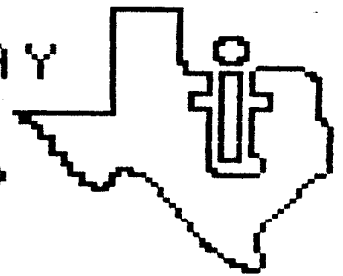




# GREATER TAMPA BAY

## TI USER GROUP

NOV 1988



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NEXT MEETING NOV 1 '88 AT 7:00 PM

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Greater Tampa Bay TI User Group meets in Brandon Fla. on the first and third Tuesday of each month at Brandon High School in room 352.

The first Tuesday of the month is the general business meeting and to show off new hardware or software programs.

The third Tuesday is set aside for special interest group. If you have a problem with either hardware or software, this is the meeting to come to.

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### "CLUB ELECTION"

YOUR SUPPORT IS WHAT MAKES IT A GREAT CLUB

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Officers

President: Tom Austin 654-3680	Vice President: Paul Wiese 985-1048
Librarian: Herman Nieuwendaal 962-1857	Secretary: Brenda Burwell 886-5942
Treasurer: Judy Chandler 935-2694	Editor: Robert Barnes 533-2275

\*\*\*\*\*

### \*\*\* TI HEAVEN \*\*\*

Clubs BBS 8/N/1 2400/1200/300 Baud 24 Hrs

PC Pursuit: Accessible FLTAM Sysop: Gary Sweers

813-654-titi (8484)

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### \*\*\* CY SWAP SHOP \*\*\*

2400/1200/300 Baud 24Hrs 8/N/1 Sysop: Cy Leonard

PC Pursuit Not Accessible but well worth the cost to sign on.

813-725-4568

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MINIUTES

by: Brenda Burwell

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 pm. The treasurer was ill, so we don't know if we are solvent or not.

The business part of the meeting was used almost completely in the discussion of contributions to fairware authors. This issue has been hashed to death all across the country, and yet we cannot emphasize to strongly the need to contribute our share to keep the trickle of software coming. Please, take a moment to reflect on your performance...and act accordingly.

The lottery was held and won by Paul. NO COMMENT!

After the break we had two demos. First, Jim Hicks has written a TI version of "The \$100,000 Pyramid. Boy, was it fun to play. Me and my celebrity guest created Herman and his celebrity quest. The game follows true to the TV version and you can create your own games quite easily.

Next Charles Kinsey demonstrated the utility loader for the GramCracker. He has his own loaded so that it is as close to ram disk configuration as possible without a ram disk. All the programs he uses regularly can be loaded from the GK banks very quickly.

The GK util is in the library now. The Pyramid, if not now, soon will be in the library as well.

Meeting adjourned...

TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPT & OCT, 1988

By Judy Chandler

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$ SEPT & OCT INCOME:
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$ Membership Dues      $ 16.00
$ Interest on Checking  4.83
$ Lotto Sales          64.00
$ Bulk Disk Sales      140.25
$ Dollar Disk Sales    28.00
$ Library Sales        91.50
$ Plato                25.00
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$ TOTAL INCOME          $ 369.58
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$ SEPT & OCT EXPENSE:
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$ Bank Service Charge  $ 15.00
$ Postage              56.25
$ BBS Expense          94.74
$ Supercart Parts      466.34
$ Bulk Disk Purchase   147.00
$ Supercart Refund     30.00
$ Club Purchase-Widget
$ and Ex-Basic        35.00
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$ TOTAL EXPENSE:       $ 844.33
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$ SEPT & OCT CASH ON HAND: $ 398.98
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THINKING OUT LOUD

By: Robert E. Barnes

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Here I am sitting at my trusty TI well in advance of the deadline for this months newsletter. Why? Because I plan on going to the mountains of North Carolina the weekend of the 15th and don't plan to be back until the night of the deadline.

If you are reading this, that can mean only one thing, I got back and burned the mid night oil (not to mention electricity) to put your favorite newsletter together. Talk about cutting it close...

