MAD HUG

SEPTEMBER, 1986

MONTHLY MEETINGS

MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA HOME USERS GROUP MEETS EVERY SECOND TUESDAY IN THE UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOMS AT THE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY. YEARLY DUES ARE \$12.00. MEMBERS CAN USE THE GROUP'S HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE BY PRESENTING THE PUBLIC LIBRARY REFERENCE LIBRARIAN WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND ASKING FOR THE KEYS TO THE MADHUG FILES. ANY ONE INTERESTED IN THE TI-99/4A IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

NOTES ON LIBRARY USE

THE LIBRARY HAS A NEW POLICY THAT ALL PERSONS, INCLUDING CLUB MEMBERS, SIGN IN AT THE REFERENCE DESK BEFORE USING THE COMPUTERS IN THE ELECTRONICS ROOM. THE LIBRARY WANTS TO KNOW HOW OFTEN THE IBM AND TI ARE BEING USED. YOUR COOPERATION WITH THIS LIBRARY POLICY WILL BE APPRECIATED. CLUB MEMBERS CAN STILL USE THE TI FOR FREE UPON PRESENTATION OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD. NON CLUB MEMBERS PAY \$1.00 AN HOUR.

JUST A REMINDER THAT THE CLUB HAS A POLICY THAT NO SOFTWARE OR NEWSLETTERS MAY LEAVE THE LIBRARY. BOOKS BELONGING TO THE CLUB MAY BE CHECKED OUT, BUT DON'T FORGET TO SIGN THE CLUB'S CHECK-OUT SHEET. ALL MATERIALS MUST BE RETURNED BY THE NEXT MEETING.

OUR GOOD FRIEND AND REFERENCE LIBRARIAN, JOHN DAWSON, HAS GONE ON TO GREENER PACTURES AT THE UNIVERSITY. WE SAY A FOND GOOD BY AND GOOD LUCK TO A REAL CLUB SUPPORTER. THE NEW REFERENCE LIBRARIAN IS DAVID HANEY. STOP BY THE REFERENCE DESK AND SAY HELLO WHEN YOU SIGN IN.

FOR SALE

TI-99/4A CONSOLE WITH MANUALS, EXTENDED BASIC CARTRIDGE, CASSETTE CABLES, JOY STICK (1), AND SOME PROGRAMS ON TAPE. THIS UNIT IS LIKE NEW (VERY SELDOM USED) AND WILL BE SOLD ONLY AS A PACKAGE. PRICE IS \$80. THE PHONE NUMBER WAS INCORRECT LAST MONTH BECAUSE TOM DIDN'T NOTIFY US THAT HE HAD CHANGED HIS NUMBER. TOM SAND HAS NOT MOVED OUT OF TOWN. THE CORRECT NUMBER IS 775-2441.

It's been a GREAT summer!

I want to thank all of the people that took over for the summer while my bod took a hiatius to the hills. Rich Jurgens not only took over the publishing of the newsletter, but expanded many things for the members.

The chief thing that comes to mind is that we now exchange newsletters with 20 other user groups. That makes one heck of a informative pile every month for your use.

I'll thank Rick Alston and Mark Gibson in the same paragraph, because they seem to prod each other into BRS's and all kinds of programming tricks. Their enthusiasm is contagious.

 \tilde{I} 'll be looking forward to the Sept. 8th meeting and the meeting after at Perkins when I get a chance to learn what kinds of changes have been taking place to the TI world.

HCJ Lawsuit

The following is from North Eastern 99°ers, but is similar to several other newsletter's articles of the same nature:

"I have finished gatering this information that I know will be of some help to all those who have been cheated by Home Computer Journal and 99'er. The information was obtained both first hand and by several sources reporting their results so it is a composite.

It seems that at the same time HCJ was sending out their "postcard" offer to subscribers, they were also closing down and disolving Emerald Valley Publishing. The new company, composed of all of the very same people, is called Computer Technology Publishing. Call them to complain about what they did to TI owners and they'll tell you they are not liable for anything since Emerald Valley Publishing is no more. They will refuse to talk to anyone further.

