

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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# K<sub>C</sub> 99'er CONNECTION

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## CHICAGO TI FAIRE by Steven DeBeare

Yes, I finally made it to the Chicago TI Faire. This being my first time there, I was not sure what to expect. So I shall attempt to share what impressed me and what happened that I did manage to see.

Let me start by saying, the time of introduction at the social mixer was most useful. There you had the opportunity to place a face to the names so many of us recognize in the TI world. During the evening before the Faire actually started. I did get a chance to talk to a few of the many people I have read about in various newsletters: Barry Traver, Gary Bowser and others. Also I did get the chance to see a beta-version of 'Disk Review' written by Will McGovern ('FUNLWEB FAME'). This enhanced version could practically eliminate the need for 'Disk Utility 4' and 'DM1000'. But it was not available at the time of the Faire. Hopefully it will be released soon.

Now for the Faire -- There were many speakers that went on all day long and it started with Rodger Merritt from Comproline Software. Since being the first to go, he had all kinds of trouble with the system set up. But he did manage to get me interested and to stop by their vendor table.

The next demo I had time to catch was Barry Boone's 'GIF-MANIA', a great program for displaying the tons of GIF pics around on the TI. You could do zoom and also go to monochrome color if need be. There were various other demos but I'll get back to them.

In the vendor room, you had a chance to see and purchase the latest software for the 99/4A or 9640. Plus see many suppliers of older software (cartridge, cables, etc.). Rave had a running model of the new PE/2 box, quite an interesting piece of hardware, but a little bit out of my price range. OPA had their various software items along with their new 80-column board and an eight cartridge holder called 'GIZMO'. Of course there was the Chicago UG offering various Fairware programs, of which I manage to purchase a few.

The 'Genial TRAVeIeR' was there along with Barry Traver the author of this fine ciskazine. He had the latest issue available and yes I did buy that one too. Speaking of Barry, he is quite an interesting guy. He just happened to be the last speaker and demoed his Coney Games disk and a great programming tool called 'GRAPHICOMP'. This allows the user to use certain display graphics commands like CALL VCHAR or CALL SPRITE and write an XB program with these commands and then convert it to an Assembly source code. Therefore you can have great graphics at assembly speed. It does have its limitations. I have used it and must say that

by using this program and reading the source codes, one who is just learning assembly can understand it better.

Back to the vendors, there were many others present like Texaments; T & J Software; and MS Software, who had a great mind boggler called 'Sliding Blocks'. I still can not figure that one out. And of course the Tiers faithful, Asgard Software. During his demo Chris Bobbit used the mouse to demo a program called 'YAPP' (Yet Another Paint Program) and the fastest spell checker for the TI called 'Spell It'. This was quite an amazing program going through its 25,000 word dictionary in no time at all. If you are a heavy-duty TI-Writer user and need to have accurate work, this program is for you.

Bud Mills was there with the 'Horizon Ramdisk'. Harrison Software demoed the 'Harrison Writer', which happens to be a unique program in itself. There were also demos from his music disk and a new program called 'Golf Analyzer'.

The most intriguing piece of software/hardware was the 'MIDI MASTER'. A device with software that allows you to connect your 99/4A to any MIDI standard musical instrument and play via the 4A. A great tool for the music oriented person. Not yet available, but will be soon. This is one piece of hardware I would like to get if I knew anything about music.

This article is getting long so I will cut it short here. As a first timer at a TI faire, I would say it was money well spent. And created new friendships that hopefully will continue to bind the TI community together.

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 IN THE NEWS By Gary Cox from the Mid South 99 Users Group's 'Tidbits'.

Terry Miller, former owner and co-founder of Triton Products Company announced today that he has completed the purchase of the TI99/4A business from Triton Products. Miller's new company, TM Direct Product Marketing will begin marketing hardware, software and accessories for the TI99/4A as of October 29, 1990. Triton Products Company discontinued sales of TI99/4A products on October 15, 1990.

"I am extremely excited that I am going to be able to continue the strong relationship we built with TI99/4A users of the last 5 years," said Miller. "A computer as good as the TI99/4A is and users as loyal as TI owners are, deserve great support and that's what TM Direct Product Marketing is going to give them."

The deal calls for the referral of all orders and inquiries of Triton Products Company for TI99/4A products to be forwarded to TM Direct Product Marketing. TM Direct Product Marketing's new toll free number is 1-800-336-9966. The address is 379 Beach Road, Burlingame, CA 94010.

TM Direct Marketing is located just south of San Francisco. The company is dedicated to providing TI users with the best selection of hardware, software and accessories available for the TI99/4A at tremendous values.

Texaments has released its 1990 fall/winter catalog, available free on request. The catalog is automatically included with all orders placed directly with the company, according to Steve Lambert, Texaments president. To obtain a catalog, write Texaments, 55 Center Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 or call (516) 475-3430 (voice) or (516) 475-6463 (data).

### THE TIGERCUB NUTS & BOLTS DISKS

What are they? The Nuts & Bolts Disks are collections of 100 or more subprograms in merge format, ready to merge into your own programs.

And what does that mean? Well, TI-99/4A Extended Basic allows the use of user-written subprograms. And what are subprograms? You know them well. CALL COLOR, CALL SOUND, CALL HCHAR - those are all subprograms which are built into the Basic language. You can write your own subprograms, to do anything that Extended Basic is capable of, and tack them onto the end of your program to be CALLED whenever you need them.

To put it another way, using a subprogram is almost like running one program from another - except that you can access it much faster, you can pass along any values you want to, and you can return to where you left the first program. Also, with a disk drive you can save programs in MERGE format and then MERGE them into a program in memory. Providing that the line numbers are different, the program which you MERGE in will be added to the program in memory. The variables used in a subprogram are entirely separate from those used in the main program, therefore libraries of utility subprograms can be developed in MERGE format, and MERGED into any program without conflict.

The Nuts & Bolts Disks are libraries of such subprograms. The first disk contains 100 subprograms, plus a tutorial on using them. Disk No. 2 contains 108, and Disk No. 3 contains 140 more in 114 files. Nothing like them has ever been offered by anyone else for the TI-99/4A computer. These 348 subprograms have been consecutively line-numbered with high line numbers so that they will not overwrite your program line numbers, and so that any number of them may be MERGED into a program without overwriting each other.

Advanced programming techniques have been used to make these routines as compact as possible, averaging hardly more than 3 sectors each, so that a hundred or more could be crammed onto a disk and so that they would add very little to the length of a program. If you are learning to program, you might learn a great deal by studying these subprograms. Each disk is accompanied by several pages of printed documentation, explaining the use of each subprogram and listing a short demo routine which you can key in, run, and experiment with.

Many of these subprograms can be used by persons with almost no programming knowledge, to modify existing programs. For instance, a program written in Basic, which crashes with BAD VALUE when run in XBasic, will run with a simple CALL BXB, and CALL KILLQUIT will disable the infernal QUIT key. Many different screen character styles are available, as well as colorful wipes to replace CALL CLEAR. However, it is the programmer who will find these disks truly invaluable. Even if you have the skill and ingenuity to develop these routines for yourself, wouldn't you rather just pay five cents apiece for them?

The Nuts & Bolts Disks originally sold for \$19.95 each, later reduced to \$15 each. They are now available for just \$5 each, postpaid. However, if supplies of printed documentation are exhausted, it will be supplied on disk. Order from Tigercub Software, 156 Collingwood Ave., Columbus OH 43213.

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 + KINDER-KORNER #3/4 (Feb/Mar 1988) +  
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#### A K-TOWN 99ers NEWSLETTER COLUMN

##### Would You Believe?

President Art Gibson doesn't know the meaning of Kinder-Korner! He thinks it has something to do with being nice. Not really. We Kinder-Kornets are nice but actually it means child's corner. In Germany, Kinder-garten means child's garden. In Baraboo, Wisconsin, birthplace of Ringling Brothers Circus, Kinder-garten was our first school year, just ahead of first grade. There we learned largely by watching the teacher. Although not scheduled, by watching we also began to recognize that boys were different from girls. In K-Town 99er's, Kinder-Korner is that hopeful segment of members with a child-like knowledge of TI's vast capabilities, yet with enthusiasm to learn; but at a modest rate. We are amazed at and in awe of the Gibsons Whites Eppersons Dodds and many others. We aspire toward such achievements. We do now know for sure that boys and girls are different. Ain't that nice? Now let's get on with Kinder-Korner.

##### The Acquaintance List

Learning to type took most of the summer between sophomore and junior college years; with an odd size instruction manual; using my new Royal Portable; bought with \$50 willed by a grandfather; who had lived on his own farm cared for by my uncle; who made sure I didn't get more than the \$50; but it was enough to get special plus and divide keys; because I was studying Civil Engineering. The manual instructed to home hands with the left little pinky on 'A' and the right little pinky on ';' and to reach other keys sort of by practiced instinct. It was a long hot Wisconsin summer without air! I became a better engineer than typist but did manage to type lecture notes, papers, and acceptable senior and graduate theses.

