West Penn 99'ers

Supporting the TI-99/4A Home Computer

Mickey started the November meeting at 7:20 PM. Her thanks went to John Whelan for filling the Librarians position and to the dark-handed coke guy for his really nice job on re-inking printer ribbons. Later in the program Art gave Mickey a hundred dollars (for the fifth time) for his well appreciated efforts. What a guy. This money went directly into the clubs treasury and not towards Mickey's salary. Ha! Our club presently has 49 members and is expecting a new member from Florida. Lynn, Bob and I gave our reports. We all thank you, Bob, on the fine job you have done on the library. Paul gave his report and mentioned receiving, from the Atlanta Users group, their disk on Halloween and Thanksgiving. It is now in our library. I brought in some excess TI equipment that was distributed to those that had a need for it. Thanks go to John Willforth and Gary Taylor for their part on obtaining this equipment. BTW, John video taped much of the nights proceedings. Detailed, and I do mean detailed, reports were given on the Chicago Faire by Gary Taylor, Norm Rokke and Mickey Cendrowski. Funny how everyone's reports became more interesting and drawn out while the video camera was running. Tonight was election night. All present officers

and appointed positions repeated with the exception of John Whelan replacing Bob Sadusky as librarian. This night was also our annual Pizza night. Thanks again·Bob for a nice selection and for keeping the lights on. Chris Bobbitt of Asgard will now only work with peripherals, while Harry Brashear will handle the other facets of Asgards business. Must reading from the October MICROpendium is the article on p24, "A new day for the TI99/4A". It looks like the Boston computer club has folded but the Munch Users Group may?? sponsor the Boston Faire. Bruce Harrison will now release his future programs to the public domain. He is working on a special project, however, that will sandwich option #3 programs to option #5. Mickey demoed her new Genealogy program. She did a marvelous job on it. She showed and made available a hard copy of her extensive work. Anyone interested in this topic would do themselves a favor to see her fine efforts. She offered it as one of the raffle prizes. Her husband Mike is listed as 00 on the charts but we know what an important part he had in the timely completion of this fine program. Mickey and Mike are now into hardware projects. No telling what burnouts we might hear about next. Besides the regular raffle, Mickey started a new trial project to enhance attendance. This being a free drawing to all those present for some selected prize. So, Ya see, U

got to attend to be a winner.
L.L. Conner Enterprise is
still offering a nice supply
of TI equipment. 1521 Ferry
Street, Lafayette, IN. 47901.
Phone (317) 742-8146. Well I
guess it's time to windup this
report. With all of the ex-
citement of the evening, I
didn't realize until I started
to write the minutes that Norm
didn't get any time to give
his MICROpendium report. Oh!
well, I'm sure he will cover
next months issue very thor-
oughly. Since this was kind of
a reunion night, we pass along
our best wishes to Chris
Pratt. Hope to see you soon.
May the good 4's be with you.

PUG BBS HI-LITES

No. 9653 * General Interest *
On: 11/19/93 6:30pm
By: DICK OHI 33 (DERRY PA)
To: GARY KUEHN 15 (PITTSBURGH
PA) (Rcvd 11/21/93)
Sb: GENEVE
(Reply to 9647)

Hi Gary, I had heard about
MDOS 1.52 being released. I
have 1.5 but have been too
busy to load it up and try it.
I will probably be getting on
Beery Millers BBS soon and
will download it from there. I
now have a high speed modem so
it shouldn't be too bad. Any-
way it will be a good test of
my new modem. If I have a
problem I'll give you a shout.
Thanks. Dick

No. 9646 * General Interest *
On: 11/07/93 6:57pm
By: GARY KUEHN 15 (PITTSBURGH
To: GARY TAYLOR 2 (Pittsburgh)
Sb: GENEVE

Hi Guy, I thought you would

like to know that I installed
V 1.52 on my hard drive and
find that it works even better
than I expected. The bugs
seem to be gone even though I
had to talk to Don Walden a
couple of times to figure out
how to set up the thing. He
also said that this 'the
official "final" version of
MDOS because of contractual
obligations to Myarc. They
still intend to twike it and
add new features for some
time. He didn't say just what
that meant. I know that they
intend to also finish Mbasic
even though version 3 is
"finished". We will keep
waiting.... Mdos was faster
than the scsi though....
Have a good meeting if I don't
talk to you before then.   GK

