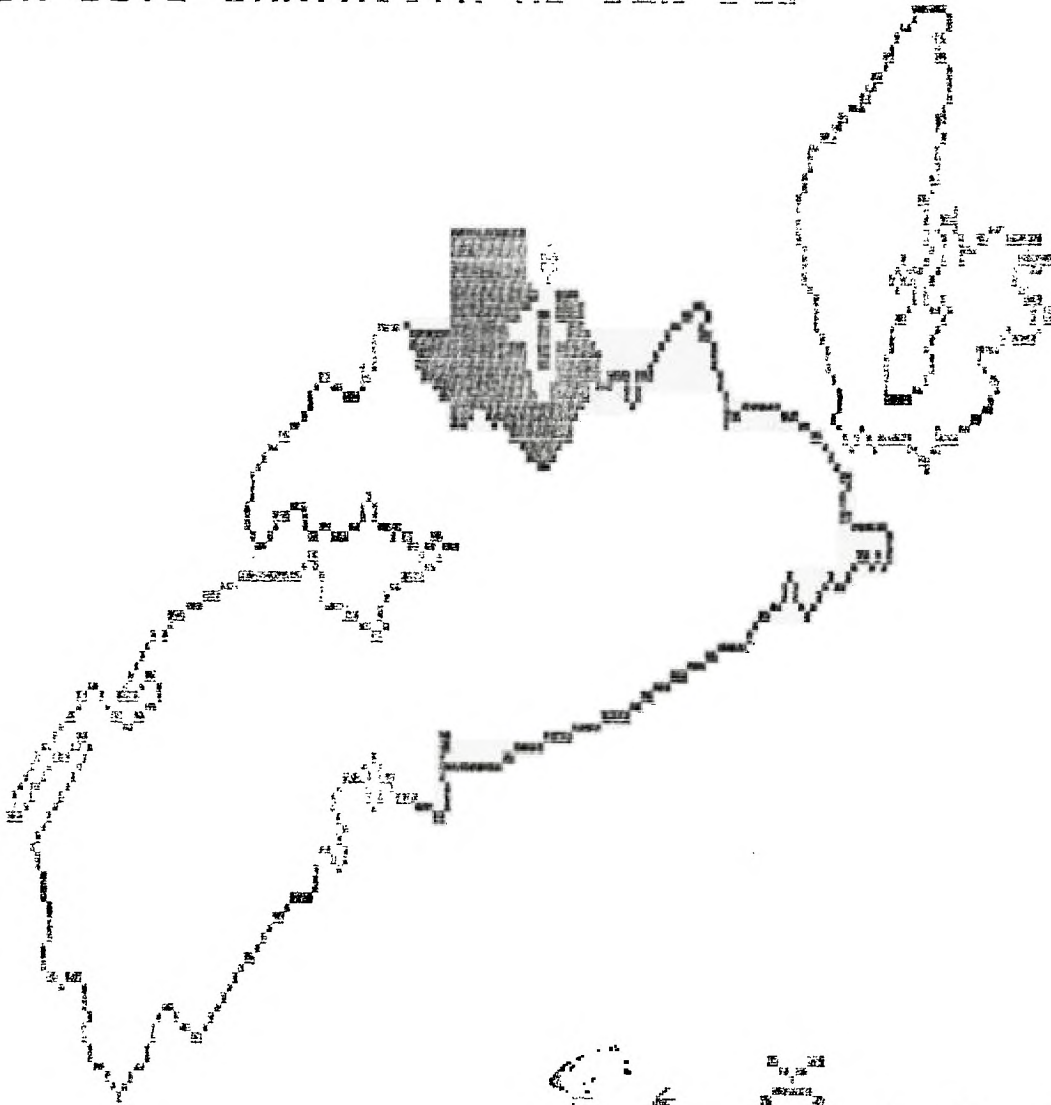


SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

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TINS Newsletter

TINS Newsletter is published on a monthly basis as the means of communicating ideas obtained from solicited sources to the general membership. Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the membership at large.

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The Newsletter is on sale to members for \$1.00 per copy, non-members \$1.50. The price of each issue is solely to defray publication costs and does not represent profit. Prices for annual subscription are \$18.00.

Back issues of the Newsletter are available on written request from the editor, at \$1 per issue. "The Best of TINS" on disk is available at \$3.00 per disk, see content listing in this issue. [pg 10]

Queries, submissions, etc. are to be mailed to:

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Universal Module

Compliments of TIBBS

A powerful static ram module: 48K RAM 8K ROM

MAXIMEM

This module works on both the TI99/4 and TI99/4A and expands the memory to 96K RAM.

MAXIMEM gives you:

- ability to dump any module to disk
- ability to run any module dumped to disk
- works from computers power supply...no extra power supply required

-2 sections of 48K RAM: 32K GRAM 16K RAM (added to the 16K VDP RAM standard 32K RAM expansion card). The result is a full 96K RAM available to the user.

-starts automatically thanks to an 8K GROM that displays choices:

1-TI BASIC: unchanged

2-MAXIMEM: offers catalog of modules contained on disk.

3-EDITOR-ASSEMBLER: an improved TI Editor Assembler.

-stays plugged into the consol. No further module needed.

-holds data even after "quit" is typed.

-load many modules giving following choices:

(-or-)

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. EDITOR-ASSEMBLER | 1. TI-WRITER |
| 2. EXTENDED BASIC | 2. PRINCESS & THE FROG |
| 3. ZERO ZAP | 3. EDITOR-ASSEMBLER |
| | 4. CONNECT FOUR or |

- and so on -

Dimensions: like Wiggitt

Material Required: computer, disk drive, 32K.

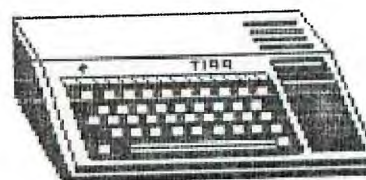
Price: Just \$199 (CDN). Add postage/insurance.

Allow one month for delivery.

Contact: GUY GOURNAY, 146178 CAN INC, 933 Delorimier, Longueuil, PQ J4K 3K8 or phone 514-651-7280 for further information.

Footnote:

This hardware is very similar to the Craig Miller's GRAM CRACKER, and is much cheaper....and CANADIAN!! Incidentally, it was also produced BEFORE Craig's unit, and not a copy of it!



Teleconferencing Is For Everyone

by Paul Meadows

After having to steer a few new members, not to mention my own fumbling, through the teleconference section of TIMELINE, I thought that a TUG message to the novice might be in order.

First of all, don't feel that you are lost in the system when you first enter TCON and are confronted by the section introduction and then an otherwise blank look from your monitor. The instructions contained in the user manual are designed to include something for everyone, from the businessman to the hacker. What they don't do, however, is give the comprehensive overview that is usually desired by the new subscriber.

In this article I will attempt to reiterate some of the facts and embellish them with some practical experience. I'm sure that SYSDP will fill in any omissions or oversights.

At the outset, lets forget about private teleconferencing with its passwords and specific names. The new subscriber will be more interested in "how do I talk to all of those guys I saw in the WHO command listing". Lets join TCON from the main prompt, which is the greater than sign, of course (>).).

Enter the command "TCON". You will be given a system description along with some helpful information. Towards the end of this banner you will notice that a statement indicated whether or not your HELP function is switched on or off. To aid in familiarizing yourself with the system, switch it on if it is in the off position. This is accomplished by entering ".HELP ON".

Now you are at the point of entering a teleconferencing experience with the other users on line. You should be in the RECEIVE mode when you enter the section, so you can just sit there and watch the conversation. If you feel you are ready to jump in and put your two cents worth forward, then you must let the system know that you want to go into the TRANSMIT mode. This is accomplished by depressing the RETURN or ENTER key.

