





Hi! As I sit down to write this column for the Christmas Edition of the SND it is a good time to reflect on the past year. The 99/4A is alive and well and appears to be going from strength to strength. In any one week my mail contains information of new support for this computer from around the world.

As an example I received a complimentary copy of a new newsletter entitled 4A TODAY. The format of this new source of information is along the lines of Craig Miller's "THE SMART PROGRAMMER". In the second issue dated September 1984 you will find a wide range of topics covering new software and hardware reviews, and programming tips. There is a very interesting article on the new Corcomp 9900 Disk Controller card Disk Most of the disk drives sold by TI as single Manager. density drives are in fact double density. With the Corcomp card you can immediately double the capacity of your drives from 90K to 180K fully formatted. It is reported by Mark Chance, the Editor of 4A TODAY, that the disk drives will operate more quickly with the new controller. Mark must be one of the first owners of this new card, and he goes on to report that the Corcomp Disk Manager disk supplied comes with 91 pages of documentation. The Manager program is 95 sectors long, and loads in around 12 seconds. Included are a number of demo. programs using some new sub-routines, which can be used from either BASIC or XBASIC. MPEEK and MPOKE are almost the same as XBASIC's PEEK and LOAD commands, but they also let you give a bias (offset) for the data. VPEEK and VPOKE allow you to read or write VDP RAM, also with a bias. Mark continues "Using these two commands, you can, for example, obtain information on sprites or change the screen table. WRTRG lets you place values into the 7 VDP write only register. Using this command enables you to change into different graphics modes (ie. Bit-map, multicolor, or text), or relocate the different VDP tables (ie. screen and pattern descripter). MOVEM is used for moving blocks of memory between CPU or VDP RAM. This command can move 30-40 screens of data in a second. EXEC will begin executing an assembly language subprogram at the address you give. All these commands may be either be CALLed or loaded into memory using the command DELETE "LD-CMDS", and then LINKed". For those of you able to get to the next General meeting, you will be able to examine the contents of 4A TODAY. I for one will buy this card when it becomes available locally. However some bad news has been received about the financial problems currently being faced by Corcomp. We understand the company has filed for Chapter 11, which can be the first step on the road to bankruptcy. To be positive, however, we believe Corcomp's creditors will give the company the opportunity to trade out of their present difficulties.

Now to the mailbox... P.Cosgove from Parramatta writes:" Being a slow typist I find it most frustrating when typing in a program in which the line numbers are not in steps of ten". The Editor does try and remember to do the appropriate resequencing of the line numbers before printing the listings, but it is one of those things which can be overlooked in the rush to meet deadlines.

Allan Cause from Cundletown writes:" As a newcomer to computing and TI I find the SND both helpful and interesting. I would appreciate if you could detail the uses for items such as:-modem,expansion box,floppy disk, and disk drive". A modem is a device for converting the digital signals generated by your computer to audio frequencies which can be transmitted over the telephone system. The modem reconverts the signal at the other end of the line so that a remote computer can communicate with you. The Expansion Box or PEB, enables you to add disk drives, printers, modems, extra memory etc. to your main console. A disk is a thin flexible piece of mylar coated with a special magnetic film, enclosed in a card jacket, which is used for magnetic storage of data. The TI99/4A computer, like most micros, uses a 5-1/4 inch diameter disk. A disk drive is a device which spins the disk at 300 rpm, similar to a record player, and positions a special read/write head at a specific point, which is defined by the DOS or Disk Operating System. The DOS is actually a program which can control several disk drives.

The last committee meeting before the AGM was held on October 23rd. It was decided to investigate a new venue for the main monthly General Meetings. We are looking at Strathfield Girls High School, Burwood RSL, Woodstock Centre, Masonic Hall Burwood, and a Police Boys Club. All of these are located within walking distance to a railway station, and have adequate parking facilities.

The monthly software was judged as follows:

NOUGHTS and CROSSES
CHALLENGER
COGGLE
GRAPHIC20
HANGMAN
JEDI PILOT11
ROCKET DESTROYER
SCREEN
SHOOTING GALAXY12
SIAM
TRAVERSE CLOSURE
NO FRILLS SPREADSHEET27

It was agreed that it would not be practical to demonstrate the top program at the meeting. In view of, this and the excellent documentation supplied, NO FRILLS SPREADSHEET was declared the winner for the month. A special tape will be produced complete with printed documentation. Marcel Zaia was awarded the \$20 Rookie award for his program NOUGHT and CROSSES.

I need a volunteer to type in programs, which were originally written in a foreign language, and have been translated into English. We also want members with expertise in, German, Italian and French to contact Terry, who will give them copies of programs sent to us by our overseas contacts.

27 new members were admitted.

The minutes of this, and any other meeting are available for inspection at any General Meeting. If you want to attend a committee meeting contact any committee member. We usually hold meetings on the third Tuesday or Wednesday in the month.

I have finally started to receive solutions to my cursor problem. For the benefit of our new members the problem is to write an assembly language routine to create a non flashing cursor, with a shape of your own choice. The closing date is December 31st. A \$15 voucher which can be spent at the Club Shop will be awarded to the winner.

I attended a meeting during November during which a commitment was made to organise a User's Groups Fair, which will be held during the long weekend next June at Strathfield. 21 Groups will be represented. We will be looking for volunteers to man the stand over the continuos 72 hour period.

Running out of memory .....

Compliments of the Season and God bless you.

Happy Computing, John Robinson, Hon, Secretary.



Hil gang, well once again Christmas is just ahead, and Santa should be bringing you some goodies this Christmas, What have you got planned for your Christmas holidays? Have you set any goals? like reaching your hishest score on a particular game, or even write a game like 13 year old Chris Develin. I have received this letter and program from him...

DEAR JENNY, I HAVE ENCLOSED A TYPED PROGRAM THAT I WROTE ON THE WEEKEND. IT TOOK ME A FEW HOURS TO WRITE WITH A FAIR BIT OF ENQUIRING INTO BOOKS. IT IS THE SECOND MAJOR PROGRAM I HAVE WRITTEN BUT THE FIRST ONE WAS TERRIBLY BORING. EVEN THOUGH THIS IS NOT VERY 'ACTION PACKED', I THINK IT IS ENJOYABLE FOR A WHILE. I HAVE INCLUDED INSTRUCTIONS SO I NEEDN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT IT IS A PROGRAM WITH TARGET LINES IN THE CENTRE OF THE SCREEN AND A SPRITE MOVING RANDOMLY AROUND THE SCREEN. YOU MUST SHOOT DOWN THE SPRITE (with the Q key) WHEN IT REACHES THE CENTRE. IT TESTS PERCEPTION AND FINGER QUICKNESS. I HOPE YOU ENJOY IT.

YOURS SINCERELY, C DEVELIN.

P.S. MY HIGHEST SCORE(EVEN THOUGH NOT RECORDED)IS 1.874,60 ON PARSEC,

Thank you Chris, yes I enjoyed typing it in and running it. Very clever, and keep those programs coming in. For sending me this program, I will be sending you a cassette of assorted programs. Regarding your high score, you still have a lot to go to beat the HALL OF FAME score of 3,870,000 by Craig, but keep trying.

	2	RE	M	**	****	***	***	*****	****
	3	RE	M	*					*
	4	RE	M	*					*
	5	RE	М	*	TAR	GET	BL	ST	*
	6	RE	M	*	- 18 m	4.01.5			*
	7	RE	м	*	hv	Chr	is	Devel	in *
	8	RE	M	*	(13	vea	rs)	TISHU	3 *
	19	RE	M	*	Y	oun	ger	Set	*
	ic	) R	EM	*		me	mbe	r	*
	11	R	EM	¥					*
	12	R	EM	*	De	cem	ber	184	*
	13	R	EM	*					x
	14	R	EM	**	****	***	***	*****	****
	15	5 C	AL	T.	CLEA	R			
ć					022.				

20 PRINT "-=>TARGET BLAST<=-30 PRINT "The object of the game is to":"shoot down the enemy fighter":"when it is in range.It is":"in range when it nears the" 40 PRINT "vertical crossline or it is in the centre.":"U se the fire button to":" launch laser torpedoes." 50 PRINT "You have 5 ships w ith which": "to attack.Each m iss costs":"a ship, so f ire carefully.":"The fighter s are crafty":"and will swer ve" 60 PRINT "in a different dir ection": "when you fire. Your ection": "when you file.iou score": "will be displaye d at the end" 70 PRINT "--=>GOOD LUCK<=--" 80 PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY" 90 CALL KEY(0,K,S) 100 IF S=0 THEN 90 110 CALL CLEAR 120 RANDOMIZE :: SC=0 :: MN= 130 CALL MAGNIFY(2):: CALL C OLOR(9,6,1):: CALL SCREEN(2) 140 CALL CHAR(96,"3C3C3C3C3C 3C3C3C") 150 CALL CHAR(9/,"UUUUFFFFFF FF0000" 160 CALL CHAR(42,"181818183C 7EE781") 170 CALL CHAR(64, "000000C3C3 000000") 180 CALL VCHAR(2,16,96,9) 190 CALL VCHAR(14,16,96,9) 200 CALL HCHAR(12,6,97,9) 210 CALL HCHAR(12,18,97,9) 220 CALL SPRITE(#1,42,9,100, 100) 230 X=INT(RND\*8)-4 240 Y=INT(RND\*-8)+4 250 CALL MOTION(#1, Y\*10, X\*10 260 CALL KEY(1,K,S) 270 IF K<>18 THEN 230 280 CALL SPRITE(#2,64,11,180 ,117,-50,0) 290 CALL COINC(#1,#2,10,A) 300 IF A=-1 THEN 350 ELSE 31 0 310 CALL POSITION(#2,G,H) 320 IF G<20 THEN 340 330 GOTO 290 340 CALL DELSPRITE(#2):: MN= MN-1 :: IF MN=0 THEN 370 :: GOTO 230 350 CALL DELSPRITE(ALL) :: CA LL SOUND(1000,-7,10):: FOR A =1 TO 50 :: CALL SCREEN( 11):: CALL SCREEN(10):: NEAT :: SC=SC+10 A 360 GOTO 130 370 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREE N(8):: CALL DELSPRITE(ALL) 380 DISPLAY AT(8,12):"SCORE -";SC 390 PRINT "PLAY AGAIN(Y/N)?" 400 CALL KEY(0,K,S) 410 IF S=0 THEN 400 420 IF K=89 THEN 110 430 IF K=78 THEN 440 ELSE 40 440 PRINT "OK. BYE FOR NOW ! 450 END

Sydney News Digest

Here's a letter from Steven Sulivan another Youger Set member also aged 13, he wrote the following...

DEAR JENNY, THESE ARE MY HIGH SCORES...PARSEC 10,950, POKER \$22000, ALPINE SKIING 20-20, TOUCH TYPING TUTOR(Now this is a new one)52 WORDS PER MINUTE.

WHEN I GET SOME OTHER GAMES 1 WILL SEND THEM TO YOU. STEVEN,

P.S.I KNOW THIS WOULD BE HARD, BUT HOW ABOUT A "PEN-FRIEND" SYSTEM, SO WE CAN WRITE TO EACH OTHER, SWAP GAMES SO WE CAN SEND IN MORE SCORES.

Hi Steven, I had never thought of adding TOUCH TYPING TUTOR to the HALL OF FAME, but you have just made it with the very first with that one, and \$22000 with POKER from the Blackjack Poker Module?

Regarding Pen-Friends... I see no problems at all with that. Shane has got a lot of friends in both the U.S.A. and England so it you would like a Pen-Friend either overseas or any where in Australia, drop me a line, and I'll have a chat to our Editor and arrange it for you. That goes for all Younger Set members. Simply send me your NAME & ADDRESS, AGE, THE COUNTRY YOU WANT TO EXCHANGE WITH, PLUS...A SELF STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVOLOPE.



Here's one a letter from Justin Chambers...He writes DEAR JENNY, I WAS PROGRAMMING LAST SUNDAY AND I COULDN'T GET THE COMPUTER TO ACCEPT ONE NUMBER AS THE ANSWER TO A PROBLEM (AS BELOW)

10 INPUT "2 x 3 ":A 15 LET A=6 20 IF A<>6 THEM 10

COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT I'VE DONE WRONG.

BELOW IS SOME MORE GAME TOTALS FOR THE HALL OF FAME...

MUNCHER 32000 , CATERPILLER 300 , and MUSHROOMS 602.

THANKS FOR THE COLUMN,

JUSTIN.

