
ISHUG

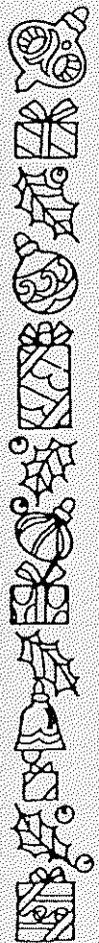
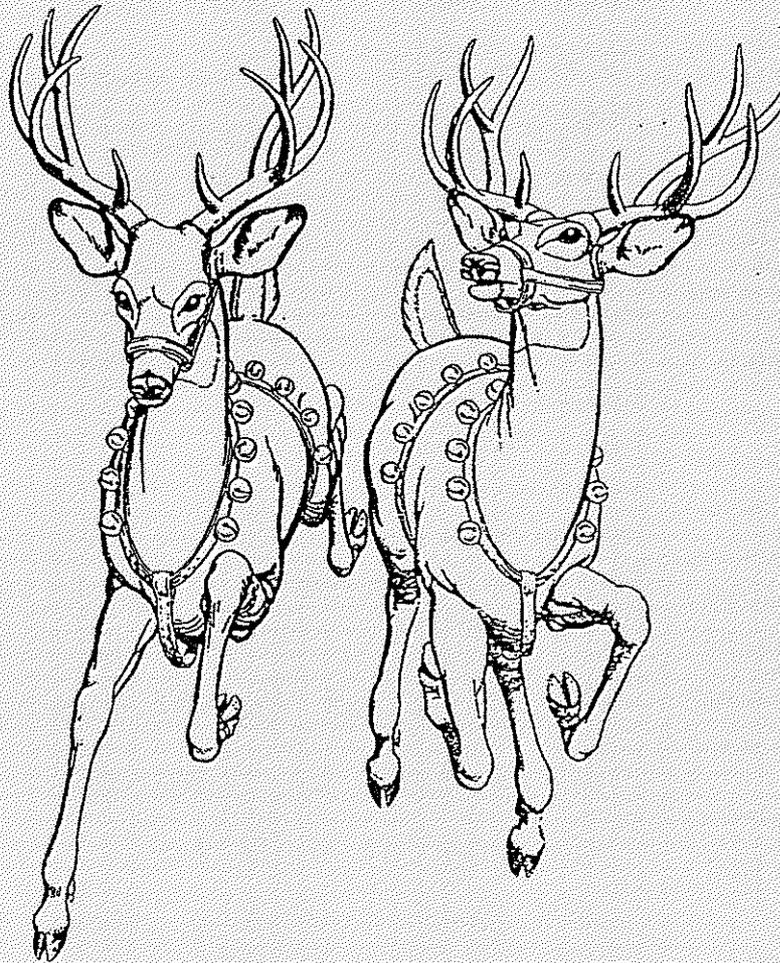
NEWS DIGEST

Focusing on the TI99/4A Home Computer

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Annual Family Dues \$35.00
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TisHUG Sydney Meeting
The December Meeting will start at 1.0 pm on the 4th December 1993 at Meadowbank Primary School, Thistle Street, Meadowbank.

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Don't forget the Christmas Barbeque to be held on Saturday 4th December starting at 1.0 pm.

All food including Meat will be supplied by the Club.

See you there.

CO/ORDINATOR'S REPORT DEC.1993.

The year in Review.

1993 was a quiet year for TISHUG. Membership has steadily fallen, together with patronage of the shop, and Bulletin Board. Locally written articles are drying up, and the News Digest has grown smaller. Despite all this, the club is still in a healthy financial state, and will be able to continue to support users of the TI computer. It is clear, that interest in the TI has fallen to an all time low, and even some of those members who work so hard for the club, no longer even own or use a TI. Some, like myself, possess a TI, as well as an IBM Clone. Most of our members, have to use another type of computer at work, usually an IBM type. Some of our members own and use a Macintosh. A few members have multiple types of machines. What is abundantly clear, is that TI users have developed a wide range of computer interests and usage.

During 1993, We began to include some information on other computers in our magazine. The articles chosen were both helpful and informative. I expect that as the amount of TI information declines, we will gradually increase the IBM contribution, but not at the expense of TI articles. During 1993, the Directors felt that White Ryde School is both low cost and has some definite advantages, eg storage of club assets. it was not conducive to developing our club in the ways we felt it might go. We would like to see a more active membership at our meetings. We would like to see members bring their computer systems with them. We want hands on experience. Some of you will remember the excitement which prevailed when many members brought machines to the meetings in Darlington. To achieve more active meetings, we surveyed the facilities at Meadowbank School. I think you would agree that the facilities for the actual meetings are superior. We have a greater number of tables and chairs available which are more suited for setting up our systems. Power points are plentiful. We can separate the two groups if we wish. The only facility we lack at this stage is storage space.

It is my hope that with the improved facilities, we can begin to recruit more members. We have a lot to offer people who do not belong to a computer club, and who find the use of the machines difficult. We can train new members in setting up their DOS machines, teach them about memory, configuration, show them how to use basic software, and expose them to the range of improvements and modifications available among present members. I suggest that we should make a concerted effort to gradually replace our lost membership with new members who use DOS machines. I feel it would be advisable to recruit new members from among our friends and acquaintances, our workmates etc. first. If we feel the need, we could advertise our club activities appropriately to attract as many members as we need.

I confidently expect that in 1994, our membership will start to grow again. We have an excellent group of talented people in this club who are able to take on responsibility and difficult tasks if asked to do so. As you probably know, the Editor is stepping down at the end of this year. We have a new Editor who will get all the help we can give him. Bob is standing as a Director, and I trust his nomination will be strongly supported by the members. With Bob as a Director, TI interests will be well looked after. While our growth in membership will not come from the TI users, as we increase in number, it can only benefit TI enthusiasts, because our services will continue for a much longer period, and we will be strong enough financially to subsidise TI help. Bob is keen to get some TI projects up and going, and I am sure he will get the full support of the Directors in any project he seeks to organize.

If I am re-elected, I would like to work towards a number of goals in 1994.

A steady growth in new membership.

An emphasis on "hands on activity" at our meetings.

A series of planned meetings, which offer as much help as we can give in areas which members select.

In speaking to the many people I contact through my work, I have come to the conclusion that there are many potential members in the local community. I meet numbers of clone users, who have little or no real understanding of their computer because they have no support and no-one to turn to. This is particularly true in learning to do the things we take for granted. Ex: TI users are quite a well educated computer literate group. I wonder if we can remember how we first felt when we bought our new computer. I was terrified that it would break down. It did. I replaced almost everything under warranty. I suspect it would have helped if TI had known what they were doing. I didn't know who to turn to. I stumbled on the club by accident. What a relief to meet a group of other people who were also having problems. I am sure that there are many newer users out there who felt as we felt when we started.

To carry out an expansion program we will need a few people to help organise it, and members who will undertake to help or teach newer members when approached. You can all help by bringing along your computer, and maybe a potential new member. Ask your friends, workmates, and relatives, if they use an IBM machine.

Make sure that you attend the Annual General Meeting and BBQ. We hope to have a really pleasant afternoon. Let's get 1994 off to a brand new start. If you have ideas about ways we can improve what we do, speak up, and we will try to change our ways if it is what others want.

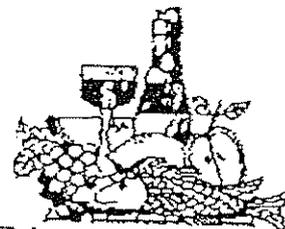
Finally I would like to personally thank all TI members who have given their support and help to the club this year. I must thank all those who accepted responsibility. I particularly want to mention Percy for the fantastic job he has done in the shop. I wish to compliment Bob Relyea for his work as Editor. Thank Ross Mudie for his support and help as SYSOP and resident lecturer, his expertise and his innovation. I must mention our hardworking Treasurer, Cyril Bohlsen, for his efforts in sorting out our financial problems, quietly and efficiently. Thanks again to Geoff for his articles and his unstinting help, particularly with technical problems. I could mention lots of people who contribute to our group, but I might leave someone out by mistake. All I can say is, Thanks everyone who has contributed in some way this year. In the words of the Immortal Bard...

"I love youse all"

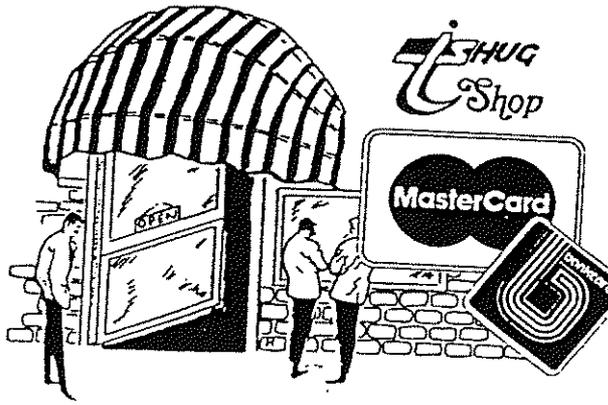
Don't forget the Annual General Meeting.

See you there.

Dick Warburton.



Merry Christmas



TISHUG SHOP.
with Percy Harrison.

The meeting at our new venue went off without too many hitches although, contrary to our previous assumption that the TI er's and IBM er's would prefer to be in separate areas, it now appears from various comments of members who attended this meeting that they would prefer to be all together in the one area. The Directors have taken note of this and will endeavour to arrange for a common assembly of all members and systems in the one hall. However, if the number of systems brought to the meeting exceeds the capacity of the hall, we will have to spill over to another room.

The major, and possible only disadvantage of our new venue, is that we do not have any space to permanently store the club's systems which means our Coordinator will have to store them at our previous venue and transport them to and fro each month. It was indeed pleasing to see that both Don Gould and Vincent Maker volunteered to help Dick with this chore and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their offer which I know Dick welcomes most enthusiastically.

While I am on the subject of volunteering, I, and I am sure the other Directors, were most disappointed with the lack of volunteers to help with the running and organising of the club activities, even with those tasks which crop up only once a year, such as helping with our Christmas barbeque. Yes, we did have several volunteers to bring along their portable barbeques, but when it came to helping out with collecting the food and preparing the salad, etc, I did not see one hand go up-so once again this task will be left to the Directors. Wouldn't it make life so much easier for the Directors if some of those members who regularly attend club meetings and who get most out of being a member of this exclusive club, would occasionally take on a small task to ease the burden on the few who currently do all of the work.

I cannot let the year close without thanking Peter Young, Derek Wilkinson, Ian Mullins, Cyril Bohisen and Dick Warburton for the effort they have put in each month in cutting and pasting the magazine and the time involved in same so that it may be delivered to our members each month before the club meeting. Our aim was to have the magazine in the hands of our members several days before the meeting and I think that this was achieved right throughout the year. A special thanks to Bob Relyea who has been responsible for the editing of the TND and who has bent over backwards to ensure that he has posted the printouts to the paste-up committee in time for them to achieve their goal.

A special thanks also to Larry Saunders for the first class job he has done in preparing the Master Disks of the TI software that is released each month and for the various demonstrations which he has conducted throughout the year, to Dick Warburton for preparing the

Master Disks for the IBM compatible software and for the tremendous effort and time that he has expended to ensure the clubs success throughout the year and to Ross Mudie for maintaining the bulletin board again this year.

We are also indebted to Geoff Trott for the terrific job which he has done throughout the year in again undertaking all of the difficult repairs to both members and club equipment and for the many articles that he has contributed to the magazine each month.

Finally, I would like to thank those other members I have not mentioned by name who have helped out at the various tutorial days and club meetings and, in particular, Alf Ruggeri who has done a great job throughout the year demonstrating Page Pro and Pix programs.

The December meeting will require our Directors to vacate office and elections will be held to appoint the five Directors to run your club for the next twelve months. As there are in excess of five nominations it will be necessary to hold a secret ballot to decide who the five directors will be and it is hoped that each of the members present will vote for those nominees whom they feel will contribute the most to the effective running of your club.

You may have noticed that last months TND was reduced to 19 pages because of the lack of articles. Again, I would point out that it is the same few regular contributors that have submitted the articles for that issue of which approximately eight pages were from our old faithful Geoff Trott (sorry Geoff, by "old" I mean "long standing", not ancient) and two were to do with IBM compatibles which means that, without Geoff's effort, the TI content would be only half the volume that it used to be. Once again Dick Warburton, at the November meeting, pleaded for more TI input from our members but my observations were that no new volunteers were forthcoming for submitting TI articles. Guess which members will be the first to complain if and when the TI Club folds up because of the lack of contributions for the magazine and the lack if input to the running of the club. You guessed it, those who come along and take whatever is in the offering but do not put something back into the club. Please remember that our strength has been in the quality of our magazine and the high standard of service given to our members over the twelve or so years since its inception. Unless more of our members play an active role in contributing to the running of the club and the maintenance of these features it will surely become extinct which would not only disappoint our 102 fully paid local members but also our valued five overseas members.

Regular readers of our magazine may have noticed that I have pushed this theme for most of the year hoping that a few of our members would realise that unless they played a more active role in the club it would reach the point where we would no longer have the numbers or finance to continue to offer the quality of

service that has been extended to them up to the present time. To date there has been no response from our members and our drop in membership over the last twelve months has reduced our membership to a level where our running cost now exceed our income so we must find ways to encourage more computer users to join our club and thus improve the revenue from both membership fees and shop sales. Please think seriously about what I have been saying and do make a concerted effort to contribute something other than your annual membership fee to the running of the club, ie a little time and effort to write a small article or two and an occasional offer to assist with the various SMALL TASKS that come up from time to time.

