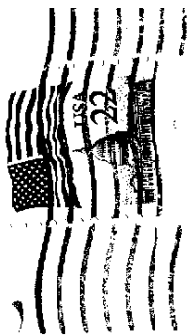
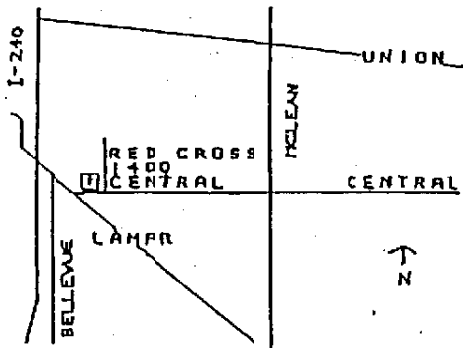


NOTICES

**MEETING**  
7:00 P.M.  
Thursday, JULY 16th  
Red Cross Building  
1400 Central Av.

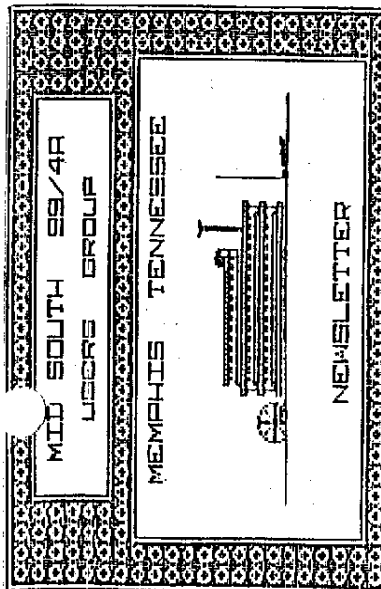
**WORKSHOP.**  
TO BE ANNOUNCED



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  \$15.00 FAMILY  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  \$10.00 JUNIOR (under 15)  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  \$10.00 ASSOCIATE (N/L only)  
 PHONE( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ : INTERESTS \_\_\_\_\_  
 EQUIPMENT, ETC. \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and mail with check payable to: Mid-South 99 Users Group,  
 P.O. Box 38522, Germantown, TN, 38183-0522.



P.O. BOX 38522, GERMAN TOWN, TN 38183-0522

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**JULY INDEX**

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# T I D B I T S

## PRESIDENTS BIT

After reading last month's presidents bit from the keyboard of a former president, I was glad Howard Watson and Company had enough foresight and enthusiasm to form this circle we call the Mid-South Ninty-Niners Users Group.

I remember first finding out about the group from Arnie at the Computer Center in the Poplar Plaza. I would ride my 10 speed bicycle over there, from school because they actually carried TI software! (and no, I'm not the kid Howard mentioned in his article). The first meeting I attended was in the basement of his store, I remember lots of chatter and demos such as Data Bases and Terminal emulators modeming with another TI computer that ran a bulletin board! And as a cassette bound student, I would stand there in awe as the disk drives would clickity clack those programs in and out of the expansion box at lightning speed (compared to cassette). There was always plenty of laughter and horseplay going on among the leaders of the group and they always seemed willing to lend an ear to solve a programming problem. Yes Howard and Co., we owe a lot to y'all.

It's that kind of atmosphere that kept me coming back to the meetings. Yes we've become a group of hobbiest trying to squeeze out a few more diamonds using our mild mannered computer, but always look around the group for those folks that are learning to crush coal.

Many thanks to Gary and Beery for their demonstrations last month. Beery presented the Horizon ramdisk that showed just how fast a program can really load (no clickity clack!). Gary demonstrated the latest hair pulling techniques during the Air Traffic Controller program. I was finally able to present my Triton Turbo XT. (dubed Turkey Turbo by some of the members of the group). The Turbo XT is an IBM clone which is distributed by Triton Products of San Diego California. What makes this clone a little different from the rest is a sidecar device ("Bridge Box" -BB-) that mounts on the side of the TI console at the expansion bus. The purpose of the BB is to allow the TI console to emulate an IBM keyboard. Because there are fewer keys on the TI keyboard, several modes are required to emulate all of the keys that can be generated by an IBM style keyboard. These different modes are enabled by pressing various combinations of control and/or function or enter keys. Lights on the BB tell you which keyboard mode you are driving. Without going into great detail, I found these OPTION modes to be very cumbersome, but I am a bit biased because of previous experience with the other keyboard. Another function of the BB is to toggle the video composite output from the TI to the monitor and from the clone to the monitor. This is accomplished through a myriad of cables leading to and from the BB

