NEWJUG 99ER'S NEWS

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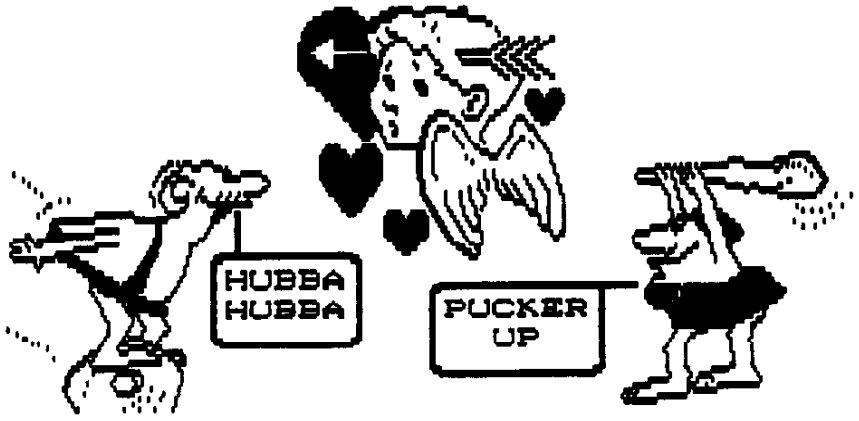
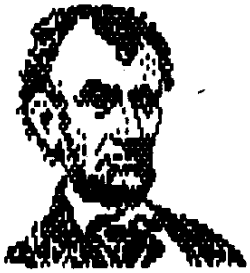
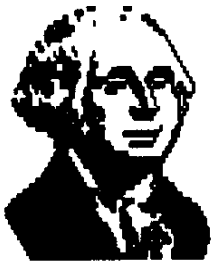
FEBRUARY 1991



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOYS!

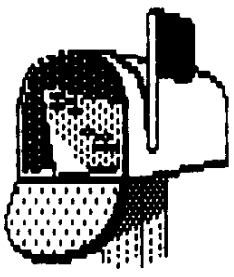
BE
MY
VALENTINE



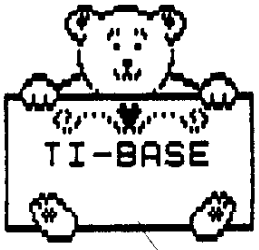


Highlights!

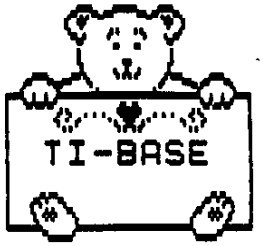
Boot Tracking with c99, Club News, Joke of the Month, Exercising with XHI, Taking Command with TI-BASE, 99/4A and 9640 Vendors, Exchange Newsletters, Editors Forum, BBS Scene, Coming Events, Hacking in c99 with Joe Ross



NEWJUG 99ER'S UG
P.O. BOX 1463
SAYREVILLE, N.J.
08871-1463



TAKING COMMAND WITH TI-BASE



BY DAN GAZSY

Last month I provided you with a simple command file to generate mailing labels. OKay, great! we created labels from a database, but I still have to update the records to indicate any mailing took place.

What follows is a command file to update the SEND field of the database. Like the prior article on TI Base, we will Key off the field MEDIA = "Print" for record selection. If the record is selected, the month will be flagged in the SEND field with an X. To use this command file, you'll need version 3.0+ of TI Base because it makes use of the SUBSTR command which wasn't available in prior versions. The SEND and RECEIVE fields contain 12 bytes and were designed to indicate the months of the year. When the command file runs, you're prompted for the month of the year. The command module will use the month and set the corresponding byte (in SEND field) in the selected records.

As before, I'll provide the file structure along with the command file. Please Keep in mind that these command files are intended as demos of practical applications of TI Base.