TISHUG Software

by Larry Saunders

In addition to the usual TI software releases for the month there will be an update release of both the 40 and 80 column Funnelweb Editor files which will also include Help Files that can be called up while using the program and document files explaining the improvements that have been made to this program. Please note that you will still require to retain most of the files from version 4 of Funnelweb but replace the editor files with those contained on this new disk. I believe that Geoff is including an article on this update elsewhere in this issue explaining in more detail what this update has to offer.

The price of the update disk is \$2.00 for the DSSD and \$3.00 for the SSSD version in either 40 or 80 column format.

PRICE LIST.

IMB SOFTWARE

As Easy As (Spreadsheet)
Flash (Horse Racing Data Sheet)
Powermenu (Menu)
PC Files (Data Base)
VDE (Word Processor)
Anti-Virus Programs 1
Calculators Programs
Disk Utilities 1*
Cad Program and Turbo Draw.....*
Penpal and Tec Write.....*
Selection 1.....*
Utilities Disk 2.....*

Above Disks on 5.25 Format\$3.00
Above Disks on 3.5 Format\$3.50

Note: Where possible please order 5.25 format.

TI SOFTWARE UPDATE:

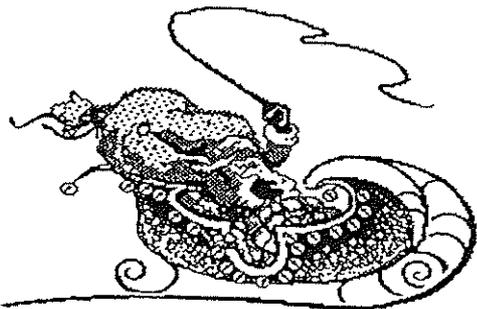
Funnelweb 40 Column Editor Files..*
Funnelweb 80 Column Editor Files..*

Price \$2.00 each on DSSD
\$3.00 each on SSSD

*...New releases this month.

Packaging and postage extra on all items.

Bye for now.



This article appeared too late on the BBS to be incorporated in the November issue. I hope that this has not caused any big inconvenience to anybody. ED.

Disk P044

This disk has pictures scanned by ALF, converted, cleaned-up, and re-made into a Page Pro picture by me. Part of the kangaroo picture is on the front page of the TISHUG News Digest (Oct 1993). The other three pictures will appear in later TND's.

Used= 352 Free= 6

EMU+KANGA	75 I 13	KANG+WAL	36 I 13
KANGAROO	170 I 13	KOKA+KOLA	71 I 13

Disk AV045

Adventure type games.

Used= 333 Free= 25

HALLWAYS	29*Prog	LOAD	5 Prog
MAR/LOAD	2 Prog	MARS1	46*Prog
MARS2	50*i254	NEW*QUEST	44*Prog
NEW/LOAD	2 Prog	NOMAD1	34*Prog
NOMAD2	40*Prog	POL/LOAD	2 Prog
POLAR*TREK	51*i254	ROOT	28 Prog

Disk G046

Checkers: A good version of the classic game. One or two persons can play.

Ghost: A very fast version of Pacman. Goes like a bat out of hell from about level three onwards.

Perfect Push: This is the first time that this program has been released on a shop disk. It is set-up to run from the loader. Instructions are built into the program. I highly recommend this game.

Titris: Extended Basic version, but has several changes made to it by ALF, ie. colours improved, Joystick controlled.

Xback (Backgammon): A very good version. I put it on this disk mainly to fill the spare gap.

Used= 340 Free= 18

C/LOAD	2 Prog	CHECKDATA	3 d 80
CHECKERS3	44 Prog	ED/AS	33 Prog
GHOST1	5*Prog	GHOST2	10*Prog
GRPH/MUSC	7*Prog	HISCORES	2 i 50
LOAD	5 Prog	PUSH	91*0 80
ROOT	28 Prog	SPEAK	33*Prog
TITRIS*V2	29 Prog	X/LOAD	2 Prog
XBACK	46 Prog		

Disk P047

This disk contains assorted pictures converted by me to Page Pro format. The three bigger pictures Galar, Kola+Cookey on tree, and Kola+Tree, was scanned by Alf, cleaned up, and assembled into pictures in Page Pro format by me. You will find them used in the TND. They are very good pictures.

Used= 358 Free= 0

ANGEL	23 I 13	BIRDS	14 I 13
CAR2	16 I 13	CUPID2	18 I 13
EGGS	14 I 13	FIRE	16 I 13
GALAR	68 I 13	GREET2	12 I 13
JACKO	2 I 13	JUGGLER	2 I 13
KOLA+C/OT	88 I 13	KOLA+TREE	65 I 13
LOCK	2 I 13	MAN&WOMN	2 I 13
SANTA	16 I 13		

Diskname P057

Total Sectors 358 Free Sectors 5
Date DEC1993 Files 25

This disk is full of converted TI-Artist pictures converted to Page Pro.

4TH	25 I 13	ANGEL	13 I 13
BEAR	14 I 13	BUNNY	12 I 13
CARD	18 I 13	CAROLS	13 I 13
CTRPCE	27 I 13	CTURKEY	17 I 13
FLAKE1	4 I 13	FLAKE2	3 I 13
FLAKE3	3 I 13	HEARTS	11 I 13
MASK	26 I 13	ORNAMENT	13 I 13
PANDAS	15 I 13	PARTY	22 I 13
POINSETT	17 I 13	RACCOON	12 I 13
REINDEER	14 I 13	SANTA1	8 I 13
SANTA2	17 I 13	SANTA3	12 I 13
SNOWMAN	11 I 13	TEDDY	8 I 13
WREATH	18 I 13		

Diskname G058

Total Sectors 358 Free Sectors 15
Date DEC1993 Files 9

Games disk: Caverns loads by Editor Assembler, option supplied on disk. The caverns game is a little bit harder than most games to load.

- (1) Select Caverns from Root Menu
- (2) Select Caverns from E/A Menu
- (3) Type DSK1.CAVERNS1 then press Enter
- (4) When Caverns1 is loaded Type DSK1.CAVERNS2 then press Enter
- (5) When Caverns2 is loaded then Press ENTER and then Press FCTN 3 Type CAVERN then press ENTER Caverns will take about 60 seconds to fireup and go into DEMO mode.
- (6) Press 1 (hard level) 3 people, 2000 Starting points on meter.
- (7) Press 2 (easier) 16 people, 4000 starting points on meter.
- (8) Press 3 for Demo

Tennis: The best version on the TI.

Fctn +/- speed up

Fctn -// slow down

St Nick: Pickup the toys around the screen in the rig order, within the time limit and without getting caught by the wickers.

Tunnel Maze: A very large 3D maze game.

CAVERNS1	48*D 80	CAVERNS2	93*D 80
ED/AS	33 Prog	LOAD	5 Prog
ROOT	28 Prog	ST-NICK	33 Prog
TENN	33*Prog	TENO	30*Prog
TUNNELMAZE	40*Prog		

Diskname U059

Total Sectors 718 Free Sectors 122
Date DEC1993 Files 20

This disk is a Music Preprocessor program (Fairware) by Norm Sellers. It is quite good music.

ALWAYS	25 Prog	CHIMES	4 Prog
DANCER	36 Prog	DEMO	29 Prog
ENDTAG	4 Prog	INGARDEN	11 Prog
LISTDOCS	4 Prog	LOAD	9 Prog
MOONRIVER	51 i254	MTNHIGH	57 i254
MUSICDOC	112 d 80	MUSICMODL	3 Prog
MUSICPREXN	25 Prog	SCALES	90 d 80
SYSTEM	11 Prog	SYSTEXDOC	11 d 80
UNEEDDME	29 Prog	WEDDINGSNG	59 i254
WEREUTHERE	7 Prog	WHISPERING	19 Prog

Diskname U060

Total Sectors 358 Free Sectors 107
Date DEC1993 Files 95

This disk is the newest version of Disk Labeler program. It has a couple of new features.

AIRPLAN/GR	2*i254	APPLE/GR	2*i254
ARK/GR	2*i254	ASTER/GR	2*i254
AUTOS/GR	2*i254	BANK/GR	2*i254
BASBALL/GR	2*i254	BFLY/GR	2*i254
BLIMP/GR	2*i254	BOWLER/GR	2*i254
BSKBALL/GR	2*i254	CABOOSE/GR	2*i254
CAKE/GR	2*i254	CALENDU/GR	2*i254
CAMEL/GR	2*i254	CANDLE2/GR	2*i254
CARNATN/GR	2*i254	CAT/GR	2*i254
CHARA	32 D 80	CHRYSAN/GR	2*i254
CHURCH/GR	2*i254	CIGAR/GR	2*i254
CIN-DAY/GR	2*i254	COMPUTR/GR	2*i254
CPLGO/GR	2*i254	DAFODIL/GR	2*i254
DENTIST/GR	2*i254	DISK/GR	2*i254
DOCTOR/GR	2*i254	DOZER/GR	2*i254
DRAFTIN/GR	2*i254	DUTROW/GR	2*i254
EBUNNY/GR	2*i254	ENGINE2/GR	2*i254
FISHING/GR	2*i254	FIXIT/GR	2*i254
FLORIDA/GR	2*i254	FLOWER1/GR	2*i254
FLOWER2/GR	2*i254	FLOWER3/GR	2*i254
FLOWER4/GR	2*i254	FOOTBAL/GR	2*i254
FORCES/GR	2*i254	GARDENR/GR	2*i254
GASPUMP/GR	2*i254	GOLFER/GR	2*i254
GOLIT/GR	2*i254	GYM1/GR	2*i254
GYM2/GR	2*i254	GYM3/GR	2*i254
GYM4/GR	2*i254	GYM5/GR	2*i254
HBLAB/GR	2*i254	HMAKER/GR	2*i254
HORSES/GR	2*i254	HOUSE/GR	2*i254
HOUSE2/GR	2*i254	HUNTING/GR	2*i254
LABEL/DOCS	17 d 80	LARKSPR/GR	2*i254
LAWYER/GR	2*i254	LECTRIC/GR	2*i254
LEXIT/GR	2*i254	LOAD	18 Prog
MECANIC/GR	2*i254	MONITOR/GR	2*i254
MOOSE/GR	2*i254	MR-DISK/GR	2*i254
MUSIC/GR	2*i254	NOSIGN/GR	2*i254
NOTES/GR	2*i254	NURSE/GR	2*i254
OAKTREE/GR	2*i254	OHIO/GR	2*i254
PHOTOG/GR	2*i254	PIANO/GR	2*i254
PIANO2/GR	2*i254	PLUMBER/GR	2*i254
POINSET/GR	2*i254	POPPY/GR	2*i254
PUMPKIN/GR	2*i254	REALTOR/GR	2*i254
REXIT/GR	2*i254	ROSE2/GR	2*i254
RRCROSS/GR	2*i254	SCISSOR/GR	2*i254
SECTARY/GR	2*i254	SKIBUM/GR	2*i254
SKULL/GR	2*i254	SMILE/GR	2*i254
STOPLIT/GR	2*i254	SWAN/GR	2*i254
TE/GR	2*i254	TEACHER/GR	2*i254
TI-LOGO/GR	2*i254		



AN EDITOR'S FAREWELL

by Bob Relyea

It was in late 1989 that the TNO editor at the time, Geoff Trott, in one of his editorials, asked for somebody to help out with the editing for 1990. By then, I had been a member for 4 years so I felt that my chance had come to do something substantial for the club. I, therefore, saw him at the next club meeting (November or December) and we talked about it. Rolf was in the middle of his six year stint as paste-up man so he was involved in the decision. Geoff and Rolf lived near each other so it was easy to liasson regarding the magazine, so the question with me was the distance that I lived from Wollongong. I can remember Geoff, Rolf and Lou talking about it in one corner of the meeting room at Burwood. At one stage Rolf said, "If he can just do the editing for one year it would be a big help". Famous last words! I ended up doing it for four years. Most of the time it was enjoyable but I will have to admit that it became a bit tedious the last year or two. I learned heaps about word processing and more about the workings of the club. More importantly, I got to know a lot of club members a lot better. I found it essential to take the edited gear down to Wollongong to Rolf each month but made use of my trip by attending the Illawarra regional meeting which has always been interesting and useful. Sometimes because of circumstances I had to post the gear down there. This year was the year of the committee doing the paste-up and I posted all the edited gear to Peter Young every month.

Geoff came up to my house several times through the years to install new equipment, make repairs and to show me some more about the nice club editing system. My thanks go out to him for his continued & unselfish efforts to keep our club ticking and to keep the members happy.

There have been some definite changes in the club during my stand as editor. I came in at the tail end of an era when TISHUG was enjoying its best moments. There was a lot of new and exciting software coming out and the Peter Schubert Mini system was creating a lot of interest in hardware production. Club membership, although declining, was still substantial, and the shop sales were good. Dick Warburton was made Director/Coordinator at a time when his spontaneous enthusiasm became a great asset to the club. One foundation member, Terry Phillips, finally bowed out of regular club service after having held office since the early days of the club and as far as I can remember since joining in 1985. It was easy to find gear to edit. In fact, I had a lot of trouble just keeping up with it all as there was so much, especially from the US and from Stephen Shaw in England. This past year has been more of a struggle. I got one disk from Jim Peterson but apart from that, there has not been any gear sent to me from the US in over a year! I do not think that our own contributions have declined much over the past year but the drastic decline in gear from abroad has made it difficult to gather enough each month to keep the magazine viable. While I am on this topic I would like to note that in the four years that I have been editor people like Ross Mudie, Geoff Trott, Rolf Schreiber and this year Percy Harrison have made major contributions to the TNO. There have been other users such as Tony McGovern, Vincent Maker, Ben Takasch, Robert Brown and Larry Saunders with articles that have also been valuable. Peter Young and Larry Saunders are the only ones who have consistently contributed to a regional report.