At this point the system will respond with the TRANSMIT mode cursor, which is the letter T along with a greater than sign, (T)). You will not receive messages from other TCON users while in the transmit mode, you may, however receive messages from other users that have selected the COMM feature. You may now enter a line, or several lines, of text for transmission to the other users. Use personal IDs if you wish the data to be directed to a particular user. When you have completed the line, or lines, press enter (or return) and the data will be transmitted. You will still be in the transmit mode. Another transmit mode cursor will appear. You may then compose the next line, or lines that you wish to send. If you have completed your message, simply press the RETURN/ENTER key on a line that contains the

special cursor only. As long as there is text on line, another transmit mode cursor will appear after your RETURN/ENTER key. Remember to press ENTER/RETURN immediately following the cursor in order to revert to the receive mode.

Exiting the teleconference feature is accomplished in the same manner as you are used to with the other features of TIMELINE. On a special cursor prompt, enter the standard ".E" command. You will be immediately returned to the main system.

Armed with this information, you can toggle back and forth between the transmit and the receive mode with the facility of an expert. This type of teleconferencing is referred to as the OPEN type. Anyone who joins the TCON section of the system will be able to read and respond to the messages appearing there. Paralleling this feature is another feature that is referred to as the PRIVATE TCON.

Since it is not expected that many individual users would have a pressing need for privacy in teleconferencing, we will put off describing this part of the system until later.

If you have any other difficulties with this feature of TIMELINE, please feel free to use the OFFICE command to forward an information request to the system managers. They are just waiting to make things easier for you.

One note in closing, an afterthought. If you are in the TCON mode and chatting away with the world, please don't feel slighted if someone disappears on you while you are composing a message. Most users will check-out by message, however there are times when people just can't stick around and wait. Both financial and personal considerations may preclude a person spending more time in the feature. To improve things, as only user can, keep things brief, to the point, and relevant as you can. Pick some form of punctuation place at the end of your lines that will give the receiving people the cue to answer or wait for more info. I would like to suggest that the greater-than sign be used to indicate that you have completed your message, while any other punctuation, or absence of it would indicate that there is more to follow. e.g.

T) Hi Jonn, Thanks for the message about the new equipment) (")"= end of message)

Please address any comments to my ID. I would like to see if the info is helpful at all, and would like to know what other areas could be explained better. Don't forget to pass comments to OFFICE also.

SQUAWKING

Local Bulletin Boards

In order of accessibility. On-line hours (per week) in lower right corner. IE. 99

NAME	SysOp	PHONE
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TIBBS	Terry Atkinson	434-3121
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24 Hours.		
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Filetransfers for TI only.		168
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HUBBARDS BBS	Bruce Hall	857-9843
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24 Hrs.		HUBBARDS NS
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Online game.		168
--------------	--	-----

Wee Com	Les Croxon	435-1495
---------	------------	----------

24 Hours.		
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Notes: nominal charge		
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Details for subscribing are on board.		
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8/1/none (bit/stop/parity)		168
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FIDO	Dymaxion	429-6252
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24 Hrs.		
---------	--	--

Xmodem transfers.		168
-------------------	--	-----

CFS MILL COVE	Les Messenger	857-3145
---------------	---------------	----------

24 hours. Offline	2300 daily.	161
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CUBBS	John Wilkins	434-9229
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	Claire Farrell	
--	----------------	--

Closed Sat	Sun 7am-6pm.	146
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BABEL BBS	Francis Morley	469-9123
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	Arthur Davis	
--	--------------	--

Mon-Fri: 9pm-5pm		
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Sat-Sun: 11pm-12noon		
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Punter filetrans.		126
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KBBS(Fido)	Steve Sutherland	425-1541
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hours: Mon to Thu - 5:30pm to 10am		
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Fri - 9:00pm to 10am		
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Sat from 3pm till Mon 10am.		
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8/1/none.		122
-----------	--	-----

HAL BBS	Gordon Watson	826-7726
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Hours: 24hrs daily EXCEPT Tue Thu.		
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Filetran for C-64: 8/1/none.		120
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CBBS	Sean Hansen/Derek Noble	454-8344
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BASIC COMPUTER SALES		
----------------------	--	--

Hours: 5:30pm to 8:30am.		
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If the phone rings more than twice, some		
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one is on-line. Phone back later.		114
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SMORGAS BOARD	Tim Parker	423-3896
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Mon-Sat 3am to 4:30am. Offline Sundays.		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

C-64 based.		81
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RAINBOARD	Peter Allan	434-5278
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After 9:30 PM Sector Software.		74
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MADKY BBS	Harold Durnford	425-1087
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Hours: Sun-Mon-Wed-Fri: 7PM-7AM		48
---------------------------------	--	----

DCC BBS	Kevin Davies	453-4079
---------	--------------	----------

hours: weekdays: 8-11PM		
-------------------------	--	--

Sat : 3-6 PM:8-11PM		
---------------------	--	--

Sun : 2-6 PM:6-10PM		27
---------------------	--	----

FM BBS	Arien Carlson	434-9774
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TUE: 11:00PM-7:00AM		
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WED: 7:00PM-9:30PM		
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THU: 11:00PM-7:00AM		
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SAT: 9:30AM-11:59AM(NODN)		21
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OTHER AREA BBS'S

In order nearest to Hal/Dart.

PICTOU BBS	Graham Warrington	1-752-5761
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C-64 based. Hours: after 6PM.		
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FREDERICTON	Jerry ?	1-506-357-9650
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FREDERICTON	Maritime	1-506-454-8291
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	Towne Crier	
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24 hours 7/E/1. 300/1200. TRS80-III		
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The BIG DataBases

In no particular order.

DATAPAC information svc.		477-2000
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Dial up, when carrier connected, enter a		
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". "(CR) for 300bps svc. After datapac		
----------------------------------------	--	--

sign-on msg, type address 92100086, or		
----------------------------------------	--	--

92100086,B (french) or 92100086,A		
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Non-local callers call 1-800-563-0264		
---------------------------------------	--	--

for toll-free calls to DataPac.		
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DELPHI		477-2000
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Access Datapac. Use address as follows:		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

P 13106,DELPHI		
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Password: SHOPPER. Charge card required.		
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This database similar to CIS STC.		
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TIMELINE (via DataPac-Canadian)		477-2000
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Access datapac. Use address as follows:		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

5620 0069, TUG884 and follow prompts.		
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Subscription costs \$15.00 (one-time) and		
-------------------------------------------	--	--

7cents/min 300 or 10cents/min 1200.		
-------------------------------------	--	--

COMPUERVE (CIS)-via DataPac		477-2000
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Access datapac. Use address 13106,CIS02.		
------------------------------------------	--	--

or 25402138. You will not see what you		
----------------------------------------	--	--

type unless you type SET 2:1 as soon as		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

you get into DP. Once hooked into CIS,		
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you will see what you type, at any rate.		
------------------------------------------	--	--

SOURCE (STC)-via DataPac		477-2000
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Access datapac. Use address P 1 31103010		
------------------------------------------	--	--

0158 or 0159. Same notes apply as above.		
------------------------------------------	--	--

TELENET information svc.		477-2000
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Enter datapac address. Type the address:		
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1 3110 2000 0141.		
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Name=INTL/ASSOCIATES. PW=INTL		
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TYMNET information svc.		477-2000
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Enter datapac address SET 2:1 13106.		
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Use half/duplex. At the datapac connect		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

msg, type: INFORMATION. Follow PROMPTS.		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

ENVOY information svc.		477-2000
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Datapac address 39400100 or 79400100.		
---------------------------------------	--	--

PW=ENVOY.INFO, TRAINER or ENVOYPOST.INFO		
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At next prompt type: AAAAAA - six A'S.		
----------------------------------------	--	--

AUTONET Information Directory		477-2000
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Using half/duplex, enter DataPac address		
------------------------------------------	--	--

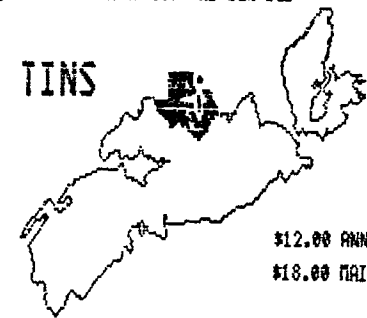
P 29400094 (CR). Wait for response then		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

enter (CR) (CR). Wait for response and		
----------------------------------------	--	--

type C ADPNS (CR). Account # 1300-7777.		
-----------------------------------------	--	--

Password is AID. HELP file is available.		
------------------------------------------	--	--

TEXAS INFO TINS
USERS GROUP
BOX 3391 DARTMOUTH NS B2H 5G3



TINS

\$12.00 ANNUAL
\$18.00 MAIL

JOIN US

Chicago TI Fair

Information and History

The first TI Fair was held in 1983, coincidentally approximately two weeks after Texas Instruments announced that it was ceasing production of the 99/4A. It was sponsored by the Chicago TI User's Group both as an expression of enthusiasm for the machine as well as to provide a national gathering of 99/4A users. Despite TI's announcement, the 14 vendors in attendance were quickly and literally stripped of most software and hardware, leading to plans for this to become an annual event.

