



# SOONER 99ERS

This newsletter is the official publication of the SOONER 99ers  
POB 61061  
Oklahoma City, OK 73146

Sooner 99ers BBS#:  
(405) 672-8270 300/1200 8N1

Club Officers:  
Dave Lewis

Robert Stepp  
Joel Mann  
Mark Mitchell  
Jerry Robertson  
Barry Peterson

President  
(405) 329-2274  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Librarian  
Newsletter Editor  
(405) 721-6930

## APRIL 1989 NEWSLETTER

Greetings, friends.... Welcome again to the current newsletter. I feel a little guilty and will try to do better next time but wasn't certain I would be able to do the newsletter on time. I was called to jury duty this week and had visions of getting on a trial that would use up my extra time this week but we finished Tuesday afternoon. (But that's another story)

Things are relatively quiet; but I suspect that's our/my fault. Some groups around the country report a lot of quietness, but some are very busy! I have found some interesting articles and will include what I find space for. I want to thank the dynamic duo of Garth Potts and Dave Lewis for their articles. And suggest that you're all invited to do the same. Just write down a few lines about the software you are using, what you use it for, what you like (or don't like) about it. In other words, write something and I'll be happy to "fix it up" for you. Think about it: you could be a "published" author, and it's very easy.

I have received a copy of a newsletter which lists well over 100 clubs that they send their newsletter to! (I am trying to get it into a database so we can use it) If you have friends or family in another state, I'll bet there's a club near them and I have its' address.

We are still searching for a permanent meeting place (free meeting place). We are still working on getting the hard drive to work with the BBS program. And we want to find those "closet TI's" that have been put aside. There are many people out there with TI computers who could use our help and help us. All we need to do is to find them. I just got a call from Cliff Huber; he had just received his newest Tenex catalog and another catalog that was addressed to someone else. Cliff called this fellow and told him about the club (good publicity). Maybe we'll have another member as a result of his call; this man thought all of the TI clubs were gone; NOT SO, SILICON BREATH!

Goodbye 'till next month;

Barry Peterson, newsletter editor

## AN EASY WAY TO TRACK YOUR CHECKS!

There isn't a new toy or piece of software that comes along that I don't crave. Yet like an old pair of comfortable shoes, I keep returning to Checkbook and Budget Manager to keep track of my checks. Created by John E. Taylor (JET) as freeware this program is actually a pair of surprisingly user-friendly yet sophisticated systems- one for budgetting and one for checking.

You begin with an autoload through Extended Basic which gives you a menu which allows you to choose from Checkbook Manager or Budget Manager among 5 options. You can also set your drive and printer defaults at this stage, which are automatically saved to your program disk. You also use a data disk which can be set for any drive usage.

Entering from that menu into Checkbook Manager, you really begin to see the beauty of this program. At the first annual usage, you choose "Initialize Files" which creates a monthly log for your reports. You can Input or Change Transactions for checks numbering up to 9999, and amounts up to 5 figures (obviously, that doesn't happen in my account very often). Included in the entry are the date, amount, addressee, any notation, an open or closed option and the coup de gras, account. You get 99 of those which you can use either the defaulted ones or those you customize. Access the Print Report option and you get an up-to-the minute monthly log with all the info for each check nicely laid

out in an 80 column line, single-spaced, easily fitting into 1-3 pages. I keep these in an annual looseleaf notebook for further reference. The accounts obviously include deposit and well as check accounts and maintain a running balance which will assist in your monthly reconciliation efforts. By the way, you can easily change the balance if you need to from the Main Menu.

The "good stuff" really begins when you have entered your monthly checks and move into the Budget Manager Section. Here you can begin by printing your defaulted Budget Accounts for future coding or customizing. You also can add budget amounts to each category for comparisons with your monthly totals (We spent how much!!! on clothes this month!##!). The neat part is your year-to-date report broken into monthly account balances, averaged and totalled, and.... if you want, compared with your budgetted figures. I realize that waxing rhapsodically over a computer program may sound a little looney but when you do your own taxes and attempt to total taxable vs. non-taxable amounts, etc., this is one handy piece of software.

Complaints? Not really, except that with all the various functions, it's not exactly greased lightning, and if it could figure out where I'm off 34 cents, I'd be totally awestruck. It's really a fine piece of work which I heartily recommend and is found in our club library.

