Greetings

Volume 7- No.12

December, 1989

Best Wishes
for a
Merry Christmas

Next Meeting

6:30pm Monday, December 11, 1989

Nevada Power Meeting Room

6226 West Sahara Avenue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
by Rudy Johnson, President

Season's Greetings to you all! Hard to believe that December is here already. I am as well prepared as usual this year for the upcoming festivities. (Read that as zero preparedness.) At least the SNUG officers were able to get together for a proper meeting this month. I found out that at the November general meeting (which I missed) the members voted to have a party. So the officers decided to have a meeting with its theme of FOOD! (the 99/4A and the 9640 will provide the topic of conversation to go along with the goodies.) Just for your information drinks will be provided - Gordon has volunteered to bring sodas and Karen is bringing a coffee pot to brew a few cups. George Tilley is bringing a salted nut plate. Beyond that you are free to bring whatever specialty or favorite appeals to your taste buds (and also ours). A few other possibilities which were mentioned are: cakes, cupcakes, cookies, cheese and crackers, and dips and chips. I hope you get the idea. We are not looking for main dish casseroles, more on the line of finger foods. I don't envision a full banquet-just a mini one. So bring something to share.

There will be a number of items to go over. Among these will be some information of interest regarding the upcoming Fest West '90 to be held in Tucson on February 17 and 18. Some special events which will be held at the Fest will be announced. The Southwest Ninety-Niners have sent a package of information on things to see and do in the area. This will be available for inspection by those interested. Information on special rates for attendees will also be available.

Cindy passed along that the meeting room at the Power Company has been reserved for another year.

To give John a break the officers decided that we would not have any formal demonstrations and therefore John will not have to take apart the club system (which at all other times serves as the BBS system. If I am in town that week (at this point that is a very iffy thing) I will bring in my 99/4A system for some color and sound and maybe copying if there is any demand. The officers also thought that this would also be a good opportunity to have a swap meet. So bring in any of those unused items that are gathering dust and let others know that you have them for trade or barter. It seems to me that Christmas is a good time to pick up any bargins that may be had at one of these events.

Changing topics now - I have just recently received a BIG stack of exchange newsletters from George T. I am constantly amazed at how well the network of TI based user groups have held up since TI pulled out of the personal computer market. One of the things that seems to distinguish the TI groups is

the large element of socialization that occurs in the clubs. Many of the clubs have had a gradual decline in membership but are still functioning as they were shortly after they started. A lot of the active members have suffered from burn-out in many of the groups (this is usually in the editor of the newsletter position.) Fortunately for all of the clubs there is usually someone in the wings who finally decides to take the plunge and get involved in the club's activities. Some clubs have elected to add support of other computers to their activities. It is interesting to speculate on why members have decided to stay with the TI group rather than switching to an organization that supports the new computer. I can only attribute that to the social element in the TI groups. It's an interesting phenomenon in the TI world.

Should I, in fact, not make the December meeting due to work demands out of town, I wish to you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Lets have a great 1990 with our TI's!
   - Rudy -

MDOS COMMANDS
by Rudy Johnson - Southern Nevada Users' Group

A while back when I was using MDOS Ver 1.08 I was curious as to all the commands which were available to me. So I did a little looking through the MDOS file with a sector editor. I found the following list of commands which are the same in Ver 1.14. They are of interest to me since some of the commands have shorter alternates which can save some time in typing. Except for those that are unique to the Geneve all follow the names that are used in MS-DOS on the IBM type systems. The listing is in the same order in which the commands occur in the MDOS file.

ASSIGN	GOTO	MKDIR
MODE	IF	MD
ATTRIB	PAUSE	VER
CHKDSK	REM	LABEL
COPY	BUFFERS	TYPE
DISKCOMP	FILES	DIR
DISKCOPY	LASTDRIVE	CLS
DEL	RAMDISK	VOL
ERASE	SPOOL	PROMPT
FORMAT	TIMODE	CHDIR
REN	RSRUG	CD
RENAME	TREE	PATH
ECHO	RMDIR	TIME
FOR	RD	DATE

the functions of these commands I refer you to the Geneve Manual. Appendix A on page 75 gives a summary of the functions that these commands provide.

9640 CORNER
by Bob Sherberne

DATE$ and TIME$ are words reserved by Myarc Advanced Basic (MAB) to allow the user access to the clock chip. When TIME$ or DATE$ is encountered by MAB the current time or date is fetched from the chip and that variable is equated with the updated information. If you type PRINT TIME$ from command mode the current time will be displayed for you. It is nearly as easy to use TIME$ in a program.

