

ISSUE #9 SEPT 1989

The August meeting of the West Penn 99ers was held as usual on the third Tuesday of the month at our new and newly remodeled location, St. Stevens Byzantine Catholic Church. With room to spare, despite almost 40 members, Mickey refused the pulpit but opened her oration with thanks to several club members for all their help in our recent move to the new location. The treasurer's report (Lynn) and the acting recording secretary's report (Tricky Zic) were allowed to slide by as the newsletter distribution was late this month.... or the meeting was early.....or the postman was late or

Rob once again has put more McFlix pictures into the library (10-15 disks full). Lynn in taking over Jan's duties did an extra special job on the goodies, and if you had a sample of the fruitie, goooooie, cheeesie cake with crisp flakeeee crust, well no wonder no one volunteered to bring goodies next time. No Weigh could you compete.

Sheepishly, new classes being formed, or at least in the discussion phase including: TI Base- Mickey, Lynn: Printers, Postmen and Ewe, John Willforth and Assembly, so ewes really want to try, Gene Kelly.

General discussions centered around upcoming shows including Harrisburg (Carlisle) in October and the Washington D.C. (Alexandria, Va.) on Sept 16, 1986. Chris Pratt visited to inform us of that show sponsored by MANNERS (MidAtlanticNinetyNiERS). Under new business the club overwhelmingly supported a motion to donate \$150 to the Church for use of the facility for a year.

Raffle prizes included Disk of Pirates, Asguard and a disk of selected games. Mickey was allowed to demonstrate Disk of Pirates prior to the raffle, which once again kept sales at a minimum. The demonstration of Tetris (four) for the fourth time by Willforth made me setforth a formulation for forsaking foreign ah, forget it !!!!

Submitted Fortunately,
Scoops Bittner

WEST PENN 99'ERS CLUB INFORMATION

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUG. 15, '89

NEXT MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 19 1989
 MEETING LOCATION: ST. STEPHEN'S
 BYZANTINE CATHOLIC
 CHURCH
 JUST OFF ROUTE 30
 BETHEL ROAD, NORWIN
 TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 P.M.

LIST OF WEST PENN OFFICERS FOR 1989

PRESIDENT: MICKEY 335-0163
 VICE PRESIDENT: SCOTT 523-3754
 TREASURER: LYNN 835-4304
 RECORDING SEC: ED 864-4924
 CORRESPONDING SEC: GENE 829-0469
 LIBRARIAN: ROB 864-1233
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: JOHN 527-6656

GENERAL ITINERARY OF THE CLUB'S MEETING

6:45 P.M. DOORS OPEN
 7:00 P.M. GENERAL MEETING
 7:45 P.M. DEMOS AND NEW INFO
 8:45 P.M. HARDWARE & PRINTERS
 8:45 P.M. INTRO TO ASSEMBLY
 8:45 P.M. INTRO TO TI-BASE
 8:45 P.M. USING YOUR CASSETTE
 11:00 P.M. DOORS CLOSE

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS MONTH

THE LATEST T.I. NEWS FROM THE D.C. SHOW
 ASGARD'S PAGE PRO 99 DEMO BY MIKE SEALY
 JOYPAINT 99 BY JACK SKINNER & JIM CONN
 LIBRARY "DEMO OF THE MONTH" BY ROB EKL
 LATEST SOFTWARE DEMOS BY JOHN WILLFORTH

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

\$15.00 PER YEAR FOR INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY
 \$10.00 PER YEAR FOR JUST THE NEWSLETTER

FROM LYNN GARDNER

8/15	CASH ON HAND	\$ 50.00	*
	LIBRARY SALES	10.00	*
	MICROFENDIUMS	30.75	*
	DISKS & CASES	24.00	*
	DUES	7.50	*
	RAFFLE	46.00	*
	TOTAL	\$168.25	*
8/16	DEPOSIT	- 118.25	*

8/16	CASH ON HAND	\$ 50.00	*

8/11	BANK BALANCE	\$1228.38	*
8/15	POSTAGE (JOHN)	- 65.00	*

8/15	MICROFENDIUM	- 30.00	*

8/15	ST. STEPHEN'S	-150.00	*

8/16	DEPOSIT	+118.25	*

	BALANCE	\$1101.63	*

	TOTAL CASH BALANCE	\$1151.63	*

-----EDITOR--Rev2

DK: !E 99%

* ZOOM FLUME *

.....
 . In this adventure, you are in your .
 . bathing suit at the water park. Want .
 . fun and excitement? Try the fast and .
 . slippery track of the Super Slide, a .
 . 5-story-high water slide. Speed down .
 . a twisting course on the Zoom Flume, .
 . a water-filled gully plunging you to .
 . the bottom. See if you can hang onto .
 . the Tarzan Trolley, a rope strung on .
 . a pulley between platforms. Ride the .
 . bumper boats in the lake or ride the .
 . waves in the wave pool. It's a cool .
 . day, but surf's up. Enjoy! .
 .

