

Chips in Console +

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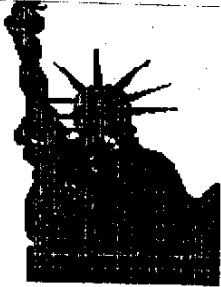


LOOK
AT SOME OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE
NEWSLETTER
STAFF



NORTHWEST OHIO 99 ER NEWS

WILLIAM SAGER
612 MEADOW SPRING RD.
MAUMEE, OH 43537



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JULY 4, 1986

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS

PRESIDENTS CORNER

by Roger Biddle
OH-MI-TI

First off I would like to thank Dave Weldy and Pat Ugorcak for their fine presentations last month. Phil Bennis finally found a Data Base for his needs and is quite satisfied with PR-BASE. Pat and his P Box with a console full of other Groms was also a hit. Pat also has an article in this newsletter telling about adding Grom chips inside the computer.

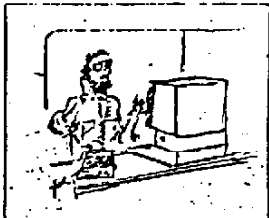
This month's meeting we will have a presentation on the MAXIMEM (a Grom simulator cartridge plus from Canada) given by John Clulow. Also John will demonstrate a new Freeware offering a Macro Assembler for the TI in which John told me was very impressive. Bob Peters will demonstrate a Smart Modem he has purchased, and contact several BBS.

A few people have told me that they would like the meetings to continue through the summer. I am not totally against the idea, but bring your thoughts on the matter to the meeting and will discuss it and make a decision.

There will be always be blank disk available at the meeting, plus program disks for sale. The club has made a bulk purchase of some diskettes and sleeves at a pretty good savings, so stock up for the summer.

The June meeting looks like it will be good one not to miss, so please try to attend.

WHEN ?
JUNE 13, 1986
WHERE ?
OREGON FIRESTATION #2 WHEELING ST. NEAR THE I-280 EXPRESSWAY
WHY ?
BECAUSE WE CARE
TIME ?
7:00 PM.



"But my modem won't talk to your modem until your modem apologizes!"

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NEW HORIZON NEWS

by Bill Sager

Starting right off with a note from the good news department, and there is no bad news anyway, we expect to be offering another trio of disks at the June meeting similar to those that we had in April. If you got in on the April deal then you know what to expect. If you did not, then believe me — it is very, very worthwhile. Price isn't firm at this time, but you may see a repeat of the "costs of blank disks" arrangement, limit one per paid membership, as before. In short, if you want three disks full of programs free or nearly free, then you better be at the June meeting on the 14th. Also, the sorting program that Don Turner wrote and demonstrated in May will be available according to Don.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to see a fairware data base program called PR-Base, demoed by Phil Bennis. Before the regular meeting there will be a special interest class on assembly language using the Macro Assembler. This disk was first available last month. If you obtained it then this is for you and anyone else who might be interested. The class will be lead by John Clulow and last from 12:30 to 1:45 PM. We do ask that you arrive about 12:00 to help set up the chairs for the class and the regular meeting to follow.

All of this so far for those who come to the meetings. While we do hope that our members can attend the monthly meeting, we know that sometimes that it is impossible to make it. Now, thanks to Earl Hoffsis, the presentations are being video taped for borrowing by members. All the arrangements have not been worked out yet, but we hope to make the tapes available between meetings so that as many as want, will be able to view the tape. The tape will be the same as that which is seen on the monitor and large screen. More details later — file at 11. In thinking about this, maybe some of you who come to the meeting, but chit-chat part of the time will want the the tapes to find out what you missed!

Our thanks to the members doing the presentations at the May meeting. They were: Don Turner, John Clulow, and Steve Patterson. John demoed several of the new disks available, while both Don and Steve explained programs that they had written and how they worked.

If there is anyone who has obtained disks that have the instructions as a Dis/Var 80 file, but does not have a printer, please let us know. I am sure that one of our members will gladly print out the instructions for you.

Winners in the prize drawing were: Don Turner and Charles Strobell. There were about ten or twelve non-winners because they didn't show up on meeting day. Prize donors were our own David Romer and Microcomputer Services, 4216 Airport Hwy, Toledo, 381-1641. Microcomputer specializes in repairs of printers and disk drives.

Owners of Gemini printers made by Star Micronics, who have not received the TI 99/4A addendum for their printer manual should pick one up at a future meeting. We will have a few copies made as soon as possible.

Here is an important tip for owners of Funlwriter V3.1 and the Horizon Randisk. If you install the Funlwriter programs on the Randisk, the load program will not work. There is an easy solution. Just change the name of the program LOAD to another name, say LOAD/FUN. Then write your own one line load program.
100 RUN "DSK1.LOAD/FUN"
and save it under the name LOAD. This will bring up the Funlwriter program when you select Extended BASIC.