File Structure:

Field	Description	Type	Width	Dec
1	NAME	C	028	
2	ADDRESS1	C	028	
3	ADDRESS2	C	028	
4	CITY	C	016	
5	STATE	C	006	
6	ZIPCODE	C	009	
7	MEDIA	C	005	
8	FREQUENCY	C	001	
9	SEND	C	012	
10	RECEIVE	C	012	
11	COMMENTS	C	100	

```
* COMMAND FILE TO UPDATE NEWSLETR
* DATABASE SEND FIELD FOR MONTH
* SPECIFIED BY INPUT
SET TALK OFF
LOCAL MM C 1
USE NEWSLETR
WHILE (MM <> "M")
  CLEAR
  TOP
  WRITE 1,7 "    SPECIFY MAILING MONTH"
  WRITE 3,7 "A - JANUARY     G - JULY"
  WRITE 4,7 "B - FEBRUARY    H - AUGUST"
  WRITE 5,7 "C - MARCH       I - SEPTEMBER"
  WRITE 6,7 "D - APRIL       J - OCTOBER"
  WRITE 7,7 "E - MAY         K - NOVEMBER"
  WRITE 8,7 "F - JUNE        L - DECEMBER"
  WRITE 9,7 "                M - QUIT"
```

```
WRITE 11,10 "MONTH:"
READSTRING 11,17 MM
IF MM = "M"
   SET HEADING ON
   SET RECNUM ON
   CLOSE ALL
   SET TALK ON
   RETURN
ELSE
   WHILE .NOT. (EOF)
     IF MEDIA = "PRINT"
        DOCASE
          CASE MM="A"
            REPLACE SEND WITH "X"!SUBSTR(SEND,2,11)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="B"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,1)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,3,10)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="C"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,2)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,4,9)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="D"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,3)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,5,8)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="E"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,4)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,6,7)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="F"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,5)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,7,6)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="G"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,6)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,8,5)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="H"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,7)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,9,4)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="I"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,8)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,10,3)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="J"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,9)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,11,2)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="K"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,10)!"X"!;
                              SUBSTR(SEND,12,1)
            BREAK
          CASE MM="L"
            REPLACE SEND WITH SUBSTR(SEND,1,11)!"X"
            BREAK
        ENDCASE
     ENDIF
     MOVE
```

```
    ENDWHILE
  ENDIF
ENDWHILE
```

CLUB NEWS

BY DAN GAZSY

Last month our UG held it's January meeting at the Echo Lake Church of Christ in Westfield, NJ. While attendance was down a bit from normal, I think this is attributable to the weather that day.

In case you weren't there and wish to attend, I'm including directions to the meeting. The address of the church is 419 Springfield Ave. Westfield, NJ.

DIRECTIONS:

From Northern NJ: take the GS PKway to Exit 140 to Route 22 West. Exit at Westfield Springfield Ave exit (Channel Home Center is on the right).

From Route 22 East: Exit at the Westfield Springfield Ave exit.

From either direction, when you have reached the Springfield Ave exit, follow the signs to Westfield. Church is located on the right at the corner of the second stop light. Church has two entrances. At least one door to each entrance will be open. Classroom is on the second floor. Meeting starts at 7pm.

If the weather is cold, bring a warm jacket. The building is not heated for our use.

9640 & 99/4A VENDORS

Alboes Computer Supplies
6298 Hamilton Rd.
36 Main Street Village
Columbus, Ga 31909
(404) 327-4900

Asgard Software
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, Md 20850
(703) 255-3085
Catalog Available

Braatz Computer Services
719 East Byrd Street
Appleton, Wisc 54911
(414) 731-3478
(414) 731-4320 after 6pm
Catalog $2

Bud Mills Services
166 Dartmouth Dr
Toledo, Ohio 43614
(419) 385-5946

CaDD Electronics
52 Audubon Rd.
Havermill, Ma 01830
(603) 895-0119

Competition Computer
2629 W National Ave
Milwaukee, Wisc 53204
(800) 242-7902 in Wisconsin
(800) 662-9253 all others
Catalog $1

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P.O. Box F
Titusville, Fl 32781

CorComp
2211-G East Winston Rd.
Anaheim, Ca 92806
(714) 956-4450

Dijit Systems
4345 Hortensia St
San Diego, Ca 92103
(619) 295-3301 voice
(619) 278-8155 bbs

DisK Only Software
P.O. Box 244
Lorton, Va 22079
(310) 340-7179

Genial Computerware
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Philadelphia, Pa 19128
(215) 483-1379

Great LaKes Software
804 E. Grand River Ave.
Howell, Mi 48843
(517) 546-0566

Harrison Software
5705 40th Place
Hyattsville, Md 20781
(301) 277-3467

Hunter Electronics
4 N. 370 Pine Grove
Bensenville, Il 60106
(312) 766-9503

Inscebot Inc.
P.O. Box 29160
Pt Orange, Fl 32029

Jim Lesher
722 Huntley
Dallas, Tx 75214
(214) 821-9274

Joy Electronics
P.O. Box 542546
Dallas, Tx 75354-2526
(800) 422-3892 in Texas
(800) 527-7438 all others