The second Fair featured 21 vendors and a keynote speech by Don Bynum, former head of TI's Home Computer Division, and was attended by over 1,500 TI users from all over the country. The never-released TI-99/8 made one of its only public showings at this Fair, and the entire event was written up in MICROpendium magazine in December of that year.

As of this writing (21/9/85), 16 vendors have already committed to the 3rd Fair. They are:

Hunter Electronics, C J Drives, Corporate Disk Company, Tomouterware, Data Systems, MicroFormat, Asgard Software, Bytemaster Computer Services, Competition Computer Products, Databiotics, J/D Limited, Great Lakes Software, Myarc, Inc., TI Forum-Compuserve, Thompson Software, Miller's Graphics.

As at last year's Fair, there will also be an arcade game contest, and several door prize drawings. The speakers for this year are: Mike Amundsen- THE SOURCE, Lou Phillips- Myarc Inc., Craig Miller- Miller's Graphics.

The Fair will be held at Triton Jr. College in River Grove, IL on Saturday, 11/2/85, 9AM to 5PM. General admission is \$2.00, only \$1.00 to card-carrying members of other organized TI User Groups. Triton Jr. College is approximately 10 miles west of downtown Chicago, three miles north of I-290 (the Eisenhower Expressway) from the 1st Avenue exit.

Vendors take note: the Chicago group is doing a direct mailing, thanks to information supplied us by Texas Instruments, to literally thousands of Chicago-area 99/4A Users, announcing the Fair. As of this moment some booth space is available, but over 100 TI vendors have been contacted, and we are far ahead of last year's pace for booth sales. We are a not-for-profit TI User's Group, and booths are priced accordingly, but act soon by contacting us at the address below. .CE 3

Chicago TI-99/4A User's Group
P.O. Box 578341
Chicago, IL 60657

(NOTE: late notice: I have it on good authority that the new computer will be present at the show. What an excellent opportunity to announce the beast...especially since Lou Phillips will be there as a guest speaker!).

Getting More Forth

by Barry Comer

Have you had the chance to wander into the world FORTH but don't know how to get more screens on your disks? This procedure has been written for TI Forth, not for Wycove Forth. Well, it's not as hard as TI Forth by any means.

The following procedure will give you the ability set up as many screens on your disks as they can hold. This will also enable you to take advantage of the extra storage space that you have if you are running different drives along with the new disk controllers on the market, or running double sided with the TI controller.

You must remember that each screen takes up 4 sectors, so to find out how many screens that your disk can hold just divide the number of free sectors by 4. You must leave space for the Forth system, if you want it on the disk, and the loader (for XBasic). I usually have about 95 sectors free for the Forth system. A SAVE-SYSTEM command on a system that has it's dictionary almost filled will take upwards of 50 sectors. The loader will take 3 sectors.

Now you will have to define a word to be executed whenever the system is first booted. Wycove Forth stores the number of screens that are on the disk at memory location -13860. What you want to do is place a value into this location at bootup.

The following procedure will do just that: 1. Take a newly initialized disk. See how many free sectors there are, usually 360=SSSD, 720=SSDD, DSDD and 1440=DSDD.

2. If you are going to have the Forth system on the disk you should leave at least 95 sectors free for the SAVE-SYSTEM routine. Subtract 95 from the number of free sectors.

3. Load a fresh version of Wycove Forth into the machine, preferably from the master disk that you received when you bought the system.

4. Define a new word as: ": START xx -13860 ! ;"
where xx stands for the number of screens you want

5. Now you will want this word to be executed whenever the system is booted up. To do this, place the address of the START word into the START-UP! word, as follows: ' START CFA START-UP !

6. Now you must save this set-up to the disk. Enter SAVE-SYSTEM and you are all set to go. When you boot up your new Forth system you will have access to the extra screens.

If you are going to carry out this procedure on the master disk, the one you bought, it is advisable to make a copy of it and test out this routine on the copy.

That's it for this edition. I hope this will be helpful to you, who are still trying to sort out the whole Forth language. Next month I hope to have some more information for you about Forth.

Book Look

A review by Barry Traver

When one publisher comes out with nine titles specifically for the TI-99/4A and most of them are of good quality, that ought to be news! Yet COMPUTE! Publications has done just that, even though many people seem to be unaware of it.

Perhaps the problem is due to the fact that many bookstores do not carry many titles for the TI. In our area, for example, a local E. Dalton bookstore carries about twenty times as many books for the Commodore as for the TI, even though the TI Users Group has the third largest membership in the Philadelphia Area Computer Society, having more members than the Commodore, Atari, and Radio Shack groups combined.

If your bookstore does not carry these titles, you will be glad to hear that you can order them directly from COMPUTE! either through their toll-free number (800/334-0868; 919/275-9828 in NC) or through writing to them at COMPUTE! Books, P.O. Box 5406, Greensboro, NC 27403.

"In microcomputer book publishing, one can usually identify the book that forces a quantum leap forward in the quality of offerings within a particular area. In the case of home applications, we believe that [Christopher] Flynn's COMPUTE!'S GUIDE TO EXTENDED BASIC HOME APPLICATIONS ON THE TI-99/4A is such a work." So say Michael Nicita and Ronald Petruska in their READER'S GUIDE TO MICROCOMPUTER BOOKS, a guide that gives praise only where truly merited.

Included in Flynn's book are data file management utilities, bar graph programs, an electronic card file, an appointment calendar, and two(!) electronic spreadsheets, all for the price of \$12.95! (In fact, the price of each book is \$12.95 unless I indicate otherwise.) And -- as Nicita and Petruska note -- "Flynn's applications software always permit the user to save data on either tape or disk," maximizing its usefulness.

I'm currently teaching an assembly language class for beginners, using COMPUTE!'S BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE ON THE TI-99/4A by Peter M.L. Lottrup, a book I regard as superior to McComie, Molesworth, or Morley for that purpose. Lottrup's book is exceptionally clearly written and includes lots of short but useful program examples. Although the book is oriented toward the Mini-Memory module, the basic ideas can be applied (as we are doing) to the Editor/Assembler as well.

COMPUTE! has also published several books of games for the TI. Among them is one that is a distinct disappointment, CREATING ARCADE GAMES ON THE TI-99/4A by Seth McEvoy. Although the book contains "eight complete games," only one of them is in Extended BASIC. Arcade games in TI BASIC? "Some incredibly amateurish software" (Nikita Petruska again) is the result of McEvoy's

attempt.

A much better buy and a much better book is COMPUTE!'S FIRST BOOK OF TI GAMES edited by C. Regena, which includes 22 games in TI BASIC and 7 games in Extended BASIC, including Doug Hapeman's "Mystery Spell," a very professional, non-violent "Hangman"-type game that is in itself worth the price of the book. Also very professional in appearance is Rick Rothstein's "Mosaic Puzzle."

Even though all of its programs are in TI BASIC, TI GAMES FOR KIDS by Robert P. Ingalls is an excellent book. The "thirty-two" games are really well-thought-out educational programs as well as being lots of fun to run. There are games for all ages -- from 3 to 17 -- and for all areas, including coordination, language arts, logic, memory, mathematics, social studies, and strategy.

