Southwest Ninety-Niners Newsletter

contributed by
- Tom Wills -

SW99ers User Group President of Record

compliments of

www.ti99ers.org

SOUTHWEST NINETY-NINERS

JANUARY 1989

P.O. Box 17831 Tucson, AZ 85730

OFFICERS
BJ Mathis - President
Ed Hallett - Vice President
Ed McCullough - Secretary
Al Armstrong - Treasurer

NEWSLETTER
BJ Mathis - Editor

LIBRARY
BJ & Jack Mathis - Co-Chairman
Ida McCargar - Fairware Librarian
Ida McCargar - Lending Librarian

ATTENTION MEMBERS!!
Next meeting, Thursday, January 4th at Devon Gables Health Care Center in the Executive Dining Room at 6150 E Grant across from the Price Club at 7pm. Look for the BLUE AWNING!!! We will be electing new officers at this meeting, please be sure to attend.
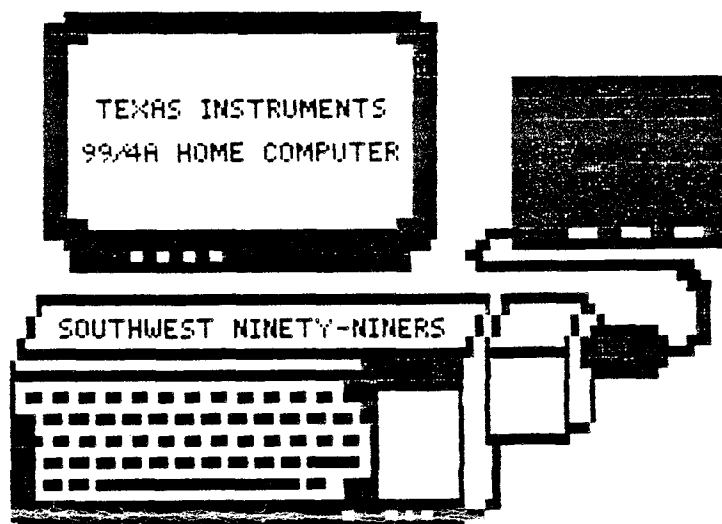
ELECTIONS UPCOMING
The annual meeting of the SouthWest Ninety-Niners is scheduled for Thursday, January 5, 1989 at the Executive Dining Room at 6150 E Grant at 7pm. In accordance with our constitution election of officers will be held at that time. A nominating committee has been appointed to select nominees for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In accordance with the constitution, the committee has surveyed the membership and requests members to submit their nominations on the form included with last month's newsletter by mailing it to the group P.O. Box or by handing it to a committee member. Nominations from the floor are also permitted on the date of the election.

FESTWEST '89 PREP MEETING
Look at the program we'll use for registration and practice using it. Also, review the items for sale and discuss any questions that may be brought up. If you are planning to attend the Fest West in San Diego on February 18th and 19th and cannot make it to this meeting please let me know so name tags can be made for you. Otherwise, please plan to attend Thursday, January 12th at 7:30pm - Mathis home 5941 E 26th - 747-5046

GENEVE USERS WORKSHOP
Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (January 10th). Rod Stallard's home - 7575 E Logan - 745-6071

GENERAL USERS WORKSHOP
Third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (January 17th). Includes: Basic, ExBasic, Writer, Multiplan, Databases, hardware problems, etc. Mathis home 5941 E 26th - 747-5046.

ADVANCED LANGUAGES WORKSHOP
Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (January 24th). Includes: FORTH, A/L, etc. Rod Stallard's Home - 7575 E Logan - 745-6071

JANUARY - DISK OF THE MONTH
BATMAN - another poster to print out
COLORIFICB - a graphics design that runs only in Basic
BXB - merge this program into a basic program and it will run in extended basic. e.g. Load Colorific B, then Merge DSK1.BXB. Now RUN and the program will run in extended basic.
CROSSFIRE - a game in which you shoot in 4 directions at various enemies with limited supply of ammunition.
G9640 - A GEE routine. If you have learned to use GEE(Nov. DOM) you may find this interesting.
HISCOR - file for TITRIS game
JOY - Use the joystick to draw on screen
MATH - Flashcards for use up to about Grade 6
MUTUALFUND - determine the value of investments
PRINT/DOC,PRNT/UTIL - a file printing utility. READ THE DOCS.
SOFTSELL - display a moving message on your TI screen
SPREAD/SHT - a mini-spreadsheet, FAIRWARE from Glenn W. Bernasek, of Strongsville, Ohio.
STARMAKER2 - requires the Triton SXB module as it uses the Draw'N'Plot routines. Includes Docs and a demo(STAR2)
TITRIS - An addictive XB game, courtesy of the KGB!
WINDOW!! - A dizzying display of graphics in Extended Basic.

