The door (singular) opened a little late the night of Oct. 16, 1990 for the West Penn 99er's October meeting. It was long about 7:00 PM EST rather than 7:00 PM DST(East) that the meeting was called to order. Anyhow it proves that every organization and club **needs** a Vice President, especially a key carrying one !!! The position of VP is so vital that, as you see below, it is the only new office for which we have a contest. On to the meeting. The President's special thanks went to Paul Brock for bringing the cake.

Under Old Business, the Rec Sec's (NOT REC SEX) report was met with unanimous accolade and the library and treasurer's reports got the usual ho-hum from the crowd. Temporary Corresponding Sec., Mike Sealy put the crowd into deep sleep with his Newsletter report and VP, Scott must have fallen asleep before he got there, in case you've fallen asleep, remember above. On a more sincere note, Bob S, librarian extrordinare, reported on several text files containing info on hard drives (C-gate was mentioned, sorry, I dozed off.) Also he is in communication with J Willforth on our ability to transfer text files from IBM-PC stuff.

A Big Surprize under new business, THE Harrisburg Show was canceled! The Chicago show, Nov 3, is still on , and indeed Milwaukee, Wis will have one on Nov.4. Despite a large Erie Club contigent (75%), the Erie show had little TI representation. Lastly, Chris Pratt has notified the club that the delivery date on the HFDCs will be Nov. 30.

A resolution to our newsletter impass appears to be on the horizon. Chris Pratt, one of our members from the D.C. area, has volunteered to assemble, collate and believe it or not edit it (which implies alot more than assemble and collate,ask John). He will then ship it to Ralph and Judy who will reproduce and mail it along with maintaining appropriate data bases necessary to keep the whole thing going. I applaud our President for her ability to coordinate these efforts and lets just hope she gets elected so that she can make these appointments.

Finally the raffle was held, (I Never Win)***Rec. Secs. Note. Prizes as Copy Holder, Computer Video Gemsticks(Gamestick ???), Karate -Challenge-??,Column Attack, and Adventure Hints were all awarded. The November meeting is always one of the best attended meetings of the year.......

Be There !!!!!! Nominations:

Quickly submitted, Scoops Bittner VP J Willforth/S Coleman Rec Sec. Frank Zic Librarian Bob Sadusky Cor Sec. Mike Sealy Treasurer Lynn Gardner Pres. Mickey Schmitt

PS: Licence plata of the month: EXTIC

WEST PENN 99'ERS CLUB INFORMATION

NEXT MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 1990

MEETING LOCATION: ST. STEPHEN'S

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

CHURCH

JUST OFF ROUTE 30 BETHEL ROAD, NORWIN

TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 P.M.

LIST OF WEST PENN OFFICERS FOR 1990 AREA CODE 412

PRESIDENT:	MICKEY	335-0163
VICE PRESIDENT:	SCOTT	523-3754
TREASURER:	LYNN	835-4304
RECORDING SEC:	ED	864-4924
CORRESPONDING SEC:	GENE	829-0469
LIBRARIAN:	BOB	863-5672
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	JOHN	527-6656

GENERAL ITINERARY OF THE CLUB'S MEETING

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

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS MONTH

LATEST T.I. NEWS AND SOFTWARE DISCOUNTS

SPECIAL REPORT ON THE CHICAGO U.G. SHOW

ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICIERS FOR 1991

LATEST NEWS CONCERNING OUR NEWSLETTER

UPDATE ON THE NEW HFDC CARD FROM ESD

"FORTRAN FOR THE TI-99/4A" BY AL BEARD

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

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

ITS ALMOST HERE FOR 40 COLUMN FUNNELWEB USERS

reported by Charles Good Lima Ohio Users Group

I have a bete testing version of Funnelweb v4.31 which includes an enhanced 40 column DISK REVIEW with almost all the enhancements currently available to 80 column Funnelweb users. The v4.31 column DISK REVIEW will include all of the features already in the v4.21 and v4.30 40 column DISK REVIEW plus:

- -- A full set of disk management functions including FORMAT, VALIDATE, RENAME, and SWEEP.
- -- A full set of file management functions including PROTECT, UNPROTECT, DELETE, and RECOVER FILE.
- -- File by file disk copying, with the capability of copying a single master disk automatically to multiple drives. Single drive copying with disk swapping between the master and copy is not supported.
- -- A complete disk sector editor including the ability to do a string search of a specific file or a whole disk.
- -- Special menu items to help configure MYARC ramdisks, HORIZON ramdisks with ROS 8.14 and QUEST ramdisks.

