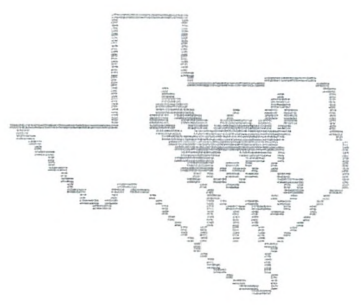# THE INVADER
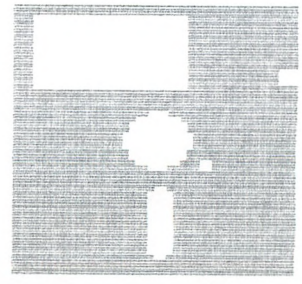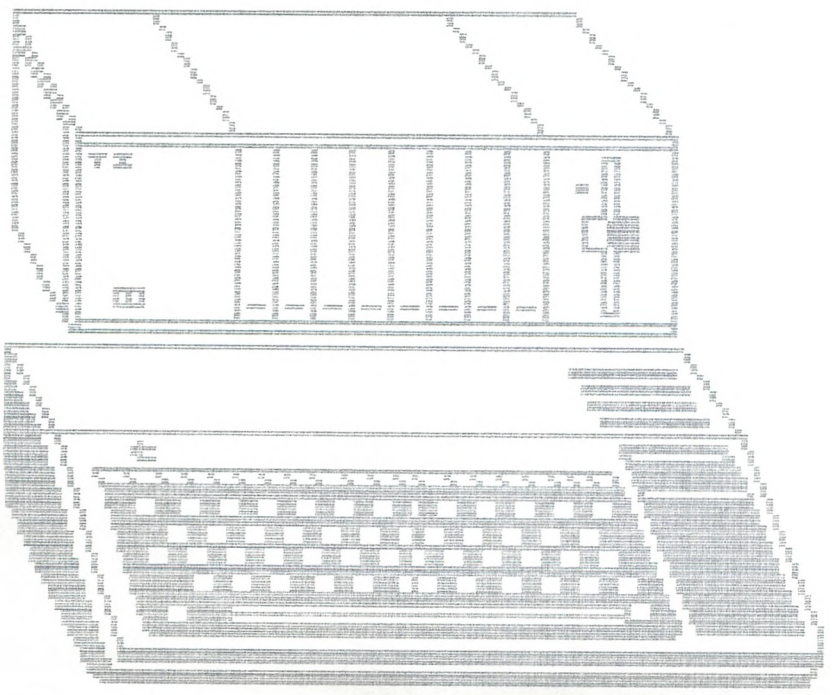
FEBRUARY 1990 VOL 5 NO. 1

Red Deer
TI99ers
Newsletter

THE BEST
ORPHAN IS
10 YEARS
OF AGE.

RANDOM EYES

I'll start this discertation with a note of congratulations to Lloyd and myself for managing to actually put together a Supercart for ourselves (with help and encouragement from Bill who knew better than us how to use a soldering iron). Not a bad trick for two amateurs never the less. We used the Micropendium instructions including the update for Supercart with a cartridge expander. Everything seems to work OK as far as the E/A part and the cartridge does hold a game or other program in memory and show it as the third item on the initial selection screen. Now there is one small problem. Or is there? Using the test in Micropendium that is supposed to test the battery backed memory does not work. Is this because of the modification we made to accomodate the cartridge expander? Anyone who knows please let us know!!

Now for what is new and wonderful in the TI/Geneve world. A new company (at least new to me) called Comprodine Software has a whole new list of new goodies that have been announced and can be ordered through Kawartha 99ers. The prices shown are in Canadian funds ($2.50 extra for shipping):

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JIFFY CARD          $19.00
JIFFY FLYER          14.00
PAINT IT PLUS        17.00
PICTURE IT           14.00
BINGO                 7.00
THE FORM SHOP        19.00
GIANT ARTIST POSTER  19.00
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I have yet to have a hands-on look at any of these but have seen reviews on a few of them. Form Shop as the title would suggest is for making forms; invoices, receipts, or whatever. The program creates special characters which

turn out to be straight lines, parallel lines, corners etc. These are accessed using CTRL U. It uses an editor and formatter like TI Writer. Giant Artist Poster, again does as the name indicates. This one will take any full screen TI Artist picture converted to an Instance and make posters in nine sizes from 10X14 inches to 5X9 feet. Just think of the possibilities with this one!.... now I wonder if the local super market would let me post a meeting notice that big on their bullitin board......hmmm.   JIFFY FLYER is a WYSIWYG program that makes an 8 1/2 by 11 inch flyer. You have built-in border artwork, fonts and 2 sector small (CS6D) graphics in the body of the flyer. Now for a "commercial" for a different company; Harrison Software. Their claim to fame is having created pretty amazing clasical music on floppy disk for the TI. There are six disks available so far, one Tchaikovsky, two of J. C. Bach, and three of J. S. Bach. There was a review of these in the May Computer Shopper. These tunes are written in Assembly language and they say you have to hear them to believe how well this offering has been done. Just received the latest issue of Genial Travler vol. 2, No. 4. The issues of this disk magazine sometimes take their time getting to me but they always DO arrive. Thanks Barry. Keep up the good work! Barry Traver (the editor etc. of Genial Travler) is also making a special offer to those who want to send in their renewal for vol. 3 of Genial Travler for $30.00 U.S. To take advantage of this offer the renewal must be postmarked by June 30, 1989. I think I've spouted off enough for now, so Bye till next issue where I keep hoping I'll be able to review PRESS.