JP Software
2390 El Camino Real #107
Palo Alto, Ca 94306
Catalog $1

L.L. Conner Enterprise
1521 Ferry St.
Lafayette, In 47904
(317) 742-8146

McCann Software
P.O. Box 34160
Omaha, Ne 68134

Micropendium
P.O. Box 1343
Round Rock, Tx 78680
(512) 255-1512

Midwest Engineering
203 Arcadia Dr.
Vernon Hills, Il 60061
(312) 362-9034

Myarc Inc
2624 Ranier Drive NE
Birmingham, Al 35215
(205) 854-5843

Not Polyoptics
P.O. Box 4443
Woodbridge, Va 22191
(703) 499-5543

Pilgrims Pride
5 Williams Ln.
Hatboro, Pa. 19040
(215) 441-4262

Quality 99 Software
1884 Columbia RD #1021
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 667-3574

Queen Anne Computer Shoppe
6102 Roosevelt Way NE
Seattle, Wa 98115
(206) 522-6558

Ramcharge Computers
6467 E. Vancey Dr.
Brookpark, Oh 44142
(216) 243-1244 evenings

Rave 99
112 Rambling Road
Vernon, Ct 06066
(203) 871-7824

Tenex
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South Bend, In 46660
(800) 348-2778
(217) 259-7051

Texaments
53 Center St
Patchogue, N.Y. 11772
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(516) 475-6463 bbs

Tex-Comp
P.O. Box 33084
Granada Hills, Ca 91344
(818) 366-6631
Catalog $2

The Bunyard Group
P.O. Box 62323
Colorado Springs, Co
80962-2323
(719) 488-2572

Tigercub Software
156 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus, Oh 43213
(614) 235-3545

Trio+ Software
P.O. Box 114-A
Liscomb, Ia 50148

Triton Products Company
P.O. Box 8123
San Francisco, Ca 94128
1-800-227-6900
Catalog Available

9640 News
c/o Beery Miller
5455 Marina Cove #1
Memphis, Tn 38115

JOKE OF THE MONTH

An infamous stud with a long list of conquests walked into his neighborhood bar and ordered a drink. The bartender thought he looked worried and asked him if anything was wrong.

"I'm scared out of my mind," the stud replied. "Some pissed-off husband wrote to me and said he'd kill me if I didn't stop fooling around with his wife."

"So stop." the barkeep said.

"I can't," the womanizer replied, taking a long swill. "The bum didn't sign his name!"

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

We have initiated exchanges with 2 more User groups and had one address change since the last newsletter. We are now at the magic plateau of 32 exchanges. Initially, we sent out newsletters to some 75+ TI UG's in hopes of initiating exchanges. Some clubs disbanded, others have since changed there mailing addresses, etc.

If your club exchanges with any UG's not on our list, we'd be very interested in hearing from you via the comments and suggestions on the cover page.

CLUB 99
Mail Stop 1-21
34 Forest Street
Attleboro, MA 02703

North Jersey TI IBM UG
16 Judith Ann Dr.
Ringwood, NJ 07456-1863

Central Garden State UG
61 Country Lane
Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

QB99er's User Group
c/o Frank Crotty
Queensborough Comm College
Bayside, NY 11364

LITI 99er's UG
93 Myers Avenue
Hicksville, NY 11801-2424

Twin TIers UG
c/o R. Sass
RD #1
Rock Stream, NY 14878

Pittsburg User's Group
P.O. Box 8043
Pittsburg, PA 15216

Erie 99'er User Group
2812 West 33rd Street
Erie, PA 16506

Nittany Users of TI
625 Wiltshire Drive
State College, PA 16803

MANNERS
15106-A Fredrick Rd.
Suite 136
Rockville, Md 20850

Hampton Roads TI'ers
4701 Atterbury Street
Norfolk, Va 23513

CONNI
181 Heischman Ave
Worthington, OH 43085

N.W. OHIO 99'ers User Group
%First Church Unity
3535 Excutive Parkway
Toledo, OH 43606
Attn: Earl W. Hoffsis

Greater AKron 99er's
P.O. Box 3201
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Lima 99/4a Users Group
P.O. Box 647
Venedocia, OH 45894