Thanks Justin once agala, great to hear from you, Remove line 15, you don't need it at all, then it will work. You create the answer in line 20,

inter's Viller BET	Y 5
(CONTINUED)	5
dear Jenny, So far I have only seer two SND's because I <u>an</u> £ nev nembers,	5 6 6 6
have read your column of ooth the October and November SND, I think they are great.	6 6 6
In the October SND you say if enough Younger Set Members of Tishug wrote to you with high scores and programs your column would turn into a ledicated page.	6 6 7 7 7 7
Well at the end of this letter s a program. I hope the program will put you on your yay to a full page in future. hope you enjoy my program.	7 7 7 7 7 8
Yours Faithfully, Darren Watkins.	8 8 8
HANK YOU DARREN, WITH YOUR SSISTANCE, WE HAVE FINALLY BEEN ABLE TO MAKE IT ALMOST WO PAGES IN THIS ISSUE OF ND.	8 8 8 8 8
LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM OU AGAIN IN THE NEW YEAR. AVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.	8 9 9 9
OVEJENNY	9
100 REM ***********************************	99999999999999999999999999999999999999
400 CALL VCHAR(20,21,42) 470 CALL VCHAR(22,21,42) 480 CALL VCHAR(22,21,42) 490 CALL VCHAR(23,25,42) 500 CALL VCHAR(21,28,42,2) 510 CALL HCHAR(20,27,42,3) 520 CALL HCHAR(23,27,42,3)	ha bi di Aj di
530 CALL HCHAR( $22, 30, 42, 3$ ) 540 CALL HCHAR( $20, 31, 42$ )	ri

550 CALL VCHAR(21,30,42,3)

T

-	
560 CA 570 CA 580 RE 590 CA 600 CA 610 CA 620 CA 630 CA 630 CA 650 CA 650 CA 660 CA 660 CA 660 CA 710 CA 720 CA 730 CA 730 CA 730 CA 730 CA 740 CA 750 CA	LL VCHAR(21,32,42,3) LL COLOR(2,11,11) M ***DRAWING KOALA*** LL HCHAR(4,15,64,2) LL HCHAR(4,18,64,2) LL HCHAR(6,17,64) LL HCHAR(8,15,64) LL HCHAR(8,19,64) LL HCHAR(8,19,64) LL COLOR(5,2,2) LL HCHAR(2,13,79,8) LL HCHAR(2,13,79,8) LL HCHAR(2,13,79,8) LL HCHAR(4,9,79,66) LL HCHAR(4,17,79) LL HCHAR(4,17,79) LL HCHAR(4,17,79) LL HCHAR(4,17,79,6) LL HCHAR(4,17,79,14) LL HCHAR(6,11,79,66) LL HCHAR(6,12,79,3) LL HCHAR(8,16,79,3) LL HCHAR(8,16,79,3) LL HCHAR(8,10,79,20) LL HCHAR(11,14,79,66) LL HCHAR(11,14,79,66) LL HCHAR(11,14,79,66) LL GOLOR(6,15,15) LL SOUND(1000,220,20) LL SOUND(1000,311,20) R DELAY LL SOUND(1000,220,20) LL SOUND(1000,311,20) R DELAY=1 TO 1000 XT DELAY LL SOUND(1000,220,20) LL S
940 CA	LL SOUND(1000,311,2)
950 CA	LL SOUND(500,311,2)
960 CA	LL SOUND(500,311,2)
980 CA	LL SOUND(500,440,2)
990 CA	LL SOUND(500,440,2)
1000 C	ALL SOUND(500,440,2)
1010 C	ALL SOUND(1000,311,2)
1020 F	'OR I=1 TO 1000
1030 N	EXT I
1040 G	OTO 850
່ງຍູ່ເອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ້ອີ	
Cima	our de meetinge and
Cima	se of our Beglional
Cir	oups around Sydney an
BLAXLAN	ND REGIONAL GROUP
meeting	was a demonstration of
a sprea	adsheet program in
Extende	ed Basic.
As a st connect applica to find and "fr spreads	tranger to anything ed with accounting ations I was surprised how much more useful riendly" such sheets appear when one e them in action rather
than si	imply in print,
was fro	m the August edition of
HCM, a	magazine that seems to
have su	iccessfully managed to
broader	n its market without
ditchin	ng TI.
Apart d	From the now obligatory
discuss	sion on printers and
interfa	aces we also attemped to
run son	ne recent club software
but wit	thout success.

I hope the gremlins in the new duplicating unit are worked out before the programs from members, shown at the Sydney meeting, are recorded as I found the standard impressive, Robert Vines. LIVERPOOL REGIONAL GROUP Liverpool regional group met at Bill Kirkpatrick's place at Smithfield on 13th October 84 with 20 members attending. A report was given on the Sydney October meeting followed by a tutorial on Disk Drive Systems given by Ross Hardy. Ross extended his tutorial to include Plato Educational Programs. The tutorials were appreciated by all in attendance and Ross has to be thanked particularly in view of the short notice given, On a technical note Johr Sutherland has made a prototype board which will provide a facility for tone control for those cassette recorders without it. Interested members were provided with a copy of a circuit diagram of this handy board. In addition it was reported that John is investigating into the new VDP chip and the possibility of having 64K RAN Memory - In Consol. John is willing to give a talk on this as soon as he has further information available. Please note that the December Regional meeting has been ากสา changed owing to the Sydney meeting now being held on the 2nd Saturday in December. There will be no meeting ir January 1985. Please make note of the following dates and venue for the next two meetings -FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER 84 7.30PM Stan Puckle 15 Richmond Cr CAMPBELLTOWN PH:- 046 25-6157 FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 85 7.30PE Hans Zecevic 33 Malinya Cr, MOOREBANK

PH:- 6008716

a prosperous 1985.

The theme for these meetings will be further advised.

May I take this opportunity in wishing all members and their families a very Merry Xmas and

5



NEPEAN REGIONAL GROUP Meetings:- Every first and third Monday at Penrith Police-Citizens Boy's Club.

Contacts:-Malcolm Tutor (047) 333-673 Mel Copeland (047) 351-340

HIGHLIGHTS OF NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF TISHUG(SND).

1. Education continues to hold the Member's interest as each week a floor member gives a lesson on programming in BASIC. Junior members as well as seniors have been brave enought to "Have A Go" and stand up before the group.

Even simple commands give rise to discussion leading to snippets of information which even the experienced guys haven't come across before.

2. The group is providing Polarity Reversers for those people whose cassette players require the REMOTE reversed.

3. Modems have provided an interesting topic of conversation and demonstrations showing the TISHUG Bulletin Board have been well received,

4. Popular discussion topics have ranged from lightning strikes accessing computers VIA Modems to Static Electricity and position of the Console to care of modules.

5. A TI99/4A was completely dismantled at a Meeting and the parts explained to the group then the Module Port socket and pins cleaned to remove the problem of "lock-up" and electronic hygiene was advised.

6. An attempt is now under way to convert some "Apple" public domain software for use by High School Students but more listings from whatever Language would be welcome if any reader could phone info through.

KIND REGARDS TO ALL.

ILLAWARRA REGIONAL GROUP

December's meeting has been put back one week to 10/12/84. It will remain the Monday evening following the TISHUG meeting.

As it is the last get together for the year, it is intended that it be more of a fun night. If members could bring along a small plate of goodies it would be appreciated. Assembly Language tutorials given by Geoff Trott have been keenly attended. Basic Language tutorials should finish at the December meeting.

TIME: 7:30 PM for Basic tutorials 8:00 PM for break up meeting

VENUE: The Shop 4 Home Computers Waters Walkway Corrimal

CONTACT: Bob Montgomery



MARRICKVILLE REGIONAL

We conducted out final group meting for 1984 a few weeks ago, and discussed Club Software, SND and new products both hardware and software now on sale including the new range of Book/Cassettes available from JARCAR ELECTRONICS. (See Chris Exton's review with Mark's in tis publication). The next meeting for this group is planned for February next year at a new venue.

TI.S.R.U.G REPORT.

For members in the SUTHERLAND AREA, the new Regional group has been formed...called the TI SUTHERLAND REGIONAL User Group. For more information, phone Lorraine Ashbrooke on (02)5204932 at Engadine.

TI.S.H.U.G (Australia) is such a large group, of just over 1,000 members, that even though members come from miles around to attend the Big MONTHLY GET-TO-GETHER, For many this is impossible. So, over a year ago, Shane decided that we should conduct local HOME GROUPS, so that members, could socially meet each other, in the comfort of members homes around this vast city of ours.

This would add a personal touch to the group, and provide an outlet for distribution of Club software, and the passing on of the latest news to those who couldn't attend the main meeting.

After a while, some of these groups became so large, that Regional leaders asked their members to help them out. We later saw new Regional Committees being formed to help share the work-load. And for those home groups which had become too large, they looked around for a HALL.

The TI.S.H.U.G Exectutive Committee decided, that they would help these larger Regional groups, with special funds, to assist with the HALL hire costs etc.

If you are living in an area which has no Regional group, why not offer your home for these meetings. You don't need any special skills, other than just being yourself, and collecting Club software tapes at the Big meeting and making them available at your home group.

POINTERS FOR HOME GROUP LEADERS:

(1)Start the meeting off with a warm welcome and introduce each other. (2) Find out what each member does with thier computer, and what they hope to get out of having one. (3)Chat together about any problems they may have with programs they may be writing, or converting from another brand of Basic etc. (4)Provide one or two demonstraions of new modules, or other software, (5)If a member of that group is Techically minded, talk about things you would like to have as peripherals, and channel that information back to the Technical Co-Ordinator. (6)Share with each other. This is what Regional groups can do, that can't be done at a BIG MONTHLY MEETING. Learn from each other, and encourage the talented potential program authors.

(7) If you hear of a particular talented individual in another Regional Group, or a representaive of a company that may support goodies usable on your TI, invite that person to speak at your group.

Regional Groups are fun. Contact a committee member about getting one going in your local area, you'll find they'll be supportive, and will offer assistance in getting your group underway.

Best Wishes, Jim.

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### **MINI MEM LINK**

Anyone using my routine for multi colour mode may have come to the same conclusion that I did, very pretty but not much practical use, so here's a program to enhance TI basic screen handling capabilitie that far outstrip any other popular micro, so if you have a MIMIMEM and want to work wonders with your screen, this program is a must.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The program gives the user 4 new subprograms to scroll any amount of lines on the screen (ie, the whole screen, or say only line 7 to 15). In any direction (up, down, left, and right) for any specified amount of times to scroll distant objects slower than near objects to give perspective to your picture. Lastly you may also specify the mode of scrolling. Either wrap around screen mode or the vacated screen positions can be filed with blanks.

THE COMMANDS ARE:-1 CALL LINK("UP",R,T,B) 2 CALL LINK("DOWN",R,T,B) 3 CALL LINK("LEFT",R,T,B) 4 CALL LINK("RIGHT",R,T,B)

The parameters R,T, & B can be variables or constants and operate as follows. R-REPETITION. The number of times you want the

specified part of the screen to scroll. If R is a negative number the screen will scroll that number of times in "wrap around mode", if R is a positive number the screen will scroll leaving blanks behind it. T-TOPLINE. As I said, you don't have to scroll the whole screen. You may scroll only a few lines, TOPLINE is the lowest line number to be included in the scroll. B-BOTTOMLINE. This is the highest number to be

included in the scroll.

EXAMPLE -- CALL LINK("DOWN ",10,3,16) will scroll lines 3 to 16 down 10 times leaving the vacated 10 lines blank.

EXAMPLE -- CALL LINK("LEFT ",-12,10,24) will scroll lines 10 to 24 left 12 times filling the right hand side of the screen with what was on the left.

\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\*

Due to blatent bad programming there are no error traps, so do not specify an R value of zero, or a screen line number less than 1 or greater than 24

OK TO LOAD THE MACHINE CODE TYPE IN FOLLOWING PROGRAM SAVE CS1. RUN PROGRAM. IF THE CHECKSUM IS CORRECT, THE CORRECT CODE WILL HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO THE MINIMEM. YOU CAN THEN "NEW" OR "QUIT". YOU ARE NOW READY TO USE THE SUBPRORAMS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. TRY THE SAMPLE PROGRAM ITS A GOOD DEMONSTRATION OF ONE WAY TO USE THE SUBPROGRAMS. 100 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 110 REM SCREEN SCROLLING 120 REM ROUTINES IN MACHINE 130 REM CODE, FOR MINIMEMORY 140 REM ONLY 150 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 160 REM 170 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 180 REM WRITTEN BY S.MICHEL 190 REM JULY 1983 200 REM\* 210 REM 220 REM

230 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 240 REM (C) SYDNEY MICHEL

250 REM 16 FOUNDER WAYS

BRIDGEMARY 260 REM. 270 REM GOSPORT

280 REM HANTS. PO13 OLR

290 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 300 REM

310 DATA 194,139,6,160,125,230,2,1,125,64,193,199,21,8,

192,6,2,32,255,224,2,2,0, 32

320 DATA 4,32,96,48,16,6,2,3,32,32,204,67,2,129,125,96, 22,252,192,6,2,1,125,98,2 ,2,0

330 DATA 32,2,32,255,192,4,32,96,48,2,32,0,32,4,32,96,4 0,129,64,22,246,2,1,125,6 4.2

340 DATA 32,255,224,4,32,96,40,193,199,21,1,5,196,6,4,2 2,212,4,90,16,0,16,0,194, 75.4

350 DATA 192,2,1,0,1,6,160,126,24,193,32,131,74,5,129,6 ,160,126,24,193,96,131,74

360 DATA 129,6,160,126,24,193,160,131,74,4,199,193,4,17 ,1,5,135,10,86,10,85,4,89 4

370 DATA 32,96,68,4,32,96,28,18,0,4,9,194,139,6,160,125 ,230,2,38,255,192,2,1,125 .64

380 DATA 193,199,21,8,192,5,2,32,255,224,2,2,0,32,4,32 390 DATA 96,48,16,6,23,32,32,204,67,2,129,125,96,22,252 192,5,2,1,125,98,2,2,0,3 2