I notice that Radio Shack is still selling the TI keyboard as well as the RF modulator in case you might want a spare of either item. The keyboard is part # 277-1023 \$3.95 and RF Modulator part #277-1015 \$2.88. Since both are listed in recent flyers, the stores should have them or be able to get them.

CON'T NEXT PAGE

THE PRIZ GOES ON

Here is most of the information you will need to know about the New Horizons Graphics Drawing Contest for those who have the TI-Artist or ANY other TI drawing program. The entries will not be due until September or October. This gives you ample time to create your outstanding original piece. Prizes will be awarded!! The winners works will be printed in the newsletter. There will probably be two categories, one for color and the other for monochrome pictures. Displays using multi-colors do not always print out in a way that does justice to the artwork. Therefore, we will ask that the entries be submitted on disk along with a printed copy, and likely will be judged from the screen rather than the print out. Your disk will be returned along with some of the other entries that are compatible with your drawing program. Of course, the entries must be original. Two entries per membership will be allowed.

Those of you who will not enter a programing contest because you say that you don't program -- well, here's your chance. Everyone starts out about equal in this contest. Now all we have to do is line up some judges, decide on a deadline date, obtain the prizes, figure out the rest of the details, and do some more promotion so that we don't wind up with one or two entries. Who the-heck-was-it-that-said-"Why don't we have a graphic drawing contest?" All joking aside, let's have lots of entries.

The New Horizon meeting is June 14, 2:00 PM (or 12:00 for the class) at Unity Church, 3535 Executive Pkwy, Toledo. If you were in Hands Across America you won't want to miss this. And if you weren't, you still won't want to miss this.

Have A Fun 1986 Summer

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BE GOOFY
STAY AWAY FROM
TI USERS GROUP
MEETINGS

(Reprinted courtesy of the Dayton 99ers March newsletter)

Most computer programmers, working with the TI 994A know that the "CALL CLEAR" command will clear everything from the monitor or television screen. This command does the job that it was designed to do, but if you want to be different, and do the very same thing, with a "BIT OF CLASS", then try this short routine, and see if you like it. It only takes a few extra bits, so give it a try.

In TI Basic, we were taught that our television screen has 32 columns and 24 rows. This makes a total of 768 squares, in all. One command that you can use is CALL HCHAR(1,1,32,768). You are telling your computer to place 768 blank spaces, ASCII Code(32), starting at column 1, row 1. This will sweep the top row off first and then sweep row #2 and on and on until all 768 spaces are blank. I prefer to wipe my screen from left to right and so I use the command, CALL VCHAR(1,1,32,768). This wipes off the first column and then the second until all 30 columns are blank.

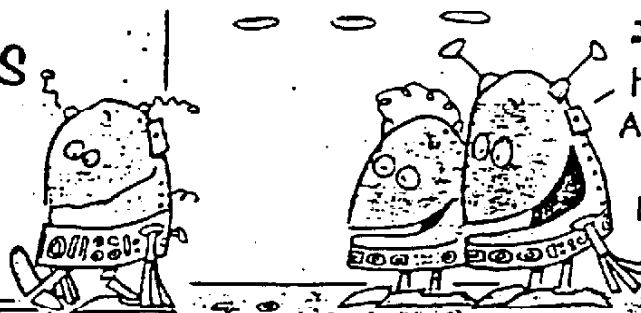
As most of the programs that I create deal with figures, (math and not human), I like to dump these pages to my printer by placing a flashing "PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE", on the 24th row of the screen page. This I do in the following manner. I Gosub to a line number and this line reads:

```
500 FOR X=1 TO 2::DISPLAY AT(24,2)::"PRESS ANY KEY TO
CONTINUE"::GOSUB 1000:: CALL HCHAR(24,1,32,30)::NEXT X
510 CALL KEY(O,KY,S)::IF S=0 THEN 510::IF K=80 OR KY 112
THEN CALL LINK("PRINT","PID.CR")::RETURN ELSE RETURN
1000 FOR DELAY=1 TO 200:: NEXT DELAY::RETURN
```

First I tell the computer to print "Press any key to continue, on the screen at the second space on line 24. Then I send it via my Gosub to the delay that will hold it on the screen for a count of 200. I then tell the computer to place 30 blank spaces over the writing so that it will not be seen until the NEXT X brings it back into view. PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE will flash on the screen, twice, and then leave that part of the screen blank. This way, when I dump the page to my printer, that command will not be part of the screen.

You will notice that the computer is asked to accept either a large P or a small p. I used this letter because, of course it stands for "print", but also it is easier for me to remember.

ROBOTICS
DEPT.



I'M NOT SAYING
HE'S STUPID, BUT
ALL HIS SOFTWARE
IS IN THE
PUBLIC DOMAIN.

THAMES
0-0-0-0-0