The following program demonstrates one way the data from the internal clock/calendar of the 9640 can be accessed, manipulated and displayed.

```
1 CLS
2 DISPLAY AT(2,47)."DATE= "DATE$
3 T$="TIME= "TIME$ :: DISPLAY AT(2,17)SIZE(14):T$
4 A$=SEG$(T$,13,2) :: B$=SEG$(T$,10,2) :: C$=SEG$(T$,7,2)
5 A=VAL(A$) :: B=VAL(B$) :: C=VAL(C$)
6 DISPLAY AT(6,1):"HOURS",C: :"MINUTES",B: :"SECONDS",A
7 D=60-A :: IF D=60 THEN D=0
8 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"COUNT DOWN",D
9 CALL KEY(0,K,S) :: IF S=0 THEN 3 ELSE END
```

Explanation

1 Clears screen.
2 Show the word "DATE=" and the actual date.
3 Sets T$ equal to "TIME= " and actual time and displays it.
4 Strips seconds (A$), minutes (B$), and hours (C$) from T$.
5 Sets numeric variables equal to the values of A$, B$ and C$.
6 Put the hours, minutes, and seconds on the screen two lines apart.
7 Do a little math to count from sixty to zero.
8 Display the count down.
9 Look for a key to quit or check the time again and start over.

Once numeric variables are set equal to the value of the time strings, we can start using the numerics for things like counters, timers and seeds. How about a time display in twelve hour time with the A.M. or P.M. appended? It's easy now.

During the writing of this article I came across a small bug in MAB version 2.99A which may occur in other versions as well. After LISTing the program to disk I noticed that half of one program line was not listed to disk. This occured when the program line took exactly two screen lines to display. One character more or less and the listing saved correctly. You guessed it. A few long program lines were chopped into newsletter sized bytes. Another note of

interest. (To some anyway.) You may have noticed in line six that I used a "," instead of a ";" to display the numbers after the words. The comma is used as a tab in MAB and is handy for columnizing.

One last note; If you have down loaded this article from the new "NEWSLETTER" section of the BBS, you should be able to RUN this article from MAB once you use a word processor to delete the second set of line numbers in the explanation, and the carriage return symbols after the program lines.

LIBRARIAN'S COLUMN
by George Campbell, Librarian

YOU WILL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THIS LIBRARY HAS'NT ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE HOMELESS SO FAR. SOME PROBLEM WITH DECIDING WHAT TO PUT ON DISK OF THE MONTH THOUGH.

SO MANY CATAGORYS TO CHOOSE FROM. AND EACH MEMBER HAS DIFFERENT TASTES. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO VIST EACH MEMBERS HOME AND SEE THEIR SETUP, HOW THEY OPERATE, ETC. THEN PERHAPS I COULD PRODUCE A SEPERATE D.O.M. FOR EACH MEMBER!

I THINK I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD OPERATING SYSTEM. BUT THEN I REFLECT THAT MOST OF IT CAME FROM VISTS TO OTHER T.I. USERS. BIEBER, MARTIN, AND JOHNSON HAVE LEFT THEIR FINGERPRINTS ALL OVER THIS SETUP.

AS AN ASIDE I HAVE SEVERAL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OPERATING APPLES, COMODORES, IBM COMPATABLES, ETC AND HAVE SEEN LITTLE THAT CANT BE DONE ON A T.I. BUT I CAN DO THINGS THEY CANT. MARTINS ONE LINERS FOR EXAMPLE! TRY THAT ON A MACINTOSH

SO THIS D.O.M. IS A 360 SECTOR DISK OF A GAME CALLED "TRIVIA" 259 USED AND 101 LEFT TO MAKE MORE OF YOUR OWN TRIVIA FILES. ITS FREEWARE BY ROBERT WESSLER. $5 OR TWO DISKS SUGGESTED. C 1985 V 1.1 GOOD DOCS. NEEDS A REFEREE AND 1-4 PLAYERS. MY FAMILY HAD A GOOD TIME WITH IT ONE EVENING AND HOPE YOU DO ALSO. IT HAS GOOD SPEED AND IS EASY TO MANAGE. AND BEST OF ALL ITS EXPANDABLE WITH YOUR OWN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

I WILL ALSO TRY TO HAVE A XMAS DISK READY BY MEETING TIME. A UPDATE OF REGIMES HAPPY NEW YEAR, WOODSTOCK, AND SOME XMAS MUSIC. JUST IN CASE SOME OF YOU HAVE MISPLACED LAST YEARS D.O.M. (BY BOB BIEBER) WHICH WAS EXCELLENT. THE TRUTH IS I WAS GOING TO MAKE THAT UP FOR NEXT MONTH. AND JUST NOW REALIZED THAT WOULD BE TOO LATE!. WELL ANYWAY......

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT THERE IS A PROJECT UNDER WAY TO UTILIZE THE NEW BBS HARD DRIVE AND PLACE A LOT OF THE LIBRARY ON THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR BETTER ACESS BY ALL WHO HAVE MODEMS. I HAVE RECENTLY BECOME AWARE THAT WE HAVE SEVERAL MEMBERS WHO HAVENT USED OUR BBS FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER. IF YOU ARE ONE OF THESE, SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS, INCLUDING MYSELF WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP GET YOU SET UP FOR IT. TO IMPROVE YOUR SYSTEM, A DISK DRIVE COMES FIRST, THEN A MODEM. IT OPENS UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF INFORMATION.

