



## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE K-TOWN 99/4A USERS' GROUP

AND

## THE ATHENS COMPUTER CLUB

# NOV艦州軍艦所。 1988

# NOVEMBER MEETING

The K-TOWN 99/4A Users Group will meet at the MLB (Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, Beaumont) Building on the second Thursday of the month. The date is November 10. Doors open at 6:30 P.M. The agenda will include a brief business session and in lieu of a program we will devote most of the time to cleaning of our consoles.

Knowing how to clean your console is perhaps the greatest money saver for any owner of a TI-99/4A. Dirty contacts at the grom port and the cable port on the side of the console is the source of most of our malfunctions. When your computer is not performing properly, or just doesn't operate at all this should be the first areas to inspect as the problem source.

Everone should bring a console, a screw driver, a good clean pencil eraser, and a contact cleaner such as denatured alcohol. A small lint free cloth might also be desirable. I understand that pipe cleaners will serve that purpose also.

Flease remember that we must vacate the building by 9:30.

## DISK OF THE MONTH

The DISK OF THE MONTH TITLE was not available at press time. If we have one for this month it will be announced at the meeting. Remember that Mike always brings previous DOM'S to each meeting so if you failed to get some previous offers, this will be a good time to obtain them from Mike.

KINDER KORNER-12 By Bob Buehler

#### WHO REMEMBERS JUST WHAT IS KINDER KORNER?

'Kinder' relates to children, not to kindness. Like children in Kinder-garten. Yet we are kind. We Kinder Kids are boys and girls of all ages. Of course I'm the oldest. That's the case where ever I go, but what's a better alternative? Well, Kinder Kids are K-Towner's who haven't even finished Basic, yet didn't wait to begin Extended Basic (X-Basic), which they haven't finished either. They've looked at Assembly Language but guite quick for Greek but quit that even quicker! In short, Kinder Kids have the lowest level of computer competence in K-Town 99er's. But we're happy in our Korner where we are trying to improve our level of expertise, and we're doing it too, by bolly, but slowly! That's KINDER

KORNER!! Come and join us!

MACK TO PRINT CONTROLS. I'm talking about Dot Matrix printers generally and Star Semini 10% in particular. With a little bit of know-how, comparable controls can be adapted to other printer makes. All it takes is the ASCII Codes for SPECIAL CHARACTER MODE, page 146 of YI-Writer, other ASCII Codes, page 145, and the FUNCTION CODE BUMMARY FOR THE SPECIFIC PRINTER.

Time For An Aside. TI-Writer is my short for II-WRITER NORD PROCESSOR. This was marketed by Texas Instruments for it's TI-99. Price was in the \$59.50 reals and well worth it compared to the competition. It included a necessary cartridge and diskette, and a comprehensive instruction manual. The manual is its remaining virtue because the vastly improved diskette by Tony and Will

McGovern, Australia, needs only the common X-Basic cartridge that everybody has. Funniweb is its name and every TI owner that I know uses it, and takes hats off to the McGoverns every time! I'm presently trying to straighten out problems with the latest, 4.12, version. This is Fairware with donations due to the authors. The original YI-Writer is available for \$14.95 and well worth it for the manual. So, Kinder Kids, when I say TI-Writer I really mean any Version of Funnelweb.

In the October Newsletter Kinder Korner covered one-line Double Wide. Also Italics; but most important ESC was introduced. It unlocks a whole bundle of good things!! Do you remember how to do it and what you see on the monitor so you know you did it? Here it is again. CTRL U FCTN R CTRL U. You will see a sybmol resembling a lower case b, but with a small line above. That tells you that you are ready to enter instruction. You could: Type 4 for Italics, DR

Type E for Emphasize Print, OR
Type 6 for Double Strike Print.
If you had been in one of these print styles, you could:
Type 5 to rancel Italics, OR
Type F to cancel Emphasize, OR
Type H to cancel Double Strike.

Why don't you stop and give these three a try right now? A word about EMPHASIZE PRINT - It only works with PICA; not with Elite or Compressed. At least so I learned when figuring all this stuff out back in 1986. You might find differently. If so, speak up.

BB. First draft 9/4/88

OK! What other good stuff might you want to use for printing in EDITOR mode? That's what's big about these print controls! You use them in Editor mode! Like I told you in October, Transliterates do the job in the Format mode of TI-writer. Basic X-Basic print nicely in those languages. But it's the convenience of printing in EDITOR mode, right off the monitor, that I'm shoutin' about. No SF (save file) to disk, no Q/E to menu to load format; no entering printer name, number of pages, number of copies, pause at and of page. All this, finally to get a print out. Another thing, it is difficult when printing with Formater to know where the printing will start on the page. I've never yet had the patience to research this. Must do it someday.

