

* TI PPC NOTES *

NEWSLETTER OF THE TI PROGRAMMABLE CALCULATOR CLUB.

VIN1, 1980.

9213 Lanham Severn Road, LANHAM, MD 20801.

Welcome to the all-new TI Programmable Calculator club and it's newsletter, the TI PPC Notes! Just as our illustrious predecessor, the 52-Notes, we are a non-profit loosely organized programmable calculator club. We are in no way sanctioned by, nor do we receive any help from Texas Instruments Inc. Because our members live all over the US, and hopefully all over the world, it is financially prohibitive to meet at regular intervals. Therefore, the activity centers around a newsletter, which is mailed about once every five weeks. This leaves two weeks of vacation time to your editor.

In these pages we will mainly deal with the TI-59. But, if reader interest justifies it, we will also be concerned with good, old SR-52 and with the TI-57 and the SR-56. And, of course, we will enthusiastically embrace any new model TI might throw our way, provided it is programmable.

The first category we will address can loosely be named "Utilities." It concerns anything that will make programming easier. That category will have the highest priority.

Next on the list come "calculator quirks." Any not published behavior trick of any of the programmables will be discussed here.

We will also bring you good programs. How many per issue will depend on reader participation. But with respect to subject matter, and from experience gleaned from other clubs, our own Washington DC area club and the many clubs in Europe, game programs seem to be the all-time favored. That is followed by utility programs, math and plotting. Other categories, such as electronics engineering, finance, real estate, statistics, surveying and many others will be dealt with, if readers specifically request it, and if I receive participation in these categories. I am only an electronics engineer and through the use of the SR-52, and later the TI-59, I learned a little about statistics and math. But I am in no way an expert in all those fields. So I have to rely on the experts. Only through active participation of a large portion of our readership can a magazine like ours be kept alive and thriving.

In order to maintain a high quality of published material, I will have each contributed program refereed by at least two good programmers, who are at the same time familiar with the subject matter. They will not only question the validity of formulas and algorithms used, but they will also try as much as possible to improve upon the programming itself and optimize where indicated. We have seen too many horrible examples in many magazines lately. Thus, we will stop cold such sequences as STO 00 CLR RCL 00, unless you show us a compelling reason to blaspheme this way.

You can save the club many hours of re-typing and copying if you make your contribution copy-ready and in triplicate. (one for me, one for each of the referees) And if you fold your contribution a couple of times before putting it in a too small envelope, coupled to the use of that cheap blue printing paper, you will manage to bring even our copying machine close to tears.

I will refrain from prescribing a set format for the contributions. Variety is the spice of life! Just make it understandable to your fellow programmers, and be short and to the point. I will not engage in inventing a special cryptic language and I hope you will neither. Normal English doesn't require that much more space.

If you write me (and I love to receive mail) and you expect an answer, please send me a SASE. It will guarantee a reply. Thank you.

Maurice E.T. Swinnen

An interesting application of the HIR registers is the following: when using OP 04 OP 06 type printing, we often cause distortion in the alpha printing in the right-hand margin, because the calculator happens to be either in a special mode, such as EE or ENG, or in FIX n. So, we remedy the situation by inserting INV FIX or INV ENG commands at strategic places, while later in the program returning again to the required mode or FIX n. All this can easily be avoided, at the beginning of the program, we write a separate printing routine as follows:

```
LBL PRT DIV 12 INV LOG + 1 ) HIR 08 X:T OP 06 RTN
```

We now write our programs : ...=(result) x:t PRINT CODE SBR PRT

This will work in any mode, EE or ENG, and in any FIX n.

The Snow Bros., Richard and Robert, champions of enhancement and optimization, at seeing this routine, said it could be done shorter. So, their version reads:

```
LBL PRT + 12 INV LOG ) HIR 08 X:T OP 06 RTN
```

Which saves two steps. But, you will say, at noticing the + sign, this routine will not work, because 12 INV LOG = 999 999 999 991 or 9 short of 10 EE 12. That is, by means of the firmware in the TI-59 anyway. But the Snows have an ingenious solution to this: write your print code in the normal manner, THEN ADD 9 TO IT. It works. And nobody will be able to figure out your crazy print code !