HARDMASTER PIRATED

--- Bob Starburne suggested that the following article be downloaded from the SNUG-BBS and included in the newsletter to insure wider distribution.... thanks Bob --

12700 28-OCT 23:30 General Information
fyi a BAD AND SAD BIT OF PIRACY, disgust
From: ARTBYERS To: ALL

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING HARDMASTER

We at Asgard Software recently learned that a program we were preparing for release, HardMaster, has already been "released".

Approximately 2 weeks ago, a program purporting to be the "Myarc HFDC Sector Editor" (HFDCSE) appeared on GEnie and on several bulletin boards, along with extensive documentation. This program is, in fact, a program known as HardMaster and it is by Colin Christensen of Australia.

Someone obtained a copy of this program by unknown means, as well as the documentation I myself prepared from information provided by the author, and removed all references in both to the author, Asgard Software, and the real name of the program. The culprit substituted in Myarc's name for that of the distributor and the author and the name of the program.

The perpetrator then placed the program on bulletin board services, and eventually it was placed (either unintentionally or otherwise) on GEnie where it received national distribution.

Many HFDC users have unwittingly downloaded this "gift from Myarc", and spread it to other bulletin boards. No doubt now the program is also available in some user group libraries. This is, of course, illegal (though innocently done). All honest users, user groups and BBS owners are required by law to immediately remove this program from their collections and eliminate all copies of it. If you like the program, and would like a legitimate copy, you can send a check for $14.95 to Asgard Software (P.O. Box 10306, Rockville, MD 20850) and we'll be happy to send you a legitimate copy of the program with a nicely printed manual.

I believe that most users condemn piracy. I also know that some condemn it but wink at it when it benefits them. This particularly insidious form of piracy benefits NO ONE. This type of action strikes at the very core of the right to ownership - the right to be acknowledged as the author of a program. If authors cannot be assured that the programs they write will contain notice of their authorship, regardless of how the program is distributed, THEY WILL NOT WRITE THEM. Period. No author likes to see his/her program pirated, but if it has to happen they at least like people to know they wrote it. This doesn't even give the author that much.

This form of software piracy does not benefit the honest user or even the sometimes pirate - it only benefits those that wish to bury the TI community once and for all. Therefore this action, and all actions like it, should be CONDEMNED BY ALL SOFTWARE USERS AND MANUFACTURERS.

We'd like to thank the SYSOPs of the three major networks, Barry Boone of GEnie's TI Roundtable, Jeff Guide of Delphi's TI Information Network and Jim Horn of Compuserve's TI Forum, as well as the several BBS owners we've contacted, for their prompt action in helping to stem the distribution of the pirated version. We'd particularly like to thank Barry Boone for pointing it out to us in the first place.

Finally, I'd like to note that we have retained a lawyer for this matter, and criminal as well as civil legal action will be taken against the individual or individuals responsible for this act (or their legal guardians). We also expect that all users who unknowingly helped transmit this program will provide us with information about where they obtained it. We will of course not prosecute any user who provides information of this type. Again, the fault for this incident lies with the person or persons who stole and modified the program and documentation in the first place, and not those individuals who took the accreditation of the program to Myarc at face value.

Thank you.

Chris Bobbitt, Asgard Software
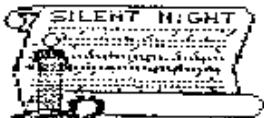
GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR CASSETTE SYSTEM
BY MICKEY SCHMITT
NUMBER 14
UNDERSTANDING - CREATING - AND USING - CASSETTE FILES
PART III

THIS MONTH I AM CONTINUING WITH THE TOPIC OF UNDERSTANDING - CREATING - AND USING - CASSETTE FILES. MORE SPECIFICALLY, I WILL BE CONTINUING WITH THE TOPIC OF... "HOW TO "OPEN" UP A CASSETTE FILE"... WHICH I FIRST BEGAN DISCUSSING LAST MONTH... IN PART II OF THIS PARTICULAR SERIES.

ALL T.I. BASIC STATEMENTS, WHICH REFER TO PARTICULAR FILES, DO SO BY MEANS OF A PARTICULAR "FILE-NUMBER" (BETWEEN 0 AND 255 INCLUSIVE) IN THE "OPEN" STATEMENT. HOWEVER, AS A WORD OF WARNING: SINCE THE PARTICULAR "FILE-NUMBER", ("FILE-NUMBER 0 ") REFERS TO THE "SCREEN" AND "KEYBOARD" OF YOUR COMPUTER AND IS ALWAYS ACCESSIBLE, YOU CANNOT "OPEN" OR "CLOSE" "FILE-NUMBER 0 " IN YOUR PROGRAMMING STATEMENTS! YOU MAY HOWEVER ASSIGN ANY OF THE OTHER REMAINING "FILE-NUMBERS" AS YOU WISH... JUST AS LONG AS EACH "OPEN" FILE IN YOUR PROGRAM HAS A DIFFERENT NUMBER THAN ANY OTHER FILE THAT YOU ARE CURRENTLY USING IN YOUR PROGRAM. THE "FILE-NUMBER" IS ENTERED INTO THE "OPEN" STATEMENT AS THE NUMBER SIGN (#)... (OR SHIFT 3)... FOLLOWED BY ANY NUMBER BETWEEN 1 AND 255 INCLUSIVE.