GARTH POTTS

## DISPLAYING THE IBM GRAPHIC ELEMENTS

by Joe T. Rawlins  
the Boston Computer Society Newsletter

Several months ago I needed to make an attendance chart for the Sunday School class that I co-teach with my wife. I proceeded to draw one on Kraft paper, only to find that I had skipped a few dates and misspelled a name. I did this twice and decided that there had to be a better way.

I use an IBM PS/2 model 50 at work, and have created numerous charts and blank forms using the graphic elements contained in the IBM character set 1. These characters are located from character 176 through character 223, and are printable with an IBM compatible printer. These printers usually have DIP switches to select either standard (Epson) or IBM emulation. When the standard character set is selected, these characters represent Italic characters, however when the IBM mode is selected they represent the predefined line graphics. Most printer manuals contain a table of the various character sets available for that printer.

Printing the graphic elements was just a matter of using the transliterate command on various characters below 127, since Funnelweb only recognizes characters in the range of 0 to 127. I tried to pick characters that I thought I would not use in any ctext that may have to go on any chart. I also tried to use the paired keys ([ ] < >) for the corner combinations. There are 45 graphic elements in the range I am covering, however I have only used 19 of them.

This worked fine for printing, but looked a little strange on the screen and you could not be sure how it would look until you ran it through the formatter. Why not convert the characters that were transliterated to display what they would become? I have changed a few letters in a CHARA1 file with a sector editor, which is OK for a few characters, but to change 19 or so seemed like a lot of work (I like to draw the characters on graph paper

and then figure the hex code for each row). I subscribe to GENIAL TRAVELER (everyone should) and in Volume 1 Number 5 there is a program by Wayne Stith called KWIKFONT, which is an all-assembly character definition program. With this program I was able to redefine the characters that I selected and to display the graphics elements desired. After redefining the characters, the ones that have been changed may be saved to a DV-80 file.

Once this is done, you have two choices, to use another program by Wayne Stith called KF->CHARA1, or use the information in the file to modify an existing CHARA1 file. I have done both. Wayne's program creates a nine-sector CHARA1 file on DSK1, from the saved DV-80 file and whatever CHARA1 is in memory at that time. I have found this file to be workable from Funnelweb even though it originally came with a five-sector one. It is possible to use a sector editor to change this from a nine to a five sector file, however that is another article. If you already have a CHARA1 file that has modified characters that you want to keep then the second option is what you want.

The November, 1988 issue of MICROpendium contained an article and source code for converting your favorite CHARA1 file into source code DATA statements for editing. The article is by John Birdwell and the source code as published was bug-free. What you get is a Charset file that you may edit with the data obtained from KWIKFONT DV-80 file. Once the data statements have been modified, this source code is then assembled to get E/A-3 code. This is then loaded into the assembler along with the SAVE utility. Execute the SAVE and save the file produced as CHARA1. I saved mine as CHARA2 since I would only be using the graphic elements with the word wrap disabled and in 80 columns (Funnelweb's program editor).