Years later came typewriters with plug-in cords. Homing little pinkies required feather touch to avoid surplus 'A's and ';'s all over the page. The odd size manual gave no warning about this but did tell how to correct mistakes. It took skillful mastery of a special, thin, disk-shaped eraser, with a brush extension to clean crumbs from the paper and from the inwards of the machine. And those carbon copies, BX! (BX means Before Xerox.) Erasure began on the bottom copy which then was covered with a paper scrap while the next carbon copy was erased, etc. Real high class office typing was as much skill in making near undetectable erasures and corrections as anything else.

You better believe that typing electronically on a monitor is a boon, with the ability to erase, change, move, and add before a print head hits the paper!

All this trivia just getting around to describing one of my earliest TI-99/4A uses. Updating that messy out-of-date acquaintance list was a bore with my plug in Smith Corona spitting out unwanted 'A's, ';'s, and 'L's and 'K's too! New friends had to be added. A greater number of beloved old friends had to be removed from that shortening list.

Enter a printer and a small cassette recorder that had been a handy pocket note-book. Enter also a mighty simple way to put data, here meaning names and address, into TI's memory. Remember, this is Kinder-Korner where sophistication is dirty.

So, to begin, names and addresses will be entered already in alphabetical order using Data Statements, one per person on numbered program lines liberally spaced numerically to allow adding those new friends while still hanging on to the last address of beloved departures. If we ever get to Kinder-Graduate-Korner we'll put in a sort routine. And if our list gets really, really long, in Kinder-Post-Graduate-Korner we will introduce using Files instead of Data Statements. But that is months, maybe years in the offing.

Our acquaintance list will use a Basic Language program with its numbered program lines. We haven't counted how many people we now know and sure can't predict how many new ones need adding and those who won't be here next year. We're not sophisticated and only partly smart, but we aren't stupid. So we invent a final acquaintance named ZZZ. It's not a person. It's a code telling TI that we are at the end of our list. If you have a friend named ZZZ this won't work. Just send \$1.79 plus \$8.23 S&H to the editor for further instruction. (I'm fast concluding that S&H is BIG BUSINESS and worth investigating. Any partnership offers?)

But we're moving too fast for Kinder-Korner. We should first name our program and make it show on the monitor so we know what TI is going to do for us. Our program might look like this:

```
10 CALL CLEAR (This erases garbage from the screen)
20 PRINT "ACQUAINTANCE LIST AS OF JANUARY 1988"
30 PRINT "NAMES WILL BEGIN AT LINE 1000"
40 X=1
```

Next our program must arrange to read names into the TI memory and count them. Here comes a sneaky instruction which cost me hours and hours of frustration, but with exhilarating final victory! Back at TI school in Texas (which would have been in Mexico had it not been for National heroes from Tennessee like Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, and Sam Houston) our 99-4A's were taught to Read in no more than 10 Data statements unless instructed otherwise with a Dimension (DIM) statement. Hence it's insertion at line 35. It had been forgotten earlier, but with line numbers at 10's intervals there is good room for insertions.

```
35 DIM NAMES$(100)
40 X=
50 READ NAMES$(X)
60 IF NAMES$(X) = "ZZZ" THEN 90
70 X=X+1
80 GOTO 50
90 PRINT "NAME COUNT =";X-1
100 BFEAK
```

```
1000 DATA DICK--123 4TH ST--KNOXVILLE TN
1010 DATA MARY--234 5TH ST--GREENBACK TN
1020 DATA TOM--345 6TH ST--KNOXVILLE TN
1030 DATA ZZZ
```

This is a big enough lesson for this session but to round things out, line 40 starts the count, line 50 begins reading names from the first Data Statement which is in line 1000. Line 60 asks if ZZZ has arrived in a last Data Statement. If so the program skips to line 90 so as to print the number of names and then breaks at line 100 to let you rest and look around. Otherwise it increments the count and loops. Some loose ends like dollar signs and quotation marks will get tied next time.

## GRAND RAM?

It's delayed arrival from DataBioTics may have moved Galen Read's Innovative Programming business away from the TI market. Galen had full page ad coverage on GRAND RAM in August MICROpendium. When I discovered this potential product in our Secretary Joe White's three-foot-high-stack of newsletters and other goodies I got around to calling Galen's 800 number for more details. He expressed briefly about his procurement problems. Now, December MICROpendium announces the changed orientation of his Innovative Programming business.

Replying to my written request, DataBioTics sent a flyer with a mirror of Galen's August advertisement with March 1988 delivery and 17% price increase on the 512K model. (\$269.95) But hold still again!! Rave 99 is scheduled for early release. It appears to have at least all the virtues of GRAND RAM plus five day memory hold without batteries and for months with a lithium battery option. I'll try for further details.

## WORD FINDER?

My very own 3 1/8" X 4 3/8" X 3/4" shirt-pocket-case, containing 100,000 dictionary words and 200,000 synonyms, finally wandered into Knoxville via UPS from California by way of New Jersey.

Like I promised in the January Newsletter the first thing I did was to ask it to spell 'sepArate.' Remember, I learned to spell that one in seventh grade and it's the only word I've been sure about ever since. Now, right here, let me say that WordFinder may be like the dictionary. You need to know how to spell to get either one to tell you how to spell.

So I typed in those letters. They appeared on the display in slender, distinctive, pleasing form. Then I punched the SPELL button. A single tone sounded and SPELL in small block letters was added, lower left, in the display. That meant the spelling was correct. Hey, that's real good!

Then, to be ornery, I typed in sepErate. This time when I pushed the SPELL button a double tone sounded, the small SPELL appeared again, but also in small block letters UNKNOWN was added, lower center, in the display. This meant that sepErate is incorrect. Per instructions I pushed SPELL again. The monitor flashed *searching for word* two times, then up came separate on the monitor. I thought I had a winner! We'll return to the spelling part again, later.

Of course, WordFinder is also a thesaurus. That needed checking. A sentence had been left cut in January, saying that 'consensus of opinion' is cruddy grammar because 'consensus' means 'opinion.' That's what I learned in college. For example, it should be 'consensus of the K-towners was ...' As promised I typed in 'consensus' and punched the SYNONYM button. Sure enough, 'opinion' appeared. No wonder I graduated! Then I punched the SYNONYM button several times for additional, and saw 'feeling,' 'flavor,' and 'sense' appear. Not bad!

Back to spelling. It's not always as easy as described above. 'Assign' was another word I promised to test with WordFinder. I punched in incorrect, 'asign,' and then punched SPELL. Quite properly again small

SPELL and small UNKNOWN came up. Like before I gave WordFinder a second punching of SPELL. Like before, small SPELL stayed on and small UNKNOWN disappeared. This should have meant that the new word in the monitor is correctly spelled. In truth it was. Trouble is it was the wrong word. It was correctly spelled 'align.' So, the operator has to know that 'align' is not a correction of misspelled 'asign.' My faith weakens.

To complicate this still more, there now was showing a horizontal carrot, >, lower right on the monitor. That offered yet another chance, so I pushed an external button with that same marking. Up came 'assgn' properly spelled. Of course I had to recognize this correctness, because the > stayed displayed. Rash, repeated punchings of > gave 'sign,' 'aside,' 'asices,' 'alignment,' and other variations of 'align.'

Now then what if I hadn't known that separate was correct after the second punching with sepErate, above? Lets go back, write in sepErate, punch SPELL, again see UNKNOWN. As before give WordFinder a second chance by punching SPELL again. Like before UNKNOWN goes off and 'separate' is in the display. All correct, like last time. But this time the > is noticed. (It had been there before but went unnoticed.) So the outer button with the > marking is pressed. Correct 'sepArate' is replaced by unwanted 'sepia.' More punches of the > button gives numerous variations until Wordfinder gets tired enough to write \*\*\* END \*\*\* on the display. By this time I'm tired also and hence my conclusion that WordFinder isn't much better than a small dictionary and may not be as fast. Each word needs punching in whereas a bunch of possibles can be scanned in a hurry on a printed dictionary page.

WordFinder isn't the 'wonder,' 'marvel,' 'miracle,' 'phenomenon', 'sensation,' 'spectacle' that I had expected regarding spelling but I have 30 days to 'decide,' 'fix,' 'adjust,' 'calibrate,' 'determine,' 'establish,' 'resolve,' 'set,' 'adjudicate,' 'conclude,' 'establish,' 'rule,' 'settle,' 'will,' 'arrange' to keep it or return it for a refund.

I'll likely keep it because of its 'thesaurus,' 'vocabulary,' 'glossary,' 'lexicon,' 'list,' 'synonym finder,' 'word finder' \*\*\* end \*\*\* value capabilities

At my age I must accept that spelling is a skill that I ain't got, which reminds that I meant to check out that illiterate contraction. I punched in 'aint' and got back 'ain't' with no synonyms. That must mean that ain't is a mighty, singular and precise word. So when a guy says, "It just ain't so" you better believe!!

If you think this Kinder-Korner stuff is complicated, just try studying the Editor/Assembler manual!!

[GRAND RAM] My January 13 letter to DataBioTics requesting details has not been answered.

[The Acquaintance List] will be back next month.

Hey, how about volunteers for simple stuff to go into KINDER-KORNER?

By Bob Buehler



**HAPPY HANUKKAH**

**Merry Christmas**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

TIPS FROM THE TIGERCUB No. 60 (1 June 1990)

My stock of Tigercub Software catalogs is depleted and it would not pay me to reprint it. Therefore I have released all copyrighted Tigercub programs, except the Nuts & Bolts Disks, for free distribution providing that no price or copying fee is charged. All of my Tigercub programs have been added to my TI-PD library and are cataloged, by category, in Supplement #8.