A "FILE-NAME" REFERS TO A DEVICE OR TO A FILE WHICH IS LOCATED ON A DEVICE, DEPENDING ON THE CAPABILITY OF THE ACCESSORY. EACH ACCESSORY HAS A "PREDEFINED" NAME WHICH THE COMPUTER RECOGNIZES. FOR EXAMPLE, THE VALID "FILE-NAMES" FOR THE TWO COMPUTER CASSETTE RECORDERS ARE "CS1" AND "CS2". BY INCLUDING THIS "FILE-NAME" IN THE "OPEN" STATEMENT, YOU ARE TELLING THE COMPUTER TO ACCESS A PARTICULAR "FILE" OR "DEVICE", WHENEVER THE PROGRAM REFERENCES THE ASSOCIATED "FILE-NUMBER".

IF ALL OF THIS SOUNDS WAY TOO CONFUSING FOR YOU... FEAR NOT... I FELT THE SAME WAY MYSELF! WITH THAT PARTICULAR THOUGHT IN MIND... I HAVE DECIDED TO CREATE A "REFERENCE CHART"... IN ORDER TO GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF ALL THE "NEW MATERIAL" THAT I HAVE EXAMINED SO FAR.

```
**************************************************************************
*                                                                      *
*          TO "OPEN" UP A CASSETTE FILE... FOLLOW THESE STEPS...        *
*                                                                      *
**************************************************************************
*          *    *               *    *          *          *    *    *       *    *
*    0     * 1 *      2         * 3 *     4      *    5     * 6 * 7 *    8    * 9 *
*          *   *                *   *            *          *   *   *         *   *
**************************************************************************
*          * N *                * N *          *          * N * N *         * N *
*  PROGRAM * E *  PROGRAM       * E * FILE.....* FILE..... * E * E * FILE... * E *
* STATEMENT* E *  STATEMENT     * E * ....SIGN * ...NUMBER * E * E * ...NAME * E *
* LINE.... * D *  OPEN          * D * ======== * ======== * D * D * ======= * D *
* ...NUMBER* S *  ...COMMAND    * S *    #     *   1-255   * C * Q *  CS1/CS2* Q *
*********** P ************ P ****************************** O * U *********** U *
*          * A *                * A *          *          * L * O *         * O *
*   100    * C *  OPEN          * C *    #     *     1     * O * T *  CS1    * T *
*          * E *                * E *          *          * N * E *         * E *
**************************************************************************
```

NEXT MONTH I WILL CONTINUE WITH THE TOPIC OF UNDERSTANDING - CREATING - AND USING - CASSETTE FILES. MORE SPECIFICALLY, I WILL BE CONTINUING WITH THE TOPIC OF "HOW TO "OPEN" UP A CASSETTE FILE"... INCLUDING... THE CONTINUATION OF THE ABOVE CHART.

IN THE MEAN TIME... IF YOU NEED ANY HELP OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR CASSETTE SYSTEM - JUST GIVE ME A CALL (412-335-0163) AND I'LL TRY TO HELP.

Tigercub Software
156 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus OH 43213

I am still offering over 120 original and unique entertainment, educational and utility programs at just $1.00 each, or on collection disks at $5.00 per disk.

The contents of the first 52 issues of this newsletter are available as ready-to-run programs on 5 Tips Disks at $10 each.

And my three Nuts & Bolts Disk, $15 each, each contain over 100 subprograms for you to merge into your own programs to do all kinds of wonderful things.

My catalog is available for $1, deductable from your first order (specify TIGERCUB catalog).

****

TI-PD LIBRARY

I have selected public domain programs, by category, to fill over 200 disks, as full as possible if I had enough programs of the category, with all the Basic-only programs converted to XBasic, with an E/A loader provided for assembly programs if possible, instructions added and any obvious bugs corrected, and with an auto-loader by full program name on each disk. These are available as a copying service for just $1.50 postpaid in U.S. and Canada. No fairware will be offered without the author's permission. Send SASE for list or $1, refundable for 9-page catalog, listing all titles and authors. Be sure to specify TI-PD catalog.