There are currently several printer sensing routines in use. The latest one to appear uses the HIR registers: 1 P/R OP 00 HIR 18 which will return with a zero in the display when the printer is connected, and with a "1" when the calculator is used alone. It is easy to set a flag for one of the two results:

CP INV EQ B STF 1 LBL B ...which will set flag 1 when the printer is connected, not when not. Your program routines can now end as:

....PRT IFF 1 STO R/S LBL STO ...which will stop at R/S, to allow copying results, when the calculator is used alone. Otherwise, the result is printed and program execution continues with LBL STO.

It is well known that neither CLR, nor CMS, nor any other key will clear the HIR registers. But, if you want to clear selectively HIR 8, either from the key board or in a program, this sequence will do it: Either enter a zero or any whole number (integer) and press or write D.MS. If you entered a number that contained a fractional part, such as 12.56, the fractional part will be retained in HIR 8, but it will be MULTIPLIED by 100 when you recall it from HIR 8. This brings up a handy routine to produce the number of the highest register available in a given partition: OP 16 D.MS HIR 18 will, for example, return with 59 if the calculator was in the turn-on partition. You might say "big deal, OP 16 INV INT X 100 = will produce the same result." Granted, but it is both longer and slower.

Somebody has seen fit to knock off two steps in the now famous code converter of Robert Snow. The price paid for this enhancement is two seconds slower execution.

Remember that this routine will convert up to five digits in the display into the required print code when SBR PRT is called.

```
LBL PRT CP EQ 016 DIV LOG INT STO 08 OP 28 INV LOG + 1 + LOG INT X 100
PRD 09 2 - INT SUM 09 = X 10 DSZ 8 015 CLR EXC 09 RTN
```

Is converting a certain sequence into a SBR worth the trouble ? In other words, how many programs steps can I expect to save (or to lose)? A little research turned up the following inequalities:

With user-defined keys..... $M + N + 3 < MN$

With labels..... $2M + N + 3 < MN$

With direct addresses.... $3M + N + 1 < MN$

In which M = the number of times a particular sequence appears in a program

N = the number of steps in that particular sequence.

So, if we write a short utility program in which we subtract each time the left side of the inequality from MN , we will actually obtain the number of steps either saved or lost, a positive result indicating savings and a negative one denoting loss. To make the whole thing more attractive we can add a little flashing to the negative result.

In the following program, enter N and press A.

enter M and press B.

For user-defined keys press C.

For common labels press D.

For direct addresses press E.

```
LBL A STO 00 RTN LBL B STO 01 RTN LBL C SBR 068 ( RCL 01 + RCL 00 + 3 ) SBR 076 RTN
LBL D SBR 068 ( RCL 01 X 2 + RCL 00 + 3 ) SBR 076 RTN LBL E SBR 068 ( RCL 01 X 3 +
RCL 00 + 1 ) SBR 076 RTN RCL 01 X RCL 00 = - RTN CP INV GE 083 RTN + + RTN
```

As can be observed, the program has been checked with itself, and it was found that is was worth to convert two sequences to subroutines !

To which the Snow Bros. (who else ?) sent the following two versions.

The first one is a highly optimized version of the original one, for calculator use only.

```
LBL A STO 00 STO 02 R/S STO 01 PRD 02 LBL E RCL 01 - 2 + LBL D 2 X LBL C CE RCL 01
+ RCL 00 + 3 - RCL 02 = +/- + LNX 0 = RTN
```

The second version is intended for printer use and will produce attractive headings.

```
LBL A STO 00 X R/S STO 01 - RCL 00 - 3 - 41361735 OP 04 RCL 01 - OP 06
27142736 OP 04 RCL 01 - OP 06 13161635 OP 04 RCL 01 + 2 = OP 06 ADV R/S
```

In both routines, enter N and press A, enter M and press R/S.

For user-defined keys, press C.

For common labels, press D.

For direct addresses, press E.

(Just looking at the code in the second routine, it seems to be superfluous to press C, D or E. Those labels are not there!)

The second version is a shining example of " during a pending operation, that is as long as you don't write =, you can do almost anything, including loading print code in registers."

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Data entry through one user-defined key. (TI-59)

Instead of the usual LBL A STO 00 R/S STO 01 R/S ... if you have more data items to enter than your user-defined keys can stand, one could use the so-called stack method. It is an imitation of the stack used in RPN calculators.

LBL A PRT EXC 01 EXC 02 EXC 03 EXC 04 EXC 05 RTN This, of course, can have any length, with any number of registers in any order involved. It only requires that the user remember which data has been entered so far, provided he/she doesn't get interrupted by the phone or one of the kids needing attention. So, the method should have some safeguards built into it, to signal the user when the stack is full.