My three Nuts & Bolts disks, each containing 100 or more subprograms, have been reduced to \$5.00. If I run out of printed documentation, it will be supplied on disk.

My TI-PD library now consists of 400 disks of fairware (by author's permission only) and public domain, all arranged by category and as full as possible, provided with loaders by full program name rather than filename, Basic programs converted to XBasic, etc. The price is just \$1.50 per disk(!), post paid if at least eight are ordered. TI-PD catalog #2 with Supplement #8, listing all titles and authors, is currently available for \$1 which is deductible from the first purchase.

Here are a couple of improvements to the CHARFIX subprogram published in Tips #5E.

```
29000 SUB CHARFIX(HX$()):: DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL BEEP:"Transliterate
punctuation?" :: ACCEPT AT(12,28)SIZE(1)VALIDATE("YN"):G$ :: IF G$="N" TH
EN 29004
```

```
29007 CALL CHARVIEW(HX$())
29009 SUB CHARVIEW(HX$())
```

And call the routine by CALL CHARFIX(HX\$()). These changes will avoid unwanted transliteration, and will make it possible to use CHARFIX for ASCII 24-31 and 144-159, if BXB has been merged in, as described in Tips #55.

The Spring 1990 issue of the TI\*ES newsletter from England contained an interesting challenge - write a program in any language to find the lowest power of 7 which contains six sevens in succession, i.e. "777777".

The computer cannot solve this by any normal means, because it soon goes into scientific notation in which large numbers are rounded off into long strings of zeros. So, I taught it to multiply the old-fashioned way-

```
100 A$=STR$(7):: Y=1
110 Y=Y+1 :: FOR J=LEN(A$) TO 1 STEP -1 :: E=(VAL(SEG$(A$,J,1))*7+X)/10
120 X=INT(E):: F=(E-X)*10 :: X$=STR$(F)&X$ :: NEXT J
130 IF X>0 THEN X$=STR$(X)&X$
140 IF POS(X$,"777777",1)<>0 THEN 160
150 A$=X$ :: X$="" :: X=0 :: GOTO 110
160 PRINT "7^";STR$(Y);"=";X$
170 PRINT #2:"7^";STR$(Y);"=";X$
```

The answer? 7^175=78011207912208158102404441279111807777771881820067326361118396995716038858440266717799150647169989331265644407347632248554716494939953912586437943. My TI-99/4A computed that in 24 minutes. Would someone like to try it on the 9640?

Anyway, I thought I would use the same method to solve precise multiplication of numbers too large to be computed directly. This routine will multiply two numbers of up to 28 digits each, and will handle decimals and negative numbers. For even larger numbers, change the ACCEPTs to INPUTs and if necessary change the DIM. The only

limitation seems to be that the result cannot contain more than 256 digits and even that could be programmed around.

```

100 DIM C$(100)
110 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL:"FIRST NUMBER?" : ACCEPT AT(14,1)VALIDATE(
NUMERIC)BEEP:A$
120 IF SEG$(A$,1,1)="-" THEN A$=SEG$(A$,2,255):: M=1
130 A=LEN(A$):: D1=POS(A$,".",1):: IF D1>0 THEN A$=SEG$(A$,1,D1-1)&SEG$(A
$,D1+1,255):: D1=A-D1
140 DISPLAY AT(16,1)ERASE ALL:"SECOND NUMBER?" : ACCEPT AT(18,1)VALIDATE
(NUMERIC)BEEP:B$
150 IF SEG$(B$,1,1)="-" THEN B$=SEG$(B$,2,255):: M=M+1
160 Y=LEN(B$):: D2=POS(B$,".",1):: IF D2<>0 THEN B$=SEG$(B$,1,D2-1)&SEG$(
B$,D2+1,255):: D2=Y-D2:: D1=D1+D2:: Y=Y-1
170 FOR J=Y TO 1 STEP -1:: W=W+1:: B=VAL(SEG$(B$,J,1)):: FOR K=LEN(A$)
TO 1 STEP -1:: A=VAL(SEG$(A$,K,1))
180 D=(A*B+X)/10
190 E=INT(D):: F=(D-E)*10:: C$(J)=STR$(F)&C$(J):: X=E:: NEXT K
200 IF X>0 THEN C$(J)=STR$(X)&C$(J)
210 C$(J)=C$(J)&RPT$("0",W-1)
220 X=0:: NEXT J
230 L=LEN(C$(1)):: FOR J=1 TO Y:: L2=LEN(C$(J)):: IF L2<L THEN C$(J)=RP
T$("0",L-L2)&C$(J)
240 NEXT J
250 FOR J=LEN(C$(1))TO 1 STEP -1:: FOR K=1 TO Y:: G=G+VAL(SEG$(C$(K),J,
1)):: NEXT K
260 G=(G+H)/10:: L=INT(G):: G=(G-L)*10:: D$=STR$(G)&D$:: H=L:: G=0::
NEXT J
270 IF H>0 THEN D$=STR$(H)&D$
280 IF D1>0 THEN D$=SEG$(D$,1,LEN(D$)-D1)&"."&SEG$(D$,LEN(D$)-D1+1,255)
290 IF M=1 THEN D$="-"&D$
300 PRINT D$

```

And this one will add up an almost unlimited number of integers of almost any length - I haven't figured out how to get it to line up decimals.

```

100 CALL CLEAR:: DIM C$(100)
110 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"Input from D:" (D)isk or:" (K)eyboard?" : ACCE
PT AT(12,12)VALIDATE("IK")SIZE(-1):Q$:: IF Q$="K" THEN 140
120 DISPLAY AT(12,1)ERASE ALL:"Filename? DSK" : ACCEPT AT(12,14):F$:: O
PEN #1:"DSK"&F$,INPUT
130 X=X+1:: LINPUT #1:C$(X):: M=MAX(M,LEN(C$(X))): IF EOF(1)>>1 THEN 130
ELSE CLOSE #1:: GOTO 160
140 DISPLAY AT(12,1):"Press ENTER when finished":":":
150 X=X+1:: INPUT C$(X):: M=MAX(M,LEN(C$(X))): IF C$(X)<>"" THEN 150 EL
SE X=X-1
160 FOR J=1 TO X:: IF LEN(C$(J))<M THEN C$(J)=RPT$("0",M-LEN(C$(J))&C$(
J)
170 NEXT J:: FOR J=M TO 1 STEP -1:: FOR K=1 TO X:: G=G+VAL(SEG$(C$(K),
J,1)):: NEXT K
180 G=(G+H)/10:: L=INT(G):: G=(G-L)*10:: D$=STR$(G)&D$:: H=L:: G=0::
NEXT J
190 IF H>0 THEN D$=STR$(H)&D$
200 PRINT D$

```

It is easy to invert characters on the screen simply by making the

foreground "on" pixels a lighter color than the background "off" pixels - but when you make a screen dump, you will find that the "on" pixels will print and the "off" pixels will not.

Key this in, SAVE it by SAVE DSK1.INVERSE, MERGE and then merge it into any program by MERGE DSK1.INVERSE, call it at any point by CALL INVERSE(A,B), (A and B are the first and last ASCII to be inverted), and you will have all "on" pixels turned off and vice versa.

```

3111 SUB INVERSE(A,B):: FOR CH=A TO B:: CALL CHARPAT(CH,CH$)
3112 FOR J=1 TO 16:: CH2$=CH2$&SEG$("FEDCBA9876543210",POS("0123456789A
BCDEF",SEG$(CH$,J,1),1)):: NEXT J:: CALL CHAR(CH,CH2$):: CH2$="":: VE
XT CH
3113 SUBEND

```

Here is a truly remarkable discovery by Bill Hudson of the Central Ohio Ninety Niners. This 2-line program will allow you to RUN a variable name such as - A\$="DSK1.PROGRAM"

You can write lines before these, after these, and even RES the program. You can also use MOVE from GK UTILITY. You can do anything to the program you want as long as you don't change the content of line 100C. The line number does not even have to be 1000 BUT IT MUST BE THE FIRST LINE THAT YOU KEY IN!! You can merge a program into this but can't merge this into a program. Line 900 can also be a different line number but program execution must go to that line first.

```

900 FOR Z=1 TO LEN(A$):: CALL LOAD(-41+Z,ASC(SEG$(A$,Z,1)),0):: NEXT Z::
CALL LOAD(-41,LEN(A$)):: CALL LOAD(-44,4+LEN(A$))
1000 RUN "DSKx.1234567890"

```

It's been a long time since we had a screen display to watch just for the fun of it, so here is a tinygram -

```

100 CALL CLEAR:: FOR SET=1 TO 14:: CALL COLOR(SET,SET+1,SET+2):: NEXT S
ET:: CALL SCREEN(2):: CALL VCHAR(1,1,31,768)
110 FOR CH=32 TO 136 STEP 8:: CALL CHAR(CH,"FF000000000000FF"):: NEXT CH
120 X=INT(RND*6+1)*2-1:: Y=INT(14*RND+1)*8+32:: FOR R=12-X TO 12-INT(RN
D*X):: CALL HCHAR(R,5,Y,R)
130 CALL HCHAR(25-R,5,Y,R)
140 CALL HCHAR(R,28-R,Y,R)
150 CALL HCHAR(25-R,23-R,Y,R)
160 IN INT(21*RND+1)GOTO 170,190
170 CALL HCHAR(R,4+R,Y+8,25-R*2)
180 CALL HCHAR(25-R,4+R,Y+8,25-R*2)
190 NEXT R:: GOTO 120