****

I like little programs that load quickly and do just what I want to do at the moment. And one of the things I wanted to do quickly was to find phone numbers. So, I used FUNLWEB to create a little file -

SMITH,JOHN (999) 111-2222
BUSH, GEO. (000) 123-1234
GHADDAFI, O. (666)66-6666

and all my other frequently called numbers. I SAVEd it as DSK1.PHONELIST and wrote this little routine to use it.

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 OPEN #1:"DSK1.PHONELIST",INPUT
120 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"LAST NAME?" :: ACCEPT AT(14,1):N$
130 LINPUT #1:M$ :: IF POS(M$,N$,1)<>0 THEN DISPLAY AT(16,1):M$ :: RESTORE #1 :: GOTO 120
140 IF EOF(1)<>1 THEN 130
150 DISPLAY AT(16,1):"NAME NOT FOUND" :: RESTORE #1 :: GOTO 120
```

Now actually, that was all I needed, (even though it did take several seconds to find a name at the end of the file), and it was easy enough to load the file into FUNLWEB when it needed updating. But, programmers are never satisfied, so I decided to write a self-contained program -

```
100 CALL CLEAR
200 DATA "ALDA, ALAN 888-9999"
201 !@P-
300 DATA "BUSH, GEORGE 111-1111"
400 DATA "PRESLEY, ELVIS 000-0000"
499 !@P+
500 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"LAST NAME?" :: ACCEPT AT(14,1):N$
600 READ M$ :: IF POS(M$,N$,1)<>0 THEN DISPLAY AT(16,1):M$ :: RESTORE 200 :: GOTO 500
```

```
700 ON ERROR 500 :: GOTO 500
800 DISPLAY AT(16,1):"NAME NOT FOUND" :: RESTORE 200 :: GOTO 500
```

That funny thing in line 201 turns off the prescan and speeds up initialization. This routine is no faster than the last, but can be updated by editing the program itself. It is limited to about 500 records due to the least-known and greatest weakness of the TI, that string storage is limited to console memory.

But, computer users are paranoid about speed, so I decided to put my data into a pre-loaded array with self-incrementing subscript numbers, and find the data by a binary search.

```
100 !QUICKFINDER by Jim Peterson
200 DIM D$(50):: GOTO 300 :: D$(),X :: !@P-
300 X=X+1 :: D$(X)="ALDA, ALAN (999) 666-1234"
400 X=X+1 :: D$(X)="BUSH, GEORGE (111) 111-1111"
500 X=X+1 :: D$(X)="GHADDAFI, OMAR (999) 456-1234567"
600 X=X+1 :: D$(X)="KHOMEINI, AYATOLLAH (666) 666-6666"
700 !@P+
800 INPUT "NAME? ":M$
900 IF M$>D$(X)THEN PRINT "NOT FOUND":"CLOSEST IS":D$(X) :: GOTO 800
1000 IF M$<D$(1)THEN PRINT "NOT FOUND":"CLOSEST IS":D$(1):: GOTO 800
1100 H=X :: S=INT(X/2)
1200 S$=D$(S):: IF POS(S$,M$,1)=1 THEN 1700
1300 S$=D$(S+1):: IF POS(S$,M$,1)=1 THEN S=S+1 :: GOTO 1700
1400 IF S$>M$ THEN H=S :: S=INT(H/2):: GOTO 1600
1500 S=S+INT((H-S)/2)
1600 IF S=S2 THEN 1800 ELSE S2=S :: GOTO 1200
1700 PRINT D$(S):: GOTO 800
1800 PRINT "NOT FOUND":"CLOSEST ARE"
1900 IF D$(S2)>M$ THEN PRINT
```

```
D$(S2-1):D$(S2+1):: GOTO 800
2000 PRINT D$(S2+1):D$(S2+2):: GOTO 800
```

Note that in this case the records must be in alphabetical sequence. New records can be inserted in intermediate line numbers, in alphabetic sequence, always preceded by X=X+1 :: D$(X)= . Obsolete records can be deleted, and records can be corrected in place if the correction does not change the alphabetic sequence.

This idea did not work out as well as I hoped. The maximum number of records is less than 300, for the reason mentioned above, and this leaves so little free memory that even a binary search is slow. However, for a smaller file this is perhaps the best method.

For a large file, the best method is certainly a fixed sequential disk file, accessed by a binary search routine. But, that requires other routines to delete, add or change records, and had best be the subject of another Tips.

There is apparently a mistaken belief that sprites cannot be used together with my BXB routine. Not so - you can use all 28 of them! However, you cannot change their color with CALL COLOR(#,N). The only other limitations of BXB that I can think of, are that a single CALL COLOR cannot be used for multiple character sets and a single CALL CHAR can only reidentify one character. CALL CHARPAT cannot return the hex code of an ASCII above 143 because those ASCII's were not supposed to be available in Extended Basic.

I have used BXB on hundreds of Basic-only

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

programs and have had only two rare problems. If the program contains multiple line feed colons ::::::, the computer may rearrange them into pairs of double colons :: :: and lock up. Or, if the colons are before the text, as in PRINT :"something" you may get a puzzling error message.

Also on rare occasions you might get an error message indicating the subprogram was called from a line containing a CALL CHAR, if the programmer had inadvertently put more than 16 characters in the hex code. Basic just ignores any extra characters, and XBASIC uses them to reidentify the following ASCII, but BIB crashes.

From the T*I*M*E*S newsletter from England, here is an extremely useful bit of assembly which should be assembled as ALPHA/O and placed on the disk of every joystick program, or imbedded in it with ALSAVE.