The following is the source code for the Charset that I created. I am including it for those who do not have KWIKFONT and the November, 1988 issue of MICROpendium.

```

0000      DEF SLOAD,SFIRST,SLAST
0001
0002      SLOAD
0003      SFIRST
0004      DATA >0020,>0000,>1824,>2418      #char=>00
0005      DATA >0020,>0008,>1808,>081C      #char=>01
0006      DATA >0020,>0018,>2408,>103C      #char=>02
0007      DATA >0020,>0018,>2408,>2418      #char=>03
0008      DATA >0020,>0014,>141C,>0404      #char=>04
0009      DATA >0020,>001C,>1018,>0418      #char=>05
0010      DATA >0020,>0008,>1038,>2418      #char=>06
0011      DATA >0020,>001C,>0408,>1010      #char=>07
0012      DATA >0020,>0018,>2418,>2418      #char=>08
0013      DATA >0020,>0018,>241C,>0408      #char=>09
0014      DATA >0020,>0000,>1C10,>1C10      #char=>0A
0015      DATA >0040,>0020,>2038,>2438      #char=>0B
0016      DATA >0070,>0070,>4854,>1C14      #char=>0C
0017      DATA >0070,>0070,>001C,>1010      #char=>0D
0018      DATA >0020,>0018,>243C,>2018      #char=>0E
0019      DATA >0040,>0014,>101C,>1010      #char=>0F
0020      DATA >0040,>0040,>1824,>2418      #char=>10
0021      DATA >0020,>2020,>2808,>0808      #char=>11
0022      DATA >0040,>0038,>2408,>103C      #char=>12
0023      DATA >0040,>0058,>2408,>2418      #char=>13
0024      DATA >0040,>0054,>141C,>0404      #char=>14
0025      DATA >0040,>005C,>1018,>0418      #char=>15
0026      DATA >0040,>0048,>1038,>2418      #char=>16
0027      DATA >0040,>005C,>0408,>1010      #char=>17
0028      DATA >0040,>0058,>0000,>2418      #char=>18
0029      DATA >0040,>0058,>241C,>0408      #char=>19
0030      DATA >0040,>0040,>1824,>3C24      #char=>1A
0031      DATA >0040,>0050,>101C,>141C      #char=>1B
0032      DATA >0040,>0040,>1C10,>101C      #char=>1C
0033      DATA >0040,>0444,>041C,>141C      #char=>1D
0034      DATA >0070,>0070,>0070,>0070      #char=>1E
0035      DATA >0040,>4C50,>101C,>1010      #char=>1F
0036      DATA >0000,>0000,>0000,>0000      #char=>20
0037      DATA >0010,>1018,>1000,>1800      #char=>21
0038      DATA >0028,>2828,>0000,>0000      #char=>22
0039      DATA >0008,>00FF,>00FF,>0000      #char=>23
0040      DATA >0008,>0008,>FF00,>0000      #char=>24
0041      DATA >0044,>4C18,>3064,>4400      #char=>25
0042      DATA >0020,>5020,>5448,>3400      #char=>26
0043      DATA >0008,>1020,>0000,>0000      #char=>27
0044      DATA >0008,>0000,>0F08,>0808      #char=>28
0045      DATA >0000,>0000,>F008,>0808      #char=>29
0046      DATA >0044,>287C,>2844,>0000      #char=>2A
0047      DATA >0008,>0808,>FF08,>0808      #char=>2B
0048      DATA >0000,>0000,>0030,>1020      #char=>2C
0049      DATA >0000,>0000,>FF00,>0000      #char=>2D
0050      DATA >0000,>0000,>0030,>3800      #char=>2E
0051      DATA >1414,>1414,>F414,>1414      #char=>2F
0052      DATA >003C,>4C54,>6444,>3800      #char=>30
0053      DATA >0010,>3010,>1010,>3800      #char=>31
0054      DATA >0038,>4408,>1020,>7C00      #char=>32
0055      DATA >0038,>4418,>0444,>3800      #char=>33
0056      DATA >0008,>1828,>487C,>0800      #char=>34
0057      DATA >0078,>4078,>0444,>3800      #char=>35
0058      DATA >0038,>4078,>4444,>3800      #char=>36
0059      DATA >007C,>0408,>1820,>2000      #char=>37
0060      DATA >0038,>4438,>4444,>3800      #char=>38
0061      DATA >0038,>4444,>3C04,>7800      #char=>39
0062      DATA >0000,>3030,>0030,>3800      #char=>3A
0063      DATA >0000,>3030,>0030,>1020      #char=>3B
0064      DATA >0008,>0008,>0F00,>0000      #char=>3C
0065      DATA >0000,>00FF,>00FF,>0000      #char=>3D