```

This is a challenging and educational math puzzler which I think is unlike anything you have seen. I had it in my Tigercub catalog for 7 years and sold just 18 copies. If you don't want to key it in, it is now one of the programs on TI-PD disk No. 1300.1.

```

100 GOTO 140
110 J,K,ST,LV,I,R(),T,X,A$,X$,B,B$,C,C$,D,D$,AY,BY,B0$,BY$,CY,CY$,C0$,J
,Y(),YE,Xe(),FLAG,R$,RL,Z,YY,D0(),G$
120 CALL CLEAR:: CALL CHAR:: CALL COLOR:: CALL VCHAR:: CALL SCREEN::
CALL KEY:: CALL SOUND
130 @P-
140 CALL CLEAR:: FOR J=1 TO 12:: CALL COLOR(J,5,16):: NEXT J
150 CALL VCHAR(1,3,32,672):: DISPLAY AT(5,1):: "@%###*# RITHMATIK #*#%@"

```

```

160 DISPLAY AT(10,1):" Select difficulty level -: : " Type 1 or 2"
170 CALL KEY(O,K,ST):: IF ST<1 THEN 170
180 IF (K<49)+K>50) THEN 170
190 LV=K-48
200 CALL VCHAR(1,3,32,672):: FOR I=1 TO 4 :: RANDOMIZE
210 R(I)=INT(RND*10):: IF R(I)=0 THEN 210
220 FOR T=1 TO I-1 :: IF R(I)=R(T) THEN 210
230 NEXT T
240 NEXT I :: Y=R(1)*1000+R(2)*100+R(3)*10+R(4)
250 A=INT(4*RND)+1
260 ON A GOSUB 330,340,350,360 :: A=X*
270 B=INT(4*RND)+1 :: IF B=A THEN 270
280 IF (LV=1)*(LEN(STR$(R(B)/R(A)-INT(R(B)/R(A))))>2) THEN 250
290 ON B GOSUB 330,340,350,360 :: B=X*
300 C=INT(4*RND)+1 :: IF C=A THEN 300
310 IF C=B THEN 300
320 ON C GOSUB 330,340,350,360 :: C=X* :: D=10-A-B-C :: ON D GOSUB 330,3
40,350,360 :: D=X* :: GOTO 370
330 X$=" 1st " :: RETURN
340 X$=" 2nd " :: RETURN
350 X$=" 3rd " :: RETURN
360 X$=" 4th " :: RETURN
370 AY=R(B)/R(A):: BY=ABS(R(C)-R(B)^2):: IF BY=C THEN 380 ELSE 390
380 B$="" :: BY$=" equal to" :: GOTO 400
390 B$=STR$(BY):: BY$=" more or less than"
400 CY=ABS(R(D)-R(C)-R(B)-R(A):: IF CY=0 THEN 410 ELSE 420
410 C$=" equal to" :: C$="" :: GOTO 430
420 C$=" more or less than" :: C$=STR$(CY)
430 DISPLAY AT(2,1):" I have a 4-digit number ":" with no two digits the
:" sane." :: DISPLAY AT(6,1):" The";B$;"digit is";AY;" times the";A$;"dig
it."
440 DISPLAY AT(9,1):" The";C$;"digit is ";B$;BY$;" the square of the";B$
;" digit." :: DISPLAY AT(14,1):" The";D$;"digit is ";C$;" ";CY$;" the su
m of the other digits"
450 DISPLAY AT(18,1):" What is the number?" :: ACCEPT AT(20,2) VALIDATE (D
GIT)SIZE(4)BEEP:Q :: IF Q=X THEN 530
460 Y(1)=INT(Q/1000):: Y(2)=INT((Q-1000*Y(1))/100):: Y(3)=INT((Q/100-INT
3/100)*10):: Y(4)=(Q/10-INT(Q/10))*10 :: IF Y(8)<>INT(Y(A)*Y) THEN 570
470 IF BY<>0 THEN 490
480 IF Y(C)<>Y(B)^2 THEN 570 ELSE 500
490 IF (Y(C)<>Y(B)^2+BY)*Y(C)<>Y(B)^2-BY) THEN 570
500 IF CY<>0 THEN 520
510 IF Y(D)<>Y(A)+Y(B)+Y(C) THEN 570 ELSE 530
520 IF (Y(D)<>Y(A)+Y(B)+Y(C)+CY)*Y(D)<>Y(A)+Y(B)+Y(C)-CY) THEN 570
530 DISPLAY AT(22,1):" Correct!" :: FOR J=1 TO 2 :: CALL SOUND(100,392
5): CALL SOUND(100,440,5):: CALL SOUND(100,494,5):: CALL SOUND(100,523,
5)
540 NEXT J :: CALL SOUND(1000,523,5,392,5,330,5)
550 DISPLAY AT(24,1):" Hit any key"
560 CALL KEY(O,K,ST):: IF ST<1 THEN 560 ELSE 200
570 DISPLAY AT(22,1):" Wrong." :: CALL SOUND(900,30000,30,30000,30,400,30
,-4,0):: DISPLAY AT(23,1):" Type A to try again or Z:" to see the number
"
580 CALL KEY(O,K,ST):: IF ST<1 THEN 580
590 IF K=65 THEN 450
600 IF K=90 THEN 610 ELSE 580
610 DISPLAY AT(22,1):" The number was";X: " " :: GOTO 550 :: END

```

LISTING WITH COMMENTS  
(reprinted from Funnel Newsletter)

Have you ever wanted to place comments on a catalog listing, especially when passing a diskette on to a friend. If you do not have Disk Utility 4 by John Birdwell, then try the following. Go crank up your Funnelweb disk and load up DM 1000. Now do these steps:

1. Go into DM-1000 and change the output device by pressing <FCTN 3> at the main menu. You will need to change from "PID" to "DSKn.filename". As you don't want printer codes and you don't wish to save permanently, press <N> at the option.

2. Go through the normal procedure to catalog a disk. Once the catalog is displayed, press <FCTN 7> to print. However, instead of going to your printer. It goes to your Disk Drive, creating a DV80 file with the filename you give it in step 1.

3. Go back to Funnelweb and load in TI-Writer. Now you can add all the comments you wish to each line that is displayed in the listing. Be sure to turn word-wrap off <CTRL O>.

By using this method you can make your listing more informative to the person who will be receiving it. For example, programs related together can be grouped together regardless to their names.

99ER NEWS FROM OCTOBER 1990 as compiled by Jim Peterson

As of August, the Mechatronics dealer in California, T.A.P.E., still had a few of the OLD Mechatronics 80-column cards (not the Asgard upgrade). The phone number is (714) 989-9906. L.L. Conner Enterprises, phone (317) 742-B146.

The Bluegrass UG newsletter reports that the TI Image Maker, an 80-column device from O.P.A., has been put on hold because of problems with the device being "recognized" on power-up.

Chris Bobbitt reports that Alexander Hulpke of Germany has finished YAPP (Yet Another Paint Program) which combines features of TI-Artist and Myart, and will work on the Geneve or on the TI-99/4A with an 80-column device. It will soon be available from Asgard.

Eud Mills and Ron Walters are contemplating the production of a MEME (memory expansion) card for the TI-99/4A, if there is sufficient consumer interest.

Asgard is reported to be planning a new RS232 card with four ports - for modem, mouse, printer and MIDI.

G.P.A. expects to soon release a speech program to make full use of the chip in the Speech Synthesizer.

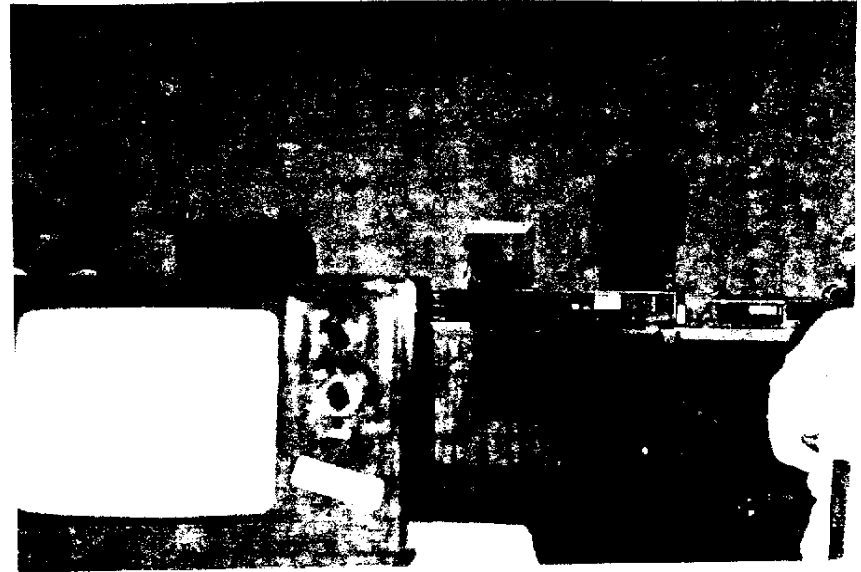
GENie is now charging a monthly fee of \$4.95, but is giving