Ida McCargar # 294-3024

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The January meeting is our annual election of officers. I have had a sneak preview of the nominations for the various officers, it looks like one of the most exciting elections we have ever had! I hope you will all show up to vote for your officers this year. Every member of the group benefits from the decisions made by the officers, so please be there to choose the officers you think can do the most for your group!

The new BBS is up after a lot of problems, due to lack of familiarity with and some bugs in the software, downloads are not yet available however. Tom Mills, who has worked with this software before will be giving Dave Ormand a hand with it. The phone number previously given to Dave by the phone company and passed on to you is incorrect. The correct number is 795-1953. We apologize for the delay and will make downloads available ASAP!!

PC Pursuit is accessible from Tucson. Others cannot get through to Tucson on it, but we can use it to contact other BBS's around the country. For the latest information on its use and available cities call 1-800-TELENET. PC Pursuit costs $25 per month for unlimited use for modem to modem communications.

This month Ida McCargar introduces a new column, Swan's Pond, Jack Mathis came up with the name. Ida is the author of this month's edition, hopefully other Geneve users will help her out from time to time with articles appealing to Geneve users.

Those of you who do not have a subscription to both MICROpendium and Asgard News should. Both publications are packed with information that is valuable to every TI and/or Geneve user. MICROpendium, PO Box 1343, Round Rock, TX 78680 - $20 for 12 issues domestic second class mail (write for costs outside U.S.). Asgard Publishing, PO Box 10697, Rockville, MD 20850 - currently $9 for 4 issues published quarterly.

Several copies of "Home Publishing on the TI-99/4A" by Harry Brashear have been received and will be available for sale at the meeting. My first impressions have been very favorable, although I have not yet had time to read through the entire 74 page book. I am excited about what I have learned so far. The overall composition, layout, and graphics are super!

PC Computing interviewed me for an article that was published in their December 1988 issue. The article is entitled "Gone, But Not Forgotten". I was impressed with the amount of space in the article devoted to the TI-99/4A. It seems the author could not find as many users groups for any of the other orphans. She mentioned that I use the computer for church projects, etc., but evidently she figured the use for group activities was a given. The truth is when Al and I evaluated my printer usage to come up with an idea of compensation from the group the percentages were something like 80% user group, 15% church, and 5% personal. I have a copy of the magazine you are welcome to look over at the next meeting, if you would rather not buy a copy yourself. It is a good article and will hopefully bring the TI community some more members out of the closet TI owners!

BJ Mathis - 747-5046

THE NEW TI-99/4X4 COMPUTER

by Bill Harms - Pomona Valley Compputer Group - 11/88

Remember the newsflash in February '88 on this offroad machine. (Desktop trail blazer)! The designer and manufacturer, Ken Hamai has made it better. This is a normal TI-99/4A home computer console to look at it: no bulges, add-on cases, etc. But open the hood and view the extra power.

It's a "x4" model #, because it has INTERNALLY MOUNTED:
   1. 32K memory expansion
   2. RS232 (parallel/serial)
   3. Speech Synthesizer
   4. Disk Controller (DSSD)

Now, it works perfectly! He demo'd it at the Boston Computer Society fair and the Brea user group meeting. He now uses a high power external power supply about the size of a can of beans.

For more information write Ken at 11508 Mollyknoll Ave, Whittier, CA 90604.

Ken does good work. He put two half height double side drives and an extra power supply in my PE Box two years ago. It still works well. Hopefully, he can add two 3 1/2" disk drives ($85 each) to the 4x4, since they are smaller than a pack of cigarettes. He could put them right on top of the console hood. Then you could SEE it was a souped-up model. Then we would really have a very portable TI.