Printing in editor mode has obvious virtues. That's why I'm trying in get you interested. But hold the deal. After you have printed a text, checked it, corrected it, and printed a final, you usually want to store it on dsk for the future. I've looked back lots of times at old stuff, happy to have preserved it.

If you think I'm filling space, you're partly right. Why don't you jump in and fill a little space for me?

Now lets start with DEFAULT. Default is what you get when you first turn Power On (Remember that phraze, Power On.) to the printer. You will have PICA style with it's 10 characters per inch and line spacing will be 1/6

of an inch. With no margins you can print 80 characters on a line, hence an 8" line. I usually use an 8 space left magin, leaving 72 characters per line. At 1/6 inch line space one 11" page allows 66 lines, but you need to leave something at both top and bottom.

You likely didn't jump at my invitation to try the above 3 ESC commands, so now is even a better time. I'll take you by the hand through this. That's Kinder Korner'

Turn on the printer. Power On cancels any prior printer controls. Then, by Default, type style is PICA and line space is 1/6". Now press T, ENTER. L on the monitor means Left Margin. Leave it alone for now. T means tabs. Leave them alone also. While pressing FCTN hold down D and watch the cursor scan the monitor. R means Right Margin. Press ENTER. Now you have the cursor on the left margin, line 0001. So type a couple of lines.

I always type, "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country. The quick sly fox jumped over the lazy brown dog. Now, again, is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country. All this time The quick sly fox jumped over the lazy brown dog."

Next press FCTN/9, PF, ENTER. You'll see PIO on the monitor. Pres ENTER and watch the printer work.

Now comes the fun! Move the cursor to the first letter of your brilliant text. While holding down FCTN, press 2 (INS Char). Now, CTRL U; FCTN R; CTRL U; 4. The printer will now give you Italics. At the end of your text, turn this off with CTRL U; FCTN R; CTRL U; 5. Now PF this to see the text in Italics.

Again go back to the top. Position the cursor on 4 and type E instead. That gives you Emphasize. Of course, turn this off at the end by typing F over 5. PF this in Emphasize. Go back again to the top and type 6 on top of E, and to the end and type H on top of F. Now PF to see Double strike. This makes two passes.

I next removed the print commands and saved the typing on a disk as TEST-12. (This is my 12th Kinder Korner. I can reload this test, to save the retyping, and try it with other print controls.

BB, Added to on 9/17. Wee corrections 10/10/88

#### STUMBLINGS

Joe N. Signons

Have you ever stumbled on to a new technique either at the computer or in another club's newsletter? If so, this column is for you. The geniuses will be so deep in thought that they will never know that they missed these stumbles! Enough gibberish.

Don't use Funnelweb 4.10. Use version 4.11.

Evidently there is a bug in the DM1000 catalog program of FW 4.10 which eats up your diskettes. This has been corrected in FW 4.11.

Wanting to give something to the McGovern's other than money, the Athens Club has sent them copies of Irving Crowley's Checkbook and John Bull's Bridge programs.

As I find time, I am sending other clubs, with whom I have corresponded over the past few years, copies of these fairware programs. It takes time to print labels, jackets, and copy diskettes; especially, if flippys have to be made.

This past week. I visited Lloyd and Carol down in Vinceont, Alabama. They had just returned from a business trip in Tennessee. Lloyd showed me some of the educational programs he had for the IBM and gave me some for Katherine with which to experiment. Since the club is low on diskettes and I need some diskette holders, Lloyd is placing an order for 50 diskettes for the club and two diskette holders for me.

As I have mentioned before, I eventually modify all the programs I use and John Bull's Bridge Game is no exception. If you are interested you may make the following changes:

170 WE\$(4) ! add this to the DIM statement.

180 WA\$(4) ! add this to the DIM statement

242 FOR I=3 to 8 :: CALL COLOR(I,16,1) :: NEXT I

385 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT(10,5): "WHAT IS YOUR NAME?" :: ACCEPT AT(12,16)SIZE(9): WE\$

386 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT(12,5): WHAT IS YOUR PARTNER'S NAME?" :: ACCEPT AT(16,16)SIZE(9):NA\*

1665 DISPLAY AT(3,8):WA\$ :: DISPLAY AT(3,13):""

1670 DISPLAY AT(4,8): WE\$ :: DISPLAY AT(4,14): " TI" :: DISPLAY AT(13,7): " "

Continuing my stumblings...How come if the DIM statement in 170 and 180 for NE\$(1) and WA\$(1) is changed from (4) to 1 or 2. I get a background color change from dark blue to white after line 385 is executed?