In a letter accompanying my bete testing FWB v4.31, Tony McGovern says, "Apart from the superior file viewing, there isn't much the 80 column DR (Disk Review) does that the 40 column DR can't do. "Features of file 80 column DR include the ability to view two files simultaneously, and the ability to view on screen a MYART picture by moving the cursor next to a MYART file name and pressing "V".

When FWB v4.31 is available for release, I will send it out with a mailing of the Lima Ohio UG's newsletter. Hang in there 40 column FWB users, it's almost here!

From the editor (lame duck), on page 4 you'll note that I converted large 100K IBM text files to the TI smaller sized files to fit in the TI's smaller memory frame. (These are text only files) If you have any PC text files that could serve the TI user please get them to me so that I can make them into TI compatible disks for the library. I'm talking about generic computer subjects. Thank You J.F.W.

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DIVIDING FIVE DATABASES INTO TEN IN TI-BASE

By Lynn Gardner

Recently, my five mailing list databases, named AC, DH, IM, NR, and SZ (denoting sections of the alphabet), started getting sluggish when editing and appending records. They each contained about 200 records, about twice as many as the maximum for best performance. I had never seen anything about working with ten databases, but decided to give it a try, and it works fine.

I decided I wanted to end up with databases covering AB, CD, EG, HI, JL, M, N, OR, S, and TZ. I copied the structure file ten times, naming each file for the desired section of the alphabet. I used my command files MOVED1 and MOVED2 (from my previous article), moving several letters at a time. First, the A's and B's were moved from AC to AB. That was easy. Then the C's were moved from AC to CD. Then the D's were moved from DH to CD. I continued similarly through the alphabet, changing the database names and letters in the command files--a little tedious, but it worked.

Now, to print one alphabetical listing from all ten databases, I used the following command files:

*Makes one list of 10 databases CLEAR CLOSE ALL SELECT 5 USE JL TOP SELECT 4 USE HI TOP SELECT 3 USE EG TOP SELECT 2 USE CD TOP SELECT 1

USE AB

DO NLIST2

DO NLIST3

DO NLIST2

TOP

*NLIST1

RETURN *NLIST2 SELECT 2 SELECT 3 SELECT 4 SELECT 5 **CLEAR**

SET HEADING ON

CLOSE ALL

PRINT ALL LN FN AD CITY ST ZIP SET HEADING OFF PRINT ALL LN FN AD CITY ST ZIP RETURN

CLOSE ALL SELECT 5 USE TZ TOP SELECT 4 USE S TOP SELECT 3 USE OR TOP SELECT 2 USE N TOP SELECT 1 USE M TOP RETURN

*NLIST3

The following command files will print labels for all records in all 10 databases:

*NLABEL1 *Prints labels for 10 databases SET RECNUM OFF SET HEADING OFF SET PAGE=0 **CLEAR** CLOSE ALL SELECT 5 USE JL TOP SELECT 4 USE HI TOP SELECT 3 USE EG TOP SELECT 2

```
(continued from page 3)
USE CD
TOP
SELECT 1
USE AB
TOP
LOCAL TEMP C 40
LOCAL BLNK C 1
DO NLABEL2
DO NLABEL 4
SET RECNUM ON
SET PAGE=56
SET HEADING ON
CLOSE ALL
RETURN
*NLABEL2
SELECT 1
DO NLABEL3
SELECT 2
DO NLABEL3
SELECT 3
DO NLABEL3
SELECT 4
DO NLABEL3
SELECT 5
DO NLABEL3
RETURN
*NLABEL3
WHILE . NOT. (EOF)
REPLACE TEMP WITH TRIM(FN);
 ! " " ! LN
PRINT TEMP
PRINT AD
REPLACE TEMP WITH TRIM(CITY);
 ! " " ; ST ; " " ; ZIP
PRINT TEMP
PRINT BLNK
PRINT BLNK
PRINT BLNK
ENDIF
MOVE
ENDWHILE
RETURN
*NLABEL4
```

