REMINDER * REMINDER

E   NEXT MEETING   E

M   *TUESDAY   9/25/90*   M

I   *7'0 CLOCK P.M.*   I

N   *ROUND TABLE PIZZA*   N

D   *WEST 4th & VINE*   D

E   *RENO, NEVADA*   E

REMINDER * REMINDER

4N AFFAIRS!

MEETING MINUTES - 6/26/90

The meeting was called to order by Jim Nuckolls at 7:10 P.M. 9 members were in attendance. The Minutes as reported in the newsletter was accepted as is.

OFFICER'S REPORT

President Jim Nuckolls discussed the S.I.G. meeting on Modems which was held at Jerry Cohen's house one week prior. Although several members had expressed interest in attending, only he and Jerry showed up! They did manage, however, to hook-up with Dave Belanger's system for a while, then afterward, successfully linked up with CompuServe's ROCK NET.

Jim then mentioned to the members that perhaps, due to the summer, people were probably not up to attending meetings or S.I.G.'s. He therefore suggested the postponement of further meetings until September. The consensus by the group, however, was to continue. And so...

Vice-President, Dave Belanger was not present due to his job schedule.

Secretary, Andy Yuan WAS present! (You can't keep a good man down!)

Treasurer, Richard Emblen was not present.

Program Librarian, Jerry Cohen WAS present. And to prove it, he presented the membership with the Disk's of the Month - 1. POP by Roman Majer; and, 2. SOUND EFFECTS, a public domain labeling program from Tigercub Software.

Newsletter Editor, Roland Chapman was also present and he told the group that he was in the process of setting up a local BBS for 4N! He hopes that this extra service will eventually get members involved in using their modems to communicate with other users' groups.

He also reminded those that hadn't turned in their survey forms to "get 'em in!" so he could tabulate the results.

OLD BUSINESS

(T'wern't none!)

NEW BUSINESS

Our sincere condolences to Richard Emblen for his recent marriage. (Just kidding, Richard!) Congratulations to you and your lucky bride.

Also, just received word that Jack Fay, our old program librarian, recently moved to Saudi Arabia. SAUDI ARABIA? (I wonder if they have a TI User's Group there?) Anyway, stay cool, Jack, and stay in touch!

Edie Dettling expressed her opinion concerning educating the group on the "how to's" and "why for's" of the various software programs and hardware items, both old and new, available for our orphaned computer. She felt that this would be a step in the right direction for keeping the TI alive. Many of the members agreed with her and a heated debate ensued! (Yeah, right!) It was enough, however, to stir Joel Cote' into volunteering his services! He'll be instructing a class on Multiplan at the next meeting. Thanks, Joel!

DISK'S OF THE MONTH

The following two disks were offered at the JULY meeting:

Disk #1 -

NEWSLETTER EDITOR by Bill Gaskill. Fairware contribution of $10 requested. This handy and easy to use program utilizes Brad Snyder's 40-Column Utilities and is meant for the aspiring newsletter editor. Features: Two-columnization; Able to import TI-Writer files; Right-justification; Help screens. Large Print Title Masthead; Bold-face paragraph headings; numbered pages; and more! Docs included. Autoloads in XB.

Minimum system requirements:
* TI-99/4A console
* 32K memory expansion
* 1 SSSD disk drive
* Extended BASIC module

Disk #2 -

DISK LABEL and JACKET PRINTERS - Public Domain. This disk offers over 20 label-making programs for cassettes, video tapes, and disks. Also makes disk jackets, with or without a catalog. Compatible with most printers. Autoloads in XB.

Minimum system requirements:
* TI-99/4A console
* 32K memory expansion
* 1 SSSD disk drive
* Extended BASIC module

The disk above was purchased from JIM PETERSON's T.I. *Public Domain Library* - #1130.1. His latest catalog is offering over 400 disks of FAIRWARE and Public Domain programs, with subjects ranging from MUSIC (Chopin's Polonaise; Chuck Berry Tunes; Christmas Music w/Graphics), to EDUCATION (Flags of the World; Chemistry; Geography), to UTILITIES (Financial Programs; Disk Catalogers; Sports Programs), to GAMES (Assembly Games; Hammurabi Games; Adventures; Q*Bert Games; Roadrace Games; Board Games), and much, much more!...

Jim is asking $ 1.50 per disk, (postpaid if at least 3 disks are ordered). Currently, available for $1 is the TI-PD Catalog #2, with Supplement #8, deductible with your first order. Make checks payable to: TIGERCUB SOFTWARE, 156 Collingwood Ave., Columbus, OH 43213.

BINGO

(T'wern't no BINGO game neither!)

CLOSING

The formal meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

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NEWS FROM THE TI WORLD! by Don O'Neil.

Last month I printed a file from Gary Bowser from OPA. Since then I've been able to talk to him on-line on Delphi twice about his products. Also, I spoke to Chris Bobbitt about his products. Here is a list of some of the products they will be introducing in the near future:

* From OPA:

TIM - A FREE 80 column card for the TI-99/4A. Available in a few months.