Alberta T.I. Groups Sponsor Reunion

This past April, on the 29th to be exact, was the occasion of The Second Annual T.I. Orphan Reunion. This was an all day event, starting at ten in the morning and officially finishing at eight in the evening, although several of the participants hung on for several hours partaking in the spirit of the occasion. A couple of the Calgary members maintained very high spirits toward the event though they died out early. We won't mention any names, especially not George and Garry, for fear of repercussions.

The fair was well attended, with about 60 people present. The event had commercial exhibits, demonstrations, conversations and a fair amount of swapping (lies, hardware, software, telephone numbers, addresses and underclothes.)

Nova Computerware demonstrated the Forti Music Synthesizer Card, with various pieces of music, including some written to the T.I. by Red Deer's Peter Fehr. Judy also offered a good selection of available software and hardware.

Fred, George and Dave all set up their Geneves for demonstrations. George and Dave had the new Hard/Floppy controller cards on board. Fred had his brother.

The buy, sell and swap table was loaded, but Garry and George... well, never mind.

Jane LaFlemme of La Flemme and Wrigley was good enough to send out an assortment of software for door prizes and for sale. The winners of the door prizes were Peter Fehr, Lloyd Hannet, Andrew Webster, while Sean Guthrie won for High Game Score.

Bob Boone of Computer Download send out a Geneve to be offered for sale. This was purchased by a member of the

Edmonton Group.

Yves Chevalier, of the Edmonton group demonstrated a Rave 99 memory card, which could be added to as needed. He also presented a Maxi-Mem , as well as his home built modem.

George and Garry probably had huge headaches on Sunday...likely from radiation from the monitors.

Eddie claimed to have had the same problem.

Fred still had his brother.

Jamie who's last name is a mystery because we can't read it in our guest book, spoke on transliteration and the printer.

The T.I. 99 shooter (this was not a crazie with a gun and a Commodore) which was invented at the first fair, resurfaced again this year. None of those who partook in it can remember it's exact composition but it seemed good at the time. Some Lady (unnamed but nick-named Eddie) complains to this day that her husband was too Scotch to buy her a shooter.

Rumor has it that this event will continue on next year if all goes well. Information as to the time, place and nature of this event will follow as soon as it can be determined. Watch for it in Micropendium, and the Alberta User 's Groups' newsletters.

Watch for Fred's brother Allen... and watch out for drunks and little children.

    Eddie and the Boozers

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EDITORIAL
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It has been a long time since the last issue of THE INVADER made an appearance. I think the whole club can share the blame for that. As editor I can do only so much. If the articals do not come in, the editor's job is pretty easy. We just don't put out a news letter.

Thanks to Don, who is always prompt with his articals "Random Eyes", Lloyd gave me a picture months ago which is not appropriate at this time, but we will use it in the future.

Gary's version of the ORPHAN REUNION, as he saw it, may cause some wrinkles in the Calgary club.

We were hoping for an address by Fred, our esteemed PRESIDENT, but I guess he is too busy playing with his Geneve and the new software. How about telling the community your thuoghts on "What's new with Geneve", Fred?

As you will see by the Random Eyes column, we are at least seven months behind in getting to press with this issue. To date we have very little material for the next issue. So don't hold your breath. I hope that a few more of the club members will take the hint and submit some observations, hints, reviews or what have you soon.

The editor has also been slow to get an editorial off, but it is difficult to think of anything when there are no special events happening.

Our club is still meeting on alternate Wednesdays, (when Lloyd has days off), at the G. H. Dawe Centre, room 207. Our membership seems to be dwindling again as more people are upgrading to IBM compatable computers.

I agree that the new computers are a lot more powerfull than the TI, but that is mainly because of a lot more memory capacity. The newer monitors have better resolution for graphics, I will admit that, and then the execution or clock speed on the new machines is phenominal by comparison to TI's 4.7

MHz. but ask yourself. "Do you really need that power, speed and resolution in a home computer?" My answer always comes up "NO".

We now have many high speed devices available like RAMDISK, hard drives, SuperCart and the like (if you want to pay the price) that speed up the operation of our machines by a factor of 10 to say the least. I also use a printer buffer with 128K capacity that speeds up printing as far as the computer is concerned. Right now as I am preparing this editorial, my printer is working at full speed and my computer is free for other things. The buffer can hold up to 32 pages of text. Printing in draught mode, that will take about 45 minutes to an hour. Printing to the buffer only took about seven minutes that leaves me about 53 minutes to finish this artical before the printer is done. I'll have to keep my fingers flying so as not to keep the printer waiting too long.

We are planning another ORPHAN REUNION for this coming Spring. Plans are not yet complete, but we will let you know in the following newsletters where and when it will be. Most likely again in Innisfail. The location has not yet been determined. It is unlikely that we will be able to get a room in the hotel where we had the last two reunions, however Lloyd and Eddie are investigating other locations that won't charge us our last dollar for rent. Hopefully Calgary and Edmonton groups will again lend their support. We thank them very much for supporting us in this kind of a venture for the last two years. We also thank NOVA Computer Ware and LaFlemme and Wrigley for their support. Hopefully we can entice a few more TI support stores to take part in this year's REUNION.
~~~~~~~~~~~~~THE END~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~