The district attorney in Eugene Oregon has recieved enough complains that they have begun an investigation. They are interested in hearing from any and all complaints about HCJ. They have exerted pressure on HCJ so that a few people have actually gotten their money back on unfurnished subscriptions. To strengthen the case against HCJ, however, they need to hear from "damaged parties" or they will be helpless. Anyone who was cheated by HCJ is strongly urged to contact:

District Attorney Consumer Relations 400 Lake County Courthouse Eugene Oregon (503) 687-4261

If people take a few minutes of their time to let them know about their personal complaints, maybe the scam can be ended permanently. Please pass this along to as many people as you can. IMPORTANT — all complaints should be leveled against Emerald Valley Publishing aka HCJ.

Originally signed by Guy S Romano.

THE THEORY OF DARK SUCKERS

by Paul Holmgren Condensed by Rick Alston

For years it was believed that light was emitted from an electric bulb, recent information has proven otherwise - dark is sucked into the bulb therefore, the bulb is a dark sucker. This theory also proves dark is heavier than light, and dark is faster than light a few examples follow.

ELECTRIC BULBS: There is less dark near an electric bulb than at a distance of 100 feet when it is operating, therefore, it is sucking dark. The larger the electric bulb the more dark it is able to suck, this is easily proven. Also note that when an electric bulb becomes full of dark it ceases to suck dark and is itself dark, indicating it is full of dark. This phenomena can also be observed in flourescent bulbs, the end of these bulbs indicate when they are becoming full of dark.

CANDLES: These are primitive dark suckers, the center core is a dark sucker protected by a soft insulator to extend its life expectancy and maintain rigidity. Proof of it's dark sucking ability is relatively simple. Examine a new unused candle, notice that the center core is not dark, ignite the center core and allow to burn for 5 minutes. Notice the lack of dark around the candle! Now extinguish the candle and observe the center core, it is now dark, proving the candle has sucked dark. Moving a pencil through the flame further ilustrates the dark sucking capacity of the candle, when this is done the pencil block's the flow of dark and dark is deposited on the pencil.

DARK IS HEAVIER THAN LIGHT: Dark always settles to the bottom of lakes and rivers. This can be proven by descending into a lake or river, the deeper you go the more dark there is! This phenomena can be observed when looking into deep holes where dark has fallen, proving dark is heavier than light.

DARK IS FASTER THAN LIGHT: If you were to open a drawer very slowly, you would notice light going into the drawer. (You can see this happen.) You cannot see the dark leave the drawer. So into a closet, close the door and turn off the dark sucker. Now have a friend open the door about 1 inch, neither you or your friend will see any dark leave the closet, now open the door until the closet is half dark. Now since 2 objects cannot occupy the same space at the same time, you will not feel any change in pressure by compressing the dark. So it is logical to assume that dark is faster than light.

\$8.00 Disk drives!!! No kidding, Softies in Minneapolis has them. Address is 8179 Medicine Lk Rd, Phone is 593 9857. These are single sided half height drives that have been taken out of new systems, they are made by Teak. H A D H U S

KEYBOARD MODIFICATION

hy John Owen J.S.C.

Modified by Rick Alston

John's idea was to install a FCTN key to the left of the "A" key. my proposal is to relocate the "ALPHA LOCK" key to this location and install the second "FCTN" key where the "ALPHA LOCK" key was! This modification makes the keyboard more balanced and requires very little reconfiguring of the "PC" board. As John indicated you will need two surplus T.I.99/4A keyboards, the only type that will work are the keyboards manufactured for the T.I. by "FUTABA" (made in Japan). These keyboards are available through Lolir Lectronics 13933 N. Central #212 Dallas TX 75243. 1-214-234-8032, the type Radio Shack sells will not work, and neither will a "stock" T.I. supplied keyboard. The cost is \$3.75 per keyboard, well worth the price to eliminate the aggravation and contortions required to press some of the "FCTN" keys! The hole for the key is 5/8 and there is room believe it or not! A drill press is highly recommended, to drill through the metal base of the keyboard. Something I have been considering is to now swap the newly installed "FCTN" key with the "CTRL" key since I keep pressing the "CTRL" key instead of the new "FCTN" key, that isn't neat! M A D H U G. 22 Aug 86

THE LABELHAKER

The following program is designed to print disk file catalogs on 3 1/2" X 2" Rediform self adhering tractor feed labels, which can be placed on the disk sleeve for quick reference of what is on the disk. The printer must be on when the program is loaded and run or the program will not run properly. Bont turn the printer off once the program is running or the program will have to be stopped and restarted in order for the printer to be "programed" again. One label will form feed on startup, this is normal and is required for the printer to be "programed".

