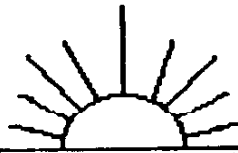# Vol.9 No.03 March 1991

NEW HORIZONS

NEWS LETTER

NORTHWEST OHIO COMPUTER CLUB FOR THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS 99/4A

AND THE MYARC GENEVE 9640 PERSONAL AND HOME COMPUTER

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THIS MONTHS MEETING MAR.09,1991 SATURDAY AT UNITY CHURCH 12:30 PM. Sharp!
Behind Wendy's off Secor Road on Executive Dr.

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TI-COM BBS....................1-419-385-7484

PRESIDENT...Earl Huffsis      1-419-475-8461
            ADDRESS : SEE BELOW

VICE-PRES...Bud Hills         1-419-385-5946

SECRETARY..Marilyn Schafstall 1-419-882-6870

TREASURER..Richard Taylor     1-419-472-7298

SOFTWARE LIB.John&Chris Dewey 1-419-475-3871

NEWSLETTER LIB. Burr Hallory  1-419-882-6769

EDITOR....Marilyn Schafstall  1-517-263-6144

TEK SUPPORT.Don Turner        1-419-474-6135
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GO TI

SADDAM

Hello all the
member's of
New Horizons

LET'S NOT FORGET
THE STORM.

N.W. OHIO 99'ERS USER GROUP
C/FIRST CHURCH UNITY
3535 EXECUTIVE PARKWAY
TOLEDO OHIO 43606
ATT EARL B. HUFFSIS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Earl Hoffsis

We had an improved turnout at our last meeting. All added their input on best ways of advertising our club. Several ways were mentioned including placement of an ad in the West Toledo Herald's four area newspapers. Roger Feinauer is finalizing a flyer for placement in shops and computer sales offices.

The placement of an ad in the West Toledo Herald newspapers has been arranged for the issue of March 6, and also an item was inserted in the Clubs, Events column.

In the everchanging times of the TI we are looking for ideas to rejuvenate our goals and aims. An article from the M.U.N.C.H. group of Worcester, MA. newsletter gives thoughts of others in how to they are working to improve their clubs.

Several more of our past members are renewing and several new members are coming to the fore. With everyone's help we will continue for some time to come into the future.

Some NOTES from the article mentioned above, by Jack Sughrue:

A regular monthly meeting YEAR ROUND is essential. Without a place to gather there can be no club. A club implies a community, a spirit of friendship and commonality, a gathering. Business and pleasure must be mingled here and can only be done by meeting. Many members who are not officers are very helpful in some way in the work of the group by bringing in friends, demonstrating at workshops, writing programs (like Roger), cataloguing libraries (like Deweys and Burr Mallory), repairing equipment (like Bud Mills), lugging around equipment and materials, (like Earl) helping with sales and fund raising. All help by paying dues, coming to meetings, taking part in raffles (50/50s?). All enjoy the company of fellow TIers.

Be sure to let your officers know what kind of group you want, and what subjects you are interested in, because that is the most we can offer you - answers to your questions, or demonstrations of programs you're interested in.

One idea is for each of us to dig through old disks and find at least THREE programs we liked during the "old" days to share with others - perhaps put on a club disk.

He concludes "There are more of us amateurs out there (probably 1000 to 1) than wizards. In order to get reformed we need to remember the three R's: Review, Rethink, Rekindle!"

(Your secretary has mis-
placed her notes on the
February meeting; therefore,
please come with additions
prepared to complete these
minutes. Thanks to all.)

The meeting of the New
Horizon Computer Club was
called to order at 12:35 p.
m. on January 12, 1991, by
our President, Earl Hoffsis.
There were 15 members pres-
ent.

The minutes of the Janu-
ary meeting were approved as
they appeared in the news-
letter.

Richard Taylor gave the
Treasurer's report. Our cur-
rent balance is $477.23.
  473.10

We had a new member in at-
tendance: Don Liebherr, Sr.
Don has a TI/994A computer
set-up, but still needs a
printer. He is interested
in the different programs a-
vailable.
  Feb 28 500.02

Roger Feinauer brought in
an ad which he had prepared
as a rough draft in our cur-
rent effort to attract new
members. On it he shows
samples of many things that
are possible with a TI. He
will fine-tune it and bring
back many copies next month,
so that we can pass them
out, to be used for display
in appropriate places.

