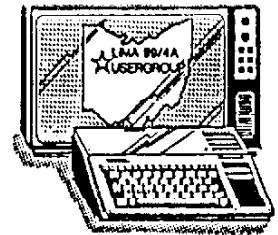


BITS, BYTES & PIXELS

LIMA 99/4A USERS GROUP



JUNE 1989 VOLUME 5 #6

CONFERENCE VIDEO TAPES AVAILABLE

Video tapes of all the seminars at the May 20, 1989 Lima Ohio Multi User Group Conference are available to any user group for the cost of media and postage. These tapes contain almost 11 hours of material, including presentations by well known TI personalities such as Barry Traver, Chris Bobbitt, Bud Mills, Jim Horn, and Paul Scheidemann. Also shown are demonstrations of SUPERBASIC v2, MX-DOS v3.0, and some features of an as yet unreleased major revision of FUNNELWEB designed specifically for 80 column systems. User groups (not individuals) can obtain copies of these tapes by sending two VHS video tapes and a paid return mailer, or \$10, to the Lima Ohio User Group, P.O. Box 647, Venedocia OH 45894. Those groups in the U.S. sending money will receive their video tapes via 4th class mail.

Individuals who are paid members of the Lima User Group may also obtain copies of these video tapes.

****DONE****

The May 20, Lima Fair
By: Andy Frueh, Lima UG

W-O-W!! That about sums up this entire review as well as the Lima User Group's TI Fair. It seems that all the people there really loved the fair. The atmosphere was absolutely terrific! It is always great to see so many devoted 99ers in one place!

The Fair held something for everyone. Those with bare consoles and those with zillions of memory in hard drives could equally enjoy and benefit from this amazingly charging event. Like I said, it held something for everyone who was there.

And WHAT was there? Name it! I apologize for those that may be left out, but this is a list of the people who showed and what they had. Naturally, the Lima UG was there, offering the updates of the library, Plus! v2.0, MX-DOS, and Phantom of the Opera (see below).

Micro Service was there dealing mainly with printers as well as TI equipment repair.

The Ottawa UG was offering many newsletters and T-(or should I say TI)shirts with their logo.

The Cin-Day, Oh Mi TI, and Great Lakes UGs were there, as well.

If you wanted a copy of Super BASIC, you could get it from the St. Louis 99ers, St. Louis, Missouri.

Tigercub Software (Jim Peterson) was there, as well. Mr. Peterson was selling LOTS of his own stuff as well as great, very cheap disks of Public Domain stuff.

The Columbus UG (C.O.N.N.I.) was there. They were giving out little flyers, tips, and cartoons. They also had several "Slideshow" disks. These are Max-RLE pictures in Slideshow format.

Genial Computerware had Barry Traver (not for sale). Mr. Traver is the columnist for Computer Shopper.

The Cleveland Area UGs had a lot of original stuff for sale. Software by Roger Merritt and Glenn Bernasek as well as other authors were featured.

Asgard Software, although they didn't have Press done for our Fair, more than made up for it with a huge offering of software. Both "Legends" and "Music-Pro" have reviews coming to this newsletter!

L. L. Conner Enterprises was there as well. He (Larry Conner) had a lot to offer in the line of soft- and hard-ware. Many books were available as well.

Comuserve had Jim Horn present. He is the TI Sysop on this particular computer network.

P A Software featured TI art and graphics software. Disk Labeler 99 v2 and several TI-Artist companion disks were available.

The Fort's UG from Fort Wayne Indiana had representatives at the conference.

Ramcharge Computers was there. He had an interesting array of very current and practically ANCIENT, hard-to-find TI stuff. They also had a Fairware library and misc. TI equipment.

And that was just the TABLES!!!! Below are some of the demos/conferences that were held (again, this isn't a 100% complete list. It is just an unbiased, almost random SAMPLE of what we had.)

Bud Mills had a demo on their RANdisks and the P-GRAM card.

NEXT PAGE

Bits, Bytes & Pixels

Steve Karsek gave an demo on Super BASIC v2, which was released at our conference.