Great LaKes Computer Group
P.O. Box 152
Roseville, MI 48066-0152

MilwauKee Area Users Group
4122 N. Glenway
Wawatosi, WI 53222

Siouxland 99er's
4604 Bluestem Circle
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

Kansas City TI99/4a UG
P.O. Box 12591
No. Kansas City, MO 64116

Dallas TI Home Computer
P.O. Box 29863
Dallas, TX 75229

Net99er HCUG
P.O. Box 534
Hurst, TX 76053

Houston Users Group - HUG
c/o R. LumpKin
11610 Inga Lane
Houston, TX 77064

JSC TI99 User Group
c/o John Owen
2321 Coryell Street
League City, TX 77573

TI SLaVes
3818 W. 6540 So.
West Jordan, UT 84084

Southwest Ninety Niners
P.O. Box 17831
Tucson, AZ 85730

Southern Nevada UG (SNUG)
P.O. Box 26307
Las Vegas, NV 89126-0301

Northern Nevada 99'ers
c/o Roland Chapman
7560 Hillview Drive
Reno, NV 89506

LA 99ers Cómputer Group
P.O. Box 7746
Torrance, CA 90504

North County 99ers UG
P.O. Box 2500
Escondido, CA 92025

UGOC
c/o Earl G Raguse
17161 Edwards
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

WORDPLAY
The PUNN Newsletter
P.O. Box 15037
Portland, OR 97215

B.C. 99er Users
c/o Ron Warfield
216 10th Ave
New Westminster, B.C.
CANADA V3L 2B2

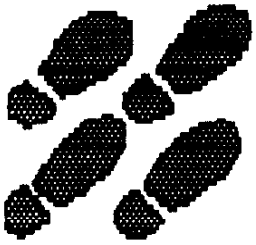
EXERCISING WITH XHI

In the first article on XHI we created a very simple TI Artist viewer. You typed in a filename, the program would attempt to load the picture for viewing and prompt you for another entry when any Key was hit. After awhile, it can be a bit much to contantly supply filenames to the program, so we'll take it a step further. We've added code to catalog a disk and place ANY PROGRAM file found into an array of filenames. The assumption here is that you'll have TI Artist program files on the disk. When the entire disk is cataloged, the picture show begins. Filenames are supplied by the array, loaded and viewed, reduced in size with REDUCX and REDUCY calls, delay for a short duration, then attempt to load the next file. When the list is exhausted, it loops back to the top and continues the viewing process.

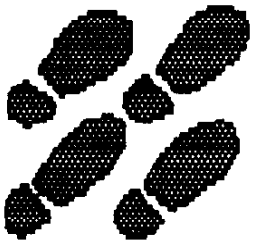
If this is all the program did then you'd be stuck with a program that lives in an endless loop. Pressing Fctn 4 would stop the program but would mess up the screen. To fix this problem, I added code to check for any Key entry during the delay loop. If one is detected, the program will switch to GRAPHICS mode. From here you can either STOP the program, CONTINUE where it left off or prompt for a new DISK of filenames and RESTART the display process. In any event, this is a much cleaner alternative than the fctn 4 Key.

```
100 DIM PIC$(127):: CALL SCREEN(15):: DISPLAY AT(10,10)ERASE
    ALL BEEP:"TI  ARTIST" :: DISPLAY AT(12,9):"PICTURE SHOW"
    :: DISPLAY AT(24,1):"XHI V3.6   80 COL CARD REQ'D"
105 DISPLAY AT(20,1):"DSK?" :: DISPLAY AT(22,1):"PICTURES:"
110 ACCEPT AT(20,4)SIZE(-1):DSK$ :: IF LEN(DSK$)=0 THEN CALL
    CLEAR :: STOP
120 OPEN #1:"DSK"&DSK$&".",INPUT ,RELATIVE,INTERNAL :: INPUT
    #1:A$,A,A,A :: I=0
130 INPUT #1:A$,A,B,C :: IF A$="" THEN CLOSE #1 :: GOTO 150
140 IF ABS(A)=5 THEN PIC$(I)=SEG$(A$,1,LEN(A$)-2):: I=I+1
    :: DISPLAY AT(22,10):I :: GOTO 130 ELSE GOTO 130
150 ON ERROR 1000 :: CALL LINK("HICLR"):: RANDOMIZE :: P=3
160 FOR Z=0 TO I-1 :: CALL LINK("VIPORT"):: CALL LINK
    ("FILSCR",P):: B$="DSK"&DSK$&"."&PIC$(Z):: CALL SCREEN
    (15):: CALL LINK("ARTLES",B$,16,3):: GOSUB 500
165 SP=INT(RND*2)+1 :: ON SP GOTO 265,270
170 CALL LINK("VIPORT",202,223,211,291):: CALL LINK("FILSCR"
    ,15):: P=P+1 :: IF P>16 THEN P=3
180 CALL LINK("PRINT",PIC$(Z),202,225,2):: GOSUB 500 :: CALL
    LINK("FILSCR",15):: NEXT Z :: GOTO 160
265 CALL LINK("REDUCX"):: CALL LINK("REDUCY"):: CALL LINK
    ("VIPORT",0,0,105,255):: CALL LINK("COPY",0,256):: CALL
    LINK("COPY",106,0):: CALL LINK("COPY",106,256):: GOTO
    170
270 CALL LINK("REDUCY",2):: CALL LINK("REDUCX",2):: CALL
    LINK("VIPORT",0,0,69,16,9)
275 FOR K=0 TO 2 :: FOR J=0 TO 2 :: CALL LINK("COPY",K*70,
```

```
    J*170)!! NEXT J !! NEXT K !! GOTO 170
T K !! GOTO 170
500 FOR D=1 TO 200 !! CALL KEY(0,K,S)!! IF S=0 THEN 520
505 CALL LINK("NORMAL")
510 DISPLAY AT(15,1)!"Cont,DisK,Stop!?" !! ACCEPT AT(15,16)
    SIZE(-1)!Q$
512 IF Q$="C" THEN 519
514 IF Q$="S" THEN STOP
516 IF Q$="D" THEN 105
518 GO TO 510
519 CALL LINK("HIRES")!! CALL SCREEN(15)
520 NEXT D !! RETURN
1000 CALL LINK("NORMAL")!! STOP
```



