

GREATER TAMPA BAY TI USER GROUP



NEXT MEETING JAN 3° 89 AT 7:00 PM

Greater Tampa Bay TI User Group meets in Brandon Fla. on the first and third Tuesday of each month at Brandon High School in room 352.

The first Tuesday of the month is the general business meeting and to show off new hardware or software programs.

The third Tuesday is set aside for special interest group. If you have a problem with either hardware or software, this is the meeting to come to.

**** CLUB DUES ***

Just as a reminder club, dues are due before the end of January 1989

Club dues are \$12.00----Club dues plus BBS fees are \$24.00

Dont forget if you are late, there is a \$10.00 renewal fee.

President: Charles Kinsey

687-8407

Librarian: James McGlone

837-9387

Treasurer: John Hartweg

686-3429

Vice President: Paul Wiese

985-1048

Secretary: Brenda Burwell

886-5942

Editor: Robert Barnes

533-2275

**** TI HEAVEN ****

Clubs BBS 8/N/1

2400/1200/300 Baud 24 Hrs

PC Pursuit: Accessible FLTAM

Sysop: Gary Sweers

813-654-titi (8484)

**** CY' SWAP SHOP ****

2400/1200/300 Baud 24Hrs 8/N/1 Sysop: Cy Leonard

PC Pursuit Not Accessible but well worth the cost to sign on.

Minutes of the meeting by Brenda Burwell

The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm with 30 people in attendance. however, this figure swelled to the high fourties by evenings end.

This was a special night for us as we had both Dennis and Chris Faherty, authors of TI BASE and TI ARTIST. Because we were to be so fully entertained, most of our normal business time was defered to our quests. There were also visiting members from Bradenton, St Petersburg. and Tampa groups.

The only normal business conducted was the tally of votes for next year's club officers. The 1989 leaders are as follows.

Charles Kinsey.....President, Paul Wiese......Vice Pres. Jim McGlone.....Librarian John Hartweg.....Treasurer Brenda Burwell.....Secretary

Congratulations (?) to these lucky (??) people. I am sure they can look forward to your normal(!!) cooperation and participation.

During the next hour or so we got an intimate look at V2 of TI BASE. There have been many changes, some transparent, some purely cosmetic, and some fixed bugs from prior versions. One of the more obvious changes is the addition of a rudimentary disk manager. Files can be manipulated, but disks cannot be initialized, but if you haven't done that before program entry. what good are you? The program now loads faster...the old two minute load is now down to 45 seconds...or from ram 3 seconds!

Dennis is an extremely knowlegable gentleman who is confortable with his program and his audience, and try as we might, we were unable to rattle his or ask a question about which he could not respond completely and competently. There are, he says, new things in the works, for TIB and possibly some other stuff but he's gonna take a break for the holidays.

After a short break, we were dazzled by Chris, programmer-the-younger. Now we all know that TI ARTIST has been around for about a hundred years or so, but still we saw good junk in that program that we hadn't been aware of before. One of the questions put to Chris was about color bleeding when placed adjecent to others. We saw Chris separate the title screen of TIA and show us that there ain't no way to mix colors outside of pre-established computer limits. Try it sometime...lift the image from the color and see what you have left.

Chris has decided that it is now time for a fairly MAJOR undate of his masterpiece, but that, too, will be begun after the new year. Stay tuned for TI ARTIST V3 with many ALLUDED TO additions and improvements.

> TREASURER'S REPORT MOVEMBER, 1988 BY JUBY CHANDLER

lecesser Incoses		
Library Sales	•	47.00
Lotto Sales		13.00
Supercart Companion Disks		40.00
Supercart Orders		191.50
1989 Membership Dues		48.00
Interest - Nov & Dec		2.51
TOTAL INCOME	•	342.01
pvodber Expense:		
diamen exhauses		
98S Expense	•	47.63
Paul Niese - Postage		81.25
J. Chandler - Reisb. Supercart		30,00
Nov & Dec Service Charge		15.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	,	173.88
	****	******
December Cash on Hand		639.90

242323355724667655555557557272375555555555555 THINKING OUT LOUD by: Robert E. Barnes

I hope all went well for you and yours this holiday season and that you are looking forward to the new year.