I was pleased that another user, Laurie West, readily accepted the challenge to take on the editing for 1994. He and his family have attended our meetings regularly for some time now and he deserves an opportunity to contribute to our fun and enjoyment in this way. Make sure you get to know him and help him out by giving him some articles to edit. I am convinced that we have remained together all these years and have kept the the TI alive because of the magazine. It would be a shame if it had to fold or be drastically reduced because of a lack of commitment. Remember, with all the updates in hardware and software, the TI can do more than it could 10 years ago when it was hailed as being a marvel as a great little 16-bit computer. Tony McGovern

has kept the TI right up there from the word processing side of things and the 80 column version of Funnelweb v 5.0 is really a beauty.

As this is my last article as editor, I am trying to get all the right words in the right place. Although I am leaving the position with mixed feelings, generally I am happy to take on something else for a change and make a contribution in another way. I am standing for director in the hopes that I can serve the club members in some way in that capacity as a keen TI man. I have two kids that are getting married in the first quarter of 1994, one month apart, and in the early part of the month, but apart from that I will be free most of the year to cater to what members require. What did you think about my thoughts in last month's article? If you are interested in that type of thing let me know at a club meeting. Well, this is it. As editor I say farewell to all. Thank you for your help and encouragement and I hope the club keeps going in some useful capacity for years to come. It will with your support. Bob.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Cyril Bohlsen

Income for previous month	\$ 553.50
Expenditure for previous month ..	\$ 460.60
Profit for previous month	\$ 92.90
Membership accounted for \$205.00 of Income.	
Shop sales	\$348.50 of Income.
The expenditure was made up of the following	
Printing of TND	\$ 215.00
BBS Expences	\$ 68.60
Postage	\$ 12.00
TIM Card Refund	\$ 165.00

The Post Office didn't cash their cheque this month but if they had we would have broken about even.

We have two new Members to welcome this month,

Mandat Nguyen of Tempe NSW
Garry Delacour of Emu Plains NSW.

With a bit of luck we will see them at some of our Meetings.



Part 1 -- General Features

(1) Introduction

The latest development in the Funnelweb system for the TI99/4A computer is an extensive rewrite of the 40-column system editor. For better or for worse it remains as compatible with the original TI-Writer and Editor Assembler editors as can be managed, with some lessons from experience, since these have been a good match to the capabilities of the basic TI99/4A system. The new editor comes in several versions.

- o - a minimal version with all basic functions, updating the previous Vn 4.40 issue.
- o - a second form which incorporates multilingual features previously available only in an incompatible form in the European version of TI-Writer. It also has All-Characters mode which allows use on screen of the full 8-bit IBM PC character graphics set (as supported by most modern printers), and provides pathname support for hard drive users also. See FWD0C/ED42 for specific details.

These 40-column editors may be used on 80-column systems as well (TI99/4A and Geneve) but the 80-column version (issued separately) is dual mode and will serve as a superior 40-column editor as well, with much superior SD functions. As in all previous versions, it does not depend on any given manufacturer's specific hardware extensions and may be run on a minimal system as long as it can load Funnelweb, the original TI-Writer or Editor Assembler modules not being necessary. In particular it is compatible with the Extended BASIC module.

This part of the documentation covers general features while the second part reviews command line and control functions in more detail. A third part describes the features and limitations of the alternative version (/AEH) of the editor. Those not already familiar with Funnelweb or TI-Writer should consult TI's original manual (which remains TI copyright material and may still be available from TI in the US at final clearance prices), or else various User Groups have tutorial material or experienced users willing to assist. These documents will concentrate on changes from the original TI-Writer.

The editor is identified internally as Vn 5.00 but loads with no problems from Vn 4.40 of Funnelweb. At this stage in the history of the TI99/4A there is no longer any grand plan to issue a full update of Funnelweb, but as individual parts are updated they will be so identified.

(2) File Descriptions

This supplementary package contains editor and auxiliary files, and various utility programs. The character files other than CHAR01 may turn up in archived form. If more than one file fits the category an asterisk is used as wildcard in the name. Entries followed by a "*" have been revised for the Jul/04/93 issue.

- ED, EE -- Baseline editor program files.
- ED/AEH, EE/AEH -- Program files for enhanced editor. See FWD0C/ED42 for details. *
- HELP4* -- Help files in program file format with * an alpha character.
- CHAR*1 -- Character files for Euro-Writer mode.
- CHAR0* -- Full 8-bit character files for All-Chars version (* numeric).

- F4TX*E -- Command text language files for Euro-Writer and All-Chars.
- INSTALL/ED -- Configuration utility program.
- CONFIG/40 -- Fully annotated configuration file.
- CON/ED -- Abbreviated configuration file.
- 4PRINTFILE -- Sample help file prototype.
- HELPM4KE40 -- Help file construction utility.
- CHRCOAL/S -- Typical source file for PC character sets.
- CHARUTIL -- Character file analysis utility.
- FWD0C/ED40 -- This file. *
- FWD0C/ED41 -- Command and control details. *
- FWD0C/ED42 -- Enhanced editor special features. *

The ED, EE, FWD0C/TIWR files from your Vn 4.40 Funnelweb distribution disk(s) are now obsolete, as is the part of FWD0C/EASM describing edit functions.

The minimum requirement on your Funnelweb working disk is ED, EE (or another pair renamed to this) for default only use of the editor, with help files as desired. For non-English (Euro-Writer or All-Chars) usage, add character and command text files as needed. The language and character files sets are not all complete. This reflects both my limited language abilities and the level of interest in Funnelweb from those parts. German and Swedish are complete, and French largely so. Dutch has some English terms left, but I am assured most Dutch users are familiar with them. Italian is incomplete, and Spanish has not even been considered. It may be that some national language users will prefer to use English command text, in which case the UK file should be copied to the relevant filename. Please contact me if you are able to help with further development of non-English command text files.

(3) Editor Modes and Load

The Funnelweb system editor supports two main modes, Word Processor and Programmer's Editor, from the same set of files. The choice is made implicitly from the alternate main Funnelweb selection screens, but may be intercepted and reset at load time. FWD0C/ED41 gives more details of the internal program modes for each of these.

The editor files ED, EE are Funnelweb Option 1 program files, as is permanently configured in Funnelweb itself. This means that the main menu may be used to load any other editor (or other program) in this form and name. Going the other way, the Loaders screen may be used to load the files. If <cr>s etc are to be visible in the word processor, Option 1 should be used to refresh the character set unless it is configured or forced to load another character file.

(4) Character Sets

The baseline editor uses the character set C1 or C2 as loaded by the Option 1 loader path, while the enhanced editor gives further possibilities. Whatever the character set, the >IF pattern (the edge character in BASIC) is always redefined as the solid mid-line for use as a distinctive screen divider in freeze mode. The cursor of the moment is the >IE pattern. The editor files must be loaded from Funnelweb under a 2 letter filename for character, language, and help files to be found.

The enhanced editor in its special multilingual modes loads new sets of characters, as described in FWD0C/ED42.

(5) Help Function

A series of help screens may be invoked from the main command line. The help screens are loaded from disk as program files direct to VDP screen memory to speed response and the number is limited only by the filename series. The filenames expected are HELP4A, HELP4B and so on. A set of useful help screens is provided, with more being added for your selection. Some of these will be useful only with All-Chars mode.

The content of the help screens is completely at the user's discretion and a sample original file is included. Help files are prepared as a 24 line by 40 column DV/80 file with the Editor and converted to program file format using HELPMAKE40. The help file loader in the Editor starts with HELP4A unless it has been turned off by INSTALL/ED from the CONFIG/40 specification. If one of the series is not found the loading terminates. Pressing <A> pages forward, <Q> pages back and <esc> exits the Help mode. Re-entry to the sequence is at the screen last viewed on the previous invocation of Help.

The selection of help screens as supplied in this package have the following contents :-

HELP4A -- part 1 of a list of Editor functions with keys to use.
 HELP4B -- part 2 of this list.
 HELP4C -- summary of Formatter dot commands
 HELP4D -- details of Editor extended PrintFile options
 HELP4E -- illustration of box drawing characters for All-Chars mode
 HELP4F -- other 8-bit characters for All-Chars classified by type
 HELP4G -- list of All-Chars 8-bit characters in ASCII order
 HELP4H -- Editor Assembler quick reference part 1 for TMS-9900 op-codes
 HELP4I -- continuation as part 2 of op-code list
 HELP4J -- Editor Assembler quick reference part 3 for system addresses and colour table.

(6) Show Directory Functions

The Show Directory screen is much the same as in previous Editors. The filename and detail display on each line is similar to that in DiskReview except that no check is done on program file type. Fractured files are indicated by an asterisk. Print Directory now uses <ctrl-P> and goes to the DirectoryPrint device. This is initialized at load time to the PrintFile device but maintained separately after that. <P>rotect and <U>nprotect of files now use these more obvious keys. Pressing <T> marks the Display/80 file under the cursor bar in the directory as the LoadTemp file and pressing <space> marks the Workfile and pressing <O>riginal restores these to their values at entry to SD. Exit from SD is by <ctrl-=>.

A one way paged file view function is implemented using <V> when a Display/80 file is between the cursor bars and can scroll through files of indefinite length. The SD screen shows the diskname, sectors used and sectors free counts and the number of bytes remaining in the text buffer. This includes the effects of buffer encoding and Euro-Writer will give a lower figure than 7-bit modes on the same file. The empty buffer value may change with future revisions.

(7) New Load/Save Functions

The Load/Save module now has code which performs extensive validation tests on incoming tab records from any mode into any mode. Loading and saving of text records bypass DSR search and goes directly to the opened DSR for improved speed. A line count is at the upper right of the screen. Changes under user selection are in the option codes for PrintFile.

M -- sets PF to output the file in DisFix/128 TI file format with MS-DOS end of line <cr><lf> separators and <ctrl-Z> end of text marker.

U -- does similarly for Unix format with <if> separators and <ctrl-D> at end of text. M and U both cancel the L option for line numbers.

P -- if a printer start-up control code sequence has been installed this will be sent to the print device before any text records.

Q -- if a printer reset control code sequence has been installed this will send it to the print device after all text records have been output.

A -- opens the DV/80 output file in Append mode. This will help editing or construction of very long files.

There is no provision for external files in the M/U formats to be read in directly and external conversion programs will be needed to produce DV/80 files first for loading by the Editor. For information on the other PF options carried over from earlier editions, consult the help file for a brief account, or else the TI-Writer manual.

(8) Configuration of ED

The program INSTALL/ED (program file - FW option 2) allows a range of initial options to be installed in ED from a DV/80 text file. CONFIG/40 is such a file and is its own documentation. Keep for reference, but a cut down version such as CON/ED will do just as well. The baseline editor ignores all references to language selection.

(9) Printing

The usual Funnelweb modification of the Formatter, or other alternatives such as the RAG Formatter, will work as before with 7-bit files. Printer codes to set national character sets will depend on your particular printer. All-Chars files should print directly from the Editor to printers (most nowadays) that support the PC character graphics set. A rewrite of the Formatter would seem to be in order at this stage, using the existing TI-Writer manual as base specification in the absence of original source code, but life seems just too short with too many other things to do.

The existing Funnelweb Formatter functions with the following enhancements over the TI original.

(i) The printer device-name is preconfigured in the main FW/LOAD program by CF/CG and may be changed to suit your convenience.

(ii) The Formatter will display the filename last used or marked. If it cannot locate a name then the utility pathname set in FUNNELWEB with CF/CG becomes the default.

(iii) The <fctn-9> key now returns directly to FUNNELWEB's central menu screen. The Formatter does not need to reload from disk if reselected immediately.

(iv) Pressing AID <fctn-7> invokes a directory routine similar to QD. File QF is loaded if present on the boot disk when the Formatter first loads for this to be available. File marking is active, but is not apparent until the workfile name is edited: <enter> is not enough but even a cursor movement will do.

(v) The Formatter may now have 4 disk files open at the same time.

(vi) The FO/FP files load purely as an Option 2 (Editor Assembler 5) program and another Formatter program in this form may be substituted.

(10) Fairware Notice

This program is distributed as FAIRWARE. Consequences of its use are entirely the responsibility of the user. The files as sent out are not crippled in any way, unlike the frequent and unpleasant custom in the PC world. The usual FAIRWARE conditions remain in force for this extension of the FUNNELWEB system. If you do not think it is worth supporting or do not bother to, then be honest and do not use it, but at the very minimum please show your appreciation of the free trial by passing it on to others who may.

(11) Final Words

Please report any bugs found, or send suggestions. The existing functionality is very close to the limit that can be squeezed into standard T199/4A hardware. If something is added other things may have to give.

WARNING - the Myarc HFDC when used as a floppy disk controller is known to corrupt files when multiple fractures occur. At least some DSR ROMs for 80-track operation of Myarc FDCs are known to get wrong last sector allocation in files. The Funnelweb Editor cannot correct for either of these equipment faults.

C O N T I N U E D N E X T M O N T H



LEARN TO KNOW YOUR TI

LESSON 11
with Percy Harrison

FOR, NEXT and STEP key words which make loops are described in this lesson and nested loops will be explained.

The loop is made of two statements, one starting with FOR and the other with NEXT. These commands may be separated by several lines and yet are strongly interdependent. The delay loop, previously used in lesson 9, helps form the notion that the FOR... and the NEXT commands are coupled. It remains then to show the utility of repeating a set of commands in the middle of the loop.