RAMBO - A add for the Horizon Ram Disk to allow it to use it's memory for programs. Several software packages available for it. Available now.

A speech program for the TI Speech Synthesizer to make full use of the chip in it. Available soon.

* From ASGARD:

YAPP - Yet Another Paint Program. A new paint program for 80 column card users that loads GIF, TI-Artist, and MY-ART programs and allows editing of them. Has most of the features from TI-Artist and MY-ART. Has resolution

codes up to 512X424. Available in a few months.

MIDI - MIDI cable and software. A new cable for the RS232 card that allows electronic keyboards to be hooked up to the TI via MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface). Comes with software for sequencing and recording of songs. Available at the end of September.

4-PORT RS232 - A new RS232 card with four ports - one for modem; one for a mouse; one for MIDI; and one for a printer. No release date as yet.
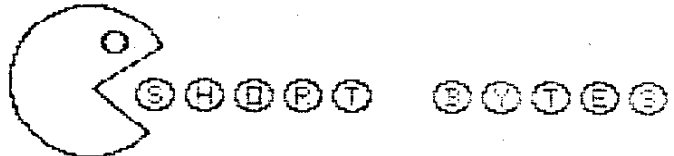
Here's a short and easy program to type from CIM 99 which draws the TI symbol on your screen. Try it out!

```
5 CALL CLEAR
10 CHAR(128,"0103030303030303FC0405C504060212008040408000
0012")
20 CALL CHAR(131,"FF80004060381C1419012130506050C4BABA9AB
6A1A1A122")
30 CALL CHAR(134,"0301000000000000E231101B0C0703004090204
0402005")
40 T=128 :: FOR R=10 TO 12 :: FOR C=10 TO 12 :: CALL VCHA
R(R,C,T):: T=T+1 :: NEXT C :: NEXT R
```
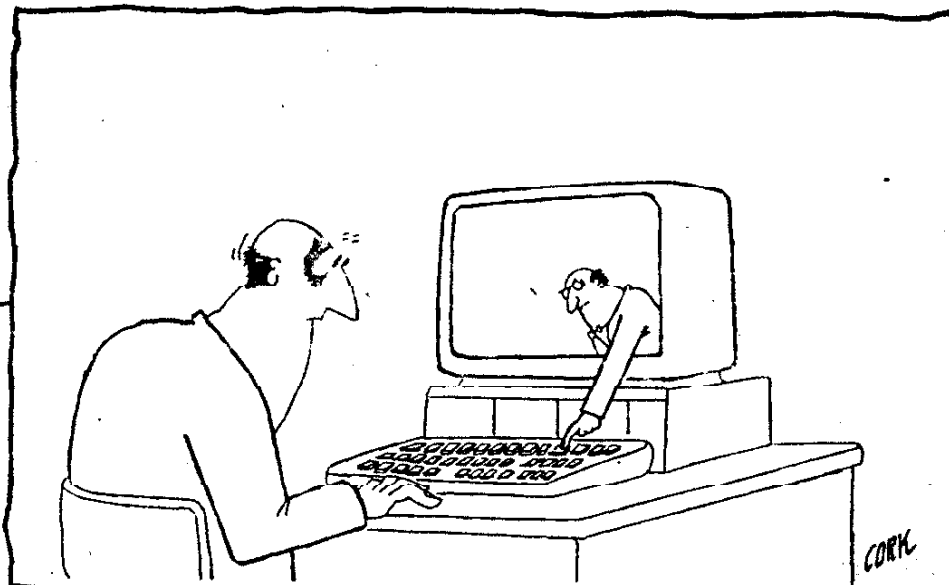
COMPUTERS
~~~~~~~~~~~