Program runs in "Extended basic", and is not designed to label "Flippies" but does a superb job for all other's.

100 !THE LABELMAKER 110 !By RICK ALSTON 120 ! and MARK GIBSON 130 !July 1986 V 4.0 140 DIM P\$(129),A(129),B(129),C(129) 150 TY\$(1)="D/F" :: TY\$(2)="D/V" :: TY\$(3)="I/F" :: TY\$(4)="I/V" :: TY\$(5)="PGH" 160 OPEN \$2:"PIO" :: PRINT \$2:CHR\$(27):CHR\$(67):CHR\$(0):CHR\$(2): CHR\$(12): CHR\$(27):"N":CHR\$(27):"R":CHR\$(0): 170 DISPLAY AT(2,3)ERASE ALL: 1) Print in condensed print. :: 12) Print in superscript. :: 13) Exit program. :: :: : : "Make selection." 180 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S=0 OR S=-1 THEN 180 190 IF K=49 THEN PRINT #2:CHR\$(15);CHR\$(27);CHR\$(65);CHR\$(9) 200 IF K=50 THEN PRINT #2:CHR\$(27); "S"; CHR\$(1); CHR\$(15); CHR\$(27); "3"; CHR\$(10) 210 IF K=51 THEN PRINT #2:CHR\$(27):CHR\$(64):: CLOSE #2 :: CALL CLEAR :: END 220 DISPLAY AT(3,2)ERASE ALL:"Drive # 1,2,3 ?": : : "Exit program ? Y/N": : : : : : "Make selection." 230 CALL KEY(3,K,S):: IF S=0 OR S=-1 THEN 230 240 IF K=89 THEN PRINT #2:CHR\$(27):CHR\$(64):: CLOSE #2 :: CALL CLEAR :: END 250 IF K=78 THEN 170 260 IF K=49 THEN OPEN #1: "DSK1.", INTERNAL, RELATIVE, INPUT 270 IF K=50 THEN OPEN #1:"DSK2.".INTERNAL.RELATIVE.INPUT 280 IF K=51 THEN OPEN #1: "DSK3.", INTERNAL, RELATIVE, INPUT 290 CALL CLEAR 300 INPUT #1:P\$(0),A(0),B(0),C(0) 310 FOR I=1 TO 127 320 IMPUT #1:P\$(I).A(I).B(I).C(I) 330 IF LEN(P\$(I))=0 THEN 350 340 NEXT I 350 CLDSE #1 :: X=INT(1/2) 360 PRINT #2:TAB(0); "Disk name :";P\$(0);TAB(28); "Available :";STR\$(C(0)):RPT\$("-",51) 370 FOR Y=1 TO X 380 PRINT, #2:P4(Y);TAB(12);STR4(B(Y));TAB(16);TY4(ABS(A(Y)));:: IF ABS(A(Y))=5 THEN 400 390 PRINT #2: TAB(20); STR\$(C(Y)); 400 IF A(Y)>0 THEN 420 410 PRINT #2: TAB(23): "Y": 420 IF P\$(Y+X)="" THEN 440 430 PRINT #2:TAB(51):"Y": 440 PRINT #2:"" :: NEXT Y 450 PRINT #2:CHR\$(27); CHR\$(84); CHR\$(12) 460 EDTD 170 MADHUG

GOOD OL DAYS

Deanna Sheridan had an interesting tidbit in the Cleveland Area Newsletter from an ad in a 1980 BYTE magazine... "24 Atari 800 , \$748; used TI 99/4 (no A) console, \$450; new TI 99/4 computer, \$925; Shugart drive, \$349; Radio Shack 16K Color Computer, \$399; Epson MX80 printer, \$650; Atari 800 computer system 16K, \$1079.95; Commodore Pet, 8K, \$729; 16K, \$888; 32K, \$1088. Had enough? What was that about the "good ol" days"?"