Before a program using FOR and NEXT commands starts to run, BASIC checks to see if the number of FOR statements matches the number of NEXT statements and if not then a FOR-NEXT ERROR message is printed on the screen.

The FOR statement is evaluated just once at the time the loop is entered. It puts the starting value of the loop variable into variable storage where it is treated just as any other numerical variable. (For example, the loop variable can be changed in the body of the loop). The STEP value, the ending value and the address of the first statement after the FOR are put on a stack.

From then on, all the looping action takes place at the NEXT command. Upon reaching NEXT, the loop variable is incremented by the value of the STEP and compared with the end value. If the loop variable is larger than the end value (or smaller in the case of negative STEPS) NEXT passes control to the statement after itself, otherwise it gives control to the statement after the FOR command.

Jumping into the middle of a loop is usually a disaster. Jumping out of a loop before reaching NEXT is commonly done, but in some cases (especially where subroutines are involved) may make it hard to find any bugs that may be in the program.

Enough of this pre-amble as I am sure it only serves to confuse you and give you the impression that it is too difficult to understand so let's get on with some practice and discover just how easy it is to handle.

LESSON 11 FOR-NEXT LOOPS

Remember the delay loop in lesson 9? The computer counted from 1 to 1000 and then went on with the rest of the program.

```
30 FOR T=1 TO 1000
31 NEXT T
```

The computer is smarter than that, it can do things while it is counting.

Run this:

```
10 REM COUNTING
20 CALL CLEAR
30 FOR I=5 TO 20
40 PRINT I
50 NEXT I
```

The loop can start on any number and end on any higher number. Try changing line 30 in the following ways:

```
30 FOR I=100 TO 101
30 FOR I=-7 TO 13
30 FOR I=1.3 TO 5.7
```

MARK UP YOUR LISTING

Show where the loops are by arrows:

```
10 REM ROBIN HOOD
20 CALL CLEAR
30 FOR I=0 TO 7
40 PRINT I
50 NEXT I
```

THE STEP COMMAND

The computer was counting by one's in the above programs. To make it count by two's, change line 30 to this:

```
30 FOR I=10 TO 30 STEP 2
```

Assignment 11A:

1. Have the computer count by five's from zero to 100.

COUNT DOWN LOOPS

You can make the computer count down by using a negative STEP.

Try this:

```
10 REM *** APOLLO 11 ***
15 CALL CLEAR
20 PRINT "T MINUS 12 SECONDS AND COUNTING"
25 PRINT
30 FOR I=11 TO 0 STEP -1
35 PRINT I
40 CALL SOUND(100,900,10)
50 REM _____ TIMING LOOP
51 FOR J=1 TO 350
52 NEXT J
55 NEXT I
60 CALL SOUND(4250,125,10)
65 PRINT
70 PRINT "ALL ENGINES RUNNING, LIFT OFF."
75 PRINT
76 FOR D=1 TO 460
77 NEXT D
80 PRINT "WE HAVE A LIFT OFF."
85 PRINT
86 FOR D=1 TO 460
87 NEXT D
90 PRINT "32 MINUTES PAST THE HOUR."
95 PRINT
96 FOR D=1 TO 460
97 NEXT D
100 PRINT "LIFT OFF ON APOLLO 11."
```

Lines 51 and 52 set the timing loop for the countdown.

Line 40 is the countdown sound and line 60 makes the sound that is supposed to represent the engine noise. Note that a value of 3000 is used in this particular sound command so that the sound will be maintained until the computer has finished printing out the messages from the Command Centre.

Lines 76, 77, 86, 87, 96 and 97 create a slight delay between each Command Centre message. In a later lesson you will learn how this program could have been shortened by using GOSUB commands.

NESTED LOOPS

In the above program we have one loop inside another.

The outside loop starts in line 40 and ends in line 70.

The inside loop starts in line 61 and ends in line 62.

These are "nested loops". It is like the baby's set of toy boxes which fit inside each other.

LOOP VARIABLES

To make sure that each FOR command knows which NEXT command belongs to it, the NEXT command ends in the "loop variable" name. Look at lines 61 and 62:

```
61 FOR J=1 TO 350
62 NEXT J
```

J is the loop variable.

For the loop starting in line 40:

```
40 FOR I=11 TO 0 STEP -1
70 NEXT I
```

I is the loop variable.

BADLY NESTED LOOPS

The inside loop must be totally inside:

```
Right way: 25 FOR X=3 TO 7
           30 FOR Y=3 TO 7
           40 PRINT X*Y
           50 NEXT Y
           60 NEXT X
```

```
Wrong way: 25 FOR X=3 TO 7
           30 FOR Y=3 TO 7
           40 PRINT X*Y
           50 NEXT X
           60 NEXT Y
```

Try running each of these programs and see what happens when you run the second one.

Assignment 11B:

1. Write a program which prints your name 15 times.

2. Now make it indent each time by 2 spaces more and go diagonally up the screen. Use TAB in the loop.

3. Now make it write your name on one line, your friend's name on the next and keep switching until each name is written 5 times.

4. Write a program with loops nested three deep. Do the outer loop three times and have it print "SING". Make it change the screen color on each pass through the loop. The next loop should be made to print "TRA" three times and sing a note. The innermost loop is to print "LA" three times and sing a different note.

ANSWERS TO LESSON 10

Assignment Question 10-1

```
10 REM BIRTH YEAR
15 CALL CLEAR
20 PRINT "HOW OLD ARE YOU?"
22 PRINT
24 INPUT A
26 PRINT
30 PRINT "AND WHAT YEAR IS IT NOW"
32 PRINT
34 INPUT Y
40 B=Y-A
42 PRINT
45 PRINT "HAS YOUR BIRTHDAY COME YET THIS YEAR?"
48 PRINT "<Y/N>"
49 PRINT
50 INPUT YS
55 IF YS="N" THEN 60
56 REM SEE LESSON 13 FOR "IF"
57 B=B-1
60 PRINT
65 PRINT "YOU WERE BORN IN ";B;"."
```

Assignment Question 10-2

```
10 REM MULTIPLICATION
15 CALL CLEAR
16 PRINT
17 PRINT
18 PRINT
20 PRINT "GIVE ME A NUMBER"
22 PRINT
25 INPUT A
27 PRINT
28 PRINT
30 PRINT "GIVE ME ANOTHER"
32 PRINT
35 INPUT B
38 C=A*B
40 PRINT
42 PRINT
50 PRINT "THEIR PRODUCT IS ";C
```

That is all for this month but please make sure that you do some revision over the Christmas break on those sections that you have not fully grasped as future lessons will rely on you being able to understand and handle the basic principles that are contained in these past lessons.



VINCENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Vincent's Corner. As a follow-up to the last couple of month's adventure articles, I have programmed a "modern day" adventure. I hope you will enjoy using it.

I have some high scores for you as well. Video Chess: Intermediate- it took 9 mins & 54 sec to beat the T.I. 99 4/A (it also took it approx. 27 minutes to lose). Pin-Ball: 580 (from the Video Games I module)

Trying to beat that should keep you busy during the holidays. If you can beat these scores, please send me a letter. Please have one of your parents sign the letter, as well, to confirm the score. Any high scores will be printed in the Hall of Fame Mk. 2. All you need to do is to say "Hey Mum!! Hey Dad!! I have a really magic score with this game I'm playing!! This has to go to Vincent! Please sign here and I'll send it off to him right away!"

I have an 32K expansion board made by Geoff Trott. If anyone would like it, they can have it. My only hope is that it goes to a good home. Please send me a stamped self addressed postpak and it is yours.

My address is:

4/518 Church St.
PARRAMATTA 2150

Merry Christmas and happy computing.

VINCENT MAKER

P.S. I am now on the B.B.S., User name- MELANIE.

Here is the modern day adventure game that I mentioned in my letter:

```
100 DOLLAR=20
110 RANDOMIZE
120 REM *****
130 REM *AN ADVENTURE BY *
140 REM *VINCENT MAKER FOR*
150 REM *H.R.H. PRINCESS *
160 REM *ROBINA *
170 REM *AND THE H.R.H. *
180 REM *PRINCE&PRINCESS *
190 REM *MARK&TRICIA *
```

```
200 REM *FROM THE BEST BAR*
210 REM *IN THE WORLD; *
220 REM *LUCKY LIL'S. *
230 REM *****
240 CALL CLEAR
250 DISPLAY AT(3,1):" ** ROBINA'S ADVENTURE **"
260 DISPLAY AT(5,1):"BY VINCENT MAKER."
270 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"FOR THE "REGULAR CROWD" AT LUCKY
LIL'S.AND FOR THE BEST PIZZA MAKERS IN TOWN...TONY
AND LOLA..."
280 DISPLAY AT(11,1):"PRESS ANY KEY TO START."
290 CALL KEY(0,H,J):: IF J=0 THEN 280
300 CALL CLEAR
310 PRINT "YOU ARE IN A STREET CALLED JUNCTION RD IN
WINSTON HILLS.YOUR MISSION IS TO FIND THE DRINK
WHICH COSTS $2.00.YOU MUST GET TO "
320 PRINT "LUCKY LIL'S AT PARRAMATTA."
330 PRINT
340 PRINT "YOU HAVE $20.00 ON YOU.THERE IS A NOTE WHICH
YOU CAN BUY WHICH WILL IVE YOU MORE INFORMATION. IT
COSTS $5.00."
350 PRINT
360 INPUT "DO YOU WISH TO BUY IT(YES/NO)?":A$
370 IF A$="NO" THEN 410
380 CALL CLEAR
390 DOLLAR=DOLLAR-5
400 PRINT "THE NOTE SAYS...PARRAMATTA IS DOWN WINSOR RD.
LUCKY LIL'S IS OPPOSITE PARRAMATTA STATION, THE BUS
FARE IS $2.05...MESSAGE ENDS."
410 PRINT
420 PRINT "YOU DECIDE TO MOVE NORTH.YOU COME TO WINSOR
RD. WHICH YOU CROSS..."
430 PRINT
440 PRINT "A BUS IS HERE.IT SAYS ""PARRAMATTA"" DO YOU
WANT TO GET ON(Y/N)?" 450 CALL KEY(0,H,J)
460 IF J=0 THEN 450
470 IF H=89 THEN 690
480 PRINT
490 PRINT "YOU DON'T GET ON.YOU SHOULD HAVE...BUT ALL IS
NOT LOST. A TAXI WILL COST $16(IF YOU GET A
REASONABLE CABBIE). TRY FOR A CAB(Y/N)?"
500 CALL KEY(0,J,K)
510 IF K=0 THEN 500
520 PRINT
530 IF J=89 THEN 560
540 PRINT "YOU DON'T GET A CAB.YOU FAIL YOUR MISSION.
CIZANO FREE DAY,EH..."
550 STOP
560 PRINT "YOU GET A CAB. IS THE DRIVER ABLE TO TAKE
YOU?"
570 FOR T=0 TO 500
580 NEXT T
590 A=INT(RND*30)
600 IF A>14 THEN 930
610 PRINT "HE HAS NO IDEA WHERE PARRAMATTA IS...YOU FAIL
YOUR MISSION...CIZANO FREE DAY,EH?" :: STOP
620 CALL CLEAR
630 PRINT "YOU GET IN AND...HE ASKS YOU WHETHER YOU CAN
PAY THE FARE..."
640 FOR T=0 TO 500
650 NEXT T
660 IF DOLLAR<15 THEN PRINT "YOU CAN'T PAY THE FARE.
YOU LOSE...CIZANO FREE DAY, EH?" :: STOP
670 PRINT "YOU CAN PAY THE FARE..."
680 GOTO 930
690 CALL CLEAR
700 PRINT "YOU COME TO MELANIE'S PLACE. DO YOU GET OFF
(Y/N)?"
710 CALL KEY(0,G,H)
720 IF H=0 THEN 710
730 IF G<>89 THEN 820
740 CALL CLEAR
750 PRINT "YOU PAY RESPECT TO HER."
760 FOR T=0 TO 500
770 NEXT T
780 PRINT "SOME ONE OFFERS YOU A RIDE TO PARRAMATTA,
WHICH YOU ACCEPT..."
790 FOR T=0 TO 500
800 NEXT T
810 GOTO 930
820 PRINT "YOU COME TO NORTHHEAD...DO YOU GET OFF(Y/N)?"
830 CALL KEY(0,T,Y)
840 IF Y=0 THEN 830
```

FUNNELWEB 80 COLUMN
EDITOR PACKAGE VER. 5.00
PART 1

Notes for Funnelweb 80-column Editor Package - Vn 5.00

(Jul/93 update -- see FWD0C/ED82 Appendix)

Part 1 -- General Features

(1) Introduction

The latest development in the Funnelweb system for the TI99/4A computer is an extensive rewrite of the system editor. For better or for worse it remains as compatible with the original TI-Writer and Editor Assembler editors as can be managed, but now incorporates multilingual features previously available only in an incompatible form in the European version of TI-Writer. A new mode allows use on screen of the full IBM PC character graphics set as supported by most modern printers. The Editor is coded on and for the TI99/4A and is not specifically a Geneve 9640 program, though generally compatible. This 80-column version is dual mode and will serve as a superior 40-column editor as well. An RGB monitor of adequate resolution and supporting TV scan rates is essential for serious 80-column work and monitors compatible with the Amiga 500 are suitable and readily available. As in all previous versions, it does not depend on any given manufacturer's specific hardware extensions and may be run on a minimal system (9938 or 9958 video processor needed of course) as long as it can load Funnelweb, the original TI-Writer or Editor Assembler modules not being necessary. In particular it is compatible with the Extended BASIC module.