to allow both computers to have control of one monitor. The composite color output by the XT in 80 column mode is a real disappointment. There is a black and white composite output that improves this, but still doesn't compare to the RGB output. RGB is available from the XT graphics card but isn't channeled through the BB. I intend to voice my comments about some of the other aspects of the system and Tritons service in upcoming articles but for now I'd better hush because I may be sending the XT in for repairs. It locks-up when it warms up. (Never had that trouble with the trusty TI)

Next months meeting will have a casual format in which food and drinks will be available. (PARTY!) We will have a system there to provide problem solving and show off programs that you think the group will enjoy. Also a newsletter sorting committee and a library disc shuffle session will be held. A basic question and answer debate will also be held. If it is like our other meetings all of this will be happening at once! Just kidding.. Remember, the greater the group participates the more the group will benefit.

Lastly, some members of the group have been active in forming a Memphis Area Computers Group Organization which will provide a bonding link between our group and other small computer groups in this area. There really are other computer orphans out there! Our group will need to elect a representative so that our voice can be heard. A Computer Faire is in the planning stage to be held at the Agri-center October 31 and November 1 of this year. This will be a coordinated effort by all the groups within that organization to serve all computer owners and to attract vendors. Various committees will be formed and volunteers will be needed to help out. More details will be made available soon but in the mean time try to come up with ideas on how to represent our group and try to leave those dates open. It should prove to be a real success!...Mac Swope

## CATALOGER

From a little town you have probably never heard of, where the hot dogs and you both might have cold buns, in western New York state, has come an exceptionally good 'fairware' program for the 99/4A. I understand the latest (and final?) version is dated in June of 1987!

The name of it is USEABLE DISK CATALOGER (metonym-UDC) and it is just that, useable. Most catalogers are very similar in their results. You wind up with a printed list of your entire library of disks, depending on how much time you spend at putting the disks in and out of your drives. If your collection is like mine, you have many disks containing large programs where each of them has several files that make up the program. Almost all of them have a 'LOAD' program, and many of them have files called 'A', or 'DATA', or some such. With most cataloger programs you end up with groups of these similarly named files all clumped together in your print-out.

With Harry Brashear's USEABLE DISK CATALOGER it is suggested you

catalog only one file from each of those programs that contain more than one file, and hopefully you will catalog the file that bears the program name, rather than the 'LOAD' file. But even if you want to catalog all those 'LOAD' files, there is a spot for you to enter a KEYWORD. This is 24 characters long! Again, if you are like me you refer to a program by something other than its assigned 'name'. Such as 'favorite labeler', 'best rocket game', 'my database', or 'most used' or some such. You have 24 character spaces to enter that keyword or favorite name of that program, to make it easier to find when referring to your printed out catalog of your own library.

In Harry's well-done program, with one keystroke you can indicate whether Extended Basic, E/A, or any one of five other designations are required to access the program.

In my opinion, if your group library was listed via UDC, it would be the best way to keep an up-to-date listing easily dispensable to members.

To obtain this incredibly useful, USEABLE program, send a disk, mailer, postage, and \$10 to Harry Brashear, 2753 Main St., Newfane, NY 14108. I know \$10 is on the high side for fairware, but I am gonna tell you a secret-all of the money goes into the coffers of his user group, AND Harry has a 'bonus' disk that he also sends just to those that send cash. This 'bonus' is worth more than \$10 by itself! Where can you buy any program half as useful for the money? Don't just send a blank disk, put your favorite(s) on it for him. He's entitled to something for his efforts...Dick Altman - San Francisco, CA

## ENHANCED DISPLAY

Finally there is a program to encourage amateur programmers, AND ITS AT ALMOST FAIRWARE PRICES!. Its Called 'ENHANCED DISPLAY PACKAGE', shortened to EDP. Its written by Curtis Provance and Paragon Computing. Address-17 Constance St., Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054.