C. Regena's PROGRAMMER'S REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE TI-99/4A is, unfortunately, a book that does not live up to its title (as Regena herself may admit). The programs included are for the most part undistinguished (with a few exceptions, like the "Coordinate Geometry" tutorial and her popular "Cookie File"), and one would have expected better of the acknowledged "Queen" of TI BASIC programming. Compared with many books for the TI, I suppose that this book wouldn't do poorly, but it falls far short of the quality of many of the other COMPUTE! titles. (The price for this one is \$14.95.)

Brian Flynn's 33 PROGRAMS FOR THE TI-99/4A -- although it contains a few games, including a version of "Chomp" called "Vanilla Cookie" -- is primarily concerned with mathematically-oriented programs, including money management and business programs, curve-fitting routines, matrix manipulations, statistics, and numerical analysis. All 33 programs require Extended BASIC.

Raymond J. Herold's COMPUTE!'S GUIDE TO TI-99/4A SOUND AND GRAPHICS is a fairly good guide to sound, graphics, and speech synthesis in Extended BASIC on the TI-99/4A, including coverage not only of Extended BASIC but also even of TI's text-to-speech diskette! Of the games, I especially liked "Alphabet Invasion" and "Slot Machine."

COMPUTE!'S TI COLLECTION: VOLUME ONE is a worthwhile collection of "over 30 TI-99/4A games, applications, utilities, and tutorials -- most never before published." Here again is an excellent buy: a word processor, a data base management system, an electronic spreadsheet, several games, helpful programming tricks (like how to transfer variables from one program to another), and a super graphics program called "SuperFont," which is much more than a character editor. Many or most of the programs are in Extended BASIC.

Incidentally, programs specifically for the TI-99/4A are also to be found in other COMPUTE! titles, including C. Regena's BASIC PROGRAMS FOR SMALL COMPUTERS and Fred D'Ignazio's COMPUTE!'S COMPUTING TOGETHER, something for which we may be thankful as well.

Although the TI coverage in COMPUTE! magazine has been sparse or of low quality at times, there is no other publisher that I know of who has so consistently supported quality book titles specifically for the TI-99/4A. I speak not on the basis of cursory inspection of the book or reading of publisher's blurbs, but as a result of typing in all of the programs in many of the COMPUTE! books. I hope that COMPUTE! will continue to support the TI-99/4A (and that TI-99/4A owners will also support COMPUTE! in their selection of books for the TI!).

Double Sided MasterDisk File

by Larry Wilson

For those of you with double sided drives and MASTERDISK FILE by Extended Software. The following modifications will allow the program to hold upto 250 disks and 3000 programmes.

1. Place "XDF" onto a double sided disk
 2. Load the program named AD
 3. Call up line 540 and change the "IF DT(121)" to "IF DT(251)"
 - 2 4. Call up line 550 and change the "IF PF(1100)" to "IF PF(3000)"
 5. Saved this revised program back to disk as AD.
- You now have a double sided MDF.

You may Download the converted lines from TIBBS DARTMOUTH in the download section under filename MDF-FIX. You will receive the file in a MERGE FORMAT so that you can merge it into your existing AD file. Check your's out first, to ensure it has not been resequenced.

Here are the altered lines, for verification of your work, if you can't download them from TIBBS.

```
540 IF DT(251) THEN IF DEL=0 THEN 1140 ELSE DT=DT+0 ::
DP%=SEG$(DP$,0,V)&CHR$(DT)&SEG$(DP$,Y+0,254):: DISPLAY
AT(20,15):DT ELSE PRINT "250 DISKS - MAXIMUM REACHED 0"
:: GOTO 210
```

```
550 IF PF(3000) THEN PRINT "3000 PROGRAM MAXIMUM
REACHED" :: GOTO 210
```

GRAPHX ≠ OKIDATA 82

One of the best graphics
programmes is inaccessible to me!

HELP!!

Need a routine, or version of
the much floundered GRAPHX. That
will allow me to dump the screens
to an OKIDATA 82 with OKIGRAPH 1

Editor TINS
321 Irony Hill
DARTMOUTH, NS B4E 1M6

PTERM 99

A Review by Tom Kennedy

There has been quite some comparison lately of the many Terminal Emulator programs for the TI, and I am going to talk about PTERM 99, written and copyrighted by D. Richard Bryant.

In order to understand the variety of emulators, let's first take a look at Terminal Emulator II (TEII) as an example. Everyone is either using or has used TEII at one time or another. TEII allows you to link your computer to any system, and provides two methods of transferring data between computers. It is these very transfer methods that initially cause most to look for "Something More". TEII's file transfer protocols differ from all others, allowing communication only between the TI-similar machines. The text-capture method (reading and dumping) only allows a tiresome screen-by-screen dump, which is prone to a few "missed lines", and does not provide for the option of sending text (ASCII) files.

PTERM is a disk-based emulator, which has a few added features to make its use much easier.

1) While PTERM does not support any file-transfer protocols yet, it does have a 24K text buffer, which allows you to read lengthy text files and then dump the contents of the buffer to either a disk or printer. A full buffer is about 110 sectors of disk space.

2) This same buffer can be used to send text files by loading the data from a disk, then sending it out either one line at a time, or all at once. This feature is commonly used to compose a message offline, then to log on and quickly send the data as a whole.

3) An automatic 40/80 column ability that captures data in the same format as it is sent, "wrapping" anything over 40 columns to the next line for display purposes only. This saves having to remember to switch a "word wrap" function on or off, since data displayed will be dumped exactly as it is recieved.

4) A Print-Spooling option, which sends every line of data to the printer, as it is recieved or sent. This is used to capture small blocks of data without disturbing the total contents of the buffer, or interrupting transmission to wait while the buffer is dumped to a slow printer.

I find PTERM to be easy to use and operate the program, with auto-load from EXB and default parameter selections. There are also a minimum of FCTN/CTRL keys to learn, which makes it easy to jump right in and become comfortable to use.

A few minor points I like: PTERM has a very "comfortable" character set, but then I am one of the few who actually prefer the "Small-Cap" lowercase set of TI-Writer. Also, a default screen color combo, with FCTN key switching option, since I am also one of the few who hates the White-on-Dark-Blue, and prefer Black-on-Grey (or Black-on-Cyan with the color turned

down on my monitor). These defaults make the program comfortable to use, without needing to decipher A/L source code for such changes.

To get PTERM-99, send an initialized disk and \$14 to:

C. Richard Bryant

417 E Alpine ST

Altamonte Springs, FLA 32701

Dont forget to give your default options:

- 1) Printer Device Name (PIO, RS232, ETC)
- 2) Terminal Parameters (the defaults of TEII are fine)
- 3) Text/Screen color preferences

Note: For those who are hooked on the FAST-TERM programme, a word of warning. The FAST-TERM will not unload ASCII files properly to any database that uses DATAPAC. You need PTERM to accomplish this satisfactorily. Operating with both in your library, you will have little trouble. Ed.

RAMGRAM THINGY

Update

Terry Atkinson

I just received the latest copy of MILLERS GRAPHICS SMART PROGRAMMER and as usual, it is jam-packed with good info.

Craig has an article on his new GRAM KRACKER. This item was mentioned in the latest TINS newsletter as well, but at that time, no name was selected for the beast.

What is the GRAM KRACKER (GK)? Well, essentially it is a widgeit type affair which will allow you to first, save ANY module to disk, even Xbasic.

Then, with the GK installed, you can load Xbasic via the GK, no module required.

The best part of this is it's ability to configure a menu. Up to four items can be included, such as TIWRITER, E/A, Xbasic, Multiplan, and then select what you want to use from the menu, which in turn, loads the appropriate item from disk. Where does it load the information to? Well, the GK has a capability of 80K, but the basic version will have 48K of RAM and GRAM (the RAM compliment of GROM).