```
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* H L L C I X E P S O N S Q A P M O C M A *
* C O M M O D O R E K H N F W Z W Y B A L *
* T E X A S I N S T R A O C O C U B X Q Y *
* V N Z N P S I V D S O Y Z S A N Y O T P *
* R U F N V V K H M L O H P C T P C K G W *
* E Q C D I T G D R G A G T R S R E A K G *
* U H O A F L S J A F D F Z T O J M R H A *
* Z M Z R P B K C S Y S I N U L I U M S I *
* Y F S L F T D N K O B C J T G T K N O C *
* J N Q W K A T Y A F J L C A K Z N C T E *
* R Z R R W C L E N R B I P B R Y I Y N A *
* I H I U X S W T L Q F C A B K N R K I P *
* A E E I O E U J O W Y Y P C O A D R C P *
* L I E Y A B R Z U S E B F S D H R F A L *
* C X F G G H S C Z P Q H A W B F B J M E *
* N O L F Q L J O U M C N Q Z W W F V M N *
* I E B M Z K K G J E A U T A N D Y C X F *
* S B B Y E V C N N F M D E C S V R W F Z *
* V I M P L I E A A T D L J J H Y A D A M *
* E V A D N T Y W G S O D S M J U N M Z W *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
```

DIRECTIONS: There are 25 words hidden in
the puzzle. You may find them horizon-
tally, vertically, or diagonally. They
may also be either forward or backward.
Circle each word as you find them. One
word has been done for you. GOOD LUCK!
(Answers to puzzle found on last page.)

ADAM
AMIGA
APPLE
ALTOS
COCO
COMMODORE
MSDOS
PANASONIC
TEXASINSTR
UNISYS
WANG
DEC
IBM
TANDY
EAGLE
COMPAQ
OSBOURN
SINCLAIR
SANYO
KAYPRO
NEC
FRANKLIN
EPSON
MACINTOSH
HEWLETTPAC

Trivial Questions (Answers on last page)

1. Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln",
however he hadn't set foot in Illinois
until he was an adult. Where was he
born?

2. Experts say that Julius Caesar's
autograph is worth more than any in the
world - perhaps as high as two million
dollars. Why?

3. The "left bank" of a river is on the
left when you are looking upstream or
downstream?

4. Which muscle in the human body is the
strongest?

5. Everyone knows an adult human has 206
bones. (Right?) How many bones does a
newborn infant have?

6. What is the capitol of Australia?

7. What building in New York City has
43,600 windows (and two zip codes)?

8. "Sailing, sailing, over the seven
seas..." Can you name the seven seas?

9. The year 1961 reads the same upside
down. When's the next year that will
happen again?

10. Who was Time magazine's Man of the
year for 1938?

11. In whose Navy did American naval
hero John Paul Jones finish out his
career as an admiral?

12. What is the official state sport of
Maryland?

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)

IF YOUR FRIENDS GAVE YOU A GOING
AWAY PRESENT, WOULD YOU?

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB #6

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT TEXANS WERE QUITTERS, BUT THEY HAVE FIRED ALL THEIR COWBOYS, SO ITS UP TO THE USERS' GROUPS TO RIDE HERD ON A COUPLE OF MILLION TI LONGHORNS OUT THERE. TIGERCUB WILL HELP TO FEED THEM WITH SOME LOW-COST PROGRAMS.

I HAVE OVER A HUNDRED ABSOLUTELY ORIGINAL PROGRAMS AT ONLY $3 EACH, NO MINIMUM ORDER, AND MY CATALOG IS JUST $1, DEDUCTABLE FROM YOUR FIRST ORDER. AT THOSE PRICES I CAN'T AFFORD MUCH ADVERTISING, SO PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT ME!

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 PRINT "   THE TIGERCUB'S
CHRISTMAS"::TAB(11);"ORNAMEN
T"::"BY JIM PETERSON"::
120 PRINT " USE ARROW KEYS A
ND W,R,Z":"AND C KEYS TO MOV
E CURSOR!"::"THEN PRESS ANY O
THER KEY TO"
130 PRINT "PRINT DESIGN, OR
ENTER TO":"SKIP. USE BOTH SH
IFTED AND":"UNSHIFTED LETTER
S AND PUNCT-"
140 PRINT "UATION, ALSO TYPE
 ANY LETTER":"WITH CTRL HELD
DOWN."
150 PRINT " USE FCTN 1 TO CH
ANGE PAT-":"TERN OF LAST CHA
RACTER PRIN-":"TED, OR FCTN
2 TO CHANGE ITS"
160 PRINT "COLOR, OR FCTN 3
TO CHANGE":"ALL THE COLORS,
OR FCTN 7":"TO SLOWLY CHANGE
 ALL THE"
170 PRINT "PATTERNS - BUT ST
AY AWAY":"FROM FCTN 4 AND FC
TN = 11":"       PRESS ANY
KEY"
180 CALL KEY(0,K,ST)
190 IF ST=0 THEN 180
200 DIM A$(16)
210 CALL CLEAR
220 FOR SET=1 TO 16
230 CALL COLOR(SET,5,16)
240 NEXT SET
250 CALL VCHAR(1,31,1,96)
260 CALL SCREEN(2)
270 FOR CH=33 TO 159
280 PRINT CHR$(CH);" ";
290 Z=Z+1
300 IF Z/14<>INT(Z/14)THEN 3
20
310 PRINT ::
320 NEXT CH
330 GOSUB 630
340 GOSUB 940
350 CALL VCHAR(1,3,32,672)
360 CALL VCHAR(1,29,1,192)
370 R=6
380 C=11
390 CALL KEY(3,K,ST)
400 IF ST=0 THEN 390
410 IF K<8 THEN 820
420 ON POS("WERDCXZS",CHR$(K
),1)+1 GOTO 390,490,470,460,
440,430,530,520,500
430 R=R+ABS(R<12)
440 C=C+ABS(C<16)
450 GOTO 540
460 C=C+ABS(C<16)
470 R=R-ABS(R>1)
480 GOTO 540
490 R=R-ABS(R>1)
500 C=C-ABS(C>5)
510 GOTO 540
520 C=C-ABS(C>5)
530 R=R+ABS(R<12)
540 CALL HCHAR(R,C,42)
550 CALL KEY(5,CH,ST)
560 IF ST=0 THEN 550
570 IF (CH=87)+(CH=69)+(CH=8
2)+(CH=83)+(CH=68)+(CH=90)+(
CH=88)+(CH=67)THEN 550
580 CALL HCHAR(R,C,CH)
590 CALL HCHAR(25-R,C,CH)
600 CALL HCHAR(R,33-C,CH)
610 CALL HCHAR(25-R,33-C,CH)
620 GOTO 390
630 DATA 00,18,24,3C,42,5A,6
6,7E,81,99,A5,BD,C3,DB,E7,FF
640 FOR J=1 TO 16
650 READ A$(J)
660 NEXT J
670 FOR CH=33 TO 159
680 GOSUB 700
690 GOTO 800
700 FOR L=1 TO 4
710 RANDOMIZE
720 X=INT(16*RND+1)
730 B$=B$&A$(X)
740 C$=A$(X)&C$
750 NEXT L
760 CALL CHAR(CH,B$&C$)
770 B$=NUL$
780 C$=NUL$
790 RETURN
```

```
800 NEXT CH
810 RETURN
820 ON K+1 GOTO 390,830,390,
850,880,390,390,920
830 GOSUB 670
840 GOTO 390
850 IF (CH<33)+(CH>159)THEN
390
860 GOSUB 700-
870 GOTO 390
880 SET=INT(CH/8)-3
890 IF SET<2 THEN 390
900 GOSUB 980
910 GOTO 390
920 GOSUB 940
930 GOTO 390
940 FOR SET=2 TO 16
950 RANDOMIZE
960 GOSUB 980
970 GOTO 1030
980 X=INT(15*RND+2)
990 Y=INT(15*RND+2)
1000 IF Y=X THEN 990
1010 CALL COLOR(SET,X,Y)
1020 RETURN
1030 NEXT SET
1040 RETURN
```