It in no way is to be considered in the public domain, either fairware, freeware, or any other method of distribution, but is readily available to all. The price is a mere \$15 and worth every cent to those that do any programming.. For another \$15 you can obtain a complete documented source code.

It contains over thirty CALL LINK commands for automatically (one key) call-up of such things as character-codes, a buffer, GCHAR and HCHAR, PEEKV, STINGS, many different variables, etc. It runs in Extended Basic and assists in creating your own subprograms, and runs along with other programs. It contains many 'windows' that each contain complete instructions for its various one-letter commands. It permits changing between GRAPH (32 columns), and TEXT (40-columns) at any time. You can PEEK up to 15 values of VDP RAM at any one instance. One intriguing capability permits switching from EDITOR to ASSEMBLER in one or two seconds! Basically EDP mimics, but greatly enhances, your Extended Basic cartridge.

With permission from Curtis, I can send you a free copy of the complete program, including an excellent demo of its capabilities, and slightly less than half of the instruction manual on a ss/disk (358 sectors). Just send me a disk, mailer, and postage (no money). My address is 1053 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Please don't send me a blank disk. Put something on it. Nothing specific, just stuff you like...Dick Altman - San Francisco, CA

<Sent For 7-19-87>

## BOLDIE GAMES

With so many new members in our group some of which are just starting with their TI99/4a I thought I would write some short reviews on cartridge based games made by TI which have been out now for quite a while. All games only require the console and no extras with the exception of the speech synthesizer which is optional. The cartridges are still available from third party vendors.

### PARSEC

The most well known and possibly the best game TI made is the space game Parsec. Like most space games, Parsec puts you in command of a fighter equipped with a laser for defense. But, unlike others, the enemies in Parsec change often, in both design and operation. You control the altitude and speed of your fighter in an environment similar to that of "Defender". Besides being fired upon many ships try to ram you! The first wave of attack is by Swoopers who are unarmed but are dangerous because their only mission is to collide with your ship. Next Urbite cruisers armed with twin photon canons attack using the vertical movement of your ship to track you and attack. Next are Light Triangular Fighters followed by the joystick breakers called Dramites which are utterly wicked with they high speed and rapid fire ability. Next come the saucers who attack from the rear trying to crash into your ship. Then lastly come the Bynites armed with clusters of photon missiles who in the higher levels develop cloaking abilities and only appear when they fire! If you survive this first attack level you now fly through a wall of asteroids which threaten to destroy your ship. Throughout the game refueling tunnels appear of which you must navigate though in order to refuel your ship. Higher levels include faster ships some of which even have deflector shields. If you make it far enough the Killer Satellites move in for a surprise attack! Joysticks are almost a must for this game while speech synthesizer is highly recommended as the game contains extensive speech giving you complements and warnings but it is not required. The game has outstanding graphics, great response, great variety, good documentation and presents a big challenge. The game receives a grade of an A+.

### STAR TREK

Captain's log - Stardate 2541. The Federation is in danger! A berserk, mutant probe seeks to destroy human life as we know it. Join in this space adventure! Beam aboard the U.S.S. Enterprise and command the starship on its most challenging mission - to seek

and destroy the deadly Nomad. Your course lies through hostile Klingons and Anti-Matter Saucers. Eliminate them before they eliminate you! Each victory helps you gain energy to annihilate Nomad. Dare to venture where no starship has gone before." What you have just read is the description of the cartridge based version of the game Star Trek written by Sega Enterprises for Texas Instruments Inc.. Three views are displayed on the screen. One view shows the status gauges indicating Energy Shield power, Photon Torpedo supply and Warp drive status. Another window is the radar scanner giving an overhead view of the battle. The third window is the most important showing a 3-D view from the bridge of the Enterprise. This window is used for target sighting. The weapons of the Enterprise include phasers and a limited supply of photon torpedoes. Shield and warp power are also limited but everything may be replenished by docking at a star base. The enemy's weapons only consist of photon torpedoes but if they are unable to get you they try to ram your ship! Nomad besides having high speed abilities scatters a protective screen of explosives which can cause a chain reaction if you are not careful. The game has good graphics, good variety, fast response and good documentation. Speech synthesizer is recommended but not necessary although it really adds a lot to the game. Joysticks or keyboard may be used. Star Trek receives a rating of an A.

