

CPUUG NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 8 NUMBER 5

99er

MAY, 1989

MINUTES APRIL 17, 1989

Dave opened the meeting with the announcement that ARCHIVER 3.03 is now available. If you decide to use this great program, please send your money to Barry Boone. Barry is recovering from surgery, and could use all of the financial encouragement possible.

It has been rumored that Triton and Tenex are considering dropping the TI line. This will be a tremendous blow to all of the 4/A users. If you would like to help keep the 4/A alive, please send a letter or postcard to both Triton and Tenex and express your desire to keep the TI alive.

The EXPO for 1989 is progressing well. Gary Taylor of the PUG is coordinating the Users Groups in the Western part of the State. He has confirmations from several Groups that are interested in setting up tables and demos for the October show. Secr. note: a letter from Gary is reproduced elsewhere in this newsletter.

Barry was instructed to reply to the questionnaire from FOG. This will register us nation-wide. Every little bit helps.

A new TI dealer is in the area. COMPUNCTION is selling the Myarc line. Flyers were passed around at the meeting and a full page ad was placed in the newsletter. If you require more information, contact Dave Ratcliffe.

The CPR classes will be held on May 20th at the American Red Cross Center, 1804 N. 6th St., Harrisburg. The registration fee is \$17 and all are encouraged to take the one day course.

The nominations were closed and the ballots will be sent out to all members that are current with their membership. (not mail-order members) The ballots will be counted at the May meeting and the new officers will take over at the June meeting.

A new BBS for the TI in the Harrisburg area was announced. The number is 938-9948. It will have limited hours at first. The hours will be from 6 to 10pm only. It is operating at 300/1200 BNL. Let's all give it a call and logon.

Dave Ratcliffe and Wayne Spyker spoke about their time at the Timonium Show. Lots of computer stuff was for sale. It was an interesting discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 and the thirty plus members gathered around the various consols and watched demos on graphics, text, etc. The library was being copied by several members as well. The room was cleared and locked up at 9:30pm.

Till next time,
Barry Long, Secretary

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY JUNE 19th

The Executive Washroom
May, 1989
by
Dave Ratcliffe, Da Prez,
C.P.U.G., Harrisburg, PA>
=====

Golly, here we are in MAY already! Time does seem to be flying of late. We keep getting closer and closer to the 1989 Expo in Carlisle and interest by other User Groups is growing. By the time you read this, the Vendor Letters should have been sent and we will start mapping out the booth assignments.

On the MYARC front, my new Geneve finally arrived and I promptly found out it would not live at all with the CorComp Triple Tech Card. Not that it is a big problem, since the Geneve already has a print spooler in it and a battery backed clock. Otherwise, I had some problems making it work with the HFDC and my CorComp Floppy Disk Controller. I STILL do not know what the problem was but it is working OK now. It is a new experience playing with a 9640 after using a TI all this time. Half frustration and half amazement. Frustration because I do not have all the software promised, not to mention hard drive support in MDOS. Amazement because of the things this computer is capable of doing. I can only hope that there will be sufficient software support by Myarc and other vendors. The warranty sheet that came with the Geneve mentions a Basic Compiler, Spreadsheet, Data Base, Electronic Publishing and other items. I can only hope it does not take as long to produce these as it has taken for MDOS/H, PASCAL and Advanced Basic.

I just finished reading, with interest, the April issue of Topics, the newsletter of the LA99ers UG. I was dissappointed to see that Terrie Masters is still airing dirty laundry in public. Once again her problem revolves around the "Miller Bashing" she attributes to "one VERY jealous questionable person". While the name was not mentioned, those of us who have been on GENie are well aware of who she is referring to. While I cannot condone this supposed "Bashing" neither can I support Terries continually using the LA99ers newsletter as a platform for her name calling and belittling remarks. It is a shame that supposed adults cannot deal with their differences in a more private manner. Let it go Terrie! Two wrongs still do not make a right.

That's all for this soapbox.....

>>DAVE<<



DISASTER?

I was having a good time walking from table to table at the computer show. There were so many exciting things to see and purchase that I had a difficult time trying to decide what I wanted to take home with me to try on my own computer system.

I had been up very early that morning and I really didn't get much sleep the night before, since I was so excited about attending this once a year extravaganza. I hadn't had much to eat for breakfast and the day was rather warm. The large crowd didn't help matters either. But, I was too excited to be bothered with such mundane things as food and rest. All of a sudden I felt giddy. I started to feel weak, I had a slight pain running down my left arm, and it felt like someone was sitting on my chest. The table that I was standing by started to spin and get fuzzy. The people around me were talking, but, I couldn't understand them. I tried to talk, but I couldn't speak up. It took all of my remaining strength just to breathe. Then I started to waver and finally I could see the table hovering over me. I knew I had collapsed, but, I couldn't move! I vaguely remember a circle of strange people looking down at me. I could

just make out someone calling for help. "Does anyone know CPR?" they screamed! I don't know what happened next, because by then the pain in my chest had overwhelmed my desire to breathe. I just remember going into a deep sleep. When I finally awaked, it was in a hospital bed and the doctor was standing over me and saying how lucky I was that some stranger in the crowd knew CPR. If it wasn't for that stranger, I would not have had much chance of surviving my coronary.

The above was fiction, but, it could happen some day. Unfortunately, the stranger may not be from the CPUG. It seems that we could not get enough interested volunteers to attend the Red Cross CPR course and the Group had to cancel the May 20th class. All we needed was six people that were concerned enough about their fellow human beings to spend a few dollars and 8 hours learning how to save a life. Is a life not worth \$17 and 8hrs of our time?

PLEASE! When the class is offered again, step forward and say yes! Just knowing that a person could be saved with the knowledge that you have learned can be peace of mind. Remember, the breath of life could be yours.