CLOSE ALL SELECT 5 USE TZ TOP SELECT 4 USE S TOP TOP SELECT 3 SELECT 1 USE OR USE M TOP TOP SELECT 2 DO NLABEL2 USE N RETURN

```
FOR SALE (entire system)
Donald F. Bixby of R.D. #1 Box 174, Irwin , PA 15642
(412) 446-7258
  Don has his entire system up for sale. It includes:
    1 - TI-99/4A cpu with cover
    1 - Speech Synthesizer
    1 - TI P-Box equipped with:
        1 - 32K Memory Card
        1 - Corcomp RS232/PIO Card
        1 - TI Disk Controller Card
        2 - Teac ½ height Disk Drives
    1 - Navarone Expander
   1 - WICO Command Control
   27 - Game cartridges
   1 - TI Writer
   1 - Editor assembler
   30 - Diskettes (5\frac{1}{4}")
 Don is asking $250. for the whole thing!
```

DISK CATALOGING PROGRAM for insertion into an XBASIC program, that can be called up within that program, and will list all the files on a disk in two columns in three plus screens. This could be used as a stand alone disk cataloger. Disk must be in drive 1. Most of the credit for this program should be given to TI since it is just a reduced version of their example software in the original manual that came with the TI disk controller card.

```
1 @=1 :: OPEN #@:"DSK1.".INP
UT ,RELATIVE, INTERNAL :: INP
UT #@:F$,E,E,F :: DISPLAY AT
(2,@)ERASE ALL:F$:"FREE=";F;
"USED=";E-F :: R=5 :: C=@
2 FOR H=@ TO 127 :: INPUT #@
:F$,D,E,F :: DISPLAY AT(R,C)
:F$ :: R=R+1 :: IF ABS(D)=0
THEN CLOSE #@ :: END
3 IF R(24 THEN 4 :: C=16 ::
R=5
4 IF H=38 THEN GOSUB 7
5 IF H=76 THEN GOSUB 7
6 NEXT H
7 R=5 :: C=@ :: RETURN
```

HARD DISK TECHNICAL INFORMATION available on disks in the WEST PENN 99ers Disk Library.....

Recently I received on some IBM diskettes data for nearly ALL hard drive manufacturers, and specifically by manufacturer, MFM, RLL, SCSI, etc., data. This data was in the form of Model, size (3½, 5½, or larger), cylinders, heads, sectors, landing zone, etc. Also there was a disk with a whole spec sheet on the entire Seagate family. I converted all these over to TI text files and made the six SSSD disks available to Bob Sadusky the librarian. Contact him to find out the particulars on acquiring them. Bob's number is listed on page two, under officers.

NEW-AGE/99 #9 and #10 By Jack Sughrue Box 459, East Douglas, MA 01516.....

CCMPRODINE. Part One (#9)

Okay, I've been hearing about JIFFY CARD and ARTIST PRINT SHOP and JIFFY FLYER and GIANT ARTIST POSTERS for some time now, but I just never got around to demoing the material for NEW-AGE/99 reviews. Not because I'm unfamiliar with the work of COMPRODINE owner Roger Merritt. On the contrary, I own and use and thoroughly enjoy PICTURE IT and PRINT IT. They are two superb graphic/text packages that most Tiers would not want to be without once they got to using them regularly (particularly the handy and very professional disk catalog printer program).

Sister Pat Taylor of Dubuque, Iowa, has been the leading fan of COMPRODINE materials in the world the past few years. When I was in for repair last year following an acciddent, Sr. Pat and her contingent of TIing nuns at the hospital where she lives inundated me with unique and colorful "get well" cards and banners and signs. They also sent me a nice gift of a package of delightful greeting cards for all occasions. Everything was made on the TI with COMPRODINE software.