THIS ROUTINE CONTAINS MANY IDEAS WHICH MAY BE EDU-CATIONAL TO BEGINNING PROGRAMMERS.

LINES 110-170 WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO NEATLY FORMAT THE TEXT ON THE SCREEN. LINES 180-190 HOLD THE TEXT ON THE SCREEN UNTIL ANY KEY IS PRESSED; THIS IS MUCH BETTER THAN A DELAY LOOP, BECAUSE DIFFERENT PEOPLE READ AT MUCH DIFFERENT SPEEDS.

LINES 220-260 CREATE A WHITE SCREEN WITH A BLACK BOR-DER, WHICH MAKES COLORED GRAPHICS STAND OUT MUCH MORE BRIGHTLY. AFTER A CALL CLEAR, THE SCREEN IS ACTUALLY FILLED, EXCEPT FOR A STRIP AT TOP AND BOTTOM, WITH 24 ROWS OF 32 COLUMNS OF THE BLANK SPACE-BAR CHARACTER. THE NORMAL SCREEN COLOR IS LIGHT GREEN (4) IN BASIC OR CYAN (8) IN EXTENDED BASIC, AND THE NORMAL COLOR OF ALL THE CHARACTER SETS IS BLACK (2) ON TRANSPARENT (1); THE BLANK CHARACTER HAS NO FOREGROUND COLOR AND THE TRANSPARENT BACKGROUND COLOR LETS THE SCREEN SHOW THROUGH. LINE 230 CHANGES ALL THE SETS TO DARK BLUE ON WHITE, SO THE BLANK SPACE CHARACTER BECOMES WHITE. THE STRIP AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN IS FILLED WITH THE EDGE CHARACTER, ASCII 1, WHICH IS TRANSPARENT. LINE 250 PRINTS TWO COLUMNS OF THE EDGE CHARACTER AT THE RIGHT EDGE, THEN WRAPS AROUND TO PRINT TWO MORE COLUMNS AT THE LEFT EDGE. THE BLACK SCREEN COLOR, CALLED IN LINE 260, CAN NOW SHOW THROUGH THE TRANSPARENT EDGE CHARACTER ON ALL FOUR SIDES.

LINES 270-280 PUT ALL THE PRINTABLE CHARACTERS ON THE SCREEN, TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO WATCH WHILE THE PROGRAM IS BEING INITIALIZED. THE " " IN LINE 280 PUTS A BLANK SPACE AFTER EACH CHARACTER, AND THE SEMI-COLON KEEPS THE PRINT ON THE SAME LINE UNTIL IT IS FULL. SINCE 14 CHARACTERS CAN BE DOUBLE-SPACED ON A 28-COLUMN PRINT LINE, A PRINT ROW IS SKIPPED WHENEVER THE VALUE OF Z BECOMES EVENLY DIVISIBLE BY 14.