Barry Long, CPUG



PLEASE NOTE:

Due to personal illness, I didn't have time to write my monthly article on TI-BASE. I promise that I will pick up the pace again next month.
Thank you, Barry Long



FOR SALE:

I have a small computer desk for sale. It is large enough for the standard TI system. I have just outgrown it. I am only asking \$25.00, this includes a printer stand extension.
If interested, please contact me at 564-2975. Thank you
Barry Long

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR CASSETTE SYSTEM
BY MICKEY SCHMITT
NUMBER 9
UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES
PART I

UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES IS NOT QUITE AS DIFFICULT AS IT MAY SEEM. UNFORTUNATELY, TRYING TO FIND A LIST OF THE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES THAT DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH THE CASSETTE RECORDER HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT TASK! IN DOING MY RESEARCH FOR THIS PARTICULAR ARTICLE, I HAVE HAD TO COMBINE MANY DIFFERENT SOURCES OF INFORMATION - IN ORDER TO BE AS INFORMATIVE AND AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

BASICALLY, CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES CAN OCCUR DURING ONE OF TWO DIFFERENT TYPES OF COMMANDS. MORE SPECIFICALLY, I AM REFERRING TO THE "LOADING" (OLD CS1) PROCEDURE AND THE "SAVING" (SAVE CS1) PROCEDURE.

DURING THE "LOADING" (OLD CS1) PROCEDURE.

WHEN THE COMPUTER FINISHES LOADING THE DATA, IT TELLS YOU WHETHER OR NOT IT READ THE DATA PROPERLY. IF THE DATA WERE READ CORRECTLY, YOU WOULD SEE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN:

* DATA OK
* PRESS CASSETTE STOP CS1

THEN PRESS ENTER

IF, HOWEVER, THE COMPUTER DID NOT SUCCESSFULLY READ YOUR PROGRAM INTO MEMORY, AN ERROR OCCURS AND THE COMPUTER PRINTS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ERROR MESSAGES:

* ERROR - NO DATA FOUND
PRESS R TO READ CS1
PRESS C TO CHECK
PRESS E TO EXIT

WHEN THIS OCCURS - YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE OPTIONS: NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SINGLE-LETTER RESPONSES (R - C - E) THAT YOU TYPE IN AT THIS TIME MUST BE IN UPPER-CASE CHARACTERS!

1. PRESS R TO REPEAT THE READING PROCEDURE. HOWEVER, BEFORE REPEATING THIS PROCEDURE, CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE PUT THE CASSETTE TAPE IN

CASSETTE TAPE AND THAT IT HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE CASSETTE RECORDER WITH THE CORRECT SIDE FACING UP. THEN FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN.

2. PRESS C TO CHECK THE DATA YOU HAVE READ INTO MEMORY. AT THIS POINT YOU MAY WISH TO ADJUST YOUR CASSETTE RECORDER'S VOLUME CONTROL AND TONE SETTING. THEN FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR MONITOR OR TV SCREEN.

3. PRESS E TO EXIT FROM THE LOADING PROCEDURE. AT THIS TIME ANOTHER ERROR MESSAGE IS DISPLAYED, INDICATING THAT THE COMPUTER DID NOT PROPERLY READ YOUR PROGRAM INTO MEMORY:

* WARNING!
CHECK PROGRAM IN MEMORY
* I/O ERROR 56

IF I/O ERROR 56 APPEARS, SOMETHING DEFINITELY WENT WRONG. BUT DON'T PANIC! GENERALLY SPEAKING, WHEN THE ERROR MESSAGE "ERROR - NO DATA FOUND" OCCURS - THE COMPUTER DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE CASSETTE RECORDER AT ALL DURING THE "OLD CS1" ROUTINE. ON THE OTHER HAND - WHEN THE ERROR MESSAGE "ERROR DETECTED IN DATA" OCCURS - THE COMPUTER RECOGNIZED ONLY PART OF THE DATA THAT THE CASSETTE RECORDER WAS SENDING TO THE COMPUTER. WHEN THIS HAPPENS, RECHECK YOUR CASSETTE RECORDER'S VOLUME CONTROL AND TONE SETTING. THEN RECHECK YOUR CASSETTE CABLE. MAKE SURE THAT BOTH ENDS OF THE CABLE ARE ATTACHED TO THE COMPUTER AND TO THE CASSETTE RECORDER. WHILE YOU ARE AT IT - MAKE SURE THAT THE COLOR-CODED WIRES LEADING TO THE CASSETTE RECORDER ARE CONNECTED CORRECTLY. THE CASSETTE RECORDER WILL NOT OPERATE PROPERLY IF THE COLOR-CODED WIRES ARE REVERSED!

NEXT MONTH I WILL CONTINUE WITH THE TOPIC OF UNDERSTANDING CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES. MORE SPECIFICALLY, I WILL BE EXAMINING THE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES THAT CAN OCCUR DURING THE "SAVING" (SAVE CS1) PROCEDURE.

IF YOU NEED ANY HELP UNDERSTANDING THE CASSETTE ERROR CODES AND MESSAGES OR ARE EXPERIENCING CASSETTE ERRORS - JUST GIVE ME A CALL (412-335-0163) AND I'LL TRY TO HELP.

NOTE: Somehow I misplaced lessons 7 and 9. If anyone has them, please see that I get a copy so that we can reprint them for our members. Thank you