No. 9647 * General Interest *
On: 11/07/93 7:01pm
By: GARY KUEHN 15 (PITTSBURGH
PA)
To: DICK OHI 33 (DERRY PA)
(Rcvd 11/19/93)
Sb: GENEVE

Hi Dick. Thought you would
like to know that Mdos Version
1.52 is now available and it
is the "final" version. I
think that it will still be
worked on but we will have to
see what happens. If you want
a copy let me know and I will
put one in the mail as it
takes so long to upload it and
download it. It works very
well and the bugs seem to be
gone (I hope). Gary

No. 9655 * General Interest *
On: 11/21/93 08:42am
By: GARY KUEHN 15 (PITTSBURGH
PA)
To: DICK OHI 33 (DERRY PA)
Sb: GENEVE

(Reply to 9653-9647)

Dick, I found that my HFDC card dip switches were set in the wrong position and changed them back to the off position. Every thing now works properly now. Copying from disk to disk is working and formatting now works. This info came from Don Walden of Cecure Electronics. Gary.

No. 9682 * TI Talk *
On: 12/01/93 1:14pm
By: CHRIS PRATT 40 (Arlington VA)
To: ALL
Sb: GENEVE AND MDOS

I am going to upload a text file captured from GENIE's TI RT yesterday. The post is a bug report and new feature release update from Beery Miller on MDOS. I would have posted it here in a message, but it is a bit too long for the 20 line limit! Also, for those interested here is Beery's address and BBS #: Beery Miller P.O. Box 752465 Memphis, TN 38175-2465 GEnie: BW.MILLER [Beery] BBS # 1-901-368-0112

No. 9683 * TI Talk *
On: 12/01/93 1:23pm
By: CHRIS PRATT 40 (Arlington VA)
To: CLIFF PEMPER 17 (ALLISON PARK PA)
Sb: TI LOGO II

Cliff, I went into the TI RT for you last night. I posted the question about fixing TI LOGO II to run on the GEneve. If I receive a reply I will forward it

to you. Also, here is Beery's address and BBS: Beery Miller P.O. Box 752465 Memphis, TN 38175-2465 GENIE: BW.MILLER [Beery] BBS # 1-901-368-0112 Also, check out the text message I uploaded to this bbs from Beery that he posted yesterday on GENIE. Take care, Chris

FROM THE EDITOR

I had mail from Wabash IN on the BBS from DAVE RENKENBERGER 51 and he is having a problem uploading a file to the board for me to use in the newsletter. I have cannot see his file listed even with my co-sysop access. He is using the program TELCO apparently. The question is about the compatibility with the PUG BBS. I need someone to contact him who uses the TI to help him get the file on the board and then unarc it and return it to the board as an ASCII file as I am sure the MS-DOS unarc programs would not work. HELP!

Called from : WABASH IN
Today's date: 11/21/93
No. 9669 * Email PRIVATE *
On: 11/25/93 11:34pm
By: DAVE RENKENBERGER 51 (WABASH IN)
To: RALPH VASKO 32 (DONORA PA)
Sb: NL ARTICLE
(Reply to 9668)

Ralph: The file was an arc-file called Publish....I will upload again tonight. I do not know my way around this board very well so who knows where it will go. I'll see if I can use E-MAIL if your board has this available. The file was

ark'ed using ARC303G and it contains a text file for your N/L and some silly programming that can be used for examples of how to do or not to do some A/L routines and some string handling in XB. 'Just got tired of seeing the same 'ol same 'ol in everyone's N/L's so I thought that I would give something back. I get your N/L addressed to me as the MIAMI AREA 994A etc. in Indiana. I'll try to U/L now!
                    Dave Renk'....

No. 9670 * Email PRIVATE *
On: 11/25/93 11:53pm
By: DAVE RENKENBERGER 51 (WABASH IN)
To: RALPH VASKO 32 (DONORA PA)
Sb: UPLOAD

Ralph; I just tried to upload PUBLISH per earlier message and the board tells me that it is already on file. When I did a catalog I could not find it. Next I changed the name to TRY-2 and tried an upload. The board asked for XMODEM and would not respond to my upload attempt (TELCO). Let's leave it this way, If PUBLISH is indeed on file, let me know w/ another message, un-ark it first to see if OK, if it is not there, call me 219-563-2213 some evening (not M,T or W, I work a second part-time job those nights) so we can see how I'm screwing up.
                    Dave Renk'....