Irwin Hott gave a NEW demo on how the blind use speech. This one was different than the one he gave last year at our Fair.

Martin Smoley presented a TI-Base tutorial, for those wanting to learn more about this database.

Barry Traver had two demos. One was on linking Extended BASIC and Assembly language using CALL LINKS, and the other was recent Genial software.

Charlie Good presented a special meeting to U6 leaders, and also presented an 80-col version of Funnelweb (which is Funnelweb no longer).

To think that this is just a sample of what we had, is amazing. I had the chance to ask a few people a couple of questions about what they thought of the fair. The overall opinion was that the TI won't die until machines with zillions Megabyte memories are the size of a calculator. The entire room was alive with the feeling of TI pride. A few people expressed to me that they are surprised that the TI is still around, while others thought nothing special of it. All in all, I think that what we had was a success. I learned a few new things (all of which I could've really used) and I had the chance to pick up several low-cost or even a few free goodies!

****DONE****

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP ON MAY 20

The Lima User Group received help from many outside sources in running our May 20 Multi User Group Conference. We wish to acknowledge the following:

Financial donations were received in the past 12 months from several user groups and individuals to help with the postage, xeroxing, and long distance phone expenses related to our 1988 and 1989 Conferences. Thank you.

Many individuals from out of town showed up Friday evening to help set up tables and equipment. We appreciate your help and fellowship.

Many dealers and software authors donated items for our door prize giveaways. There would have been no door prizes without these generous donations.

Experts and "ordinary users" from outside the Lima User Group gave seminars and/or contributed new products for seminar presentations. These seminars are a VERY important part of the Conference and the learning experiences of TI users.

Ohio State University provided us with space and audio visual equipment at no cost. The campus food service opened especially for the event with no financial guarantee or firm prior estimate of conference attendance.

Finally, and possible most importantly, we want to thank all the individuals and user groups who attended. Those attending made the Conference truly a MULTI group affair. Because we didn't sell tickets, and because many entered the conference area from two entrances that bypassed the registration table we can only estimate total attendance at 300. Two hundred forty people signed our registration book.

****DONE****

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ORGANIZING A T.I. FAIRE by Charles Good Lima Ohio User Group

At our recent Multi User Group Conference officers of at least two visiting user groups expressed an interest in organizing their own TI faires. "If the tiny Lima Group can do this, we probably can too," was one of the comments I heard. I was asked by one visiting user group officer to put down in writing some of the things the Lima User Group has learned by experience about how to organize and run a faire. That request is the basis of this article.

One element of the Lima Multi User Group Conferences of 1988 and 1989 was minimum cost to all attending, and no financial commitment on the part of the Lima User Group. We were unwilling to risk any of the money in our very small treasury. To make such a faire work you need a FREE PLACE to hold the faire. As a campus organization, we were able to use the Ohio State University Lima Campus at no charge. Other possibilities include public schools, churches, and union halls. Many user groups have members who could probably arrange for such a FREE PLACE, for example at a member's church. The free place needs to have SPACE, a supply of TABLES AND CHAIRS, and ELECTRICITY. Our only expenses were postage and long distance telephone calls. These were paid for by individual Lima UG members and by monetary donations from some of the attending user groups and individuals.

Another key element of the Lima Conferences was simplicity. "Keep it simple, stupid (KISS)!" Many groups complain in their newsletters about members who don't do much for the group. We too have a limited number of really dependable members, so we designed our Conference to require minimum manpower on our part. Our 1989 conference was more or less totally run by about 8 people. If we had chosen not to video tape everything and not to make copies of our library disks for other attending groups, and not to register attendees and hand out name tags, we could have done it ALL with just 3 people. Another aspect of KISS was our lack of organizing committees. Responsibilities were assigned to specific individual volunteers by the Conference coordinator. Individuals can get things done that a group of people would find harder to do. For example, one person personally handled all our non-newsletter publicity. We DID NOT SELL TICKETS (no ticket sellers or ticket takers required). We DID NOT OFFER TO PROVIDE SECURITY (no security patrols by our members required). Every attending user group and dealer was responsible for keeping track of their own stuff. We DID NOT HAVE FORMAL SCHEDULED PERIPHERAL ACTIVITIES, such as an "evening before the show party", a "during the show wife's shopping tour", or an "after the show catered dinner." All of these would have required lots of organization, manpower, and probably financial commitment. Instead, we had available from the Lima Chamber of Commerce (at no cost to us) lots of literature on what to do and where to go in Lima on that particular weekend. Our after show party was a "dutch treat