December SW99ers' Minutes

Thursday December 1, 1988

1. Pres. BJ Mathis opened the meeting at 7:15PM.

2. Al Armstrong conducted the Question and Answer period:

   Q. Bob Shank asked for some help on a Graphics Program.
   A. Dale Ussery has the same program so they will get together on it later.

   Q. Leonard Taffs had questions about the TI-Count.
   A. He was advised that it is a business system.

   Q. Leonard Taffs asked about a sort program.
   A. Ida McCarger suggested he try the J. P. Hoddie Sort Program.

3. In the December Newsletter we had indicated that we were going to charge for the Disk of the Month, however, we have concluded that we will still be able to provide it free to those who attend the meetings.

4. We have a new supply of blank Disks available at $4.00 for a pack of ten, and $6.00 for multicolored jackets (ten in a pack).

5. There will be a meeting to plan for the Fest-West activities at the Mathis home on December 6th at 7:30PM. Also, those planning to go, should get their hotel reservations made right away, as the rooms that have been reserved for the TI group are going fast.

6. We still have need of volunteers to help with the cutting and putting in the red lines on the Overlay Strips.

7. Election time is next month and we need volunteers for the various offices to contact the Nominating Committee (Chairman Les Neff, Dave Ormand and Jim Shoun).

8. Dave Ormand would like some suggestions for the name of the new BBS.

9. The Club could use some help in; reorganization of the Public Domain Disks by subject, handling of bulk disk orders for the group, retyping articles from other newsletters, writing articles for YOUR Newsletter, editing articles, assisting the Lending Librarian, contributing your downloads from other Bulletin Boards to the group disk library, setting up one or more workshops, planning and presenting demonstrations of programs you use, send for Fairware and make sure the group library gets a copy (if the author is agreeable).

10. Harry Brashear has published "Home Publishing on the TI-99/4A" and has offered it to the TI Community at $15. How many would like to order?

11. John McCleary, a former president of the SW99ers has two complete systems available for sale.

12. January is election month. Be sure to come and cast your vote for the club officers.

13. We have tentative plans for a demonstration of TI-BASE in February.

14. We have the possibility of a presentation by Tom D'Angelo in March. Tom is a local computer repairman, and should provide an interesting program for us.

Ed McCullough, Secretary

Swan's Pond

by Ida McCargar

The first issue of 9640 NEWS has arrived from Beery Miller. This is a double-sided disk (720 sectors) of archived files, including a simple Data Base for MDOS, a Label program and contest (prize for the best addition to the program), a 130 sector(arced!) file of E/A enhancements for GPL mode, the latest MDOS (1.14), and a lengthy article with news about the 9640, new programs and developments, features of MDOS, etc. At the last Geneve meeting we experimented with Prt SC and learned some interesting things--ask Rod about them!

This is planned to be a regular publication (I think 5 issues) and the asking price is $25. He made an introductory offer of a sample copy for $5, which I accepted, and I intend to enter my subscription for the year. This is to be strictly 9640 news and programs and offers rewards for contributions. Mr. Miller asks for information about your system, number & kind of drives, controller type, Ram Disk or Hard Disk, etc. so he can tailor the disks to fit your system. 9640 News comes from Beery W. Miller, 5455 Marina Cove #1, Memphis TN 38115.

FROM THE MATHIS' DISK LIBRARY

by Jack & BJ Mathis

We have put together several disks that may interest members of the TI community. Some are Fairware written by others that we have modified, one is a Fairware disk containing programs and utilities we originated.

TIMP_PRINT and OTHERS

Our fairware offering is "TimpPrint Command File", a program that allows the insertion of printer commands anywhere on a Multiplan Spreadsheet. The documentation is included on the disk. Printer commands for several printers are included:

        Epson (and other "true" Epson compatibles
        Panasonic KX-P1091
        Gemini 10X
        Star Micronics SG-10
        Star Micronics NX-10
        Star Micronics NX-1000
        Citizen MSP 10/15
        GE TXP-1000
        Seikosha GP-550A
        Seikosha (Gorilla Banana)
        Prowriter
        Okidata (Model number unknown)
        Smith Corona Fastest-80

We are willing to support other printers, if the owner will send a copy of the printer's commands. The documentation is a good reference for anyone trying to write a program to be used by several printers and allows comparison of the features available on different printers.