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As we move into 1989, we do so with a new slate of officers (or rather some new officers). They are: Charles Kinsey, President; John Hartweg, Treasurer: and Jin Libriarian. As I understand it the following agreed to remain in their positions for another year. They are: Paul Wiese. Vice President; Brenda Burwell, Secretary and Robert Barnes, Newsletter Editor.

We extend a welcome to the new officers and wish them well. We thank those that agreed to stay and hope the new year treats them as well or better than the old year. And for those not returning as officers, .Tom Austin, Herman Nieuwendaal and Judy. Chandler. we thank them for their efforts in making our club one to be proud of, and we look forward to seeing them and receiving their valued input at the meetings in the comming year.

Now. it is up to us, the club members, to support our new officers and help them make 1989 the best year ever for our group. I know they will give their all to make it so.

On another vein, let me remind you that it is time for the yearly club membership dues. Please come to the meeting prepared to support your group and pay your dues. For those of you that cannot attend the meeting, I am sure you can sail your dues to Paul Wiese at the address on the mailing label side of this newsletter. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR GROUP!

This month will mark the end of the articles by Paul Scheidemantle. I hope you have enjoyed them as much as I have. I will continue the Multiplan

series by Audrey Bucher and the Tips From The Tigercub by Jim Peterson and I still have a few months worth of articles by Jim Swedlow left. If you want anything else printed in your newsletter, please tell me or one of the officers so we will know what to out in it. And while I am on the subject of the newsletter... I need a volunteer to replace Judy Chandler and the Reprint Roundtable article. Judy will no longer be working with me on the newsletter and I desparately need help, I cannot do it all by myself. So if you would like to browse thru exchange newsletters and type one or two articles a month for our newsletter, please speak up. Silence on your part might mean the end of the Reprint Roundtable and eventually the shrinking in size of this publication.

> HAPPY NEW YEAR

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********************** 1988 CHICAGO FAIRE by: Brenda Burwell

I was late leaving home because of a stop at K-mart for a tape recorder so I wouldn't have to try to remember what I encountered or have to take notes to try and explain to you. The lady in front of me had a disagreement with them regarding pricina polocies....which lead to a void in her order. I was late getting to the plane because security thought I fit "terrorist profile" subsequently went thru my carry-on baggage. I missed my flight.

I got the next one, and there I sat. Trapped like a dog, on this little-bitty airplane...within arms reach of 7 children under the age of 4. You can imagine my relief when the father of the youngest assured his seat-mate "I guarantee you he'll sleep all the way." You can imagine my chagrin when this child cried for 3 hours and 10 minutes of a 3 hr 42 minute flight. His sister, behind me, discovered the flexibility of the tray

table and proceded to play a CONCERTO FOR TABLE AND FEET on my seat back. ENOUGH ALREADY!!!

When I finally got the the hotel, about 10, the social mixer was in full bloom. There were munchies and a cash bar, and luminaries from all corners of the globe. Three door prizes were given, one of which I won! I guess 5od figured he owed me one for my horrendous day. (As an aside, the tape recorder I had stopped to buy disappeared!). I left about 11:45pm and they were still at it.

The day of the fair began on a down note. Sometime before dawn, Chicago had a hail storm and it continued to rain ALL DAY LONG. But that didn't deter loyal TI'ers from coming to the Chicago User Group Fair/Convention ever. There were 53 tables run by 32 vendors with everything for the TI/GENEVE that you can imagine...and a great deal more.

I got there at 8:45am and was about 200th to get in. During the next several hours, I met, talked with, and purchased merchandise from many people includings CHRIS BOBBITT. CHARLES EARL, JIM PETERSON. PAUL CHARLTON, BUD MILLS, STEVE MEHR, ROGER MERRITT, TOM FREEMAN, TERRIE MASTERS, WAYNE STITH, PETER HODDIE, JOHN BIRDWELL, JACK RILEY, ART BEYERS, IRWIN HOTT MIKE WRIGHT, BARRY TRAVER and his son JOHN CALVIN TRAVER.