1 CALL CLEAR
2 OPEN #1:"PIO"
3 PRINT #1:CHR\$(27);"E"
4 PRINT #1:CHR\$(27);"G"
5 PRINT #1:" ^ALPHA'S = #'S(#04)~"
6 PRINT #1:" BY"
7 PRINT #1:" BOB MILLER"
8 PRINT #1:" HELLO AGAIN. HOPE YOU
SAVED #1,2 AND 3! PUT THEM ON A DISK
AND FILE THEM."
9 PRINT #1:" EVEN IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A
DISK DRIVE, TYPE IN PART #1 AND PART #2
AND RUN THEM EACH AS TWO SEPARATE
PROGRAMS."
10 PRINT #1:"DON'T FORGET TO SAVE 'EM
TO DISK OR TAPE! NOW STUDY HOW THE
PROGRAM WORKS."
11 PRINT #1:" LINE #1 IS CLEAR BY NOW.
LINE #2 OPENS THE PARALLEL RS232 CARD P
ORT AND SENDS THE PROGRAM TO YOUR
PRINTER. ITS CALLED PIO. SAY -PEE EYE
OH- . OK?"
12 PRINT #1:"PIO MEANS PARALLEL INPUT
OUTPUT. THATS ALL THERE IS TO THAT.
SOME U SE SERIAL OUTPUTS INSTEAD."
13 PRINT #1:"LINE #90 YOU MAY ASK?
WHATS THAT?! DOING AT THE BEGINING? IN
XB !#R EM. IN BASIC REM MEANS REMARK
DOES NOTHING. OK!"
14 PRINT #1:"IN THIS CASE I USED THIS
SPACE TO TELL YOU WHAT THE PROGRAM NAME
IS AND WHAT DISK DRIVE IT'S MEANT FOR
WHEN CALLED UP."
15 PRINT #1:"YOU CAN PUT ANY OL' THING
AT ALL IN THERE AND AS MANY THROUGHOUT
THE PROGRAM AS YOU WISH. WON'T HURT A
THING!"
16 PRINT #1:"CLEAR AGAIN IN LINE 100.
THEN': TO SEPARATE THE COMMAND FROM
THE N EXT ONE, WHICH COLORS THE SCREEN.
NEXT X IS COUNTING."
17 PRINT #1:"NEXT WE MAKE CHAR 122 INTO
FANCY WORK (GRAPHICS THEY CALL IT!).
900 OF 'EM. HEY LOOK THERE IS Y, A
SPEED UP OR SLOW DOWN TIMER."
18 PRINT #1:"IF X IS FIRST AND Y IS
SECOND, ENDING IT, Y IS FIRST AND X
LAST. IF NOT YOU WILL SCREW IT UP. IF
YOU FORGET NEXT X."
19 PRINT #1:"YOU WILL GET A FOR NEXT
ERROR, A FOR NEXT NESTING IN LINE 90
AND SO
20 PRINT #1:"BE SURE. IF A MISTAKE
COMES UP. LOOK FOR IT SLOWLY AND YOU
WILL ALWAYS FIND WHAT TO CORRECT!"
21 PRINT #1:"IN LINE 100, I DID NOT
DRAW GRAPHICS, I JUST CLOSED MY EYES
AND HIT SOME OF THE HEXIDECIMAL 0 TO F
KEYS TO SEE WHAT CAME OUT."
22 PRINT #1:"SEE~~~I TOLD YOU, IT'S
MOSTLY FUN TO LEARN AND ENJOY THIS
FANTASTIC COMPUTER. READ AND PRACTICE
THOSE GREEN AND BLUE BOOKS!"
23 PRINT #1:"NEXT':'.NEXT CALL
(HARCHAR)HCHAR, HORIZONTAL CHARACTER,
REMEMBER? 1 IS ROW 2 IS COL (COLUMN) 122
IS THE ASCII CODE #."
24 PRINT #1:"PRONOUNCE AN-C.AMERICAN
NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE, IF YOU
WANTED TO KNOW(SMILE).TAKE NOTICE NOT
JAPANESE THIS TIME."
25 PRINT #1:"OH---AND 900 OF 'EM! NEXT

IS YOUR 'Y' TIMER COUNTING TO 15 THEN
ING TO 'X', THEN GOING TO LINE
110. NOTE 'X' IS LESS THEN 'Y'? Hmmm~ TEST2
GOTO 107."
26 PRINT #1:"OH, HOW MANY
SPOTS (PIXELS), LIGHT UP ON OUR SCREEN
THAT THE TI WORKS WITH (NURMALLY)?
256x192. LOW RESOLUTION vs HIGH
RESOLUTION. LINE 107 AND 110?"
27 PRINT #1:"THEY ARE NOT ALIKE
LINES, 107 110. NOW PIXELS IDENTIFY THE
NUMBER OF ROWS AND COLUMNS AVAILABLE ON
A TI SCREEN (TV SET OR MONITOR)."
28 PRINT #1:"YOUR BLINKING CURSOR?
THATS THE SIZE OF EACH ALPHA OR
CHARACTER YOU TYPE. LOOK AT THE SCREEN
AS A GRAPH PAPER. 64 PIXEL DOTS MAKE
UP A CURSOR."
29 PRINT #1:"SOME ON/SOME OFF! DON'T
GET SCARED. THIS IS INFORMATION ONLY.
YOUR 9 9/4A CAN BE PUT IN FOUR
DIFFERENT CHARACTER MODES FOR ON THE
SCREEN."
30 PRINT #1:"THEY ARE: GRAPHICS MODE;
MULTICOLOR MODE; TEXT MODE AND FOUR,
BITMAPPED MODE. A REASON FOR EACH. DID
YOU KNOW THAT? SHOULD HAVE. NOW FORGET
THEM."
31 PRINT #1:"AT LEAST FOR
NOW (SMILE), COME ON, ONE THING AT A
TIME, I'M NOT THAT SMART YET, BUT BOY
IS IT FUN!. YOUR PROGRAM SAY DISK OK;
ALSO MEANS DRIVES TO."
32 PRINT #1:"LINE 110 IS IF YOU HAVE
TWO DISK DRIVES. SIMPLY TELLS THE
COMPUTER TO RUN A PROGRAM IN DISK DRIVE
#1 CALLED TEST1. THEN RUN A PROGRAM IN 2
CALLED 2. "
33 PRINT #1:"WHY DID I TELL A STORY
BACKWARDS? WELLLL, LETS SEE. IF YOU
HAVE 2 D RIVES, LINE 90 TELLS YOU WHICH
DISK GOES IN WHAT DRIVE AND IT'S
TITLE."
34 PRINT #1:"DSK1.TEST1. NOW - LOOK
AGAIN AT LINE 110. IT WANTS THE
COMPUTER TO FIND AND RUN A PROGRAM
CALLED TEST2 IN DRIVE TWO. Soooooo~. OH I
HAVE TEST1 SELF LOA D."
35 PRINT #1:"GET 2 FRESH INITALIZED
DISKS. I NAMED ONE TEST1. THE OTHER
TEST2 FOR IN DRIVE TWO. TYPE UP
PROGRAM ONE(1), SAVE IT TO DISK AS SAVE
DSK1.TEST1."
36 PRINT #1:""
37 PRINT #1:""
38 PRINT #1:""
39 PRINT #1:""
40 PRINT #1:""
41 PRINT #1:""
42 PRINT #1:""
43 PRINT #1:""
PAGE 2 (continued)
44 PRINT #1:""
45 PRINT #1:"THEN PUT THE #1 DISK IN
DRIVE 1 AND TYPE UP THE #2 PROGRAM AND
SAVE IT AS: SAVE DSK2.TEST2. IF YOU
HAVE TWO DRIVES, DRIVE ONE WILL CALL UP
DRIVE 2. "
46 PRINT #1:"THEN DRIVE TWO WILL CALL
UP DRIVE 1. WHY? TO PROVE A SIMPLE
FACT. PROGRAM CAN RUN MACHINERY! FUN!
FUN! FUN! "