NAME/LOC/SYSOP	PHONE # / HOURS	IN BOAKDO ====== SYSTEM TYPE	ESCRIPTION OF SECTION
The Frozen Banana Grand Forks, ND Art Hebbeler		Amiga	New BBS-PC on the Amiga - 2/04 2400/1200/300 baud
RBBS-UND Medical Grand Forks, ND Robin Staebler	(701)-780-3228 24 hrs ?	IBM-XT	Medical BBS 1200/300 baud
T. I. BBS Grand Forks, ND Mark Gibson	(701)-775-0388 Noon-Midnight Fri, Sat & Sun	Texas Inst.	New board in 2/86 300 baud 7/E/1
Town Crier-G.G.F. Emerado, ND Tony Vickers	(701)- 594-5429 5pm-10:30pm M-F&Sun 11am-10:30pmSat	TRS-80 Model 4	New board in 12/85
FACE BBS	(701)-594-9114 7pm-7am Mon-Fri	Atari	New board in 8/86
PCSG BBS Grand Forks, ND Fred Maides	(701)775 2246 24 hrs		Runs Half Duplex
TYMNET Grand Forks, ND N/A	(701)-746-0344 24 hrs	Mainframe	Access to Dow Jones Compuserve, NewsNet and more.

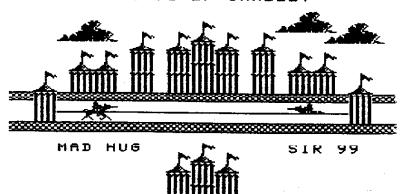
There is also on available through UND in Fargo.
Use a long distance BBS for the price of a local call.
Dial 777-4451, Then press return. When it comes up with enter class, type in 1-20. This will dial down to the BBS in Fargo.
You then follow the instructions as they come up on the screen, and you should have no problem. This one (THE HECN RBBS) is 300/1200 baud.
Also you can use the DIAL OUT MODEM to call other bbs's in the Fargo area.
Instead of typing 1-20 type 1-50. After class start you are ready to dial out.
To do this type ATDT9, NUMBER.

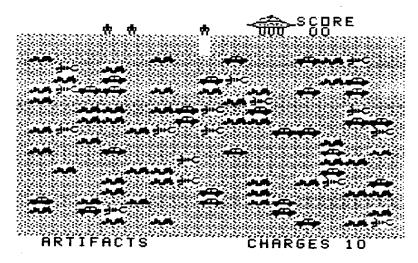
+=====================================						
! NAME/LOC/SYSOP	PHONE # / HOURS	SYSTEM TYPE	COMMENTS	;		
				!		
: Hacker-Board	(701)235 9879	IBM		1		
I HECN	(701)237 8661					
: FC-User Group	(701)293 5973	IBM		i		
Core-Cat Fur Line	(701)293 5032					
! The Richter Scale	(701)280 9508			1		

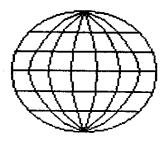
Dan Boyce gets famous
Just a tidbit to encourage some more of you to do some
writing for our newsletter. Dan Boyce's book review of
COMPUTE's TI Collection was reprinted in Cleveland's newsletter.
It's great when we get some orginal material that shows up in
other newsletters. Proves that we in ND and Minn are still in
the mainsteam of the TI world.



CHALLENGE OF CAMELOT







XB TO TI ARTIST CONVERTER Mark Gibson

This will take any extended basic scren and convert it to TI ARTIST format. It is very easy to use and fun too.

After it's converted to TI ARTIST format you then can use the conversions utility in the TI ARTIST and convert the screen to GRAPHX format and others.

Find this program in the MAD HUG library, does included.

Quern's Still Shopping

Loren's motto must be shop til you drop! He just called me twice with three really good prices.

First is SS/DD disks are being clearanced at Target for \$6.00.

Second is still Target and it's still disks. This time DS/DD for \$8.00. For all of you who go flippy these might be the \$2.00 ticket to having a little more ceace of mind on the back side of the disk.

Third is the best deal of all is at Walden Books for, are you ready? ONE DOLLAR. They have the book 32 PROGRAMS FOR THE TI with cassette for \$1.00. Loren reports that as of Friday the fifth of Sept. that there are about six copies left. I hate listening to cassettes go beep, but I'll have to suffer until 1 get mine loaded to the disk.

TI is number two.