pizza party" at a local pizza joint. This party required absolutely no organization or planning on our part. Those of us who attended ate pizza, drank Pepsi, and talked for 2 1/2 hours. It was great fun!

Step 1- Arrange a firm commitment, specific date, time, and place for the faire. This should probably be done about 6 MONTHS IN ADVANCE to allow plenty of time for planning and publicity.

Step 2- Almost immediately after a date and place are set, WRITE MICROPENDIUM with all available details. You will then be listed each month in their TI Faieres listing.

Step 3- Start working on getting the dealers and "important people" to agree to come to your show. This will be a long process with lots of letter writing and telephone calls. Personal contacts that may already exist between members of your group and the dealers and "important people" can be very important here. To successfully attract dealers and "important people" it is very important to make it AS EASY AND INEXPENSIVE AS POSSIBLE FOR THESE GUESTS TO BE AT YOUR SHOW. Ways to do this include:

A- Provide exhibit space at no charge. If possible, offer to provide as many tables as the dealer wants.

B- If the dealer or "important person" is coming a long distance (more than a one day round trip by car), offer to provide free room and board at the home of a group officer.

C- Offer to provide, at no charge, a computer system for use by the dealer or "important person" at the show.

D- Let it be known that your group will arrange pick up and delivery for those arriving by bus, train, and plane.

Step 4- Other publicity:

Publish details in your newsletter month by month as soon as these details become available. You can trace the buildup of our Conferences by following the "Multi User Group Conference Update" articles in our past newsletters. As the list of groups that have "signed up" increases, this encourages other groups to "sign up" and additional individuals to consider attending.

Jim Peterson has an up to date list of active user groups. We used this list to write to selected nearby groups to invite them to our conference.

Put notices of your faire on as many bulletin boards and information services as you can. Ask, in your newsletter, for other individuals and user groups to do this on your behalf. Our Conferences were well publicized on various BBS systems, and we didn't have to post any of these notices ourselves.

A month to two weeks before the faire print some signs listing those groups and dealers who are attending. Display these at supermarkets, school and church bulletin boards, etc. Printing can be done for free if your group has members with access to xerox machines at their places of employment. Xeroxing a few copies of the sign will not be noticed by most employers.

Prepare a press release and deliver it to all the local media (radio, TV, newspapers) TWO WEEKS before faire time. Any earlier runs the risk that your release will get lost in a stack of paper. Anything less than two weeks will not meet the required deadline for some of the media. Our experience with the media is mixed. The local newspaper has completely ignored us both years. Local radio and TV stations have, however, sent reporters to cover our 1988 and 1989 Conferences.

Step 5- Organize formal presentations.

Our 1989 conference had almost 11 hours of seminars and presentations, probably more than any other TI faire in the country. We feel that such presentations are a VERY IMPORTANT PART OF THE SHOW and encourage ANYONE who thinks they have ANYTHING TO SAY to schedule a formal presentation at our conferences. This is a great chance for unknowns as well as "important people" to become famous as they show off programming techniques or new software and hardware.

You need a special room with seats, a blackboard, and a TI system with a RGB SCREEN monitor or TV for formal presentations. We found that 1 hour time blocks were best for these presentations. This gives people time to get in and out of the room between presentations, and speakers time to set up and take down any special equipment. Find out in advance what special equipment is needed by each speaker (two drives, double density controller, Epson compatible printer, VCR player, etc) and try and provide what is requested. Make sure that EACH SPEAKER KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT EQUIPMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SEMINAR ROOM.