```
      DEF  ALPHA
* save old R12
ALPHA  MOV  R12,@>FFFC
* 9900 CRU base=0
      CLR  R12
* signal alphalock key line
      SBZ  21
* check alphalock other side
      TB   7
* jump if state=on
      JNE  STATE
* state=off
      SETO @>FFFE
* as off skip next line
      JMP  JUMPA
* state=on
STATE CLR  @>FFFE
* stop sending to alpha key
JUMPA SBO  21
* restore R12
      MOV  @>FFFC,R12
```

* standard IB return now
* clear error for basic
```
      SB   @>837C,@>837C
```
* return to calling program
```
      B    @>0070
      END  ALPHA
```

Now, put this in the first lines of the joystick program -

```
1 ! by M. Gikow, Andover
   MA August 1988
2 ! used with ALPHA/O,
   will detect whether
   Alpha Lock is up (A=
   255) or down (A=0)
3 CALL CLEAR :: CALL INIT ::
CALL LOAD("DSK1.ALPHA/O")
4 CALL LINK("ALPHA"):: CALL
PEEK(-1,A):: IF A=0 THEN DIS
PLAY AT(12,1):"RELEASE ALPHA
LOCK" :: GOTO 4 ELSE CALL CL
EAR
```

I published this one in the C.O.N.N.I. newsletter. Barry Traver picked it up and put it in the TI Forum in Computer Shopper, but their typesetter garbled it, so here is how it was supposed to be. -

According to the TI-Writer Reference Guide, page 77, when you select the PrintF command, then type C and space once and then the device name, any control characters with ASCII less than 32 are removed before the file is printed.

With Funlweb, at least, this is not quite true. A carriage return character, ASCII 13, or a line feed character, ASCII 10, at the end of a line is actually not deleted but is changed to the space bar character, ASCII 32. This can be proved by running this little routine -

```
100 OPEN #1;"DSK1.(filename)
",INPUT
110 LINPUT #1:M$ :: PRINT M$
:LEN(M$):: IF LEN(M$)>0 THEN
PRINT ASC(SEG$(M$,LEN(M$),1))
120 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0
THEN 120 ELSE 110
```

Therefore, when a file is Filled/Adjusted and the line feed characters are stripped with the C option, the lines are one character longer than they appear to be. An apparently blank line also contains ASCII 32. \

Since these characters are blank, they normally do no harm. However, they can create problems when records are read into programs for multiple column printing or concatenation of strings. In these cases, this routine can be used to strip out any ASCII below 33 at the ends of records.