NOW THE PROGRAM GOES TO THE ROUTINE IN LINES 630-810 TO REDEFINE EVERY KEYBOARD CHAR-ACTER TO A SYMMETRICAL ORNAMENTAL PATTERN. THE DATA STATEMENT IN LINE 630 CONTAINS 16 PAIRS OF HEXADECIMAL NUMBERS WHICH ARE MIRROR IMAGES OF EACH OTHER; LOOK AT THE CHART ON PAGE 109 OF YOUR "BEGINNER'S BASIC" TO SEE WHAT I MEAN. LINES 640-660 READ THESE INTO 16 SUBSCRIPTS OF A$; THUS THE DIMENSION STATEMENT IN LINE 200 WAS NECESSARY.

NEXT, LINES 670-800 RANDOMLY COMBINE THESE PAIRS TO FORM SYMMETRICAL CHARACTERS. LINES 680,690 AND 790 ARE ONLY SO THAT WE CAN LATER RE-ENTER THE MIDDLE OF THIS ROUTINE. LINES 700-750 LOOP 4 TIMES TO PICK A RANDOM VALUE OF 1 TO 16 FOR X, TO RANDOMLY SELECT THOSE MIRRORED PAIRS. B$ IS BUILT UP TO 4 PAIRS OF THESE NUMBERS, FORMING THE UPPER HALF OF A CHARACTER WHICH WILL HAVE LEFT/RIGHT SYMMETRY. AT THE SAME, C$ IS BUILT UP OF THESE SAME 4 PAIRS IN REVERSE. FINALLY, LINE 760 COMBINES B$ AND C$ TO REDEFINE A CHARACTER WHICH IS ALSO SYMMETRICAL TOP/BOTTOM. SINCE B$ AND C$ WERE BUILT UP BY ADDING ONTO THEMSELVES, LINES 770-780 MUST CANCEL THEM OUT BEFORE THEY ARE USED AGAIN IN THE NEXT LOOP OF CH. NUL$ IS NOT A MAGIC WORD, IT IS JUST A STRING VARIABLE NAME WHICH IS NEVER GIVEN A VALUE, THEREFORE REPRESENTS AN ERASED VALUE.
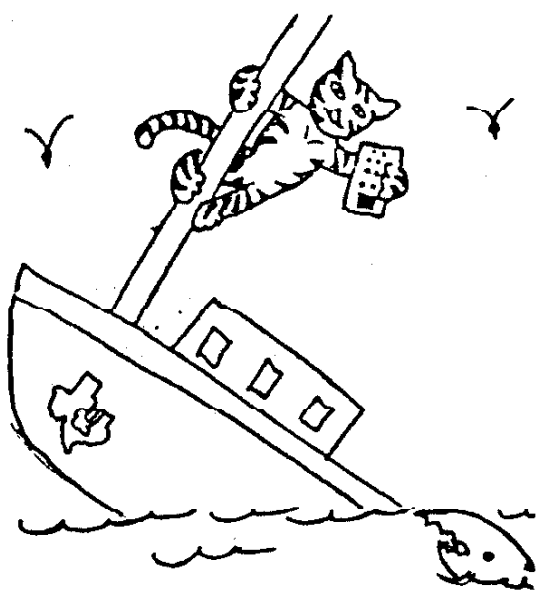
THE PROGRAM RETURNS TO LINE 340 AND THEN TO 940, WHERE EACH CHARACTER SET FROM 2 TO 16 IS GIVEN A DIFFERENT COLOR COMBINATION SELECTED RANDOMLY. LINE 1000 INSURES THAT THE FOREGROUND AND BACKGROUND COLOR WILL NOT BE THE SAME. AGAIN, LINES 960-970 AND 1020 ARE JUST SO THAT WE CAN LATER RE-ENTER THIS ROUTINE IN THE MIDDLE.

SINCE A CALL CLEAR WOULD ERASE OUR SCREEN BORDERS OF ASCII 1, THE SCREEN IS CLEARED BY THE CALL VCHAR WIPE IN LINE 350, AND LINE 360 THEN WIDENS THIS TRANSPARENT BORDER TO LEAVE ONLY A 24x24 SQUARE.

LINES 390-540 ARE A VERY COMPACT AND EFFICIENT ROUTINE TO MOVE THE CURSOR WITH THE ARROW KEYS AND DIAGONAL KEYS, WITHOUT GOING BEYOND PREDETERMINED BORDERS. WE DON'T HAVE ROOM TO EXPLAIN IT HERE, SO WE WILL GIVE A MORE COMPLETE VERSION IN A FUTURE TIPS.