This part, FWD0C/ED80, of the documentation covers general features while the second part, FWD0C/ED81, reviews command line and control functions in more detail. FWD0C/ED82 covers external device functions such as PF options, SD and help screen preparation. Those not already familiar with Funnelweb or TI-Writer should consult TI's original manual (which remains TI copyright material and may still be available from TI in the US at final clearance prices), or else various User Groups have tutorial material or experienced users willing to assist. These documents will concentrate on changes from the original. A 40-column only version with some of the new features is also available and is issued separately.

The editor is identified internally as Vn 5.00 but loads with no problems from Vn 4.40 of Funnelweb. At this stage in the history of the TI99/4A there is no longer any grand plan to issue a full update of Funnelweb, but as individual parts are updated they will be so identified.

(2) File Descriptions

This supplementary package contains editor and auxiliary files, some language source files and various utility programs. If more than one file fits the category an asterisk is used as wildcard in the name. The character files other than CHAR@1 may be in archived forms. New/updated files are indicated by ">", July 1993 updates by ">>".

- >> ED, EE -- Editor program files
- >> HELP*0 -- Help files for W/P mode
- HELP0* -- Help files for P/E mode
- CHAR*1 -- Character files for Euro-Writer
- CHAR@* -- PC character sets for All-Chars
- F8TX*E -- Command text language files
- > INSTALL/ED -- Configuration utility program
- > CONFIG/ED -- Fully annotated configuration file
- > CON/ED -- Abbreviated configuration file
- 8PRINTFIL -- Sample help file prototype
- HELPMAKE80 -- Help file construction utility
- CHRCOAL/S -- Typical source file for PC character sets

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850 IF T<>89 THEN 930
860 CALL CLEAR
870 PRINT "WHY AN EARTH DID YOU GET OFF HERE???"
880 PRINT "YOU HAVE ";DOLLAR;" LEFT..."
890 IF DOLLAR>7 THEN 910
900 PRINT "THAT ISN'T ENOUGH TO GET A CAB.YOU LOSE.
CIZANO FREE DAY,EH?" :: STOP
910 PRINT "THAT'S ENOUGH TO GET A CAB...THE DRIVER KNOWS
YOUR DESTINATION..."
920 GOTO 930
930 PRINT "YOU GET TO PARRAMATTA!!!DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO
GO?"
940 PRINT "ACROSS THE ROAD YOU SEE,""LUCKY LIL'S"" DO
YOU GO THERE(Y/N)?"
950 CALL KEY(O,J,K):: IF K=0 THEN 950
960 IF J=89 THEN 990
970 PRINT "YOU SHOULD HAVE GONE THERE!!!YOU LOSE.
CIZANO FREE DAY,EH?"
980 STOP
990 PRINT "YOU SEE A SIGN SAYING,""VB-2.40""
1000 PRINT "YOU GO IN,ROBINA(THE BAR MAID),ASKS YOU WHAT
YOU WANT..."
1010 PRINT "DO YOU SAY V.B.(Y/N)?"
1020 CALL KEY(O,T,R)
1030 IF R=0 THEN 1020
1040 IF T=89 THEN 1070
1050 PRINT "YOU GET THROWN OUT OF THE BAR...CIZANO FREE
DAY, EH...FOR A NON-PAYING CUSTOMER...YOU LOSE..."
1060 STOP
1070 PRINT "YOU ASK HER FOR A VB..."
1080 FOR T=0 TO 500
1090 NEXT T
1100 IF DOLLAR<2.4 THEN 1210
1110 PRINT "YOU BUY A V.B.-AND SHE SUGGESTS A CIZANO FOR
$2.00. THIS COULD BE IT ..."
1120 FOR Y=0 TO 500 :: NEXT Y
1130 IF DOLLAR<1.99 THEN 1210
1140 CALL CLEAR
1150 FOR W=0 TO 14 :: CALL COLOR(W,3,12):: NEXT W
1160 DISPLAY AT(3,1)BEEP:" ** CONGRATULATIONS! **"
1170 DISPLAY AT(5,1):"YOU HAVE SOLVED YOUR MISSION"
1180 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"PRESS ANY KEY TO END..."
1190 CALL KEY(O,D,J):: IF J=0 THEN 1190
1200 END
1210 PRINT "YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT...YOU LOSE...CIZANO FREE
DAY, EH?"
1220 STOP

```

Here is a program especially for the New Year. Do not run it until right at New Year's.