BOOT TRACKING IN c99



BY DAN GAZSY

In the past, boot tracking on devices wasn't always reliable. Code which would work with the TI and CorComp controllers, would fail with the Myarc FDC/HFDC. In December's issue of Micropendium and January's issue of Bits, Bytes and Pixels (LIMA 99/4a UG newsletter), there appeared an article by Bruce Harrison on how to identify the boot device more reliably. The code provided was intended for XB and Assembly language programmers. With some minor modifications, the same device() function can work for c99 programmers tool Listed below is the callable boot function and a demo program to test it.

```
/*
 * device function adopted for use with c99
 * original source provided by Bruce Harrison
 * on return the boot string will contain the device
 * example: DSK1
 */
 #asm
WS    EQU >20BA
CWS   EQU >8300
ONES DATA >0101
 #endasm

entry boot,device;

char boot[6];

device()
  { #asm
        MOV    11,@>8330        STASH THE RETURN
        LWPI   WS               USE OUR WORKSPACE
        MOV    @>83D0,12        GET THE CRU BASE IN R12
        MOV    @>83D2,9         GET THE ROM ADDRESS FOR THE
*                               DEVICE
        LDCR   @ONES,0          ENABLE THE ROM
        AI     9,4              ADDING FOUR PUTS US AT THE
*                               LENGTH BYTE
        MOVB   *9+,4            PLACE THAT IN R4 AND INC R9
```

```
        SRL    4,8             RIGHT JUSTIFY LENGTH IN R4
        LI     10,BOOT         POINT TO TEXT BUFFER
        MOV    10,1            MOVE THAT ADDRESS TO R1
        MOV    4,2             PUT LENGTH IN R2
MOVEIT  MOVB   *9+,*10+        MOVE ONE BYTE FROM ROM TO
*                              TEXT BUFFER
        DEC    4               FINISHED?
        JNE    MOVEIT          NO, DO ANOTHER BYTE
        MOV    4,*10           PUT A NULL BYTE AT END OF
*                              STRING FOR C99
        LOCR   4,0             DISABLE THE ROM (R4 IS ZERO
*                              AT THIS POINT)
        LWPI   CWS             LOAD GPL WORKSPACE (ALSO C99
*                              WORKSPACE)
        MOV    @>8330,11       GET RETURN ADDRESS BACK
        CLR    @>837C          CLEAR THE STATUS BYTE
    #endasm
  }
```

The prior code could be readily compiled and assembled separate of the main program or module which uses it.