#### MICROSURGEON

Microsurgeon is a game written for TI by Imagic. In this game you are placed in the operating room where you must work against time to save a patient's life. However, surgery is not performed in the conventional manner but you use a robot probe traveling through the body to perform the operation. The probe can perform three functions, administer Aspirin to slow down viruses and Antibiotics to kill infections. Ultrasonic Rays are used to destroy cholesterol buildups, gallstones, kidney stones, tapeworms (yuck), tar deposits and tumors. Four windows are provided indicating different functions. The main window shows the position of your probe and surrounding area. You use this window to fire your medications from the robot probe. The third window displays the patient's status indicating the condition of the Brain, Heart, Lung, Liver, Kidney, Gall Bladder, Spleen and Intestines. If one body part becomes serious concentration should be focused on that area for a while. The next window shows the patient's room. Occasionally a doctor or visitor will appear with the patient. Then lastly is the closeup scanner showing a magnified view of the exact position of the probe. Travel must be done through the blood vessels although you can hop vessel to vessel but going through tissue walls slows down the probe and uses up power of which only a limited amount of power is available. For each condition cured more funds are added to your account and thus more power to the probe. Problems encountered are worsening conditions in various areas needing immediate treatment and attacks by white blood cells! Skill levels can be set from Student to Intern and Surgeon. Up to 999 patients may be selected giving a variety of situations. The manual is 20 pages long describing the various functions and operations of the probe. The game has fantastic graphics, good variety, fast response and presents a good challenge. Speech Synthesizer is recommended but not required. Joysticks or keyboard may be used for the game. This game

receives a rating of an A...Gary Cox

## HELP

Just before print time of this newsletter a few items of importance needed to be brought forward which is what this article is about.

The first item is that in the planning stages are a MAJOR computer fair for Memphis. All the different brand computer clubs in Memphis have banded together to form what we call Memphis Area Computer Groups. Back in May we had our first fair of which just user groups setup tables. Now we are planning to hold another fair October 31st and November 1st in which vendors will be invited. For this fair we will be renting the entire Agricultural Center for two days! To pay for the renting of the center we will be renting out tables to any vendors who wish to setup. We still have a lot of planning to do and details to work out and I will have them in the newsletter as soon as I have them. Any vendors who may like to attend please write in to our group address and we will send you information as soon as we have the details worked out.

However, the problem is I have volunteered to be the Secretary for MACG as I would like to help in the planning of the fair. What this means is that I have over extended my already overloaded workload in the group. I need to resign from one of my positions as I hold the offices of Secretary, Program and Information chairman as well as I do a little bit of everyone else's job and help with the newsletter. I have been program chairman for several years now and I would like to now pass that along to someone else. I have tried to pass program chairman along before but no one would volunteer to take it, however, now I have no choice but to pass it along to someone as I just can't do it all! I will still volunteer if necessary to do at least one demo at each meeting but I need someone else to plan the meetings. The holder of the Program Chairman office must be able to get to the meeting at least 15 minutes early and see to every detail of the meetings such as what equipment will be needed, what demonstrations will be done etc... If you can fulfill this position PLEASE call me ASAP! Al will be acting as Program Chairman this month but we need someone soon...

We also have another problem. Our current way of printing our newsletter is no longer available after this month. What this means we no longer have a copier to produce the newsletter! We have a possible way of maybe getting it printed besides going to a commercial copy place but we are not sure. If we are forced to go to a commercial copy place who charge outrageous prices the group will be broke in less than 10 months. The group has our own paper we just need a copier to copy the newsletter with. If you have access to a copier that we can use or if you can arrange some kind of discounts on getting the newsletter printed please speak up! Everyone needs to look into some possible options and bring your ideas to this month's meeting. Raising the dues is an idea but we have not raised the dues since the beginning of the group. In

fact, they have been lowered over the years instead of increased. However, unless a solution is found raising the dues five to ten dollars or producing a BI-Monthly newsletter may be the only way to continue production of the newsletters.