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47 PRINT #1:"BET YOUR LEARNING! (AND I'M
NOT A GAMBLING MAN.) (ONLY ON SURE
THINGS ) I THINK TEACHING SHOULD BE
LIKE TALKING, GET THE POINT ACROSS
CLEARLY."
48 PRINT #1:"THEN LIKE I SAID, LEARNING
SHOULD BE AND IS FUN. IF YOU DON'T
UNDER STAND WHAT I SAY, MAYBE I DON'T
KNOW EITHER."
49 PRINT #1:"DON'T MESS UP THE PROGRAMS
BY IMPROVING THEM, JUST CHANGE THEM
AROUND A BIT HERE AND THERE. ANYONE
CAN IMPROVE THEM. HAVE FUN MESSING
THEM UP."
50 PRINT #1:"IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A
SECOND DRIVE, DO THIS: IN LINE #110 PUT
A'!' IN FRONT OF RUN AND PUSH IT ALL TO
RIGHT ABOUT 15 SPACES WITH F2 AND THE
SPACE BAR ."
51 PRINT #1:"NOW TYPE GOTO LINE 120,
WHICH YOU DON'T HAVE ONE OF, 'YET'.
TYPE IN PROGRAM TEST2 AND CHANGE ALL
LINE NUMBERS USING LINE 120 AS THE
FIRST LINE."
52 PRINT #1:"INCREMENT BY 10 TILL ALL
LINES ARE TYPED IN. IN LAST
LINE '!' BEFORE UN AND SHOVE IT OVER.
TYPE 'END' AFTER CALL CLEAR::'"
53 PRINT #1:"IF YOU WANT IT TO START
PROGRAM #1 OVER, ERASE 'END' AND
PUT 'GOTO' THE FIRST LINE
NUMBER. (#90). YOU CAN SAVE BOTH AT ONCE
TO TAPE BY MAKING ONE PROGRAM ."
54 PRINT #1:""
55 PRINT #1:""
56 PRINT #1:" PROGRAM #1"
57 PRINT #1:""
58 PRINT #1:""
91 ! DSK1.TEST1 (PROGRAM 1 OF 2) BY BOB
MILLER, CPUG, P.O.BOX 1412 6,
HARRISBURG, PENNA. 17104-0126 (DAVE
RATCLIFFE, PRES.)"
100 PRINT #1:"100 CALL SCREEN(4):: FOR
X=1 TO 10:: CALL
CHAR(121,""ABCDEF15FF789 OFF"") :: CALL
HCHAR(1,2,121,900)" 105 PRINT #1:"105
FOR Y=1 TO 20 :: DISPLAY AT(12,2):"" ~
DISK 1 TEST IS OK ~"" :: NEXT Y ::
NEXT X :: GOTO 110"
110 PRINT #1:"110 CALL CLEAR :: CALL
SCREEN(7) :: RUN ""DSK2.TEST2"""
111 PRINT #1:""
112 PRINT #1:" PROGRAM 2"
113 PRINT #1:""

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114 PRINT #1:"90 ! DSK2.TEST2 (PROGRAM
2 OF 2) BY BOB MILLER, CPUG, P.O.BOX
14126, HARRISBURG, PENNA., 17104-0126
(DAVE RATCLIFFE, PRES.)"
115 PRINT #1:"100 CALL CLEAR:: CALL
SCREEN(12):: FOR X=1 TO 10:: CALL
CHAR(122,""FFBEA13274598FEF"") :: CALL
HCHAR(1,2,122,900)"
116 PRINT #1:"105 FOR Y=1 TO 15 ::
DISPLAY AT(12,2):"" ~ DISK 2 TEST IS
OK ~"" :: NEXT Y :: NEXT X"
117 PRINT #1:"107 CALL CLEAR:: CALL
SCREEN(9):: FOR X=1 TO 67 :: DISPLAY
AT(12,2 ):""BOTH DRIVES ARE PERFECT IF
YOU SAW PROGRAMS #1 AND #2"""
118 PRINT #1:"110 CALL CLEAR :: RUN
""DSK1.TEST1"""

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90 ! DSK1.TEST1 (PROGRAM 1 OF 2) BY BOB
MILLER, CPUG, P.O.BOX 14126,
HARRISBURG, PENNA. 17104-0126 (DAVE
RATCLIFFE, PRES.)
100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(4):: FOR
X=1 TO 10 :: CALL
CHAR(121,""ABCDEF15FF789 OFF"") :: CALL
HCHAR(1,2,121,900)
105 FOR Y=1 TO 20 :: DISPLAY AT(12,2):""
~ DISK 1 TEST IS OK ~"" :: NEXT Y :: N
EXT X :: GOTO 110
110 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(7):: RUN
""DSK2.TEST2"