Also, included on the disk is ColorFun, a program BJ wrote for our son. It is an XBasic program that uses the Speech Synthesizer to teach preschoolers their colors.

The LOAD program on this disk is written to run in BASIC and ExBasic. The menu choices include "Adding Machine", "Gas Mileage", "Payment Formula", and "Disk Catalog". Disk Catalog prints to screen or printer. When sent to printer it includes lines that allow comments to be written beside each program name.

We ask $5-10 for the disk depending on your usage and what you think is "Fair".

SCREENDUMP for C.Itoh and Axiom Printers

We have modified Danny Michaels' Screen Dump program to work with both Prowriter (C.Itoh) and Axiom printers.

Danny Michaels' Screen Dump and these modified programs are Assembly Language programs that are loaded from ExBasic or Console Basic with Editor/Assembler, and will allow sreen dumping of some cartridges (with a Load Interrupt Switch). We will be happy to pass on these modified programs to anyone requesting them and furnishing me with disk, mailer, and return postage or for $3, We will provide them. Please specify C.Itoh or Axiom printer. Contributions to the author should still be sent to Danny Michaels.

PRBASE UTILITIES and Conversions for Version 2.1

Even with the introduction of FirstBase and TI-Base we feel there will still be a lot of use of PRBase, so we have modified John Johnson's PRBase Utilities to allow the use of only one disk drive, allow the user to view a record, and for PRBase ver2.1 to mask off the disk as used sectors. This masking allows users with DSDD to utilize the rest of a the data disk for programs (PRBase itself for instance!). Or in the case of a small data base the disk can be masked to show only 360 sectors used allowing DSSD and SSDD to use the balance of those disks as well.

We have also written a program that will convert PRK files to PRBase, provided all the data is characters (as in an address file).

We have written a program that will easily convert PRBase 2.0 files to PRBase 2.1. This program was written for the user no special expertise is involved in using it, and it can be done with only one drive.

PRBase was written by Bill Warren, modifications in version 2.1 were by Mike Dodd. PRB Utilities were orginally written by John Johnson, with modifications for use with PRBase 2.1 by Jack & BJ Mathis. PRK converter and PRBase 2.0 to 2.1 converter were written by Jack & BJ Mathis. Both PRB Utilities, PRK converter, and PRBase 2.0 to 2.1 converter all use a Sector Read & Write Utility from Barry Boone, so who do you send the money to? Well, we would be happy with a small donation for the work we have done, and mainly to just hear from you that you use and appreciate the work involved!

We will be happy to pass on these modified programs to anyone requesting them and furnishing disk(s), mailer, and return postage or for $3 per disk, we will provide the disks. Jack & BJ Mathis, 5941 E 26th, Tucson, AZ 85711, phone (602)747-5046.

WRITER TIPS

by Jan Knapp - The Computer Bridge, St Louis, MO - 5/88

We are all aware of the frequently used TI Writer Command Codes, but here are a few nice ones that are often overlooked.

CONTROL K - Deletes all text to the right of the cursor on the line, including the character under the cursor. Just think of "Kick it off"!

CONTROL V - Moves the cursor to the beginning of the line on which it is located. "Veer left"!

PRINT LINE #'s ON TEXT - sometimes while editing it is nice to see your line number on the sheet you are proofing. Select PrintF Command. Type L and space once. Then type the devicename. Example - L PIO. NOTE: Maximum line length is 74 characters per line, unless you are printing in Elite, any characters in columns 75-80 are not printed.

CANCELLING PRINTING - This is often forgotten. You can cease printing in the EDITOR and the FORMATTER simply by pressing FCTN 4 while it is printing. This will return you to the COMMAND-ESCAPE location in the EDITOR or the TITLE screen for the FORMATTER.

PRINTING A PARTIAL FILE - On occasion a complete file is not wanted, only a small section needs to be printed. To do this, simply select the PrintF Command. Print the line number of the first line to be printed, space once, the line number of the last line to be printed, space once, and the printer devicename. Example - 25 58 PIO - will print lines 25 though 58 only to the printer. This is another case where printing with line numbers comes in handy.

LINE #'s - An important thing to remember when referring to line #'s is that the top is line 0 and the last line is E. This can save you a lot of time and aggravation when merging, printing, copying, etc. lines.