0066      DATA >0008,>0008,>F800,>0000      #char=>3E
0067      DATA >0000,>00FF,>00FF,>0008      #char=>3F
0068      DATA >0038,>4454,>5040,>3C00      #char=>40
0069      DATA >0038,>4444,>7C44,>4400      #char=>41
0070      DATA >0078,>2438,>2424,>7800      #char=>42
0071      DATA >0038,>4448,>4044,>3800      #char=>43
0072      DATA >0078,>2424,>2424,>7800      #char=>44
0073      DATA >007C,>4078,>4040,>7C00      #char=>45
0074      DATA >007C,>4078,>4040,>4000      #char=>46
0075      DATA >0038,>4440,>4C44,>3800      #char=>47
0076      DATA >0044,>447C,>4444,>4400      #char=>48
0077      DATA >0038,>1010,>1010,>3800      #char=>49
0078      DATA >0004,>0404,>0444,>3800      #char=>4A
0079      DATA >0044,>4858,>7848,>4400      #char=>4B
0080      DATA >0040,>4040,>4040,>7C00      #char=>4C
0081      DATA >0044,>6C54,>4444,>4400      #char=>4D
0082      DATA >0044,>6454,>544C,>4400      #char=>4E
0083      DATA >0038,>4444,>4444,>3800      #char=>4F
0084      DATA >0078,>4444,>7840,>4000      #char=>50
0085      DATA >0038,>4444,>544C,>3C00      #char=>51
0086      DATA >0078,>4444,>7848,>4400      #char=>52
0087      DATA >0038,>4438,>0844,>3800      #char=>53
0088      DATA >007C,>1018,>1010,>1000      #char=>54
0089      DATA >0044,>4444,>4444,>3800      #char=>55
0090      DATA >0044,>4444,>4428,>1000      #char=>56
0091      DATA >0044,>4444,>5454,>2000      #char=>57
0092      DATA >0044,>2010,>1020,>4400      #char=>58
0093      DATA >0044,>4428,>1010,>1000      #char=>59
0094      DATA >007C,>0810,>2040,>7C00      #char=>5A
0095      DATA >1414,>1417,>101F,>0008      #char=>5B
0096      DATA >1414,>1414,>1714,>1414      #char=>5C
0097      DATA >1414,>14F4,>04FC,>0000      #char=>5D
0098      DATA >0010,>2844,>0000,>0000      #char=>5E
0099      DATA >0000,>0000,>0000,>7C00      #char=>5F
0100      DATA >0000,>0000,>FF08,>0808      #char=>60
0101      DATA >0000,>0038,>4848,>3C00      #char=>61
0102      DATA >0020,>2038,>2424,>3800      #char=>62
0103      DATA >0000,>001C,>2020,>1C00      #char=>63
0104      DATA >0004,>041C,>2424,>1C00      #char=>64
0105      DATA >0000,>001C,>2830,>1C00      #char=>65
0106      DATA >000C,>1038,>1010,>1000      #char=>66
0107      DATA >0000,>001C,>241C,>0438      #char=>67
0108      DATA >0020,>2038,>2424,>2400      #char=>68
0109      DATA >0010,>0038,>1010,>3800      #char=>69
0110      DATA >0008,>0008,>0808,>4830      #char=>6A
0111      DATA >0020,>2024,>3828,>2408      #char=>6B
0112      DATA >0030,>1010,>1010,>3800      #char=>6C
0113      DATA >0000,>0078,>5454,>5400      #char=>6D
0114      DATA >0000,>0038,>2424,>2400      #char=>6E
0115      DATA >0000,>0018,>2424,>1800      #char=>6F
0116      DATA >0000,>0038,>2438,>2020      #char=>70
0117      DATA >0000,>001C,>241C,>0404      #char=>71
0118      DATA >0000,>0028,>3420,>2000      #char=>72
0119      DATA >0000,>001C,>300C,>3800      #char=>73
0120      DATA >0010,>1038,>1010,>0C00      #char=>74
0121      DATA >0000,>0024,>2424,>1C00      #char=>75
0122      DATA >0000,>0044,>2828,>1000      #char=>76
0123      DATA >0000,>0044,>5454,>2800      #char=>77
0124      DATA >0000,>0024,>1818,>2400      #char=>78
0125      DATA >0000,>0024,>241C,>0438      #char=>79
0126      DATA >0000,>003C,>1810,>3C00      #char=>7A
0127      DATA >0000,>001F,>1817,>1414      #char=>7B
0128      DATA >0008,>0008,>0808,>0808      #char=>7C
0129      DATA >0000,>00FC,>04F4,>1414      #char=>7D
0130      DATA >1414,>1414,>1414,>1414      #char=>7E
0131      SLAST      END