Step 6- Video tape special considerations.

If you are going to videotape part of your faire and make the tape available to the TI community in general, there are a number of things to consider and plan in advance. This aspect of our conferences consumed much of our limited manpower. You may decide that video taping isn't worth the extra time and effort. I understand, for example, that the Chicago U6 no longer offers to the TI community videos of the seminars at the Chicago Faire.

You need a video camera, tripod, and members experienced in the operation of the camera. We learned the hard way that you can't just set the camera up in the back of the room, aim it to show the speaker and the monitor beside the speaker at the same time, and let the camera grind away by itself. YOU CANNOT SEE THE SPEAKER AND THE TV SCREEN AT THE SAME TIME with most video cameras. The TV is much brighter than the rest of the scene, which includes the speaker, and most video cameras cannot compensate for this bright area in the field of view. TO SEE WHAT IS ON THE MONITOR YOU NEED TO ZOOM IN WITH THE CAMERA AND FILL THE FIELD OF VIEW WITH THE MONITOR SCREEN.

Have enough video tapes immediately available for all the required tape time. Most video cameras will not record at slow tape speed. You get two hours per tape with most cameras.

How are you going to make copies of your master tapes? To copy a video tape at home requires the use of two VCR units,

preferably with four play/record heads. At slow speed there is a real visible difference between tape copies made with a 2 head VCR (the ones that cost \$200-\$250) and copies made with a 4 head VCR. If you have 6 hours of presentations (one tape recorded at slow speed), it will require the full and complete use of TWO VCRS FOR 6 HOURS TO MAKE EACH COPY. To make one copy of the two tape masters from our 1989 conference requires 11 hours. Are you going to make lots of copies to distribute to the TI community? Can your wife and kids get along without VCRs for this length of time? Do you value you marriage more than your TI computer?

Video tapes in their cardboard boxes can be sent 4th class book rate for \$0.90 in the USA as long as there are no personal messages enclosed.

Some cheap video tapes (\$3 each or less) will not record reliably at slow speed. UNIVERSAL SHG brand tapes are unreliable at slow speed. Cheap tapes that, in my experience, record OK at slow speed include FOCAL (K-Mart house brand) and WALMART house brand video tapes.

Step 8- Motels.

Contact nearby motels two months in advance for room rates and possible discounts. It is neither desirable nor necessary to "book a block of rooms" in order to obtain a discount for faire guests. Many motels will offer discounts without any financial commitment on the part of your user group in exchange for your giving them some extra business. Publish complete motel information in your newsletter well before the faire. Have faire attendees contact the motels directly for reservations. To obtain the discount, faire attendees must usually state at the time they make the motel reservation that they are attending your faire.

Step 9- Food service during the faire.

The easiest thing to do is have maps posted showing the locations of nearby fast food restaurants. If you want to arrange on site food service that is even better. However, if you are not selling tickets you have no reliable way of estimating faire attendance in advance. You should not offer to guarantee a specific attendance at your faire or to make any financial commitment to the food service people. What you can do, and what we did, is to present the potential on site food service people with a list of user groups, dealers, and seminar speakers who have definitely signed up to attend your faire. We used such a long impressive looking list to convince the Lima Campus food service to open especially for our faire with no real guarantee of fair attendance or food service profits.

Step 10- Local information for out of town guests. Visit the local chamber of commerce, tell them what you are doing and ask what sort of FREE LITERATURE they have for you to hand out at the faire to out of town guests. You should be able to get free maps of the city as well as lists of restaurants and motels, sights to see, and community activities on the weekend of your faire. After the faire is over, give the undistributed literature back to the chamber of commerce.

Step 10- Last minute considerations.

Make lots of signs to post around the faire area. Identify each exhibit room table with a sign on the table and one on the wall behind the table. Have seminar schedules posted in many places. Signs in the main exhibit area that tell how to get to other important places (seminar rooms, toilets) are also useful. We made our signs with Certificate 99. Many who attended our conferences told us what a nice touch the signs were.

