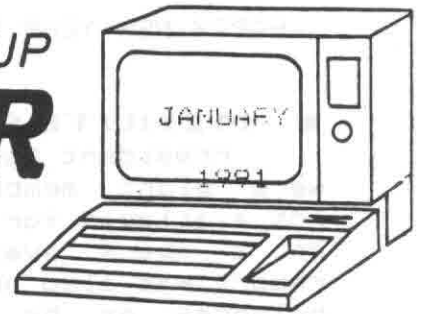


CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP

NEWSLETTER



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NEWSLETTER TOPICS

1. Future Meeting Dates
2. Next Meeting Notes
3. Minutes from the December Mtg.
4. New Source for Mail Orders
5. Word Processor Compatibility
6. Printer Set Program
7. President's Corner
8. Printer Control Codes
9. Creativity

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Please mark the following dates on your calendar for future meetings:
JANUARY 8. FEBRUARY 12. MARCH 12.

*****NEXT MEETING*****

The regular monthly meeting will be TUESDAY, January 8, at West Music Store in Cedar Rapids. Open discussion will start at 6:30 PM. Come and show us what new computer goodies Santa brought this year! Or share with us what you learned about our magic machine during the long holiday week! John Johnson will provide a demonstration of speeded-up Assembly programming using his ramdisk card.

*** MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING ***

President Gary Bishop called the December meeting to order. There were eight members present. The minutes from the November meeting were not available for publication or at the meeting. They will be published on a space available basis in the next NEWSLETTER. The treasurer's report was also not available at the meeting. Gary gave the account balances as he knew them. There was no information ready on the membership renewals of last month. Anyone who did not renew is asked to contact Bruce. Better yet would be to attend our next meeting and avail us with your words of wisdom and fellowship.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. Gary made available the response by Mary Mortensen to the "IN MEMORIAM" for her husband Paul. Gary asked for a volunteer to continue with Paul's work as Publicity Committee Chairman. No one was available. Gary said he would continue to work with Jim to prepare the finished NEWSLETTER for delivery. 2. A reminder was also given to all that the article deadline for inclusion in the NEWSLETTER is the first day of the month. 3. The subject of article exchange bulletin board proposed by CONNI was discussed. Some new information was given. The following motion was moved and seconded: The UG will send the start up fees of \$30.00 to CONNI to indicate our support for the service. The motion was passed. The details of access to the BBS will be limited and will be worked out as more information is made available.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. John Johnson posted a banner reading "MERRY CHRISTMAS TO WEST MUSIC CO. FROM TI 99ERS". We decided to leave it for our hosts to see. 2. Disks have now been ordered and will be available early next year.

PROGRAM: The meeting then turned into a discussion on various subjects. Also some disc copying was done.

Submitted by Bob Wahlstrom

*** NEW SOURCE FOR MAIL ORDERS ***

(The following article is reprinted from various club newsletters received over the past two months.--Ed.)

Terry Miller, former owner and founder of Triton Products Company, has announced that he has completed the purchase of all TI 99/4A business from Triton. Miller's new company, TM Direct Product Marketing, will begin marketing hardware, software, and accessories for the TI 99/4A on October 29, 1990. Triton discontinued sales of TI 99/4A products on October 15th.

The deal calls for referral of all orders and inquiries to Triton for TI 99/4A products to be forwarded to TM Direct Product Marketing. TM Direct Product Marketing's new toll free phone number is 1-800-336-9966. The address is 379 Beach Road, Burlingame, CA 94010. TM Direct Product Marketing is located just south of San Francisco. The company is dedicated to providing TI users with the best selection of hardware, software, and accessories available at tremendous values.

FORMAT COMPATABLE WORD PROCESSORS ARE NOW ALSO EDIT COMPATABLE

Do you, or have you, used another word processing program, or programs? Before I graduated up to the "P" box and disc drives, I was a cassette and module word processor program user. I had WORDWRITER in a module, and TYPWRITER on tape. Now I use the FUNNELWEB version of TI WRITER.