Barry Traver giving a demo



"MIDI MASTER" demo



One of the vendors



A model of the RAVE PE/2 box

THE BLOODBANK by Walter Blood, 2032 N. 32nd St., Kansas City, KS 66104

Last August I published a program called ASTROLOGY!. Starting in September and continuing through August 1991 I am publishing a merge format data file for the current zodiac sign for use with that program. If you missed the August 1990 issue of BLOODBANK or are in a hurry to have the whole package you may send \$5.00 to the above address. Be sure to specify whether you want DS or SS format (SS will be archived).

~~~~~  
8 ! SAVE DSK1.SCORPIO,MERGE

1800 DATA 1. Are you jealous?,ZZZ,2. Have you fixed opinions?,ZZZ,3. Do you enjoy your drink?,ZZZ,4. Are you stubborn?,ZZZ  
1810 DATA 5. Do you demand loyalty,P,from your women?,ZZZ,6. Are you offended,P,when rebuffed sexually?,ZZZ,7. Do you bear grudges?,ZZZ  
1820 DATA 8. Do you use sex as a form,P,of self-expression?,ZZZ,9. Are you capable of using,P,a woman physically if,P,it suits you?,ZZZ  
1830 DATA 10. Do you always understand,P,your mate's sexual needs?,ZZZ,11. Are you sarcastic?,ZZZ,12. Do homosexuals,P,d disgust you?,ZZZ  
1840 DATA 13. Would you take revenge,P,on an old enemy if the,P,chance presented itself?,ZZZ,14. Can you be violent,P,when deeply stirred?,ZZZ  
1850 DATA 15. Are you suspicious,P,of strangers without,P,sufficient reason?,ZZZ,16. Do you think a woman's,P,place is in the home?,ZZZ  
1860 DATA 17. Can you be destructive?,ZZZ,18. Are you proud of,P,your god health?,ZZZ,19. Does laziness,P,irritate you?,ZZZ  
1870 DATA 20. Is it hard for you,P,to fall in love?,ZZZ  
3000 DATA 1. Is it hard for you,P,to fall in love?,ZZZ,2. Does your intuition,P,reveal the faults of others?,ZZZ,3. Are you of a,P  
3010 DATA 2. Are you jealous disposition?,ZZZ,4. When desperate for,P,affection will you sleep,P,with almost anyone?,ZZZ,5. Are weak men attracted,P  
3020 DATA to you?,ZZZ,6. Do you need a loyal man?,ZZZ,7. Is it hard for you to,P,express your desires in bed?,ZZZ,8. Is it hard for you to,P  
3030 DATA forgive and forget?,ZZZ,9. Can you be aggressive,P,in bed?,ZZZ,10. Are you hypersensitive?,ZZZ,11. Is it hard for others,P  
3040 DATA to get to know you?,ZZZ,12. Do you think teenage,P,brides are making a mistake?,ZZZ,13. Do you become highly,P  
3050 DATA nervous when run-down?,ZZZ,14. Do you enjoy a drink?,ZZZ,15. Are you good,P,with finances?,ZZZ,16. Are you reluctant to,P  
3060 DATA change your job?,ZZZ,17. Are you a good judge,P,of character?,ZZZ,18. Do you think a regular,P,sex life is very important?,ZZZ  
3070 DATA 19. Is it hard for you,P,to make new friends?,ZZZ,20. Does your imagination,P,do most of the work,P,for you in bed?,ZZZ  
5800 DATA You may possess one or two of the Scorpio tendencies but in general you are too adaptable and independent for this sign.  
5810 DATA "You should recognize yourself easily under Gemini, Libra or Sagittarius.",ZZZ  
5830 DATA "Life can be difficult for a fixed Scorpio, but in your case the general characteristics associated with this sign are softened."  
5840 DATA "making you a typical higher Scorpio. Jealousy could be your weak spot and one that will cause you much suffering in life,"  
5850 DATA although this too may soften with maturity.,ZZZ  
5860 DATA "This is the score of the lower Scorpio which is not altogether fortunate, for this is never an easy sign to live with. Your"  
5870 DATA critical and suspicious outlook can make you unpopular and if control is not exercised you could finish up a lonely and bitter  
5880 DATA "man. Do try to make allowances for the weaknesses of others - after all, none of us is perfect, and this certainly includes you.",ZZZ  
7000 DATA "Your character seems to be totally opposed to this sign, I would

1d suggest that you search for yourself under the sections on"

7010 DATA "Libra, Gemini or Sagittarius for these are the more adaptable signs which should reveal your true self.",ZZZ  
7030 DATA "You are the typically imaginative, emotional and jealous higher Scorpio. This is not an easy sign to live with for you can feel"  
7040 DATA more deeply than other signs and when hurt you can become confused and highly strung. Try to develop more resilience to the world.  
7050 DATA without growing cynical.,ZZZ  
7060 DATA "If young you are probably a gay and popular girl, the danger being a lower Scorpio is that you may grow neurotic, bitter and"  
7070 DATA hard with age for the Scorpio carries a sting and one that can be turned upon its owner making her self-destructive. If you can  
7080 DATA take life a little more lightly then you may avoid this.,ZZZ  
~~~~~  
9 ! SAVE DSK1.SAGITARIUS,MERGE  
1900 DATA 1. Is it hard for you,P,to relinquish your,P,personal freedom?,ZZZ,2. Is fidelity difficult,P,for you to achieve?,ZZZ  
1910 DATA 3. Do you take part,P,in some sport?,ZZZ,4. Do you chase,P,gerich-quick schemes?,ZZZ,5. Does jealousy in,P,others bore you?,ZZZ  
1920 DATA 6. Are you lucky?,ZZZ,7. Is it hard for,P,you to budget?,ZZZ,8. Do you think it,P,perfectly natural to try,P  
1930 DATA a sexual experience?,ZZZ,9. Would you drop your girl,P,is she became possessive?,ZZZ,10. Does the thought of,P  
1940 DATA staying in the same job for,P,twenty years depress you?,ZZZ,11. Are you free,P,from inhibition?,ZZZ,12. Do you speak rapidly?,ZZZ  
1950 DATA 13. Are you clumsy?,ZZZ,14. Do you think marriage,P,is old-fashioned?,ZZZ,15. Can you indulge in three,P  
1960 DATA or four affairs at the same,P,time without feeling guilty?,ZZZ,16. Do small-minded,P,people annoy you?,ZZZ  
1970 DATA 17. Does routine bore you?,ZZZ,18. Are children excluded,P,from your plans?,ZZZ,19. Is it hard for you,P,to remember birthdays?,ZZZ  
1980 DATA 20. Are you attracted,P,to married women?,ZZZ  
3100 DATA 1. Do you think you,P,will ever surrender your,P,personal freedom?,ZZZ,2. Does jealousy kill,P,love for you?,ZZZ  
3110 DATA 3. Do married or attached,P,men attract you?,ZZZ,4. Would you do anything,P,your man wanted in bed?,ZZZ,5. Do you enjoy some,P  
3120 DATA outdoor activity?,ZZZ,6. Are you a,P,restless person?,ZZZ,7. Do you need a,P,target in life?,ZZZ,8. Does fidelity come,P  
3130 DATA hard for you?,ZZZ,9. Could you sleep with a,P,friend's husband or lover,P,without feeling guilty?,ZZZ,10. Are your physical,P  
3140 DATA movements quick?,ZZZ,11. Do crazy and unorthodox,P,ideas appeal to you?,ZZZ,12. Can you get out of one,P  
3150 DATA man's bed then leap,P,into another's half,P,an hour later?,ZZZ,13. Do you support,P,Women's Lib?,ZZZ,14. Is your friendly,P  
3160 DATA approach to everyone,P,misconstrued by men?,ZZZ,15. Do you have a hectic,P,social life?,ZZZ,16. Do you live in the,P  
3170 DATA present for the present?,ZZZ,17. Are you drawn to,P,a man who does not appear,P,to fancy you?,ZZZ,18. Do you hate formal,P  
3180 DATA occasions?,ZZZ,19. Are you lucky?,ZZZ,20. Is it hard for you,P,to form a deep and,P,lasting relationship?,ZZZ  
5900 DATA "You are much too fixed and sensible to be a true Sagittarian, your outlook on life and moral behavior would seem to fit in more"  
5910 DATA "with the steadier signs. You may recognise yourself more readily under Taurus, Aquarius or Scorpio.",ZZZ  
5920 DATA "Sagittarians have the kind of personality that can draw others to them and you are of the higher type, meaning that you possess"  
5940 DATA "more of the good points than the bad of this sign. However, a



```

680 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: CALL HCHAR(X,Y,45):: CALL HCHAR(X,Y,C):: IF S=0 THEN 68
LSE 770
720 CALL GCHAR(X,Y,C1)
730 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: CALL HCHAR(X,Y,C):: CALL HCHAR(X,Y,C1):: IF S=0 THEN 73
770 IF K<>68 THEN 810 ELSE IF Y=28 THEN 800 ELSE Y=Y+1
800 IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
810 IF K<>88 THEN 850 ELSE IF X=18 THEN 840 ELSE X=X+1
840 IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
850 IF K<>83 THEN 890 ELSE IF Y<14 AND(LB=3 OR LB=4) THEN 880 ELSE Y=Y-1
880 IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
890 IF K<>69 THEN 930 ELSE IF X=4 OR(LB=3 AND Y<13) THEN 720 ELSE X=X-1
920 IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
930 IF K<>85 THEN 960 ELSE IF NOT((Y=24 OR Y=27)AND INT(X/2)<>X/2) THEN 960 EL
N=1 :: GOTO 720
960 IF K<>80 THEN 1000 ELSE IF Y>20 THEN 1000 ELSE IF LB<3 THEN 1000 ELSE CAL
CHAR(X,Y,C):: N=0 :: GOTO 670
1000 IF K<>32 THEN 1110 ELSE IF Y>20 THEN 1110 ELSE IF LB<3 THEN 1110 ELSE CA
HCHAR(X,Y,48)
1090 IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
1110 IF K=13 THEN 1120 ELSE IF N=1 THEN 720 ELSE 670
1120 CALL HCHAR(X,Y,C)
1240 FOR T=1 TO 30 :: READ OUR,NOTE1,NOTE2,NOTE3 :: CALL SOUND(OUR,NOTE1,2,NO
,15,NOTE3,15):: NEXT T
1280 DATA 300,330,10000,10000,300,440,277,110,150,440,277,165,150,494,277,165
0,440,277,220
1290 DATA 150,415,277,220,300,370,294,147,300,370,294,185,300,370,294,220,300
4,294,123
1300 DATA 150,494,294,185,150,554,294,185,150,454,294,247,150,440,294,247,300
5,330,165
1310 DATA 300,330,208,10000,300,330,165,10000,300,554,330,110,150,554,330,165
0,587,330,165
1320 DATA 150,554,330,220,150,494,330,220,300,440,294,147,300,370,294,220,150
0,220,139
1330 DATA 150,330,220,10000,300,370,294,147,300,494,370,123,300,415,294,165,6
440,330,139
1340 RESTORE 1280
1400 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 1240 ELSE IF K<>13 THEN 1240
1430 RESTORE 560
1450 GOTO 520