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90 ! DSK2.TEST2 (PROGRAM 2 OF 2) BY BOB
MILLER, CPUG, P.O.BOX 14126,
HARRISBURG, PENNA. 17104-0126 (DAVE
RATCLIFFE, PRES.)
100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(12):: FOR
X=1 TO 10 :: CALL
CHAR(122,""FFBEA1327459 8FEF"") :: CALL
HCHAR(1,2,122,900)
105 FOR Y=1 TO 15 :: DISPLAY AT(12,2):""
~ DISK 2 TEST IS OK ~"" :: NEXT Y :: N
EXT X
107 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(9):: FOR
X=1 TO 67 :: DISPLAY AT(12,2):""BOTH
DRIVE S ARE PERFECT IF YOU SAW PROGRAMS
#1 AND #2"" :: NEXT X
110 CALL CLEAR :: RUN ""DSK1.TEST1"

```

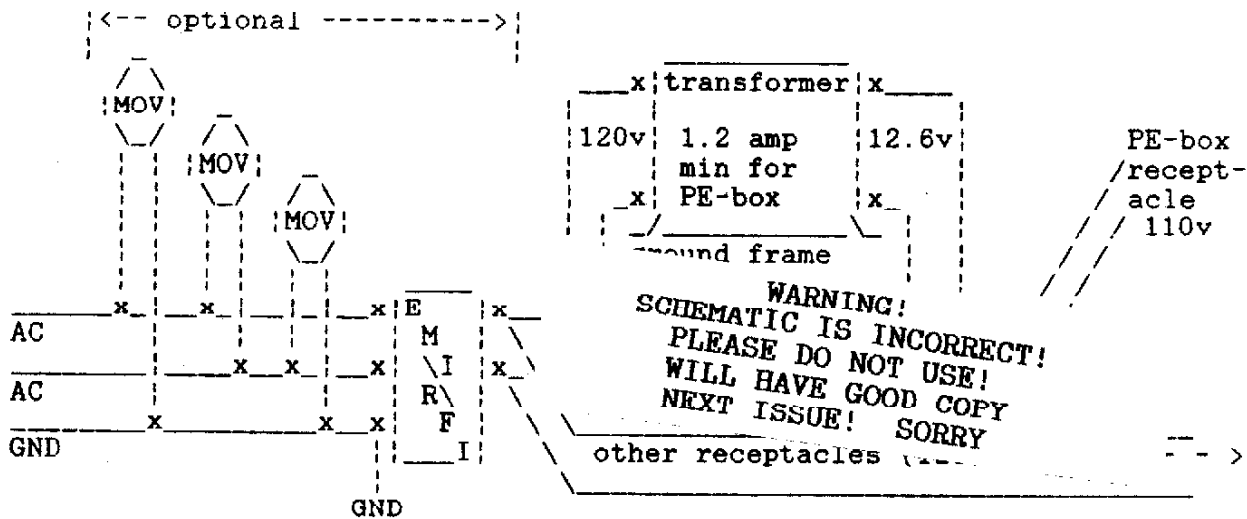


Because of some of the discussions on Bob and Bills BBS about excess voltage and overheating, I thought I would pass on my fix for excess voltage from the P-Box power supply. (I did this a while back when I got tired of scraping fried heatsink compound off the cards every few months).

I built a gadget with about \$5 worth of parts to drop the local line voltage from 125 down to 110 volts. TI designed the supply to have a voltage reserve at 110 to accomodate the range of line voltages available. But at the typical 117 - 125 voltages, this means the on-card regulators have to dissipate 20-30% more heat than necessary. The gadget uses a 12 volt, 2 amp transformer to feedback part of the line voltage with polarity reversed (actually "phase reversed" if you want to get picky). The result? ---VOILA! 125vac --> 110vac (more or less)

CB Radio fans may recognize this as the reverse of the device some of us used to "peak" the line voltage to get a little extra range out of a legal transmitter.

I set mine up as an extension cord with a multiple outlet box at the end. The transformer (and any other gizmos such as MOVs or EMI/RFI filters) fit into the box along with the AC receptacles. The bulk of the transformer determines the size of the box. It looks something like this:



Test the voltage at the PE-box receptacle when wiring is complete. If it shows 140v, then the transformer is IN phase and the 2 connections at the a in the drawing must be swapped. The "12.6v" transformer actually puts out about 14v when fed from a 125 volt line.

I have used this mod with six cards in the PE-box and lately with the GENEVE and 2 cards (plus 2 TEAC 55B's of course). It ended my overheating problems and should extend the life of the cards. It even seems to have quieted down my fan (running slower I suppose). Either that or the constant fan noise has finally impaired my hearing.

*****Note.. In light of the recent revelations about overheating Geneve and Myarc HFDC cards, this article is being re-circulated. Please note that as of 4/28/89, there is strong evidence that some of the overheating can be eliminated by replacing the current KOREAN made regulators with those readily available at Radio Shack. I believe these are made by Texas Instruments (an ironic twist).

Dave Ratcliffe
Harrisburg, Pa.
April 28, 1989

1694 Dormont Ave
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216
March 24, 1989

TI-99/4A User Group

I am writing to you to solicit the support of your user group during the upcoming TI EXPO that is being sponsored by the Central PA 99/4A User's Group. Each year for the last two years the Central PA User's Group has hosted a TI EXPO near Harrisburg, PA. Last years event was held at the Carlisle fairgrounds in conjunction with a local hamfest. There were vendors of TI software and hardware as well as many sellers of ham equipment.

This year I volunteered to contact all the TI User's Group in Pennsylvania and nearby states in the hope that they will sponsor a table at the EXPO this year. This would give us all a chance to get know one another and share the experiences of our clubs.

I am President of the Pittsburgh User's Group and have committed our club to obtaining two tables at the EXPO from which we will highlight educational software for the TI-99/4A. We are asking each user group that is going to participate in this years EXPO to select a software area to highlight at their tables. As I mentioned above the Pittsburgh User's Group is going to specialize in educational software. In addition, we will sell from our library, educational diskettes and tapes.

Several clubs have already indicated their intention to participate in the EXPO and have selected topics to highlight.

The West Penn 99'ers have chosen to highlight and demonstrate adventure games at their tables.

The Reading-Berks User's Group will highlight Graphic programs.

The Nittany Users of TI will be highlighting productivity software.

There are many more topics available such as Music, Speech, Languages, Logo, Word Processing, Telecommunications, Spread sheets, Games, and Cassette usage.

I have enclosed a User Group Registration form and a Flyer about the Expo that I received from the Central PA group.

If your club is interested in participating please fill out the form and send it to the address on the bottom of the registration form. If you have any questions about the EXPO and would like to talk with me about it you can call me at 412-341-6874. I will have an up to date list of each user group topic selection.

Sincerely Yours,

Gary M. Taylor President
Pittsburgh User's Group

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

047

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156 Collingwood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43213

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Over 120 original programs in Basic and Extended Basic, available on cassette or disk, NOW REDUCED TO JUST \$1.00 EACH!, plus \$1.50 per order for cassette or disk and PP&M. Minimum order of \$10.00. Cassette programs will not be available after my present stock of blanks is exhausted. The Mandy Dandy series, and Color Programming Tutor, are no longer available on cassette. Descriptive catalogs, while they last, \$1.00 which is deductible from your first order.

Tigercub Full Disk Collections, reduced to \$5 postpaid. Each of these contains either 5 or 6 of my regular catalog programs, and the remaining disk space has been filled with some of the best public domain programs of the same category. I am NOT selling public domain programs - they are a free bonus! TIGERCUB'S BEST, PROGRAMMING TUTOR, PROGRAMMER'S UTILITIES, BRAIN GAMES, BRAIN TEASERS, BRAIN BUSTERS!, MANEUVERING GAMES, ACTION REFLEX AND CONCENTRATION, TWO-PLAYER GAMES, KID'S GAMES, MORE GAMES, WORD GAMES, ELEMENTARY MATH, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL MATH, VOCABULARY AND READING, MUSICAL EDUCATION, KALEIDOSCOPIES AND DISPLAYS

NUTS & BOLTS DISKS

These are full disks of 100 or more utility subprograms in MERGE format, which you can merge into your own programs and use, almost like having another hundred CALLs available in Extended Basic. Each is accompanied by printed documentation giving an example of the use of each. NUTS & BOLTS (No. 1) has 100 subprograms, a tutorial on using them, and 5 pp. documentation. NUTS & BOLTS No. 2 has 108 subprograms, 10 pp.

of documentation. NUTS & BOLTS #3 has 140 subprograms and 11 pp. of documentation. NOW JUST \$15 EACH, POSTPAID.

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB

These are full disks which contain the programs and routines from the Tips from the Tigercub newsletters, in ready-to-run program format, plus text files of tips and instructions.

TIPS (Vol. 1) contains 50 original programs and files from Tips newsletters No. 1 through No. 14. TIPS VOL. 2 contains over 60 programs and files from Nos. 15 thru 24. TIPS VOL. 3 has another 62 from Nos. 25 through 32. TIPS VOL. 4 has 48 more from issues No. 33 through 41. NOW JUST \$10 EACH, POSTPAID.

NOW READY
TIPS FROM TIGERCUB VOL.5
Another 49 programs and
files from issues No. 42
through 50. Also \$10 ppd

TIGERCUB CARE DISKS #1,#2,#3 and #4. Full disks of text files (printer required). No. 1 contains the Tips newsletters #42 thru #45, etc. Nos. 2 and 3 have articles mostly on Extended Basic programming. No. 4 contains Tips newsletters Nos. 46-52. These were prepared for user group newsletter editors but are available to anyone else for \$5 each postpaid.

If you bought my C11 disk, Kid's Games, please check line 100 of the Butterfly and Flowers program and, if necessary, change it to - 1000 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(4).

If you bought my C12 disk, More Games, and have trouble loading Lost Plane and Andromedan Invasion, please go to line 1000 of the LOAD program and change \$TC-18 to \$TC-18 and \$TC-23 to \$TC-23. Or, return the disks to me and I will fix them.

Thanks to Ollie Hebert for this fix to the Gordian Knot in Tips #36. This will keep it from running off the edge and crashing in the automatic mode.

270 GOSUB 480 :: R=R-24*(R(1)+24*(R>24)): C=C-28*(C(3)+28*(C>30)): CH=128-(D=1)-(D=3):: CALL GCHAR(R,C,5):: IF C<>32 THEN IF INT(28/RND)<1 THEN CH=C

The trouble with ae is that,

before I finish one program I've thought of another that I want to try writing - and so I don't take time to test completed programs as well as I should. The Decompactor in Tips #35 was one that should have been tested more thoroughly. I think this version will work. It will break an XBasic program into single-statement lines to make it easier to modify. Then, John Dow's Compactor or a similar program will put it back together.