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.....PRESS ANY KEY TO BEGIN.....

THE MYARC GENEVE 9460
BY GARY TAYLOR
NUMBER ONE
WHY I BOUGHT ONE.

I PURCHASED MY GENEVE AT THE CHICAGO FAIRE IN THE FALL OF 1987 AND SINCE THAT TIME I HAVE GROWN TO ENJOY IT MORE AND MORE. BUT BEFORE I GO INTO THE DETAILS OF MY CONFIGURATION AND HOW I USE IT, I THOUGHT I WOULD TELL YOU THE REASONS THAT I BOUGHT IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

IN 1986 I MOVED TO PITTSBURGH FROM DALLAS. I WAS A MEMBER OF THE DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER USER GROUP WHERE THE USE OF RAM DISKS WAS BECOMING POPULAR. I HAD A FULL BLOWN SYSTEM AND A RAM DISK WAS CERTAINLY GOING TO BE THE NEXT ADDITION TO MY SYSTEM. UNFORTUNATELY, DURING MY RELOCATION TO PITTSBURGH MY TI COMPUTER WAS STOLEN, REPLACING THE COMPUTER DELAYED MY ABILITY TO PURCHASE A RAM DISK FOR THE NEXT YEAR OR SO. DURING THIS TIME I BECAME ACTIVE IN THE PUG AS LIBRARIAN AND FOUND MYSELF USING TI-WRITER TO PRODUCE THESE WONDERFUL NEWLETTER ARTICLES. AT NEARLY THE SAME TIME I WAS GIVEN AN IBM XT TO USE ON MY ASSIGNMENT AT WORK. IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG BEFORE I WANTED A FULL 80 COLUMN SCREEN AND A KEYBOARD AT HOME SIMILAR TO THE ONE I WAS USING AT WORK. I HAD ALREADY SET MY TI-WRITER SCREEN TABS TO 39 TO AVOID THE 40 COLUMN WINDOWING AND I WAS USING THE LATEST VERSION OF FUNNELWEB, SO I WAS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE LATEST SOFTWARE AND TECHNIQUES AVAILABLE, BUT I WANTED MORE.

SO WHY DIDN'T I GO OUT AND BUY A CLONE? WELL, I GUESS THE TI REPRESENTED FUN TO ME! IT CERTAINLY DID ALL THAT I NEEDED A HOME COMPUTER TO DO. IT PROVIDED ME WITH ENDLESS HOURS OF ENTERTAINMENT, ALLOWED ME FOR THE FIRST TIME TO TYPE LETTERS WITHOUT SNO-PAK, AND I COULD COMMUNICATE WITH THE WORLD THROUGH MY MODEM. THE THEIVES THAT STOLE MY EQUIPMENT DID NOT TAKE ANY OF THE BOOKS OR SOFTWARE AND I HAD OVER 250 DISKETTES OF PROGRAMS. I ADMIT THAT THE TI-99/4A IS NOT AS FAST AS THE COMPUTER I HAVE AT WORK BUT THEN I CAN ONLY TYPE AT 45 WORDS A MINUTE AND MY MODEM IS ONLY 2400 BPS, SO WHAT DO I NEED A FASTER COMPUTER FOR? MY MAIN USE OF THE COMPUTER WAS AND STILL IS WORD PROCESSING AND TELE-COMMUNICATION. BESIDES, THE COST OF BUYING A CLONE WAS GOING TO TO EXPENSIVE, EVEN THOUGH I COULD PROBABLY PIRATE ALL THE BUSINESS SOFTWARE I COULD EVER USE. WHAT WAS I GOING TO DO WITH R-BASE 5000 AT HOME? OR LOTUS 123? I HAD NEVER EVEN LOADED MULTIPLAN ON MY TI EVEN THOUGH I HAD TWO COPIES OF IT.