With this beast, you now have the capability of CHANGING the BASIC interpreter!, or things such as GRAM0,1 and 2 or cartridge programs.

GK comes with a floppy disk with which already has some modifications to Xbasic. Price is in the 150-200 (US) range, and productions will be slow, as MG is stiving for quality, not quantity. Craig states that once this product is on it's way, he has other super items planned. Brochures should be available at this time, so if you have questions, send them to:

MILLERS GRAPHICS,
1475 W. CYPRESS AVE.,
SAN DIMAS CA 91773.

At the same time, get a subscription at the low price of \$16 (U.S.) per year.

Craig Miller is DEATH on CorComp. He knocks them every chance he gets, and this issue is no exception. He states that CC is still in it's chapter 11 bankruptcy and Craig doesn't expect them to pull through. Bear in mind that Craig has a law-suit against CorComp, so that is why he is so biased against them!

Craig states that he is attempting to put out a huge 64 page edition which will cover subscriptions from Oct-Jan. I personally don't like this idea, as his newsletters are so jam-packed with info, that a 64 page version would take a life-time to absorb. At any rate, I think that this is his way of getting CAUGHT-UP with issues, as he is now very far behind.

New products announced are: NIGHT- MISSION, an Xbasic

book/cassette combo. NightMission is a helo rescue game and the book fully documents the program flow. If the book is anything like his SPRITE tutorial book, you can be sure it will be a good value.

A MorningStar 128K card with bank- switching options.

A Myarc 128-512K Randisk.

Craig Miller's EXPLORER is drawing rave reviews. See the TINS newsletter for an early review. Many enhancements have been made since that review was produced.

The biggest announcement, which caught me by surprise, is that TRS Sys. is now modifying consols to utilize the full 16 bit data bus. At present, only ScratchPad RAM uses this bus, and the remainder is multiplexed. As an example of the speed of a 16-bit bus, a program (recently available as a download on TIEBS) which was written for this space counted from 1-10000 in 0.8 seconds!! Now, with mods done by TRS (not trash80) the full 32K is run on a 16bit bus, and the WAIT states have effectively been removed. Speed has been reputed to be about 20-50% faster. Craig says he has send one of his consols to be modified, and he expects to produce a review in his next newsletter. I can hardly wait!!

If you want your's done, or want further info, contact:

TRS SYSTEMS,
17885 MOUNT ELLIOTT,
DETROIT MI 48212



Workshop News JOY-ALERT



by Paul Meadows

So, you have a set of joysticks kicking around that your kids broke the handle off of, eh? Well here is a little workshop procedure that will make use of those dust-gatherers.

The work being described is for the TI original type of joystick. Others must be similar.

First, strip each of the joysticks down to parts. This involves removing the two screws from the back, opening up the casing and removing the joystick handle, plastic contact sheet and attached electronic circuit. (diag 1)

This circuit is the one you want to use for the project. Slide the plastic strip clear of the connector on the small circuit board. After having done this to both joysticks, you are ready for some solder work.

To make your project a little more solid and more professional, we will have to remove the connectors from the boards. There is only one connector on each board, small, black and looks the console end of the speech synthesizer, only smaller .. of course. This can easily be accomplished with a soldering iron that is designed for electronic work, that is..small and hot.

Once the connectors are removed, clear up the solder holes, ready for attaching a six lead ribbon cable. (diag 2). Prepare the ribbon cable first by separating the six strands from each other down to a depth of about 1 inch. This will make working with it much easier. "Tin" the quarter inch bare end of each of the six leads (apply a little solder to the twisted ends). Carefully solder each lead into its hole in the board. The sequence of leads is not important at this point.

Once all six leads are fixed, on both boards, you are ready for the final step. Take a piece of circuit board (about 2" square) and mount the two circuits in a fashion so that one is on the top and the other on the bottom side of the circuit board. (diag 3) Ensure that the joystick cables are both coming away in the same direction.

In the ribbon cable, you have just installed, one lead is common and the remainder represent your alarm circuits. With a little exploration you will quickly find out which leads produce a -4 value and which produce 2, +4 and 18. Use this little routine to act as a test circuit. Connect the joystick leads to the joyport.

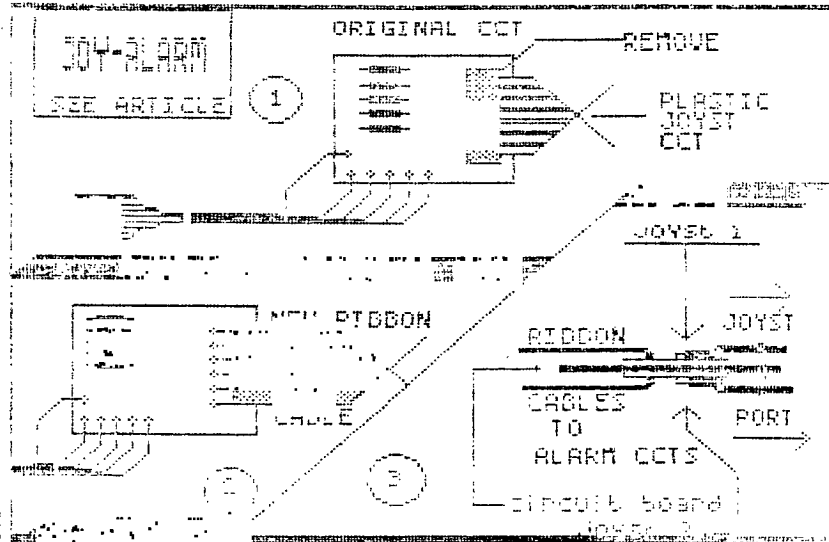
```
100 CALL JOYST(1,X,Y)
110 CALL JOYST(2,Q,R)
120 CALL KEY(1,K,S)
130 CALL KEY(2,L,T)
140 PRINT X;Y;K,Q;R;L
150 GOTO 100
```

Now all that remains is to choose a pair of leads and hook them up to a detector. Any thing that will make a

contact will serve the purpose. Radio Shack has several excellent magnetic switches for this purpose.

Write yourself a little programme to sound sirens and alarms, or phone th police, or any other action you can imagine.

This is the basics, you can run with it from here.



TECHIE BBS and TINS

Techie Bulletin has made it to Nova Scotia via the FREEdware market. Written by Monty Schmidt of Madison Wisconsin, this excellent board will operate in a wide range of configurations. While the version we received does not support uploading and downloading of files, it does have many other excellent features that will make it a welcome addition to the existing network of BBS.

For the present the editor will be running this system on 2 SSSD drives at 864 2582. Feel free to drop in and comment of the system and the online adventure game that is provided.

The hours of the system will be from 9PM through the night and up to 5PM the next day. The down time from 5-9PM will allow me to keep up with the newsletter and other programming demands.

Before too long the board will be updated to a more advanced version and run with 2 half-heights and a single stand-alone. This will greatly improve the notices and bulletins on the system as well as provide a greater range of features, including 2 online games.