400 DATA 16,2,2,32,0,64,4,32,96,48,2,32,255,224,4,32,96 ,40,129,128,22,246,2,1,12 5,64

410 DATA 2,32,0,32,4,32,96,40,193,199,21,1,5,196,6,4,22 ,211,4,90,194,139,6,160,1

420 DATA 230,2,37,255,224,195,5,2,2,0,32,193,199,21,4,1 92, 5, 4, 32, 96, 44, 16, 2, 2, 1,

32.32 430 DATA 216,1,125,96,2,1,125,64,192,5,4,32,96,48,5,29, 4,32,96,40,2,37,0,32,129 440 DATA 133,22,232,193,76,193,199,21,1,5,196,6,4,22,22 6,4,90,194,139,6,160,125,

230

450 DATA 2,37,255,224,195,5,2,2,0 460 DATA 32,193,199,21,6,192,5,2,32,0,31,4,32,96,44,16, 2,2,1,32,32,6,193,200,1,1 25

470 DATA 96,2,1,125,98,192,5,4,32,96,48,6,1,4,32,96,40, 2,37,0,32,129,133,22,229

480 DATA 76,193,199,21,1,5,196,6,4,22,223,4,90 490 DATA 127,36,127,208

500 DATA 68,79,87,78,32,32,125,130,85,80,32,32,32,32,12 6,36,76,69,70,84,32,32,12

510 DATA 138,82,73,71,72,84,32,126,212

520 FOR A=32130 TO 32547

530 READ B 540 GOSUB 700

550 NEXT A

560 FOR A=28700 TO 28703

570 READ B 580 GOSUB 700

590 NEXT A

600 FOR A=32720 TO 32751

610 READ B 620 GOSUB 700

630 NEXT A

640 CALL CLEAR

650 IF CS=33113 THEN 680 660 PRINT "CHECKSUM INCORRECT": :"CHECK DATA VALUES"

670 STOP 680 PRINT "CHECKSUM OK.": : "TYPE IN ""NEW""...SUBPROGRA MS READY FOR USE"

690 END

700 CALL LOAD(A,B)

710 CS=CS+B

720 RETURN

730 REM WHEN I ENTERED THE DATA I MADE 15 ERRORS, GOOD LUCK, SYD

100 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 110 REM SAMPLE PROGRAM TO SHOW TYPICAL USE OF 120 REM SCROLLING SUBPROGRAM 130 REM 140 REM USING MINIMEMORY 150 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* BY SYD MICHEL 160 REM 170 REM \*\*\*COPYRIGHT\*\*\*\*\*\* 180 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 190 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 200 REM INSTRUCTIONS 210 REM 220 REM JUST TAP ANY KEY

230 REM TO AVOID THE ROCKS\*\* 240 REM ON THE ROD HITTING 250 REM YOUR FRONT TYPE

260 REM\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

270 REM INITIALISE 280 OPTION BASE 1 290 RANDOMIZE 300 R=6 310 W=2 320 DEF RAND=INT(RND\*6)+1 330 DIM C\$(2),MILE\$(12),DAMAGE\$(6) 340 RESTORE 350 CALL CLEAR 360 CALL SCREEN(5) 370 REM SET UP CHAR COLOURS 380 DATA 2,11,5,3,9,11,4,7,9,5,13,12,6,12,2 390 FOR I=1 TO 5 400 READ CH, FORE, BACK 410 CALL COLOR(CH, FORE, BACK) 420 NEXT I 430 REM DEFINE CHARS 440 C\$(1)="00000000183C7EFF" 450 C\$(2)="0103070F1F3F7FFF" 460 C\$(3)="80C0E0F0F8FCFEFF" 490 C\$(6)="8040201008040201" 500 C\$(7)="00070F0F0F0F0F0F" 510 C\$(8)="OFOFOFOFOFOFOFOF" 520 C\$(9)="04048C9C8C8C8C8C" 530 C\$(10)="8CFCFC8080808080" 540 C\$(11)="0" 550 C\$(12)="003F4080FFA77720" 560 C\$(13)="00804020FFC9DD08" 570 C\$(14)="00804020FFD5C914" 580 C\$(15)="003F4080FFD72750" 590 C\$(16)="00187C7E3E1C18" 600 DATA 40,1,41,2,42,3,43,4,48,5,49,6,50,3,51,2,52,4,5 6,5,57,6,64,7,65,8,66,9,6 7,10,68,11,72,11 610 DATA 73,16,80,11,81,12,82,11,83,13,84,11,85,15,86,1 1.87.14 620 FOR I=1 TO 26 630 READ ASCI, DEFN 640 CALL CHAR(ASCI,C\$(DEFN)) 650 NEXT T 660 REM SET UP SCREEN 670 CALL HCHAR(2,19,40) 680 DRAW\$(1)=" ( 1+\* )++1\* 690 DRAW\$(2)=" )+++\*)+0++0+0+++\*\* )+\*\* )+++1+\* )+01+0+0++1++\* 700 DRAW\$(3)=" )+0+++1+1+++1+0++++1++\* )D++\* D+D++++1 +1+++++++++++++1++++++ 710 DRAW\$(1)=DRAW\$(1)&DRAW\$(2)&DRAW\$(3) 720 FOR ROW=3 TO 8 730 FOR COL=1 TO 32 740 CALL HCHAR(ROW, COL, ASC(SEG\$(DRAW\$(1), COL+32\*(ROW-3) (1)))750 NEXT COL 760 NEXT ROW 770 CALL HCHAR(9,1,43,32) 780 A\$(1)="++++34422+++++++++++++++++++++++++344844942+ +++3442+342++++++++++ 790 A\$(2)="34448444942+3444484844442++++++44484444444 9444489844442+++++34" 810 A\$(1)=A\$(1)&A\$(2)&A\$(3) 820 FOR ROW=10 TO 14 830 FOR COL=1 TO 32 840 CALL HCHAR(ROW, COL, ASC(SEG\$(A\$(1), COL+32\*(ROW-10), 1 ))) 850 NEXT COL 860 NEXT ROW 870 REM LOAD MILAGE AND DAMAGE INFO 880 RESTORE 1710 890 FOR V=1 TO 11 900 READ MILE\$(V) 910 NEXT V 920 FOR V=1 TO 6 930 READ DAMAGE\$(V) 940 NEXT V 950 REM CACTUS ANS SPRITE 1940 A=0 1950 D=0 1960 I=0 1970 M=0 1980 R=6

1990 KETURN 2000 REM DISPLAY AT SUBROUTINE 2010 FOR II=TO LEN(MSG\$) 2020 CALL HCHAR(24,II+COL,ASC(SEG\$(MSG\$,II,1))) 2030 NEXT II 2040 RETURN 2050 ~~~

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and the second sec
100 REM **************
110 REM * RABID *
120 REM *BY CULLHANE GIBBS*
130 REM *IN EXTENDED BASIC*
140 REM *REQUIRE JOYSTICKS*
150 REM ********************
155 REM FROM ATTIC
160 CALL MAGNIFY(2)
170 RANDOMIZE
180 CALL CHAR(47."002277FFFF
2A0000")
190 CALL CHAR(94."123422256F
800451")
200 CALL CHAR(64, 383810768
210 CALL CHAR(124 "20502070A
210 CALL CHAR(124, 20002070A
220 CALL CLEAR CALL SCREE
N(2)
230 FOR COLOUR=2 TO 12 :: CA
LL COLOR(COLOUR.COLOUR+1.2)
: NEXT COLOUR
240 PRINT " RABIS":"BY C
ULLHANE GIBBS": "AND JOYSTICK
S" :: PRINT :: PRINT "IN
STRUCTIONS:"
250 PRINT "AVOID RABID,":"
KNIFE WEILDING MANIACS.":"TO
DEFEND YOURSELF"
260 PRINT "PPRESS YOUR FIREF
UTTON": "TO RELEASE A SHORT F
LAME": "WHICH WILL BURN I
N CTADTE NUEN ALL
N SIAKIS WHEN ALL
LED "."ONCE VOILADE VILLED T
HE". "CAME IS OVER ". "YOU
CAN FIRE ONLY"."IN ONE DIRE
CTION-": "TO THE LEFT"
280 PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY"
290 FOR D=10 TO 50 :: CALL S
OUND(D,701,0):: CALL SOUND(-
100,-8,0):: CALL SOUND(-
50,-4,10):: CALL SOUND(-100,
-2,0):: NEXT D
300 CALL KEY(0, KEP, SEP):: IF
SEP=0 THEN 300 ELSE 310
310 CALL CLEAR
320 PRINT "SCORECHART:" :: P
KINT NA WANTAG LOON II
DETNE A DETNE 14 YOUN A DE
TNT
340 PDINT "PPECS AV VEV TO B
EGIN"
350 CALL SOUND(-1000,-8.0)
360 PRINT :: PRINT :: PRINT
.: PRINT .: PRINT :: PRINT :
: PRINT :: PRINT :: PRIN
T :: PRINT
370 CALL KEY(0,K,S):   IF S=0
THEN 370 ELSE 380
380 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT "
GET READY, PLAYER!" :: PRINT
:: PRINT :: PRINT :: PR
INT : PRINT : PRINT : PRI
NT : PRINT : PRINT : PRINT
I :: PRINI :: PRINI :: P
200 FOR TIME_1 TO 500 ** NEY
T TIME
400  SCORE=0
410 CALL CLEAR
420 CALL SPRITE(#11.124.4.70
.200)
430 FOR SPRIT=1 TO 4 :: CALL
SPRITE(#SPRIT,64,5,121,89);
: CALL MOTION(#SPRIT, INT
(RND*10)+1,-INT(RND*10)+1)::
NEXT SPRIT :: MANIC=4
440 DISPLAY AT(1.3):"SCORE:"
SCORE
450 CALL JOYST(1,X,Y):: CALL
MUTION(#11,-Y*2,X*2):: CALL
SUUND(-3,-3,0)



540 CALL COINC(#12,#2,20,A): : IF A=-1 THEN 550 ELSE 590 550 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 560 CALL SOUND(1000,340,0):: CALL PATTERN(#2,94):: SCORE =SCORE+100 :: MANIC=MANI C-1 :: CALL DELSPRITE(#2) 570 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 580 IF MANIC=0 THEN 430 ELSE 590 CALL COINC #12,#3,20,B): : IF B=-1 THEN 600 ELSE 640 600 CALL DELSPRITE #12) 610 CALL SOUND(1000,340,0):: CALL PATTERN(#,94):: SCORE+ SCORE+100 :: MANIC=MANIC -1 :: CALL DELSPRITE(#1) 620 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 630 IF MANIC=0 THEN 430 ELSE 640 CALL COINC(#12,#4,20,C): : IF C=-1 THEN 650 ELSE 700 650 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 660 CALL SOUND(1000,340,):: :CALL ATTERN(#4,94):: SCORE= SCORE+100 :: MANIC=MANIC -1 :: CALL DELSPRITE(#4) 670 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 680 IF MANIC=O THEN 430 ELSE 690 CALL DELSPRITE(#12) 700 CALL COINC(#1,#11,16,T): : IF T=-1 THEN 740 ELSE 710 710 CALL COINC(#2,#11,16,U): : IF U=-1 THEN 740 ELSE 720 720 CALL COINC(#3,#11,16,V): IF V=-1 THEN 740 ELSE 730 730 CALL COINC(#4,#11,18,W): : IF W=-1 THEN 740 ELSE 780 740 FOR DIP=1 TO 28 :: CALL MOTION(#DIP,0,0):: NEXT DIP :: CALL SOUND(-1000,-8,0 ):: CALL PATTERN(#11,94):: F OR DEL=1 TO 50 :: NEXT DEL 750 CALL DELSPRITE(#11):: DI SPLAY AT(23,3):"GAME OVER-ST ART AGAIN Y OR N" :: CAL L KEY(0,P,S):: IF S=0 THEN 7 50 :: IF P=ASC("n")THEN 770 760 IF P=ASC("y")THEN 400 EL 780 GOTO 450



statement as in TI-FORTH, but only the 'endif' implied by the end of a XB line. This means that any alternative actions determined by the IF.. condition have to fit within that XB line or involve a GOTO somewhere else unless the usual simple drop-through to the next line is enough. The XB manual already explicitly forbids inclusion of FOR.NEXT loops within IF..THEN..ELSE statements. No doubt you are already used to getting around this little problem by placing the looping code in a subroutine and using a GOSUM. Subprograms can be used instead, following THEN and ELSE to give more complex and obviously labelled alternative possibilities, but still staying within the confines of a single line with a minimum of leaping about with GOTOs.