Now when SR. Pat finds something useful, user friendly, and fun, it gets used and used and used. Her use of COMPRODINE goodies is the review there is. But I've been lax in MY reviewer duties.

So it is with great pleasure when Rodger Merritt called me from his California home to see if I'd be interested in demoing some COMPRODINE software at the Boston Fayuh. "Yes! Yes! Yes!" I screamed before he changed his mind.

I had never met Rodger, so he didn't know what kind of TI maniac he entrusted his masterpieces with. Phil Townsend of the Kawartha group in Canada knew I'd be at the Boston shindig and recommended me. (It's obvious that Phil, a fellow elementary teacher had never met me, either.) Anyway, Rodger ran up a two-hour phone bill explaining each of the pieces of software.

I could hardly contain myself waiting for the mail the next few days. Then... THE DAY! When I came home from work, my wife informed me that THE package had arrived from COMPRODINE. She did require my attendance at the dinner table under penalties of Doom, Death, and Destruction (though not necessarily in that order). So I complied with She Who Must Be Obeyed and waited impatiently to open the treasures until after cleanup.

I'm not sure my little fifth-graders didn't suffer much the next day because of that Merritt fiend.

I took my package to my Computer Room, opened it, and played with the new toys - er, tools, I mean - until almost 4 AM. As I have to get up at 5 to go to work, I didn't get much of a beauty rest. (I was a real BEAUTY at work the next day, I can tell you.), but did not learn a lesson. I was at it again when I got home; once again to the wee hours (this time 2 AM). But what fun!

Fortunately, I already owned PRINT IT and PICTURE IT and all of the Great Lakes Software in the package also distributed by COMPRODINE: JOYPAINT 99, JOYPAINT PAL, CLIP ART, EXTENDED BUSINESS GRAPHS, BANNERS 99, and the superb CERTIFICATE 99 with it's companions). Otherwise, I'd still be at it.

Because I'd like to spend next month's "Part Two" (#10) article entirely on the graphics programs for which COMPRODINE is justifiably famous (ARTIST PRINT SHOP, JIFFY CARD and FLYER [including color versions], FORM SHOP, GIANT ARTIST POSTERS, and all the various companions), I'm going to use the rest of this article to examine a couple of COMPRODINE'S other programs: LIVING TOMB and WAR ZONE.

These are games by a decidedly fiendish 14-year-old lad, Quinton Tormanen. Because both have permanent scoring systems built in (which I love), I'd suggest making backup copies and store the originals. Actually, I'd suggest you do that with all COMPRODINE materials, as they are unprotected.

These fast auto-load assembly games are so good, so professional, that I have a hard time picturing anyone so young devising them.

WAR ZONE (\$10), a futuristic arcade game, is almost as fascinating for the instantaneous status and scoring boxes along the right side of the screen as the game itself.

Not quite. But they are well designed and ingenious, if you have time to view them. ("P" gives you pause when you need it.) Mostly, your time will be taken up trying to get your M15 through 6 levels (each a 2500-mile flight over rough terraine - rough, because you are being attacked in 5 different ways by 5 different enemy vehicles) to the enemy

(continued on page 6)

bases which must be destroyed. This is no easy task. However, you will be rewarded with an extra craft added to your one-at-a-time fleet for every 1000 miles you survive (2 levels). There are color and attack pattern changes as you move over new terrain. The enemy gets more vicious the better (farther) you get.

Though you have unlimited firepower (including bombs for the land vehicles), your greatest asset is maneuverability. It's one of those frantic type games that raise havoc with your blood pressure.

LIVING TOMBS (\$15), a graphic adventure, is quite different. It's a "Tunnels of Doom" type of game with lots of excellent differences. (If you don't like T.O.D., just wait a second. LIVING TOMB has some interesting features, including an ability to view all kinds of stats and make all kinds of smart decisions BEFORE you make a fool of yourself by getting killed.) The multi-level tomb you travel through is a series of very complex 3-dimentional mazes. This 3-D aspect is neat. Unless you make a map, you will get lost. I even had to drop some items along the way (like Hansel) to make sure I could find my way back to the trap doors to get to the different levels. LT is rich with menued features, windows and treasures, weapons, and monsters galore. You start with nothing but can gather up the right equipment left by previous brave but dead adventurers. And then only if you slay some demonic monsters to get them.