I would bet my sox that many other wonderful and talented people were there, but I either did not see them, or in my ignorance did not know who they were. A lot of these people were trying to keep a low profile by not wearing name tags, but since they were known by others, it was sometimes hard not be re recognized.

There were demonstrations to introduce "PRESS", (still not yet complete), "How the TI is used by a blind person", the Horison Ram Disk and P

there, but there were also local vendors who had not shown their wares in Chicago. Additionally, Hilwaukee had a consignment table with many used bargains. They seemed to be doing a brisk business as long as I was there.

This was my first TI fair ever and I had one H_L of a time getting there AND BACK but I wouldn't trade that experience for anything. If you have ever considered it but couldn't make up your mind, do yourself a favor and promise one to yourself soon. There are fairs throughout the country throughout the year so go...and enjoy!

Brenda Burwell

TI BITS Number 13 By Jim Swedlow

[This article originally appeared in the User Group of Orange County, California ROM]

XHODEM

You may have heard of a transfer protocol called XMODEM and wondered what it is. If you use FAST-TERM or 4A TALK, you probably use it. The following should give you some idea of how it works.

When you communicate with another computer on phone lines thru modems. your data sust travel thru the same voice phone lines that we use every day. Some connections are better than others. Most have noticeable static.

You brain, a computer whose power has never been equaled, can usually distinguish the 'data' (voice) from the 'noise' (static). It is almost impossible for your computer to make this judgement.

In the early days of data transfer, data was simply sent and the receiving computer had to do as good a job as it could to distinguish between data and noise. In a text, or DV80 file, this was not a major problem. If one character was bad you could easily find the problem and edit it.

With a memory image or Program file. however, one bad byte could render the entire file useless. Although editing is possible, it is very tricky.

In August 1977, Ward Christensen developed an error detection method he called MODEM2. It was also dubbed "Christensen" protocol or XMODEM.

It was very simple. Data is sent in blocks of 128 bytes. XMODEM adds up the values of all the characters in each block and compares that number with a total that is sent by the sending computer. If they don't agree, the receiving computer sends a code to the sending computer and the block is transmitted again.

In 1982, Ward Christensen and Chuck Forsberg released an enhancement called Cyclic Redundancy Checking (CRC). CRC does sequential division on each character in the block resulting is a significant improvement in error detection.

Both protocols continue to be called IMODEM. Although others have been developed, XMODEM is used by all major systems, including Compuserve. (Source: an article in FOGLIGHT)

TI WRITER TIP

Find String (FS) is a powerful tool for finding something in a document. Just hit FCTN 8 and then enter FS. Your TI Writer gives you this prompt:

FIND enter /string/ :

You enter your string and use the slash as limiters. If you want to find the word "John", you would enter /John/. If you wanted to find John only when it is used as the last word in a sentence, you would enter /John./.

Gram card. Telco, Batch-it and Toxlink. Compuserve WAS to demonstrate a new outreach program in the Ti community, J.Peter introduced several new pieces of software-one of which I won and was presented to me by J. Peter himself (he's so cute). Myrac demonstrated new GENEVE software and the HFDC.

Numerous door prizes were distributed throughout the day, but the grandaddy of the all was a HFDC, and since I was at the presentations table, I can tell you that the awardee was exhilirated.

There were no startling revelations of new things to come, but the mood did not seem to be that the TI is in any immediate danger of dropping off the face of the earth. Everyone seemed to behave as if this is a lifetime thing, one that they did not forsee a discontinuance of.

I would guess-timate the crowd at 500+, but it was a little difficult to say because people were in and out of the main exhibit hall all day. I was there until 5:45pm and people were still there bargaining for that much at "fifteen-minutes-before-fair's-end eark.

didn't attend the dinner afterwards... I was all fagged out. so you will have to read an account of that event elsewhere. I did, however, go to the Milwaukee show in another fair first...a TI FAIR CONVOY. Two vans and two cars jammed to the roof made the trek together. We got there about 9:20 and proceeded to help some of the vendors set up. After they got all squared away, it was shop time. One would think that after seven hours of "fairly" concentrated shopping the day before that I would have been through. NOT 80! I represented myself nicely, thank you.