Th following c source code makes use of this device function and details exactly what is required to make use of the function.

```
/*
 * DEMO of Harrison boot function in c99
 * to use this function in your program do the following:
 *  1 declare the function device() as an external function
 *  2 declare the global char array boot externally
 *  3 load the object file device:o with your program
 */
extern device();
extern char boot[];

main()
  {locate(10,1);
   puts("Where did we boot from?");
   locate(12,1);
   getchar();
   device();
   puts(boot);
  }
```

BBS SCENE

BY DAN GAZSY

This month I'll have a hard time keeping this article under four pages. To begin, let's start with things that relate to the Geneve 9640.

The Geneve has a picture viewer program which rivals the ones you see at clone shows. The Myart pictures scroll on the screen at a rate of 1 per second on a 0 wait state Geneve. As one picture scrolls on, the previous one is scrolling off. On Geneve's which don't have the 0 wait state memory, it is estimated that the program would scroll the same pictures at a rate of one every two seconds. As you might expect the program is called SCROLL.

While Beery Miller was in Germany for the TI show, he picked up a Stock Market program called $$$CRASH$$$. The program is touted to have exceptional graphics and spreadsheet like inputs. The program will sell for around $50 and be available as soon as the docs are converted to English.

For awhile it has been rumored that full c compilers were being developed for the Geneve. You won't have to wait much longer because Al Beard, the author of the Fortran compiler has released one. In its current state, it requires an MSDOS machine to run the c compiler. The code generated on the clone is then processed by a cross Assembler/LinKer to produce code which the 9640 can execute. An MDOS version will also be available but no definite time table has been established.

If you have an interest in Windows for the 9640, version 2.0 should be available soon. The following excerpt was left on the Delphi network by Beery Miller.

From: 9640NEWS To: ALL

"To those that have supported WINDOWS 9640, Version 2.0 is closely approaching reality. Version 2 will backing away from the Graphics mode 6 screen from earlier versions and using 80 Column Text (requires 80 column monitors) with the ability to inverse video all options (completed). In addition, almost all work has been completed for complete screen restoration during even non- WINDOW tasks with all appropriate cursor control, video mode, etc. Non -WINDOW tasks can still only have one program running at a time, but multiple in memory such as multiple editors to handle each contain a source file, toggle to DOS to assemble and check for errors, and then toggle right back into your document from DOS without loading the editor or document..."

The last bit of information that is Geneve specific came from Tom Freeman and describes how to interpret the date stamp of disk files.

1. The time/date stamps are each full 16 bit words (two sets, one for creation, one for update). The first is the time and is divided as follows reading from left to right:
5 bits for hour (0-24)
6 bits for minute (0-59)
5 bits for seconds DIVIDED BY TWO
The second word is the date and is divided as follows reading from left to right):
7 bits for last two digits of year (8 not needed because 99->00
4 bits for month (1-12)
5 bits for day (1-31)

Thus your example (h6086 B59F = b0110 0000 1000 0110 1011 0101 1001 1111) translates to:
5 bits = 01100 = d12 (hours)
6 bits = 000100 = d4 (minutes)
5 bits = 00110 = d6 (seconds/2 = 12 sec)
7 bits = 1011010 = d90 (year)
4 bits = 1100 = d12 (month)
5 bits = 11111 = d31 (day)

For years,, us TI'ers had depended on mail order companies like Triton to supply us with the TI products we wanted. When

Triton Products decided to drop its TI line, it appeared to be another nail in the TI coffin. Terry Miller bought out Triton's old stock and opened up TM Direct Product Marketing (a company to service the TI Home Computer Owner). A toll free number (1-800 336-9966) has been set up for sales and a new catalog is planned for late winter or early spring of 91. Mr Miller intends to expand the scope of TM's product offerings beyond the standards that were previously offered by Triton.

Delays in Mike Maksimik's Midi Master have forced Asgard to push the projected availability of this product back to early February. Right now I tend to believe that even this date will slip. The delays are due to Mike's lack of time to complete the project and the major changes made to the internals of the software.

In Feb of 91, Asgard will no longer be shipping the current model of the Asgard mouse. Their supplier will be providing a new model which is a few dollars more expensive. Present software which uses the old mouse will be compatiable with the new mouse. In an effort to promote the use of the mouse, Asgard is prepared to provide any certified 3rd party developer (meaning you have a program to your credit) with assembly and c99 code free of charge and a mouse at a special discount price. Way to go Chris!