NEWSLETTER/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

To renew your membership or newsletter subscription here is where to send it.

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                    642 LOIS DRIVE

PITTSBURGH PA 15236-2436

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          NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

Exchange newsletters are to be sent to;

            WEST PENN 99'ERS
        C/O MICKEY CENDROWSKI
            RD 1 BOX 133
          RUSSELLTON PA 15076

Words of Wisdom from
The Cactus Patch...

A smile is a curve that sets many things straight.

People learn from one another, just as iron sharpens iron.

A conclusion is where you got tired of thinking.
is not available for other printers.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Send all inquiries to: Asgard
1423 Flagship Dr.
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Effective Nov. 1, 1993, ownership of Asgard Software is being transferred to Harry Brashear.

Nothing worthwhile comes easy, and Lord knows running a TI software business has never been easy. When I founded Asgard in 1983 (in fact, almost 10 years ago exactly), my software company was one of perhaps over 100 TI software providers. Over the years, I've seen all of my original competitors, almost all of the ones that came after them, and most of the ones in the "generation" after that, disappear by the wayside.

I stuck with it despite many opportunities to move on, and despite setbacks similar to those that wiped out many of my peers. I don't regret it - I learned a lot. I learned a lot about computers, business and loyalty. I learned how to tell who was honest and who was a charlatan.

When I started this business I was a teenager in high school. Ten years later, I run the Computer Department for a major non-profit organization here in Washington, D.C. The TI-99/4A introduced me to computers in general, and opened many opportunities to me. In many ways, it made me what I am today.

However, my professional and family obligations over the last 2 years have forced me to change my priorities. I haven't been able to spend much time on Asgard, and it has n't been fair to the community, so I decided to give the company to the one person in the community I felt whose experiences and beliefs matched my own.

Over the years I have received and generated much criticism. While the TI community has been hard on me at times, through it all I've tried to be hard back. Why? I really cared about what happened to my little black and silver box - and people who care about something aren't silent when they think something is wrong. In my drive to do what I felt was best for the community, I ran over more than a few toes. I've also had my toes run over many times in return.

In retrospect, I was too hard on some people and not hard enough on others. I'd like to apologize to a few:

Craig Miller: I was one of your earliest and most persistent critics. While I still think you were trying to sell yourself as a programming genius, I slighted you by not recognizing the high quality of your work.

Larry Hughes: At the time I felt it was wrong for you to sell the kind of software you sold. It was wrong for me to say this publicly. You did some original things, and your customers found out about the rest without my help. I made much ado about nothing.

Chris Faherty: I wrote an article published in MICROpendium comparing GRAPHX to TI-Artist that was wrong. At the time I wrote it, I was angry that you took several original ideas I had and improved on them. While I still think GRAPHX

was a very elegant program, and I stand by most of my opinions. It was petty of me to let my feelings interfere in such a comparison.

The 70 or so people who paid for Press in Chicago, 1987; I wanted it so much I sold myself, and then sold it to you. It was a beautiful idea - I just wish it had been a beautiful reality. My apologies for raising expectations, and holding onto your money for 18 months before realization struck, and I returned it.

As for those I wasn't hard enough on; well, most of them have long since left the community. Some of them have already gotten what they deserved. I'm fairly confident that the rest will in time. I'm not going to name names - endings are times for reconciliation, not vindication.

Unfortunately, the TI community was what really suffered at the hands of these people.

The TI world has had more than its share of frauds - those that would talk up something and then disappear with the money. The worst scam artists, though, were those that would talk about something for years, have endless conferences, mail out scads of detailed announcements, and then lose interest and drift away. They may not have taken too much money from people, but they did worse - they took their hopes.

It isn't the people who try and fail that harm our community as much as the people who like to talk more than try, and make claims they know they can't meet. While most of these people have moved their games to greener pastures, a few of them remain in the TI community. To the few remaining unwary 99/4A owners - beware.

I learned this truth the hard way - my own experiences. I haven't been perfect over the years and led a few wild goose chases myself, as well as have been taken in by a fraud or three. I just hope that when others judge me, that what I have done for the community outweighs what I couldn't do, or did wrong.

In any case, I'd also like to thank a few people in particular for help and wisdom over the years:

John Kolden and Laura Burns of MICROpendium: In too many ways to enumerate. The TI community was very lucky when they got these two devoted supporters.