```

If you are entering this program in Extended Basic add the following routine to create a train moving under the tree while the music plays. I have listed this as a separate program to be saved in merge format and then merged with the first program to create the new version.

```

2 ! SAVE DSK2.XMASTREE-,MERGE
401 CALL CHAR(120,"0000000E4AFEFE44")
402 CALL CHAR(122,"0000000FEFEFE44")
403 CALL CHAR(123,"0000007C44FEFE44")
1130 CALL MAGNIFY(2):: CALL SPRITE(#1,120,5,155,256,0,-15)
1150 FOR T=1 TO 40 :: NEXT T
1170 CALL SPRITE(#2,122,5,155,256,0,-15)
1180 FOR T=1 TO 40 :: NEXT T
1200 CALL SPRITE(#3,123,5,155,256,0,-15)
1210 FOR T=1 TO 40 :: NEXT T
1230 CALL SPRITE(#4,123,5,155,256,0,-15)
1440 CALL DELSPRITE(ALL)

```

```

♪♪♪ MERRY CHRISTMAS ♪♪♪
To: RUDIE
with LOVE and THANKS from
NICK

```

```

▲▲▲ SEASONS GREETINGS ▲▲▲
To: ALL
WITH LOVE FROM
the KC 99ERS

```

```

♥♥♥ BE MY VALENTINE ♥♥♥
To: FRANKIE
with love from
JOHNNIE

```

```

] ] ] BON VOYAGE ] ] ]
To: CHRIS
with love from
ISABELLA

```

```

$$$ MANY HAPPY RETRNS $$$
To: I. R. S.
INFERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
Hot Taxpayer

```

```

©©© HAPPY BIRTHDAY ©©©
To: GRANDSON
WITH ALL OUR LOVE
GRANDMA & GRANDPA

```

```

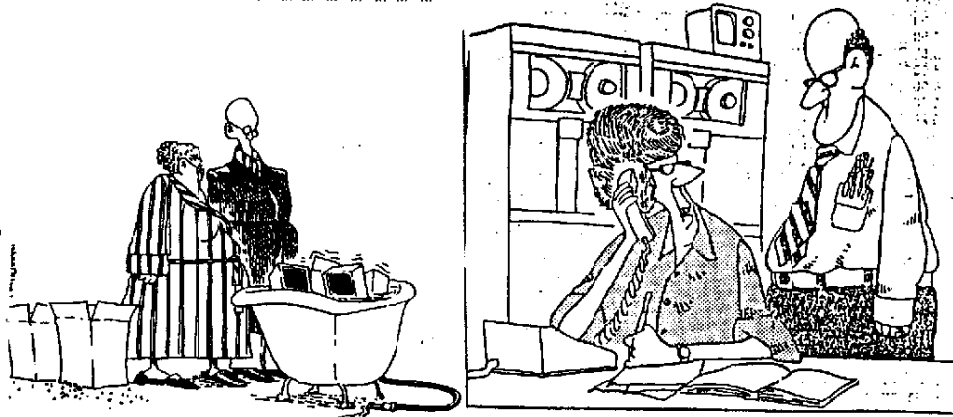
*** HAPPY HANUKKAH ***
To my FAMILY
with LOVE from
Father

```

```

*** HAPPY NEW YEAR ***
To: ALL 99ERS
KEEP ON TIING
KANSAS CITY

```



"GARY AND SUE OF HIS FRIENDS WANTED TO BOB FOR APPLES THIS YEAR I GUESS IT CAN'T HURT AS LONG AS THEY'RE NOT PLUGGED IN."

THE ENTIRE SYSTEM IS DOWN. THE COMPUTER PEOPLE BLAME THE MODEM PEOPLE WHO BLAME THE PHONE PEOPLE WHO BLAME IT ON OUR MOON BEING IN THE FIFTH HOUSE WITH VENUS ASCENDING.

Rich Tennant

LABELS WITH IMPACT from MICROpendium Volume 4 Number 11 (December 1987)

Take one sprightly grandmother, add a generous dash of Christmas Spirit, eight dashing grandchildren, several credit cards, and you'll find Grandpa reaching for the Christmas spirits whilst trying to wrap and label a small mountain of Christmas presents. A couple of days later and hundreds of miles away, one finds those same dashing grandchildren trying to decipher Grandpa's spirited hieroglyphics while attempting to match presents with gift tags which have become detached enroute.

Grandma also does her thing on Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving and a seemingly endless succession of birthdays; whilst a bespirited Grandpa valiantly struggles to keep up.

Truly, a problem in search of a program. Picture Grandpa one Christmas morn reaching into his stocking for the expected usual source of solace and finding instead an ancient manuscript written in a strange language. Entering the mysterious symbols into his trusty TI99/4A, Grandpa finds emerging from his printer a stream of decorative gift tags, suitable for every occasion and personalized for each grandchild.

This wondrous Extended Basic program, turns a nondescript ordinary 3 1/2" x 15/16" mailing label into a gift tag much nicer than the "store boughten" kind, and one that will remain attached to its gift. A choice of eight different borders is offered. Colored ribbons (the printer kind) can be used for added effect.

As one might expect of a Santa production, the program is unusually user friendly. All entries become defaults for the next label, saving retyping of greetings and gift giver's names.

You can print a single test label and then repeat with the quantity desired; or you can change borders and greetings so that each label is different. The illustrated sample tags will give you an idea of the program's versatility.

The print codes are for Epson compatible printers and should work with most dot matrix printers capable of supporting double density graphics. Line 260 contains the print codes for placing the printer in this mode. Changes may be required for other printers.

In any event, borders 6 and 7 (dollar sign and asterisk) can be used with all dot matrix printers as they are standard ASCII characters and graphics mode is not used. Line 270 should be changed to read:

```
270 H$=" " : B=1
```

There are two blank spaces between the quotes. Other ASCII characters may be substituted for different borders, just change lines 340 through 380 and 410 following the examples of lines 390 and 400. Change line 3:0 to display the correct border.

Although not tested as such, it is believed that the program will work with borders 6 and 7 on daisy wheel printers if line 270 is changed as above and line 430 is changed as follows:

```
430 R$=RPT$(" ",12-LEN(R$))/2+.5)&R$&RPT$(" ",13-(LEN(R$))/2)
```

Change line 250 to have your printer bold and delete any other print codes that confuse your printer. You can substitute any ASCII characters available on your daisy wheel for other borders as described above.

For dot matrix printers, border designs can also be changed by changing the graphics codes in lines 340 to 410. They are based on a 6x8 matrix expanded to 12x8 for double-density graphics.

When entering lines 310, 340, 350 and 410, type until you hear the beep, press Enter, then press REDD and finish typing the line.