SO THERE I WAS WITH A WISH LIST THAT INCLUDED A RAM DISK, AN EXPANDED KEYBOARD, AND AN 80 COLUMN DISPLAY. THE THIRD PARTY EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS HAD ALL THE PIECES I NEEDED. ALL I HAD TO DO WAS COME UP WITH THE MONEY AND PUT IT TOGETHER. I COULD BUY AN EXPANDED KEYBOARD FOR \$200, A HORIZON RAM DISK FOR \$200 (AH REMEMBER 1987?), AND A MECHATRONICS 80 COLUMN CARD FOR \$200 AND I WOULD BE ALL SET.

BUT WAIT, THIS IS 1987 AND THAT MYSTERIOUS GENEVE WAS JUST RELEASE EARLIER IN THE YEAR. I HAD READ ABOUT IT IN MICROPENDIUM. IT CAME WITH AN EXPANDED KEYBOARD; IT CAME WITH A BUILT IN RAM DISK; IT CAME WITH 80 COLUMN DISPLAY CAPABILITY; AND IT ONLY COST \$425! PLUS I GET ALL THAT OTHER STUFF EVERYONE WAS TALKING ABOUT LIKE MDOS, AND CLOCKS, AND A FASTER PROCESSOR, AND RGB GRAPHICS, AND 80 COLUMN MULTIPLAN (WHATEVER THAT WAS), AND 80 COLUMN MYWORD, AND PASCAL, AND ADVANCED BASIC, AND MULTITASKING ?? AND ALL KINDS OF OTHER STUFF THAT I DID NOT UNDERSTAND, ALL FOR ONLY \$425. WELL I COULD HARDLY WAIT TO GET TO CHICAGO AND TALK TO THIS GUY NAMED JACK RILEY ABOUT THIS NEW COMPUTER. THE DOORS OPENED AT 9:00AM AND I WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF HIS BOOTH AT 9:01. HE RAN THE GENEVE THROUGH ITS

PACES SHOWING ME THE DOS LIKE COMMANDS THAT I HAD BECOME FAMILIAR WITH AT WORK AND DEMONSTRATED A GRAPHIC PROGRAM CALLED MYART. HE EVEN HAD A MOUSE TO DRAW WITH! I WAS SOLD! OFF I WENT TO MAKE MY BEST DEAL AT THE VENDOR TABLES.

WHEN I GOT HOME AND OPENED THE BOX, I FOUND A P-BOX CARD WITH A BUNCH OF CONNECTORS STICKING OUT THE BACK, AN EXPANDED KEYBOARD (HOO-RAY), A LARGE BINDER FULL OF INSTRUCTION, A BUNCH OF DISKS AND A WARRANTEE CARD. INSTALLATION WAS A SNAP. I OPENED THE P-BOX AND PULLED OUT THE 32K CARD AND REPLACED THE FLEX CABLE WITH THE GENEVE 9640. THEN I CONNECTED THE KEYBOARD TO THE GENEVE AND PLUGGED IN MY COMPOSITE MONITOR AND TURNED IT ON. WOW! THERE WAS THE BEAUTIFUL WHITE SWAN THAT I HAD SEEN IN CHICAGO. SUDDENLY DISK DRIVE ONE CAME ON, THE SWAN DISAPPEARED, THE SCREEN HONKED, AND WAS STARING AT AN ERROR MESSAGE - "NO BOOT PROGRAM FOUND ON DISK - PRESS ANY KEY TO RETRY". THUS I WAS WELCOMED TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF M-DOS. WHICH IS THE TOPIC FOR NEXT MONTHS ARTICLE.

BYTE • JULY 1989

MOBY DICK 2.1

What if literature were published the way software is?

As a fan of great literature, I found myself wondering the other day, "What if novels were published the way software is?" If they were, the process might go something like this:

Herman Melville would announce the publication of *Moby Dick* a year before you could actually buy it. Reviewers would praise it, and several literary magazines would select it as "Editor's Choice" for best novel of the year—all before it ever appeared on bookstore shelves.

Eventually, the publisher would send out a press release to announce that copies of *Moby Dick* were actually shipping. The public, tantalized by the pre-publication hype, would rush out to buy the book like sharks at a feeding frenzy. The novel would become an overnight bestseller, thereby confirming the media's amazing prophetic abilities.