```

My transliterate file looks like this:

```
.CO IBM GRAPHIC ELEMENTS TRANSLITERATE
.CO FILE WILL PRINT GRAPHIC ELEMENTS
.CO WHEN USED WITH AN IBM COMPATIBLE
.CO PRINTER - any printer capable of
.CO printing the IBM CHARACTER SET
.CO ==IBM double horizontal line
.TL 61:205
.CO ~=IBM double vertical line
.TL 126:186
.CO (=IBM double upper left corner
.TL 123:201
.CO )=IBM double upper right corner
.TL 125:187
.CO [=IBM double lower left corner
.TL 91:200
.CO |=IBM double lower right corner
.TL 93:188
.CO ?=IBM double line top
.TL 63:209
.CO #=IBM double line bottom
.TL 35:207
.CO \=IBM double vert line w/rgt dash
.TL 92:199
.CO /=IBM double vert line w/left dash
.TL 47:182
.CO -=IBM horizontal line
.TL 45:196
.CO |=IBM vertical line
.TL 124:179
.CO (=IBM single upper left corner
.TL 40:218
.CO )=IBM single upper right corner
.TL 41:191
.CO <=IBM single lower left corner
.TL 60:192
.CO >=IBM single lower right corner
.TL 62:217
.CO `=IBM single line top
.TL 96:194
.CO $=IBM single line bottom
.TL 36:193
.CO +=IBM cross
.TL 49:197
```

The transliterate file should be included in any file that you wish to print. This may be by physically having the listing in your file or by using the ".IF DSKx.filename"

formatter command. If you use the latter it should be included before any reference is made to the transliterated characters.

With my new CHARA2 file I can display the graphic elements I have converted by selecting the Programmer's Editor from Funnelweb as my first editor choice. If you select the Word Processing Editor first CHARA1 will be used. If this happens and you need to switch to the CHARA2 file, exit the Editor and select the User List, then <FCTN>9 back and select the Programmer's Editor. CHARA2 is now loaded and ready to use.

If there are any graphic elements that I haven't included and you need it is now a simple matter to redefine one with a sector editor on the CHARA1 file or in Charset DATA statements. Don't forget to add the transliterate command to your transliterate file. If you don't send your printer embedded control codes you may use a lot of the characters below 32, and access them with the <CTRL> U function. Do not use character 13 (carriage return) as a transliterate, since it is the one character that is almost always used. Actually that is probably a very good place to place your transliterates if you are selective in what you change and wish to keep all of your printable characters available.

For best printing results I usually print my charts in NLQ along with EMPHASIZED DOUBLE-STRIKE. On my Seikosha SP-1200AI, NLQ is initiated by sending the printer "ESC,x,1" and MIXED MODE printing of EMPHASIZED DOUBLE-STRIKE with "ESC,!,character 24". I embed these codes in my file and they are sent to the printer at the time of printing.

Happy screens

TI-99/4A KEYBOARD DIODE MOD TO ELIMINATE THE JOYSTICK/ALPHA LOCK PROBLEM

BY EARL ENGLISH 4/11/88  
MIDLANDS 99ERS, COLUMBIA, SC

EDITED BY LARRY J. HARPRING 4/14/88  
MIDLANDS 99ERS, COLUMBIA, SC

The following has been written in order to eliminate some confusion which may exist about modification of the keyboard to incorporate a diode which allows the joystick North (up) direction to function with the Alpha Lock Key in the Down (all upper case) position.

This project, if attempted, should be done in conjunction with any other work which would require opening up the computer (unless you have nothing better to do), and should be undertaken only by those who have some skills with hand tools and soldering. I can only report the success of my own work in this area, and cannot assume responsibility for failures caused by following (or NOT following) these directions, or modifying keyboards which differ from those described. Proceed at your own risk.

First there are at least 2 different styles of keyboards, one which when viewed from the bottom is a brown color, having only some jumper wires exposed, and another which is green, having the traces of the wiring showing. Both types can be easily modified, and I have been successful using 2 different diodes (1N4446 and 1N34A). [ 1N914 or 1N4148 diodes will also work. LJH ]

To attack either style, you will need a small Phillips screwdriver, a wire cutter, a pair of needlenose pliers, and a diode. Then proceed as follows: Turn off the power, pull all connecting cables from the computer, and turn it over with the space bar closest to you. On the bottom there are 7 phillips screws hidden in the recesses. Remove these (don't lose them) and then pull the power switch lever from the console (it comes straight away parallel to the bottom). Lift off the bottom cover.