Have LOTS OF EXTENSION CORDS AND PLUG BOXES available. We had lots, and we used nearly all of them. Extension cords should be the heavy duty outdoor type in 25, 50, and 10 foot lengths. Many of the groups that showed up borrowed one of our extension cords at the last minute. Each user group or dealer that has tables in the exhibit room will need at least one electrical outlet. If you can, run some extension cords into the exhibit room from other parts of the building that are on different circuits.

A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM is useful. If your exhibit room doesn't have a PA system you can use a good stereo system with a microphone. Most groups have a member who can provide such a stereo system.

Setup the night before the faire. Get all your members out for a setup party. Have a plan, which tables go where, but be ready to modify the plan to provide more or fewer tables at the last moment as circumstances require. Setup systems in the seminar rooms and MAKE SURE ALL THE SEMINAR EQUIPMENT IS OPERATING PROPERLY. Have a special table for the local information literature.

Obtain consecutively numbered door prize tickets in advance. If you don't have a source of tickets it is easy to write a small BASIC program to print such tickets. Ask dealers, as they arrive at the faire, to donate door prizes. Most will do so, some won't.

Step 11- Clean up!

The exhibit space should be left spotless. If you leave any mess at all you may not be able to use the FREE SPACE again. Put everything back exactly the way it was before you started setting up. Collect all the garbage from the floor and all the waste baskets and either empty the garbage into the appropriate outside dumpster or take the garbage away with you when you finally leave. Use dust mops on the floor and wet mops if there are any food spills. Be prepared to PROVIDE YOUR OWN BROOMS AND MOPS if these are not available at the faire location.

Step 12- Relax and enjoy all of your new TI goodies.

****DONE****

NEW FEATURES OF THE NEW FUNNELWEB

by Charles Good
Lima Ohio User Group

Tony McGovern is creating an 80 column version of FUNNELWEB that is so enhanced, compared to the 40 column version, that Tony isn't even going to call it FUNNELWEB. The new 80 column package will probably be given the name of an Eastern Australian bird. (FUNNELWEB is the name of an Australian spider.) The new package will include the already released FUNNELWEB 80 column editor and is written specifically for TI systems equipped with the DIJIT systems AVPC. Some features of the new FUNNELWEB will be hardware specific to the AVPC, although most features will also work with the Geneve and the Mechatronics 80 column peripheral.

I have been playing with a beta testing version of the new FUNNELWEB's 80 column quick directory. This new QD is based on over 500 sectors of source code and was demonstrated by me at our recent Multi User Group Conference. This demo is on the conference video tapes, available to any user group for the cost of media and postage.

The new QD brings up an 80 column directory similar in appearance to the ShowDirectory of the already released 80 column text editor. From this directory you can mark ANY software file name, press "R" (for run), press PROCEED (Fctn/6), and the software will run! You can boot ANY kind of software in this way, straight from the disk directory. If the software is extended basic, and you have the extended basic module plugged in, you can run both XB PROGRAM files and long XB software that lists as IV254 on the disk directory. If the software is assembly language PROGRAM you are asked which of the FUNNELWEB program loaders you want (1-Text mode; 2-GPL; 3-PROGRAM EA) and the software loads. If the software is DF80, it also runs.

From the new QD you can mark a DV80 text file and load it into a 64K VRAM buffer for viewing. You can scroll the screen display up and down and print all or parts of the file to any valid device. If you have an AVPV with 192K of VRAM installed, you can load a second text file into a second 64K buffer. Both files can then be displayed simultaneously on a split 80 column screen, independently scrolled up and down and independently printed in whole or in part. The "two text files on a split screen" feature is machine specific to an AVPC with 192K VRAM. All of the other features of this new QD, including having one file in just one 64K buffer should work with the Geneve. The only text file I have found which will not fit into one of these 64K buffers is the Doc for PR Base v2.0. When the new QD text buffer fills, the message FULL UP appears at the top of the screen.

What I have described is not yet for release. It is a part of a larger, as yet incomplete package in 80 columns. I look forward to the release of the whole thing.