```
100 DATA INPUT,OUTPUT
110 FOR J=1 TO 2 :: READ J$
:: DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL
:J$&" FILENAME?":"DSK" :: AC
CEPT AT(13,4):F$(J):: OPEN #
J:"DSK"&F$(J),UPDATE: :NEXT J
120 LINPUT #1:M$
130 IF ASC(SEG$(M$,LEN(M$),1
))<33 THEN M$=SEG$(M$,1,LEN(
M$)-1):: IF LEN(M$)>0 THEN 1
30
140 PRINT #2:M$ :: IF EOF(1)
<>1 THEN 120 :: CLOSE #1 ::
CLOSE #2
```

Attention all newsletter editors! If you are going to print my Tips (or anything else that contains program listings!) through the Formatter, PLEASE first replace and transliterate the ampersand, asterisk, period, carat and "@" sign!

Print this one through the Formatter and see why -
```
100 A=A*264 :: @=1
110 PRINT "1 . . . . 2 . . . . 3
. . . 4 . . . 5 . . . 6 . . .
7 . . . 8 . . . 9 . . . 0"
120 M$=M$&A$&B$&C$ :: K=K*3
```

Here's how you do it. Load the above in the Editor, position the cursor at the beginning of the 1st line, hit FCTN 9, type RS and Enter, then /&/)/ and Enter. At the prompt, type A.

Now get the cursor back to the beginning, repeat the above with /*/:/, and then /./\/ and /^/~/ and /@/{/ and the file should now look like this -
```
100 A=A*264 :: @=1
110 PRINT "1 \ \ \ 2 \ \ \ 3
\ \ \ 4 \ \ \ 5 \ \ \ 6 \ \
\ 7 \ \ \ 8 \ \ \ 9 \
\ \ 0"
120 M$=M$)A$}B$)C$ :: K=K~3
```

Now use FCTN 8 to open 5 lines at the top and add this transliteration -
```
.TL 92:46
.TL 123:64
.TL 124:42
.TL 125:38
.TL 126:94
```
Save the result, go to the Formatter and print it.

If my multi-column Printall program (Tips from the Tigercub #45) won't run on your Epson-compatible printer, try changing line 250 to -
```
250 ACCEPT AT(12,3)VALIDATE(
"123")SIZE(1):P :: IF P=2 TH
EN PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(77
)ELSE IF P=3 THEN PRINT #1:C
HR$(15)
```

You might also need to change the 136 in line 280 to 132.

If your printer offers the elite condensed option, you might want to add -
```
:" (4) ELITE CONDENSED" to
line 240, change the
VALIDATE string in 250 to
"1234", add ELSE IF P=4 THEN
PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(77);C
HR$(15) to the revised line
250 and add +(P=4)*160 to
the first statement in line
280.
```

Memory almost full,
Jim Peterson

TI FEST WEST '90

-- Second Announcement --

HOSTED BY: SouthWest Ninety Niners User Group
P.O. Box 17831
Tucson, Arizona 85730

DATE/TIME: Saturday, February 17, 1990, 9:00 A.M. til 5:00 P.M.
Sunday, February 18, 1990, 9:00 A.M. til 3:30 P.M.

LOCATION: Days Inn (formerly the historic Santa Rita Hotel)
88 East Broadway Blvd
Tucson, Arizona 85701
(602)622-4000

Fest West '90 Is "The Best In The West!! Fest West, in past years,
has been held in Los Angeles (hosted by the Los Angeles User Group),
Las Vegas (hosted by the Southern Nevada User Group), and San Diego
(hosted by the Southern California Computer Group). This year, in what
promises to be the best Fest West yet, it will be held in Tucson,
Arizona and will be hosted by the Southwest Ninety Niners User Group.

Dealers, vendors, and user groups from all over the United States will
be present, offering a complete selection of hardware, software, and
accessories for the TI-99/4A and the Myarc Geneve 9640 computers.

5200 square feet of exhibit space is available. User Groups and
vendors are invited to display and sell their wares. There are plenty
of electrical outlets with good lighting available. Booths will be
available for $25 for the first eight foot table and $15 for each
additional table. Each booth reservation will include two free
admissions for both days of the fest. For more information, see the
contact list at the end of this announcement. All announcements will
be uploaded to the mentioned BBS's in Fora_Shop and TI-Writer format.

Days Inn is giving us great rates during the peak of the tourist
season. For only $49.18 ($44.00 plus all local taxes) per night, rooms
with 1 King size bed or 2 Queen size beds are available. For those who
wish, Days Inn also has suites available. Call Days Inn direct for
those rates. Be sure to mention you will be attending Fest West '90
when calling and ask for Olivia.

As the date for Fest West 1990 is fast approaching, now is the time to
get those reservations in. Booths will be assigned on a first
reserved, first assigned basis. In other words, the best locations
will go to the vendors and user groups who make the early reservations!
Also, the best rooms at Days Inn will go early. Make your reservations
Now!!