The Milwaukee show is a smaller, more intibate version of the previous day's event. Hany of the same vendors were

Should the "John" you find not be the one you wanted, you would go back to command mode and enter FS again. You will find /John./ still there. You just press enter and the search resumes.

Lets say, however, that now you want to find the word "Mo". But /John./ is on your screen. You could delete /John./. You could type in Mo but then you would have this:

/Mo/n./

Need you worry about the text after the second slash? No. Your TI Writer only searches for the information between the first and second slash. It ignores everything to the right of the second slash.

You will have a problem with that if you use Replace String, but that is another story.

by: Robert E. Barnes

Perhaps many of you have heard about PRESS, said to be the first modern word processor for the TI-99/4a or the Myarc Geneve. PRESS allows you to create single files as large as your disk space, allows you to type in columns on screen, include pictures in your text (on the screen of course), it is "what-you-see-is-what-you-get" (bold text is bold text on the screen, underlined is underlined), has hundreds of features from a built in word count to auto glossary and table of contents generation, headers. footers, a complete integral spelling checker, style sheets, the list goes on for pages. PRESS is very fast (written entirely in assembly) and is as capable as any word proessor or any other computer. It is easy to use all options are available from pop-up menus (no command lines or "dot commands" like TI-Writer). It will

use any extra memory it can find (including the Mini-Memory, an 8K or 32K supercart, even a horizon RAM-disk). It comes with a complete 250 page sanual in a professional binder, 5 disks, and a tutorial. It is by Charles Earl, the author of the Telco terminal emulator.

PRESS is scheduled for shipping between 12/16/88 and 1/1/89, is offered by Asgard Software in their Fall '88 catalog. The address is P.O. Box 10306 Rockville, MD 20850 for \$59.95. In browsing thru the EVERYTHING BOOK FOR THE TI-99/4a Fall 1988 catalog, I noticed they were offering PRESS for \$49.95. The address is Tenex Computer Express P.O. Box 6578 South Bend, IN 46660-6578.

Please note that this is not a plug for either company, but rather an effort to call your attention to what might proof to be an excellent replacement for the TI-Writer and clone versions of word processors for the II. Perhaps this will do for word processors for the TI what TI-BASE does for data bases for the TI.

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The following is reprinted from East Anglia Region 97ers:

WHICH BONE ARE YOU?

It is said that the membership of any organization is made up of four bones. There are WISH BONES who spend all their time wishing someone else would do all the work. Then there are JAW BONES who do all the talking and very little wlse. Third are the KNUCKLE BONES who knock everything that anybody else tries to do. Finally, there are the BACK BONES who get under the load and do all the work.

The following is reprinted from the PUG newsletter

If you have the speech synthesizer and the TE II cartridge, here is a trick for debugging programs. All you have to do is enter your program, type LIST "SPEECH" and hit enter. The computer will read your listing back to you.

If you are going to save a program to tape and type OLD CS1 instead of SAVE CS1 , don't panic. Press FCTN and E together and then press (enter). This will take you out of the tape loop.

You can add comments after a GOSUB OR GOTO. They will not interfere with the program and you don't need REM or

When hooked up to a black and white TV, use CALL SCREEN(15). This will disable the color generator and remove the vertical lines you may have seen.

While I do not believe the following article applies to our group (in view of last month's listing to fairware authors), I think it approperate for our consideration. It was written by Mike Dodd and printed in Topics - LA 99ers.