****NOT YET DONE****

A Review of "Music-Pro"

By: Andy Frueh, Lima UG

A goodie I picked up and demonstrated at the TI Fair we had, Music-Pro is for those who are interested in creating music on the Home Computer. All you do is enter the notes as they appear in the musical score.

This program gives you a standard score to work with. The program allows entry of three voices of music, one at a time. These are saved with the suffixes 1, 2, or 3 (such as DSK1.SONG1, ect.). You then run the programs Compiler to mix the three voices together.

These voices can be a varying lengths, meaning you can have different lengths of notes playing at the same time. This is a unique feature for the 4A! You can also tie notes together, meaning you can have any type of notes. You can even copy large or small blocks of music anywhere you want!

Music-Pro's "Piano Mode" allows you to enter notes without writing them on the screen, just like playing a piano! To top that off, you can have several different volumes (from fff to ppp).

For those who can't read music, you CAN use Music-Pro. Pressing CTRL E and X allows you to move a note until you have watched the score on the screen with the music you are reading from.

All of this and more! The manual (which you MUST read. No sneaking past it this time!) tells you everything you need to know. There's even a "tutorial" saved as a Max-RLE readable picture file, and a D/V80 keyboard overlay, so you know what keys play which notes.

This is one program that you people interested in TI music technology shouldn't pass up! I recommend this one to the musically talented 99'ers!

DONE

Reminder to members of the group:

by Andy Frueh

Just like all of you to remember that I have a "cheat" book on almost ALL the adventure games put out for the TI. Members are free to borrow it. Ask me for it at one of the meetings, and I'll get it to you at the next meeting. Or, if you'd prefer to have the book faster (i.e. you are REALLY stuck) than you can come over to my house and get it, just CALL FIRST!!!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: For our paid out of town members, we can xerox pages from Andy's "cheat book" for \$0.03 per page. Send an SASE and the name of the game you want to "cheat" to the newsletter address. We will bill you for page costs.)

DONE

A Review of "Legends" v1.1

By: Andy Frueh, Lima UG

Attention all of you TI-Adventure fans! If you've always wanted adventure games similar to those on IBM and Commodore, here it is! This is the best adventure game I've EVER seen on the TI. If you have about \$25 to spend on your Home Computer, here is what to buy! The encounters you experience are very interactive, so there's always plenty for you and your party of 4 to do! The graphics are also stunning. This is NOTHING like Voodoo Castle, the Enchanter, ect. It is a lot more fun, and will keep you playing over and over.

All of your quests start and end at Wizzards Rock, the capital of the island of Edonland. The disk comes with a ready-to-go party of 4 characters, so you don't have to deal with creating a party first, although the game has a character generator.

Your objective is to locate and stop the evil Ashtar Creel who is releasing all kinds of nasty creatures after you. As you travel on the island, these monsters will try to stop you. You have several combat options to choose from, so you can always take action.

Not all of the action takes place ON the island. There are several dungeons to explore. These contain helpful and harmful things. Traps, potions, gold, ect. are all found in dungeons (along with some really neat weapons.)

The graphics, island, and character data are stored on disk 1, and the dungeon data is on disk two. RAM-disk users can copy all the files onto one RAM-disk, and DSSD users can do the same.

Upon opening the "Legends" package, you may be in for a surprise. Not only are there two disks (about 180K of programming. That's big!) but there are three manuals (and an update sheet). Don't fear! These manuals are all very well written and fit together like a glove. The main manual has all the instructions you need and a nice little Prologue to read. The manual on Magic Spells tells you which character casts which spells. And then there is the Combat Reference Sheet, which gives the options you have available for fighting monsters.

To sum it up, this program is great. All it requires is 32K, Extended BASIC, and a disk drive. This would get my vote for the TI-Adventure game of ALL TIME!

DONE

The Scariest TI "Trend"
By: Andy Frueh, Lima U6

both software and hardware manufacturers tell us about a "wonderful" new product before it even exists. In the March issue of MICROpendium, Asgard software (makers of the yet-to-be-released "Press") brings up the good point that there is a LOT of debugging to do on equipment/programs before they are set for sale.