Earl talked about placing
ads in various newspapers,
being aware that some ads
cost about $40. There was
discussion about Want Ads
and other other papers; and
the group authorized Earl to
spend up to $40 on ads this
month.

We had a question on how
to save or transfer cassette
tape programs to systems
that have been upgraded to

I BELIEVE IN AMERICA

By William Arthur Ward

I believe in America.

I believe it became great
because of its faith in God,
its hope for independence,
and its love of freedom.

I am grateful for Ameri-
ca's glorious past; I am
awed by its unbelievable
present; I am confident of
its limitless future.

I am not ashamed to take
my hat off and to stand at
attention when Old Glory
passes by. I do not apolo-
gize for the lump in my
throat when I repeat the
Pledge of Allegiance to our
Flag. I am not embarrassed
by the tears in my eyes when
I hear "The Star Spangled
Banner."

Like millions of Ameri-
cans, I want a free choice,
not a free handout, I prefer
an opportunity to prove my
abilities on the job rather
than a license to demon-
strate my frustrations in
the street.

I am an old-fashioned
American with a new found
determination to do my part
to make democracy work.

----*---*---*---*---*---*---

disk. Roger will write an
article on giving the com-
puter a Call Command, which
is one way to save these
programs on disk.

The 50/50 drawing was won
by "Lucky Dan" Block, again.

The meeting was adjourned
to the demonstration of a
TALK, or Speech program us-
ing the synthesizer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Schafstall,
Secretary

MORE POWER WITH XB USING CALL LOADS
by Roger Feinauer

From the May 1990
Hampton Roads Ti.
Users Group News
Letter for TI99/4A

Last month in the February meeting it was asked if it was possible to remove the protect from an Extended Basic program. This I thought of for a while; not so much because it's so hard to do, but, is it proper to write an article letting everyone know how to do this. So with a lot of thought, I reasoned that some of the old cassette software was protected with this option when it was saved "CS1", PROTECTED and for this reason I will explain how to remove the protect so the programs can be either saved to another cassette tape or to disk.

Remember, this is ONLY to be used to back up software for your own use.

First do three things:

1> MAKE SURE YOU HAVE 32K. MEMORY OR YOU MIGHT AS WELL STOP RIGHT HERE.

2> HAVE A SPARE CASSETTE TAPE OR DISKETTE.

3> IF YOU USE A DISKETTE MAKE SURE IT HAS BEEN INITIALIZED.

Ok, let's begin by loading the software: OLD"CS1".

When the program is loaded you will be able to tell because the curser will reappear.

NOW DO THE FOLLOWING:
1> CALL INIT <ENTER>
2> CALL LOAD(-31931,0) <ENTER>

YOU SHOULD NOW BE ABLE TO LIST THE PROGRAM. IF YOU CAN LIST THE PROGRAM YOU CAN SAVE THE PROGRAM AND THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.

The following program will allow you to have a pass word subroutine in your own program.

```
10 CALL KEY(0,K,S)
20 IF S=0 THEN 10
30 CT=CT+1
40 FOR X=1 TO 50
50 NEXT X
60 SUM=K+ SUM
70 IF CT<>3 THEN 10
80 IF SUM=XXX THEN 110
90 CT=0 :: SUM=0 :: GOTO 10
100 CALL CLEAR
110 ! YOUR PROGRAM
```

```
*********************************
******** PASS WORD *********
******** PROGRAM *********
*********************************
```

10-20 Loop for key press
30 Sets up counter for use in line 70
40-50 Delay for for processing.
60 Finds sum of keys returns to be checked in line 80
70 loops back to call key until 3 key press' are done. You may change this the length of your pass word.
80 Exits loop if sum is equal to the total pass word ascii values, the "XXX" in this case.
90 Sets all variables back to zero in loop then beginning a new if wrong pass word.
100 Clears screen then begins main program.

A FEW TIPS ON TIPS

By Ed Machonis

The Central Westchester 99ers Club
P.O. Box 812
Shrub Oak, NY 10588

If you have never heard of TIPS, or heard very little, pull up a chair. TIPS stands for TI Print Shop. It is a program written by a gentleman named Ron Wolcott that will print Banners, Signs, Greeting Cards and Address Labels. This in itself is quite a feat, but there is more. It enables the easy incorporation of graphics into each of the above. But there is still more! Accompanying the program are a series of files chock full of pictures you can use in your Banners, Signs, etc.