The book would come wrapped in oil-cloth, with a long parchment notice explaining when and where you could read it, that you couldn't loan the book to anyone, and that the publisher wasn't responsible if anything in the book were to cause damage to your life, liberty, or kidneys. If you violated the rules of the reader agreement, you would forfeit your firstborn child.

After struggling through the first few chapters of the book, two-thirds of *Moby Dick*'s readers would realize that they had no idea what it was about. Most of them would put the book away, haul it out now and then, and one day find a registration card that they had never bothered to send in. On sending in the card, they would receive the following letter:

Dear Registered *Moby Dick* Reader,

Enclosed you will find *Moby Dick* version 2.1, which replaces earlier versions.

1. Version 2.1 restores several key characters that readers reported were missing in version 2.0, which was subsequently recalled. We have also added several new characters to version 2.1. In particular, several readers reported that the character of Harold the bookkeeper, who was intended to act as a foil for Ishmael, simply did not work. This character has been replaced by Queequeg, a South Seas savage. Further modifications should not be necessary.

2. Version 2.1 contains corrections to errors reported by readers of earlier versions, most of whom were being too picky. However, one misprint on page 127 could make it difficult for you to follow the remainder of the story. Note that it is a "gold piece" that Ahab nails to the main mast, not a "cod piece." (Also note: If, beginning in this section, your version of *Moby Dick* refers consistently to "the Great White Tuna," you have the original version, 1.0.)

3. Early readers of *Moby Dick* commented that the hardcover modification (intended to discourage unauthorized copying of the book) made it impossible to install the book into their libraries. Version 2.1 contains a modified "key-type" protection. In the enclosed envelope, you will find a key that will open your copy (and only your copy) of the book. Attempting to open the book without using your key will invalidate your readership license.

4. With this version of *Moby Dick*, we are inaugurating our telephone support service, available free of charge to all registered readers. If you have a problem while reading the novel, please refer to the *Moby Dick Technical Reference Manual* (#MD-1024), which contains answers to the most commonly asked questions and includes a complete table of literary symbols used in the book. If you still cannot resolve the difficulty, call (800) BIG-FISH. The customer service representative will ask for the serial number of your book before assisting you.

5. Finally, it has come to our attention that certain unscrupulous publishers have pirated portions of the *Moby Dick* reader interface or are producing complete *Moby Dick* "clones." The most flagrant example involves a pirate captain whose hand has been swallowed (along with an alarm clock) by a large crocodile. We are suing the publisher of this work. If you buy it, you could become a codefendant in the lawsuit. You'll also receive a visit from large men with blunt instruments.

Please complete the enclosed registration card so that we can send you information on new versions of *Moby Dick*. We will also inform you of forthcoming products, such as our state-of-the-art novel, *Ambergris*, an integrated tale of daring and intrigue in the perfume and whaling industries, to be released in the fourth quarter of 1889.

Melville Press
Seattle, Washington

I will not say how far I'll go with this series on printers, only that when NO ONE finds strategically placed ERRORS, I'll assume that either no one cares, or I've lost you all.

I must start out at the beginning. The printer is probably the most common and useful device for a computer. You can do without a disk (you could store all in memory), and you could do without modems (some of you could never imagine how), you can even do without a monitor, I've seen people do it. But to take away the printer would be akin to taking away the brush, paint, and canvass from Picasso. Almost nothing that is input to a computer from keyboard, modem, disk, or even a cassette serves a useful purpose unless a "HARDCOPY" of the redesigned, sorted, aligned, deleted, added to, or otherwise corrupted data is created. Even the act of writing the initial program that does all of the above is made easy by making a listing of that program as it develops (a frequently used aid in debugging). I know that initially, even more than a disk, I desired a PRINTER.

A printer generally is like me. It takes orders, but can only let you know if it is getting behind in it's work, is hungry, or has died (so maybe this is the only way for both of us to be missed. A printer is generally a RO, (Read Only) device. There are those with keyboards, but those are generally used as hardcopy master consoles on commercial computers so that the business will have a paper trail of all actions taken by the system manager and operators on the system. I would have a very hard time identifying system problems, if a CRT Terminal was used as a master console. The printer is generally interfaced to the CPU through either a SERIAL (RS232) or PARALLEL interface and cable. The T.I. 99/4 and /4A using a P.E.B. RS232/PIO card can drive either interface. The old T.I. interface was first the TP (we won't discuss here), and then the dual-RS232 Stand-alone. I know that a limited number of them were produced, and that some companies like CORCOMP, MYARC, BOXCAR, and others produced a variety of cards for this purpose.