What are you doing in this tomb? Well, an evil alchemist from days of yore was burried here. It is his tomb. A gem of suspected power was buried here, too. A curse was put upon this land of Ryder, and, though many have tried to enter the tomb and remove the evil gem to stop the curse, all have failed. Your mission, succeed.

The windowing menus, alone, are worth the price of this user-friendly, addictive, satisfying adventure. LIVING TOMBS: an excellent investment in intellectual and visceral fun. I hope Quinton continues to program for the TI.

CCMPRODINE, Part Two (#10)

One of the nicest features of JIFFY CARD (\$15) its single-sheet manual. This includes pictures of its 68 graphics along with a sample of a card itself. The rest of the manual serves as a quick reference sheet. It's simple, direct, easy. No 40-page tutorials; no heavy-duty programming knowledge required. All you need is one drive, 32K, and a printer: a neat, compact, delightful piece of software that does exactly what it's supposed to quickly and well.

JC takes about a minute to load from XB. but, once loaded, all borders, large fonts, and small fonts are awaiting your keypress. There are 8 prompts for you to follow step-by-step with active keys listed on screen at all times, so you are gently guided through all your creations. You first set up a location for your card-cover graphics; then you type the title and select a border by tapping the spacebar to cycle through. Next you choose the ONE graphic to be placed in those areas you designated in Step One. This same graphic may even be overlapped in repetition.

Text is now entered. -Say what you want to say. Next do the same for the inside of the card. Then choose one of 7 small fonts for the front and again for the inside. It's fairly easy to toggle between the different parts of the card to make changes. Finally, you may print the card. Before you do, though, you may opt to SAVE it for posterity, as previously made cards my be LOADed quickly and modified easily. Basically, that's it.

For TI owners who wonder how the fun went out of computing, this is a program to get it back. In the three weeks I've had JIFFY CARD, I've already used it over a dozen times.

Now I wish I had spent a few more dollars to buy the color version of my NX1000 printer, because there is also COLOR CARD (\$25), the mouth-watering color version of JC. Both versions come with a template for xeroxing or just cutting exact-size envelopes for these cards. A thoughtful touch, that. CARDS 4ALL OCCASIONS (\$10) is an "as is" or easily personalized collection of spiffy cards for easy JC loading.

Once you've mastered JIFFY CARD, you should find JIFFY FLYER (\$10) or COLOR FLYER (\$20) a piece of cake. The commands are very similar for the making of an easy to read, easy to create, eye-catching one-pager for yard sales, announcements, pronouncement, mini-posters, whatever. These programs also use the same (CSGD) graphics which can be imported from everywhere or purchased in a maximum diskful (127 pictures) for \$10 (CSGD GRAPHICS). A 50-file collection of borders and fonts may also be purchased for \$10 (CARD/FLYER GRAPHICS). It's this sort of companion support that makes these inexpensive JIFFY programs even more valuable. That's why so many people are happy that COMPRODINE is also distributing Great Lakes Software (at an incredibly low \$10 for each item): JOYPAINT 99, PAL, CLIPART DISK (which is a nice trio); CERTIFICATE 99, COMPANIONS 2, GRAPHIC COMPANION (which is a nice quartet). JOYPAINT is an excellent artist program, particularly with the PAL. CERTIFICATE 99 is, to date, the state of the art certificate maker for the TI. The support material for both programs make them extremely valuable tools (toys) for any owner.

BANNERS 99 and EXTENDED BUSINESS GRAPHS are the other two Great Lakes products distributed by COMPRODINE.

However, they have many more of their own products. PICTURE IT (\$10) and PRINT IT & PLUS (\$13) convert instances to banners, to Funnelweb, or to Extended BASIC for printing through your Writer files; prints incredibly professional disk catalogs, titles, labels, with excellent user-designed materials, including sprites.