Another item. Lately none of my Funnelweb disks will load when I first turn the computer on. It normally requires me running other programs before it will load. What it does is turn the TV into black-blue-green and yellow streaks which everntually turns to a black screen and later to various other combinations and sometimes reloads the TI welcome screen. Does anyone have an explanation to this problem?

In Funnelweb, what changes the background color from dark blue to light blue when you return to Funnelweb from DM1000?

There are other little quirks that happen in Funnelweb which makes me suspicious that I have a virus. Is there a vaccine or antidotes for the TI?

fnough stumbling for this month...Joe//10:53 hrs. 10/22/88 at Etowah, Tennessee.

## ART SIBSON

Where art'thou? We need your guidance. Besides, we enjoy your happy smile and the ease you rumble through the TI languages. If you can not make the K-town meetings on Thursday evenings, try out the Athens Club's saturday meeting.

Remember how King Arthur's absence during the crusades disrupted the tranquility of dear olde England....?

#### Vice Comments

Bob Buehler has given us a good lesson in the use of control keys to send printer commands. Like most of us, to date I have been a chicken to try! How about you, the reader?

Joe White and his IBN came through again with some nifty graphics! which were appropriate to the contents of his article. These graphics add "pizzaz" to our newsletter. Joe, we hope you are feeling better and we wissed you at the club meeting.

Thank you, Joe.

Hopefully everyone has filled out and returned their questionnaire. which E.M. prepared. E.M. will try to give the results in this newsletter. If not, he will give them at our November meeting.

What ever course of action we decide to take, let us not be like some clubs and disappear. We have too much fun to do something like that.

## 

Looking over the Athens Club's affairs, a thought occurred to me that has a bearing on the embracing of other computers within our sphere. Although the Athens Club (a multicomputer user group eventhough the Apple "Core" has spun off of us) has joined the K-town Club in providing articles and financial support for the K-town newsletter, we are still a separate club and will remain a club for sometime into the future.

So, like the Athens Club participates in the publishing of the K-town Club's newsletter, the k-town IBM group could do so, also.

At the October meeting, Bill Sheridan and I each volunteered to catalog half of the club's diskette library. I can not speak for Bill, but I have had a good time. It has been sorta like finding lost treasuers and some new ones.

#### A poloc joke!

A polish DC3 was coming in to land at an airport and found the runway was very short. Not wanting to risk crashing with a full load of fuel, they circled the airport for 3 hours until their tanks were about papty. On their descent they placed their flaps in the down

position, throttled down and put on their brakes steady but hard as they touched the edge of the runway. Lucky for them the plane stopped at the edge of the end of the runway. The pilot said "Boy, that was close!". The co-pilot said "Have you ever noticed how wide this runway is?".

Best Wishes
JNS 10/21/88.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### NOVEMBER MeEtIn6

The Athens Club's NOVEMBER MEETING will be held on Saturday, the 19th at 10:00 A.M. at Joe Simmons's home in the Seven Cedars Subdivison in Etowah, Tennessee. Joel will demonstrate how to do the graphics on a calendar program he recently stumbled on to. As usual we will debug those programs with which we each are having troubles.

## October MEeTing

We had a poor turn out this month. Anly Joel and Joe met. Transliterates were covered with several trial printings to see the results. We found that semicolons were important.

For those of you who enjoy the 994A come and share your ignorance with the rest of us.

Respectively submitted, October 21, 1985 JNS



## TI-WRITER HELPFUL HINT

Suppose you have written a document several days previously and now wish to add to it. After loading the file, the easist and quickest way to get to the last line is press FCTN 9, then enter S for Show line (not SH for SearcH). Then enter E for End of the file if you don't remember the last line number. The cursor will appear at the beginning of the last line of your document.

Now say you are at line number 0227 and wish to get back to 0000 or some other line number near the beginning of the document. Instead of pressing FCTN 6 (roll up) then FCTN E or X to get back to the exact line, use the method above. Press FCTN 9, enter S, then enter 1 or what ever line number you want.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# DAY OF THE WEEK by Bill Sheridan

Here is a short program I saw in the July issure of MICROpendium written by Robert Neal, a member of the TI Users Broup of Will County. I thought it was real clever and have added it to my disk of miscellaneous programs.

The program will compute the day of the week(ie. Monday, Tuesday, etc.) from the date(MM,DD,YYYY) entered. Handy for finding out on what day of the week you born for instance.

The following is the nuts-and-bolts of the program. You may want to add your own REMs, PRINTs, etc.