I hate to keep asking for help but I know of no other solution as we just do not have enough people working in the group to continue all of the services that we try provide. None of us get paid for this as we all do it all on a volunteer basis. Al and myself are doing well over our share of the work. Some nights I have been up to even past 12 midnight doing user group related work. Now with me being a Senior in college and helping plan a fair etc... I just do not have the time I used to to do any job in the group that does not get done. If we can not get enough help we will just have to do as much as we can and leave the rest which may mean a reduced newsletter size and/or a newsletter every other month (BI-Monthly). We may have to go BI-Monthly anyway if we can not find a way to get the newsletter printed besides using a commercial printing place. We need your input, suggestions, comments and help. The continued success of the group is up to YOU....

As a closing note I have taken part of our disk library and I am working on a listing which I should at least have ready by meeting time. If possible I will try to make pre-copies of some of the disks to have them available to members at the meeting...Gary Cox

## IN THE NEWS

Ryte Data of 210 Mountain Street, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0, Canada is offering a FREE sample issue of their Ryte Data Computing Newsletter full of news, tips and hardware projects. Just write to them to receive a sample issue and please mention that I sent you.

New from Ryte Data is COMMAND D.O.S. written by Monty Schmidt. Command DOS gives you the power of several utilities in one package similar to some commands available in MS-DOS. From power up you can auto-execute a set of "batch" files where the computer automatically performs a series of tasks. From Command DOS you can format, copy, delete, protect, erase, diskcopy, "type" files to screen/printer, run program image files, execute batch files, directory your disks, search the REF/DEF table and more... Special commands provide utility programs such as CHECKDISK, COMPARE and FORMAT. Price is \$29.95 US funds. Requires either Super Space, Maximen, GRAM card, Cache Card, 8k RAM E/A module or Gram Kracker. If sufficient number of requests come in they may produce it in a module based version. Write for more details.

CorComp of 2211-G Winston Road, Anaheim, CA 92806 has announced a TI/IBM Disk Copier which when used in conjunction with the CorComp disk controller and 2 DS/DD disk drives will transfer text files from an IBM formatted diskette to a TI formatted diskette and vice versa using only the TI99/4A. The main requirement for the IBM text data is that it must be in ASCII format. The program is

cartridge based, price of the product is unavailable.

Well this is all the news I have been able to collect this month as the summer has been pretty busy for me...Gary Cox

## PERSONAL PROFILE

Al Doss has asked me to write an article about myself so here it is...

I am 22 years old and was born here in Memphis where I have lived all my life. Currently I am single and AVAILABLE!!!!!!! (Girls are you reading this? All lines are open ready to take your calls now, if lines are busy please call back!) My first exposure to girls O, err, I mean computers was back in high school but interest in computers and electronics have stretched way back to childhood to the day I stuck my hand in an electrical socket. The first computer I worked on (in high school) was the Sinclair 1000 (now Timex/Sinclair) with just 1K of memory! Later the school purchased a Radio Shack model 1 on which I learned a good deal of programming and then in the 11th grade I started using the TI99/4A as well as I purchased my own console for \$320 minus the \$100 rebate at the time. Over the years I have slowly built up my system to the complete system that I now enjoy.

I am now a Senior in college at Memphis State University majoring in (yep you guessed it) Computer Systems Technology where I am receiving training on both the hardware (electronics) and software side of the computer. The programming languages that I now know are BASIC, Fortran, Pascal, a little FORTH and I just completed a course in Assembly Language this summer on the 8086 microprocessor. Unfortunately the 9900 microprocessor the TI uses is much different than the 8086 but I can at least carry over the programming concepts and techniques and maybe start some assembly programming on the TI99/4A. At least I can now understand the stacks of assembly books I have accumulated over the years!