Alright, I'll go along with that. But why can't the people test the software, get the bugs out, and THEN tell us about it? I'm not trying to be a big complainer, I just want to know. The same is true for the Geneve. We did see its release, after being promised it would appear "any day now." This would make me very anxious and aggravated! I know that something big is going to happen in the TI world, but I can't catch a glimpse of it because it doesn't really exist (for sale, anyway).

Maybe we will be surprised by the power of "Press" as we are the Geneve. If I see the day where TI-Writer will no longer fill my needs, I might even order a copy of "Press." I really hope that it gets finished, because it looks like it's going to be great. Still, I wish they hadn't told us about it quite yet.

****DONE****

FOR SALE AT EXCELLENT PRICES

A member of the Lima U6 is liquidating his entire TI system. Call Jim Courtney evenings at 419-991-4465.

Peripheral expansion box with TI RS232, 32K, TI disk controller, and full height DOUBLE SIDED drive--\$200.

Two 256K HORIZON RAMDISKS, each with a Genial Computerware eprom KUS--\$100 each.

GRAM KRACKER, fully loaded--\$150. AMDEK COLOR 1+ composite 13 inch color monitor--\$125.

99/4A console with INTERNAL SPEECH--\$30.

Plastic module box MADE SPECIFICALLY FOR TI MODULES, holds 18 modules at a nice viewing angle--\$10.

TI compatible tape recorder and cable--\$10

Two TI EXTENDED BASIC modules--\$20 each.

These modules are available for \$5 each!!

---Mini Memory

---Terminal Emulator II

---Personal Record Keeping

---Personal Report Generator

---Video Chess

---Adventure

---Speech Editor

Other modules that Jim might part with for less than \$5 include Home Financial Decisions, Securities Analysis, Household Budget Management, Return to Pirate Island, Music Maker, Car Wars, TI Invaders, Parsec, The Attack, Munchman, Blackjack and Poker, and Yachtsee.

****DONE****

If I'm Doing Such a Good Job...

By: Andy Frueh, Lima U6

At first, I wasn't too impressed with the TI community. But after what happened at the Lima Faire we had May 20, I can't help but be extremely impressed! And what happened Saturday?

Well, for starters, I had one or two people tell me that they were actually waiting to be able to hear "Phantom" and after they did, they seemed very happy and impressed with it. I was even able to trade a copy of it that I had bought for myself for a DM-1000 manual.

Another thing that happens quite a lot is people from all over (even out of state) tell me how much they enjoy reading my newsletter articles. WOW! Really though, when a teenager with a few years of TI experience can knock out the readers, imagine what more of you "old" TI veterans could do? I wish I could see a lot more "regular" article authors in newsletters (there are always a few regulars, but what if every member contributed an article a month? Think of the mass of knowledge we could all share!).

To sum it all up, the TI community has really impressed me. At the Faire, Micky Schmidt commented to me that she could see no reason to but a "clone." What a great amount of TI pride was expressed at the Faire! I know I could keep my TI for years, because events like the Lima Faire, and all of the Fairware authors and user groups keep this computer orphan around!

****DONE****

Even MORE Max-RLE Help

By: Andy Frueh, Lima U6

This is for those people who STILL can't get a good-looking dump from Max-RLE files. Does your printer put ugly horizontal lines through your picture? If so, have you found that NONE of the printer control programs published in various newsletters helps? I had this problem. Having a GE 3-8100 printer, it was hard to find the right control codes. For those with a similar device, or for you few that can't get any of the other programs to work, maybe this will:

```
10 OPEN #1:"PIO.CR",OUTPUT
20 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(65);CHR$(6);CHR$(27);CHR$(50);
30 CLOSE #1
```

That's it! Type it just as written, then RUN it. Reset the computer WITHOUT turning off the printer. Then run Max-RLE or another "dump" program. There is no guarantee that this will work for other printers, but it helped me!