Time for a discussion on the collective morals of the TI community, To be specific, the response to M-Copier. Those who have paid (all seven of you) may stop reading this, Those who have used it and not paid (who knows how many, but a rather large-ish number, I would think) are urged to continue reading this. M-Copier has had literally hundreds of downloads on CIS, GEnie, and Delphi. It has been on numerous public BBS systems, it has been in several Users' Group Libraries, and it has been distributed by Genial TRAVelER. Through it all, I have received a whopping five donations. Doesn't that number seem just a bit low? If just 500 people have run M-Copier at least once, which seems very likely (if you were to take the time and expense of downloading a

program, wouldn't you run it at least once?), then that means that just 1% of the people who have tried it have paid. Now, I doubt that everyone who has tried it is actully using it. And, after all, you're not supposed to pay unless you actually use it. Still. I find it exceedingly unlikely that a mere 1% of the people who tried this program are using it.

All that has been accomplished by this is that I'm fed up with fairware. I very such doubt that I will release fairware again. It seems a financially unsound practice. I can make far more by commercial routes.

MULTIPLAN by: Audrey Bucher

In this article I'd like to just pass along a few helpful hints I have learned from various concerning the use of Multiplan.

When I first purchased my Multiplan package, I dutifully made a back up copy, only to find that it would not run. Chuck at the Computer Bug helped se out on this problem by reminding se that the disk containing the Multiplan files must be massed TIMP.

From the Decatur 99er's User Group newsletter. I learned that the time it takes to initialize MP and the response time when it is working with the overlay file is affected by the location of the files on the disk. You can load the files in the desired order by copying them one at a time to a newly initialized disk named TIMP. The best order seems to be: OVERLAY. MPHLP, MPCHAR, MPDATA, MPINTR, and then MPBASE.

Although two drives are recommended for MP, it is possible to run it with only one drive. Before I purchased av second drive, I found it helpful to eliminate the help file from av working disk, thereby freeing up 158 sectors for a data file. I simply made a new disk for each application of MP that I wanted to use in order to eliminate having to switch disks.

If you do have two disk drives, please note that Multiplan will load automatically from any disk drive. Therefore you may put your MP disk in drive 2 and use drive 1 for your data disk as this is the default in the program. If you choose to use drive 1 for your MP disk, you have two options. You must either use a sector editor to change the defaults or upon entering MP, select the Transfer Options command by pressing T, then the letter O. Advance to the set up field by using control A and designate the data file drive as DSK2. Press enter and you're ready to go. If you prefer to change the default. I suggest you copy the file MPINTR onto a new disk. Load up your favorite sector editor and edit sector 22 which will be the first data sector. Shift into ASCII screen mode and find the

words DSK1. Change this to DSK2 and it will automatically load from drive Note that it will not show up in the Transfer Option as DSK2, just as DSK1 did not show up. While you are in the sector editor, you may want to change the default for your printer to PIO if you have a parallel printer. Simply replace the words RS232 with PIO. The RS232 data after that should be blanked out by using the space bar. Now write the sector back to disk and you are in business.

II has released some enhancements for the Multiplan disk that speeds it up a little and also gives you auto repeat when moving the cursor around the screen. If you do not have these, I will be glad to furnish them to you.

I like to print out most of my spreadsheets in condensed print and was disappointed there was no way to do this from within MP. I made a small program to initialize the printer and tried to remember to run it first. Then one day I saw an ad in Micropendium for a Fairware Program called TIMP PRINT by J&B Mathis that allowed you to enter print controls from within your spreadsheet. works great using the xternal copy command. I will be putting a copy of this in our library.

Next month we'll take a look at setting up a template. If you have any hints you'd like to share please send them in.

A Reveiw of the NY-1000 Printer A ist Impression! by: Paul E. Scheidemantle ***********************

To begin with I think they may have missed an opportunity to give this printer a much more appropriate name such as 'FONT MASTER'. In addition to all the normal draft modes you would expect of any Dot Matrix printer such as pica, elite, condensed, double width, emphasized, double strike, underlining, and overlining; you will find four near letter quality font styles available in each Pica and Elite as well as both italic and proportional printing in any size and style. There are two modes of condensed print, one in pica (17 CPI) and one in elite (20 CPI), (condensed printer users not to worry about the second set messing up your printouts because the 17 cpi is default). And to top off all these great fonts they still have more to offer with double ... Mieght, double size, quad Height, and quad size printing available. With it's printing speed of 144 cps in draft mode and 36 cps in NLO it's fast, enough for most of us home users. /