This brings us to the subject of the 'dreaded GOTO'. A great deal of heat, and not necessarily much light, has been expended on this subject. 'GOTO' is after all just another statement in pure high level language, an unconditional jump, and one that gives the computer itself absolutely no trouble. At the machine code level, jumps enable the computer to do more than just chomp along a single track of instructions. The question is whether it is help or hindrance in high level languages, and whether other ways of controlling program flow can replace its explicit use to advantage. TI-FORTH does without it, but that most procedural and recursive of languages, TI-LOGO, still finds it useful. Pascal tries to do without it. What we are dealing with is XB as it exists, and XB can't do without GOTOS. If anything should be considered as reprehensible in a high-level language, it is any need to provide PEEK and POKE.

The great weakness of GOTO as a language element is that it is so readily abused, because undisciplined use makes the program code inefficient and hard for people to follow (Basic interpreters don't find any troubles though). The genuine message from 'structured programming' ideas is not that BASIC is bad for having GOTOs, but that most BASICs (TI console Basic is typical) make it necessary for the programmer to exercise real restraint if terrible tangles of GOTOs are to be avoided.

Once you use XB subprograms to chop up a program into small hunks, you have automatically eliminated great leaps around with GOTOs. All you need then is to remember the comments on using subprogram CALLs as statements in IF..THEN..ELSE, to take a little care in laying out the logic flow, and to make your main program little more then a series of subprogram CALLs. You will then find it very much easier to debug or develop programs. Backwards GOTOs over more than one or two lines of code, or any forward GOTOs at all, should only occur under the most regular of logical layouts, as in SUB BASICLINE in the SIMPLIST example. Single recursive lines such as in line 620 of SIMPLIST are very effective. It's a pity that the designers of XB didn't add the "MYSELF" function as in TI-FORTH to enhance such constructions.

This advice conflicts with that frequently given in books and articles on Basic, even from reputable sources. However if you follow the advice here you will find that you are automatically generating structured control, even though in XB you have to use explicit GOTOs to do it. It's the subprogram feature of XB that makes the real difference, and DO..WHILES etc. would merely be icing on the cake.

One last little matter before we go on to other topics. Many languages with local procedures also allow specification of global variables, accessible from any part of the program. XB does not allow for separate global variables, and it can be quite tiresome when a parameter defined at the end of one subprogram chain is only needed at the end of another chain, and has to be passed all the way up and down in parameter lists. A way around this is to use the static value feature of XB subprograms.



EXTENDED TOTUS:1.11L

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Well, here is the Christmas/New Year chapter of EXTEND TUTORIAL by Tony McGovern.

#### V. XB STYLE WITH SUBPROGRAMS

Let's now stand back a bit and look at the best way to construct XB edifices. Assume at this stage that we are in the process of developing a program, but not yet to the point where scrunching program length has become important. The first thing to note is that by giving the subprograms good descriptive names you have already gone a long way to making your program self-explanatory.

How big should individual subprograms be allowed to get ? After all, one of the reasons for using them is to break up big programs into manageable hunks. We will use the term 'line' to refer to a multi-statement XB line identified by a line number. My own prejudice is that, except in special circumstances, subprograms should be no more than about 10 lines long, and mostly rather less than that. What makes an exceptional circumstance? An obvious one is in title blocks, like that in SIMPLIST which was left as an almost bare stub. A full version would provide graphics and advice screens, which can be tediously long to write, but contain very little in the way of branching decisions or variable assignments. Another example is where a familiar routine, that already works, is used with little variation as in COLIST where the disk directory routine from the Disk Manual is incorporated as a subprogram with only minor changes. In any such situation where long subprograms are justified, the lists of parameters passed will be short or non-existent.

The other extreme is short one or two liners which are frequently CALLed for small special tasks, more or less your own customized extension of the built-in set of subprograms. In between in length, but far more complex, you will have subprograms with extensive parameter lists and the logic which carries the burden of program flow.

The advice is usually given that subroutines should be used only when a section of code is used repeatedly. That is not true even for second or lower level subprograms unless you are desperate for more memory space. Some subprograms may be CALLed only once from within another subprogram but are of value in making your code easier to read and develop. These are associated with the branching of program flow by means of IF.THEN.ELSE statements. In either TI BASIC or XB, FOR-NEXT loops may extend indefinitely with NEXT acting as delimiter. Unfortunately in extending BASIC to XB, TI did not provide an "ENDIF"

3000 SUB PAGELENGTH(A,B):: IF A THEN C=B ELSE B=C 3010 SUBEND

If the write flag is set as CALL PAGELENGTH(1,66) the value 66 is stored in the subprogram local variable C, while CALL PAGELENGTH(0,PL) will retrieve that value into PL. This is clumsier than having global variables, but is also more protected from unwanted interference. XB does not enforce any hierarchy of subprogram levels, so PAGELENGTH can be written to, or read from, at any level in the program. The example is for one parameter only, but is easily extended. You could for instance store a whole array dimensioned within a subprogram, and read or write a particular element using the sign of the element number as the READ/WRITE flag. A zero R/W flag could be used as a signal to clear the whole array if desired.

4000 SUB FREEZER(A,B):: DIM F(..) 4010 IF A>O THEN B=F(A)ELSE F(-A)=B 4020 SUBEND



### VI. PRE-SCAN SWITCH COMMANDS

The little supplementary booklet that comes with the current Version 110 of Extended Basic introduces a new pair of reserved words, !@P+ and !@P-. These ha the form of a tail remark (XB manual p38) and so are These have ignored entirely by the earlier V.100 of XB. If the XB interpreter finds an exclamation mark ! outside any DATA string or string enclosed by quotes, it treats the rest of that line as though it were a REM statement. The V.110 interpreter has the added ability to recognize this pair of words beginning with ! as being distinct from normal tail remarks when used as a single word statement. Their use is allowed only at the end of a line so that V.100 just ignores them, not creating any incompatibility problems between versions, something that TI was always conscientious TI then couldn't let these commands actually about. do anything during program execution! So why are they there ?

The XB manual addendum, p7, tells the story. These switch commands allow you to control the operation of the pre-scan through the program by the interpreter -- that agonizing time interval after RUN is entered before the program starts executing. The interpreter is grinding its way through your program, byte by byte, ignoring only the messages in DATA, REMs and tail remarks. Other than these there is nothing that it can afford to ignore until it has actually looked at it. The pre-scan sets up the storage areas and lookup procedures for variables, arrays, data, sub-programs and DEFs used by the interpreter as the program runs. Of course once it has set aside space for a variable and its lookup linkages, then it doesn't need to do it again or even to have to decide it has already fixed it up earlier. The pre-scan switch commands allow the programmer, from a superior vantage point, to turn the pre-scan off and on throughout the program so that it only looks at what it really needs to look at to do its job.

What does the programmer gain by going to all this extra trouble? The most obvious result is a reduction of pre-scan time. This can be significant in long programs. The 6 to 7 seconds for TXB, a 12K program, may still seem long but beats 4 times that. In a later chapter we will see how it can be used to fine tune run time behaviour as well. What price does the programmer pay for these benefits? The necessary penalty is the memory space taken by the extra statements. The hidden penalry, incurred while writing programs, is the inscrutable bugs that may be introduced into the code and the loss of some program checking during pre-scan such as FOR-NEXT nesting.



Let's work our way through the XB manual's prescriptions. Some of these help give insight into the way XB conducts its affairs. My experience is that some of the restrictions need not be followed strictly as laid down, as long as the essential spirit is observed, while some are absolute, and others are in between. These last are the ones where it is possible to imagine another version of XB doing things differently while still being according to the book. This is always the danger in using unspecified properties or "undocumented features". It is not such a problem with XB since TI pulled the plug on the 99/4a and made XB a language as dead as Latin.

#### (1) DATA statements :-

The pre-scan locates the first DATA statement and sets XB's data pointer for the first READ operation to use. If the first DATA is skipped in the pre-scan, then RESTORE must be invoked before the first READ to set the data pointer correctly. If this is done, the XB manual's advice can be ignored.

#### (2) Variables :-

Each variable must be scanned once, otherwise XB won't have it in its linked list of pointers to names and storage locations. This can be the source of some truly evil program bugs, where a syntax error message results from a line of code which looks perfectly correct. The reason can be that injudicious positioning of pre-scan switch commands has left the interpreter with something that should be a variable, but can't be located as such. Being a non-variable is a much worse fate than merely being set to zero.

OPTION BASE 1 affects how storage is allocated and normally precedes any array references. If hidden from the pre-scan by !@P- then the default 0 will apply.

The manual says that the first occurrence of any variable or array must be included in the pre-scan. This would seem to be necessary for arrays, in the DIM statement, unless you are using the default (no DIM) dimensioning. Simple variables can be pre-scanned anywhere as long as it's at least once. Try the little sample program

100 CALL CLEAR :: !@P-200 I=1 :: PRINT I 300 !@P+ 400 I=2

Run this program and there will be no problems. Delete line 400 and see what happens. Now you will have a syntax error in a line that by itself is perfectly correct.

#### (3) Sub-programs :-

The XB manual recommends that the first CALL to any sub-program be included in the pre-scan. It would appear that if the first CALL to a user defined sub-program occurs after its own SUB (from within a later sub-program) then the necessary inclusion of the SUB and SUBEND markers suffices.

Built-in sub-programs of course do not have associated SUB statements, so a CALL must be included in the pre-scan if the program is to run normally. Try this example.

100 FOR I=1 TO 1000 :: 1@P-

- 200 CALL SCREEN(12)
- 300 !@P+ 400 NEXT I

500 SUB ANYTHING :: CALL SCREEN(3):: SUBEND

This will run even though SCREEN is pre-scanned only in a subprogram. Delete line #500 and it will crash if you are running XB with the 32K memory expansion. In VDP RAM (console only) it still executes but only at about 1/3 the speed.

What happens if an array is referenced in the parameter list of a sub-program, but not dimensioned until a later sub-program? If you recall the discussion on passing arrays by reference, you won't be surprised to find that XB is smart enough to hold over assigning space for the array until it comes across a genuine program reference. Try this little example

100 CALL SECOND 200 SUB FIRST(A()):: PRINT A(2U):: SUBEND 300 SUB SECOND :: !@P-400 DIM A(20):: CALL FIRST(A()) 500 !@P+ 600 SUBEND

This program crashes with a syntax error in 400 in SECOND. Now delete the pre-scan commands and the program will run. If you further delete DIM A(20):: in line 400 the program will crash in 200 with a subscript error.

(4) DEF, SUB and SUBEND :-

Do as the book says. XB needs these in the pre-scan to set things up correctly.

The pre-scan switch doesn't have much effect unless the program is of substantial size, so it isn't worth worrying about too much in the early stages of a program's development beyond being prepared for the possibility. The XB manual supplement (p10) shows how all variable and sub-program declarations may be gathered together to minimize the range of the pre-scan, by using a GOTO to jump over the list to the first executable statement. This can be gotten away with since XB does not do a complete check for correct syntax until it comes to execute the line. This is the only virtue one can ascribe to XB's failure to reject all invalid lines at entry time. The same technique can be used within a sub-program, and I have found it very convenient for this same GOTO to reserve a hiding place in which to tuck away the subroutines accessed by GOSUBs within the sub-program.

That's all from Funnelweb Farm for this year. Merry Xmas to everyone out there who has been following this tour through the features of Extended What do we want for Xmas? Well..., apart from Basic. another PE Box to reduce the congestion around this machine, perhaps someone out there will write a letter to our esteemed Editor for the SND with the solution to a problem that has been bugging us ever since our second disk came on line (after incredible mail-order traumas). How can a XB program be made to recover gracefully from an attempt to read from an empty drive ? So far nothing has worked and another XB bug has been exposed. I would also appreciate hearing about any bugs you have discovered in XB. I already have a small collection, and these and any new ones sent in will appear in a forthcoming Tutorial,

Some good reading from TI is the Software Development Handbook from TI's UK microprosessor operation (2nd Ed. 1981). It doesn't recognize the existence of the 99/4a computer, but at least half the book is of general programming interest or on 9900 Assembly language. I fear that it may be quite expensive, rather than cheap like the little TI/Radio Shack volumes.

What Chrissy presents can you give to a TI-99er who has almost everything ? TI-FORTH from TISHUG will keep them absorbed for a long time to come. It's almost as much fun as TI-LOGO, very much in the same spirit but more technical and a little less recursive. Good books on FORTH are "Starting Forth" by L. Brodie and "Forth Fundamentals, Vol.1" by C. Kevin McCabe.

All the best from Funnelweb Farm for Xmas and the New Year and the same from the Newcastle group to the rest of TISHUG.



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420 PRINT " BERNIE ELSNER T.I.U.P.": : 430 PRINT " Texas Instrument

1 1 1 450 PRINT " PROGRAM TO PRINT

of Perth

s Users": : 440 PRINT "

": :

PRIMINATIONS TO TYPE ION

The program listing below, was sent to me some time ago, by Bernie Elsner of the Texas Instruments User's of Perth in Western Australia. If you have a printer, it will print a Calendar for you, between the years 1905 & 2099.

Infact, you can see the work of this program in this Christmas issue of the Sydney News Digest.

There are two interesting aspects to this program ... (1)You will notice that line number 370 has more than the usual amount of lines supposed to be available to type in, and (2) This is a great way to check on the day of your birth, if you so desire.