Jack Sughrue and the guys at M.U.N.C.H.: For not looking too askance at the teenager trying to sell them software, and for supporting me through good and bad times .

Barry Traver: Tough but fair for all these years - and I don't have any hard feelings over Peter Hoddie.

Jerry Coffey, Ed Hall, Jim Horn and many others at the recently departed Mid-Atlantic 99'ers (MANNERS): For a "home" these last 8 years.

Jeff Guide: For help in making Asgard more business-like, and for your wry sense of humor.

I'd also like to thank the many people at the TI shows around the country - especially those in Seattle, Tucson and Ottawa - that hosted, shuttled, fed and sheltered me at the 30-40 or so TI conventions I've attended over the years .

Additionally, I'd like to thank the many authors that entrusted me with their programs.

Finally, I'd like to thank the 12,000 or so people that have bought software from me over the last 10 years — my customers. THESE are the people that I worked for for 10 years, and in the bottom line, whose opinion mattered most.

As of Nov. 1, 1993, the new address for Asgard Software will be:

    Asgard Software
    2753 Main Str.
    Newfane, NY 14108
    716-778-9104

All hardware products, including the Asgard Mouse, AMS memory cards, the Extended BASIC 3 and other cartridges will be available from:

    Asgard Peripherals
    1423 Flagship Dr.
    Woodbridge, VA 22192

My involvement in the TI community will be limited solely to the hardware products sold by Asgard Peripherals. No phone calls will be accepted — all orders or inquiries should be placed by mail.

Thank you.

    Chris Bobbitt
    October 11, 1993

TRANSFERING FILES USING MODEMS
by Fred Moore, LA 99'ers Topics
TI-99/4A TO TI-99/4A
Manual Mode

1. BOTH BOOT UP MASS TRANSFER
2. BOTH PRESS ANY KEY TO GET TO MENU
3. BOTH CHOOSE 'N' (NOT USING PHONE FILE)
4. BOTH SELECT 'R' (RECONFIGURE MODEM)
5. BOTH SELECT MODEM RE232 PORT (PORT 1 OR 2)
6. BOTH AGREE ON BAUD RATE (300 1200 2400) SELECT 1, 2, 3
7. BOTH SELECT ON MENU SELECT 'L' (LINE FEED ON)
8. BOTH SELECT 'E' (ECHO)
9. BOTH SELECT '3' (MONITOR ECHO ON THEN ENTER
10. BOTH GO TO TERMINAL MODE (PRESS ENTER)
11. EITHER ONE MAY MAKE VOICE CONTACT OVER PHONE LINE LEAVE HEADSET OFF HOOK
12. BOTH TURN ON THEIR MODEM AND GO TO DATA MODE, FULL DUPLEX
13. ONE TYPES 'ATA'
14. THE OTHER TYPES 'ATO'
15. BOTH PRESS ENTER
16. BOTH MODEMS SHOULD CONNECT
17. SOME TIME THE HANDSET CAN BE PUT ON HOOK
18. BOTH TRY TO TYPE MESSAGE TO EACH OTHER
19. IF OK BOTH GO TO MAIN MENU PRESS 'F7'
20. BOTH SELECT 'M' (MULTIPLE TRANSFER)
21. ONE SELECT 'S' (SEND)
        CHOOSE '1' XMODEM
        SELECT THE DRIVE # THAT HAS THE FILES HE WANTS TO TRANSFER
        PUTS DISK IN DRIVE SELECTED (ENTER)
        SELECT WHAT FILES HE WANTS TO TRANSFER BY USING UP/DOWN KEYS AND ENTER
        WHEN FINISH SELECTING PRESS 'F6' (PROCEED)
        ENTER
22. THE OTHER SELECT 'R' (RECEIVE)
        HAVE A FORMATTED DISK READY
        SELECT DRIVE # TO RECEIVE FILES
        INSERT FORMATTED DISK IN DRIVE SELECTED (ENTER)
        ENTER
23. BOTH SCREENS SHOW FILENAME, TOTAL SECTORS, RECORDS, RETRIES
24. WHEN ALL FILES HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED BOTH MONITORS WILL BEEP
25. BOTH GO TO TERMINAL MODE (ENTER)
26. WHEN BOTH ARE IN TERMINAL MODE THEY CAN TYPE MESSAGES TO EACH OTHER AGAIN
27. THE ONE RECEIVING GOES TO MAIN MENU 'F7'
        PRESS 'F' FILES
        SELECT DISK THAT FILES HAVE BEEN DOWNLOADED TO
        IF TRANSFER HAS BEEN A SUCCESS FILES SHOULD BE SHOWN
28. BOTH GO BACK TO TERMINAL MODE TO TYPE MESSAGES AGAIN
29. BOTH CAN AGAIN TYPE MESSAGES TO EACH OTHER
30. BOTH CAN GO TO VOICE MODE TO SPEED UP EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION
        BOTH CAN TURN OFF THEIR DATA MODE
        BOTH GO TO VOICE MODE
31. BOTH HANG UP PHONE WHEN FINISHED
32. BOTH CHECK THAT THEY HAVE DIAL TONE AGAIN
33. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ME
        FRED MOORE
        (310)670-4293
34. GOOD LUCK

```
ttttttttttttttttttttttt
t  NUMEROLOGY FUN  t
t       by         t
t Harold C. Hoyt Jr. t
ttttttttttttttttttttttt
```