BINGO (just \$5) not only lets you play two screen boards but allows the printing out of boards for everyone. Good graphics and speech. FORMSHOP (\$15) permits very flexible creation of forms for business, hobby, or personal use with the same ease as the JIFFY programs.

If you've gone to a TI fair recently and looked up at a gigantic computer-made poster, it was done with GIANT ARTIST POSTERS (\$15) which let's you take any TI-ARTIST screen, whether acquired or created, and print it out in sizes from 10 by 14 inches to 5 by 8 feet! For these king-size jobbies I would recommend printing it out just before you go to bed and pull it off in the morning. Although the program works very fast (and easy), printing anything that size takes a considerable time.

COMPRODINE also publishes a neat, professional date-tracking electronic calendar with lots of features. Similar to SCHEDULE MANAGER (Asgard) and REMIND ME (Genial), REMINDERS helps you to organize your life in positive, realistic ways. A good buy at just \$10.

But the new gem of the COMPRODINE treasure chest of software goodies is ARTIST PRINT SHOP. Written by Paul Coleman in fast and comfortable c99, this program uses TI-ARTIST graphics and fonts without conversion. So you could draw from the thousands of files already in user-group libraries, hidden in BBS listings, or ordered from commercial sources; or you could create your own in TI-ARTIST and use them directly.

Basically, the 3-disk package (\$25 - and an additional \$10 for the not-required [but recommended] BORDER MAKER package) permits the creation of very dramatic signs, letterheads, banners, and flyers.

Follow the 18-page manual through one full time, performing each of the easy tasks, and you will be immediately comfortable with all of the sections, as they have a very similar structure. After a couple creations the manual is no longer necessary. I used it only two days before I gave an hour-long demo of all its sections at the recent New England Fayuh. Most of you would have only needed two hours, but I tend to play with things for a while BEFORE using the manuals. My sisters Sonia and Pat both claim I was dropped on my head numerous times as a baby. In any event APS is an easy-to-use even for me type of program. And varied and useful and fun.

(continued from page 7)

The BANNERS section of this large piece of electronic wizardry is one of the most flexible I have ever used. It provides both text and graphic options rarely seen on most banner programs.

The SIGNMAKER makes very dramatic signs, flyers, pages using a large and a small ARTIST font and 5 different graphics which can be mirrored, magnified, and/or multiplied for all kinds of flexible creations.

The STATIONERY portion also offers some great flexibility with some exceptional results.

In short, ARTIST PRINT SHOP would be a nice addition to your collection of super TI programs.

Your best bet would be to write COMPRODINE for a catalog (or order any of the above adding \$1.50 S&H for one item or \$3.00 for two or more) to 1949 Evergreen Ave., Fullerton, CA, 92635.

[If you use NEW-AGE/99 please put me on your exchange list.]

COMPRODINE stands for COMputer PROgrammer's DIstribution NEtwork.

PASCAL/p-CODE PART 18 Stan Katzman

Pascal has a frustration thas all variables are typed and if by accident you enter a letter when a number is asked for the program will bomb and take you back to the command line. This problem was solved by some very easy code with the aid of Norm Rokke. Anders Persson has solved this problem but he used some very extensive code.

Below is a sample of code which let us assume the variable 'Sel' is an integer or a real.

```
Write('Enter a value 1-3 > ');
Readln(Sel);
If Sel=1 then . . .
```

At this point if you accidentially press a letter the program will bomb, you will be back at the command line with some sort of crypic message and you will have to restart your program.

Below is a little code that does not allow the program to bomb. What is done is the I/O checking is disabled by the compiler. That is what the $\{\$I-\}$ directive does and the $\{\$I+\}$ turns the I/O checking back on. The program now does the checking. If anything is wrong all that occurs is that the prompt 'Enter a value 1-3 > ' is repeated until an acceptable value is entered.

```
{$I-}
Repeat
Sel:=0;
Write('Enter a value 1-3 > ');
Readln(Sel);
Until (Sel<>0);
{$I+}
```

Thank you Stan for this the 18th article on PASCAL/p-code in the last $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. All but the last two are available on disk.

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