One final thing before putting this newsletter to bed... I just received a disk from Jim Peterson of TigerCub fame. This disk includes his TigerTips numbers 46 thru 54 and his catalog of available programs. I plan to start running his TigerTips with the December issue of GTBTIUG Newsletter and plan to have his catalog placed in our library at his request, this catalog will be available to our members for the asking. You can see Herman about obtaining a copy thru the usual means of ordering a particular disk... etcetra.

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PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

By: Tom Austin

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The September meeting was one of the more productive meetings of the year. We had two great demonstrations, one by Charles Kinsey on the Gram Kracker and Jim Hicks' own program based on the \$100,000 Pyramid. Thanks to both of you for two excellent demonstrations. Jim is donating his program to the club library, so just contact Herman if you want a copy. It would be a great game for parties. Our efforts to collect contributions

for fairware authors is doing very well. By the time you read this we will have mailed off letters to several software authors with sizable amounts of money enclosed. If anyone has yet to contribute and wishes to do so, please contact one of the officers or mail you money directly to the author of the program. I will have up-to-date figures to present to you by the November 1st meeting.

I hope you are thinking about who you want to be your new president and librarian. Names will have to be placed into nomination during the November meeting so that elections can be held in December. I have not heard from Bob Barnes yet as to whether he wants to be the newsletter editor for another year, so there may be one more vacancy in the officer ranks. I hope everyone will be at this meeting since this will be important business we will be attending to. If need be, we will make absentee ballots available to those who won't be able to attend the December meeting, this includes our long distance members.

The November meeting will be your last chance to volunteer to set up for a Christmas party if you all want to have one like we had last year. I wish I had the time to do it for you again, but my college obligations won't allow it. I don't even get on the BBS once a day like I used to, Gary can attest to that.

That's all for this newsletter. Don't forget to bring your hardware, software, etc. to sell. And remember folks, "IT'S YOUR CLUB!", it needs your support to make it a good club. You can do that by attending meetings, paying your dues, and giving your elected officers your input on what you want your club to do.

(Ed. note: As I have told Tom, I will be more than happy to stay on as Editor for the GTBTIUG Newsletter or to allow anyone that wants to do so the opportunity to try their hand as

Newsletter Editor by stepping aside whichever the membership desires.)

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THE LIBRARIAN

By: Herman Nieuwenjaal

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I Must appoggize for letting things slow down so much in the Library the last couple of months. I won't try to pass any excuses off on everyone, I'll just say that I got in a rut.

For the second time in as many months, there have been no new disks added to the Library. I have a total of about 20 more disks that I am planning to add to the Library. Most of them will be made up of a collection of older Fairware, and once I add those, the club's Library will contain just about every Fairware program from my personal library that is of decent quality.

I have gone through a great deal of effort over the last year and a half to organize the clubs' Library and make it one of the most complete libraries for the 99/4A. It is my hope that every club member has been able to find software that has kept his or her interest in the TI alive.

Herman

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TI BITS Number 11

By Jim Swedlow

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[This article originally appeared in the User Group of Orange County, California RDM]

BELL COMPATIBLE?

Ever noticed that modem adds include a statement about Bell compatibility? This will give you an idea of what that means.

BELL 103A is the standard format for transmitting data by telephone at





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A SIMPLE LABELER
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BY: Paul E. Scheidewantle
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This month's article came about one evening while looking through my tons of label programs, and not finding one that would allow me to make the kind of label that I wanted. Namely a label with double width print in as bold a print as possible. This program requires 4 main segments, 1st: the internal data must be supplied (printer commands, variables for limiting input of text); 2nd: Select the label size needed (main menu); 3rd: accept input from the keyboard (info to be placed on the label); and 4th: print the Text to the printer. Now lets look through the program to see how this can be accomplished! Line 110 clears the screen and sets the colors to white lettering on a dark blue background. Simply window dressing to spruce it up!

(Ed. Note: I have printed the program elsewhere in this issue.)

In line 120 we set values for some of the variables in the program, which will be explained as we go along. And the ON WARNING NEXT statement....