A recent article in our local newspaper, the St. Louis Post Dispatch, had an article about numerology. First, after the usual disclaimer that numerology, astrology, etc. has no scientific basis, and programs like this are for entertainment only, consider that some people, including Pythagoras, believed that our destiny was entwined with numbers. It is surprising the people that really believe in off-beat ideas.

Here is a chart from the St. Louis Post Dispatch showing how numerology assigns a single digit number encoded from the letters in your name. Apparently, the digits 1 through 9 generated by your name, give information about your destiny, which gets us into the old philosophical debate about whether you have free will, or are things already decided. I prefer to believe in free will.

In the table, each letter is assigned a number from 1 through 9. You add the numbers corresponding to the letters in your name to get a total. For instance, my name, Harold Coley Hoyt would result in 8+1+9+6+3+4 +3+6+3+5+7 +8+6+7+2 or 78. We need a single digit, so we add the 7 and the 8 to get 15. Still not a single digit, so add the digits 1 and 5 to get 6, my personal number. Each personal number has a corresponding characteristic in a look up table. If you are unhappy with your number, spell your name differently and change your destiny!

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z
```

This is just too much fun to pass up, so, I have written an XBasic program to do this for you. With a little more effort, I could have pulled a Regena, and written it in TI Basic, but the extra routines available in XBasic are just too helpful to pass up. To see how the program works, match the program listing below with the text following the listing.