I had much material stored on tapes. I transferred the files from the WORDWRITER program to discs because the TI Formatter could print them. They were in the required D/V 80 format. That was nice, but if I wanted to edit the file, I had to use the original program to do so. I also could not combine the WORDWRITER file with a TI WRITER file in the EDIT mode. The editor would call up the file and the disc would send it to the computer, but the TI would lock up at the end of the transfer. That was the end of that. I started over from scratch.

I accidentally found the answer to editing the WORDWRITER file with the TI WRITER editor when I forgot which program I was in. I was in the TI EDIT mode and attempted to add a WORDWRITER file to the end of the TI file.

I used the WORDWRITER method of adding the second file at the end of the first file. The procedure is the same as the TI WRITER's except after FCTN 9 and LF are entered, the letter "E" is added ahead of the disk drive and file name. TI WRITER calls for the line number in place of the "E". My file came through nicely at the end of the TI file.

Suddenly a bell rang in my head. I had found a method of using the TI EDIT mode with my WORDWRITER files.

Now I call up the WORDWRITER file to the TI WRITER EDIT mode as follows;

Enter the TI EDIT mode with a blank screen. Type in a single letter on line 1. I use an "X", then enter FCTN 9 and LF as usual, add the "E" and a space ahead of the disc and file name and ENTER. Your WORDWRITER file will be transferred to the screen. Remove the "X" and process the file as required. When you save the file back to the disc, it will be in TI WRITER file form the next time you use it. You can use the TI WRITER line number instead of the "E". I use the "E" because it is faster, especially if you are adding a file to an existing file. You don't have to look up the line number to use.

The TYPWRITER program uses the I/F 192 format, but the program PRINT Menu #3 allows you to save the material in D/V 80 format for printing with the TI WRITER Formatter. Using the same procedure, you can call up the file in the TI WRITER EDIT mode and do your editing with the TI program. And append the file to an existing file if so desired.

I would think other word processor programs that are in D/V 80 and are compatible with the TI formatter would also respond to this procedure.

I suggest you experiment and find out.

By the way, I found that the WORDWRITER program will accept the TI Files with no problems or fixes.

Bob Heederstadt

* PRINTER SET PROGRAM *

by Gary Bishop

I have been working with a program called "Banner'99" from Tex-Comp. The program is adequate for most simple banner uses, and even allows the selection of the character to use for printing the banner. If your printer has a block character, its code can be entered into the banner program and saved, so that all future banners will use it. There is also a provision to send certain escape or control codes to the printer, to double strike or enhance the printout. A limitation to the banner program was that only 10 control code characters could be stored and used. Well, my printer doesn't have a block character, but I can use the programmable character function of my printer to define a block, then use it. The code to define the block character requires about 30 bytes or so. I tried to modify the banner program to accept more printer control characters. I had to remove the protection, and then figure out where to modify the code to accept more bytes. This proved tedious, and in the end, unfruitful. The program is so large, any increase in the array size used to hold the control characters resulted in the dreaded "MEMORY FULL" error message. Dead end, unless I wanted to go through and optimize and spiff up their program. I didn't bite on this one.

