Vol.10 No. 2 February 1992

NH 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 FEB. 8,1992 SATURDAY AT UNITY CHURCH 12:30 PM. Sharp!
Behind Wendy's off Secor Road on Executive Dr.

TI-LOG BBS.....		1-419-385-7484
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VICE-PRES...Earl Hoffsis		1-419-475-0461
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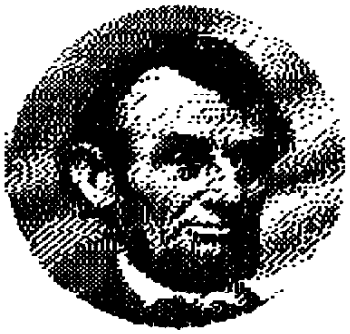
NEW PAGE 2 HORIZONS

PRESIDENTS PAGE



February 1992

Last month we had a very long business meeting, longer than I would have liked, but with more experience, I hope to do better.

Last month there seemed to be a misunderstanding of what I meant when I said I was look- ing for someone to take over the disk sales. When I got home I looked over my article and it clearly only mentions the club disk sales and not the club disk library. We are, in my opinion, losing a lot of potential money by not having someone taking care of this.

Last month was a very inter- esting meeting because of the Demos. The fist was the Use of the Asgard Mouse with TI_ ARTISt and the last was Sound F/X by Barry Boone.

First the Asgard Mouse: This is a PC Mouse with an adapter that fits on the serial port of the RS232 card in the P- Box. Along with this is the software to let the system know it's attached to the system. The person who designed this is Michael Maksimik; he also wrote the support software. I would like to thank Earl Hoffsis for bringing in his mouse for the demo, and Bud Mills for Demoing the mouse and TI_ARTIST.

Second demo was of SOUND F/X by Barry Boone. This is the first and only software, so far, that will allow the 99/4A or Geneve to play true digital sound without any other hard- ware. The software has a loader and a utility to convert sound files. IBM, Macintosh, and Amiga can be downloaded and converted in the software.

On the 99/4A with 32k, you can play 15 second files. If you have an 80 column card you could gain between 96k and 160k for even larger files. A supercart will add 8k and a Super Space II will add 32k to be used with Sound F/X. Also Bud Mills told me that they are working on a version for Rambo.

On the 9640 Geneve with 512k ram you can load a 400k Sound F/X file. If you have a Memex card with 2 meg. of memory you can load a 1700k sound file - that's a 1.7 meg. file. The other day I was on the 9640 NEWS BBS phone number 901-368- 0112 which supports 300/ 1200/ 2400 baud, 8N1, a file called BOND.FX. This file was large, 1668 sectors long, which is about a 416k sound data file. I wouldn't have even tried to down load it if I didn't have a 720k 3.5" drive at #4 drive. The point is this, people, some of these new files are going to mean you will have to up-date your disk storage for some of these new software packages. I've even seen some Gif files as large as 540 sectors. Well, back to the Sound F/X. I would like to thank Bud Mills for demoing SOUND F/X.

In closing, some of the items I would like to see are an MDOS version of Sound F/X that would allow the clipping or editing of two or more sound files to make up new files that could be used in pro- grams. How about a link utility for Advance Basic so that Advance Basic programmers could use digital files in their own programs. How about in the MDOS version of Sound F/X a way to input data through the serial port to make up your own sound files.

END OF LINE, ROGER.

NEW HORIZON MINUTES
January 11, 1992

The meeting of the New Horizon Computer club was called to order at 12:55 p.m. on January 23, 1992, by our new President, Roger Feinauer.

Earl Hoffsis moved that we approve the minutes of the December meeting as they appeared in the newsletter. Margaret Dixon seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Our treasurer, Richard Taylor called his Financial report to the president. Following a balance of $174.52, receipts of $60 in dues, minus expenses of $20 for the newsletter and $15 rent, left us with a balance on January 1, 1992, of $173.96. There was no accounting the 50/50 money that was collected last month. Bud Mills moved we not accept the treasurer's report until it was completed. Motion approved.

Bud Mills announced that the BBS was up and running. There was some discussion about upgrading the BBS.