When DIJIT came out with their AVPC, there was talk of a Genlock Digitizer being developed for it. It seems that Asgard has plans to market one for their 80 column card and it's scheduled to be released in mid 1991. According to Asgard, you'll be able to digitize any video source, including VCR output, camcorder and standard NTSC television signals.

A few months ago, there was talk of a new HFDC coming out for the TI community. The projected availability date at that time was late November. Well November has come and gone and so has 1990 but still no card. In a recent conference with Chris Pratt he offered some explanations for this. First off, ESD had some difficulty procuring the WD1010A chip and purchased a WD2010 chip instead. The chip is compatiable with the WD1010 and also more expensive. Chris estimates that it will be 6-8 weeks before everyone has their hands on the controller, but some of you will have your orders filled before then. For those who own Geneves, there have been contradicting stories going around whether the ESD card will be Geneve compatiable or not. Rather than interpret Mr Pratt's statement, I'll just include it and let you judge whether the Geneve will be compatiable with the ESD HFDC.

"...The Geneve is not 100% TI-compatiable when it comes down to things like controlling drives, and their are so many versions of MDOS out that we would have to lock down one that would work with ESD's card. To keep it short, our card will work with both computers and do so in the same OSR which is housed in the card's EEPROM..."

For those of you who are interested in RAVE's PEBox, there are reports that some who had ordered them now

have them in their possession.

I think that about finishes up the 4a story as far as hardware is concerned, now lets get down to what's new in software.

For you 4a owners who felt you had to wait for Ron Wolcott to port over additional graphics for use with Page Pro, you now have a program called DEZIP by Ben Yates which will unzip alot of the PC clone archived files. While you won't be able to run any of the PC programs that you unzip, you will be able to make use of any graphics file (GIF,MAC,RLE) that you unpack. In additon, you'll be able to also view some of the text files once you run them through a DF128->DV80 converter. The product is being offered as fairware and what is being posted on bbs's is a limited UNZIP utility. The full functioning product can be had by sending $12 to Ben Yates, P.O. Box 952404, Lake Mary, FL 32795.

The next bit of information comes to us compliments of Dan Eicher and concerns the use of call sound.

From: EICHER To: ALL

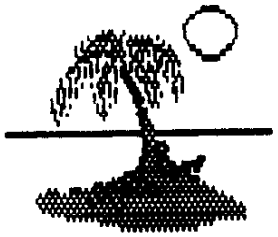
A while back I asked if anyone new the call sound equivelents of the beep and honk sound. No one responded so I figured it out the hard way.
Step 1. I pulled out the TI intern (a disassembly of the 4(a) op system) and found the sound list used to generate the beep and honk sound.
Step 2. I had to learn more about assembly sound processing than I ever wanted to know, but here are the fruits of my labor....
Call Sound(160,218,0) -- gives a honk
Call Sound(160,1398,4) -- gives an accept tone.

One last tragic piece of news comes to us from Don Jones of the Chicago TI Users Group.

From: DONJONES To: ALL

In Memoriam...
On December 27, 1991, John Edward Birdwell died as the result of cancer of the liver. He is survived by his wife Kathy and his two children, Kelly and Kristin. His family has requested that any donations, in his name, may be made to the American Cancer Society, 999 North Main Street, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. With the death of John Birdwell, the 4A/9640 community has lost one of its most important programmers and advocates. Several of his early programs are still in our users' group's library, and, in addition to these, there are some other programs which have been very important and significant to our community. The first of his programs to have wide popularity within the 4A/9640 community was his Disk Utilities Program (DISKU); John also wrote MDMU for the Myarc HFDC card. Before John's leaving, he was working on a program which was supposed to be released through JP Software: "Disk One." This program was supposed to be a manager/editor for both floppy and hard disks. (At this point, there is no confirmation as to whether or not he was able to finish this program before his passing.) And at one time, he was working on the

software for a streamer tape back-up for the Myarc HFDC card. The above facts are easy to express, but it is very difficult to express our feelings of regret over John's untimely passing. Already, expressions of grief and sympathy are coming forth from various sectors of our community. John left behind many fine examples of programming, and for this reason, he will never be forgotten. But we of the Chicago group have had the opportunity to benefit directly from John's willingness to share his knowledge and to give help to those of us who were often in need. John Birdwell was not only an exceptional programmer, but he was also an exceptional human being. Both reasons are sufficient to ensure that though he will not be with us, his memory will be kept alive by those of us who were honored to both know and work with him.