```

100 !THE NEW YEAR'S PROGRAM
110 !BY VINCENT MAKER
120 CALL CLEAR
130 INPUT "WHEN YOU ARE READY TO RUN THE PROGRAM,
PRESENTER.":A$
140 CALL CLEAR
145 CALL SCREEN(2)
150 FOR T=0 TO 14 :: CALL COLOR(T,13,2):: NEXT T
160 CALL MAGNIFY(2)
170 DISPLAY AT(3,3):"H*A*P*P*Y N*E*W Y*E*A*R"
180 CALL SPRITE(#1,57,11,90,60,0,0)
190 CALL SPRITE(#2,52,13,90,80,0,0)
200 PRINT " HAVE A GOOD ONE !!"
210 GOTO 210

```



- CHARUTIL -- Character file analysis utility
- > F8TXSRC/AR -- Sample command text source
- FWTXMAKE -- Command text file maker
- >> FWD0C/ED80 -- This file
- >> FWD0C/ED81 -- Command and control details
- >> FWD0C/ED82 -- Help, Directory, Disk functions, Updates

The ED, EE, (or ED80, ED81), FWD0C/TIWR, FWD0C/EDAV files from your Vn 4.40 Funnelweb distribution disks are now obsolete, as is the part of FWD0C/EASM describing edit functions.

The minimum requirement on your Funnelweb working disk is ED, EE for default only use of the editor, with help files as desired. For non-English or Euro-Writer or All-Char usage, add character and command text files as needed. The language files set are not all complete. This reflects both my limited language abilities and the level of interest in Funnelweb from those parts. German and Swedish are complete and French largely so. Dutch still has some terms in English form, but I understand these would cause no problems to most Dutch computer users. Italian is incomplete to a greater degree and Spanish has not even been considered. It may be that national users may prefer to use the relevant character set but with English command text, in which case just copy it under the appropriate filename. The incomplete partial source files for command text (and the English version for reference) and the FWTXMAKE utility are included for the benefit of anyone who can help out. Please send back any updates, in source form, for the unfinished files for inclusion in the package. Follow instructions in the file carefully. Assemble and load as an object file from Funnelweb Option 4, followed by FWTXMAKE. Enter the disk number first and then the 2 character filename to save the data back to disk as a program file. In language files where I am uncertain of the words, the entry has been left in English, otherwise they are based on the existing TI Euro-Writer files.

(3) Editor Modes and Loading

The Funnelweb system editor supports two main modes, Word Processor and Programmer's Editor, from the same set of files. The choice is made implicitly from the alternate main Funnelweb selection screens, but may be intercepted and reset at load time. FWD0C/ED81 gives more details of the internal program modes in each Editor.

The editor files ED, EE are Funnelweb Option 1 program files, as is permanently configured in Funnelweb itself. This means that the main menu may be used to load any other editor (or other program) in this form and name. Going the other way, the Loaders screen may be used to load the files. If <cr>s etc are to be visible in the word processor, Option 1 should be used to refresh the character set unless it is configured or forced to load another character file (Option 2 GPL loader deliberately clears these character patterns among other things to better mimic the Editor Assembler 5 Loader). Loading these files into a standard TI99/4A without 80-column VDP will cause unpredictable results (TI's euphemism for a total crash).

The editor files must be loaded from Funnelweb under a 2 letter filename, normally ED, for character, language and help files to be found on the same drive or directory.

(4) Multilingual and All-Characters Capability

TI released in Europe in 1983 (in Germany at least) a multilingual Version 2.0 of TI-Writer which supported the range of languages implicit in the TI-Writer module selection screen. We will refer to it here as Euro-Writer. Unfortunately the Euro-Writer writes Tab records to file which are fatally incompatible with the original USA issue of TI-Writer. It also had a whole range of auxiliary text and character files and a new formatter with special transliteration files for the new characters.

The new Funnelweb Editor supports both the original TI-Writer and Euro-Writer with selection at load time, either preconfigured or from the selection screen. The file loader handles all existing tab records (TI-Writer, Euro-Writer, Funnelweb) transparently. The new multilingual modes normally write Euro-Writer type tab records to disk in word processing mode, so do not send such files without warning to people without this latest Funnelweb editor or Euro-Writer. An option in CONFIG/ED now allows the user to force All-Chars to write tab records to file that are compatible with either form as selected there, but the file itself if it uses 8-bit characters will not be read correctly by other editors.

The user selection screen is brought up by pressing <space> while the program finishes loading. First choice presented is between Word Processor and Program Editor. The next choice is from 4 options.

<1> Default 7-bit, in which no further character or command files are loaded and which uses normal 7-bit ASCII characters only.

<2> National 7-bit, which is again standard 7-bit mode, but loads national command and character files. This will be most useful in languages and applications which can coexist with a modified 7-bit character set.

<3> All Characters, which loads from a different set of character files and allows keyboard entry of all characters >00 to >FE, for example the complete IBM PC character graphics set. All-Chars mode, indicated by a hollow arrowhead on the bottom ruler line when visible, is toggled by <ctrl-,> and sets the most significant bit in any character entered. It is cancelled by going to Command mode, but can be reset there. Text buffer capacity is less for Options 3 and 4 and extended tab records of configurable type are written out in word processing mode. Character >FF (<fctn-V> in this mode) is not available and is replaced by a space in the text buffer.

<4> TI Euro-Writer, which apart from redefined normal characters, allows entry of various modified versions of vowels, using keys <fctn-,>, <fctn-.,>, <fctn-/> and <ctrl-/>. These are encoded as ASCII 128 to 167 (>80 to >A7). You will need your Euro-Formatter and transliteration files to handle these Euro-Writer files correctly in printing if they contain modified vowel characters. It may be that Euro-Writer users will prefer to use All-Chars mode which will mesh more easily with standard printer fonts and Euro-Writer may well disappear from future versions, if any.

The next option box allows selection (1 to 8) of the various national languages. These choices use various auxiliary files, depending on the mode. Euro-Writer mode loads text/command files F8TXAE to F8TXGE and character files CHARA1 to CHARG1. All-Chars also loads files F8TXAE to F8TXGE and alternate character files CHAR01 to CHAR08. The normal imbedded language is English and the USA and Britain options do not load a new command text file. Only one set of command text files is allowed for. With languages such as German and Swedish, where 7-bit characters suffice for the command text, it makes no difference between Euro-Writer and All-Chars modes, while for others such as French there will be minor variations and for Dutch only 1 letter. In this case choose or alter the one which matches your dominant usage.

The character files CHARA1 to CHARG1 are the same as for the TI Euro-Writer. The CHAR0x files have TI type control characters and the other 7-bit character patterns from the corresponding Euro-Writer file, but otherwise match the full character sets found on PCs as in code page 437. All these files have a dummy 6 byte Editor Assembler program header. I realize that character patterns to fit a textmode 8x6 matrix will not

be all that wonderful on screen but it does open a new dimension for TI-Writer editing. Loading an All-Chars or Euro-Writer workfile into the 7-bit Editor modes may corrupt the file as the most significant bit is stripped from all characters. If in doubt, load into All-Chars or Euro-Writer. CHRCOAL/S is the source file for a character set and may serve as a starting point for customization and also serves as an example of how a program written to run under Funnelweb can call on the QD directory. CHARUTIL is a utility for converting existing char-files to source form, or trimming null sectors from char-files. They are included because I found existing public domain char-set tools quite unsatisfactory for practical use.

Whatever the character set, the characters >7F (<fctn-> Del - normally blank) and >FF are redefined as the solid and hollow bottom line indicator characters. The >IF pattern (the edge character in BASIC) is also always redefined as the solid mid-line for use as a distinctive screen divider in 40-column freeze mode. The cursor of the moment is the >IE pattern. One of the Help screens provided allows examination of and ready reference to the current character set.

(5) Editor Configuration

The INSTALL/ED program allows a range of initial options to be installed in the ED file from a DV/80 text file. CONFIG/ED is such a file and is its own documentation. Keep for reference, but a cut down version such as CON/ED will do just as well.

(6) Printing

The usual Funnelweb modification of the Formatter will work as before with 7-bit files. Printer codes to set national character sets will depend on your particular printer. All-Chars files should print directly from the Editor to printers (most nowadays) that support the PC character graphics set.

No work has yet been done on interfacing the Euro-Writer Formatter and we do not intend to supply it or its auxiliary files. For the moment change the word in your copy at >30 in the first sector of FORMAL from >I30A to >I00A so that you at least can use it with Funnelweb or Editor Assembler. Edit the drive # and language letter in the string DSK1.TXTFA in sector >0D and at >IC of sector >0E change >D800 to >9800 to disable the language selection path from the TI-Writer module.

A rewrite of the Formatter would seem to be in order at this stage, using the existing TI-Writer manual as base specification in the absence of original source code, but life seems just too short with too many other things to do.

The existing Formatter functions normally for 7-bit files with the following enhancements over the original TI issue.

- (i) The printer device-name is preconfigured in the main FW/LOAD program by CF/CG and may be changed to suit your convenience.
- (ii) The Formatter will display the filename last used or marked. If it cannot locate a name then the utility pathname set in Funnelweb with CF/CG becomes the default.
- (iii) The <fctn-9> key now returns directly to Funnelweb's central menu screen. The Formatter does not need to reload from disk if reselected immediately.
- (iv) Pressing AID <fctn-7> invokes a directory routine similar to QD. File QF is loaded if present on the boot disk when the Formatter first loads for this to be available. File marking is active, but is not apparent until the workfile name is edited - <enter> is not enough but even a cursor movement will do.

(v) The Formatter may now have 4 disk files open at the same time.

(vi) The FD/FP files load purely as an Option 2 (Editor Assembler option 5) program and another Formatter program in this form may be substituted.

(7) Fairware Notice

This program is distributed as FAIRWARE. Consequences of its use are entirely the responsibility of the user. The files as sent out are not crippled in any way, unlike the frequent and unpleasant custom in the PC world. The usual FAIRWARE conditions remain in force for this extension of the FUNNELWEB system. If you do not think it is worth supporting or do not bother to, then be honest and do not use it, but at the very minimum please show your appreciation of the free trial by passing it on to others who may.

(8) Final Words

Please report promptly any bugs found, particularly including Geneve or HFDC oddities, or send suggestions. The existing functionality is very close to the limit that can be squeezed on to standard TI99/4A hardware and is my personal judgment of what is best included given that limitation. It also reflects my own feeling that TI did do a pretty good fit to the capabilities of the machine with TI-Writer. This means also that many things we would like to do will not be done until an acceptable and reliable standard memory expansion is available. An addition that looks obvious, but would be impossibly expensive in code space in the main program, is to implement direct transfer from the View buffer to the text buffer.

Geneve 9640 Note - All functions use only the base 128 Kbyte VOP memory of the 9938 video processor so that users of standard Geneve machines are not left out and no Geneve-hostile code is knowingly included. Mapping of particular keys on the Geneve keyboard to TI99/4A keys remains the responsibility of MDOS's simulation of the TI99/4A (the same holds true for PC keyboards with adaptors to the TI99/4A, such as by RAVE). In the absence of any local Geneve, covering of the various incompatibilities of the Geneve with the TI99/4A has to be done by guess and remote feedback (same goes for hard disk pathname functions for the Myarc HFDC, at least until the WHT SCSI DSR becomes available).

Warning - it seems that the ROM based ROS for HRDs by J.P. Hoddie is incompatible with 80-column adapters because it ignores TI system guidelines. Use the Bud Mills/DPA Vn 8.14 ROS in RAM instead, which though still not satisfactory in design, better respects TI system rules.

Warning - English speakers fooling around with the Swedish model should remember that LF in Swedish is short for Savefile! You will forget only once. Various other little traps may exist also in this or other languages.

Warning - The Myarc HFDC operating as a floppy disk controller has problems with multiply fractured files. At least some Myarc FDC 80-track DSR ROMs do not always handle file length allocations correctly on 80 track disks. These problems cannot be worked around by the Editor.



CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

ELECTRONIC NEWS FROM
THE WORLD

Edited by Geoff Trott

The following items appeared on the Internet network news in the subject heading comp.sys.ti. This has a variety of different postings including some relevant to the TI99/4A world. I have selected some of these for your general interest. I have left the headers on which show who they are from, the subject and the time of the posting. I have placed double quotes around text that came from someone else's message.

From: MARK71@delphi.com
Subject: Comp.Sys.Ti Message Relay from TI NET on Delphi
Date: 26 Sep 1993 14:39:17 -0500

TO: ALL
FROM: MARK GEORGES

Delphi Id: MARK71
Internet Address: MARK71@delphi.com

SUBJECT: FOR SALE

Editor Assembler cartridge and documentation. \$5 plus shipping
Multiplan, documentation, \$5 plus shipping
10 disk boxes with disks (probably 150 disks, 100 with programs). \$35 plus shipping or \$4 per box (with 10 disks) plus shipping
Gemini 10X, 9 pin printer, works great. \$50 plus shipping

Leave a message or call Mark at (513) 848-7941

From: 91150@tayloru.edu
Subject: TI-85 Calculator questions
Date: 25 Sep 93 15:05:47 GMT

I do not know if this is really the best place to post this, but here goes anyway.

I am in a Statistics class right now, with a sequel this Spring. For the second course, my prof is insisting that we have access to a graphing calculator, and he recommends a TI-81, 82, or 85. That is all well and good, but I like my Sharp! I am trying to decide whether I should look to borrow a graphics calculator or go ahead and sell my Sharp and get one of my own (I cannot really afford to buy the TI w/o selling my Sharp). If I did this, I would probably get the TI-85 (I go all out when I buy something I lean on as heavily as my calculator -- that is why I like my current one).

Perhaps you folks could help me decide by answering a few questions:

- 1) I know that the 85 has a data link capability for transferring stuff to and from a PC. Would this work on a Mac? ie, does it just transfer to a specific program, or is it general enough to be adaptable?
- 2) Is the data link cable and/or other stuff included in the purchase of the calculator or is it an option, and therefore an extra cost?
- 3) How general is its programming language? My Sharp is basically limited to algebraic-type programs, which since it has one line of alphanumeric text and one of just numbers is reasonable. Can the TI-85 support more general programs? ie, it is possible to write little jokes/games? I currently have a "Hi-Lo" program on my Sharp, which while dull beats listening to the lecture sometimes. ;-)
- 4) Is there a better calculator (TI or otherwise) that I should consider?

Thanks in advance. E-mail or post (I do not care) your responses.

Timothy D. Dixon
Of course my opinions are my own, and nobody else wants, or generally even agrees with them.

From: mjsshield@nyx.cs.du.edu (Michael Shields)
Subject: Re: TI-85 Calculator questions
Date: Wed, 29 Sep 93 18:50:44 GMT

In a previous article, 91150@tayloru.edu writes:
"1) I know that the 85 has a data link capability for transferring stuff to and from a PC. Would this work on a Mac? ie, does it just transfer to a specific program, or is it general enough to be adaptable?"

I have not seen any real specs here beyond a flyer from TI. Personally, I want it to work with Linux; I do not use DOS.

"2) Is the data link cable and/or other stuff included in the purchase of the calculator or is it an option, and therefore an extra cost?"

It is extra.

"3) How general is its programming language? My Sharp is basically limited to algebraic-type programs, which since it has one line of alphanumeric text and one of just numbers is reasonable. Can the TI-85 support more general programs? ie, it is possible to write little jokes/games? I currently have a "Hi-Lo" program on my Sharp, which while dull beats listening to the lecture sometimes. ;-)"

"4) Is there a better calculator (TI or otherwise) that I should consider?"

The HP48. It depends what you will be using it for, though. If you are just upgrading from a Sharp, the 85 will be fine. The 48, on the other hand, actually competes with things like the Wizard.

From: cohen@GOMEZ.phys.virginia.edu
Subject: OPA's Pop Cart gets a bad review
Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1993 20:11:06 GMT

In the recent Bytes, Bits and Pixels, the Lima UG newsletter, there is a review of OPA's Pop cart (a multi-function, customized -- at the factory -- cartridge). The review is by a user who purchased it from L.L. Conner. The whole thing is packaged in a Parsec game cartridge. It is full of bugs: of the programs installed there:
Archiver packs but does not unpack (ver. 3.03g installed)
TI-Writer only the editor works, the formatter does not