Now hold on to your seat. The set I obtained contained 3,223 pictures or graphics. One thing you soon learn with TIPS and that is everything is done on a grand scale. The pictures have been converted from public domain graphics available for IBM computers. The amount of work representing this assembly and conversion staggers the imagination. Still holding on to that seat? Ron has placed his program and all his files in the public domain. Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus and for us TIers his name is Ron Wolcott.

The set has been placed on all the National networks such as Compuserve, Delphi and Genie and many local BBS's. This is evidently the method of distribution, I don't even have Ron's address to say THANKS!

While at TICOFF I was pleased to find that the Central Westchester TI User Group was making TIPS available for just about the cost of the disks and packaging. The files were Archived onto 7 Double Sided Disks (Cost $7) or 8 Flippys ($8). Since Art Byers, the president of the group, is Sysop of the TI section on Delphi, the programs were, so to speak, straight from the horses mouth. I lost no time in plunking down your group's money for a Double Sided set. (A noted TI personality at TICOFF told me it cost them $89 in network charges to download a set of files.)

In response to my query, Art told me that the CW Group will make the Double Sided set available to anyone writing in for the Show price ($7.00) plus $2.00 shipping. The address is:

While you're at it, do yourself a favor. Order a catalog of the images in the TIPS library so that you will know what picture is on what file. The 110 page catalog, punched for a 3 hole binder, is available for $9.00 plus $2.00 shipping.

Why spend 11 bucks when Ron has included a program that will print out the catalog for you? According to the literature I picked up at TICOFF it will take you 25 hours of printing time. Add to that the cost of the paper and a new ribbon, as well as the wear and tear on your printer and disk drive, and you have found yourself another bargain!

I believe the 25 hour figure is based on an older version of TIPS. The Docs for Vers. 1.3 and 1.4 state that an assembly language file named TIPSOBJ2 has been added to speed up the printing of graphics. My own measurements indicate the the catalog can now be printed in about 11 hours, about 50% of which is Disk Drive operation and the rest printer. Whether 25 hours or 11 hours, the time can be better spent using and enjoying the program rather than baby-sitting a printer. (You must enter a new file name every 25 minutes or so.) The QB99ers have purchased a catalog which the members may borrow for copying at their own expense. If you can't have it copied for less than 10 cents a page, send your order to Central Westchester.

If you do decide to print your own catalog, here's another tip, offset your paper to the left by about 3 or 4 characters to leave a wider left margin for 3 hole punching. If you don't care to devote either the time or money for an image catalog, or just can't wait, I have written a TINY GRAM (what else?) that will print out the descriptive names of all images in less than half an hour. While TIPS will do the same job, it prints the names in a single column, using two pages for a single graphic file. The TINY GRAM will print the names in 5 columns and uses only half a page for a file of names. You will find the listing at the end of this article. A copy of the program will be placed on the TIPS program disk in our library.

TIPS ON TIPS.....................Page 2

As noted above, the files on the set of seven DSSD disks are archived. (Really, 6 DSSD disks and 1 SSSD.) They de-archive to 17 double sided disks or 33 single sided disks. (I told you everything about this program is on a grand scale!) The CW group has thoughtfully provided a copy of Archiver Ver. 3.03 on one of the disks to help you extract the files. No Docs, but the program is completely menu driven and you don't need any Docs. This program is Fairware and if you find it useful send Barry Boone some bucks. (If the files were not archived, the CW group would have to charge $17 for the DSSD set plus $4.50 shipping. A SSSD set would run $33 plus $8.50 shipping. Disks are $1 apiece and shipping charges are 50 cents for the first disk and 25 cents for each additional disk.)

The 39 Archived files unpack to 98 files of some 10,615 sectors! (Like I said, a GRAND scale.) There are only 12,206 sectors available on the 17 DSSD disks. Clearly, some thought must be given to allocating these files to their respective disks. I searched the Docs for any hint to no avail. After some false starts, I came up with an arrangement which makes it easy to locate the individual files and uses a minimum number of disks. (I was able to put all the files on 16 DSSD disks but some of the files were not in a logical order.)

A brief description of the files will help you understand the file allocation. The main body of the files consist of graphic images in Internal Fixed format. There are generally 126 images in a file and its name ends with the letters TXT. It is 348 sectors long. The names of the images are contained in a separate file whose name ends with XXX and it is 9 sectors in length. The two files take up 357 sectors and just fit on a single sided disk. Two such collections will fit on a DSSD disk.