My solution was to program my printer externally from the Banner'99 program, and then let the banner program rip as normal. The only modification to the banner program was to change the name of the load program from "LOAD" to "LOAD1". My program is now named "LOAD", so it receives control first. Once I send the correct codes to my printer, I use "RUN DSK1.LOAD1" to start off the banner program. This technique can be used for almost any program that uses the printer for output. Here is the listing:

```

100 REM FILENAME=PRINTSET GENERAL PURPOSE PRINTER CODE POKER, GARY D. BISH
OP 9012102352
110 REM CEDAR VALLEY 99ER UG, IOWA. PUBLIC DOMAIN, USE FREELY.
120 REM PUT YOUR PRINTER DEVICE NAME HERE. BE SURE TO USE THE TRAILING .CR
130 P$="PIO.CR"
140 PRINT "SETTING UP EPSON PRINTER FOR GRAPHICS BANNER PROGRAM."
150 OPEN #1:P$,VARIABLE 255
160 READ CODE$
170 IF CODE$="END" THEN 999
180 PRINT #1:CHR$(VAL(CODE$));
190 GOTO 160
200 REM PUT REMARKS HERE TO IDENTIFY THE TYPES OF CODES BEING SENT
210 REM ALL CODES ARE IN DECIMAL
220 REM EPSON PRINT CODES TO CREATE A SOLID BLOCK CHARACTER
230 REM FOR BANNER PROGRAMS
240 REM ESC : NUL NUL NUL COPY ROM INTO RAM
250 DATA 27,58,0,0,0
260 REM ESC % 1 0 SELECT USER DEFINED SET
270 DATA 27,37,1,0
280 REM ESC & NUL C1 C2 C1 IS FIRST CHAR TO REDEFINE, C2 IS LAST
290 REM ESC & NUL ? ?
300 DATA 27,38,0,63,63
310 REM CHAR ATTRIBUTE
320 DATA 128
330 REM 11 BYTES OF DATA TO DEFINE THE CHAR
340 DATA 255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255,255

```

*add other
stuff*

```

350 REM ESC ! N MASTER SELECT CODE
360 DATA 27,33,24
370 REM ESC A N SELECT N/72 INCH LINE SPACING
380 DATA 27,65,8
390 REM THE END OF DATA
400 DATA END
999 CLOSE #1
1000 STOP ! THIS CAN BE REPLACED WITH: RUN "DSK1.YOURBANNERPROGRAM" OR WHATEVER

```

I hope you get the idea of what is going on from the comments. Even though the exact codes used above are for Epson, you should have no trouble plugging the correct codes by referring to your printer manual.

***** PRESIDENT'S CORNER *****

I see that Radio Shack is again carrying the 34 pin edge connectors used for disk drives. They had these items about a year ago, but discontinued them almost immediately. Well, they are back, and even at the old price!

A new member to our club, John Finical from Tama, Iowa, is looking for a Touch Typing Tutor cartridge. Does anyone have a spare one, or one that you are willing to sell? If so, contact him in the evening at 515-484-6205.

I haven't made any more progress in connecting the output of my Hamsoft parallel port to the input of the TI's PIO. I will bring this to a meeting for a demonstration, once I get it working.

Closed circuit to W0/II: I have obtained a double sided, 5-1/4 inch full height MFI 52A disk drive for you; \$10 if you are interested. NQ0/V.

If you are in need of a few disks, I have some left. Some are new; some are used once and erased. I can't supply anyone's bulk needs, but if our club order doesn't arrive in time for our next meeting, I can tide you over.

Another new member, Patti Thoma from Dubuque, is looking for some sort of inventory program that can handle more than 11 items. If you have some suggestions, or something she might be able to use, contact her at 319-557-9493, or write her at 8881 Havenwood, Dubuque, IA 52001.

***** Estate Sale ***** I have been contacted by Mary Mortensen to sell all of Paul's TI computer equipment. She has given me permission to set prices as I see fit, but if you disagree with these prices, please negotiate in good faith. Mary is anxious to liquidate the equipment. I have already sold some items, and I am listing only the equipment that remains. She wanted me to remove all the equipment right away, so I provided her with a list or inventory of what Paul had. She didn't want to have everybody contacting her about it, because she knows nothing about the hardware or software, and has no idea of what a fair price might be. Paul kept all of his equipment and papers in a very orderly manner, and as far as I know, all the items work properly. The condition of everything runs between good and immaculate. I will bring as much as I can to the next meeting. Gary Bishop 377-9574.