Lines 140 and 160 are identical except where the value of 28 has been replaced by the variable A in 160. To make life a little easier for me so that I don't have to count the length of each string that I send to the screen and adjust them manually so that they are centered, we have these two DEF statements. To start with a DEF statement is a method of defining series of functions that we wish to do over and over. Here in line 140 we are defining the function CTR\$(Z%) to be equal to enough blank (space characters) spaces plus the string Z% so that it is centered on the screen. For example if the string is 16 characters long we subtract that from the width of the screen (28) which is 12 and then divide that by 2 to get 6

blank spaces. So now if you place it on the screen in the 1st column, then the text will be centered. Line 160 does the same thing except that by using the variable A I can use it to center text for variable widths, by setting A to 17 or 20 I can now use it for both labels that are 3.5 inches or 4.0 inches wide. Thus the values for B(1) and B(2) in line 120. These were obtained by multiplying 5 characters (double width) per inch times the width of the label.

Even though this program was written for the Star 56-10 printer the codes used are compatible with most Epson type printers. Line 180 is the printer parameters, such as shown here "PIQ" or it can be changed to "RS232...." as required by your system set-up. Lines 190 through 300 are the printer codes used. They can be easily checked against your manual for compatibility and changed.

Here starting with line 310 we have the main program. This is where all the work is done. Line 330 and 340 display the main menu. You will now notice how we use the CTR\$(Z%), by placing the string that we wish to have centered on the screen in the place of the Z%. Line 350 checks the keyboard to see if any key has been pressed, if no key is pressed then we check the keyboard again, if a key is pressed and it is an ASC II code less than 48 or greater then 50 then back to 350 again (48=0 49=1 50=2), now finally if the key pressed is equal to 40 (0) then we clear the screen and end (stop the program). In line 360 we set A to equal the correct amount of characters to be allowed for due to the size of the label. Also we set D to equal the option that has been selected.

Lines 370 to 470 allow for input from the keyboard. Line 380 clears the screen and shows the header. Line 390 sets E to the number of lines that can be input or printed: 5 for a 1 inch and 8 for a 1.5 inch label. Line 400

displays any previous text that has been entered (as a default) along with numbered lines, so that you always know where you're at. Line 410 displays on the screen the number of lines that you may enter for the label size you have selected. Lines 420-440 allow for the input of the label text. In the SIZE command you will notice that it has been set to a negative number.... Well this allows any text on the screen to be selected by pressing <ENTER>, the same as if you had typed it in yourself! Lines 450-470 allows you to edit what has been entered or go on to the printing stage. If you select "Y" then line 470 clears the bottom line.

Lines 480 through 510 get some very valuable data. Line 480 asks if you want your text centered, setting SW% equal to your answer to be used in the printer routine. Line 490 gives you an out so that you can still abort the printing at this stage. While line 500 gets your answer for the Print or Return question. Line 510 asks for how many labels you want printed, and places the value the variable TNL, and then also if TNL equals 0 then you are returned to the main menu! Lastly if you select a number greater than 0 the "ABORT" message is displayed and printing begins.

Now finally to the printer routine lines 520 to 640. Line 530 opens a file to the printer using the P% variable (your printer parameters) plus the addition of .LF.CR which disables the line feed and carriage return unless those codes are sent to the printer. Line 540 sends the following commands to the printer: printer reset, emphasized print, double strike, double width, and a carriage return. Line 550 is a loop for printing multiple labels. Line 560 shows what label is being printed. Line 570 is the loop that prints the individual labels, also here if SW%="N" then we set the A variable to the same length as the string to be printed (thus left justifying the

text), because if the A value and the string length are the same no space characters will be added! Line 580 prints the information to the printer. Line 600 prints a blank line to skip over the gap between the labels. Line 610 checks to see if a key is being pressed, if it is then it sends you to line 630 to print the reset command to the printer, close the file, and return you to the menu.

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A SURVEY

by: Robert E. Barnes

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One day not too long ago, while on TI-HEAVEN the thought struck me... With the new TELCO terminal emulator now out along with all the other terminal programs, I wondered which term program everybody likes (uses) and why.

So, being the crafty newsletter editor I am, I left a message in the Message Base asking that question. I promised that I would not name names, but if you should happen to guess who I may be quoting in this article, I take no blame for your success in guessing. <grin>

First of all, let it be known that this is in no way an endorsement of any term program by myself or GTBTIUG. And let it be known that neither am I knocking any term program directly or indirectly, named or unnamed in this article.