Now lets take a quick look at point #1 just mentioned...As you are aware, you can usually only type 4 lines of text onto any TI BASIC program line, and no more than 5 lines of text in Extended Basic. The program below, will run in both basics, but to obtain up to 7 lines of text per program line, all you have to do is simply create that line, then EDIT it by typing <FCTN> X As you type in this program, you will see what I mean. 110 REM ### CALENDAR/1 #### 120 REM

130 REM PROGRAM TO PRINT A 140 REM CALENDAR FOR ANY 150 REM YEAR 1905 TO 1099. 160 REM 170 REM BERNIE ELSNER.TIUP. 180 REM 200 REM 210 CALL CLEAR 220 PRINT "PRINTER OUTPUT FI

230 FILE\$="RS232/1.BA=9600.D

A=8" 240 CALL KEY(O,KY,ST) 250 IF KY=78 THEN 290 260 IF KY<>89 THEN 240 270 PRINT " NEW FILE NAME IS -> ": . 280 INPUT FILE\$ 290 CALL CLEAR 300 PRINT " INITIALIZ ..... ING!": 1 1 310 DIM M(12), E\$(12), D\$(31), H\$(504)320 OPEN #1:FILE\$,OUTPUT 330 DATA JAN, 31, FEB, 0, MAR, 31 , APR, 30, MAY, 31, JUN, 30, JUL, 31 AUG, 31, SEP, 30, OCT, 31, NO V.30.DEC.31 340 FOR I=1 TO 12 350 READ E\$(I),M(I) 

 350
 READ E&(1), M(1)

 360
 NEXT I

 370
 DATA " 1", " 2", " 3", " 4"

 "5"," 6", " 7", " 8", " 9", "1

 0","11","12","13","14","

 15","16","17","18","19","20"

 "21","22","23","24","25","2

 6","27","28","29","30","

 31"

 380 FOR I=1 TO 31

390 READ D\$(I)

400 NEXT I 410 CALL CLEAR

A CALENDAR": : 460 PRINT " FOR ANY YEAR FRO M 1905-2099": : : : : : : : : 470 INPUT " YEAR REQUIRED I S -> ":Y 480 IF Y=INT(Y)THEN 530 490 PRINT : : : 500 PRINT "NOT A VALID YEAR. TRY AGAIN." 510 PRINT 520 GOTO 470 530 IF Y<1905 THEN 490 540 IF Y>2099 THEN 490 550 CALL CLEAR 560 PRINT " WAIT ..... 22 SECONDS": : : : : : : : : : : : 570 B=Y-1905 580 W=B\*365 590 C=INT(B/4) 600 W=W+C 610 C=INT(W/7) 620 S=W-7\*C 630 IF Y/4=INT(Y/4)THEN 660 640 M(2)=28 650 GOTO 670 660 M(2)=29 670 PRINT 680 N=1 690 FOR J=1 TO 12 700 X=S 710 GOSUB 1280 720 FOR C=1 TO M(J) 730 H\$(N)=" "&D\$(C) 740 N = N + 1750 NEXT C 760 X=42-S-M(J) 770 GOSUB 1280 780 A=INT((S+M(J))/7) 790 S=(S+M(J))-A\*7 800 NEXT J 810 CALL CLEAR 820 PRINT " PRINTING CALEND AR ";Y:::::::::: 830 PRINT #1:CHR\$(27);CHR\$(6 8);CHR\$(27);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(9); "CALENDAR - ";Y 840 N=1 850 V=0 860 FOR Q=1 TO 4 870 F=10 880 PRINT #1:"" 890 FOR R=1 TO 3 900 PRINT #1:CHR\$(27);CHR\$(6 8);CHR\$(F);CHR\$(0);CHR\$(9);E \$(V+R); 910 F=F+24 920 NEXT R 930 V=V+3 940 PRINT #1:"" 950 PRINT #1:"" 960 PRINT #1:""; 970 FOR T=1 TO 3 980 PRINT #1:"SU MO TU WE TH FR SA "; 990 NEXT T 1000 PRINT #1:"" 1010 FOR L=1 TO 6 1020 FOR G=1 TO 3 1030 FOR U=1 TO 7 1040 PRINT #1:H\$(N); 1050 N = N + 11060 NEXT U 1070 PRINT #1:" ... 1080 N=N+35

1090 NEXT G

1100 PRINT #1:"" 1110 N=N-119 1120 NEXT L 1130 N=N+84 1140 NEXT Q 1150 FOR I=1 TO 38 1160 PRINT #1:"" 1170 NEXT I 1180 CALL CLEAR 1190 PRINT " <N> FOR NEXT YEAR": 1200 PRINT " <C> TO CHANG E YEAR": 1210 PRINT " <Q> TO QUIT PROGRAM": : : : : 1230 IF KY=67 THEN 410 1240 IF KY=81 THEN 1330 1250 IF KY<>78 THEN 1220 1260 Y=Y+1 1270 GOTO 540 1280 FOR K=1 TO X 1290 H\$(N)=" 1300 N=N+1 1310 NEXT K 1320 RETURN 1330 CLOSE #1 1340 STOP CLASSIFIED ADVERTS WANT TO SELL: TI-99/4(A) with UHF MODULATOR. \$175 o.n.o. Phone(02)812388. TI-99/4(A) with Extended Basic, cassette player, and a heap of software \$200.00 Ring(02)554715 after 5pm. TI-99/4(A) with Extended Basic Joysticks, Music Maker, Math games, Tapes. \$150.00 Ring(043)884017 SIX GAMES MODULES 4 SALE: Inc: Buckrogers, Tunnels of Doom, etc. from \$25 - \$10 Wed-Sunday (AH)02-3312872 TED NO BA States and a state of the state ON HOLIDAY 101 JANUARY Ū, Stanting () 000 O T 00 Hill Đ e sa ha 0.0 o Onn (周)

### FIGHT SIMULATING FOR REAL



Just when you had finished that program you had to type in, or played that game to read a new high score for Jenny's Younger Set, or studied that special tutorial in the SND... you then wonder 'WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NEXT FOR MY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?'

Well, I had a look around, and discovered something I felt you might like to try out,

One of the most popular programs for any computer is a FLIGHT SIMULATOR, but why I have share with you will take this kind of interest into a new dimension...

SPECIAL PREPAID PROGRAM FLIGHT SIMULATORS AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. takes the pain out of flight training.

All of Flight Simulators' ab initio training courses for class once, three and four instrument ratings include unlimited hours of self practice.

AB-INITIO TO CLASS 4 \$250 Includes up to 10 hours instruction plus unlimited self practice.

AB-INITIO TO CLASS 3 \$450 Includes up to 20 hours instruction plus unlimited self practice.

AB-INITIO TO CLASS 1 \$600 Includes up to 30 hours instruction plus unlimited self practice.

Student has Six months from comencement of training to complete instruction, or upon gaining rating, whichever comes earlier.

RATES ARE FIRN AFTER PAYMENT OF FEES, OTHERWISE LIABLE TO CHANGE.

Class 4 Instruction: Basic I/F + ADF + VOR interceptions & Tracking.

Class 3 Instruction: ADF + WOR Holds & Let-downs.

Class 1 Instruction: ADF, VOR, ILS & DME Holds & Let-downs.

REGULAR RATES: Casual with instructor \$30 per hour, 10 Hour Pre-Paid \$250 Casual without instructor \$20 per hour.

There is one simullator available on the market which provides six degrees of freedom motion and that is the GAT-1.

The GAT-1 is now new, it has ben on the market for more than 15 years.

More than 450 GAT-1 simulators were produced by the Singer-Link Company with production c easing only a few years ago.

The machine is run by an analogue computer which controls the motion of the trainer.

It is perhaps the closest machine available in the G.A. arena that will match modern airline equipment in the degree of realism that it provides to the pilot.

The GAT-1 is still available in Australia with several instrument training organisations.

One of these training operators, Flight Simulators Australia Pty Ltd at Bankstown Airport, has taken a rather unique approach to the application of simulators in general aviation instrument training.

It has decided to lower their rates as a means of allowing pilots to spend more time training or practising instrument flight procedures.

Flight Simulators hopes that pilots will treat its GAT-1 simulators as a means of remaining current.

The company belives that in the past G.A. simulators were primarily used during training for initial issue,

The new approach to costing will allow instrument rated pilots to take an airline approach to the maintenance of a high operating standard.

Casual hire rates are \$30 per hour with an instructor and \$20 per hours without an instructor.

All of Flight Simulators' ab initio training courses for class one, three and four instrument ratings include unlimited hours of self practice.

In addition to the traning facility Flight Simulators markts refurbished examples of the  ${\rm GAT-l}$  trainer.

The trainers are available either through a rental arrangement or complete purchase.

Rental is only available to organisations based in New South Wales.

The initial design of the GAT-1 left plenty of room for expanding the machine's capabilites.

Although the basic version is a "single engine" type the computer has the capacity to accept circuit boards to simulate a twin engine aircraft.

The instrument panel and engine controls also can be modified to reflect a twin engine aircraft cockpit.

Flight Simulators can service and modify the GAT-1 trainer to suit the buyer.

So if your mum or dad tells you 'CO FLY A KITE', then go one better, go learn to fly a real plane.

MERRY CHRISTMAS trom Shane(Editor)



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Greeting once again for another COMMUNICATORS PAGE. Todate, we now have 90 Registered users for the newly vampted TI.S.H.U.G.BBS now with a new name TEXPAC-BBS and a whole new look.

The original program by Robert, has had a face lift by Steven Williams. The new look was designed with USERNUMBER and PASSWORD features. Visitors with other brands of computers can still come on-line, but will only be ristricted by not being able to Down-load software or change PASSWORDS. Before, Visitors were told that software downloading should not be attempted, but just like a WET PAINT SIGN, they tried just to see why they couldn't do it.

The Electronic Mail will only go to the one it is supposed to, which makes it just that much more personal.

All the previous information like News(loacal & overseas), Jokes, Programming hints, and all of the other goodies have been taken off and new material is now on the system for Christmas.

If you have lost your sheet provided, with PASSWORD & USERNUMBER etc, please sign on as VISITOR then PAGE the System Operator.

In an effort to make your Committee even more contactable, many of the Executive are now on modem.

USERNAME	FIRSTNAME	COMMITTEE POSITION HELD
FATSO	PETER	TI.S.H.U.G. CO-ORDINATOR
SECRETARY	JOHN	TI.S.H.U.G. SECRETARY
TRELIB	TERRY	TREASURER/LIBRARIAN
TECHOTIME	ROBERT	TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATOR
TEACHER	PETER	EDUCATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR
COMPUTEX	MARK	TEXPAC-BBS CO-ORDINATOR
SHANE	SHANE	TEXPAC-BBS SYSOP/EDITOR SND
GOWFAR	GREG	ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE

With Modem Technology starting to BOOM!!! Many new and different Electronic Bulletin Boards and Romote CM/P's are cropping up to help cope with assistance.

Two OUT-SIDE BBS'S, THE PROPHET and KEEBOARD BBS welcome TI-99/4(A) users. When you log onto their systems, leave a message to their SYSOP, letting them know that you use a TI, and they will then offer special features such as UP-LOADING and DOWN-LOADING for us. And if you are looking for that very special partner, there is always the DATE BBS, "THE BBS WITH A HEART".

I mentioned about the new PRESTEL SYSTEM coming to Austraila by the New Year by Telecom, well, BANKS are now getting into the act. Very shortly, you'll be able to contact a Bank with your modem, transfer accounts and get them to pay your bills etc.



0.K, here is an up-to-date listing of the systems now in operation...

CITY:	BBS or RCP/M	TELEPHONE #	Comments
NATIONAL	AUST.BEGINNING	01921-?238220000 BIG	
SYDNEY	TEXPAC-BBS	(02)5600926	TI USERS
н	DATE-BBS	5501004	TOGETHERNESS
- 11	THE PROPHET	6287030	
11	KEEBOARD BBS	6313282	
н	DICK SMITH BBS	8872276	RETAIL STORE
11	PUBLIC ACCESS	8083536	There be a second
	MiCC	6621686	MAGAZINE
Ħ	RUNX BBS	802854	3 LINES IN
н	SORCERER UGBBS	3874439	CLUB BBS
11	AUGABBS UGBBS	4516575	APPLE CLUB
H.	THE OMAN UGBBS	4982495	TRS80 CLUB
-	AUSBORNE UGBBS	5682791	OSBORNE CLUB
п.	SYDCOM64 UGBBS	6084262	COMMODORE "
88	MICRO DESIGN	6630151	
BRISBANE	TIBUG-BBS	(07)2636161	9PM-6AM WN.
11	SOFTWARE TOOLS	3789530	Press and and
CANBERRA	RBBS-RCP/M	(062)888318	
"	MICSIC BBS	866334	
MELBOURNE	MICOM	(03)7625088	
n	TBM BBS	5283750	
	TARDIS	677760	
17	SORCERER LIGBBS	8364616	1
	P.R.SYSTEMS	8426857	1
GTPPSLAND	RCP/M	(051)341563	
ADELATDE	MUG BBS	(08)2712043	
DARWIN	RCP/M	(089)277111	
U	OMEN-TT UCBBS	274454	TRS80 CLUB
PERTH	RCP/M	(09)3676068	
"	RMPM	3816070	

Watch them grow, with News, Shopping, Mailing and many other features. If you hear of other systems starting up, contact us and we'll add them on. I know that the ACEBBS (ATARI CLUB) is up and running, but don't have a number on them yet.