The first style (brown) is the easiest to modify, and is modified as follows:

Locate the pair of jumpers at the bottom of the board on the right hand side (with the computer inverted, and the spacebar closest to you). The lower of these is the one to replace with the diode. Desolder one end of this jumper, and clip the other end about 1/8 inch above the board. Center the diode between the wires with the stripe [ diode's black band ] toward the closest edge [ side edge ] of the keyboard, and solder both ends. Replace the bottom cover with the 7 screws (you still have all 7 of them don't you?). Reinstall the power switch lever, and you are done.

The second style requires a bit more disassembly. Remove 2 screws holding the power supply board in place. Lift the power supply board from its locating pins and set it to the left about 1/2 inch. Next remove the 3 screws holding the Main board (1 lower left, 1 upper center, and 1 lower right), lift the board away from the locator pins, and set it away from you, just enough to allow access to the connections on the keyboard.

Note: To slip during the next operation can cause extensive repair time, so be careful!

From the right hand side count to the 6th wire pad on the ribbon cable going to the main board. Carefully cut the trace between that pad and the one below it. (best to use a continuity test to insure that the cut is complete) then solder in the diode with the stripe toward the ribbon cable.

Reseat the main board on its pins, make sure that the "Bigfoot" connector is located properly, and the power receptacle is in its slot, and reinstall the 3 screws. Reseat the power supply board on its pins and reinstall the 2 screws. Reinstall the bottom cover and you are done.

[The following is a message left by Earl English on the Orphanage BBS, (803) 754-4996 before he upload the above instructions. I think the diagrams below will be helpful also. LJH ]



## A Short Banner Program

by Tony Falco

There have been numerous banner programs found in this newsletter over the years. So why another one? This one is shorter than most and it allows more options than others that I have seen.

The banner program listed below allows the user to pick ten different character sizes. You simply pick a magnification from 1 (8x8 characters) to 10 (80x80 characters) to get the desired size. In addition you can print the banner either horizontally or vertically.

The program was designed for the Gemini 10X printer but it should run on any other printer. You may need to change line 10 for other printers. This line sets the line feed size to 1/12 inch.

This program also shares some disadvantages with other programs. It uses the built in T.I. character set and so with high magnification some letters having diagonal lines (N,R and X for example) do not look too pleasing. It also tends to be slow, pausing to convert from hex to decimal to binary (see subprograms in lines 75-95) after each character.

```
10 OPEN #1:"PIO" :: PRINT #1
:CHR$(27);CHR$(65);CHR$(6)::
  CALL CLEAR
15 INPUT "HORIZONTAL/VERTICAL (H/V)":MD$ :: INPUT "MAGNIFICATION(1-10)":MG
20 INPUT "MESSAGE==>":M$ ::
  FOR X=1 TO LEN(M$):: D=ASC(SEG$(M$,X,1))
25 CALL CHARPAT(D,P$):: FOR
Y=1 TO 8 :: G$=SEG$(P$,2*Y-1,1)
30 CALL HEX_BIN(G$,B$):: K$=
SEG$(P$,2*Y,1):: CALL HEX_BIN(K$,C$)
35 FOR I=1 TO 4 :: A$(Y,I)=SEG$(B$,I,1):: NEXT I
40 FOR I=5 TO 8 :: A$(Y,I)=SEG$(C$,I-4,1):: NEXT I :: NEXT Y
45 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(77);CHR$(40-4*MG):: IF MD$="H"
  THEN 60
50 FOR Y=1 TO 8 :: FOR J=1 TO 8
  0 MG :: FOR I=1 TO 8 :: PRINT #1:RPT$(A$(Y,I),MG);
55 NEXT I :: PRINT #1 :: NEXT J :: NEXT Y :: GOTO 70
60 FOR Y=1 TO 8 :: FOR J=1 TO 8
  0 MG :: FOR I=1 TO 8 :: PRINT #1:RPT$(A$(9-I,Y),MG);
65 NEXT I :: PRINT #1 :: NEXT J :: NEXT Y
70 NEXT X :: CLOSE #1
75 SUB DEC(HX$,DD):: V=ASC(HX$):: DD=(V-48)*(V>47)*(V<58)+(55-V)*(V>64):: SUBEND
80 SUB BINARY(DD,BD$):: BD$="" :: FOR X=3 TO 0 STEP -1
85 IF DD>=2^X THEN DG$=CHR$(79):: DD=DD-2^X ELSE DG$=""
90 BD$=BD$&DG$ :: NEXT X :: SUBEND
95 SUB HEX_BIN(HX$,B$):: CALL DEC(HX$,D):: CALL BINARY(D,B$):: SUBEND
```