The printer receives the data to print if it is READY:

- * ON-LINE and POWERed up.
- * The printer buffer (if it has one) is NOT FULL. The printer will usually print slower than data will be sent. Today's printers generally have 1K, 2K, 4K, 6K, 8K or even larger BUFFERS within themselves to allow data to flow at a faster rate to the printer than it can actually be printed. ML
- * NOT OUT OF PAPER!

The printer can only let the CPU know when it is behind in it's work, or out of paper in a serial printer hooked to the RS232 port, this is accomplished with a HARDWARE BUSY signal from the printer CTS (Clear to Send) pin 5 to DTS (Data Set Ready) pin 20 on the RS232/PIO card. In otherwords when the printer can not accept any more control or data from the CPU logic in the printer changes CTS to NOT CTS, this in turn is INPUT to the RS232/PIO card as NOT DTR, and the flow of data stops until the printer catches up (just by printing one line), having the new paper installed, or the OFF/ON LINE status changed to ON LINE (Ready). These three conditions are NORMAL and occur often even when you don't think about it.

If the printer is PIO (the most common) all of the above conditions apply, but the method is slightly different. When the printer is BUSY it OUTPUTS a signal on pin 11 (BUSY) [High at +5v.] more directly NOT GROUND to the PIO port on the RS232/PIO card pin 10 called HANDSHAKE IN. The flow of data will be stopped.

If you do not have the cable for the SERIAL or PARALLEL (PIO), printer made as it should be to control data flow, you may print a page or two but eventually characters of data or control will be lost.

Since TI didn't like convention, they made TRANSMIT on the SERIAL port, pin 3. RECEIVE must therefore be pin 2. When you hook up RS232 ports on other types of equipment, you usually have to cross pins i.e.: 2 to 3 and 3 to 2 so the mouth of one speaks to the ear of the other and visa versa. Not TI! No! pin 2 goes to pin 2 and pin 3 goes to pin 3. On the PARALLEL port to the RS232/PIO card, they did even more dirt. They chose a 16-pin connector that is so rare that God threw away the pattern. But the signals that do arrive there are acceptable to the PIO convention. The only real problem here is with STROBE (the signal that tells the printer when to look at the eight data lines for a good character), and polarity appears to be the major problem, the problem lying with a few printers, not TI. In case you didn't know it, the PARALLEL (PIO) interface sends to the printer much faster than SERIAL (RS232) because the entire 8-bit byte of data appears at the printer in one time frame, while it is spelled out one bit at a time to the printer.

As you can tell, I'm dealing with the interface cables for your printer this month. If you can't get the printer to run on your TI, then you won't be able to keep up. Below are two cable configurations that should work, and cause the flow of data between your TI and the Printer to be smooth, and complete. (Remember, there are printers that will give you trouble because of "NON-STANDARD", [whatever that is] protocol, strobe or data polarity, timing, etc.)

The SERIAL (RS232/1) cable:

	TI end	Printer end	
GROUND	7 ---	7	GROUND
REC. DATA	2 ---	2	TRANS. DATA
TRANS. DATA	3 ---	3	REC. DATA
DTR	20 ---	5	CTS

The SERIAL (RS232/2) cable:

	TI end	Printer end	
GROUND	7 ---	7	GROUND
REC. DATA	14 ---	2	TRANS. DATA
TRANS. DATA	16 ---	3	REC. DATA
DTR	19 ---	5	DTR

The PARALLEL (PIO) cable:

	TI end	The Printer end	
STROBE	1 ----	1	STROBE
DATA 0	2 ----	2	DATA 0
DATA 1	3 ----	3	DATA 1
DATA 2	4 ----	4	DATA 2
DATA 3	5 ----	5	DATA 3
DATA 4	6 ----	6	DATA 4
DATA 5	7 ----	7	DATA 5
DATA 6	8 ----	8	DATA 6
DATA 7	9 ----	9	DATA 7
READY	10 ----	11	BUSY
GROUND	16 ----	16	GROUND

(optional) ground 19 thru 30

If you can't get your printer to run with one of the cables indicated above, I can give you some suggestions, but I won't be reprinting these special cables in this series.