Well, have a happy and filling Christmas, and a safe New Year. Let's see you back at the 1985 WORKSHOP/TUTORIAL DAY in February in one piece.



### FRIENDLY GAMES

GRAHAM BALDWIN. TI\*MES.

As I was saying, the use of sound in games can be a subjective issue so all I can do is pass on what I like to hear in a game.

The playing of a short tune while the title or instructions are being displayed can add to a game's entertainment value, but please don't use the Death March theme when the player loses - it has been heard in too many games now.

Musically, I find that a rising melody usually indicates optimism or victory while a falling melody signifies loss or defeat.

A short jingle of three or four notes is easiest written using separate CALL SOUND statements but a longer tune is more easily handled by placing the durations and frequencies of the notes into DATA then READing them into CALL SOUND, as in this program to play "Deep In The Heart Of Texas" demonstrates:-

100 FOR A=1 TO 15 110 READ DUR,NOTE 120 CALL SOUND(DUR,NOTE,1) 130 NEXT A 140 DATA 100,392,200,523,200, 523,300,659,100,392,200,523,200 ,523,400,659,100,784,100,784 150 DATA 100,784,300,784,100, 880,100,659,200,587

This program plays single notes but those among you blessed with musical ability could add extra frequencies and even volume values in DATA to play impressive three-part harmonies.

Not being so blessed I have to pick out single notes by ear on my daughter's toy electronic organ, convert them to frequencies and "guesstimate" the durations to arrive at the tune I first thought of. Would the TT Music Maker Module make life easier I wonder?

A little experimentation on the CALL SOUND statement can be rewarding, such as:-

120 CALL SOUND(DUR,NOTE,1,NOTE \*2,1)

OR

120 CALL SOUND(DUR,NOTE,1,NOTE +1,1)

These give a richer sound quality but slow the execution speed down somewhat and you may find that the duration values need to be altered.

The use of the CALL SOUND within FOR-NEXT loops can, with some trial and error, give just about any sound effect you may require.

The placing of the control variable (or multiples of it) in the duration, frequency or volume of CALL SOUND is a powerful and easy to use programming trick, provided the values stay within CALL SOUND ranges.

This short example simulates a shell falling and exploding.

100 FOR A=1000 TO 700 STEP -20 110 CALL SOUND(-120,A,1) 120 NEXT A 130 FOR A=0 TO 30 STEP 2 140 CALL SOUND(-150,-7,A) 150 NEXT A

Of course, while a FOR-NEXT loop is being performed the rest of the program is suspended until the loop is finished (unless you jump out of it), which can slow play down somewhat, but there's no reason why you can't add bits and pieces within the loop, such as changes to colours or characters. (Incidentally, does anyone know why the TI sound chip supplies frequenciess so far above normal hearing range? Did the TI marketing department decide to aim at the canine world? It would'nt surprise me...)

#### CONTROL KEYS

As some games seem to require three thumbs and a toe to be played successfully it is a such-appreciated gesture if the player is given the chance to pick his own control keys.

This routine gives a choice of left, right and fire keys and can easily to expanded to cover any combination you require.

100 PRINT "CHOOSE YOUR KEY":::

110 PRINT "LEFT "; 120 CALL KEY(3,KL,S) 130 IF S<1 THEN 120 140 PRINT CHR\$(KL):: 150 PRINT "RIGHT "; 160 CALL KEY(3,KR,S) 170 IF S<1 THEN 160 180 PRINT CHR\$(KR):: 190 PRINT "FIRE "; 200 CALL KEY(3,KF,S) 210 IF S<1 THEN 200 220 PRINT CHR\$(KF) 230 IF (KL=KR)+(KL=KF)+(KR=KF) THEN 100



Note the use of "S<1" which prevents the program going further until the chosen key has been pressed and released and the check in line 230 that foils the clever-clogs who selects the same key for each functions. A method of using the variables KL, KR and KF in a program is shown below.

500 CALL KEY(3,K,S) 510 IF K=KL THEN (move left) 520 IF K=KR THEN (move right) 530 IF K<>KF THEN 500 540 (Fire Routine)

If the player presses anything except a preselected key line 530 will send control back to CALL KEY, with no further action being performed.

#### SCORING

Some games need a scoring system, and a high-score facility will appeal to a player's vanity, particularly if he is asked to give his name for display on the screen. This routine checks the current score (SC) against the best score (BST) and requests the player's name if the high-score has been beaten.

100 IF SC<=BST THEN 170 110 BST=SC 120 PRINT "PLEASE ENTER YOUR NAME":: 130 INPUT BEST\$ 140 IF LEN(BEST\$)<25 THEN 170 150 PRINT "TOO LONG. TRY AGAIN,":::: 160 GOTO 130 170 PRINT ::"YOUR SCORE WAS";S C::"BEST SCORE IS";BST;"BY":: BEST\$

You may like to have a "Hall Of Fame" for the top five or ten scores, with the results saved to a cassette file but I feel this is going a bit far, both in execution and memory usage, although a "Top Three" score table is quite feasible using a simple sort routine.

#### LIVES

Depending on the type of game you are writing you may like to give the player several "Lives" as he may become discouraged after being repeatedly wiped-out while learning the game.



You could make the idea more sophisticated by awarding an extra life for each screen completed or 1000 points scored but careful judgement is needed as young players with better reactions than yours may accumulate more lives than you thought possible.

#### GRAPHICS

When writing a game it is all too easy to rush into things and put some crude graphics onto the screen just to see if the game works, and sadly these sometimes get left in the program.

By all means use simple shapes while developing the program but spend some time and sweat on the graphics later - the results are always worthwhile.

After all, you may know that the blob in the top left-hand corner of the screen is a tank or an aeroplane but would anyone else recognise it?

These are several character generator programs on the market (and Home Computing Weekly published one a year or so back) which can make graphics design a pleasure instead of a chore. The better ones even print out the HEX code of the completed character.

Colours can present a problem in that, ideally, a game should be playable using either a colour or monochrome television, and if you write your game using a colour set you may find that some colours are completely invisible when viewed in monochrome. Some compromise in your choice of colours may be requried to put matters right.

#### THE END OF THE GAME

When the game ends don't just let it stop, forcing the player to type RUN if he wants to play again. A simple PRINT "PLAY AGAIN?" AND CALL KEY routine to re-start the program will give a much better impression, but don't forget that some variables may need resetting to zero or null if the program logic is to be retained.

#### FINISHING TOUCHES

When your game is complete you'll probably be sick of the sight of it so put it away for a week or two, then reload it and attack it with the intention of finding faults.

Try everything you can think of to crash the program. Does the logic hold up in all circumstances? Are graphics and sound OK? Are printed characters appearing neatly?

If you can find errors or crashes so will someone else so now is the time to correct them.

Now that your program is perfect it is safe to invite criticism. Get friends or family to try the game and watch them carefully while they play. Look, for example, for worried frowns when the game begins; your instructions may not be clear enough.

Is the game so complex that only you, the writer can understand it, or is it so simple that three year old children fall asleep while playing?

Listen to criticism; you are probably too close to the program to see the blindingly obvious improvement that could lift it out of the ordinary and make it sparkle.

If you critics have to be dragged away from the console after an hour of play you can safely say that you have written a good game.

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If anyone wants to get in touch, about this article or any TI subject my address is:-

32 Ellesmere Drive, SOUTH CROYDON. SURREY. CR2 9EJ.

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Greetings from the TISHUG shop. Judging by the number of phone calls and returned t pes a lot of members are still having problems loading tapes copied on the new high speed copier. For this I apologise, however like all new machines there are bound to be a few teething problems. In fact I now think most of the problems have been overcome and that improved production will be evident from tape No. 20. The two major problems experienced with the copier have been:

Unreliability of master tape - while good quality masters were being used it became apparent that they were not designed for extensive high speed copying and in fact wore out after about 75 copies were made. To overcome this a better quality master has been purchased and 3 masters are now made and each discarded after around 75 copies have been made.

The second problem, while known, may not be so easily overcome. Presently we buy C60 tapes in bulk from a local supplier. These tapes while suitable for normal computer recording are not designed for high speed copying. What I am exploring is the possibility of purchasing proper high speed tapes which I feel, even if they cost a little more, will more than compensate with reliability. Regretably if they do cost a little more the cost will have to be passed on to members.

THIS MONTHS SOFTWARE

Tape No. 20 will be on sale from the December meeting date. Seeing as it will be near Christmas I thought that some musical programmes would be appropriate combined with a few games to keep the kids occupied on rainy days during the holidays. The tape will comprise 13 programmes but will only be recorded on Side A of the tape. No more tapes will be issued using sides A & B at least for a while.

Unfortunatley Tape 20 will not be released on diskette as all the programmes will not fit on the one disk.

However for you disk users - with Editor Assembler and 32K - a demo disk of TI FORTH programmes will be on sale. One of the demos is a great piece of music while the others are various graphic demonstrations. I am sure those with the appropriate peripherals will enjoy this one.

Remember tapes are \$3 at meetings while disks are \$5. Add \$1 extra if ordering by mail

OTHER ITEMS AVAILABLE

Boxes of disks = great value at \$25 per box of 10

Disk file boxes - 90 capacity are \$40 each. These are a very well manufactured product and are real value at this price.

Book - Introduction to Assembly Language at \$23 each.

Book - Programs for the TI at \$21 each.

Cartridge Expanders - yes they have arrived. Cost is \$43 each.

Disk Fixers - also at \$43 each.

Super Duper Disk Copiers - this is our first shipment of these and boy are they great. They will back up a disk using 1 or 2 drives in about 3 passes. No more copying disks file by file. Super Duper requires 32K to operate and is priced at \$43. These are a must for the serious TI user. Get in early if you want one as I only have 5 in stock.

Super DeBugger - disk and documentation \$5

TI FORTH Source Code - 2 disks and documentation \$10

TI-WRITER & MULTIPLAN Enhancements - both on the one disk \$5

Also available for loan are two copies of Brodies, Begining Forth. This is an excellent introduction to this language and should assist you budding programmers.

When ordering any of the items listed above please add an extra \$1 for postage and packing.

REMEMBER! Both BANKCARD and MASTERCARD can now be accepted at the shop or by mail for all purchases.

PLEASE also remember to bring along your small change when purchasing at the club shop on meeting days.



### OTHER NEWS

Recently received were a number of disk from an overseas contact containing some great assembly language games and utilities. My correspondent informs me that some with titles such as LASSO, TI DISK FIXER, TI DISASSEMBLER and TERMINAL EMULATOR are all public domain. I am confirming this and if it is so will release the programmes as club software.

Also soon to be released will be Brian Cabot's award wining software entry "NO FRILLS SPREADSHEET". This programme comes with detailed documentation and will be available for the cost of media production.

SOFTWARE TAPES RELEASED TO DATE

Following a number of requests for this information I have detailed below all programmes contained on respective tapes 1 to 20. I trust all members find this information useful.

TAPE 1 - BASIC

Name that Bone County Fair Derby Draw Paint Life Expectancy Mutant Maze Othello Spider Tiny Math .

