALL COLOR.": "Their existence can be con"
120 DISPLAY AT(11,1):"firmed by CALL COINC, but":"CALL POSITION reports that":"they have no position!"
130 CALL COLOR(#1,16):: CALL COLOR(#2,16)
140 CALL COINC(#1,#2,1,X):: DISPLAY AT(15,1):"COINC #1,#2="X :: CALL POSITION(#1,X,Y)
150 CALL POSITION(#1,X,Y):: DISPLAY AT(17,1):"POSITION #1="X;Y
160 CALL POSITION(#2,X,Y):: DISPLAY AT(19,1):"POSITION #2="X;Y
170 IF FLAG=1 THEN 140 :: FLAG=1
180 DISPLAY AT(21,1):"PRESS ANY KEY"
190 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN DISPLAY AT(21,1):"press any key" :: GOTO 180
200 DISPLAY AT(21,1):"Until they're set in motion!" 210 CALL MOTION(#1,5,5):: CALL MOTION(#2,5,5):: GOTO 150

```

If you have the Terminal Emulator II, Speech Synthesizer, and a preschooler in the house, this will help him to grasp the idea of spelling as well as letter recognition and keyboard familiarization

```

100 REM PRESPELLER BY JIM PETERSON
110 REM TI BASIC WITH TERMINAL EMULATOR II AND SPEECH SYNTHESIZER
120 CALL CLEAR
130 DIM M$(100),S$(100)
140 OPEN #1:"SPEECH",OUTPUT
150 PRINT " PRESPELLER" ::::::

```

```

170 X=X+1
180 INPUT M$(X)
190 IF M$(X)="END" THEN 380
200 PRINT #1:M$(X)
210 PRINT "PRONUNCIATION OK? (Y/N)"
220 CALL KEY(3,K,S)
230 IF S<1 THEN 220
240 IF K=78 THEN 280
250 IF K<>89 THEN 220
260 S$(X)=M$(X)
270 GOTO 170
280 PRINT "TRY SPELLING PHONETICALLY"
290 INPUT S$(X)
300 PRINT #1:S$(X)
310 PRINT "PRONUNCIATION OK? (Y/N)"
320 CALL KEY(3,K,S)
330 IF S<1 THEN 320
340 IF K=89 THEN 170
350 IF K<>78 THEN 320
360 PRINT "TRY AGAIN"
370 GOTO 290
380 CALL CLEAR
390 FOR J=1 TO X1
400 PRINT #1:"CAN YOU SPELL THIS?"
410 FOR A=1 TO LEN(M$(J))

```

```

420 CALL HCHAR(12,B+A,ASC(SES$(M$(J),A,1)))
430 NEXT A
440 FOR B=1 TO LEN(M$(J))
450 CALL KEY(3,K,S)
460 IF (S<1)+(K=32) THEN 450
470 IF K=ASC(SES$(M$(J),B,1)) THEN 500
480 GOSUB 640
490 GOTO 450
500 C$=C$CHR$(K)
510 CALL HCHAR(14,B+B,K)
520 NEXT B
530 IF C$(M$(J)) THEN 640
540 PRINT #1:S$(J)
550 FOR D=1 TO 500
560 NEXT D
570 PRINT #1:"VEREE GOOD"
580 FOR D=1 TO 500
590 NEXT D
600 C$=""
610 CALL HCHAR(12,1,32,100)
620 NEXT J
630 GOTO 390
640 PRINT #1:"NO THAT IS NOT RIGHT"
650 PRINT #1:"TRY AGAIN"
660 RETURN

```

MEETING MINUTES OF PITTSBURGH USERS GROUP

Date: Dec. 20, 1987

Location: South Campus, Allegheny Community College

Meeting called to order by President Taylor at 6:30 P.M.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Recording Secy Reich. Approval of them was moved, seconded & passed.

Treasurer Shoemaker gave a Report:

Total in bank prior to meeting = \$237.81

Sales since last meeting = \$488.00

Dues paid since last meeting = \$65.00

Expenses since last meeting = \$454.00

Approval of the Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded & passed.

Librarian Harper gave a Report. Funnelweb program has been up-dated. Previously purchased version can be exchanged.

Cartridge Librarian Rokke reported that there was one new addition to the cartridge Library -- Record Keeping.

SYSDP Kelly reported that the new modem has failed to run and has been returned to the supplier for repair. The previous modem was sold to a PUG member so Pres. Taylor will loan his modem to the BBS temporarily.

Pres. Taylor gave his Report:

The Newsletter went out earlier this month. There were favorable comments from the membership. Newsletter might not be folded in half for mailing next month. Also, black print might be used.

11,000 mailing labels have been received from TI Corp. These contain addresses of TI-99 owners. We will contact those people with addresses close to CCAC South Campus for joining the PUG.

The Print Wizard program has been up-dated to work with most printers.

Cat Lib Companion disc is being tested before being issued.

Introduction of new members John Drennan & Priscilla Conden

Two fixes are available for the TI-994A--addition of a diode to let joysticks be used with the Alpha lock in the up position & change in resistor which improves the video display. There will be an opportunity at the next meeting for Members to make these changes to their console under the supervision of John Willforth et al.

There will be a "swap" meeting in Feb. '88 during which Members will be able to sell unwanted equipment & software.

Call for volunteers to assist Nehemiah Productions in applying their TI system to certain problems.

The dollar raffle was held. Dick McNelis won a joy stick adaptor. John Hodill won the new Print Wizard disc.

The following demonstrations were given:

Marty Kroll--A New disc containing DM-1000 and a sector editor.

John Willforth--TI tee shirt & carrying case; 1 meg ram disc; Rapid Scroll.

Scott Coleman--music program using a TI Forte card (plays back in stereo).

Susan Harper--2 music programs written by 12-year old students in her school class in response to a contest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

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- Librarians: Susan Harper 412-464-0525
- Correspondence and Newsletter Editor: Audrey Bucher 412-881-5244

NEXT MEETING

JAN 17TH 3PM

CCAC

SOUTH CAMPUS

BBS 412-824-5778

The Johnson User's group (JUG) of League City, Texas is maintaining a database for the newsletters issued by all user groups across the country. Audrey Bucher is maintaining a database file on PRbase which cross references all our newsletter articles for 1987 and has forwarded a copy to the JUG to be included in there database. Audrey can be reached at 5244 Orchard Hill Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15236. Phone 412-881-5244

]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]] SCHEDULE OF EVENTS []]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]
3-4:00 TI Writer, Questions & Demos with Gary Taylor...Rm. 401
4-6:00 Hardware Workshop with John Wilforth.....Rm. 475
(bring your console - see minutes)
6:00-? General Meeting
]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]] SEE YOU THERE []]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]]