2 complete consoles, each with manuals, power transformer, modulator. 2 black and silver, one beige. \$20 each; 4 speech synthesizers, \$10 ea; 1 set of TI joysticks, \$3; 1 TI cassette recorder with instructions, \$20; Gemini 10X printer with TI cable, instruction manuals, and demonstration disk, \$75; 1 bag

~~of cassettes, 60 and 90 minutes, 16 count, \$5; cassette cable, \$2; steel desk for computer or study use, 2 locking file drawers, 2 regular drawers, one thin center drawer, super condition, \$75.~~

~~\$2 each: Household Budget Management cartridge/manual, Personal Record Keeping cart/manual, Car Wars, TI Invaders, ^{JERRY}Parsec, Munchman, Hunt the Wumpus, ^{JOHN}Alpiner, Tax Investment/Record Keeping, TI Writer cartridge only, no disk or manual, Terminal Emulator II.~~

~~Editor/Assembler with ^{JERRY}manual, disks, cart, \$5; Navarone ^{JOHN}Homework Helper cart/disk/manual, \$10; Extended BASIC cart/manual, \$15; 10 issues of Home Computer magazine, \$1 ea; Many issues of Compute! and others, \$10 for the whole pile; Jiffycard, \$10; OS-Wheel game (disk) and Disk Pak I, \$10 both; various TI books by Compute, ^{\$5}Buyers' guides, etc, \$3 ea.~~
SOME SOLD

I also have for sale some of my own equipment: P Box with disk controller and single sided drive, \$100, excellent condition; nicad battery packs, AA size, \$5 for pack of 14; ~~composite monochrome monitor, amber screen, \$20~~, Jiffy Flyer \$10 (Stewart Prince, do you see this?) Gary Bishop 319-377-9574.

Somewhat related to the printer set article found elsewhere, I have come up with an "include" file for TI Writer that contains most of the commonly used control codes for Epson printers. There are two ways to control the printer from TI Writer files: using the transliterate commands, and including the actual codes in the text. The transliterate commands merely substitute a string of printer codes for a less commonly used printable character, such as the tilda or vertical brace. To include the actual control codes with the text, the following sequence of keystrokes is required: Control-U, Shift-Codeletter, then Control-U again. While in the control code entering mode, the TI Writer cursor changes from a solid blinking block to a blinking underline. Using either method, you still need to know the correct codes to use. That is where this include file comes in. It lists all the codes I need, and makes them all accessable, even if I don't use them all.

```
.CO THIS IS THE COMPLETE TRANSLITERATE TABLE FOR THE EPSON PRINTERS
.CO
.CO THE FOLLOWING DECIMAL CODES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE EPSON FOR
.CO TRANSLITERATION: 0 (NOT RECOMMENDED), 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 21, 22,
23
.CO 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 128 (NOT RECOMMENDED), 129, 130, 131, 132,
133
.CO 134, 144, 149, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157, 158, 159. IF ANY OF
THESE
.CO ARE PASSED THRU, THE PRINTER WILL IGNORE THEM.
.CO
.CO THE CODES ARE GROUPED BY FUNCTIONS
.CO ALL ESCAPE CODE SEQUENCES ARE TERMINATED WITH A NULL BYTE, 0.
.CO
.CO CHARACTER WIDTH AND PITCH
.CO DEFAULT MODE IS PICA, 10 CPI.
.CO
```

```

.CO * TURNS OFF DOUBLE STRIKE MODE
.CO <ESC>"H"
.TL 23:27,72,0
.CO
.CO * TURNS SUPER SCRIPT MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"S0"
.TL 25:27,83,48,0
.CO
.CO * TURNS SUBSCRIPT MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"S1"
.TL 26:27,83,49,0
.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF EITHER SUB/SUPER SCRIPT MODE
.CO <ESC>"T"
.TL 28:27,84,0
.CO
.CO * TURNS UNDERLINE MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"-1"
.TL 29:27,45,49,0
.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF UNDERLINE MODE
.CO <ESC>"-0"
.TL 30:27,45,48,0
.CO
.CO

```

Where a "*" is printed in the above listing, my original file has the actual control code displayed, for reference. This looks like one or two small numbers shown where one character would normally be. It is TI Writer's way of displaying the control codes directly. See page 146 in the TI Writer manual for an example of what I see when I look at this file on my screen. By the way, the little "cr" symbol at the end of each paragraph is one of these control characters. I had to replace them all in this file, because if they were left in, the newsletter editor's printer would actually respond to them, giving him fits!