A 99000 accelerator has been brought out at $250, in addition to a compiler for the 99000, and a new Macro Assembler for the c99 language. A new 720K is now available for the TI/994A.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Bud Mills; Bud gave half of his share back to the club, keeping $3.25, and leaving $9.75 for the club. The Disk of the Month, Funnelweb 4.4, was won by Margaret Dixon; and a box of blank disks was won by Roger Feinauer.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00p.m. Bud Mills demonstrated the Mouse on TI-Artist.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Schafstall, Secretary

TI-WRITER TRICKS - Part 1
Ozark 99er News

retyped for NEW HORIZONS
by Judy Feinauer

Some of you may use TI-Writer enough to be extremely proficient at it, while others may know just enough to get by. By necessity, I've had to be counted among the former. With my trusty Gemini 10X, I've written dozens of papers as well as a Master's Thesis with TI-Writer Along the way, I've picked up a few nifty tricks that make TI-Writer perform like the software written for Big Blue. I thought that I might share a few of these tricks with you. All of you will know some of what follows, some of you may even know everything, and still others may prefer to do things differently. But some of these tips may benefit enough readers to make this article worthwhile. Many of the hints which follow will work only with Gemini or compatible printers, so be forwarned.

IN THE BEGINNING

When writing a paper, I never worry about formatting commands-at first. I set the tabs at 2 and 38, so that all text can be viewed within the monitor screen. I then proceed to type to my heart's content, knowing that the formatting commands will be added later. When text is typed this way, you will run out of memory in about 630 lines or so. Don't type that much. Stop around 400 lines, save it, and start a new file. This is convenient for two reasons. First, it takes forever to save and load a 600 line file (about 30 seconds per 100 lines). While it really doesn't matter (technically) if a file is broken up, this may present comprehension difficulities when you are composing the text.

QDE FUNCTION KEY USAGE BY TYPE OF FUNCTION
(VERSION 2.1)

* LINE FUNCTIONS * F2 - Paragraph PACK (stops at next line with space in column 1) F3 - DELETE current line F3 - UNDELETE LINE (see note re use of delete buffer) F5 - DUPLICATE current line F7 - SPLIT line at cursor position F7 - JOIN next line to current line F8 - INSERT BLANK line before current line F8 - SWAP current and next line

* CURSOR POSITIONING * I - TAB to next tab stop (also tab key) F4 - PAGE screen UP (also Pg Up key) B - Move cursor to BEGINNING of LINE F6 - PAGE screen DOWN (also Pg Dn key) E - Move cursor to END of LINE F6 - ROLL screen UP, retaining M - MARK current location cursor position on screen J - JUMP to location marked with M F4 - ROLL screen DOWN, retaining O - HOME cursor to SCREEN upper left cursor position on screen V - Move cursor to LEFT MARGIN Q - Move to START of text BUFFER Z - Move to END of text BUFFER

* FILE FUNCTIONS * G - GET file (prompts for filename) N - NAME OUTPUT file (prompts for filename) S - SAVE file, using filename from command line or N W - WIPE text BUFFER and clear filename (prompts yes or no) F - TOGGLE between edit WORKSPACES 1 and 2

* STRING FUNCTIONS * F9 - FIND string (prompts for search string) F9 - FIND NEXT string (uses previously entered search string) F10- REPLACE string (prompts for search and replacement strings) F10- REPLACE NEXT string (uses previously entered strings)

* CAPTURE BUFFER FUNCTIONS * A - APPEND marked lines to end of capture buffer D - DELETE marked lines to capture buffer (rewrites buffer) R - REWRITE capture buffer with marked lines (does not delete) T - TRANSFER capture buffer to text buffer at current line X - SET MARK for capture buffer functions (X marks the spot!)

* FORMAT FUNCTIONS * L - SET LEFT MARGIN at cursor position Y - RESET LEFT MARGIN to position 1 F1 - DELETE CHARACTER under the cursor (also Del key) F2 - Start INSERT MODE (ended by any function key) (also Ins key) F1 - OOPS! Recovers line altered by in-line editing H - BACKSPACE (deletes character under cursor) K - CLEAR from cursor TO END of line

* SYSTEM CONTROL * F5 - Execute MDOS CLI call (see notes re caution) 9 - TOGGLE TAB mode between c99 (every 4 columns) and assembler (columns 8,13,26,32,80) tab stops O - CHANGE screen COLOR (4 sets) U - Enter CONTROL CHARACTER (the next character is biased by -64) Esc - If followed by second Esc, terminates editing and prompts for file saves (uses filenames from command line or N). If file errors occur, returns to QDE. If no files are saved, optionally returns to QDE.

GRAMULATOR.

by CaDD Electronics

CaDD Electronics

52 Audobon Road Haverhill, MA. 01830
(617) 372-0336

Introducing the GRAMULATOR. A gram simulating device every TI owner should have.

The following is a list of the GRAMULATOR's features:

The GRAMULATOR simulates 64K of GRAM and 16K of RAM (in two 8K banks at >6000->7fff) and as an option 32K of RAM (in four 8K banks at >6000->7fff) for the Milton Bradley Expansion (MBX) cartidges.