The main body of files begin with the letters GR, followed by two letters

indicating the alphabetical range of the initial letters of the image names and ending either with TXT or XXX. File GRABTXT will contain images whose initial letters begin with either A or B. The names of the images in this file are contained in file GRABXXX. Since there is no GRAA file, all images whose names begin with A will be in the GRAB file. The image named BIRD could be either in GRAB or GRBC. COOKIE MONSTER might be in GRBC, GRCC or GRCD. Since all names are in alphabetical order, it would probably be in one of the later files and actually is found in GRCD along with COOKIE MONSTER1, COOKIE MONSTER2 and COOKIES.

The TIPS program searches for filenames beginning with the letters GR in the drive you designate where images can be found. The range for these files runs from GRAB to GRWZ. Since, except for GRWZ, each file fills a SSSD, there is no room for adding additional images. The files I received included GAAZ (Animals A to Z); GMAZ and GWAZ (Men and Women A to Z, respectively. No mixing of the sexes here!); GPAZ (People, male and female by activity); GTAZ (Transportation); and PGAZ, the Peanuts Gang from A to Z. These files vary in length depending on the number of images included, and as with the GR files, the filenames end with either the TXT or XXX suffix.

Also included were files H1AZ and H2AZ, containing Holiday images, mostly Christmas. The package also contained files C1AZ thru C6AZ which were Collections of Frames, Signs, Faces and Symbols. All of these files contained 100 images and were 276 sectors (TXT suffix) and 8 sectors (XXX suffix) in length.

Three files with Fonts, FN11, FN22 and FN33 are included bearing the usual TXT or XXX suffix. These fonts are apparently only used for Banners. The TIPS program also uses four other resident font styles for Signs and Cards. These other font files must be on the same disk as the TIPS program.

The four resident fonts do not have any lower case letters and only a limited number of special characters.

When you place a disk in the drive designated for images, TIPS will give you the range of image names for each GR file on that disk. If TIPS does not find a GR prefix filename, you will be given the chance to enter a two letter filename prefix. Inputting the two letter prefix will generate a range of image names in that file. The program will (L)ist out to your printer the image names in any file upon request.

A nice user friendly feature of TIPS is that all features are selected by just entering the initial letter of the function. The letter can be entered in either upper or lower case.

Before you can extract the Archived files you must format your disks. Archiver does not format disks and this is the only improvement I could think of for this fine program. While you are formatting the disks, name them in accordance with the disk catalogs shown at the end of this article. You will need either 17 or 33 disks depending whether your drive is single or double sided. You can De-Archive using just one drive and swapping disks as prompted, but it is a lot easier with two drives.. If you have SSSD drives, you might give some thought to placing the files on 17 flippies. The saving in disk storage space is not to be sneezed at.

Keep track of the name for each disk as you will place the files on their respective disks in accordance with the catalogs appended to this article.

File names of most of the Arced files are descriptive of their contents. See the Catalog of Archived Tips Disks at the end of this article. Note that Disk TIPS/ARC01 contains files TIPDOC/1+4, TIPS/1+4 and TIPS/UTILS.

The first file to De-Archive is TIPS/UTILS. Cataloging this ARC file would produce the following listing:

ArcFile: TIPS/UTILS

CTIPSVUA	33	Program	8192	P
CTIPSVUB	21	Program	5054	P
CTIPSVUDOC	7	Dis/Var	80	
CTIPS_IA	33	Program	8192	P
CTIPS_IB	31	Program	7590	P
CTIPS_IDOC	13	Dis/Var	80	
GDAZTXT	4	Int/Fix	53	
GDAZXXX	2	Int/Fix	16	
LOADX	30	Program	7284	
TIPSSHOWX	7	Program	1478	
TIPSX	85	Int/Var	254	

Total Files: 11   Total Size: 266

All files should be copied onto the disk named TIPS-PROGM except CTIPSVUDOC and CTIPS_IDOC. In response to the query "Extract all files?" answer N and accept all files except the above two. The program LOADX is a special loader written by Irwin Hott and loads the files TIPSX (the main program) or TIPSSHOWX (prints the image catalog). When you are through, change the file name LOADX on your TIPS-PROGM disk to just LOAD for auto-load from extended basic. Do not remove the suffix X from the other two files.