In PRINTERS #2 we'll start with the commands that are sent to printers to make them do what they do. This is one of the most interesting things that we'll get into in this series. This therefore will not be a hardware only series. I wanted to get into printers because this is the one peripheral that everyone of you can really make perform, and to do it takes some understanding of hardware, but even more understanding of printer commands.

PS: The Parallel interface on the TI RS232/PIO card is BI-DIRECTIONAL. This is significant for those of you who are looking for a high speed INPUT/OUTPUT port for the TI. You just have to control the reading of this PIO port. Maybe you can find something in the Editor Assembler manual on this. Why not look into it? ML

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS



August 21, 1989

Dear User Group Member:

We are updating our list of TI-99/4A user groups. Please verify your mailing address (and include a daytime telephone number for my information only) by October 16. If I do not hear from you by that date, your group will be deleted from our list.

Please advise your members that Texas Instruments has not sold home computer products since April 1, 1984. Referrals for sales should be made to third-party suppliers such as Triton (800/227-6900) and Tenex (800/348-2778) and the companies on the enclosed list.

We will continue to offer service on TI-99/4A equipment. TI-99/4A owners can contact us for flat-rate service charges or assistance by writing to the letterhead address or by calling a consumer representative at 806/747-1882.

I will look forward to hearing from you concerning your group's mailing address.

Yours truly,

/bjw
Enclosure

Lois Brock
Consumer Services

FF-06-HC-230/09

MANUFACTURERS OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS HAVE REPRESENTED THAT THEIR PRODUCTS ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE TI-99/4A. HOWEVER, TEXAS INSTRUMENTS ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE QUALITY OR COMPATIBILITY OF ANY OF THESE PRODUCTS.

Alboes Computer/Supplies
6298 Hamilton Rd.
3G Main Street Village
Columbus, GA 31909
404/327-4900

(Does not ship internationally)

Hunter Electronics
4 N. 370 Pine Grove
Elmhurst, IL 60126
312/832-6558

(System Check-By appointment only)
(Does ship internationally)

Learn-A-Bit About Computers
East Wind Mall
129 Phelps Avenue
Rockford, IL 61108
815/229-9200

(Does ship internationally)

Pilgrim's Pride
5 Williams Lane
Hatboro, PA 19040
215/441-4262

(Does ship internation-
ally)

Joy Electronics
P.O. Box 542526
Dallas, TX 75354
(US) 800/527-7438
(TX) 800/442-3892
214/243-5371

(Does ship internation-
ally)

THE INCREDIBLE SOFTWARE

TI SORT

Imagine the Incredible. The ability to sort an unlimited amount of data, stored in virtually any type of file, in record time. Imagination just became reality, the Incredible is TI Sort.

Based on the "Quick Sort" method developed by C.A.R. Hoare, TI Sort is the only universal sorting utility available for the TI-99/4A. Its fast, powerful, and easy-to-use TI Sort can handle an unlimited amount of data (records), stored in almost any file format. TI Base files, delimited files, fixed length files, and Basic or Extended Basic files - TI Sort does them all!

Sample Time Trial

Program	Device		
	RAM	RAMDisk	Hard Disk
TI Sort	8:38	1:38	2:20
TI Base	3:47:26	13:26	13:47

Sort Type: 2 field nested sort. (TI Sort can sort up to 8 fields)
 File Type: Standard TI Base file
 File Size: 843 records, 80 characters per record in five fields.
 Equipment Used: Standard TI-99/4A console attached to a peripheral expansion box containing a Myarc hard/floppy controller, two 5 1/4 DS/DD floppy drives, 20 megabyte hard disk, and a Myarc 512K memory expansion card.

The table speaks for itself - no hype, no outrageous claims. There is no faster. Period.

TI Sort - The Incredible SOFTWARE - Only \$14.95

TI Sort requires a disk system, 32K memory expansion, and either an Extended Basic, Editor/Assembler, or Mini Memory cartridge. TI Sort is fully compatible with all storage devices and the Geneve 8840 (in GPL mode).

TI BASE

MICROdex

FOR TI BASE

With its overwhelming file handling capabilities, extensive command programming language, and unmatched information processing facilities, TI Base is the most advanced and flexible database management system available for the TI-99/4A.