DM-1000 only displays directory, but will not copy either by file or by sector
Rich GK XB v5.1 locks up under certain conditions and under some programs
DSK#.UTIL loader does not work, the computer needs to be powered down or reset

These seem to be bugs (confirmed by the Editor), there are also design flaws pointed out by the reviewer.

Anybody had experience with this? Is there a reason to bother with this products at all, even if it worked well (for example, would not a small (90K-256K) HRD be more convenient, especially if one has a GRAM device?)

Thanks.

P.S. What exactly is RICH XB? How far does it go beyond TI XB? Does it have all the features of MG/Triton Super XB and more (details?)

From: cohen@GOMEZ.phys.virginia.edu
Subject: TI-99/4A items wanted
Date: Mon, 27 Sep 1993 20:24:21 GMT

Here is a list of cartridges and hardware I am looking for. This list is partial, so if you have other interesting and useful items, reasonable priced, please let me know.

I am willing to buy, or trade. For trade, I have a collection of good items, and can e-mail you a list upon request.

Please e-mail to internet address COHEN@GOMEZ.PHYS.VIRGINIA.EDU (**Internet**) only, please do not leave e-mail on other networks or BBS's as I will not see it, instead, call (804) 293-8973 (voice).

Thanks!

Cartridges wanted (Sept., 1993)-
Numeration I

Computer Math Games I
Computer Math Games III
Computer Math Games IV
Addition and Subtraction 3 (Scott, Foresman)
Multiplication 2 (Scott, Foresman)
Adventures in Addition and Subtraction (Scott, Foresman)
Scott, Foresman School Management Applications package (or any part thereof).
Scott, Foresman School Mailer
Scott, Foresman Personnel Data Recorder
Scott, Foresman Class Data Recorder
Scott, Foresman Accounting Assistant
Scott, Foresman Activity Assistant
Scott, Foresman Attendance Recorder
Number Bowling
Picture Parts
Frog Jump
Reading Power
Reading Wonders
Terminal Emulator I
Investment Analysis
Diagnostic module
E.T.
ACS Protection
Wing War
Video Vegas
Angler Dangler
Card Shark
Walt Disney cartridges
E.T. and his Adventures
Germ Patrol
Plant Genetics
Computer Tutor
SMU Electrical Engineering Library
Key to Spanish
Search Master (Sunware)
MiniWriter III+ cartridge (with printer interface)
Wordwriter+ (DataBioTics)
Beyond Wordwriter (DataBioTics)
Wordwriter xtra (DataBioTics)
TI Workshop (DataBioTics)
Magic Memory (DataBioTics)
TI Planner (DataBioTics)
Console Calc (DataBioTics)
Console Calc + (DataBioTics)
Pro-Typer (DataBioTics)
ALL Asgard cartridges (TypeWriter, Tris, Link, Edu-Pack, etc.)
ALL DataBioTics cartridges (Black Hole, Sorgan II, Miniwriter III+, Star Runner, Stargazer 1/2/3, The Great Word Race, TI-TOAD, Burger Builder, Midnight Mason, Mancala, Micro Pinball, Q-Maze, Star Trap, TI-Planner, Beyond Parsec (Omega), Space Patrol, Micro tennis, Breakthrough, Boxer, Munchman II,...)
The Great Word Race
Strike Three!
D Station
D Station 2
Cross Fire
Hen Pecked (Romox)
Chicken Coop (Romox)
Princess and the Frog (Romox)
Rotor Raiders (Romox)
Topper (Romox)

Typo II (Romox)
Rabbit Trail
Whiz Kid (Romox)
Character Crayons (Romox)
Pipes (Funware)
Ant Colony (Funware)
Astroblitz (Funware)
Cave Creatures (Funware)
Crisis Mountain (Funware)
Galactic Barrier (Funware)
Henhouse (Funware)
Pipes (Funware)
Trashman (Funware)
Video Vegas (Funware)
Espial (TigerVision)
Killer Caterpillar (Norton Software)
Spy's Demise (CSI Design Group)
Computer War (Micropal)
Spot-Shot (Sofmachine)
Barrage (Sofmachine)
Dragonflyer (Sofmachine)
Q-MAZE (Sofmachine)
Jumpy (Sofmachine)
Micro Pinball (Software Specs)
Midnight Mason (Software Specs)
Burger Builder (Software Specs)
TI Toad
Battle Star
Beyond Parsec
Omega
Breakout
Sorgan II (DataBioTics)
Space Patrol (DataBioTics)
Star Runner (DataBioTics)
TI-Runner (DataBioTics)
Munchman II (DataBioTics)
Boxer (DataBioTics)
Escape (DataBioTics)
Micro Tennis (DataBioTics)
Mancala (DataBioTics)
Tile Breaker (Exceltec)
Face Chase (Exceltec)
Star Trap (Exceltec)
Midnight Mason (Exceltec)
Breakthrough (Exceltec)
Space Chase (Exceltec)
Space Patrol (Exceltec)
Arcturus (Exceltec)
Boxer (Exceltec)
Love Tennis (Exceltec)
Navarone King of the Castle
Navarone Console Writer
Navarone Speed Reading for Children
Navarone GROM BUSTER
Super Space, SuperSpace II, or SuperCart (8K or/and 32K RAM)
FORTH cartridge (SUPER FORTH?)
Myarc Extended BASIC II/IV system
PCD2 Course Authoring Package for TI-99/4A (TI and Control Data Corporation)

Hardware and accessories-
Any 80-column device (Mechatronic, Dijit AVPC, or TIM)
Any GRAM/GROM devices and cards (from USA, Europe, etc.)
e.g., Mechatronic GRAM CARTE, Pilgrim's Pride Module 6000, Belgian GRAM cartridge, home-made stuff, etc. (Anything EXCEPT MG GK)
Any RAM cards/peripherals (from USA, Europe, etc.)
First ADE card (A/D converter)
Music card (FORTII)
Speech card
CP/M card (Foundation, Morning Star)
Clulow clock card
Clulow 8K DSR card
Texas light Shooter from Non Plyoptics
Light pen
Mouse and software
TI Cartridge storage case
Console and accessories carrying case for TI99/4A by H/S Enterprises
Model Masters JoyPrint (printer interface from Joystick port)
CorComp stand-alone clock/calendar peripheral
Any home made or modified equipment

From: phpam@cc.newcastle.edu.au
Subject: Re; TMS34010
Date: Wed, 29 Sep 1993 01:02:20 GMT

"I have been promised twice a developer kit from DMI, but have not seen anything yet.

Thx. --- Jes Sorensen:"

Tried to e-mail this but it bounced, so I will just post it back to the TI group.

As they say, good luck Charlie Brown. My son Will is/was heavily into Amiga development, mostly SCSI drivers. Currently DMI have several k\$\$ of his towards a TMS34020 board, and are neither delivering product nor making any refunds (the same for another friend of his in Newcastle too). All sorts of promises but no action. I did contact some old TI99/4A computing friends in the San Diego area to get a local perspective and it was not very promising. I can give you the San Diego District Attorney's address if you want.

Will is on the Amiga developer's net in Australia, but mail forwarding is poor and I am not sure how often he checks it. His current job is on SGI machinery, so the Amiga is not such a big thrill any more. I know he did have some stuff - a 34010 simulator on PCs and a bunch of other stuff for 34020s.

He was up here in Newcastle this last weekend and said he thought that Real 3D was being ported (past tense may be appropriate now) to the DMI board by people in Denmark.

Tony McGovern Physics Dept, University of Newcastle, Australia
e-mail -- phpam@cc.newcastle.edu.au
Delphi -- GLOBAL01

From: nathalie@foghorn.cc.utexas.edu_(S.T. Nathalie)
Subject: Re: The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Book Review
Date: 28 Sep 1993 08:21:47 -0500

Book Rating: Highly Recommended. (9.4 on a scale from 1 to 10)

Title: The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Modeling the Supply of Workstations and their Components
Author: W.R. Touma, Ph.D.
Publisher: Kluwer Academic Publishers

This book is a must read for Engineers, Economists, Scientists, CEOs and Managers of high tech corporations, or anybody interested in acquiring a new computer system, whether a mainframe, a workstation, or a portable; it is written with such style and clarity that a computer illiterate could find it interesting to read and easy to understand.

In my opinion, this book will be a worthwhile addition to a computer owner's library. Chapter 2, for instance, presents the most comprehensive and detailed analysis of the computer industry and all the components that make the computer workstation what it is today. All the technology drivers affecting the attributes (ex: cost, performance) of the computer and the attributes of all of its components (ICs, Hard Disk, Display, and Operating System) are presented.

Furthermore, the book will help the reader make a better choice of a computer platform in the future and what kind of performance features to look for, instead of the computer jargon that all the newspapers and magazines keep confusing us with. From the results included, one would be able to estimate how much would a megabyte of DRAM or Magnetic Hard Disk cost in 1993, 1994 and how much would a CRT with a 10,000 pixels/sq.inch resolution cost in 1993, 1994.

The sheer amount of data collected made this book worth my while, and at a very affordable cost (with a 30% discount, see below, I paid \$48.96 + TSH) when compared to the cost of reports that a professional data collection agency charges (>\$8,000).

Book Information:

The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Modeling the Supply of Workstations and their Components, by Walid R. Touma, Ph.D., Kluwer Academic Publishers, Norwell, MA. Bibliographical References, Index.
235 pp. \$69.95. Navy leather hard cover, gold embossed. ISBN: 0-7923-9331-7.

I ordered the book from a company in town (Austin), Technologies and Computer Consultants; the staff was very courteous and extremely professional. I received my book within 4 days from the date I sent my check in, well packaged and presented. (I understand that Technologies and Computer Consultants is accepting orders by credit card now; I was notified by phone after I had sent my check in, however.)

S.T. Nathalie, UT SB&C

P.S. The book's preface is one of the most effective half page prefaces I have read in a long time. Two Thumbs up.

From: mjohnson@netcom5.Netcom.COM (Mark Johnson)
Subject: Re: The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Book Review
Date: Tue, 28 Sep 1993 17:39:08 GMT

In a previous article, S.T. Nathalie posted an article from "Organization: The University of Texas - Austin"

This article is a toadying bit of sycophantic praise, thinly disguised as a review of the book

"Title: The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Modeling the Supply of Workstations and their Components, Author: W.R. Touma, Ph.D. touma@cerc.utexas.edu."

You just have to wonder what is gotten into them boys down there at the University of Texas.

Maybe W.R. Touma is an extremely difficult professor, so his grad students seek to butter him up by kissing his ass in a public forum? Perhaps he is influential in tenure decisions and nervous junior colleagues are attempting to curry favor by praising his book? Maybe he is beginning a consulting business and is using the "good reviews" of his book to impress clients and/or investors?

I find it hard to dismiss that every single remark made in favour of this book, has emanated from persons employed by the University of Texas. The predecessor Usenet article included written remarks from three U. of T. professors, plus those of the (wisely) anonymous UT poster. And now this article makes five.

Now maybe it is indeed a wonderful book, perhaps even a classic text whose destiny is to outsell Charles Darwin, Linus Pauling, Stephen Jay Gould, William Davidow, Tom Peters, and Paul Samuelson combined. Perhaps it is worthy of the praise that vomits forth from Austin Texas at prodigious rates. But if so, would not you expect to find a favorable review of it from somewhere other than the University of Texas?

Not surprisingly, you can buy this book at a 30% discount. From an address in, you guessed it, Austin Texas.

--- M. Johnson, lover of "The Ballad of Charlie Whitman" by K. Friedman.

From: turpin@cs.utexas.edu (Russell Turpin)
Subject: Re: The Dynamics of the Computer Industry: Book Review
Date: 29 Sep 1993 15:15:28 -0500

LETTER TO EDITOR

In a previous article, Mark Johnson wrote:
"This article is a toadying bit of sycophantic praise, thinly disguised as a review of the book. You just have to wonder what is gotten into them boys down there at the University of Texas."

I am not going to tell.

"--- M. Johnson, lover of "The Ballad of Charlie Whitman" by K. Friedman."

Be careful, Mark. That ballad is yet another example of a local yoke! talking up a local yoke!.

Russell

From: teledata@delphi.com
Subject: TI NET Delphi online
Date: 29 Sep 1993 00:52:45 GMT

TI NET on Delphi, the premier TI Sig, is now connected to comp.sys.ti.

Messages are now posted from this newsgroup to Delphi and our members can now send messages to you.

Welcome to TI NET on Delphi!

Jeff Guide
teledata@delphi.com

Date: Tue, 28 Sep 1993 16:36:42 EDT
From: <ARM115@psuvm.psu.edu>
Subject: TI-85 programs on Internet?

Hello! I was wondering if anyone out there knows if there are any games/utills that I can get for my TI-85 off the Internet. I would like to know the addresses if possible. Thanks

From: cohen@BORN.phys.virginia.edu
Subject: Myarc MPES-50 for trade/sale
Date: Tue, 28 Sep 1993 18:42:40 GMT

I have for trade (or sale) the Myarc Micro Peripheral Expansion System (MPES-50). This is a self-contained expansion system from Myarc with 2 half-height drives, 32K Memory expansion, Disk Controller, RS232, all in a black metal box that plugs to the side of the 99/4A console. Manual included (use of the system is similar to use of the TI PEBox with a few extra enhancements). The unit is in excellent condition.

I prefer trades (I posted the list of items I might be interested in yesterday), but since I also need some shelf space, I will also sell (for an offer that will actually allow me to buy something useful, hopefully).

How to reach me-
On INTERNET only- e-mail to
COHEN@GOMEZ.PHYS.VIRGINIA.EDU
(Do not leave e-mail on other networks, on BBS's etc. I will never see it even if you see this message posted there).
By phone, (804) 293-8973 (voice).

I also have a lot of other TI99/4A items (hardware, software, books, cartridges, magazines, peripherals, etc.). If interested, please e-mail and request a list.

Thanks!



MAIL TO : EDITOR
MAIL FROM : CJONES
SENT ON Friday 12/11/93 at 02:27:33

Dear Friends,

We are at the end of another year. I would like to thank all those who have read my articles. I sincerely hope these lead you to successfully completing your adventures.

I can be contacted through Vincent's Corner. I would really appreciate some more input, if it is possible. All letters so far have been answered. If I could make special mention of David Meldrum- he sent me a letter on Adv #9, "GHOSTOWN". I hope he successfully completed his adventure. In issues of the TND this year you will find a, "HOW TO" on this one. If anyone else is interested in it. However, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Lightning Protection for Fax machines and Modems, by Ross Mudie.

This article was written in response to a question on how lightning damage occurs and how to protect Fax machines from lightning damage. The same information applies to Computer Modems and Answering Machines.

Fax machines connect to both telephone line and the commercial power mains. The telephone line is earthed at the telephone exchange and the commercial power mains is earthed in the immediate area of the Fax machine, (the M. E. N. System).

When lightning strikes earth, a tree or any structure connected to earth, there is a huge voltage dropped across the resistance of the earth crust, in an area radiating out from the place where the lightning strike occurred. When lightning strikes, anywhere in the immediate area of a Fax machine, there may be many thousands of volts difference in the "earth potential" between the earth at the telephone exchange and the commercial power mains earth at the Fax machine. The fax machine is connected to the exchange via the physical telephone line.

In the Fax machine, Austel specification TS001 and Australian specification AS3260, require a high voltage isolation barrier between the protective earth and the telephone line for mains power safety reasons. This isolation barrier is totally inadequate for the voltages present during a lightning strike and the lightning can "flash over" in the Fax machine with very damaging results. It is not necessary for lightning to actually strike either the power mains or the telephone line for the damage to occur.

The best surge protection system known at present is a commercial device known as FAXGUARD, manufactured by Critic Pty Ltd, which connects in both the telephone line and the power mains connecting to the fax machine. Providing that the FaxGuard is connected in accordance with the manufacturers instructions and there is no other cable or equipment connected to the line or Fax machine after the FaxGuard, it should protect the Fax machine in most cases. When protection is provided for a computer with modem, the whole of the computer system should be powered through the FaxGuard. If protection is not provided, Fax machines, computers and modems should be unplugged from both the telephone line and the power mains during storms. Turning off at the power point does not afford protection as the lightning can "flash over" in the switch.



SECTION for IBM COMPATIBLES

ALL THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES ARE REPRINTED FROM
"YOUR COMPUTER'S TECH. TIPS"
WITH THEIR PERMISSION.

Shopping for Memory

Memory Boards

Not all memory products are created equal. What should you look for if you're in the market for memory?

Whether you're planning to get a memory enhancement board or system-board memory, compatibility should be at the top of your shopping list. In fact, surveys show compatibility as the Number 1 requirement for memory buyers. A good memory board will be compatible with your PC hardware, operating system, graphical environment, application software and the LIM EMS 4.0 standard. System-board memory modules must be carefully designed and manufactured for compatibility with the system's requirements.

Closely related is product quality. Memory products must be carefully designed and manufactured and rigorously tested - defective products can produce invalid data and unpredictable results. It's wise to choose a vendor who has a reputation for outstanding product quality and technical support, and who offers an extended warranty. Here are some other issues to consider.

- ▶ **Support for conventional, extended and expanded memory.** For maximum flexibility, look for a board that provides all the kinds of memory you're likely to need. Expanded memory gives you compatibility with the hundreds of DOS applications that support the LIM EMS 4.0 standard. Extended memory lets you run Windows 3.0 and will retain its usefulness if you migrate to an OS/2 environment.
- ▶ **Room to grow.** Memory requirements tend to increase over time. Choosing a board that gives you 8MB or more means you won't have to buy another board when you want additional memory.
- ▶ **Standard memory components.** A board that uses industry-standard DIPs and SIMMs (the two most common types of memory) makes it easier and less expensive to add more memory later.
- ▶ **Versatility.** PC slots are a scarce commodity. If you want to preserve a valuable slot, look for a memory board that provides more than just memory. Memory boards with parallel and serial ports for example, let you attach a printer or mouse and a modem without the need the need for a separate board.