From the front control panel all lonts, any he selected (with the exception of

· LM

the double and quad size). No more fooling around with dip switches to set a NLG font. Ofcourse paper feed is there as well as a bit more complicated method of doing a form feed. In addition to these commands from the front keypad you have many others that can be done here, such as setting left and right margins, doing a forward or reverse micro-feed (moves in increments of parts of 216th of an inch), sending the paper to the top of a form, setting the top of a form, clear the buffer, and finnally and certainly not last is 'PAPER PARK'. Most of these options you as a printer user will understand, however the 'PAPER PARK' is a new one to me and probably to most of you; with this function you may use single sheet paper without having to remove your tractor feed paper (the paper retracts), and when you're done all you have to do is raise the bail cover and the tractor feed paper reloads for your use! This is all made possible by having the tractor in the rear of the printer, which bye-the-way is easily accessable! Not only is the tractor easy to get to but it is another nice seature in that the loading and unibading of pin feed paper and labels has then made much easier because of it! Here after installing pin feed naper in the rear to load it through

the printer all you need do is raise the bail lever and the paper loads automatically!

Other features that I found of use are the 4K buffer (holds about 2 pages of text if not used for download charaters), a front sounted ON/OFF switch, a standard parallel interface (which has been moved to the right side of the printer to free-up the rear of all those cables that get in the way of the paper), use of a cartridge type ribbon (cleaner and easier to install, but more costly to replace), and easy to get to DIP switches under the dust cover. Bye-the-way a dust cover that you can actually tear your paper off on! I found it much more compact and quiet then previous models, though I'm told that noisewise is about the same as the NX-10. Though I must admit that the size and light weight of this printer out se off for awhile. It is built to the same high standard of quality that the rest of the Star Micronics printers are.

To say the least I felt that at a price of \$179.95, this was an acceptional buy! Aspecially when compared to the prices paid for such quality and features elsewhere.

>>>> Call commands you should know! <<<<

By: Paul E. Scheidemantle

The words can be in the puzzle backward, forward, up, down, & diagonally. Circle them as you find them. This is a tuffy this month but you should still able to consists this suzzle in 30 mintues.

#WORD LIST#

CALL	CHAR	CALL	KEY
CALL	CHARPAT	CALL	LOAD
CALL	CHARSET	CALL	LOCATE
CALL	COINC	CALL	HAGNIFY
CALL	COLOR	CALL	MOTION
CALL	DELSPRITE	CALL	PATTERN
CALL	6CHAR	CALL	SCREEN
CALL	HCHAR	CALL	CAUOS
CALL	INIT	CALL	SPRITE
CALL	JOYST	CALL	UCHAR

60MLATJS6WDSTJXIRWNX QSBUDYBFFNDENETRRUPG HOCHEKWJESEKHEAANWZO **GPYOHNNEYTRTSHHODKPE** DWYKXCREADRRCCINIXCA DOYWGCKCLDAGVTUQAXRO INJMSLOOAHLLOOOESYQO KKQLLLCOCLLMSVNPFQCS K P L A L L L A A L L B R R I F N U W WACLLLLCCLLCEANYIZRY CMAALASMAATTHGLOIAJG K C C A C X A C C S T C A A C U H X W Z TECVHOMTYAHMYLRCYAHB 771 E J J I O P L L C L R L P V Z P L YYRLDNJLLLOANLFKAYBH MWIBILLAAPCPAHSQMTRL QLPLLACCTTVCGIIZGET IALACNCALLDELSPRITEC OACSFTRDWFJNWGNKNIEY CHPRCALLSPRITEMAMWXF

Greater Tampa Bay TI U**se**r Group Newsletter

c/o Paul Wiese 4115 Okara Road Tampa, Florida 33617





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FIRST CLASS MAN

TO:

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