```
100 !DECOMPACTER V.1.1 by Ji
a Peterson fixed 12/87
110 DISPLAY AT(3,1)ERASE ALL
!TIGERCUB DECOMPACTER V.1.1
": " Program must first be
-": "RESequenced to greater
in-": "crements than the num
ber"
120 DISPLAY AT(9,1):"of stat
ements in any one":line.":
"SAVED by": SAVE DSK(file
name),MERGE"
130 DISPLAY AT(16,1):"INPUT
FILENAME?": "DSK" :: ACCEPT A
T(17,4):IF$
140 DISPLAY AT(16,1)ERASE AL
L:"OUTPUT FILENAME?": "DSK"
: ACCEPT AT(17,4):OF$
150 OPEN #1:"DSK"&IF$,INPUT
,VARIABLE 163 :: OPEN #2:"DS
K"&OF$,OUTPUT,VARIABLE 163
160 LINPUT #1:M$ :: LN=ASC(S
EG$(M$,1,1))$256+ASC(SEG$(M$
,2,1)): IF LN>LN2 THEN 180
170 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE AL
L BEEP:"ERROR! RESEQUENCE PR
OGRAM TO": "GREATER INCREMENT
S AND TRY": "AGAIN." :: CLOSE
#1 :: CLOSE #2 :: STOP
180 LN2=LN
190 P=POS(M$,CHR$(130),3)::
IF P=0 THEN PRINT #2:M$ :: G
OTO 260
200 A$=SEG$(M$,1,P-1):: R=PO
S(A$,CHR$(132),3):: S=POS(A$
,CHR$(201),3)
210 IF R=0 THEN PRINT #2:A$&
CHR$(0):: GOTO 250
220 IF S=0 AND R<0 THEN PRI
NT #2:M$ :: GOTO 260
230 IF S<0 THEN IF S-R<3 TH
EN PRINT #2:A$&CHR$(0):: GOT
O 250
240 PRINT #2:M$ :: GOTO 260
250 LN=LN+1 :: LN2=LN :: 60S
UB 270 :: M$=LN$SEG$(M$,P+1
,255):: GOTO 190
260 IF EOF(1)<>1 THEN 160 EL
SE CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2 :: D
ISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL:"En
ter NEW": "Then Enter": M
ERGE DSK"&OF$ :: END
270 L$=CHR$(INT(LN/256))&CH
R$(LN-256*INT(LN/256)): RET
URN
```

If you have my RBX routine from Tips #40 (corrected in Tips #42) or from my TIPS disk Vol. 4 or NUTS & BOLTS #3, or Genial Traveller Vol. 1 No. 6, here is a neat improvement that Barry Traver

thought of. Key this in, run it to create a merge file on a disk. Then clear memory with NEW, merge in BXB, then MERGE DSK1.LINEZERO, and now save BXB again in merge format and it will CALL itself from line zero (and do something else that I'm not going to tell you about! 100 OPEN #1:"DSK1.LINEZERO", VARIABLE 163,OUTPUT 110 M\$=CHR\$(0)&CHR\$(0)&CHR\$(157)&CHR\$(200)&CHR\$(3)&"BXB" &CHR\$(130)&CHR\$(157)&CHR\$(200)&CHR\$(4)&"CHAR"&CHR\$(183)&CHR\$(200)&CHR\$(2)&"30" 120 M\$=M\$&CHR\$(179)&CHR\$(199)&CHR\$(16)&"81C37EA58199663C" &CHR\$(182)&CHR\$(0):: PRINT #1:M\$:: PRINT #1:CHR\$(255)&CHR\$(255)

And if you have merged in BXB, the edge character (ASCII 31) can be reidentified and colored (set 0) to give the screen an ornamental border.