****DONE****

Bits, Bytes & Pixels

Pin diagrams
By: Andy Frueh Lima, Ohio UG

I guess this article falls under the subject of "useless technical information unless you are going to mess with your computers guts" (Whew!) These are pin diagrams I found. All I copied down was the diagrams. I don't know where I got these from, but for the sake of common-interest, here they are. There is NO guarantee on any of these diagrams! I accept no responsibility for the consequences in using these to modify a console, or whatever else you do with these!

PIN ASSIGNMENTS FOR SERIAL/PARALLEL CABLES

If you bought a printer cable not made the TI, here is a guide to help you make sure the pin assignments are right.

Serial		Parallel	
TI	Printer	TI	Printer
1-9	1-9	1	1
10	11	2	2
16	16	3	3
P-Box	17	5	5
grnd		6	6
		7	7
		8	8
		20	11

CASSETTE/JOYSTICK PIN ASSIGNMENTS

These run left-right with 1 thru 5 on the top and 6 thru 9 on the bottom.

Cassette		Joystick	
1-CS1 motor +	6-CS2 motor +	1-Not used	6-Not used
2-CS1 motor -	7-CS2 motor -	2-Joystick 2	7-Joystick 1
3-Ground	8-Audio in	3-Up	8-Down
4-Not used	9-Audio Ground	4-Fire	9-Right
5-Record Out		5-Left	

POWER CABLE/DIN PLUG PIN ASSIGNMENTS

These two are a pair that usually don't get modified, but here they are.

Power	DIN (Video)	
1-Not used	(1) o o (2)	1-12 Volt + ^ (Notch) 2-8
2-8 Volt AC	(3) o o (4)	2-Video Out (5) o o (1)
3-16 Volt AC		3-Shield
4-Ground		4-Ground (4) o o (2)
		5-Sound Out (3) o

Fairware...Honor system software?
By: Andy Frueh, Lima UG

Fairware, Shareware, Freeware. It's all about the same thing. In short, you receive the software (usually from a User Group), review it, and if and only if you use it, you send a donation.

Well known Fairware programs include Funnelweb, Teico, DM-1000, and Graphic Labler. However, there are those naughty people around us who use such programs and send nothing.

I admit to doing this. I could never keep track of all the programs I use. However, when one uses programs often (like F'web and DM-1000), not giving some donation can't be justified! This could be considered a form of pirating. You receive and use but don't pay. Some programs are just nice to have around (like Graphic Labler) but I would not have a useful system without Funnelweb or DM-1000.

I encourage all individuals and even User Groups to contribute to Fairware authors. Canada and Australia are two sources of powerhouse software!

!!DONE!!

I/O GROM PORT (MODULE SLOT)

The following are supplied by TI.

1-reset	7-d5	13-d2	19-+5 volt	25-dbin/mi	31-grom ready
2-grnd	8-a15	14-a11	20-a8	26-a6	32-we
3-d7	9-d4	15-d1	21-GROM sel	27-GROM clk	33-GROM ground
4-cru clk	10-a13	16-a10	22-a7	28-a5	34-ROM ground
5-d6	11-d3	17-d0	23-a13/mo	29--5 volt	35-ground
6-cru in	12-a12	18-a9	24-a3	30-a4	36-ground

I/O PERIPHERAL PORT (P-Box)

These are also from TI.

1-+5 volt	9-dbin	17-a7	25-ground	33-cru in	41-hold/iaq
2-spch sel	10-a3	18-a9	26-we	34-d7	42-d3
3-reset	11-a12	19-a15	27-ground	35-d4	43--5 volt
4-ext int	12-ready	20-a2	28-mbe	36-d6	44-speech
5-a5	13-load	21-ground	29-a6	37-d0	
6-a10	14-a8	22-cru clk	30-a1	38-d5	
7-a4	15-a13	23-ground	31-a0	39-d2	
8-a11	16-a14	24-0 3	32-wemen	40-d1	

If you decide to use these for whatever, let me know what you come up with! I hope I helped someone out in some way. Maybe these could help to create new hard/soft ware, although I think these are probably published in many technical books. Oh well! Happy probing!

!!DONE!!