The survey was by no means thorough nor indepth. I received 9, count 'em, 9 replies to my inquiry. Therefore, this article is meant more as a matter of information about what "these" respondee's feelings are on the

subject.

Of the 9 responses, 7 indicated they preferred Mass Transfer, 1 preferred Telco, and 1 really didn't express a preference but said "I use them both and am still learning about Telco."

The main comment about M/T seemed to be its ease of use. Almost all respondee's praised Telco while listing some disadvantages to using it: "...took to much space on RamDisk", "...super product but I do not need all its capabilities", "I hear it is a super program", and one even said "...it is too complicated".

The one reply in favor of Telco will be forever, here unnamed but many of us will be able to guess who it was. This respondee proceeded to write a book espousing upon the advantages of Telco. I believe that you might find a reproduction of his "book" printed elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter (if he found time to finish it that is). <big grin> I will not take space here to explain why this respondee preferred Telco, but will leave that to his article. If it is not in this issue, hopefully it will be in the next one.

Following are some additional comments by the respondee's:

"The original version of Telco would not autodial for me. The new version does work ok and it is a very impressive program... M/T does everything I need at the moment. Sorry Charles, I think your programming skills are outstanding, but for the present, I don't need all those bells and whistles".

"I couldn't get the auto dialer to work with the Blue Wonder on the early versions of Telco. Also, I like the effortless ease of M/T, as long as it does all I need it to do, I'll stick with Mass Transfer".

"Prefer MT for ease of use AND probably major reason other than that is that I am ACCUSTOMED to it and it does EVERYTHING I need at the present time. Nothing against Telco as it is clearly a superior product... I would encourage those who have not already used MT to look at Telco". (This person even plugged FAIRWARE AUTHORS... "pay for the fairware you use".)

"My first term program was Fast-Term. Had trouble d/l or u/l past 40 sectors... put me on MT and I haven't used anything else. I sent Charles Earl his license fee so that if I WANT to use it, I can do so with a clear conscience".

"I like Mass Transfer due to it's simple use... Right now MT does all my needs".

What's that you say?... which do I prefer? Well, that's a fair question I guess seeing as how I had the nerve to ask all those nice people the same question. Say, how's that for filling up some space in the newsletter? Pretty good huh?... whatzat?? which do I prefer??? Well I tell you folks, just read the above and you will find your answer. (Hint: I agree with the majority, how's that for crafty?)

See ya next month, same time, new date etcetra...

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1st Tues = Req. Meeting  
 3rd Tues = Sig Meeting

Greater Tampa Bay TI  
 User Group Newsletter  
 (formerly BTIUG)

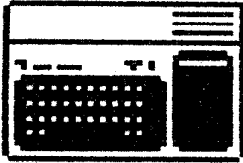
c/o Paul Wiese  
 4115 Okara Road  
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

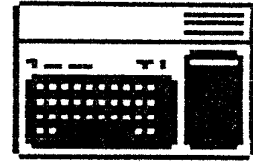
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FIRST CLASS MAIL





**GREATER TAMPA  
BAY TI USER  
GROUP**



# **TI BASE**

**USER 2**

**DEMONSTRATION**

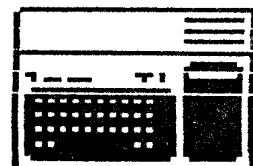
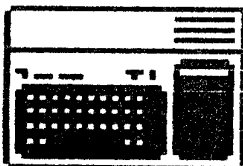
**BY**

**THE AUTHOR**

**DENNIS FAHERTY**

**DECEMBER 6**

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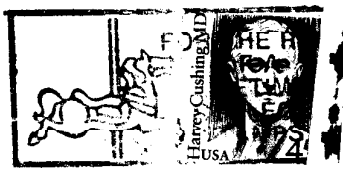


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1st Tues = Reg. Meeting  
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Greater Tampa Bay TI  
 User Group Newsletter  
 (formerly BTIUG)

c/o Paul Wiese  
 4115 Okara Road  
 Tampa, Florida 33617



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 NEWSLETTER EXCH  
 P.O. BOX 1194  
 PERU IN 46970

FIRST CLASS MAIL