- File Handling: supports up to 5 active databases of 18129 records, with 17 fields per record, and 255 characters per field.
- Command Language: powerful procedural language consisting of 45 commands similar to those used by Ashton-Tate in dBASE.
- Unmatched Features: full database and record manipulation, formatted display and print capabilities, math functions, sort, global record processing, disk management, 40 column editor, plus more!

TI Base Complete - Only \$24.95

MICROdex is a fast, easy-to-use, publication indexing system that places an enormous amount of information at your fingertips. Any article, program review, or editorial that has appeared in many TI-related publications can be quickly located by subject, source, or type. Menu-driven TI Base command files are included with each MICROdex that allow you to access the information stored in the publication databases.

MICROdex Volume I, a four disk set, indexes information from MICROpendium, Computer Magazine, 99er Magazine, and HCM. Only \$14.95

MICROdex Volume II, a two disk set, indexes Byte, Computer Shopper, Creative Computing, Enthusiast 99, Family Computing, Mini Mag 99, Popular Computing, R/D Tech News, Super 99 Monthly, and The Smart Programmer. Only \$9.95

Order both Volumes I and II for only \$22.95!

TEXAMENTS

Office: (516)475-3480 53 Center Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 BBS: (516)475-6463
 Please add \$2.00 for domestic first class and Canadian delivery, \$8.00 for foreign insured air mail delivery. Sorry, no credit card orders will be accepted. C.O.D. orders are accepted, and must be placed by phone. Orders are usually shipped within 48 hours.

SUPER EXTENDED BASIC OWNERS!
 Have four modules in one with:

MULTI-MOD

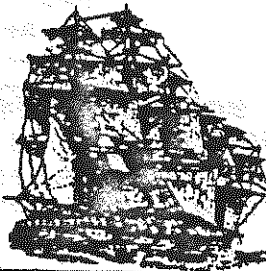
The MULTI-MOD is a plug-in upgrade for owners of Triton's Super Extended BASIC module that gives you SER, Editor/Assembler, Disk Manager III, and TI-Writer ALL IN THE SAME MODULE! It may be the only module you'll ever need!

The price of the upgrade kit is \$22.95 and includes a manual and disk with the Editor/Assembler and TI-Writer support files. A free brochure is available on request from:

John P. Guion
 P.O. Box 4628
 Lubbock, Texas 79409

Also ask about TI RS232 and Disk Controller upgrade kits.

(Super Extended BASIC is a trademark of Triton Products Company)



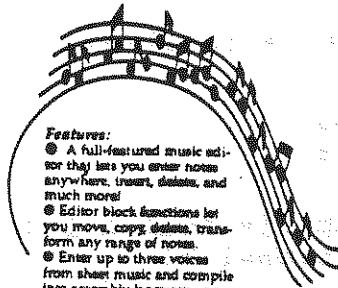
Disk Of Pyrates

Ahoy Maties!

Yo ho ho and a Bottle of Rum! The Captain wants it known, maties, that Disk of Pirates was just a taste of Mr. Giliardi's fertile imagination. He has now made available a package that gives you a little bit of an idea of the life and times of the pyrates of old. Disk of Pirates is indeed a masterpiece. It is four disks full of pirate artwork, pirate fonts, pirate history, pirate games, pirate animation and even a pirate sing-along! If you always wanted to know more of the exploits of Black Bart, Blackbeard, and the others that sailed the Spanish Main for booty and blood, then this disk is for you. It can't rightly be called just a graphics package because you will learn much about the buccanniers that terrorized the Spanish and later crews to merchantman and Naval ship alike. It can't be called a history lesson because the beautiful hand-drawn graphics will lend use in your own pyratical works, as well as in calendars and reports. Finally, it can't be called a game even though it is more fun than the law should allow. Even a scurvy dog will realize that it is like nothing else for the TI-99/4A! Disk of Pirates requires a TI-99/4A with 32K, a disk system and Extended BASIC. TI-Artist is recommended, but not required. A TI or Corcomp disk controller is required to view the pirate animation. At \$14.95, the great value of this package will warm the heart of even the hardest sea.

Asgard Software
 Box 10306, Rockville, MD 20850

Music Pro



Features:

- A full-featured music editor that lets you enter notes anywhere, insert, delete, and much more!
- Editor block functions let you move, copy, delete, transform any range of notes.
- Enter up to three voices from sheet music and compile into assembly language - no need to make all notes the same duration between voices! Great for musicians!
- Print out sheet music on Epson or compatible printer.
- Transpose octaves.
- Easily save/load music.
- Compiled music can be run independent of program in Extended BASIC.