The control characters become second nature once they are used for a while, and are quite handy. I will comment on how the screen representation of these control codes was determined. Several codes use mnemonics for their representation, such as "CR" "PA" and "LF". These are the most commonly used codes, and mean carriage return, page break or form feed, and line feed, respectively. The other characters are represented by a two symbol combination. The codes are in hexadecimal (ugh!), but recognizing them is easy. The upper left portion of the code is either a small dot, or a small one. If it is a small dot, this is a place holder to tell you that the character isn't simply a small number, and is read as a zero. If it is a small one, well that is the first digit of the hex code. The lower number represents the second digit of the code. So if you see a code of "14" all smashed down into a tiny single character, you know the hex code is 14, and this is a device control code of some sort. I can't actually show you the code inside this file, because I would need some graphics capabilities to create the illusion of the code. Otherwise, if I just put the code in this file, the newsletter editor's printer would again respond to it, and we would both have a hard time trying to find out what happened.

.CO
.CO * TURNS COMPRESSED MODE ON CONTINUOUSLY, 17.16 CPI
.TL 15:15

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF COMPRESSED MODE
.TL 18:18

.CO
.CO * TURNS ONE LINE EXPANDED MODE ON, IF PICA WAS DEFAULT.
.CO THIS RESULTS IN 5 CPI; IF ELITE WAS IN EFFECT, RESULT IS 6 CPI
.TL 14:14

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF ONE LINE EXPANDED MODE
.TL 20:20

.CO
.CO * TURNS CONTINUOUS EXPANDED MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"W1"
.TL 1:27.87.49.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF EITHER EXPANDED MODE
.CO <ESC>"W0" 87
.TL 2:27.80.48.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS CONTINUOUS ELITE MODE ON, 12 CPI
.CO <ESC>"M"
.TL 3:27.77.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF CONTINUOUS ELITE MODE
.CO <ESC>"P"
.TL 4:27.80.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS PROPORTIONAL MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"p1"
.TL 5:27.112.49.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF PROPORTIONAL MODE
.CO <ESC>"p0"
.TL 6:27.112.48.0

.CO
.CO
.CO CHARACTER WEIGHTS

.CO
.CO * TURNS EMPHASIZED MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"E"
.TL 16:27.69.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS OFF EMPHASIZED MODE
.CO <ESC>"F"
.TL 21:27.70.0

.CO
.CO * TURNS DOUBLE STRIKE MODE ON
.CO <ESC>"G"
.TL 22:27.71.0
.CO

ESC SET DL INCHES
ESC 27 67 n PAGE -LEN - LINES
OC FF
7F DELETE LAST CHAR FROM
BUFF
18 CANCEL ALL TEXT IN
BELL BUFF, NOT CIL
07 CODES

SHIFT KEY
IN TTY

HEX	
15	COMPRESSED ON
18	COMPRESSED OFF
14	ONE LINE EXP.ON
20	ONE LINE EXP.OFF
16	EMPH ON
21	EMPH OFF
22	DOUBLE STRIKE ON
23	DOUBLE STRIKE OFF
25	SUPER SCRIPT ON
26	SUBSCRIPT ON
28	TURNS OFF SUP/SUB
29	UNDERLINE ON
30	U.L. OFF

DISABLE PAP. OUT SENSE ESC8
ENABLE P.O. SENSE ESC9

SELECT
DESELECT
HALF SPEED
H.S. OFF

DC1
DC3
ESC 31
ESC 50

ONE LINE UNDERLINE ON
CCR WILL TERMINATE!
UNDR OFF

UNDR ON ESC U1
UNDR OFF ESC U0

INITIALIZE PRINTER

ESC @

CREATIVITY: According to my 1925 copy of WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY the meaning of creative is having the power or quality of creating, to bring into being out of nothing, to produce as a work of thought or imagination, etc...