```
1 !SAVE DSK1.NUMER
100 !Prog By. H. Hoyt Jr. 10-
14-93
110 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT
(2,9):"-NUMEROLOGY-":" FIND
YOUR PERSONAL NUMBER":"
    by":"   Harold C. Ho
yt Jr.":"     10-14-93"
115 !DISPLAY AT(8,1):"Harold
 Coley Hoyt"
117 !DISPLAY AT(8,1):"Willia
m Jefferson Clinton"
119 !DISPLAY AT(8,1):"Bill
     Clinton"
120 DISPLAY AT(7,2):"TYPE IN
 YOUR NAME & <ENTER>" :: ACC
EPT AT(8,1)SIZE(-30):N$
125 R=10 :: SUM=0 :: N1$=""
130 FOR I=1 TO LEN(N$):: N=I
NT(POS(AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJj
KkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXx
YyZz",SEG$(N$,I,1),1)/2+.5)
140 IF N>9 THEN N=N-9 :: GOT
0 140
150 IF N=0 THEN N1$=N1$&" "
ELSE N1$=N1$&"+"&STR$(N)
160 SUM=SUM+N :: SUM$=STR$(S
UM)
170 NEXT I :: DISPLAY AT(R,1
):RPT$(" ",100):: DISPLAY AT
(R,2):N1$&"="&STR$(SUM):: R=
R+5
180 SUM$=STR$(SUM):: FOR I=1
TO LEN(SUM$):: N2=N2+VAL(SE
G$(SUM$,I,1)):: NEXT I :: R=
R+1 :: DISPLAY AT(R,2):"Numb
er=";SUM$;" Digit Sum=";STR$
(N2)
190 SUM=N2 :: N2=0 :: IF SUM
>9 THEN 180
200 DISPLAY AT(20,2):"Your P
ersonal Number=";STR$(SUM)
500 DISPLAY AT(22,2):"Anothe
r? Y/N?" :: CALL KEY(0,K,S):
: IF S=0 THEN 500 :: IF K=AS
C("Y")OR K=ASC("y")THEN 100
```

Line 1 is the usual built in file name reminder and handy file saver when typing the file in. Periodically, type 1, <Fctn-x>,<enter>,<fctn,1>,<fctn,1> <enter> to have the program saved as "DSK1.NUMER".

Line 110 sets up the screen for name input. Lines 115, 117 and 119 are built in program tests. Edit out the ! in one of these lines, and the text on that line will be placed on the screen. The ACCEPT AT statement in line 120 has a negative size, so whatever is on the screen is input as N$. The Post Dispatch article had 2 examples calculating your personal number. William Jefferson Clinton has a personal number of 3 while Bill Clinton has 5. A completely different prediction, just by using an abbreviated name.

Line 120 ACCEPTS N$ and 125 sets the DISPLAY row, R=10, clears the SUM and nulls N1$ when the program loops. Line 130 Takes each character in the name stored in N$ and fetches a corresponding number for the letter into N from the look-up table imbedded in the POSition statement. The look-up table only has the letters A through Z in both upper and lower case. The POS function returns 0 to 26 to N by using the INT with round up by adding .5 to INT()/2 to group letters two at a time. Line 150 does Modulo 10 arithmetic on N, effectively partitioning the look-up table into 3 rows as in the figure. Line 150 replaces the number 0 in the string N1$ with a space (Any character typed in that isn't a letter), and +"N" for any letter.

Each loop adds "N" to "SUM" in line 160. SUM$=STR$(SUM) allows the digits in SUM$ to be fetched and added together in line 170. Line 170 also clears a scratchpad area on the screen of 100 characters and then DISPLAYs a string of all of the numbers that are added together for the SUM. This is repeated as necessary, incrementing one row each time, until the SUM is a single digit. In line 190 SUM>9 repeats the loop. Finally, line 200 DISPLAYs the personal number and line 500 asks if you want to do another number. Isn't it nice that Numerology shows that there is only 9 kinds of people in the world?

A typical screen is shown below.

```
---------------------------
!      -NUMEROLOGY-        !
! FIND YOUR PERSONAL NUMBER !
!           by             !
!     Harold C. Hoyt Jr.   !
!        10-14-93          !
! TYPE IN YOUR NAME & <ENTER> !
! Connie Chung             !
! +3+6+5+5+9+5 +3+8+3+5+7=59 !
!                          !
!                          !
!                          !
!                          !
! Number=59 Digit Sum=14   !
! Number=14 Digit Sum=5    !
!                          !
!                          !
! Your Personal Number=5   !
!                          !
! Another? Y/N?            !
!                          !
---------------------------
```

Give To the Salvation Army. A really Great outfit.
How about computerized Phrenology? (Reading bumps on your head to tell your future.
What do you get when you cross an elephant with a Kangaroo?
Ans. Big holes all over Australia!

9

JUST A LITTLE BIT HELPS

by Jim Peterson

I'm not going to say that everybody should learn to program. Most folks can get along just fine by using the programs written by others. But, every once in a while you need to do something that would be so easy for the computer to do, and so hard to do without a computer, but no one has written a program to do it. That is when just a little bit of programming know ledge can be a lifesaver!

In a previous article, I described my genealogy program, and the index for it I had created in Funnelweb by setting the tabs at 1 for the person's index number, 5 for the first name, 36 for the surname, 56 for the paragraph number, 61 for the father's index number and 66 for the mother's, and 71 for the spouse.

I have been busily adding names to that index until I am now up to well over 900, and I realize that I have goofed!

I set that second tab to allow space at left for a 1 to 3 digit index number and a space, but I will soon be going past 999. I need an extra space there. I allowed more than enough spaces for the names. so I can take some of those away. While I'm at it, I would like to allow space for second and third spouse numbers at the right, and I want to keep the total spaces well short of 80 so I can print the index in two columns of elite condensed.

Am I going to retype 900+ lines, and undoubtedly make some errors while doing so? No way! Never do anything that you can make the computer do for you.

All this requires is knowing how to open one file to read from and another to write to, read a record from the one file, manipulate it a little, and write it to the other file.

The file part is extremely simple, just OPEN #1:"DSK1.OLDFILE",INPUT and OPEN #2:"DSK2.NEWFILE",OUTPUT or what ever drives and filenames I choose. The computer takes it for granted that I'm using DV80 files. so I don't have to tell it. Even the INPUT and OUTPUT could be omitted, but it's best not to. If you don't tell it otherwise, the computer will allow you to accidentally write to the file you meant to read from, and that is disastrous!

The reading and writing is equally simple: 110 LINPUT #1:M$ :: PRINT #2:M$ :: IF EOF(1)<>1 THEN 110 ELSE CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2

Always use LINPUT when reading a text file, because INPUT will only read the record up to the first comma it finds.

EOF is set to zero until the last record in the file has been read, when it is set to 1, so IF EOF(1)<>1 means "if the end of the file opened as #1 has not been reached" in which case, go back to the same line number and read another record, but if you have read everything, close the files and especially close the one you have written to, or you will have wasted your time.

But, I wanted to change the lengths of the fields in each record before I move it to the new file. For that, I need to know only how to use two commands SEG$ and &.

SEG$ extracts a part of a string - a string, in this case, is the record I get with that LINPUT, which is one line of up to 80 characters that I keyed in with Funnelweb. SEG$(M$,1,4) will give me 4 characters starting with the first character of M$; SEG$(M$,5,25) will give me 25 characters starting with the 5th. And & will put those two together into one string. I want to keep that first 4-character field but expand it to 5 characters, so SEG$(M$,1,4)&" ". The next two fields, starting at 5 and 36 and consisting of 31 and 20 characters, I want to cut to 20 and 16 characters, so SEG$(M$,1,4)&" "&SEG$(M$,5,20)&SEG$(M$,36,16). And I go on to add a space to each of the next three fields, and the whole program looks like this.