Music Pro is an amazing MUSIC PROCESSOR for the TI-99/4A that makes creating music on the 99/4A as simple as typing in sheet music! By David Caron and Lucie Dorais of the Ottawa TI-99/4A Users Group, Music Pro allows you to type music directly on a staff - one voice at a time. While editing you can delete, insert, move, copy and even transform and transpose single or whole blocks of notes at a time. Enter up to 400 notes for a single voice. Later, after entering all the voices you can compile them into an assembly language file. Music Pro automatically takes care of time differences between the voices - you just concentrate on entering the music and Music Pro takes care of the rest! Compiled music can be run from the program or used by itself for games or music programs. Even print out sheet music on an Epson or compatible printer! Requires 32K, Extended BASIC, Disk. For the TI-99/4A only.

Suggested Retail:
\$17.95
 U.S./Canada - Please add \$1.00 S&H
 Other - Please add \$4.00 Airmail

Asgard Software
 P.O. Box 10306
 Rockville, MD 20850
 (703)255-3085

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Today I recieved word from Gary Taylor that JOHN GUION had passed away. He was involved in a headon auto accident on his way home from college Friday evening. I know that many of you knew him personally and others, like myself, knew him only from some brief telephone conversations. I know that all of us will miss him as family, friend, as casual acquaintance, and certainly within the TI community.

John was a youngster, but one of the brightest young people in the computer world. He designed and perfected the P-GRAM card, the MULTI-MOD, and other hardware items that have become well known and widely used. His untimely death, will leave a void in all our lives.

To his family I wish to express our sympathy here in Western Pennsylvania, and I know that this feeling will be expressed by the rest of us who know or know of John through his work with TI. He will be remembered by many everytime they use one of his creations.

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DEMONSTRATION of the AVPC Card.....
RAY WALLACE of the Pittsburgh Users Group will be demonstrating the AVPC Card on Sunday September 17, 1989 at the regular P.U.G. meeting. The meetings are held at the South Campus of the Allegheny Community College at 6:00 P.M. behind the Century III Mall. This card is one that many have wanted to know more about, but were afraid to spend the money to get. If you've wanted 80-columns, mouse, and digitizing capabilities, then maybe you better set aside this Sunday evening, com to the P.U.G. meeting for a demonstration of this great card!

MOLECULAR CPM SYSTEM FOR SALE, BEST OFFER.....
10 meg. hard drive, with tape backup, 1 Molecular CRT, 2 OKIDATA printers (83A, and 93), 1 printer stand, 2 Quite Boxes, 2 Crossover Boxes. Call (412) 527-6656 after 8 P.M. E.S.T., or write: John Willforth, R.D.#1 Box 73A, Jeannette, PA.

ZENO BOARD (Internal Board) IS HERE.....
I've assembled one, the hard way, with no instructions! The board will a great addition to anyone who gets one from Eric Zeno. Rough guesses on assembling this board relating to a feature are as follows:

- * 32K single-chip w/deselecting switch if needed.....2.0 Hours
- * Extended Basic using chips from old XB cart. w/selecting switch...5.0 Hours
- * Extended Basic using new chips from TI, w/selecting switch.....3.5 Hours
- * Speech Synthesizer using old speech chips, w/deselect switch.....4.0 Hours
- * Clock circuit w/deselect switch.....2.0 Hours
- * Up to 3-sets of socketed GROMS (E/A, PLATO, etc)w/selecting sw...0.2 Hours

Works Great and lasts a long time! I checked T.I. stock on the XBASIC ROMs and GROMS, and was told that they are all still available for \$31.50 + S/H. and the Editor Assembler chip is still \$3.60, so for about \$25. for the 32K chip, \$32. for XBASIC chips, and \$4. for E/A and \$20. for Eric's board, your set to get rid of console lock-ups, have a reliable 32K, and have a carrier for your speech. See August newsletter for ordering instructions.

WEST PENN 99'ERS

% JOHN F. WILLFORTH
R.D. #1 BOX 73A
JEANNETTE, PA
15644



ISSUE NUMBER 9
SEPTEMBER-1989

MICKEY SCHMITT
196 BROADWAY AVE.
LOWER BURRELL PA 15068

WE WILL MISS JOHN GUION!