Now, that we have had our lesson for today what does that have to do with computers you ask?? If you have to ask, what have you been doing with your TI99?

THE POWER OF CREATING.... WOW Just think you to can have the POWER OF CREATING... Actually if you have a TI99 COMPUTER you already have one of the finest tools to help you CREATE. You already have the ability to bring into being, out of nothing, a quality that is nothing to be ashamed of in the computer world.

The TI99 has a good selection of programs to create, to your computing delight. I want to take a quick look at a few of the latest, one being ARTIST PRINT SHOP.

ARTIST PRINT SHOP by Paul Coleman of Comprodine;

The MICRO-REVIEW by HARRY BRASHER in the MICORPENDIUM gives this program a 4 STAR rating. Although Artist Print Shop (APS) was released over a year ago, it is just getting the press it deserves. With APS you can create... BANNERS, STATIONARY, SIGNS or POSTERS.

BANNERS: I don't believe there is a limit to ideas. Any of the over 350 fonts, available for TI ARTIST, can be use to give almost unlimited selectivity. Up to 80 characters of text can be used or you use ARTIST INSTANCES to give a Graphic picture to be incorporated into your theme. With just a little practice you will be able to CREATE WITH QUALITY that will shame those other computers.

STATIONARY: Tired of sending that blank piece of paper? You have the tool to get the message across, let them know your company name and purpose, or just be CREATIVE. Again using ARTIST FONTS and INSTANCES you can have up to 4 lines of text, depending on the size of font. With text you also can incorporate a graphic picture on either side. Your CREATION can be used at the top or bottom of the page. With Christmass coming, this part of APS is really great to CREATE the messages of the Season to go with your Christmass card and letters.

SIGNMAKER: I know everone has wished at one time or another to CREATE a sign or poster for some reason. With SIGNMAKER part of APS you have the POWER OF TI99 AT HAND. Again with ARTIST FONTS AND INSTANCES you can lay out in print shop fashion exactly the text and pictures to really show off unlimited CREATIVELY. I know even you will be impressed with the hidden abilities you have never known you have.

Now I know you are going to say all thats fine but all I do sit around and have no need for all this CREATIVELY. Well I say BULL.... If you have THE POWER OF THE TI99 why don't you use it. I know first hand, seen it with my own eyes, heard things with my very own ears, there are people out there in your community just waiting to know you CAN and WILL help them improve there CREATIVELY. If you let the word out that you can make banners for Birthday parties, weddings, birth announcements, etc, you will be surprised how many people would respond. Signs or posters are very popular with clubs, and churches, my kids even make signs to be used at school. I know, no kids you say (take mine, please), I have even been asked to make both usefull signs and humorus ones for the community center and the elderly centers. So you see there is no age boundaries to your CREATIVELY.

Even with the great help of the TI99 the best you can hope for is going to turn out black and white. Well don't despair, why do you think you spent so much time coloring as a child. Right, with the magic markers, new color crayolas, those banners, signs, posters will really stand out. So you don't like to color...right so let the kids at the birthday party color there own banner, you really don't have to do all the CREATING your self, pass it on and make every one happy.

I suppose I have offended those out there in the TI WORLD who use PAGE PRO, TI ARTIST, C S C G, PICASSO, JOY PAINT, JIFFY FLYER, JIFFY CARD, GRPAHX, just to drop a few names, of the many really fine programs. As you can see to name all the programs that are available for the TI99 the list could get a little long. The main point I want to make is to turn on that CREATIVITY the next time you turn on your TI. MAKE SOME THING FROM NOTHING...don't just let that TI just set there.

program comm. e.l.edwards

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

6:30 PM --- WEST MUSIC, CR

JOHN JOHNSON WILL DEMONSTRATE

FAST ASSEMBLY USING A RAMDISK

**(WE ALSO WELCOME LEFTOVER
CHRISTMAS TREATS!)**

**Cedar Valley 99'er Users Group
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Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402**

Send To:

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