DELETING LINES - To delete lines from a file from the COMMAND MODE, type L for lines, then D for delete. Type the line number of the first line to be deleted, space once, and then the line number of the last line to be deleted. Example - 25 58 will delete lines 25 through 58 from the text.

REQUIRED SPACE - TI Writer FORMATTER has some built in spacing features that need to be understood. That is where the required space comes in handy. SHIFT 6 (the caret) joins words for the purpose of filling, adjusting, underlining and overstriking a group of words. It is also handy to use in places where you only want one space after a period as in "Mr. Williams", without the caret you will automatically get two spaces after each period. In the case of question marks and exclamation marks use a caret to force the formatter to leave two spaces, as the formatter only leaves one space after those.

ADDING A CARRIAGE RETURN - There are many times when proofing material that it is nice to add carriage returns AFTER the material is typed. This can easily be done OUT of WORD WRAP (with hollow cursor). Simply enter CTRL U SHIFT M (then CTRL U again) where you wish to have a carriage return. Unlike the CTRL 8 Command used in WORD WRAP (solid cursor) you do not get an additional line. This last tip comes from Harold Hoyt. Thank you Harold.

TI-WRITER TIP

from CIN-DAY - 6/88, HUG - 11/87, & Upper Pinellas 11/88

TI-Writer includes a flexible formatting command for indenting. A companion, but less often used procedure is OUTDENTING. In writing a paper, a usual indenting formatting command might look like this,
".LM7;IN12;RM71"

To create a different effect, try outdenting the first line of a paragraph by using the following command,
".LM12.IN7;RM71"

The left margin and indent settings are reversed causing the first line of every paragraph to begin at column 7.

Subsequent lines will begin at column 12.

Outdenting is useful when listing a variety of subjects, along with some textual information about each subject. Typing the outdented text in bold or double-strike type will emphasize the outdenting. Sometimes the bold type command causes the printer to indent an extra space. If this occurs, change the IN to 6 instead of 7.

Note: The SouthWest Ninety-Niners Minutes are an example of the use of outdenting. - BJ

RE-INKING RIBBONS & WD-40

by Ed Machonis - QB Monitor, Bayside, NY 11/88

With all this talk of printing, a word about ribbons is in order. Lately several newsletters have carried articles about restoring ribbons by spraying with WD-40. I tried this a couple of years ago, it works. Then I happened across the following book which contained this excerpted paragraph:

From: EPSON, EPSON, READ ALL ABOUT IT!
        by Julie Knott & Dave Porchow

"Warning: Some Epson owners feel that the life of their printer's ribbons can be extended through the liberal application of the lubricant WD-40. This could be the most costly mistake you can make with an Epson printer. The WD-40 will revitalize the dried ink in the ribbon's fabric, but it may also gum up the pins in the printhead. Although the lubricant consistency of WD-40 is ideal for large gears, it is not suitable for close-tolerance pin movement. Your choice as an Epson owner is between buying a new ribbon now or paying for a new printhead later."

I would disagree with classifying WD-40 as a large gear lubricant but the book seems otherwise authorative and apears to have an Epson connection. I only know of one person who regularly used WD-40 on his ribbons. I, also, only know of one person who had to replace the printhead on his printer. Coincidently both are the same person.

Upon reading the above, I purchased a Mac Inker, and am reasonably satisfied with it. I think it is terribly over priced and if you are handy you can make one. I find re-inked ribbons do not last as long as the originals, but some of the ribbons have been re-inked 6 times and are still going strong. The big advantage is I always have a fresh ribbon to throw in at the first sign of weakness. Perhaps that's why they don't seem to last as long. Ink cost is about 10 cents per inking.

The ink used is a special ink and contains lubricant for the printhead. It can be obtained from Computer Friends who adveritses in Computer SHopper and also sells the Mac Inker. I don't think using stamp pad ink would be a good idea as it lacks the lubricant.