```
100 OPEN #1:"DSK1.INDEX1",INPUT :: OPEN #2:"DSK1.NEWFILE",OUTPUT
110 LINPUT #1:M$ :: PRINT #2 :SEG$(M$,1,4)&" "&SEG$(M$,5,20)
&SEG$(M$,36,16)&SEG$(M$,56,5)&" "&SEG$(M$,61,5)&" "&SEG$(M$,66,5)&"
&SEG$(M$,71,3)
120 IF EOF(1)<>1 THEN 110 ELSE CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2
```

And in a few minutes, that program does the job, saving many hours of work!

I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO WHAT I SAID
By Jan Knapp

For years I preached that to do Genealogy on the TI you didn't
need a Genealogical program, but a data base. That the programs
did not help you research because their data base worked only
after you already acquired the information. I believed it then.
I believe it now. So what happened? Why did I waste 2 years of
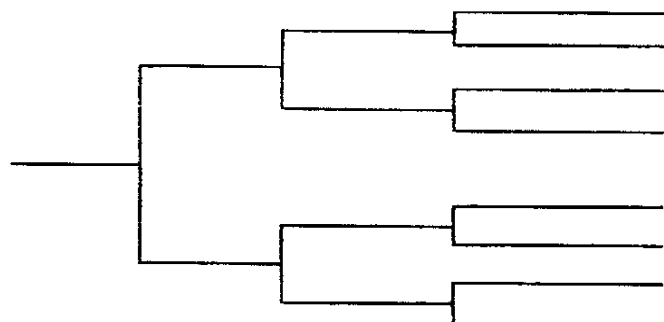valuable research time on data entry?

My only answer is that I lack confidence of my own opinion and
let someone else guide me in the wrong direction. I was led to
believe that the IBM was different.   The IBM had all that
additional memory capacity. They make: Descendant charts, which
come in handy at family reunions; Family Group sheets; and of
course the Tree itself. Sounds good doesn't it? What is that old
saying that "If something sounds too good to be true ..."? All I
can say was that it "was"! Thank God for back-up systems, or I'd
have nothing to show for my time wasted! It could be said that I
used the "wrong program" or the "wrong company". But, for the
most part they're all the same. The data base is a limited one,
saved in a form only they understand. The files are not
accessible to you to change. The Family Group sheets are poorly
designed and do not print all the information you've collected.
Most of all there is no way to customize your Family Group sheets
to please YOU. Maybe I want too much? All I really ever wanted
was what I had on my little TI, but with more memory capacity.
The only reason I even considered the programs was because I never
got my files transferred to IBM.

This might surprise some of you TI users, but IBM programmers
think IBM users are really stupid! Do you know they think you're
an advanced user if you know how to give a file a name? They save
it automatically to the disk for you. How? You don't know.
Under what name? You don't know. But, because they are so much
smarter than you, you don't need to know. Do they care that your
father's sister is also listed as his great great great
grandmother. How she got there you don't know? But she's there
wherever there should be a blank space.   She wasn't even supposed
to show up on the Tree report at all! Then I tried another
program. It was supposed to link me by modem to the LDS library
is Salt Lake City. This also sounded too good. It was. The
first thing I didn't like was that it wanted me to give the entry
a random number for the file (that's how it sorted). I hate
random numbers with a passion! They mean nothing, and you can
never remember them! That's another thing IBM programs lack. You
can't always print out a file directory from with-in the program.
The program also was filled with data that only applied to the
LDS. Like the other programs it only sorted in one field. I was
spoiled. I liked it the way I had it.

Well, I finally decided to listen to me. I'm in the process
of transferring my TI data onto my IBM with the help of Rich
Rehfeldt. I've written my own data base file for the IBM. It's
very similar to the one I wrote for the TI, but it has much more
memory capacity. There are times I really miss my TI, but my
portable is an IBM. Why couldn't they have been the standard? I
think we'd all be better educated.

WEST PENN 99'ERS CLUB INFORMATION

NEXT MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 21, 1993

MEETING LOCATION: PENNS WOODS
                        CIVIC ASSOCIATION

                        JUST OFF ROUTE 30

                        N. HUNTINGDON, PA

TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 P.M.

LIST OF WEST PENN OFFICERS FOR 1993