1. You can customize the built-in TI operating system in GROM 0 and TI BASIC in GROMS 1 and 2.

2. You can backup your GROM and ROM cartridges to disk to protect your investment and reduce wear on the cartridge port. All TI, Atarisoft and Parker Brothers cartridges work fine. MBX cartridges work with option installed.

3. Acts as a "Super Space" cartridge allowing you to run programs requiring RAM at >6000->7fff (including Myarc's XBII)

4. Allows you to use a customized GROM 0, 1 or 2, while a cartridge is in the slot. One application is that you can use your own charachter set with a cartridge like TI-Writer.

5. Capable of loading user written GPL code.

6. A total 96K (80K available for use without /mbx option) of memory with lithium battery backup.

7. Battery located outside case for easy replacement.

8. All loading and saving of cartridges is software controlled for ease of use by the novice.

9. All cartidges files saved and loaded by the GRAMULATOR are compatible with GENEVE 9640 and the Gram Kracker by MG (except MBX files).

The software needed to load and save GRAM and GROM will be built in for instant access. A memory editor, which will be supplied on disk, will allow you to alter and save any program loaded into the built-in GROM or RAM. User documentation and technical information will also be included.

Memory Expansion and a disk drive are REQUIRED to take advantage of the GRAMULATOR.

At a cost of $180.00 the GRAMULATOR, with all the features listed above, would be a worthwhile investment for any TI 99/4A owner. Information on the MBX option will be available for user installation or can be ordered at the time of purchase for an additional $50.00 (Mass. Residents add $9.00 sales tax to the GRAMULATOR's cost and #2.50 to the MBX option price.)

If you have any technical questions please feel free to call us at (617) 372-0336 after 6:30 PM EST. THis letter is meant to answer any questions you may have. If it does not then please call or write for further information.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**********************************
* KEYBOARD/JOYSTICKS TEST V1.1
**********************************
E.P      REBEL      28-06-1986
**********************************
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PROGRAM PURPOSE:
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With KJTEST V1.1 you are able to test the keyboard and joysticks functions easily. Every key and joystick position is displayed on the screen and all function can be cherked simultaniously. Besides will KJTEST V1.1 show you every ascii value of key combinations you wish to know.

USING THE PROGRAM:
==========

KJTEST V1.1 can be run by using option 5 of the E/A module. When loaded the display shows the keyboard layout and the joystick positions. Everytime you press one or more keys or move the joysticks the result will be displayed on the screen. At the top of the screen you can inspect the ascii values for SCAN modes 1-5 and the joystick X and Y values generated. KJTEST V1.1 scans the TMS 9901 processor directly so pressing more keys together can be recognised. However certain combinations will have sides effects due to the hardware. To stop the program you have to press <FCTN>, <CTRL> and <=> simultaniously.

ABOUT THE SOURCE:
==========

You can examine the source to see how the TMS 9901 can be scanned directly without using the (K)SCAN routine. Feel free to change the source and make the program better.

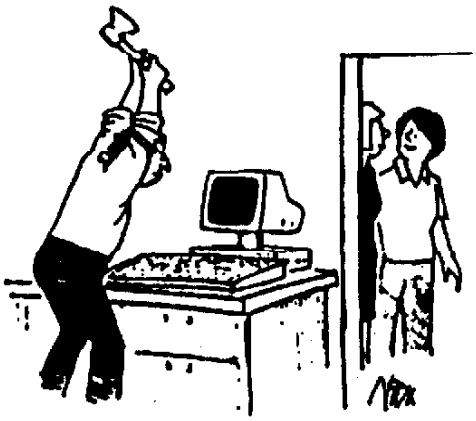
PUBLIC DOMAIN, FREEWARE OR WHAT-SOEVER.
==========

This program may be duplicated in any form without notice of the author. You may distribute it via your users group or give it away to your friends. But please pass along the source and this documentation too. If you like the program do not send me $10.00 (although I wouldn't mind) but send me a program of your own that I can distribute via the Dutch users group. Thank you.

THE AUTHORS NAME AND ADDRESS:
==========

KJTEST V1.1 and this documentation were written by:
Eric-Paul Rebel
Merelstraat 27
1223 NR HILVERSUM
The Netherlands
Phone: 31-35932929

Don't ring me up when you don't speak Dutch and live in another continent because the time in Hilversum is different and my English, Spanish and Japanese are BAD!
My apologies for the bad English but I suppose you prefer it over the Dutch version.



"Mr. Andrews is a computer hacker."