```
100 CALL CHAR(31,"0"):: CALL CLEAR :: FOR J=1 TO 24 :: PRINT #1: NEXT J :: CALL CHAR(31,"1824429999A22A1B"):: CALL COLOR(0,5,16)
```

Here is an improved version of the CATWRITER program to create the Tigercub QUICKLOADER, which is intended for disks of programs which you have filled and do not plan to change. It will read the directory, display each filename, and ask you for the complete program name of each one. Then it prepares a program which displays one or more menu screens of complete program names, and auto-loads whichever one you select.

First, key in this part and save it to disk by SAVE DSK1.CAT1, MERGE. If you want, you can change the screen and character colors in line 10. Don't change the line numbers!

```
10 CALL CLEAR :: DIM M$(127) :: CALL SCREEN(5):: FOR S=0 TO 14 :: CALL COLOR(S,16,1) :: NEXT S :: CALL PEEK(8198,A) :: IF A<170 THEN CALL INIT 11 REM (leave this in!) 12 ON WARNING NEXT :: GOSUB 21 13 X=X+1 :: READ M$(X):: IF M$(X)<"END" THEN 13 14 R=3 :: FOR J=1 TO X-1 :: READ X :: DISPLAY AT(R,1):S TR$(J):TAB(4):X :: R=R+1 :: IF R<23 THEN 17 15 DISPLAY AT(24,1):"Choice? or 0 to continue 0" :: ACCEPT AT(24,26)VALIDATE(161517)S (261-3):N :: IF N>X-1 THEN 1
```

```
16 IF N<>0 THEN 19 :: R=3 17 NEXT J 18 DISPLAY AT(24,1):"Choice? " :: ACCEPT AT(24,9)VALIDATE (DIGIT):N :: IF N=0 OR N>X-1 THEN 18 19 CALL CHARSET :: CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(8):: CALL PEEK(-31952,A,B):: CALL PEEK(A#256+B-65534,A,B):: C=A#256 +B-65534 :: A$="DSK1."&M$(N) :: CALL LOAD(C,LEN(A$)) 20 FOR J=1 TO LEN(A$):: CALL LOAD(C+J,ASC(SEG$(A$,J,1))) :: NEXT J :: CALL LOAD(C+J,0) :: GOTO 10000 21 CALL LOAD(8196,63,248) 22 CALL LOAD(16376,67,85,82, 83,79,82,48,8) 23 CALL LOAD(12288,129,195,1 26,145,129,153,102,60) 24 CALL LOAD(12296,2,0,3,240 ,2,1,48,0,2,2,0,8,4,32,32,36 ,4,9) 25 CALL LINK("CURSOR"):: RETURN 10000 RUN "DSK1.1234567890"
```

Next, key in this little routine and run it to create a file called CAT2.

```
100 OPEN #1:"DSK1.CAT1",VARIABLE 163,INPUT 110 OPEN #2:"DSK1.CAT2",VARIABLE 163,OUTPUT 120 FOR J=10 TO 26 :: LINPUT #1:M$ :: PRINT #2:CHR$(0)&CHR$(J)&CHR$(156)&CHR$(253)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(1)&"2"&CHR$(181)&CHR$(199)&CHR$(LEN(M$))&M $&CHR$(0) :: NEXT J 130 PRINT #2:CHR$(253)&CHR$(255):: CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2
```

Finally, key in CATMATRIX. Leave the line numbers as they are, we need that space after line 9. Then MERGE in DSK1.CAT2 to combine the two, and SAVE.