```
PRESIDENT:          MICKEY  412-265-5201
VICE PRESIDENT:     NORM    614-264-6442
TREASURER:          LYNN    412-835-4304
RECORDING SEC:      FRANK   412-751-6065
CORRESPONDING SEC:  PAUL    412-478-2754
LIBRARIAN:          JOHN    412-823-3312
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:  RALPH   412-379-8762
```

GENERAL ITINERARY OF THE CLUB'S MEETING

```
6:45 P.M.      DOORS OPEN
7:00 P.M.      GENERAL MEETING
7:45 P.M.      DEMOS AND NEW INFO
9:45 P.M.      ONE ON ONE HELP
9:45 P.M.      SOCIALIZING
11:00 P.M.     DOORS CLOSE
```

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS MONTH

LATEST T.I. NEWS AND SOFTWARE DISCOUNTS

NEW SOFTWARE FOR SALE - GENEALOGY PLUS!

REMINDERS! - DEMO BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI

MICRODEX 99 - DEMO BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI

BRUCE HARRISON'S XBASIC COMPILER - DEMO

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Anyone interested in obtaining a free software catalog from MS Express Software should write to:

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       P.O. Box 498
    Richmond, Ohio 43944

FREE SOFTWARE CATALOGS

Anyone interested in obtaining a free software catalog from Notung Software should write to:

    Notung Software
   7647 McGroarty Street
  Tujunga, California 91042

HELP A FELLOW TI'ER OUT!

Stanculescu Marin is looking for educational software on cassette for his 8 year old boy. Anyone interested in helping this man out should write to:

    Stanculescu Marin
Str.Aleea Podul Giurgiului, N1
BL.14, SC.4, AP.103, Se.5, OP7
COD 75407, Bucuresti, Romania

Note: He DOES NOT have a disk system, nor 32K in any format.

NEW CLUB ADDRESS

Effective immediately - all club correspondence and newsletter exchange should be sent to the following address:

    West Penn 99'ers

  C/O Mickey Cendrowski
    R.D. 1 Box 133
  Russellton, Pa 15076

GENBUG2
An update by author
Allan Cox

Allan call me to ask if there was still an interest in a good genealogy program among the CONNI members and I told him yes. Allan has spent many hours improving his original GENBUG program. GENBUG2 prints out a quality family group sheet with the data right on the form.

This fairware program comes on 3 DSSD disks and it requires 32K to run. GENBUG2 has been programmed to print out the data on a Gemini 10X printer and is Epson compatiable. It

If you are interested in receiving a printout of the family group sheet that is created with this fairware genealogy program; write to Allan at the following address:

ALLAN COX
728 JEFFERSON BLVD
TARRANT AL 35217

Please support our programmer's so we can continue to get excellent programs now and in the future.

Editor, Jean Hall
SPIRIT OF 99   OCT 1993 PG 6

WEST PENN 99ER'S
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NEXT MEETING
DECEMBER 21 1993

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