The next file to unpack is TIPS/1+4 Cataloging it produces this listing:

ArcFile: TIPS/1+4

TIPS	84	Int/Var	254
TIPS2RD	3	Program	371
TIPSDV80	3	Dis/Var	80
TIPSFONT0	2	Int/Var	80
TIPSFONT1	8	Int/Var	80
TIPSFONT2	8	Int/Var	80
TIPSFONT3	8	Int/Var	80
TIPSFONT4	8	Int/Var	80
TIPSOBJ	21	Dis/Fix	80
TIPSOBJ2	27	Dis/Fix	80
TIPSSHOW	7	Program	1465
TIPSTAB1	7	Int/Fix	129
TIPSTAB2	3	Int/Fix	129

Total Files: 13   Total Size: 189

TIPS ON TIPS......................Page 4

If you are using DS disks, copy all of these files onto your TIPS-PROGM disk in the interests of keeping all files together. However, with SS disks, there won't be enough room for TIPS or TIPSSHOW which duplicate TIPSX and TIPSSHOWX. Again respond No to "Extract all files?" and then accept all but TIPS and TIPSSHOW. You are now through with the TIPS-PROGM disk.

Next extract all files from ARC file TIPDOC1+4 onto your TIPS-DOCS disk. Go back to ARC file TIPS/UTILS and extract the two DOC files onto your TIPS-DOCS disk. You now are through with TIPS-DOCS which is really a SSSD disk.

Except for Archiver and its LOADer, extract the remaining files on disk TIPS/ARC01 onto their respective disks per the appended catalogs. All the FN files will fit on one DS disk but each will require a separate SS disk.

The rest is a piece of cake. When you are all done, print out disk labels using the latest version of CATALABEL (which prints the disk name in Expanded Compressed Bold type). It's the fastest way to label a large quantity of disks.

The Docs for the program are laconic at best. The best way to learn is to keep trying every function and see what happens. All you're going to ruin is paper. One more Tip - When the program ask you to name a drive for the image disk, be sure to have a disk in that drive before naming it. The program immediately looks for a disk in that drive and crashes if it does not find one. One of my first tasks will be to install an error trap at this point although Ron does warn that the program is full with little room for changes.

The Label function can only use resident font No. 1 and this is what you'll get no matter what you ask for. I am amazed at the range of sizes each graphic can be printed out. About 3/4" high on labels, 3" high on Cards and about 6" high on Signs and Banners. When converted to TI Artist instances, size 1ART will fill about 25% of the screen and 2ART will fill about 75% of the screen, leaving little room for adding anything else.

CTIPS_1A and CTIPS_1B are assembly program files written in c99 by Terrence Murphy for faster conversion of the graphics to TI Artist format. They are faster but need to be loaded with either E/A module or Funnelweb. I was unsuccessful with either BOOT or other EA5 loaders. Terrence has also provided files in c99 for viewing the graphic files. Thank you Mr. Murphy, wherever you are.

If all this hasn't sold you on tips, I am appending some of my work produced in trying out the program. These are my first efforts using the program. Just wait till I really learn how to use it. A personalized corny birthday card to an old acquaintance produced an immediate telephone call informing me that "I usually don't care much for birthday cards but you can bet this is one I am going to keep!"

The listing for TINY TIPPER (Pay no attention to that waitress!) follows:

```
1 ! ************************
   *    TINY TIPPER      *
   *   By Ed Machonis    *
   * QB99ers, Bayside, NY *
   ************************

2 ! Prints names of all
    graphics in a TIPS file.
    File must be in Drive #1

3 DIM A$(150):: OPEN #1:"PIO
" :: FN$="GRAB"

4 DISPLAY AT(10,1)ERASE ALL:
"INPUT 4 LETTER TIPS FILENAM
E":::FN$ :: ACCEPT AT(12,1)S
IZE(-4)VALIDATE(UALPHA)BEEP:
FN$ :: E$=CHR$(27)

5 OPEN #2:"DSK1."&FN$&"XXX",
INPUT ,INTERNAL,FIXED 16

6 PRINT #1:E$&"E";E$&"G";CHR
$(14);TAB(24);FN$;E$&"F";E$&
"H";CHR$(20):: PRINT #1

7 I=I+1 :: INPUT #2:A$(I)::
IF EOF(2)=0 THEN 7

8 L=INT(I/5+.8):: FOR J=1 TO
 L :: FOR C=0 TO 4 :: PRINT
#1:TAB(2+C*16);A$(J+L*C):::
NEXT C :: NEXT J :: I=0 :: P
RINT #1 :: PRINT #1

9 CLOSE #2 :: GOTO 4
```