Best of TINS on Disk

\$1 per disk (you supply disk/post)
\$3.50 per disk (I supply disk/post)

BEST OF TINS 1	
Programmes	
Richasort	Zinazarch
Graphiccem	Lotto649
Newcursor	Numbersort
Numconvert	
Articles	
CCDiskCC	Corcomp Rev
Communicat	Telecomms
Inport 1&2	Inserting
Jackadapt	Technical
TE2Color	Colours & TE2
TE2Speech	Speech & TE2
RS232Y	"Y" cables
Pictures	
RS232-Y	"Y" cable
pics are TI-ARTIST	

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\$1 per disk (you supply disk/post)
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BEST OF TINS 2	
Programmes	
Bastran	Convert
Dickiecumo	File/merge
Linput-bug	US-flag
Articles	
Copyright	Protection
Dualcasset	Technical
Fileproci&2	File handling
Hooking-in	Communications
Keysscanning	Assembly
Passvariabl	Between progs
Quickcard	CorComp refcard
TI-DOS	Disk system
Tios	Tios
XBtutorial	Extended Basic
Pictures	
CASCCABL	"Y" cable
VIDEOSAB	For monitors

Best of TINS on Disk

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BEST OF TINS 3	
Programmes	
Basic	Scrcolour
Victrytune	Colourdemo
Lowcase00j	Coloursmod
Articles	
+Forthscns	Add screens
9901ayarev	Corcomp 9900
Basicpgms	How Basic works!
EAcoulour	Change colours
ExplorDOS	Disk system
Lowercase	True lowercase
Outofmem	Loading pgms
Scrcolour	Inst for pgms
TI-DOS	Disk system
Textcolor	Change colours
USCOPascal	Pascal lang.
Pictures	
VCRCABLE	"Y" cable

call 865 4641 for arrangements
or write P.A. Meadows., 321 Iony
Hill, Lr. Sackville, NS B4E 1N5

FAST-TERM CUE CARD

Control	Function	ADW3:
1. Baud rate	B. Log file	CTRL G bell CTRL Z clear
2. Print Spooler	C. LF AND CR	CTRL H backspace CTRL B home
3. Parity	K. Time clock on/off	CTRL J linefeed CTRL N no inv
4. Modem port	L. Shift screen left	CTRL K up 1 line CTRL G invers
5. Printer parity	N. Name send/TE2 xfer	CTRL L fwd 1 space ENTER C/R
6. Printer port	Y. Clear the log	
7. Printer Baud	1. Delete (D7F)	
8.	2. Sends CTRL-T	FCTN Shift D Half/full duplex
9.	3. Sends CTRL-N	FCTN Shift P Dump screen, after freezing
0. 40/80 toggle	4. Break tone	
X. Xmodem mode	5. Shift screen right	
0. 40/80 toggle	6. Sends CTRL-E	Scan buffer: FCTN 0 (freeze)
X. Xmodem mode	7. Text colour	Space-bar (or S) then unfreeze
	8. Screen colour	
	"," Toggle log on/off	CTRL ", " ' = R D moves cursor to
	"," Send disk file	row (R-32) and column (C-32)

Receive ASCII file

FCTN B "DSK?.Filename"
FCTN . start/stop toggle
FCTN B close/write and rename file
FCTN Y clear memory

TX ASCII file

FCTN N "DSK?.Filename"
FCTN , start
Select ? line-by-line
Select CRLF (FCTN J)
FCTN 4 stops xfer

TE2 Send

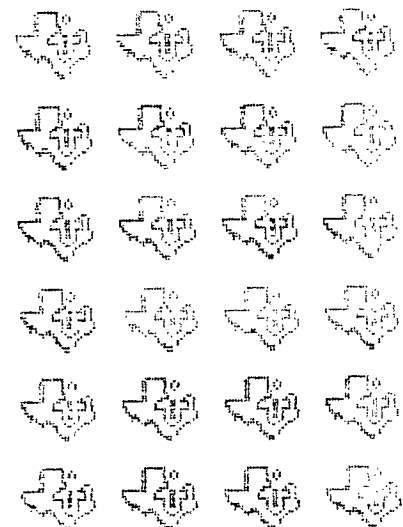
FCTN Shift T (TE2 protocols)
FCTN Shift T (ASCII mode)
FCTN N "DSK?.Filename"
FCTN , send
FCTN 4 abort

Receive

FCTN N "DSK?.Filename"
FCTN 4 abort xfer

XMODEM

FCTN N "DSK?.Filename"
Notify other to start
FCTN Shift T
(Scr options)
FCTN 4 abort



Winchester Repeater

by Paul Meadows

As the title suggests, this is a repeat of the information that has been passed around the circuit. Most of it comes from a letter we received from John J. Mesna Jr. Inc. and reviews in other periodicals.

The Mesna hard disk system is virtually the same as the advertised Myarc WDS100, but includes three major and significant improvements. The first improvement is that they have included a single sided floppy disk drive in the same case with the Winchester drive. The second improvement is the "Time of Day" clock, which had been optional in the original Myarc system. The third major improvement is the price: almost 50% off the original Myarc price of \$2100 without sacrificing Myarc compatibility. This drive is listed at \$1200.

The price reduction has not been done at the expense of reliability or quality, according to the manufacturer. The power supply uses over-spec'd components. Each cabinet has air vents and a fan to ensure cool operation. All cables are checked for continuity before shipment and most importantly: each system is burned in for 24 hours prior to shipment to ensure that you get a fully operational system. A 90 day warranty on parts and labor are included.

The picture I have included with this article gives an excellent view of the PER, with the personality card in front of it. The Winchester is to the left with the disks in front. The operating manual can be seen on the top of the PER.

Now, here is the price list:

These are in US funds!

5 Megabyte Winchester + 1 SS disk drive	\$1200.00
10 " " " " " "	\$1400.00
5 " " " DS " "	\$1300.00
10 " " " " " "	\$1500.00

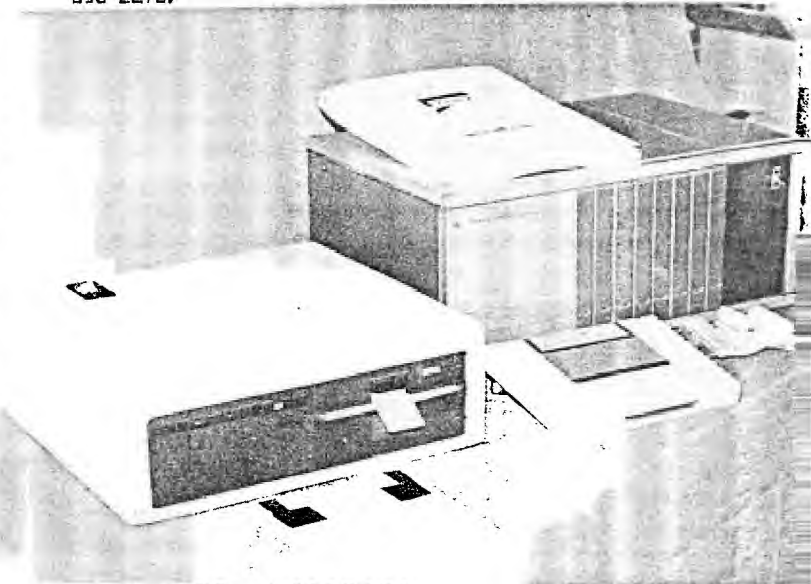
higher storage capacities are also available. Each system comes with one 5 1/4" Winchester disk drive, one Winchester controller card, one 5 1/4" mini-floppy disk drive, power supply, and fan all enclosed in an all metal case. Also included is the personality card which plugs into the TI Expansion box. all cables, two 5 1/4" floppy diskettes and a very thorough and easy to understand user manual.

The Winchester disk drive system uses a file management system that allows files and programmes to be grouped together into directories. These directories can then be grouped together into larger directories, and so on. The system can have up to 17 levels of directories, each containing up to 114 subdirectories capable of storing up to 127 files or programmes each. The 10 Meg Winchester has 39,168 sectors of disk storage available.

For more information consult the March issue of

MICROpendium. The review by John Koloen entitled "Short-lived hard disk drive" contains all the facts.

The company of John Mesna Jr. Inc will be more than happy to answer your questions. Write to them at this address: Box 62 E. Lynn Mass 61924. Phone 617 595 2275.