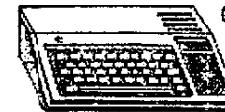
One word of warning. The program contains hidden code; if you try to print more than 99 labels at one time, Grandma's credit cards will self-destruct:

```
100 ! *****
140 ! * PRINT A TAG by Ed Machonis
190 CALL CHAR(91,"2A542A542A542A54"): CHECKERED BLOCK
200 CALL CHAR(125,"10387C7CFE1038"): CHRISTMAS TREE
210 CALL CHAR(93,"00247E7E7E3C1B"): HEART
220 CALL CHAR(96,"10181414347060"): MUSICAL NOTE
230 CALL CHAR(124,"107814101B2C64"): WALKER
240 CALL CHAR(123,"3C42A5B1A597423C"): HAPPY FACE
250 OPEN #1:"FIO.CR" : PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"E"
260 K$=CHR$(27)&"L"&CHR$(12)&CHR$(0)
270 H$=K$&RPT$(CHR$(56),2)&RPT$(CHR$(124),2)&RPT$(CHR$(62),4)&RPT$(CHR$(124)
RPT$(CHR$(56),2)&" " : B=1
280 DISPLAY AT(1,3)ERASE ALL:"*** PRINT AN ID ***"
290 DISPLAY AT(3,2):"HEADER? (17 CHAR'S MAX)" : DISPLAY AT(4,2):D$ : ACCEP
(4,2)BEEP SIZE(-17):D$
300 DD$=RPT$(" ",(17-LEN(D$))/2)&D$&RPT$(" ",(18-LEN(D$))/2)
310 DISPLAY AT(6,2):"CHOOSE BORDER:" I= [ [ [ " " 5= | | | " 2= ) ) )
6= $ $ $ $ " 3= ] : ] ] " 7= * * * * " 4= ' ' ' ' " 8= { { { { "
320 DISPLAY AT(11,2):STR$(B) : ACCEPT AT(11,2)BEEP SIZE(-1)VALIDATE("1234567
B
330 ON B GOTD 340,350,360,370,380,390,400,410
340 B$=K$&RPT$(CHR$(85),2)&RPT$(CHR$(170),2)&RPT$(CHR$(85),2)&RPT$(CHR$(170)
RPT$(CHR$(85),2)&RPT$(CHR$(170),2)&" " : GOTD 420 ! CHECKED BLOCK
350 B$=K$&CHR$(4)&CHR$(12)&CHR$(28)&CHR$(60)&CHR$(125)&CHR$(255)&CHR$(125)&C
60)&CHR$(28)&CHR$(12)&CHR$(4)&CHR$(0)&" " : GOTD 420 TREE
360 B$=H$ : GOTD 420 ! HEART
370 B$=K$&RPT$(CHR$(6),2)&RPT$(CHR$(14),2)&RPT$(CHR$(252),2)&RPT$(CHR$(64),2
T$(CHR$(56),2)&RPT$(CHR$(0),2)&" " : GOTD 420 ! MUSIC NOTE
380 B$=K$&RPT$(CHR$(66),2)&RPT$(CHR$(70),2)&RPT$(CHR$(248),2)&RPT$(CHR$(76),
PT$(CHR$(38),2)&RPT$(CHR$(0),2)&" " : GOTD 420 ! WALKER
390 B$=CHR$(36)&" " : GOTD 420 ! DOLLAR SIGN
400 B$=CHR$(42)&" " : GOTD 420 ! ASTERISK
410 B$=K$&CHR$(60)&CHR$(66)&CHR$(137)&CHR$(165)&CHR$(133)&CHR$(133)&CHR$(133)
R$(133)&CHR$(165)&CHR$(137)&CHR$(66)&CHR$(60)&" " : GOTD 420 ! HAPPY FACE
420 DISPLAY AT(13,2):"LINE 1? (25 CHAR'S MAX)" : DISPLAY AT(14,2):R$ : ACC
AT(14,2)BEEP SIZE(-25):R$
430 R$=RPT$(" ",(29-LEN(R$))/2)&R$&RPT$(" ",(30-LEN(R$))/2)
450 DISPLAY AT(15,2):"LINE 2? (25 CHAR'S MAX)" : DISPLAY AT(16,2):M$ : ACC
AT(16,2)BEEP SIZE(-25):M$
460 M$=RPT$(" ",(29-LEN(M$))/2)&M$&RPT$(" ",(30-LEN(M$))/2)
470 DISPLAY AT(17,2):"LINE 3? (25 CHAR'S MAX)" : DISPLAY AT(18,2):G$ : ACC
AT(18,2)BEEP SIZE(-25):G$
480 G$=RPT$(" ",(29-LEN(G$))/2)&G$&RPT$(" ",(30-LEN(G$))/2)
490 DISPLAY AT(19,2):"NUMBER OF LABELS TO PRINT?" : DISPLAY AT(20,2):"I" :
EPT AT(20,2)BEEP SIZE(-2):0
500 DISPLAY AT(22,2)BEEP:"ALIGN LABEL:" PRESS ENTER TO PRINT:" PRESS "R"
REDD"
510 FOR D=1 TO 50 : NEXT D
520 CALL KEY(I,K,S) : IF K=13 OR K=82 THEN 530 ELSE 520
530 IF K=82 THEN 280
540 FOR I=1 TO 0
550 PRINT #1:RPT$(B$,4);DD$;RPT$(B$,4);CHR$(13);CHR$(10)
560 PRINT #1:B$;RR$;E$;CHR$(13);CHR$(10)
570 PRINT #1:B$;MM$;E$;CHR$(13);CHR$(10)
580 PRINT #1:B$;GG$;E$;CHR$(13);CHR$(10)
590 PRINT #1:RPT$(B$,10);RPT$(B$,7);CHR$(13);CHR$(10)
600 PRINT #1:CHR$(13);CHR$(10) : NEXT I : GOTD 280
```

MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHR  
 E  
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 THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN TEXAS  
 TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN TEXAS, YOU KNOW,  
 WAY OUT ON THE PRAIRIE (WITH OUT ANY SNOW).  
 ASLEEP IN THEIR CABIN WERE BUDDY AND SUE,  
 A-DREAMING OF CHRISTMAS, LIKE ME AND LIKE YOU.  
 NOT STOCKINGS, BUT BOOTS, AT THE FOOT OF THE BEDS,  
 FOR THIS WAS IN TEXAS WHAT MORE NEED BE SAID.  
 WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN, FROM OUT OF THE NIGHT,  
 THERE CAME SUCH A RUCKUS, IT GAVE ME A FRIGHT!!!!  
 AND I SAW 'ROSS THE PRAIRIE, LIKE A SHOT FROM A SUN,  
 A LOADED-UP BUCKBOARD COME ON AT A RUN.  
 THE DRIVER WAS 'GEEING" AND "HAWING" WITH A WILL.  
 THE HOSSES (NOT REINDEER) HE DROVE WITH SUCH SKILL.  
 "COME HERE, BUCK, PONCHO, AND PRINCE: TO THE RIGHT!  
 THERE'L BE PLENTY OF TRAVELIN' FOR YOU-ALL TONIGHT.  
 THE DRIVER IN LEVI'S AND A SHIRT THAT WAS RED,  
 HAD A TEN-GALLON STETSON ON TOP OF HIS HEAD.  
 AS HE STEPPED FROM THE EUCKBOARD, HE WAS REALLY A SIGHT,  
 WITH HIS HEAD AND MUSTACHES, SO CURLY AND WHITE.  
 AS HE BURST IN THE CABIN, THE CHILDREN AWOKE,  
 AND BOTH SO ASTONISHED, THAT NEITHER ONE SPOKE.  
 AS HE FILLED UP THEIR BOOTS, WITH SUCH PRESENTS GALORE  
 THAT NEITHER COULD THINK, OF A SINGLE THING MORE.  
 WHEN BUDDY RECOVERED THE USE OF HIS JAWS,  
 HE ASKED, IN A WHISPER, "ARE YOU SANTA CLAUSE?"  
 "AM I THE REAL SANTA? WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK?"  
 AND HE SMILED AS HE GAVE A MYSTERIOUS WINK.  
 THEN HE LEFT IN HIS BUCKBOARD, AND HE CALLED BACK IN HIS DRAWL,  
 "TO ALL THE CHILDREN OF TEXAS, MERRY CHRISTMAS YOU ALL!"  
 MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRISTMAS MERRY CHRIS

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from NEWS NET99ER, December 1987



Come Help Us Celebrate The  
 TI-99/4A's 10th Year  
 Anniversary



UGOC in association with the  
 Pomona Valley UG is hosting

## FEST WEST 91

THE HAPPIEST FEST ON EARTH

Across the street from Disneyland PLUS many more attractions in the area for the wife/husband and kids to enjoy while you meet internationally renowned TI entrepreneurs, enthusiasts, and innovators. Fest tickets are on sale now (\$6.00 for both days). Ticket requests with a post mark before January 1, 1991 are eligible for a drawing for one free night at the Ramada.

PLAN YOUR THREE DAY WEEKEND NOW!

FEST DATES ARE FEB 16 & 17, 1991

The Fest will be held at the Ramada Main Gate, Anaheim Toll Free 1-800-447-4040 Special rate to fest goers (\$55.00 per night plus taxes) Only 50 rooms available at this rate and closing date for this rate is 15 Jan 91.