## THE UGLY DUCKLING

### 9640 NEWS

An interesting piece of literature (software ?) came my way last week. It was a "diskazine" copy of the "9640 News" edited by Beery W. Miller. This represents one of the first efforts to put together a publication - and I'd really have to call it that even if it gets printed by my printer rather than his - dedicated solely to the Myarc Geneve. Much of the info on our machine is being disseminated by word of mouth or through the national bulletin boards and the 9640 News can serve as a clearinghouse for information, software releases, rumors, and just plain old gripes. It seems a bit more timely than Micropendium and doesn't seem to serve as a platform for more of Myarc's "any day now".

Volume 1, number 2 of the News is on a double sided, single density disk and contains 20 programs. Most of the documentation files and programs are archived to make maximum use of disk space. Contents of the disk include a review of Mike Dodd's Hyper Copy, a long document on Myarc's Hard and Floppy Disk Controller Card (we might quote from the article here - "When you purchase the HFDC, be prepared for problems. Of the three cards I have seen, they all had to be returned to Myarc for repairs." hmm.....), articles on C99, Fortran, a review and discussion of TI Base, letters to the

editor, and a question and answer area mostly devoted to questions about what will work with what.

Probably the best thing on the disk is a fairware program called "XHi" written by Alex Hulpke of West Germany. This program is an Extended Basic enhancement which allows slow, unadvanced, TI Extended Basic to do most of the things that Myarc Advanced Basic may get around to doing real soon now. It allows XB to directly access the high resolution 512 color palette in the Yamaha Video chip. It also allows XB to call up MYART pictures. There are a bunch of new Extended Basic commands and improved sprite capabilities. The program documentation rates about a B+, with the program itself deserving an A, if only for the effort put into it by Mr. Hulpke. The author states that the program also should run on the Mechatronic 80 column card.

The 9640 News represents a superb effort by Beery Miller. His policy of charging to distribute other people's fairware might bother some people but the costs are quite nominal and he may be the only source of software for those of us who don't subscribe to the various national boards. For more information contact :

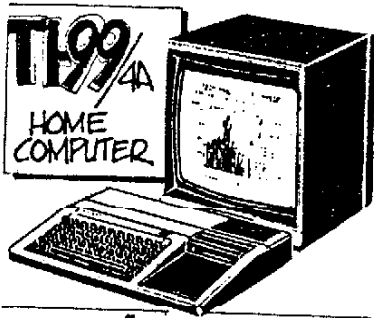
Beery Miller  
5455 Marina Cove #1  
Memphis TN 38115

Dave Lewis Sooner 99ers



"YES, WE STILL HAVE A FEW BUGS IN THE WORD PROCESSING SOFTWARE, AND BY THE WAY, HERE'S A MEMO FROM MARKETING."

Sooner 99ers  
 PO Box 61061  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73146



TAKE THIS "COPLAN" OUT OF THE CLOSET AND JOIN THE SOONER 99ERS USERS GROUP!

- UNLEASH THE TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL OF THIS ONCE UGLY DUCKLING WHICH HAS BECOME A SWAN WITH THE TI-99/4A YOU CAN DO ~
- \* WORD PROCESSING
  - \* SPREADSHEET
  - \* PROGRAMMING IN 6 LANGUAGES
  - \* CLIBE MEETINGS 2X/MONTH
  - \* SOFTWARE LIBRARY
  - \* BULLETIN BOARD
  - \* GAMES
  - \* MUSIC & SPEECH
  - \* TUTORIALS
  - \* \$24/ANNUAL FEE
  - \* WORDSLEPS

CONTACT OR CAROL POTTS (CLIP PRES.) JR. 718-7119, CP-752-7307