The Atlanta UG had the follow state about home computers in their newsletter in the form of a pie graph.

- 1. Commodore 30%
- 2. TI 99/4A 22%
- 3. Apple 16%
- 4. Atari 10%
- 5. Radio Shack10%
- 6. IBM Jr. 8%
- 7. others 4%

Not bad for an orphan that hasn't been in production for some time.

Chisage Times

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<u>letterform</u> By Ollie Herbert

LETTERFORM tutorial for your word processor: BA-WRITER, FUNLWRITER, TK-WRITER (each is fairware), or TI-WRITER. I Use it as a start for the letters that I write as it saves me the setup time.

To create a LETTERFORM file, load the editor and <ENTER> the following:

0001 .LM 36; RM 72; FI; PL 58; HE 0013 .SP 2 0002 .SP 4 0003 You R. Name 0014 GREETING, 0015 .SP 2:IN +5 0015 .HE 30 ^'sLastName^ Page % DOD4 P.D. Box 578341 0005 Chicago, IL 60557 DD17 .CD START HERE 8000 0018 (19 to 30 are also blank) 0007 .CO Tel # and .SP Optional 0008 DATEXX, 1986 OD31 .CD LAST LINE 0032 .5P Z:LM 36 0009 .SP 2:LM B DD1D T.D. NAME ODES SALUTATION. 0011 P.D.^BOX ### P 92. PEDO 0035 You R. Name 0012 CITYXX, STATE ZIP##

Function 9, I <ENIER> to get into tab settings. Function D over to column 33, R <ENIER> to set the right screen margin. Function 9, SF <ENIER>, DSK1.LETTERFORM <ENIER> to save the file that you just created as LETTERFORM.

It would be a good idea to use the formatter to make a printout of LETTERFORM at this point and make any adjustments that are necessary before you use it to write your letters. You may prefer a different arrangement, different margins, or need to insert some printer commands. You might also like to put your favorite greating and salutation in the master.

To use the LETTERFORM file, load the editor, LF (ENTER), DSK1.LETTERFORM (ENTER). After the file finishes loading, edit lines 8, 10-12, 14 & 33 to reflect the data for your letter. Function 9, SF (ENTER), DSK1.filenamexx (ENTER) using a filename of your choice as your first save. For my filenames, I use the first four letters of the addresses's lest name followed by the current 6-digit date.

Start your letter by overwriting line 17. Use insert (function 2 or function 8) periodically to avoid overwriting the original line 31 which is only a flag to keep you from writing into the letter's ending. It is a good idea to function 5, SF <ENTER> (the filenamexx is retained) periodically in order to keep a fresh version of your file saved on disk. After the save, you are returned to the point where you were before the save.

When finished writing your letter, function 3 (delete) any remaining blank lines between the end of your letter and all the way down to a including the original line 31. That line won't print but delete it anyway. Function 2, SF $\langle ENTER \rangle$ to save the file. Then function 9 again, D $\langle ENTER \rangle$ to quit and E $\langle ENTER \rangle$ to exit the editor.

You are now ready to print your letter using the formatter.

Dille Hebert Rt. 4, Box 23 Brewton, AL 38425

THE TI WENT "BEEP, BEEP!" by Don McCollor

For TI BASIC or ExBASIC writers: To easily eliminate or change that annoying "BEEP" prompt when using input statements, place a positive duration CALL SOUND statement immediately before the input statement. Using a very high frequency (which the TV speaker does not respond to) and the softest sound level stifles the "BEEP" completely.

10 CALL SOUND (400, 20000, 30)
20 INPUT X\$

If you wish to change the "BEEP" tone try experimenting with this.

10 CALL SOUND(200, [frequency], [loudness])
20 INPUT X\$

The positive sound duration in CALL SOUND means that the TI will keep playing the sound for the speciated time while it executes subsequent statements. Apparently, this overrides the built-in "BEEP" tone used in the INPU) statement in BASIC and ExBASIC. Some experimenting with the sound duration is needed depending on the length of the program to make sure that the CALL SOUND is still playing when the INPUT is executed.

DENNIS & JANE SCHJELDAHL 507 REEVES DR GRAND FORKS N.D. 58201





DALLAS TI Z USERS GROUP 1221 HOSSMOOD IRVING TEXAS 75061