OUT OF MEMORY, SO MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HACKIN'

JIM PETERSON

THE TIGERCUB WILL NOT DESERT THE
SHIP!
    HOWEVER, SOME FOLKS SEEM TO BE
DETERMINED TO SINK THE SHIP. SOME-
ONE IS NOW MARKETING A PROGRAM
CALLED THE UNPROTECTOR, TO BREAK
PROTECTION, AND THE 99'ER HAS SEEN
FIT TO ACCEPT ADVERTISING FOR THAT
BURGLAR TOOL. AT THE SAME TIME, THE
WHIZ KIDS HAVE FOUND AT LEAST THREE
DIFFERENT CALL LOADS TO BREAK PROTEC-
TION, AND SOME OF THE USERS GROUP
NEWSLETTERS ARE PUBLISHING THEM!
EVEN THE COMMAND MODULES MAY NOT BE
SAFE - A DEVICE IS BEING MARKETED TO
COPY ATARI CARTRIDGES TO TAPE.
    SO HOW MUCH LONGER WILL THE PROGR-
AMMERS BE WILLING TO SPEND MONTHS IN
DEVELOPING GOOD PROGRAMS THAT ONE PER-
SON WILL BUY AND A HUNDRED OTHERS WILL
COPY? WHY MUST COMPUTER MANUFACTURERS
AND COMPUTER USERS BE SO SELF-
DESTRUCTIVE?
    THIS DOESN'T AFFECT ME, SINCE I'M
PROGRAMMING IN BASIC - I KNOW THAT
MY COPYRIGHTED PROGRAMS ARE BEING
COPIED AND RECOPIED, EVEN ILLEGALLY
SOLD. BUT, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT SENDING
PROTECTED XBASIC DEMO TAPES OF MY
PROGRAMS TO THE USERS GROUP LIBRARIES!

    HERE'S A CHALLENGE FOR YOU AMATEUR
HACKERS. IN EXTENDED BASIC YOU CAN
WRITE IF X=1 THEN Y=7 ELSE IF X=2
THEN Y=33 ELSE IF X=3 THEN Y=19 ELSE
IF X=4 THEN Y= 21 . IN BASIC THAT
WOULD TAKE SEVERAL LINES OF PROGRAM-
MING - OR WOULD IT? CAN YOU DO IT IN
ONE LINE?

    SOME OF THE DEEPEST SECRETS OF THE
TI ARE BEING DISCOVERED AND PUBLISHED
BY CRAIG MILLER IN "THE SMART PROGRAM-
MER." THEY ARE ALREADY APPEARING ON
BULLETIN BOARDS AND ELSEWHERE WITHOUT
CREDIT TO CRAIG. PERHAPS THE MOST VAL-
UABLE OF THEM ALL IS:
CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD(-31806,16)
    TYPE THAT IN BEFORE YOU BEGIN PROGR-
AMMING, AND YOU WILL NEVER AGAIN LOSE
A PROGRAM TO THAT INFERNAL FCTN = KEY!
ALSO, PUT IT IN AS ONE OF THE FIRST
PROGRAM LINES AND YOUR PROGRAM WILL BE
KIDPROOFED AGAINST THE OPEN-PALM PRESS-
ALL KEYBOARD TECHNIQUE.
    ANOTHER EXTREMELY USEFUL ONE IS:
CALL PEEK(-28672,A)   IF THE SPEECH
SYNTHESIZER IS ATTACHED, A WILL EQUAL
96, OTHERWISE IT WILL EQUAL 0. IF YOU
ARE PUTTING OPTIONAL SPEECH IN AN EX-
TENDED BASIC PROGRAM, YOU CAN AVOID
THOSE SILENT PAUSES BY PUTTING THAT
CALL PEEK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PRO-
GRAM, AND THEN A LINE WITH IF A=0 THEN
BEFORE EACH CALL SAY TO SKIP OVER IT
IF THE SYNTHESIZER IS NOT ON.
    I HAVE ALSO FOUND GOOD USE FOR CRAIG'S
ROUTINE   CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD(-31888,
63,255) . THIS SHUTS DOWN ALL OF THE
DISK DRIVE FILES AND MAKES IT POSSIBLE
TO LOAD PROGRAMS OVER 12K LONG FROM
TAPE, AND COPY THEM BACK TO TAPE, WITH-
OUT HAVING TO PHYSICALLY DISCONNECT THE
DISK DRIVES.

I'm now receiving about 40 of the Users' Group newsletters, and some of them contain invaluable tips that deserve wider circulation. Here's one from Doug German in the Central Iowa 99/4A UG's "4A Forum" —

```
100 PRINT "Press Fire Button
To Continue"
110 CALL KEY(1,K1,S)
120 CALL KEY(2,K2,S)
130 IF K1+K2<>17 THEN 110
140 JS=INT(K1/18+K2/9+1)
```

Now, when you program CALL JOYST(JS,K,S) the program will respond to whichever of the two joysticks you were holding when you pressed the fire button!

In a previous Tips, I reported that if you had absent-mindedly typed OLD CS1 instead of SAVE CS1, and pressed ENTER, you can save your program by typing Shift E, ENTER, get an I/O error and start over. It turns out that this will work in Basic but will not work in either version of Extended Basic unless you have the Memory Expansion.