#### TAPE 3 - BASIC

Artillerv Backgammon Capitals Dragon Maze Earth Attack Hark the Herald Angels Jingle Bells Safetv Snoopy Christmas

#### TAPE 5 - X BASIC

Alien Destroyer Aussie Fighter Chicken Helper Euchre Marksman N-Vaders Space Battle Up Scope

### TAPE 7 - X BASIC

Gallery Bug Rubik's Cube 99/4A Word Processor Medical Records Math Practice Balloon Voyage

### TAPE 9 - X BASIC

Alien Attack Bizmark Darts Skip to the Loot Mazzo Molasses Man Piring Squad Rescue

### TAPE 11 - EDUCATIONAL

Color Fractions Color Math Elements Fireball \* Hare-n-Tortoise \* Australia Quiz Spell Down World Birds

X Basic



#### TAPE 2 - BASIC

Blockade Camel Co-Ordinate Geometry TI Jumping Jack Jedi Pilot Fire Fighter Yahtzee Alphablos

### TAPE 4 - BASIC

Acey Duce Boggle De-Fuser Forest Fire Going Home Match Pair Space Laser Tunnel Vision

### TAPE 6 - X BASIC

Deep Space Alphabet TI Maths Corner Wars Ear Training Music Say & Spell Read Fast Beethoven Variations

#### TAPE 8 - X BASIC

Cacti Kill Donkey Tail Duck Golf Hot Dog Pompei Trapshoot Zanguest

### TAPE 10 - EDUCATIONAL

Astronomy Aust. Cities Bowling Math \* First Math Homonyms Physics Problems Time Clock Who am I

#### \*\* = X Basic

TAPE 12 - ADVENTURE Aqua Base \* Cave Maze Farmers Dilemma Hobbit \* Lost Island Paranoids Swords & Sorcery Deliver the Cake \* = X Basic

TAPE 14 - X BASIC MUSIC

Aussie Fair Elephant Walk Candy Man Mame Raindrops Yellow Ribbon San Jose Selection Puppytown

TAPE 13 - MUSIC

Sweet & Low . Breezin' Along Sweet Heart Tree Pink Panther Dixie Snoopy Christmas Christmas 1982 Music Tucker Box Rondo Gundagai Mountain **Donkey** Serenade Cords

TAPE 15 - BASIC

Boggler Castle Nova Duck Shoot Miner Puzzle Scrabble Spider Invasion Trench War

TAPE 17 - BASIC

Arrow Zaj Skeet Shoot Auto Maintenance Card List Decorators Helper Stamps File Budget Constellations TI-Bert Centipede Dambuster Flag-O-Rama Library Search Gauntlet Inventions Lotto Selector Mouse Maze Mash Theme Superman Road Runner Story Maker Hot. Lunch Walk in the Woods White Water Zippy 2

### TAPE 19 - 2 BASICS

Grog ™an Hunt Monster Mash Chemistry ET's Secret Maths Chopper Rescue Aces & Jokers English Tennis Luna Landa S\*A\*M Tense Time Berlin II \* Power Wars \* Rear Assault \* Engineer \* Super Fly \* Devastator \* Flags 1 \* Flags 2 \* Dapto Dogs \* Walls of Fire \* Astral Caverns \* Railways \*



#### TAPE 16 - X BASIC

Picture Book (Ships) Solar System Kru1 Bridge Guard Formula 1 Krazy Koala Monopoly \*\* Phantom 5 Xorkle Bat Attack Circus High Jump Dr. Dave Russian War Window Washer Squales Trucker Asteroids Unicorn Medi Alert Bowling Columb a Pinball Schmoo Boxing \*\* 32K required TAPE 18 - ADULTS Application Hello Bartender Party Game Craps Chemin de Fer Roulette 'Touch TAPE 20 - MUSIC & GAMES

Cricket \* Bumble Bee Witch Dance \* Camelot Cycle Jump \* Apple Crunch \* Fur Elise \* Logo Lunch \* Egg Wars \* Lincoln No Bananas \* Morning has Broken \* Let it Be \*



\* = X Basic



	Sec. 1		Ľ
PT 244 10 1 PT 245 8 1 PT 245 22 1 PT 243 22 1 PT 232 10 1 PT 232 12 1 PT 232 17 1 PT 232 1 PT	19         PT         233         9           19         PT         246         1           19         PT         232         2           19         PT         232         2           19         PT         232         2           19         PT         233         1           19         PT         233         24           19         PT         233         24           19         PT         233         24	9 19 7 19 3 19 3 19 3 19 3 19 6 19 8 19 0 19	
TO ADD1 MAKE "P 13 MAKE "R 10 ADR :C :R END	MAKE "T 17 1 MAKE "Y 12 :T :Y :P	MAKE "C 13	
TO ADD2 MAKE "P 11 MAKE "R 13 ADR :C :R END	MAKE "T 19 MAKE "Y 15 :T :Y :P	MAKE "C 11	
TO ADD3 MAKE "P 10 MAKE "R 16 ADR :C :R END	MAKE "T 20 1 MAKE "Y 19 :T :Y :P	MAKE "C 10	
TO ADR :C IF :C > :T ) IF :R > :Y PT 244 :C ADR 1+ :C END	:R :T :Y :P MAKE "C :P M STOP :R :R :T :Y :P	AKE "R 1+	:R
TO CARPET MAKE "C D CAR :C END			
TO P :ALL IF RC? CLEA TELL :ALL S WAIT 30 P :ALL END	AR STOP SC 3 + (RAND	OM * 11) /	9
TO CLEAR CS SM TELL :ALL S SXY 96 96 S END	SC O CARRY 1 STOP	7 SV 0 0	
TO HELP PRINT [ MOT WAIT 180 MOVIE END	VIE RUNS THI	S PROG™AM	3
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		9 9	



**News** Digest

Last month some of the features of the ADVP CHIP were mentioned. This month some the drawbacks will be mentioned.

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WITH ROBERS

Firstly, currently available software

(eg.TI-WRITER, MULTIPLAN, EDITOR-ASS., ETC.) may not be fully compatible ie.they will still appear in a 40 column format not 80 column. Next to use this chip extra memory must be added to allow for the storage of extra data for the video display. The problem of availability (or the lack of it) of suitable internal machine code routines for accessing some of the added features of this new chip.

No doubt as time goes by and the ADVP CHIP becomes more readily available, ways of adapting this chip to the TI-99/4A will become apparent, until then we will just have to wait.

To continue with last months letter from John of Gulgong, regarding the 20 Ma loops. These loops perform the same function as the RS 232 by sending sending serial data to the coupler for transmission. The primary differance between the two systems is that the RS 232 uses varying voltage levels to represent "1"s and "0"s for the data whereas loops use varying current levels to represent the data.

To connect the coupler to the computer refer to the JULY `84 NEWS DIGEST for the connections.

Now as this is the last newsletter for the year I would like to hear from anyone having any projects they would like assistance with or demonstrate at the full-day workshop in FEBRUARY '85.

If anyone has a technical problem or wishes to contribute technical articles then contact me (ROBERT) on 602-4168 between 5.00-8.30 PM or send a letter to "TECHO TIME" P.O. BOX 595 MARRACKVILLE 2204.

UNTIL NEXT YEAR MERRY CHRISTMAS-HAPPY NEW YEAR



by Mark Nielsen.

Recently i had the pleasure of using the Auto Spell-Check program that has been written for the TI-99/4A computer. The program is designed to be used with the TI-WRITER word processor. But can also be used with the EDITOR ASSEMBLER PACKAGE. The program is used to check the spelling of all words in the document against the dictionaries that are stored on the Spell-Checker diskette. The user can also create his or her own dictionaries. The standard dictionary that comes with the program has 20,000 words stored in it, and the facility to use an unlimited ammount of user defined dictionaries.

The use of the program is very simple, the first step is to create then document in the normal manner, through the text editor of the TI-WRITER or the EDITOR for the EDITOR ASSEMBLER. The file must be in DISPLAY/VARIABLE 80 format on the disk. The TI-WRITER automatically stores it's files in this format, but the EDITOR ASSEMBLER can store them in both VARIABLE or FIXED formats. When using the EDITOR ASSEMBLER use the save option from the menu to save the file, when asked what format to use, use the VARIABLE 80 format.

After the document is written we must load in the AUTO SPELL-CHECK program. To load the program in from TI-WRITER, place the system disk (DISK A) into drive #1 and select option 3 from the main menu, you will be presented with a filename, just press enter and the program is automatically loaded. The title screen then appears we press enter to leave the title screen and go on. We are then asked to enter the filename of the file we want to check, remove the system disk from the disk drive and place the disk with the file to be checked on it and then the file is loaded.

After the file is loaded, the program then asks you to replace the system disk (DISK A) and hit enter, the program then checks the text against the first half of the dictionary and then askes for DISK B to be inserted into drive #1 and then it checks the rest of the dictionary. When the program has finished with then main dictionary it will ask for the name of the user defined dictionary, if you have defined any, you type in their names, one at a time, and the text is checked against these dictionaries. If you have no user defined dictionaries then just press enter to go to the next part of the program.

The next part of the program displays the words that it does'nt find in all of the dictionaries, and then you can correct the spelling, if need be and include the word in your own dictionary. This part of the program displays a menu and displays the first word that was not found in the dictionaries. the options available to you at this time are: C to change the spelling of the word on the screen, or choose to dissregard the word and go on to the next word with the "D" option. The next option is "V" to view in context, this displays the sentences surrounding the word, so you can see the word in the context of the document. The last option is "A" to add this word to your own dictionary.

This is done for each and every word that was not found in the dictionaries. After you have done this, you can review what changes you have made, by using the "P" to display the previous word and "N" to display the

next word. After you have been right through the list of words you are asked if you are finished or not, if you are then you have the option of saving the corrected document. Then you are asked if you want to add the words to your own dictionary. If there are no incorrectly spelt words then the program returns to the main menu.

The program is very flexible and easy to use. The potential of the package is enormous, the number of user defined dictionaries is unlimited. This means that you can add as many words to your dictionaries as you like, making the dictionary quite large. The program is ideal for a person who wants the most out of his word processor. With little to no changes to the program, we could see the program loaded into EXTENDED BASIC and used with some of the public domain word processors that use DISPLAY/VARIABLE 80 disk formats. All in all a very good utility.

This valuable UTILITY for TI-WRITER costs a mere \$59.95 from LINDLEY & ASSOCIATES, P.O.BOX 595, MARRICKVILLE, NSW 2204 or 127 CROWLEY ST, ASPLEY. QLD 4034 (07)2636161. A great gift to buy a friend this Christmas.

Surprise! Surprise! Another source of TI99/4A software has come to light, this time from JAYCAR ELECTRONICS,

JAYCAR has imported on a trial basis three cassette based programmes complete with reference books and presented to you in a video case type package.

The programmes are (1) 51 Fun and Educational programmes, (2) Entertainment in TI Basic and Extended Basic, (3) 24 Basic Programes.

The first package has a 90 page book complete with all listings and explanations. Side II of the casette runs an Enhanced Version of Side I

Package No.2 contains a 170 page book again full of listings and explanations. And the cassette rns an Enhanced Version on Side I1.

Number (3) in the current series boasts 220 pages of information. Great for the beginner. Side II of the cassette is a duplicate of Side I, Well there you have it. 'The value is certainly ther and also the quantity. Price range is #17.95-\$19.95

AS I have stated JATCAR are running this on a trial basis, so it is up to TI99er to maintain JAYCARS' interest in this new venture.

I spoke to the Manager/Director GARY JOHNSTON and he told me that there 100 copies in stock so I suggest you ring JAYCAR and at least let them know that we are interested in any sort of of TI software that they may decide to market.



Your newly-elected Education Officer has been spending the last couple of weeks locked away reading some of the exciting new TI99/4A books available from HOLT-SAUNDERS FTY LTD. There are two publishers represented and they should be familiar to most of you - COMPUTE! BOOKS and HAYDEN.

Here are my thoughts on what I found. If would like more information and a cataloo VOU you can contact Maureen Murphy, the Computer Books & Software Manager, Holt-Saunders P/L, 9 Waltham St., Artarmon. 2064. Phone: 439-3633.

FOR THE KIDS ....

There are three books I would place in "suitable for kids" category. I think they the would be of most benefit to the young computer users in the family. Each book's basic content is program orientated; that is, they consist mainly of listings that the kids can practice keying into their 4A's. I have evaluated these books on the quality of the programs and their on since this is about the only that differentiates one from the presentation since criteria other.

My favourites are the two D'Ignazio books. Like many early 4 and 4A users I enjoyed reading his articles in COMPUTE! enjoyed reading his articles in COMPUTE! magazine where his relaxed, conversational style of journalism made you immediately feel at home with whatever was being discussed or explained. Fred D'Ignazio is a highly respected authority in the U.S. when it comes to kids and computers.

"Art and Graphics with Your TI99/4A" by Thomas A. Thompson, Jnr (Hayden, 98 pp. \$20.95) is an exceptionally good book. The cover exemplifies the author's attitude to computer graphics - they must be eye catching and appealing. Thompson must also be congratulated for providing an actual screen photograph with each listing - you at least know what the end product of an hour's typing will look like.

There are 25 listings in all, printed at normal size, which is an advantage for younger users. Titles include Here Comes Santa, Valentine's Message, Danger ... Deep, I saw the Light, Snake Eyes, Spy in the Most of these are either and Flytrap. Most of these are either static displays or contain limited animation, the graphics are of the lo-res and "block"-type but this is in keeping with the book's title. For kids getting accuainted with the world of 4A computing I think this would be a good introduction.

Fred D'Ignazio's "TI In Wonderland" (121 pp.) and "The TI Playground (116 pp) are both published by Hayden and available at a very reasonable \$17.50 each. Between them there is a total of 43 educational and learning programs aimed mainly at the primary school years. In fact quite a few of the listings were coded by students from the author's home town in Virginia.

Topics include Alphabet, Words. Numbers, Colors, Music, Drawing, Knowledge and Imagination. Common to both books are two sub-routines teachers could use in their own - Sad Face, for when a student programs responds incorrectly, and Happy Face, for when the answer is correct.

Each listing is short enough to make keying in easy even for younger users. The typeset is larger than normal and hence learly displayed - no more mixing up zeros

with 'O's, or 'B's with eights. There is a note to parents and teachers preceding each listing followed by a short introduction explaining the object of the program to the students. All variables are itemised and explained, and this is a commendable practice am heartened to see most authors have T. adopted.

Have a closer look at these two books I feel you won't be disappointed. They are educationally sound and make learning fun.

FOR ADVANCED USERS... 'advanced' category are "Creating Arcade Games on the TI99/4A" by Seth McEvoy (Compute Books, "Programmer's Reference Guide to the TI99/4A" (Compute Books, 358 pp. \$25.95).

McEvoy's book is attractively presented, from the two-tone cover to the cross-referenced index that concludes it. "Creating Arcade Games" has been written to help you create fast-action, arcade-style games so that you don't have to wait to buy them = you can be guided by the tutorials in this book (complete with examples) into creating your own individual games.