- ▶ **Switchless - and painless - installation.** Many memory boards require you to set tiny switches or jumpers when you install the board or change your memory configuration. Setting the switches can require detailed knowledge of your PC configuration - and you end up having to take the top off your PC just to alter your memory configuration. A far better solution is installation software that analyses your PC configuration for you and eliminates the need for setting switches or jumpers.

System-Board Memory

- ▶ **Type of SIMMs.** SIMMs - Single In-Line Memory Modules - are the components of choice for system-board memory. On a 386-based PC, 72-pin SIMMs

can be installed one at a time instead of four at a time, as 30-pin SIMMs must be.

- **Performance.** Memory performance is measured in terms of nanoseconds (ns) - billionths of a second. For example, Intel Matched Memory SIMMs are rated at 70ns and 80ns. In addition to raw speed, the type of DRAM used also affects performance. SIMMs that use what's called fast page mode DRAM can access data up to twice as quickly as those that operate in page mode.

Partitioning large drives

I am in the market for a drive of about 300Mb capacity, which I intend to use on my 386 under Dos 3.3. I do not want to upgrade to Dos 4.0 if at all possible, since it uses more memory than 3.3. However, a friend told me that you can only have four partitions on a physical hard disk, which means that I will only be able to use 128Mb of the space on the disk. I know some suppliers bundle a special version of Dos 3.3 with their machines, which allows large drives to appear as a single partition.

However, the Dos supplied with my machine is the bog-standard Microsoft product, which I understand cannot address partitions beyond 32Mb in size. Is there some way that I can address a 300Mb drive using standard Dos, or do I need one of those 'specials' that some suppliers have? I don't mind having 10 partitions on the disk, but I'm not too keen on spending money on a 300Mb drive if I can't even use half its capacity.

Glen Myers
Gladesville, NSW

Yes, Dos 3.3 can address a 300Mb hard disk, and use all of its capacity without waste. You appear to be a bit confused about the difference between disk partitions, and logical Dos drives. To address a hard disk of that size under Dos 3.3, you only need two partitions — a 32Mb primary Dos partition, and an extended Dos partition, using the remaining capacity of the drive. This is accomplished with the Dos Fdisk program.

Once the extended partition has been created, it then needs to be divided up into logical drives, again using Fdisk. The Dos 32Mb limit applies to the size of each of these logical drives, not to the size of the extended partition.

So, with that in mind, you can easily set up any sized hard disk under Dos 3.3, provided that the total number of partitions does not exceed 24, since Dos can only address 26 logical drives, and logical Drives A and B are devoted to the floppy drive(s). There are other limits to the maximum size of a physical hard disk, but they are imposed by the BIOS — the most commonly-encountered being the 1024 cylinder limit.

Caps to lower case

Sometime ago I was shown how to change upper case letters to lower case in WordStar 4. I've now forgotten and have searched the Menus repeatedly for help and it's driving me mad. How is it done?

Vera Tate
Adelaide, SA

Easy: mark the block of text you want to change (Ctrl-KB and Ctrl-KK) and then Ctrl-K" (double quotes) will change lower case to upper; Ctrl-K' (single quote) will change upper to lower. We discovered this by accident some time ago, but it is in the manual under Case Conversion.

Where's the printer?

I have a problem with the parallel printer on my PC clone. Sometimes when I turn the printer on, the computer seems to think it's not there. I don't think it is a problem with the cable, as I can solve the problem by re-booting the computer. Once I have done this, the printer works fine for the rest of the computing session. Can you offer any suggestions?

J. Everett
Surrey Hills, Vic.

The difficulty you have is not uncommon, and relates to the way in which the BIOS searches for the presence of parallel ports in the machine during boot up. There are three locations in the I/O map that parallel ports can be located, 3BCH, 3E8H, and 2E8H. The BIOS routine checks these locations, starting at the highest one, and working its way down. Each time it finds a parallel port, it stores the location of the port in a specified area in RAM, called the BIOS data area. Dos then uses this information to assign the logical Dos names LPT1, LPT2 and LPT3, to the first, second and third ports that are found.

The way that each port is checked is to write some test data to the data port, and then perform a read operation on the same port. The ports are configured so that reading the data port allows the software to see if the data which was written to the port is what is actually being presented to the printer. If one or more of the data lines are shorted out, then the self test will not see a valid parallel port at that location, because the data written to, and read from the port do not match.

If an unpowered printer is connected to the port, the protection diodes built into the printer's input circuitry can virtually short these lines to ground. This means

that the port to which the printer is connected fails the self-test, and Dos does not recognise it. If there is another parallel port in the system, then it will become LPT1, otherwise there will be no parallel ports. This can be verified by running Norton's SysInfo program (one of the Norton Utilities), and looking at the number of parallel ports that it finds — there will be one less than there should be.

If you don't have the Norton Utilities, debug can be used to look at the BIOS data area, to check the locations of the parallel ports. Enter debug, and type 'd 0040:0000', to display the start of the BIOS data area. The six bytes starting with 0040:0008 represent the I/O locations of the three parallel ports which can exist in a system, although the actual locations are not important here. A '00 00' value means that that port does not exist. If all values are zero, then there are no parallel ports in the system. Make a note of these values, and then re-boot the computer with the printer turned on, and repeat the exercise. A change in any of these values means you've found the problem.

The solution is pretty simple — always power the printer up before the computer, or plug the two into a power board, and turn them on together.

Garbage from modem

I have a problem with my modem producing garbage. The problem does not occur all of the time, but after 12 or 13 minutes online, my screen fills with rubbish. Telecom couldn't offer any help — they said the line is OK, and the modem seems all right, since it works fine on a friend's phone line. Can you help?

*Dr David Splinter
Fashon Village, NSW*

It sounds like you have one of Telecom's new T200 Touchfones. These phones periodically draw current from the phone line to keep their memories powered. When this occurs, the extra loading on the line causes distortion, which corrupts data communications. A quick fix is to unplug the T200 when you are using the modem — hopefully, it won't forget its memory numbers. Another alternative is to ask Telecom for a current sharing device, which allows the phone to re-charge itself without messing up the modem.

Another problem to watch is related to Easycall, specifically the Call Waiting facility. When somebody tries to call you while the modem is using the line, the call is momentarily interrupted while the

call waiting pips are transmitted. This causes garbage to be received by the modem until it determines that there is no carrier and hangs up in disgust. The simple solution is to disable the call waiting before using the modem, and to re-enable it afterwards.

Another solution is to add two entries to your dialing directory — one to disable call waiting and the other to enable it again. Then, dial the first entry at the beginning of a session, and the other after you have finished using the modem. A more automated approach might be to put the disable sequence in the modem initialisation string itself, so that the call waiting is automatically disabled whenever you fire up the comms package. This still leaves the problem of re-enabling the facility when you have finished with the modem. If your comms program can send a string to the modem before exiting, then this could be used, otherwise, you may have to resort to the dialing directory solution above for this operation.

Four serial ports

I have four serial ports on my computer (a 12MHz Everex AT), addressed as COM1 through COM4. However, while two of the ports work without any problems (COM1 and COM3) the other two do not work reliably. I have two different modems, on COM1 and COM4, a Mouse Systems mouse on COM2, and I use COM3 to connect to my laptop with LapLink III. Whenever I try to use the modem on COM4, it does not work unless I move the mouse a bit. After that, I don't have any problems with this port, but when I exit the communications program (Telix 3.12), the mouse refuses to work again until I reboot. Do you have any suggestions?

*Jennifer Cox
Ajana, WA*

This problem is related to the way in which the communications capabilities of the PC have evolved. The original PC, and Dos, only supported two serial ports — COM1 and COM2. Each of these was allocated a specific I/O address and interrupt line. When users started demanding more I/O capabilities from their machines — especially with a mouse taking up one of the serial ports — COM3 and COM4 were introduced in some software, and in Dos itself from version 3.30 onwards.

However, because of the shortage of interrupt lines (especially on XT-level machines), they have to share the same interrupt lines as the first two. That is, COM1 and COM3 share interrupt 4, and the other two share interrupt 3. Normally, this should not cause a problem since the chip which controls each serial port (the UART) has a register which the software can read to determine whether that chip caused the interrupt or not.

Problems can arise, however, when the software that is controlling the port (such as the Mouse Systems mouse driver) assumes that there is only one port on that interrupt line. It receives an inter-

rupt from the other port on that interrupt line, but doesn't know what it is for, so it appears to hang.

One solution is to arrange the serial ports so that the shared interrupt lines do not cause conflicts.

For example, put your two modems on COM1 and COM3. The assumption here is that only one modem is to be used at once, and if you have software which can use two modems at the same time, it is smart enough to share the interrupt line between the two. This leaves COM2 for the mouse (which usually must be on COM1 or COM2), and COM4 for LapLink. Since LapLink doesn't use the interrupt line at all, there should be no conflict here.

The downside of disk doubling

The following note comes from the Computer Products Division of Nashua, and concerns the practice of 'doubling' 3.5 inch double-density disks, to allow them to store twice the amount of data:

There is a theory around the computer industry that to convert a 3.5 DD diskette into an HD, one only needs to punch a hole on the other bottom side of the shell. Not only does this give a risk of leaving debris in the diskette, but a more significant risk is being taken by the user, in that the loss of data will occur.

Claims are being made that DD and HD media is the same and that higher prices are being charged for no apparent gain. We wish to point out to the industry that this is not so, and many users are being misled. The following information is offered as an explanation and should any user wish to query us further, we would be happy to discuss this in more detail.

Diskettes manufactured for high density applications are referred to as 3.5 inch DSHD (double sided, high density), MF 2HD (micro floppy, high density) or 1.44Mb formatted. Magnetic coating thickness is typically 1.7 microns and double density drives have 1.7 micron head gaps which is appropriate for the 2559 to 8717 BPI densities of MFM encoding.

The read/write heads of double density drives can create powerful magnetic fields which fully penetrate the 1.7 micron coating. However, the magnetic field generated by the narrow head gap of a HD drive may not fully penetrate the DD coating, leading to poor saturation and associated performance problems. The field may also spread excessively in the thick coating, leading to excessive bit shift and data errors for high bit densities.

Initial results of testing were obtained using HD disks with an HD format in HD drive. As a result, amplitude performance was satisfactory. Resolution on track 79 was an acceptable 71 per cent at the Typical Operating Current of a stock drive and decreased to a marginal 60 per cent or less at higher write currents. Time Interval Analysis results were typical of good quality media and drives. Peak shift of the B6DB pattern is corrected by the drive controller during formatting, and the data bits of the formatted diskette are properly positioned in time. Window margins were 72 per cent or better, indicating that the disk should be readable with any good quality drive and controller.

When a DD disk was used with a HD format in the same HD drive, the results were very different. As a result, amplitude performance was unsatisfactory due to poor amplitude saturation. Resolution on Track 79 was an unacceptable 52 per cent at the Typical Operating Current. The time interval spectrum resembled that of MFM encoding but the peaks were excessively wide, leading to frequent read errors.

*Tony Little
Nashua Australia*

We've had our doubts about the reliability of formatting double density disks to high density ever since so-called disk doublers appeared on the market. It seems that because people have had some success in reading disks which have been formatted in this way, it is acceptable practice.

Certainly, for non-critical applications, such as transferring data from one computer to another, they would not cause much of a problem — if the receiving computer cannot read the disk, just try again with another disk.

But for important tasks, such as backing up a hard disk, using such disks is just asking for trouble. If the computer is lost or damaged (through theft or fire, for example), the slightly different head alignment in the drive of a new computer could mean that the already weak data patterns on the disk are totally unreadable — making the backup useless.



Regional Group Reports

Meeting Summary For DECEMBER

Banana Coast	12/12/93	Sawtell
Central Coast	11/12/93	Saratoga
Glebe	09/12/93	Glebe
Hunter Valley	11/12	20/11/93
Illawarra	14/12/93	Keiraville
Liverpool	10/12/93	Yagoona West
Northern Suburbs	23/12/93	
Sutherland	17/12/93	Jannali

BANANA COAST Regional Group (Coffs Harbour Environs)

We never miss meeting at Kerry Harrison's residence 15 Scarba St. Coffs Harbour, 2 pm second Sunday of the month. Visitors are most welcome. Contact Kerry 52 3736, Kevin 53 2649, Rex 51 2485 or John 54 1451.

CENTRAL COAST Regional Group

Regular meetings are normally held on the second Saturday of each month, 6.30pm at the home of John Goulton, 34 Mimosa Ave., Saratoga, (043) 69 3990. Contact Russell Welham (043)92 4000.

GLEBE Regional Group

Regular meetings are normally on the Thursday evening following the first Saturday of the month, at 8pm at 43 Boyce Street, Glebe. Contact Mike Slattery, (02) 692 8162.

HUNTER VALLEY Regional Group

The Meetings are usually held on the second or third Saturday of each month at members homes starting at 3pm. Check the location with Geoff Phillips by leaving a message on (049) 428 617. Please note that the previous phone number (049) 428 176 is now used exclusively by the ZZAP BBS which also has TI support. Geoff.

ILLAWARRA Regional Group

Regular meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month after the TISHUG Sydney meeting (except January) at 7.30pm, at the home of Geoff & Heather Trott, 20 Robsons Road, Keiraville. A variety of activities accompany our meetings, including Word Processing, Spreadsheets and hardware repairs. Contact Geoff Trott on (042) 29 6629 for more information.

LIVERPOOL Regional Group

Regular meeting date is the Friday following the TISHUG Sydney meeting at 7.30 pm. Contact Larry Saunders (02) 644-7377 (home) After 9.30 PM or at work (02) 708-1987 Liquorland Yagoona for more information. The next meeting will be the 10th of December, 1993 where the topic will be: Pictures, GIF, TI-Artist & P/Pro. Meetings next year will be on the 7th of January and the 12th of February but the agenda has not been decided yet. There will not be a March meeting.

NORTHERN SUBURBS Regional Group

Regular meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month. If you want any information please ring Dennis Norman on (02)452 3920, or Dick Warburton on (02) 918 8132. Come and join in our fun. Dick Warburton.

SUTHERLAND Regional Group

Regular meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the home of Peter Young, 51 Jannali Avenue, Jannali at 7.30pm. Peter Young.

TISHUG in Sydney

Monthly meetings start promptly at 2pm (except for full day tutorials) on the first Saturday of the month that is not part of a long weekend. They are held at the MEADOWBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL, on the corner of Thistle Street and Belmore Street, Meadowbank. Cars can enter from Gale Street and park in the school grounds. Regular items include news from the directors, the publications library, the shop, and demonstrations of monthly software.

DECEMBER MEETING - 4th DECEMBER

This will be the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and a Christmas party. Make sure you bring a copy of the November issue to the AGM and have thought out how you are going to vote. Our club needs continued dedicated leadership who will enthuse us and provide activities and other materials that will make our meetings viable, profitable and interesting. Your cooperation is essential. For the Christmas party we are all asked to bring along our own meat and other requirements as there will be none provided by the club this year. If you have a spare portable BBQ then bring it along. If in doubt then call Dick for advise. We hope to see you all there for an enjoyable and relaxing day.

The cut-off dates for submitting articles to the Editor for the TND via the BBS or otherwise are:

January/February - 9th January
March - 13th March

These dates are all Sundays and there is no guarantee that they will make the magazine unless they are uploaded by 6:00 pm, at the latest. Longer articles should be to hand well before the above dates to ensure there is time to edit them.