I first was exposed to the TI users group back in August of 1983 when Howard Watson was President where I attended my first meeting at The Computer Center. Soon thereafter I started opening my mouth volunteering to do things and one thing lead to another and the rest is history. This group has not only been responsible for a lot of my computer knowledge but through our group and through people requesting my Fairware I have met many wonderful, knowledgeable and very nice people across the world with whom I try to maintain contact with.

As for as my goals as related to the TI99/4A I would like to write more Fairware. In particular I would like to totally rewrite my Weather Forecaster into a much more sophisticated program. However, the problem is time, with school, work and then my major involvement in the operation of our group it leaves little time to program. I do, however, plan for this group to continue for a long time to come as well as my continued support for the TI99/4A!

Well I had better end here as I suspect the phone will be ringing off the wall with calls any minute now ... Did I mention I look like Tom Sellek? If I'm lying may the computer lockup right at this minute # \$'.; " #...Gary Cox

## PROGRAM BIT

6:00pm - Doors Open.

7:00pm - Meeting starts.

This months meeting will be different. Instead of our usual set program we will be having a big QUESTIONS and ANSWERS session where you can get the answers to any questions that you may have. If you are having trouble with a particular program bring it along and we will try to work it out. If you have any new or old programs that you think might be interesting to show please bring them along. If you have some questions on programming we will be here to answer them. If you would like to see a particular program demonstrated we can do that too...

We will also have some food and drinks (non-alcoholic) available so everyone please come to the QUESTIONS and ANSWERS/PARTY... We will have a system or two setup but if you can bring your own system or even just a console and TV please do so...

I am helping David Ferguson with the library and hopefully will have it partially setup at the meeting...Gary Cox

10:30pm - Doors Close.

## STATUS REPORT

Our current membership is holding at 95 with our Treasurer reporting about \$1000 in out treasury.

Our group BBS (901-386-1760) is now operating with some new software (TI-NET). Not all of the bugs have been worked out yet so you may encounter some errors while on the system but Pierre is working on correcting them. One of the most liked features is the GAMEROOM where you play an adventure game with everyone else who calls the system! The GAMEROOM is quite interesting. Speaking of BBS's besides our club BBS and Risky Business BBS (both TI boards) we may have yet a third TI board in a few months...

## SURGE PROTECTORS

Have you ever wondered if surge protectors actually work? During a recent thunder storm (I had thought the storm was over as the thunder was dying down) I turned on my computer system to do a little work. Meanwhile in another room someone was watching our console TV. Only a few minutes after I turned on my system I saw a flash of light and heard a loud clap of thunder! Lightning had struck a power line somewhere in the neighborhood. After peeling

myself off the ceiling I immediately turned off my computer system and looked into the other room to see nothing or our TV! A power surge had come through the power line into our TV frying the insides. However, the VCR which has a surge protector was fine as well as, I then checked out my computer system and it was operating with no damage. In fact, the power did not even go off and my computer still had it's memory until I turned it off myself. No fuses were blown yet the TV was dead. The TV was the only piece of electronic equipment in my house without a surge protector. A few inexpensive surge protectors just saved me several thousand dollars! Fuses and circuit breakers provide NO protection against momentary surges as they do not have time to react to a surge before much of the surge gets through. Even if equipment is turned off a surge of power can jump across a switch... Surge protectors do not provide 100% protection but in my case they saved my equipment. Many people still do not have surge protectors for their computer despite several warnings we have had in the newsletter and a computer is more sensitive to a surge than most anything else in your house. Surge protectors can be purchased for as little as \$5 and plugged into the end of your existing power strip.

To see if your power strip has a surge protector already built into it take a look on the back and see if it mentions anything about it. All power strips have the circuit breaker on the side but this provides NO surge protection and is mostly for providing overload protection. I even have a surge protector for the phone line as a surge can just as easily travel through the phone line through your modem and into your computer system. Surge protectors for phone lines range from \$12 at Radio Shack to about \$25 for one made from Gemini of which Al Doss found the Gemini protector in a local dollar store... It is not a bad idea to get one for your TV and VCR either as I know many people who have had TV's and so forth blown by surges...Gary Cox

## SUPPLIERS

Listed below is a list of the major suppliers of TI99/4A compatible hardware and software. This is by no means a complete list.