Early chapters cover character generation and placement, animation, using and joystick input routines, keyboard and collision collision checking and sound. Chapters 7 through 13 use listings to consolidate what Chapters has hopefully been learnt in the previous chapters. Some typical titles are Martian Attack, Martian Revenge (with horizontal scrolling - a difficult achievement!), Riverboat, Shark (how to use joysticks to shoot a target), Mushrooms, Hobo Party (principles of animation) and Moneybags (sprites in Extended BASIC).

The concluding chapter deals with game design. The author suggests you begin each new programming venture by asking yourself - "What will be the goal of my program (game)?"

Along with the next book in this review I would suggest that "Creating Arcade Games" would be an essential purchase for anyone serious about home game computing, and programming generally.

of the One most comprehensive books presently available would tutorial-type books presently available would be Regena's "Programmer's Reference Guide". Admittedly some of the listings have appeared in COMFUTE! magazine but this previously doesn't in any way detract from what I consider the definitive BASIC learning guide to the 4A Home Computer.

It is recommended that you use this whilst sitting at your computer for book "hands-on" experience, since experimentation is encouraged and you are urged to avail yourself of the 4A's powerful string handling, automatic line numbering, resequencing, and trace functions when programming. Examples of these functions are included throughout the listings.

Even though "Guide to Extended Basic Home Applications" by Chris Flynn (Compute Books, 199 pp. \$22.95) has a similar title to "TI BASIC Computer Programs for the Home" by Charles D. Sternberg (Hayden, 292 pp. \$23.95), it is very different in that it contains a smaller number of expertly developed smaller humber of expertly developed applications and is as much a tutorial as a collection of useful programs.

Chapters 1 and 2 cover the value of using the Extended BASIC programming language over normal BASIC with multi-statement lines, sub-programming with CALL commands, improved "if-then" statements, screen formatting with Display At and Sprites all being explained,

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whilst Chapters 3 through 7 establish file management, electronic spreadsheet ('Tiny Plan'), business graphics (Bar Charts), electronic card file and appointments calender guidelines.

e author has also thoughtfully both cassette and disk versions of The provided listings which makes them accessible to his everyone not just those who own disk systems. As an added bonus the last chapter includes auto-loading Systems Menu, Catalog and Error Recovery files so that when you have saved all the listings to be found in the book you can them ali together into tie professional-looking home management package with the book serving as documentation.

I thoroughly recommend "Guide to Extended BASIC Home Applications" as both value for money and as an educational tool.

Sternberg's book is fairly dry in comparison. It is an adaptation of an earlier work published in 1980 under a very similar title. As such it has dated badly - witness the chapters on automobile maintenance and trip planning, recipe and meal planning, as well as supermarket lists. There are even programs for lawn/plant care and paper routes,

Two commendable features though of "TI BASIC Programs for the Home" are the sample printout of each listing and the fact that over 180 programs are included. However, there are no graphics or sound routines, and borders are drawn with exclamation marks and multiple rows of asterisks whilst program information and directions are kept to a minimum.

#### A BUUK OF LISTS ...

All the programs listed in "33 Programs for the TI99/4A" by Brian Flynn (Chris's brother?) require the Extended BASIC cartridge so if you haven't as yet purchased one you will need to do so if this book's content appeals to you.

The first section on Money Management is not really applicable to our Australian context. For example, programs relate to Treasury Bill Yields (using U.B. Treasury formulas!), Municipal Bond buying, and an I.R.A. Planner. The Basic for Business section, however, is of more interest (excuse another pun!) with listings for 'Time-Series' forecasting and turning your 4A into an electronic cash register and money counting machine.

As with the other COMPUTE publications all listings are clearly explained in larger than average typeset for reducing errors when keying in,

In the games section, 'Brer Rabbit' is a word guessing game utilising engaging graphics but little color, whilst 'Rings and Poles' is the traditional Towers of Hanoi game, and 'Matches' and 'Vanilla Cookie Munch' are variations on the Game of Nim theme.

Further chapters explore statistical analysis, curve fitting, multi-linear regression analysis, matrix inversion using Gauss-Jordan Sweer with complete pivotting, and random number generation and testing. All in all, & "mixed bag" really but I am sure there is something here all the family can use.

"Stimulating Simulations for the T197/4A" by C.W. Engel (Hayden, 105 pp.) assumes the user has some knowledge of BASIC programming conventions and wants to develop 'interactive' programs where one has to achieve the objectives set by careful consideration. As the title implies all 13 listings (written mainly in BASIC) are simulations each with their own unique

strategies. Flowcharts, a description of al. variables used, and a sample run accompany each listing.

Ir "Lost Treasure" you are an adventurer who must travel across an island (with a not-to-accurate compass!) trying to uncover the treasure in less than fifteen moves. "Forest Fire" has you in the role of a firefighter in a race against time.

In 'Business Management' you must buy raw materials to produce an economical end product but each month your costs of production, raw materials and selling price vary - your objective, as a good business-person, is to maximise profits.

All the games are text-only and inis may cause many potential purchasers to overlook it but I think if you are interested at all in developing logic and reasoning skills in your children Kand some adults!! ther you should consider "Stimulating Simulations" because the programs are just that.

### ALL IN THE GAME ...

To finish off this review there are two books devoted entirely to games that should appeal to the younger 4A users.

"Computes' First Book of TI Games" edited by Regena (Compute Books, 211 pp. \$22.95) contains 29 action and learning programs with the majority of them by Regena herself, sp you can be assured of quality. This book is actually better described as a 'best of "Compute" because all the listings have been previously published in that magazine so if you missed them before here's your chance to catch them up.

The front and back covers give an indication of the the quality of the games the graphics look superb. My favourite is 'Mosaic Puzzle' but other goodies include 'Superchase' (a maze game), 'Eoggler' (also excellent and very challenging), TicTacToe, Astrostorm, Goblin (very difficult to beat!), Jumping Jack (a short program but fast and entertaining), Diamond Drop, Air Defense, Marble Hunt (translated from Vic-20), Word Search, Math Man and Joystick Drawing (not 'Mousepaint', but never mind). Each program is explained and clearly printed to minimize 'typos'.

Before keying in the programs you should take a few minutes to read the sections 'Hints for Game Programming' and 'Specific Programming Techniques' because here you have some very worthwhile ideas on such tricks as using two joysticks in games, using random numbers, detecting objects, timing, and how to generate mazes on your screen or to your printer.

One thing puzzles me though. The cover states that there are 29 program listings but the Foreword puts the number at 30, I counted 32 - now that is value for money!

The purpose of "Fun and Games with your T19974A" by Stephen Muncy (Hayden, 104 pp, \$20.95) is threefold. Firstly it aims at providing a review of graphics programming as it is coded in TI BASIC; secondly, to teach, in easy-to-follow steps, game creation, and thirdly, to provide eleven arcade style games to key in. In all respects I am happy to report the author achieves his objectives.

You will find that if you have some programming experience most of what is contained in the first half of the book will not be new to you, but for the beginner there is much that can be learnt. Each section is presented concisely without jargon and there are sufficient examples to show what the author has in mind. The pages devoted to creating graphic games are well worth reading you can put Borders around title screens,

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use animation, add scoring routines and create realistic explosions.

The games themselves include 'The Last Robot' (which is very good), 'Chopper Rescue' (similar to M\*A\*S\*H), 'Frog Race', 'Red Alert' and 'Raceway'. Old favourites include 'TicTacToe', 'Biorhythms', 'Sam Slot', and 'Artillery Battle' and as a bonus, five miniprograms - 'Music Generator', 'Graveyard', 'Traffic Jam', 'Math Made Easy', and 'Toss a Coin'.

If I was to find to fault with "Fun and Games" it would be with the printing of the listings. They are on the small side compared to the other Compute offerings reviewed above. The type from a daisy wheel printer looks much more professional than the dot matrix printer used here. But otherwise a book well worth investigating.

Before signing off for this month let me just mention a handy little device called the "TI99/4A Quick Key Basic Reference Chart" (Hayden through Holt-Saunders, \$4.95) created by Aubrey Jones Jnr., the author of the "I Speak Basic to My ..." series. It is the ideal gift for the avid 4A hacker in your family. Just think no more thumbing through manuals looking for color sets, editing commands and error codes. They're all collected here, neatly arranged on a laminated chart that you can place above your computer desk and I'm sure you will refer to it constantly.



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Imagic Australasia wish to thank all 99/4A owners for the support they've given during the past year. We've some exciting developments in the pipeline and we'll be advising Shane as soon as they're confirmed. Now to answer all those questions we know you want to ask.

NEW EXPANSION SYSTEMS

We ran into an unexpected delay with the Cor-Comp expansion modules. Simple reason for this was Cor-Comp didn't produce a power supply with 240 volt input. We obtained quotes from Australian manufacturers that were ridiculously expensive making the expansion systems (we felt) far too expensive. If its any comfort the U.K., Europe and Germany had the same problem so we all joined forces to have Cor-Comp produce a 220/240 volt version. No power supply - no orders. So with gentle persuasion they've agreed and our first power supply is on the way for testing. If its O.K. then in come the new expansion systems.

New Control Cards etc., we rejected the first pre-production Controllers due to one I.C. not having sufficient heat sinking. Cor-Comp have fixed this and our first batch of Double Density Control Cards should be shipped at the time of going to press. New 32K Memory Cards and RS232 will also be in the first batch. Get your orders in as soon as possible.

We regret the delay but we feel it is essential that equipment be strictly quality controlled. We aren't prpared to import sub-standard equipment. Cor-Comp have rectified these problems and the new hardware meets T.I. standard.

The 99000 Expansion System and the 99000 Computer has been delayed. When we know more we'll advise.

### CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

We've special prices on games modules for Christmas. Check your Dealer for details.

#### T.I. GRAPHICS COMPETITION

We received four entries for this competition from the Sydney Group.

Shane advised that maybe a little more time was needed, so we've declared a winner for the first round and re-opened the competition.

We've set a nominal closing date of November 15th however this might be subject to extension as it could clash with exams. If need be we'll extend into January to allow those Super Programmers to really do a job. Remember we want the rear view of a modern fighter as it would be seen in an air to air combat situation. Try including afterbumes and sound. Machine language preferred but don't let that deter the basic wizards.

One point. Don't concentrate on fancy titles. Its the subject matter that counts. One past entrant featured an excellent title page but the subject was merely average.

Concentrate on the action !.

Regards.

DON DENNIS.

IMAGIC(AUSTRALIA)P/LTD



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At our first 1985 FULL DAY PROGRAMMERS TUTORIAL WORKSHOP, being conducted on Saturday 2nd of February, there will be classes in most languages avaiable to learn for your TI-99/4( $\lambda$ ) HOME COMPUTER. Already a special TUTORIAL BOOKLET is being designed for that event. Get all the details in your next(FEBRUARY) issue of your Sydney News Digest.

Here is something to get started on from Jim Howard of TI.S.H.U.G. Use it as a master, and photocopy it, so that you can prepare your SCREEN/TEXT LAYOUT.



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Sydney Ne	ews Digest
I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
TO : The Secretary, TISHUG, PO Box 149, PENNANT HILLS, N.S.W., 2120	Classified Ads. Flease insert the following advertisement in the next issue of the SND (space permitting) under the classification indicated. I declare the content to be in accordance with the Trade Practices Act, and resolve TISHUG of any liability arising from the publishing of the advertisment. P.O.BOX 595, MARRICKVILLE, 2204
<pre>I/we wish to become a member of the Texas Instruments Sydney Homecomputer User's Group (TISHUG) and will abide by the constitution of TISHUG, a copy of which will be forwarded to me/us. I/we understand that I/we will receive eleven issues of the club magazine (the Sydney News Digest) and access to the club Software library, TISHUG Shop, Group meeting, specialty workshops, and other group activities.</pre>	BOT       SWHF       BELL         PROGRAMS       MODULES       HARDWARE         GET       AQUAINTED (pen pals,etc)         (ONE character per square - including SPACES)         FEE       \$2.00
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I wish to Register to opperate the TI.S.N.U.G.BBS, please record the following details as PRINTED below.
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FIRST NAME:, AGE(aprox):
ADDRESS:,SUBURB:,CITY:,
STATE:, POST/CODE:
TELEPHONE()
TYPE OF MODEM/COUPLER(i.e:Brand, Baud rates etc):
DATA STORAGE DEVICE:( )Disk, ( )Cassette, ( )Printer, Other
ITEMS I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ON THE TI.S.H.U.G.BBS
<pre>(1)NEWS &amp; VIEWS from both local and overseas, (2)ELECTRONIC MAIL(Messages to fellow Users), (3)SOFTWARE DOWNLOADING:tick( )EDUCATION, ( )BUSINESS, ( )GAMESgive details:</pre>
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(a) I agree not to use this system in a way which would bring TI.S.H.U.G. under disrepute, and be thoughtful to others by not HOGGING the line.
(b) I understand that full instructions will be made available to me, on how to use our new TI.S.H.U.G.BBS, and that, I will be given a PASSWORD if future up-dates of this system require it to be used.
Signed
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