- 100 INPUT "ENTER MM.DD.YYYY: ": M.D.Y
- 110 A=Y-(INT(Y/28) +28):: B=A/4:: E=A-INT(B) +4
- 120 Cs=\*511462403513\*:: IF F=0 THEN IF MK3 THEN CS=\*40\*
  - 130 E=VAL(SEG\$(C\$,N,1)):: IF Y<1900 THEN A=A+12
  - 140 6=A+INT(B)+D+E:: F=6-(INT(6/7)#7
  - 150 DATA SUN.MON.TUES.WEDNES.THURS.FRI.SATUR
  - 160 RESTORE:: FOR B=0 TO F:: READ C\$:: NEXT B

\*

- 170 PRINT "THE DAY IS ":C\$; "DAY"
- 180 PRINT
- 190 INPUT "DO ANOTHER? (Y/N): ":YN\$
- 200 IF YN\$="Y" DR YN\$="Y" THEN 6010 100



#### ITEMS FOR SALE:

Update UPDATE uPdAtE:

Bob has sold one of his boxes to someone up North via UPS. He may donate his last two complete systems with PEB boxes to a local school systems unless he can get at least a decent offer.

Bob Lamb P.O.Box 309; Athens, Tennessee, 37303 has Reduced his prices on six black/silver consoles, two PEBoxes with 32k, TI disk controllers and drives and some RS232 cards and printers as well as XB cartridges for sale. Bob indicated he now wants \$300.00 for a console-PEB package with extended basic. The RS232 cards as part of the package will be on a first come basis. This is an excellent opportunity for those of you who have been looking for PE boxes. You need one to house the new GENEVE.

Larry Nelson has a bare (without power supply box) SSSD drive for sale at \$50.00 and has an Epson 80% printer for sale at your best offer. Call Larry at (615) 745-0648.

Joe White of the K-Town Group has a fully expanded PEB for sale at \$260.00. Included is 32K memory, RS232, Disk Controller, and two half height DSSD Disk Drives. You can reach Joe at (615) 687-0656.

## A WORD ABOUT FREEWARE

FREEWARE ISN'T FREE!!. your library committee and group officers want to encourage you to remember that the FREEWARE is not free!! It is only a way of marketing software that permits the user to see what he should pay for before he pays for it. Like the honor system, this contract can be broken and is every day, but that doesn't make it right. If you are using a freeware program and haven't sent the author a contribution, you are stealing. If you are not sure if a program is "freeware", list it out and the REM statements will usually so state. If you don't send your \$5.00 or \$10.00 now, tomorrow may be too late — the programs won't be there and your II will have lost even more value.

The more recent fairware programs we have had as our Disk of the Month are Marty Kroll's Catalog Program and Irving Crowley's Checkbook Program and Plus+

#### **SURVEY INFORMATION**

by E.M. Smith

In evaluating the survey report it is important that you recognize that the numbers reported includes the responses from the Athens Club. How their numbers will impact our decission on becoming a multi-computer group remains to be determined.

Of those responding, there is a lot of agreement on all questions. The exception being on the question of preference. The responses are about equally devided on that question.

Perhaps the most significant information contained in the survey report is the number of responses or the lack there of. Those figures unquestionably will impact the most on our newsletter publication. At current costs the minimum cost of publishing our newsletter is near forty dollars per month subject to a lesser amount if we reduce our exchange mailings with other user groups. The minimum cost for publishing twenty newsletters at current costs amounts to twenty dollars per month. That amount if prorated amongst the ten K-Town members means that dues will have to double just to support a newsletter. With the prospect of losing some additional members with the choice of remaining strictly II or going multicomputer the outlook is even more dismal.

Other constraints on my time. like helping with publishing this months newsletter, and the need to rake leaves, etc., around the house, do not permit me to take the time to seperate the K-Town and Athens responses. I'll try to find the time before our next meeting.



DONT LITTER

## K-TOWN 99/4A USERS GROUP

## OFFICERS:

President - Art Gibson 354-1931 V.President - Joe Simmons 263-2963 Secretary - Joe White 687-0656 Treasurer - Carl Hinton 573-2840

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Epuipment - E. M. Smith 687-6869 Fublicity - John Bull 694-4750

# NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Bill Sheridan

970-3647

Athens Computer Club Rt.#2,Box 608 Etowah, Tennessee,37331

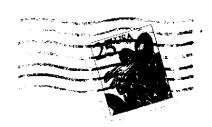
Officers:

President - Joe N. Simmons Sec/Treasurer- Jimmie Gordon Librarian - Larry Nelson 33

34

263-2963 263-9343





P.O. BOX 29843
DALLAS, TX 75229