I am now the proud owner of a P-box, disk drive, and memory expansion, so let me pass on a few things I've already learned the hard way.

If you have keyed in a program with the disk drive turned off, DO NOT try to turn it on and save your program — you will lock up the system, will have to shut down and lose the program. You must save the program to tape, then turn on the drive, reload the program from tape and save it to the disk.

If you are trying to load a program from tape and you get the ERROR FOUND IN DATA message at the very beginning, it means that your program is too long — the disk drive has stolen more than 2000 bytes of your memory. If you just want to get the program into the computer, you can disconnect the disk drive (it doesn't help to just turn it off), or use Craig Miller's routine described on the preceding page. If you want to get the program onto a disk, you might be able to do so by first typing CALL FILES(1) — but you probably won't be able to get it back from disk to tape.

If the program is still too long, you can still get it onto a disk if you have Extended Basic and the Memory Expansion. The method recommended by Texas Instruments involves deleting part of the lines and then retyping them. My method is slow, but it eliminates the retyping. Proceed as follows:

Shut down or disconnect all disk drives. Load the program from tape (in Extended Basic if possible, because you can delete lines so much faster). Delete the first 50 lines. Save the shortened program to another tape. Turn on the disk drive, and memory expansion. Load the shortened program in Extended Basic. Save it to a disk with the Merge option. Shut down the drives again. Load the original program from tape. Delete the last 50 lines. Save it to a tape. Turn on the disk drive and memory expansion. Load it back in, in Extended Basic. Use the MERGE command to merge the previous shortened program into this one. Save the merged program to a disk. It will show up on the catalog as a file, but will load and run as a program. Don't give it to anyone who does not have Extended Basic and memory expansion!

According to Duane Fischer in the 99/4 Users of America newsletter, there are two models of the new white-plastic TI-99/4A. They can only be identified by the copyright notice on the bottom right edge of the title screen. It will read either (c) Texas Instruments 1981 or (c) Texas Instruments V2.2 — and if it is the latter, it is one of those which were gimmicked so they would not run the command modules produced by Funware, Romox, Atari or Parker Bros.

If you are having trouble determining locations on the screen during programming, put on a temporary grid with:

```
1 CALL CHAR(32,"FF8080808080808")
```

If it won't interfere with your graphics, you can even number the grid:

```
2 FOR J=1 TO 32
3 C=C+1-ABS(C=9)*10
4 CALL HCHAR(24,J,48+C)
5 IF J 24 THEN 7
6 CALL VCHAR(J,14,48+C)
7 NEXT J
```

Almost out of memory, so happy hackin'
                    Jim Peterson

NEW-AGE/99

HI

#7 PAGEPRO pt 2

Last time our wee leprechaun wished us a happy goodbye after exploring a few PAGEPRO delights. This exciting installment will uncover & show more ways to desktop publish via PP.

In limiting these explorations to 2-page segments some of the intricate niceties of PP have to be left to your imaginations and time.

We'll show an example of the neat TITLES on the next page but will leave the greeting-card making up to you. Exploring such a program on your own is 9/10ths of the fun!

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OKay. What do you need to make PAGEPRO the dream graphics/text program of the TI world?

Not much, really. Last time we suggested getting TIPS from your local user group or Jim Peterson of TIGERCUB for the thousands of graphics that come with it. That'll give you a big picture collection.

PAGEPRO will give you the state-of-the-art tools you'll need:

PAGE PRO 99 v 1.5 by Ed Johnson (& Chris Bobbitt) is the complete page-making software for 4A or Geneve. It includes all you need to make letter-heads, newsletters, pages of all descriptions, text conversions, etc. $24.95.

PP FONTS by artist Paul Scheidemantle comes on 2 disks. There are 50 of

them (small & large)! PP PICS are 7 volumes of excellent thematic pictures; PP TITLES (see next page) are pretty dramatic eye-catchers; PP UTILI-TIES are extraordinary graphic manipulation tools essential for quick layout (cards), design, inversions, rotations, etc.; and PIX PRO, the single converter you'll need for converting to and from PAGEPRO, TI-ARTIST (pix & instances, ideal for CSGD & GRAPHIC LABEL users, too), RLE, PICASSO and even MACPIX. Yes, PAGEPRO does print full-page graphics!

A NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S DREAM COME TRUE!
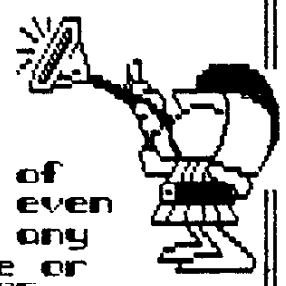
As a matter of fact, PAGEPRO even lets you save any part of a page or THE ENTIRE PAGE as a single picture, thus giving you endless clipping and overlaying possibilities and greater reprint abilities than ever before imagined.

[This article, for example could be saved as two pictures on disk and sent to an editor else-where who has PAGEPRO. That person would simply load the program and load a picture (not a page) & what you see printed before you, including all the graphics and borders are exactly what the ed-itor would get fresh on his or her printer. Neat package, no?