NOTES FROM THE FAIRWARE LIBRARIAN

by Ida McCargar

I have received several new Fairware disks. One is a CHRISTMAS SPECIAL from Deanna Sheridan of NorthCoast 99ers, Ohio. I did not receive it in time to get the announcement out before Christmas, but you might like to have it to practice before next year. Also, some of the graphics are suitable for other times than Christmas. There are almost 720 sectors, chiefly graphics. These include: 24 TI-Writer transliterates which can be incorporated into a letter or other text without any kind of graphics program, just by pressing a key. There are 32 CSGD graphics, mostly Christmas themes but some others, a novelty letterhead, some fonts, a Christmas Crossword puzzle, a Santa RLE, and a song with graphics. In addition, the 32 CSGD graphics, 4 fonts, and 14 pictures are translated into TI-Artist format. A real bargain for $5.00!

Another interesting program is BIBLE TRIVIA by Steven DeGeare of KC 99ers. This is version 2.0 and contains questions on the Old Testament, New Testament, Bible Books, Bible Quotes, Prophets/Prophecy, and Guess Who? The questions are Multiple Choice or T/F and there is a scoring device. I found the program interesting and was surprised to find how much I DIDN'T know. This is a program for all ages, and would be good for children's Bible Study. Sources are given for the answers. Steven wants the program distributed widely, and asks only $5.00 if you feel it is worth that to you.

BILLY BALL is a disk of programs from the U.K. which I downloaded from Genie. The programs are Fairware and feature a character called Billy Ball. The games are fast-moving with graphics and sound. Some use joysticks, some use keys. Included are 3 Billy Ball games, a weird and frustrating game called Flooraway and a game called Noteworthy in which you have to catch musical notes.

ZODIAC is another Fairware disk, this from The Nutmeg TI'ers. It displays a colorful wheel showing the signs of the zodiac. When you enter your birthdate, the sign under which you were born is displayed along with an important event that happened on that date and some other information regarding your sign. This is a 344 sector disk which may be of more value for the programming possibilities than the actual program. The data was compiled in several DV80 files, and on the disk is a program called CONVERT which was used to combine them into one 208 sector d/f28 file called DATES. Another program is included which converted all small letters in the Data file to capital letters, since so many sprites were used that no small letters were available. Then, foreseeing a need for including special information for a particular birthdate (to personalize it for a special person perhaps?) a program called CHANGEIT is included. During the program, the cursor changes from the letters CT (for Connecticut) to a map of that state, and a program is included which shows you how that is done. Quite a lot for only $6.00!

DESIGNER LABELS REVIEW

Harry Brashear, Interface, 12/88

There's a new labeler that I have to tell you about. It's called DESIGNER LABELS and Texaments is distributing it. Yes, I know, we're up to our necks in label makers, but this one is for those of us that are more creative.

In a nutshell, the program gives you a series of label borders in instance format for TI-Artist. These instances are sized for all standard label formats and 3X5 card stock. The idea is that you can load up one of the borders, use all the facilities of Artist, (fonts, instances, hand drawing, etc.) to design with. Then you save your design back as an instance and go into the Label program. You select your format, load the instance, and tell it how many you want to print, in what density. The next thing you see are super labels dumping out of your printer at a rate of about one or two a minute, depending on size. It's easy, fun and produces a real pro looking product.

There are also a couple of support disks now available at $9.95 and $7.95. Designer Labels itself is only $9.95. Go for it!

ASGARD NEWS REVIEW

by Ida McCargar

I have just received vol.1 #3 of Asgard News. This third issue is even better than the first two. It contains an Editorial with some sensible suggestions which Myarc should heed; a 4 1/2 page article on the evolution of word processors, and features of the new PRESS, a word processor rumored to rival any popular PC-based word processors. Harry's Corner discusses Fairware and he proposes a startling DARE for every user. Jack Sughrue writes an article to guide you through the mysteries of TI-Base. Jack is a sixth grade teacher, and any sixth grader should be able to follow his instructions. I may even try TI-Base again. Part I of a new department, Beginner's Corner, describes all the peripherals and what they do. Geneve Corner lists new PD and Commercial releases. There is also a list of many of the TI-99/4A and Geneve hardware and software developers, with their addresses. There are over 3 pages of News(not confined to Asgard products) and Rumors. Finally, on the last page, a subscription offer--4 issues for $9.00. If enough subscriptions are received, the magazine will go bi-monthly or even monthly. A magazine worth having, nicely printed on good paper and my issue came by first-class mail.

─See me for subscription forms.