TENEX  
P.O. BOX 6578  
South Bend, IN 46660  
800-348-2778  
(219) 259-7051

IRITON  
P.O. Box 8123  
San Francisco, CA 94128  
800-227-6900

TEXCOMP  
P.O. BOX 33084  
Granada Hills, CA 91344  
(818) 366-6631

HORISON  
P.O. Box 554  
Walbridge, Ohio 43465

Texasents  
Center St.  
Patchogue, NY 11772  
(516) 475-3480 (voice)  
(516) 475-6463 (data)

Quality 99 Software  
1884 Columbia RD #1021  
Washington, DC 20009

Disk Only Software  
P.O. Box 244  
Lorton, Virginia 22079  
(301) 369-1339

Millers Graphics (MG)  
1475 W. Cypress Ave.  
San Dimas, CA 91773  
(714) 599-1431

Ryte Data Millennium Computers  
210 Mountain Street  
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0  
(705) 457-2774

Asgard Software  
P.O. Box 10306  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
(301) 345-2492

Tigercub Software  
56 Collingswood Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43213

Trinity Systems  
1022 Grandview  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

L.L. Conner Enterprise  
1521 Ferry Street  
Lafayette, IN 47904  
(317) 742-8146

Joy Electronics Inc  
P.O. Box 202526  
Dallas, Texas 75220  
800-527-7438  
800-442-3892 (IN TX)

Myarc Inc.  
P.O. Box 140  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
(201) 766-1700

#### TI SUPPORTIVE MAGAZINES:

Micropendium  
P.O. Box 1343  
Round Rock, TX 78680  
(512) 255-1512  
\$22.50 (year)

Ryte Data Newsletter  
210 Mountain St.  
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0  
Canada \$16 (year)

Great Lakes Software  
804 E. Grand River Ave.  
Howell, MI 48843  
(517) 545-0566

Not-Polyoptics  
P.O. Box 4443  
Woodbridge, VA 22191  
(703) 491-5543

Rave 99 Co.  
112 Rambling Road  
Vernon, CT 06066  
(203) 872-9272

Youngtree  
P.O. Box 197  
Leavittsburg, OH 44430

Pilgrims Pride  
5 Williams La  
Hatboro, PA 19040  
(215) 441-4262

C.J.'s Wholesale  
14200 East Colonial Dr  
Orlando, FL 32826

Genial Computerware  
P.O. Box 183  
Grafton, MA 01519

ChrComp Inc.  
2211-G Winston Road  
Anaheim, CA 92806

DataBioTics Inc.  
P.O. Box 1194  
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

The Computer Shopper  
P.O. Box 1419  
Titusville, FL 32781-9988  
800-327-9926  
\$21 (year)

Genial Computerware Diskazine  
835 Greenvalley Dr.  
Philadelphia, PA 19128  
\$?

## TINYGRAM

The following article and program comes from the June Dallas 99 Interface newsletter of Dallas Texas. Article and program are written by Mike Stanfill, the program requires Extended BASIC.