```
1 CALL CLEAR :: CALL TITLE(16,"CATWRITER"):: CALL CHAR(124,"3C4299A1A199423C"):: DISPLAY AT(2,10):"Version 1.3" :: TAB(8): Tigercub Software 2 DISPLAY AT(15,1):"For free " : "distribution": "but no price or": "copying fee": "to be charged." :: FOR D=1 TO 500 :: NEXT D :: CALL DELSPRITE(ALL) 3 DISPLAY AT(2,3)ERASE ALL:" TIGERCUB CATWRITER V.1.3" :: " Will read a disk directory ,": "request an actual program ": "name for each program-type" 4 DISPLAY AT(7,1):"filename, and create a merge": "able quickloader which displays full program names and": "runs a selected program." 5 DISPLAY AT(12,1):" Place disk to be cataloged": "in drive 1 and press any key" :: CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN
```

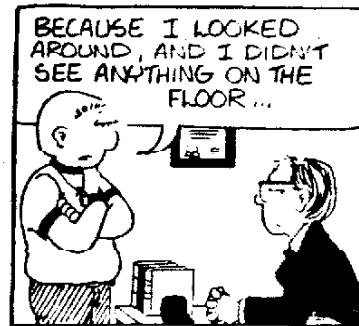
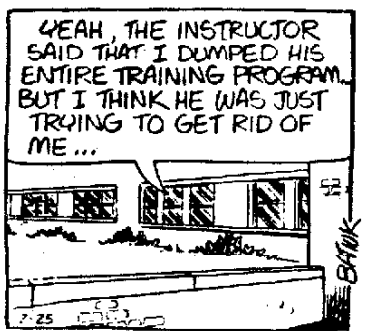
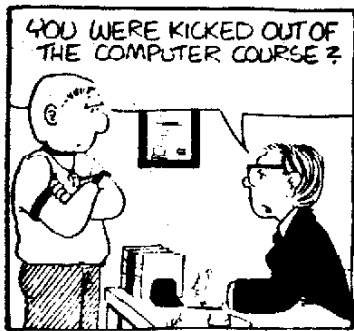
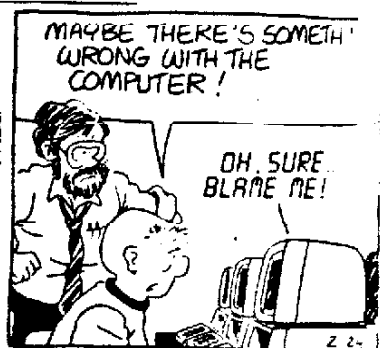
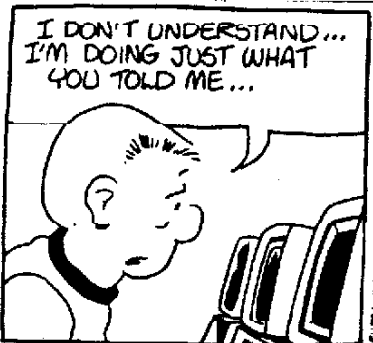
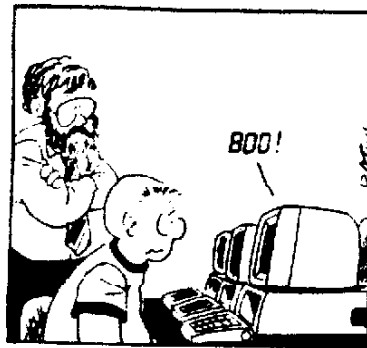
```
9 OPEN #2:"DSK1.CATMERGE",VARIABLE 163,OUTPUT 100 OPEN #1:"DSK1.",INPUT RELATIVE,INTERNAL :: INPUT #1 :M$,A,J,K :: LN=1000 :: FN=1 100 110 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"Disk name?":M$ :: ACCEPT AT(14,1)SIZE(-28):M$ :: LX$=STR$(14-LEN(M$)/2):: LXLEN=LEN(LX$) 120 PR$=CHR$(0)&CHR$(11)&CHR$(162)&CHR$(240)&CHR$(183)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(1)&"1"&CHR$(179)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(LXLEN)&LX$ 130 PR$=PR$&CHR$(182)&CHR$(181)&CHR$(199)&CHR$(LEN(M$))&M$&CHR$(0) :: PRINT #2:PR$ 140 X=X+1 :: INPUT #1:P$,A,J ,B :: IF LEN(P$)=0 THEN 180 :: IF ABS(A)=5 OR ABS(A)=4 AND B=254 THEN 150 ELSE X=X-1 :: GOTO 140 150 DISPLAY AT(12,1):P$:" PROGRAM NAME?" :: ACCEPT AT (14,1)SIZE(25):P$ 160 PRINT #2:CHR$(INT(FN/256))&CHR$(FN-256*INT(FN/256))&CHR$(147)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(LEN (P$))&P$&CHR$(0) :: FN=FN+1 170 M$=M$&CHR$(200)&CHR$(LEN (P$))&P$&CHR$(179) :: IF X<11 THEN 140 180 IF M$="" THEN 200 190 PRINT #2:CHR$(INT(LN/256))&CHR$(LN-256*INT(LN/256))&CHR$(147)&SEG$(M$,1,LEN(M$)-1)&CHR$(0) :: LN=LN+1 :: M$="" :: Y=0 :: IF LEN(P$)<>0 THEN 140 200 PRINT #2:CHR$(INT(LN/256))&CHR$(LN-256*INT(LN/256))&CHR$(147)&CHR$(200)&CHR$(3)&"END"&CHR$(0) 210 PRINT #2:CHR$(255)&CHR$(255):: CLOSE #1 :: CLOSE #2 220 DISPLAY AT(8,1)ERASE ALL "Enter -": "NEW": "MERGE DSK1.CATMERGE": "DELETE "DSK1.CATMERGE": "SAVE DSK1.LOAD" 230 SUB TITLE(S,T) 240 CALL SCREEN(S):: L=LEN(T) :: CALL MAGNIFY(2) 250 FOR J=1 TO L :: CALL SPRITE(J,ASC(SEG$(T$,J,1)),J+10+1=5)+(J+1=5+13)+1J+14) :: J,1+(170/L),10+J*(200/L):: NEXT J 260 SUBEND
```

Mike Stanfill and Ed Machonis and others have been publishing some neat little single-screen "tinygram" programs, so here is my contribution. It's a one-screen one-liner!

```
1 RANDOMIZE :: PRINT :: : : : A=INT(RND*17):: B=INT(RND*9+1):: FOR X=1 TO 5 :: Y=AXX^2-BX+B :: PRINT Y :: NEXT X :: Y=AXX^2-BX+B :: PRINT Y :: INPUT "GUESS NEXT NUMBER":N :: IF N=Y THEN PRINT "RIGHT" :: GOTO 1 ELSE PRINT "CORRECT IS":Y :: GOTO 1
```

MEMORY FULL - Jim Peterson

Funky Winkerbean



WE'LL LOOK FOR

YOU

AT THESE MEETINGS

Circle your Calendar with these meeting dates

JANUARY 16
FEBRUARY 13
MARCH 20
APRIL 17
MAY 22
JUNE [19]

All meetings begin at 7PM but the Group equipment will be up and ready for use at approximately 6PM.

All meetings are held at the CAMP HILL SHOPPING MALL COMMUNITY ROOM.

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NEXT MEETING: JUNE 19TH 1989 at 7pm.