1234567890123456789012345678901234567890
 1 VCPTNERAPDYCDSPNDLBASTTPIIEATEEFFOTNPGHI
 2 DSNMHHCTIWYFYNDLVZYIKRADSVGTHGNEEDGAR
 3 QEOVCTPTMCBVBKNDWNOBROOMSTICKKHJOEIRXFDQ
 4 INTHKWICFFKNUVRFIXOIRZWGBSEDJVFUWYUTADTF
 5 FOUEBSHNIGHTMARESEQSSWBSSESIKYCOBLACKTKE
 6 GBCOHGCSBZSDIKBDCXLNIECIRYNSTLSHGXVCJCX
 7 HMCENROPUMPKINOTKYEIWVUWCQUQLNRKKPCUSIM
 8 GFLGLTTMTUWDOBRWKKZWKSARMFYCAKTWKSIOYXRJ
 9 ZLHAFMAASUDFRZLGBZCUSAPEABHTRGEOBADDXTP
 10 DIYAYLTKISNOHJIGUMACCSARPPDJDAPTWLBMDEL P
 11 QURGQCDEURGANUNMZKAZATXYLURIBEENZCFPIRH
 12 CEMOHRPUTZXGESSXTENVWNSRAHFESKCBRSKRJANWF
 13 AMYUYVAPDMKZDPOIRAPEAGYDEAHFBSYLTARFOVLE
 14 NYUSMTHNGGWCSOSBTMCPNLYEICLORTAPVSSQSW
 15 DFRBIDLRGBZVNBVBGKDPZWNWETESRHFJISAZETG
 16 YGNDEBPD BETWODMXZWNRXPIAOLRNCQHNLDPDXNE

Word list:

SUPERVISION	POTATOCHIP	NIGHTMARES
BROOMSTICK	HALLOWEEN	SKELETONS
GOBLINS	PUMPKIN	CAUTION
COBWEBS	SUCKERS	CANDLE
TOFFEE	KISSES	ORANGE
SPIDER	PEANUT	PATROL
MAKEUP	STREET	PARENT
CANDY	TRICK	MASKS
CLOWN	APPLE	BONES
WITCH	NIGHT	TREAT
SHELL	BLACK	DOOR
KIDS	DARK	SOAP
SACK	DOGS	HOME
GUM		

User Group Network (UGN)

Meet User Group Network

This unique idea was formulated by conversations between several persons deeply committed to the survival of the 99/4A. Jim Sydlowski, of St. Louis, Cricket Raybern, of Portland, Ore., Dave Taylor, of Daytona Beach, Fla., Bill Whitmore, of Washington, D.C., Howie Rosenberg, of Farmingdale, N.Y., Ron Albright, Sysop, Compuserve, and Terrie Masters, Los Angeles, Ca.

The intent and purpose of UGN is to without bias locate and circulate valuable 99/4A material. We all believe there are good programs with only regional exposure, we would like these whether they are Public Domain, Freeware, or commercially sold to be more widely circulated.

A letter of announcement of UGN will shortly be sent to all known User Groups. BBS systems will also be asked to load this message. We are asking all User Groups to make known those programmers within their own groups to the steering committee of UGN. We will review the programs submitted and have them reviewed by respected persons within the 99/4A network, and publish these reviews without bias. Under these circumstances more programs of value will reach more Users. Establishing a solid reputation, we are hopeful these reviews will lead to more useful to the individual acquisition of programs. To assist in establishing ourselves, we are now circulating a 2 program video demonstration. This video contains a Los Angeles Programmer Kent Thorsons, Real Estate Tax Planning program, and Craig Millers Explorer.

Participation in UGN requests you do the following, immediately upon receipt of the VHS, by whatever means necessary you make a copy of it, and send it right on to one of the two next User Groups on the list sent along with the video. It will be necessary to also copy the list and forward it amended to show the User groups you are responsible for. Yes this is sort of a pyramid. There is no way any of us could foot the bill for over 200 videos. The small expense of buying and copying one tape is the cost of participating. The second tape is to be held for your next User Group meeting, demonstrated at that time and then sent on to the second User Group in your sequence list. The final groups receiving the tapes should return them to UGN, for the next 2 demos to be loaded, these of course will be sent directly to the groups that choose to participate.

I have suggested the next tape be a program of their choice by CSI, to be tandemed with Chris Faherty's II-ARTIST. I ask that Jim Sydlowski, and Bill Whitmore follow us on this.

Both programs on the first video retail at \$25.00. They can be bought individually directly from the programmer for this price, or if the User Group participates in a group purchase, again directly from the programmer, at a discount. UGN at this stage is a

conduit for information, we are not a sales organization. We intend to remain above reproach, by whatever means necessary. We do know that it is important that local talent be spread far wider than has yet happened. Those of us who are lucky enough to read many other User Group Newsletters, can recite many names of excellence. Most have been thwarted by the cost of exposure and the ever heavy threat of piracy. UGN hope to give these deserving persons the wide exposure they deserve, whether they choose to make their programs commercial or freeware, or public domain.

For additional details write or call: Terrie Masters, 148 S. Maple Drive Beverly Hills, C. 90212 (213) 271-6930

[Ed. TINS has requested this information on behalf of the membership. More will be published in a later edition.]

???

???

PREDICTION !

IF YOU DON'T PARTICIPATE
in the newsletter, it will
cease to exist
very shortly!



CONCLUSION !

Yeh gotta write something !

!!! LETS MAKE NOW A BASIC MONTH !!!

Triple Tech Review

by Rick Cosmano

Most of you know by now that CorComp Inc. has released a new card for your TI 99/4A peripheral expansion box (PEB). The card is called Triple Tech. This card has three functions. Function one is a 64k printer buffer. Function two is a clock that keeps day, date, hour(24), minutes and seconds. The third function is a slot to place the card for your TI Speech Synthesizer into.

I, for one, have wanted a printer buffer for quite some time. The 2K buffer in my Epson FX-80 was not large enough for me. Little did I realize how valuable a printer buffer really is. Let me start from the beginning.

When I received the box containing the 3ple Tech card I thought that they had forgotten to put the card in. The box didn't seem to weigh enough to contain the card. Upon opening the box I found that it was in there. It comes without the heavy metal case that all TI cards come in. This is just a bare board that plugs into a slot in your PEB. Something else is missing. The bulb that lights the slot that the card is in. The card itself is clearly marked as to what is what and where a bulb would go if you decided to install one. The lithium battery for the card seemed fairly easy to get to without removing the card.

Attached to one of the two PIO ports in the back is a short ribbon cable. Also on the back are two button switches marked "copy" and "clear".

Installation was simple. Insert the card into an empty slot. Remove your printer cable from your RS232 card and replace it with the cable that comes with the card. Install your printer cable into the remaining port on the 3ple Tech card.

Installing the Speech Synthesizer card was just as simple. Take the two screws that hold your Synthesizer box together out. Remove the Speech card and slide it into the top of the 3ple Tech card.

Now for performance. I will get the two minor features out of the way first.

The speech synthesizer worked flawlessly. Everything that worked before worked just as well now except that I didn't have something daisy chained to my computer.

The clock was very simple to access through a Basic or X-Basic programme. It even had the correct day, date and time. Now onto the most important feature.

A printer buffer is supposed to capture the output data from your computer and store it in memory until your printer can utilize that data. Simply put, it will free up your computer so that you can use it instead of waiting for the printer to finish.

The following test examples were timed by a very expensive timing device for accurate test purposes. That device was the LCD readout from my Timex watch. So all the examples could be + or - one second.

3ple Tech Self Test: This test is built into the card and is activated by pressing the "CLEAR" button then the "COPY" button. After it checks itself out it prints to your printer "TRIPLE TECH BUFFER DIAGNOSTIC TEST PASS". It took 28 seconds to perform its test. If you do not get the printout telling you that everything is okay, then something is wrong. Check your cable hookups and move the card to another slot if need be.

Now onto some real testing. For reference purposes, my Epson FX-80 prints at 160 characters per second. All testing was done with the printers internal buffer set to OFF and in single strike mode. The times listed are how long it took until I regained control of the console.

Printing a 12 sector DV80 file through TI-Writer. Without the TI card took 33 seconds, with the card an astonishing 1 second.

Listing a 20 line (3 sector) programme, without the card 8 seconds, with the card 4 seconds.

Printing the "screen" file of GRAPHX; this file is a full screen of graphics characters, without the card took 80 seconds, with the card took an amazing 15 seconds.