JIFFYFLIER

by Jim Swedlow - ROM Fountain Valley, CA 11/88

JIFFYFLIER is a new release from Rodger Merritt, one of TI's graphic gurus. It is an elegant program that does its job quickly and simply. In other words, I liked it.

JIFFYFLIER makes one page fliers. It requires 32K, one disk drive, XB, and an Epson compatible printer. It supports the color capabilities of the Star NX1000 Rainbow printer. Rodger points out that you will also need "lots of paper to enjoy the output".

The flier can have border, a graphic within the flier, one line of large text and up to 40 lines of small text. The large text line can be regular or inverted characters.

The distribution disk includes lots of borders and small text fonts. THere are 55 graphics for inside the flier. You can also use other CSGD "/GR" graphics.

Choices are very simple - use the <SPACE BAR> to change something and <ENTER> to accept it as displayed. The flier is shown on your screen half a page at a time. Once you are done, you can save your flier to disk and edit it with TI Writer.

The documentation is straight forward. It is only three pages long but that is all that is needed as the program is simple to operate.

Printing is very fast due to a new screen dump Assembly routine by Robby Robinson.

At $11 JIFFYFLIER is an outstanding value. If you want a copy, send your check to:
    Rodger Merritt
    1949 Evergreen Avenue
    Fullerton, CA 92635

Be sure and mention where you heard about JIFFYFLIER!

PROGRAMMING TIP

This tip appeared in Spirit of 99 newsletter, Barry Travers Diskazine and in Cleveland Area Newsletter. The implication in the article in the Cleveland Area Newsletter is it is for the Horizon Ram Disk users. However, those of us who do not have a Horizon, but use Extended Basic and Give it the BOOT! can use it too.

```
100 CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD(-31952,255,0,255,0)
110 END
```

Type it in and save it to your Ramdisk or BOOT disk under any name you can remember. Then place it on your menu screen wherever you have room. This little 2 sector program will take you from the menu to Extended Basic with no drive search, which means Extended Basic won't go looking for a program named LOAD. Then you will be able to program as you wish without removing the BOOT disk in order to stop the auto-load. The program also clears the memory just as NEW will so the program is not in memory once it is run.

GROUP INFORMATION

The SouthWest Ninety-Niners is a Computer Users Group formed to promote the use of the TI-99/4A and compatibles. We are not affiliated or sponsored by Texas Instruments. Membership is $20 per year for non-U.S. members. For U.S. members the first year is $20 and $15 per year for renewal.

The membership fee pays for the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter which is published 12 times per year. Your membership entitles you to buy disks, cassettes, and other items from the group at significant savings, compared to the local market. Members also have the privilege of borrowing books, magazines and modules from the Lending Library, obtaining copies of Fairware and

Public Domain programs (subject to copying fees) from the group disk library, and a disk of the month is prepared for members who attend the main group meeting on the first Thursday of each month. Non-attending members may obtain a DOM for $1 per month to cover postage and mailer.

Family memberships are available for at the same cost, they allow all family members the same priviledges, however, only one newsletter is sent out and only one vote is allowed for the membership.
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To join the SouthWest Ninety-Niners please send a check or write for more information to SouthWest Ninety-Niners, PO Box 17831, Tucson, AZ 85731 or call BJ Mathis at 747-5046.

BUYER'S GUIDE

The following information is provided as a service to our members. The items listed are for sale by the individuals indicated and are subject to prior sale. The group assumes no responsibility for items listed and makes no claims as to their condition or interface capability with the TI-99/4A computer. Only computer related items will be accepted for publication in this newsletter.

TI-99/4A Console, Expansion Box w/CorComp RS232, TI 32K, TI Disk Controller, SSSD Disk Drive, TI Extended Basic, Editor Assembler, Multiplan, Writer, Personal Real Estate, $430. Call Dick Paschal 790-4779.

Volksmodem 300 BAUD - Two switches: Talk/Data and Half/Full Duplex - Like new $25. Call Leon Dorros 297-0965.

Parsec $4, Donkey Kong $8, Big Foot $8. Call Dick Paschal 790-4779.

TI-99/4A Console, Speech Synthesizer, TI Joysticks, 7 modules, 24 basic programs on cassette, make offer. Call Sue McLaughlin 297-9804.

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