I thought I'd complete this two-part review of PAGE PRO 99 from Asgard by a few bits of dazzle. It's so easy. Below, in case you didn't notice, is an example of PP TITLES. The font I'm using SCRIPT for small fonts. For the larger ones I'll use

LOOK AT THIS!

Antique

which is quite different from any of the others I've shown so far in this lengthy review of PAGEPRO. Next I'd like to fill up and overlay a bunch of this page with pix of all kinds.

WHEE!

You can see that with such a wonderful graphic program, you are limited only by your imagination.
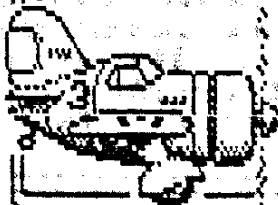
There is
NO

with this program. Only stuff.

As you have undoubtedly gathered by now, NEW-AGE/99 rates this program a solid A+. I haven't used anything so often since FUNNELWEB, nor had as much fun since the invention of the yo-yo.

To get yours contact:

ASGARD SOFTWARE
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20850   Ph. 703-255-3085

PAGEPRO
from
ASGARD

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The OUT&POST, is published monthly, except in JULY and AUGUST of each year, by the NORTHERN NEVADA NINETY-NINERS USERS' GROUP (4N), a non-profit organization, supporting the TI-99/4A and compatibles. 4N is not affiliated with TEXAS INSTRUMENTS or their subsidiaries.

Any mention of a specific product in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement.

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All 4N Users' Group members are encouraged to submit articles, programs, tips, etc., for publication in this, YOUR, newsletter. Please, send your submittals to:

> 4N Newsletter Editor
> 3490 Golden Valley Road
> Reno, NV 89506

Please contact the Newsletter Editor when any missing or illegible copies are received. Back issues are still available for a small fee. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

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Term of office, 12/88 - 12/90.

MEMBERSHIP

To join the Northern Nevada Ninety-Niners, an annual fee of $20.00 ($15.00 for newsletter ONLY subscription) is due and payable on or before the last Tuesday of each January. Membership includes a monthly newsletter, access to the Program and Paper libraries, and S.I.G.'s.

The following color-codes are placed on address labels to serve as reminders to our subcribers/members regarding their active status with 4N:

GREEN highlight = Renewal fee due.
YELLOW highlight = Fee is 1 month overdue.
RED highlight   = Fee is 2 months in arrears...
                   FINAL NOTICE!

PROGRAM LIBRARY

Disk programs are available from our library at the following rates:

> SS/SD = $2.00
> DS/SD = $4.00 (includes FLIPPIES.)
> DS/DD = $6.00

Send disk, self-addressed postage-paid return mailer and check or money order with your specific request to the Program Librarian's attention at the return address on the back of this newsletter.

DISKS of the MONTH

Two software programs on disk are demoed each month at the general meeting, announced in advance through the newsletter. These disks are available only to the active members at a discount of .50 cents each. To qualify for the special rate (normally $2 each), they must be picked up in person during the evening of the demonstration. NO EXCEPTIONS!

PAPER LIBRARY

4N participates in an ongoing newsletter exchange program. Presently, we have over 25 users' groups on our mailing list. Active members are encouraged to check out these newsletters (maximum 6 issues) for a one month period, and on a first-come, first-served, basis. There is no fee charged for this service. However, members are expected to return them to the paper library, in the same shape as they were received, within the alloted period.

ATTENTION EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER EDITORS... Please send your newsletters to the address on the left ←. THANK YOU!

S.I.G.'s

As the need arises by the membership for special instruction in order to develop the skills necessary for a particular software program or hardware item, a special interest group may be called upon by the President. This is not a formal meeting and is usually held at a member's home, where personal attention and instruction is readily given.

SUPPORT

4N supports the following vendors:

MICROpendium, P.O. Box 1343, Round Rock, TX 78680
TEXCOMP   1-919-356-6631
TRITON   1-800-227-6900
TEXAMENTS 1-516-475-3480
ASGARD   1-703-255-3085

4N also supports the FAIRWARE concept and urges others who have acquired and frequently use these particular programs to please REWARD THE AUTHOR for his work!

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page - $10.00 / Half Page - $7.00
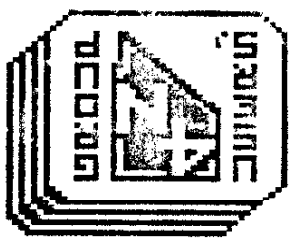
Quarter Page or Business Card - $4.00

ALL RATES ARE FOR ONE ISSUE ONLY!

Present circulation - 54 (As of 7/31/90)

MEETING DATES

Unless noted in the newsletter, 4N general meetings are held on the last TUESDAY of each month, at 7:00 P.M., at ROUND TABLE PIZZA, West 4th and Vine St., Reno, NV. Visitors are cordially invited to attend!