Being one of the SysOps of the SCC6 TIBBS I tried logging onto the board to download the comment file through the remote sysop programme that I added to the software. It is designed to continuously scroll any file that I choose. Using P-Term as the emulator software I logged on and entered the Remove Sysop area. I told the BBS to send me the comment file. I toggled the printer on and then left the room. When I returned, the board had finished sending the file but nothing was printed on my printer. I forgot to turn the printer on. Cursing myself for doing it again (not turning the printer on) I thought I would have to download the file again. I turned the printer on and low and behold, the 3ple Tech card had it all saved for me. It hadn't lost one single character. This unknown (to me) feature worked with everything that I tested above.

The "COPY" button on the back of the card is used to copy whatever is in the buffer of the card as many times as you want. You can stop the print out anytime you wish by pressing the "clear" button. This also clears the buffer of whatever was in it.

To me, this card is worth its weight in gold. To utilize it on a BBS would be invaluable. I am sure that there will be many programmes popping up that will utilize the time clock to an advantage other than a BBS programme.

Thank you CorComp. You've done it again in my book.
[reprinted with permission SCC6]

DataBioTics

National Advisory Panel

The following information was received from DataBioTics of California, addressed to TINS:

dated August 19, 1985

TO: All TI 99/4A User Groups

Subject: Participation in National Advisory Panel and Demo Software Giveaway

It's not easy to give things away! There are always strings attached. Well, DataBioTics has discovered a way to provide "almost free" software but the "strings" may be more tempting than the software!

The Strings

DataBioTics asks each participating group to select a representative. This rep will become a member of an elite group called the National Advisory Panel on product development. The purpose of your National Advisory Panel (NAP) rep will be to work with DataBioTics and other panel members to guide us in the development of new products, to improve products already on the market, to help train and guide general membership on the use of existing products, and to act as a focal point for transfer of information between the user and DataBioTics.

How to participate

This will be a costly undertaking for DataBioTics, but we believe that the benefits to the users, and to DataBioTics are worth the cost. To participate:

[an application form has been dispatched containing all of the requested info, on behalf of the club]

After DataBioTics logs our club into the panel roster, we will receive instructions on how to participate on the advisory panel. They suggest that we purchase the "4A/TALK" programme so that we can participate with other panel members using the soon to be released DataBioTics Bulletin Board software.

Benefits:

In addition to a library of almost free software, participating groups will:

1. receive new products to test and evaluate before release to the general public.
2. be able to publish their own software through DataBioTics and receive royalty on each unit sold.
3. Be able to submit new product ideas and participate in the development.
4. Receive technology updates and inside information through the NAP representative panel.
5. Contribute to a newsletter full of tips and user

aids for the TI 99/4A owner.

The following programmes are handled by this company and a full description can be seen at any regular meeting:

4A/TALK
BITMAP
RENDIR
MINIWRITER I, II, III
PILOT
SUPERDISK
DISK MASTER 1

More information will be published as it becomes available. This may prove to be similar to the deal we presently enjoy with Navarone Ind.

Sprite One-Liner

by Barron Bartlett

Want to frustrate and amaze your Atari, Vic-20, Colour Computer friends? Just type in the following in the command mode with Extended Basic.

```
CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(5) :: CALL MAGNIFY(2) ::  
FOR I=1 TO 28 :: CALL SPRITE(XI,64+I,16,80,3*I,8) ::  
NEXT I :: FOR J=1 TO 5000 :: NEXT J
```

Hit enter and watch all 28 sprites do their tricks. If you wat to see it again, simply hit FCTN REDC and ENTER again as many times as you wish.

Note: I know we ran this in a previous issue, but it's worth a reprint, and I need a couple of fillers!

Ed.

Little Bits

This little ditty came from MICROpendium, by Gary Guibor of Miami.

```
10 FOR C=1 TO 100  
20 IF SQR(C) <> INT(SQR(C)) THEN 40  
30 PRINT C  
40 NEXT C
```

The 99/4A produces 10 perfect squares while the TRS80 model II, Apple and Pet computers found only 6! Microsoft Basic, in most CP/Ms, discovered 9. Other than the TI, only Basic-Plus on a \$100,000 MINI found all ten.

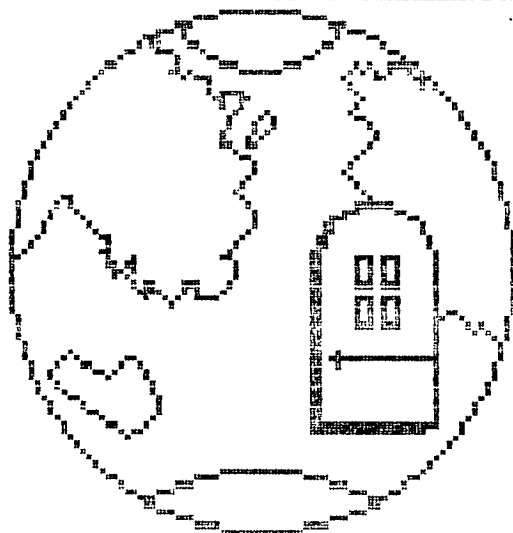
NEXT ISSUE.....

In order to accommodate our BASIC members, I would like to dedicate an entire issue to the BASIC language.

To accomplish this immense task I will need all of the input you BASIC people can supply !!!!!

I remember some of the BASIC things I had to learn, way-back-when but you can do it so much better!!

Please...



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MEMBERSHIP

The fall season is upon us once again. Its time for us to look at the forthcoming fiscal year for the club. For one thing, there are only two more meetings in the calender year. Any new people looking at membership in TINS have the rest of this year free. For the rest of us, lets not wait until the last minute to renew our memberships in the club. The annual fee is still \$12 and runs from Jan 1st to Dec 31st. of each year. For those who join in between these dates, the membership fee is pro-rated to deduct the unused months. Without your participation as a member, the club will no be able to operate on the needed financial basis. Much of the things that we would like to get for the club cost money. The limited amount of a dollar a month will help to look after the expenses we may encounter during the coming year. Several new things are planned for the forthcoming year, including a constitution and by-laws. These are needed to enable us to gain official acceptance from the city as a proper club. At the moment we are operating without official structure. Keep these things in mind, bring friends to meetings and participate as much as your time will allow. Thats about all I can ask of anyone. If you insist on letting a select few run the show, don't blame us when you feel left out. As you have read in the newsletter, from time to time, I need your input in order to make this newsletter more acceptable to you. If you see that it is becoming too technical or to abstract, its up to you to do something about it. I can only operate with the information I have at hand. Even inventing the news doesn't please very many.

```

1 REM *****
2 REM *   INSANITY BY   *
3 REM *   B.MINED      *
4 REM * 829 E. CRYSTAL CT*
5 REM *  WESTKESD LA   *
6 REM *   70254        *
7 REM *****
8 CALL CLEAR
9 DISPLAY AT(12,10):"INSANITY"
10 DISPLAY AT(15,1):"LIKE THE NAME SAYS. USE YOUR"
11 DISPLAY AT(17,1):"JOY STICKS TO PUT EM LIKE"
12 DISPLAY AT(19,1):"YOU FOUND EM. GOOD LUCK!"
13 DISPLAY AT(23,1):" PRESS ANY KEY TO BEGIN"
14 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 13
15 CALL CHAR(42,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
16 CALL MAGNIFY(2)
17 CALL CLEAR
18 DISPLAY AT(1,12):"INSANITY"
19 CALL SPRITE(#1,42,5,95,128)
20 CALL SPRITE(#2,42,9,112,128)
21 CALL SPRITE(#3,42,11,80,128)
22 CALL SPRITE(#4,42,16,128,128)
23 CALL JOYST(1,Y,X)
24 CALL MOTION(#2,-20*X,20*Y)
25 CALL MOTION(#1,-20*X,20*Y)
26 CALL MOTION(#3,-20*X,20*Y)
27 CALL MOTION(#4,-20*X,20*Y)
28 GOTO 23
29 REM IT CAN BE DONE!
30 REM I DID IT ONCE.
31 REM REPRINTED FROM SANFRAC
32 REM 99 NEWSLETTER

```