Travel arrangements may be made by contacting Ruth Dickey, Travel Concepts. (714) 778-5459

For future announcements contact the UGOC EBS (714) 751-4332 or write to:



Fest West 91 Committee  
 C/O Bill Nelson  
 11692 Puryear Lane  
 Garden Grove, CA 92640



## FEST WEST 91

REPRINTED FROM SAN DIEGO TI-SIG, NOVEMBER, 1986 "CHRISTMAS CARD PROGRAM"

Here's a quick but not so dirty Christmas card program. To make Christmas cards with the program follow these steps:

1. Fold an 8 x 10 sheet of paper like you would to send a letter for mailing in an envelope. (Indeed, that's the way it will be mailed!)
2. Unfold it and place it in your printer, with the sheet sideways.
3. Load program 1 and print or end of sheet.
4. Fold sheet again, place in printer so "inside" sheet can be printed.
5. Load program 2 and print. Please, however, use your own name.

```

1 REM SAVE DSK1.TREE-1
100 REM XMAS CARD PRG-PART 1
110 REM SAN DIEGO TI SIG, CHRISTMAS 1986
120 REM BY HO HO JOHNSON IN XB
130 REM CHANGE LINE 140 TO YOUR OWN PRINTER DEFAULT
140 OPEN #1:"PIO" :: CALL CLEAR :: SP=CHR$(32)
150 PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10):: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,7)&"*"
160 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,5)&"*"&RPT$(SP$,21)&"*" :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)
170 PRINT #1:"*"&RPT$(SP$,16)&"*" :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)
180 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,8)&"*"&RPT$(SP$,8)&"*" :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,21)&"*"
"
190 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,11)&"*"
200 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,12)&"*" :: PRINT #1:" * " :: PRINT #1:"*"&RPT$(SP$,9)&"*"
210 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,10)&"-1-&RPT$(SP$,4)&"*"
220 PRINT #1:"*"&RPT$(SP$,7)&"!" :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,10)&" / \ " :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,9)&" / o \ "
230 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,8)&" / o c \ " :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,7)&" / o o \ "
240 PRINT #1:" * / o o c \ " :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,5)&" / o o o \ "
250 PRINT #1:" / o o o o \ " :: PRINT #1:" / o o o o \ "
260 PRINT #1:" / o o o o o \ " :: PRINT #1:" / o o o o o \ "
270 PRINT #1:" / o o o o o o \ "
280 PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,9)&"!xxxx!" :: PRINT #1:RPT$(SP$,9)&"!"&RPT$(SP$,4)&"!" :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)
290 PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)
300 PRINT #1:"H O L I D A Y G R E E T I N G S" :: CLOSE #1
310 END :: REM DON'T HESITATE TO ADJUST THE DISPLAYS!

```

```

1 REM SAVE DSK1.TREE-2
100 REM XMAS CARD PRG-PART 2
110 REM SAN DIEGO TI SIG, CHRISTMAS 1986
120 REM BY YO HO JOHNSON (Ho Ho's brother) - IN XB
130 A$="H O L I D A Y G R E E T I N G S" :: B$=" We're Wishing You a
"
140 C$=" MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS"
150 D$="B E S T W I S H E S I N 1 9 9 1"
160 E$=" The Blood Family"
170 REM If you have trouble aligning the branches, etc, don't hesitate to
180 REM put in some special debug "markers" - to show relative position
190 REM of mistakes. Change line 200 to your own printer default(s)
200 OPEN #1:"PIO" :: CALL CLEAR
210 PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10):: PRINT #1:" * " :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)
220 PRINT #1:"* * " :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)
230 PRINT #1:" * * " :: PRINT #1:" * * " :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)
#1:SP$

```

```

240 PRINT #1:" * * " :: PRINT #1:" * * "
250 PRINT #1:A$ :: PRINT #1:" * " :: PRINT #1:" * "
* / \ *
260 PRINT #1:" / \ " :: PRINT #1:" * / \ "
270 PRINT #1:" / \ * " :: PRINT #1:" * / \ "
/ \ " :: PRINT #1:" / \ * "
280 PRINT #1:"* * \ " :: PRINT #1:" * * \ "
* * \ "
290 PRINT #1:"* / * * * \ " :: PRINT #1:"* / * * * \ "
* * * \ "
300 PRINT #1:"* / * * * * \ " :: PRINT #1:"* / * * * * \ "
* * * * \ "
310 PRINT #1:CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)&CHR$(10)
340 PRINT #1:B$ :: PRINT #1:C$ :: PRINT #1:CHR$(10)
350 PRINT #1:CHR$(10) :: PRINT #1:D$ :: CLOSE #1 :: END

```

REPRINTED FROM LA 99ERS "TOPICS"

For those of you that played around with the "MYSTERY PROGRAM" here's one that I guarantee DOES NOTHING!

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

```

1 ! SAVE DSK1.DONTTOUCH
10 ! * * DON'T TOUCH * *
20 !
30 ! Transcribed from an IBM program
40 ! by Chick De Marti
50 !
60 N=1 :: X=6 :: GOSUB 320
20 N=2 :: X=27 :: GOSUB 320
80 N=3 :: X=28 :: GOSUB 320
90 S=RPT$(CHR$(32),32):: CALL COLOR(2,16,1)
100 CALL CHAR(42,"FFFFFFFFFFFFFF")
110 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(2)
120 FOR I=4 TO 13 :: CALL COLOR(I,2,15):: NEXT I
130 DISPLAY AT(8,4):'Don't touch any key*'
140 CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S=0 THEN 140
150 CALL CLEAR
160 FOR I=1 TO 9 :: CALL COLOR(I,16,1):: NEXT I
170 FOR J=1 TO 20
180 CALL SOUND(30,INT(RND*100)+500,INT(RND*15))
190 CALL SOUND(30,15000,30)
200 K=INT(RND*8)+1
210 R=INT(RND*22)+1 :: C=INT(RND*28)+1
220 IF K>5 THEN 260
230 DISPLAY AT(R,C):#$(1);
240 NEXT J
250 GOTO 280
260 DISPLAY AT(R,INT(RND*9)+1):M$(2);
270 GOTO 240
280 FOR RX=1 TO 20 :: DISPLAY AT(24,1):S$ :: GOSUB 350
290 DISPLAY AT(24,1):M$(3):: GOSUB 350 :: NEXT RX
300 FOR DX=1 TO 600 :: NEXT DX
310 CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD(-31961,51)

```

```

320 FOR Y=1 TO X
330 READ D : M$(N)=M$(N)&CHR$(D)
340 NEXT Y
350 RETURN
360 DATA 72,65,45,72,65,46,73,32,75,78,69
370 DATA 87,32,89,75,85,32,67,79,85,76
380 DATA 68,78,39,84,32,82,69,83,73,83,84,33
390 DATA 77,65,67,72,73,78,69,83,32,65
400 DATA 82,69,32,83,85,80,69,82,73,79
410 DATA 82,32,84,79,32,77,65,78,67,72
420 DATA 73,67,75
    
```

# THE INCREDIBLE SOFTWARE TI SORT

Imagine the incredible. The ability to sort an unlimited amount of data, stored in virtually any type of file, in record time. Imagination just became reality, the incredible is TI Sort.

Based on the "Quick Sort" method developed by C.A.R. Hoare, TI Sort is the only universal sorting utility available for the TI-99/4A. Its fast, powerful, and easy-to-use. TI Sort can handle an unlimited amount of data (records), stored in almost any file format. TI Base files, delimited files, fixed length files, and Basic or Extended Basic files -- TI Sort does them all!

### Sample Time Trial

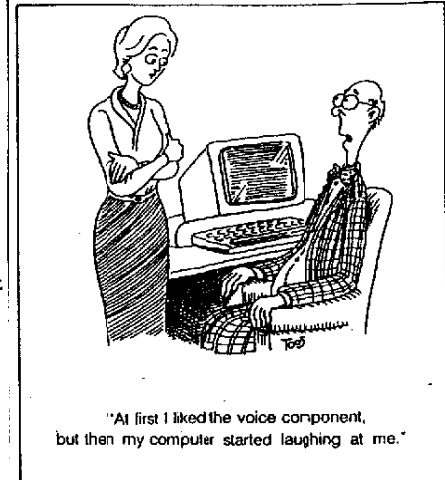
| Program | Device  |         |           |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
|         | Floppy  | RAMdisk | Hard Disk |
| TI Sort | 8:59    | 1:59    | 2:20      |
| TI Base | 3:47:26 | 13:26   | 13:47     |

Sort Type: 2 field nested sort. (TI Sort can sort up to 6 fields)  
 File Type: Standard TI Base file.  
 File Size: 843 records; 30 characters per record in five fields.  
 Equipment Used: Standard TI-99/4A console attached to a peripheral expansion box containing a Myarc hard/floppy controller, two 6ms DS/DD floppy drives, 20 megabyte hard disk, and a Myarc 512K memory expansion card.

The table speaks for itself -- no hype, no miraculous claims. There is no faster. Period.

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TI Sort requires a disk system, 32K memory expansion, and either an Extended Basic, Editor/Assembler, or Mini Memory cartridge. TI Sort is fully compatible with all storage devices and the Geneve 9640 (in GPL mode).



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- Command Language; powerful procedural language consisting of 45 commands similar to those used by Ashton-Tate in dBASE.
- Unmatched Features; full database and record manipulation, formatted display and print capabilities, math functions, sort, global record processing, disk management, 40 column editor, plus more!

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