EDITORS FORUM

On April 6th, the student body of Roselle Park High School will sponsor the 6th Annual Family Computer Expo and Ham Festival (formerly called TICOFF). Each year I've found time to attend this show as either a vendor or consumer and have usually come home with some nifty little packages. I imagine that this year will be no exception.

The first show was strictly a TI users show. TICOFF then stood for Texas Instruments Computer Owners Fun Fest. I watched a nervous Paul Charltom give a presentation on Terminal Emulators for the TI. As years went by, the theme of the show switched from ONLY TI to TI and IBM. While the acronymn stayed the same, the meaning changed to TI and Clone Owners Fun Fest.

This year the scope of the show also includes a HAM fest. It appears that the student body is trying everything it can to make the show appeal to everyone. Let's not let their effort go unrewarded. Make a conscious effort to go to the event. This way we all win.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

February 2

Wayne, NJ - Wm Patterson College 400 tables in Rec Center - over 2k in free parking. I-80 to 23N to Alps Rd. to Ratzer Rd to college entrance. Park in Lot #5 and take the two minute shuttle bus ride. 10 am to 4 pm. Call (800) 631-0002 for more info.

February 10 & 17

Edison, NJ. Raritan Center Expo Hall - 600 tables, 80,000 sq ft, all indoors. NJ Tpke Exit 10, GS Pkwy Exit 127(N) or 129(S) to 287, 514 West. Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 10am-3pm.

Fest West 91 to be held at the Ramada Inn, right across the street from Disneyland, Anaheim CA. Tickets are $6 for both days. Future announcement will be available a the UGOC BBS (714) 778-5459 or write t FestWest91 Committe c/o Bill Nelson 11692 Puryear Lane Garden Grove, CA 92640

MARCH

March 9

Roselle Park, NJ Family Computer Exposition and Ham Radio Festival - formerly called T.I.C.O.F.F. TI & IBM Clone Fair. Our 6th year. 9:30am to 4pm. Roselle Park HS 185 West Webster Ave Roselle Park, NJ. For more info call Bob Guelinitz (201) 241-4550. BBS (201) 241-8902

APRIL

April 6

Northeast TI99/4a Home Computer Fair Contact Justin Dowling, The Boston Computer Society, One Center Plaza, Boston, MA 02108

HACKING IN C99

WITH JOE ROSS

This month I will discuss a solution to a problem that you may encounter while creating programs in the c99 language. As an example, suppose you are writing a c99 program that you wish to reside in the Super Space memory area >6000 - >7FFF. Also you wish to have the CSUP library and other compiled c99 libraries reside in this memory area. You don't have the source for these libraries and can't recompile them to reside in the chosen block of memory. You could disassemble them, change them, and reassemble them but I'm sure if you did, you might not want to turn your TI 99/4A on again. However there is a more simple solution to this problem. Since these libraries and your program are Ed/Assm option #3 relocatable program files, they are loaded with the option #3 loader which uses memory pointers to decide where to load the program modules. It is possible to change the memory pointers to point to the desired memory area before loading the program modules. To do this you must use one of the various loaders that loads the modules from a supplied text list. CLOADV3A and the one supplied with the Funlweb system is an example of this type of loader. Also the short assembler program in this article must be assembled and placed as the first program file in the text list followed by your program and support libraries. The assembler program will be run by the loader, change the memory pointers and return to the loader to load the program modules in the desired memory area. After return from the text loader proceed normally by typing START as the starting label for your program.

```
* THIS FILE WILL ALLOW RELOCATABLE PROGRAMS TO LOAD
* INTO A SUPER SPACE MEMORY AREA.

  DEF SWITCH                PLACE LABEL ON REF/DEF TABLE


SWITCH LI  0,>6000
       MOV 0,@>2024         FIRST HI POINTER CHANGED TO >6000
       LI  0,>7FD7
       MOV 0,@>2026         LAST HI POINTER CHANGED TO >7FD7
       RT                   RETURN TO TEXT LIST LOADER
       END SWITCH           AUTO RUN THIS PROGRAM FILE
```

This method of changing the memory pointers to load program modules into other memory areas may be accomplished by changing the values of >6000 and >7FD7 to the desired addresses.