Now for some REAL fun! The TINYGRAM below is in bad taste. It is vicious, vile, contemptable, in short everything I stand for. It's called, as you can see with your beady little eyes, NUKE THE WHALES! And it's REEEAL simple to play. First type it in and RUN it. You'll see a happy little school of blue whales contently cruising along in the big, wide wonderful ocean. Above them is you, Mr. NUKE-FIRST-AND-ASK-QUESTIONS-LATER, zipping along in your super-sonic fighter-bomber; The F-27-1/2 BUDGET-BUSTER! Your mission: Seek out and destroy the krill-nibbling vermin! As you pass over the unsuspecting little darlings just press any key and it's launch time!

```
1 : *** NUKE THE WHALES ***  
*** A TINYGRAM ***  
*** BY MIKE STANFILL **  
*** Member DTIHCUG ***
```

```
2 CALL CLEAR :: RANDOMIZE :: J$(1)=""0A15040E3F7F86" ::  
J$(2)=""00000B7BF7F0E" :: CALL SPRITE(#3,97,2,9,1,0,-22)
```

```
3 CALL CHAR(97,"0000003FE100800007EFF3C18183C1818")
```

```
4 DIM A(24):: FOR T=10 TO 24 ::  
IF A(T) THEN 5 ELSE IF RND>.7 THEN  
CALL SPRITE(#T,96.5,T*8-7,1,0,4):: A(T)=1
```

```
5 P=110 :: CALL CHAR(96,J$((- (T/5-INT(T/5))) +1)) ::  
CALL KEY(0,K,S):: IF S THEN CALL POSITION(#3,C,Y) ELSE 9
```

```
6 G=G+1-(G=0)*2 :: IF G=25 THEN 8 ELSE  
CALL SPRITE(#1,42.7,G*8-7,Y,-1,0):: CALL COINC(#1,#G,6,N)::  
IF M=0 THEN 6 ELSE CALL DELSPRITE(#G)
```

```
7 CALL PATTERN(#1,98):: FOR H=1 TO 30 ::  
CALL SOUND(-P,-7,H,P,H):: NEXT H :: A(G)=0
```

```
8 G=0 :: CALL DELSPRITE(#1)
```

```
9 NEXT T :: GOTO 4 .TL 63:63
```

## PE BOX

From the newsletter "BYTEMONGER" : Bluegrass 99 Computer Society, Inc...Oct. 1986 Lexington, Kentucky by Lee Wilkerson

The disk drive portion of the P.E. Box power supply produces two voltages which will be of interest to us : those being +5 V.D.C. from an 8 V. supply through a 7805 regulator and +12 V.D.C. from a 16 V. supply through a 7812 regulator.

The feature of the 78XX series regulators includes internal thermal overload protection, no external components required, output currents in excess of 1 A., output transistor safe area protection, internal short circuit current limit, and the availability of an aluminum TO-3 package.

**ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS :**

Input Voltage . . . . . 35 V.  
 Internal Power Dissipation . . . . . Internal Limit  
 Operating Temp. Range(Ta) . . . . . 0 to 70 deg. C  
 Maximum Junction Temp. . . . . 150 deg. C

**ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS :**

Peak Output Current  
 Junction Temp.(Tj)=125 deg. C . . . 1.8 A.  
 Junction Temp.(Tj)=25 deg. C . . . 2.3 A.

**MAX. AVERAGE POWER DISSIPATION (K pkg.)**

w/Infinite Heat Sink . . . . . approx. 20 W.  
 w/No Heat Sink . . . . . approx. 2>2.5 W.  
 w/10 deg.C per watt H.S., 10W. 0deg.C Ambient Temp. (Ta)  
 8 W. 25 deg. C Ambient Temp.  
 6.5 W. 50 deg. C Ambient Temp.  
 5 W. 70 deg. C Ambient Temp.

A little arithmetic for those of you who are so persuaded.. With an 8 V. supply going to a 5 V. regulator, the difference will be 3 V. Most disk drives draw approximately 0.5 A. (500 milliamps), so the difference voltage multiplied by the current (V\*A=W) 1.5 W. continuous current. As you can see, we will need no heat sink to operate on drive, but this will require us to use a 10 deg. C heat sink for two full power drives. I.I. was thoughtless enough to leave us with the bare minimum, but with a little persuasion and a lot of R.C.&D. (rip, cut, destroy) you should be able to add a small piece of aluminum to the critical transistor (I.C.).

The 12 V. source is a different matter. Since only one disk motor, head step motor, and engage mechanism will be operation at a time, we can safely assume that we won't be overloading this circuit. But for the record . . . . .

**TYPICAL POWER REQUIREMENTS FOR A DISK DRIVE (12 V.) :**

Motor Start . . . 1.9 A. Motor Run . . . . . 1.1 A.  
 Door Closed . . . 1.3 A. Step . . . . . 1.5 A.  
 Read / Write . . . 1.3 A. Standby . . . . . 0.9 A.

I hope this information will help to either heighten your fears or else quell them when you decide to connect that second drive...Marshal Ellis

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MEETINGS: July 16th, August 20th, September 17th (3rd Thursday!)  
 WORKSHOPS: July 25th, August 29th, September 26th (4th Saturday!)

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