Fest West has repeatedly shown that it is a good place for all TI/Myarc
vendors to come. Attendance has always been good, and sales high.
Some booths are already reserved, but many are still available. With
Fest West drawing TIers from all over the Western part of the U.S., it
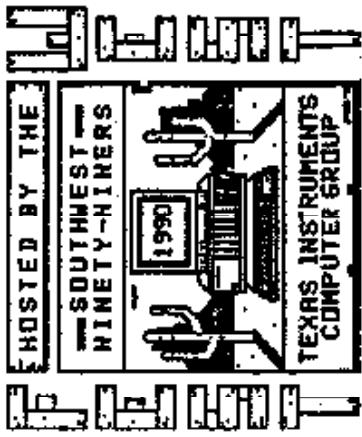
is a good time and place for TI/Myarc vendors to present and sell their
wares to the ever-faithful TI/Myarc community.

There will also be door prizes and a raffle. The raffle tickets will
cost $1.00 each. The Grand Prize will be a Myarc Hard Disk and Floppy
Disk Controller Card. Other prizes are also available. With the
advance purchase of 10 or more raffle tickets admission to Fest West
'90 will be FREE! The Fest West Committee is still looking for
additional door prizes and raffle prizes. If you have something that
can be donated for this purpose, it will be greatly appreciated.

For additional information, contact the SouthWest Ninety Niners Fest
West '90 Committee via one of the following:

Write to:
SouthWest Ninety Niners User Group
Fest West '90 Committee
P.O. Box 17831
Tucson, Arizona 85730
OR call: 602-747-5846 (BJ Mathis) or 602-186-2440 (Tom Wills)

BBS's:
Cactus Path BBS
602-795-1913
24 hours a day, 300/1200 baud at 8N1 parity
Address a message to user 2 (Tom Wills) or user 3 (BJ Mathis)
Logon as User #27 with the password FESTWEST

American People/Link
Via Telenet
Address your inquiry to W9ER (Tom Wills)

CompuServe
Address your inquiry to 71550,3213 (Tom Wills)

Delphi
Address your inquiry to TWILLS

Genie
Address your inquiry to T.Wills or J.McCalsay
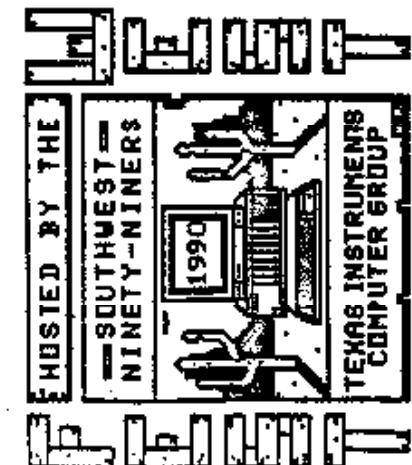
TI Fest West '90

To be held at

Day's Inn Downtown

Formerly Santa Rita Hotel, built in 1904 - recently refurbished

88 East Broadway
Tucson, Arizona 85701
602-622-4000

HOSTED BY THE
—SOUTHWEST—
NINETY-NINERS
1990
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS
COMPUTER GROUP
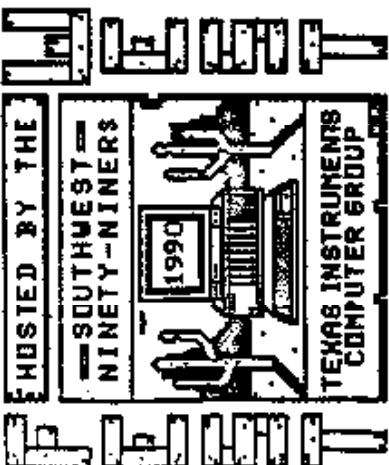
Room Reservation Request Form

* Reservations MUST be in by January 27, 1990.
* Advance deposit for first night MUST accompany your reservation request.
* For a telephone reservation, call 602-623-4000. est for Dixie.
* Check in time is 3:00 P.M., unless reservation is guaranteed.

ROOM RESERVATION REQUEST
Days' Inn. 88 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ 85701

	ARRIVAL DATE	DEPARTURE DATE

NAME OF GROUP: Southwest 99'ers User Group / TI Fest West 1990

APPROXIMATE ARRIVAL TIME:

DATES OF TI FEST WEST 1990: February 17 and 18, 1990

TYPE OF ROOM:
NUMBER OF ROLLAWAY BED(S):
Double -- 2 Queen beds -- $44+tax
Single -- 1 King bed -- $44+tax
Suites -- Call for rates

YOUR FULL NAME:

COMPANY NAME:

STREET ADDRESS:

Refrigerator in room.........

Coffee maker in room.........

Non-Smoking room.........

STATE:	ZIP CODE:

CITY:

TELEPHONE NUMBER: ( ) -

FULL NAME(S) OF ADDITIONAL OCCUPANTS OF ROOM:

TO RESERVE A ROOM, SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

CREDIT CARD NUMBER (Master Card, Visa, American Express, Diners Club):

CREDIT CARD INTERBANK NUMBER:

EXPIRATION DATE:

YOUR SIGNATURE:

ROOM DEPOSIT ENCLOSED $ ____ (DO NOT SEND CASH THRU THE MAIL!!)

South Western Atmosphere - elegant and comfortable
Near Freeway (Interstate highway I-10)
Restaurant - reasonable prices - indoor and outdoor dining
Arizona Stagecoach from Airport $8.25 per person

Within walking distance:
Public Transportation
Tucson Art Museum
Tucson Historical Areas
Other restaurants
Greyhound Bus Depot
Amtrak Train Depot

Conference Room:
Separate building from hotel
Easy access to ample parking
Restrooms in the building
Plenty of outlets
Phone line
Well lit
Seminar room may be included in same building
depending on # of vendors)

Guest rooms - $44 per night double/single (plus taxes)
Children under 18 free in parents room
Continental Breakfast (included)
Suites available (extra cost)
Golf Passes (green fees - cart rent/transportation to courses not included)
No charge for local phone calls
Cocktails 2 free per adult per room - alcoholic or non-alcoholic
Sauna
Hot Therapy Pool
Swimming Pool
Lounge with TV/Bar in basement of hotel
Transportation to/from Tucson Mall provided by Tucson Mall
Non-smoking rooms (request)
Wetbar (refrigerator) in room (request)
Coffee makers in rooms (request)
Rollaways - additional $7 per rollaway per night

Southern Nevada Users' Group
P.O. Box 26301
Las Vegas, NV   89126-0301

TO:

Dallas TI Home Computer Group

P.O Box 29863
Dallas TX 75229