R/S LBL A PRT EXC 01 EXC 02 EXC 03 EXC 04 EXC 05 IFF 0 STO STF 0 5 STO 00 LBL STO INV DSZ
0 RCL GTO 000 LBL RCL 9 1/X ADV PRT ADV R/S

Data are entered as nnn A nnn A ...five times. Attempting to enter a sixth data item will make the printer print .111111 and set flag 0, preventing any further data entering. Only RST or INV STF 0 will undo this state.

Your first datum will end up in Reg 05, while the last entry can be found in Reg 01. Just key in INV LIST to check it out.

A further refinement could consist of having no print-out while the data are entered, but when the stack is full, instead of printing .11111, the program will print your data with suitable descriptors in the margin.

LBL RCL 42 02 OP 04 RCL 05 OP 06 42 03 OP 04 RCL 04 OP 06 35 02 OP 04 RCL 03 OP 06 35
03 OP 04 RCL 02 OP 06 14 02 OP 04 RCL 01 OP 06 ADV R/S

This routine LBL RCL will replace the simple one on line 11 above : LBL RCL 9 1/x ... You might also delete the PRT after LBL A.

Entry is the same as in the routine on lines 10 and 11: nnn A nnn A... five times. Then the printer will automatically produce a list of your entered data with the descriptors in the right-hand margin.

Before sending my "creations" into the wide, wide world, I usually give them to close friends for "comment." Thus, Richard Snow optimized it as follows:

LBL B' OP 04 RCL IND 00 OP 06 OP 30 RTN LBL A 5 STO 00 0 RTN STO IND 00 DSZ 0 016 A
42 02 B' 42 03 B' 35 02 B' 35 03 B' 14 02 B' ADV RTN

In this routine, initialize with A and enter all data through R/S. The digit following LBL A determines how many data items may be entered.

The stack method is used a lot on the SR-56, because of the absence of IND STO or IND RCL, according to Richard. That is, my simple one EXC 01 EXC 02.... The optimized version contains indirect functions, however.

Just when I finished typing the above, Richard sent me still another version, which does not use OP 06. Initialize with A, then enter your data through R/S. When the stack is full the paper advances. If you attempt to enter more data points, the display flashes.

LBL A 5 STO 00 0 R/S STO IND 00 PRT DSZ 0 005 ADV RTN SBR CE RST

When the display flashes and you press R/S again, the error is cleared and the program initialized for re-entry of data.

As you can see from the foregoing, I am trying NOT to adopt a shorthand. The only sign causing me some trouble is the DIVIDE BY sign. Rather than risking to end up with something that looks like a + sign, due to bad printing, I will use DIV at all times. The slash, I feel, is too ambiguous and is used in other keys, such as 1/x, P/R, etc.

The SECOND key is so obvious to anybody who has used the calculator for some time, that I feel it is not necessary anymore to have a special sign for it. Use it where it is implied. I will also refrain from using the asterisk (*) for the INDIRECT key. I will write IND instead. All this to minimize confusion.

MANUAL PLOTTER-SCALER. There are lots of automatic plotting programs which will plot $f(x)$, provided you define $f(x)$ somehow in program memory. But what if you have a list of data you would like to plot? You could use OP 07 manually, but you would still be faced with the task of manually scaling your data within the zero to twenty range of OP 07. After having experienced this problem a couple of times at the office, I finally settled on this short routine. It is short enough to be used even by TI-58 fans. The instructions are simple:

Scan your data and spot the lowest point, enter it and press A. MIN printed.

Do the same for your maximum point, enter it and press B. MAX printed.

Now enter in succession all your data points either through key E or R/S.

If you enter a data point out of bounds, either upper or lower, a small e is printed.

```
LBL E - RCL 00 = DIV RCL 02 = CP INV GE 083 X:T 20 X:T GE 094 OP 07 R/S
GTO E LBL A STO 00 282429 OP 04 RCL 00 OP 06 RTN LBL B STO 01 281344 OP 04
RCL 01 OP 06 - RCL 00 = DIV 20 + 1 EE 9 +/- INV EE = STO 02 OP 00 ADV R/S
GTO E 54 EE 8 INV EE OP 01 GTO 098 54 OP 04 OP 05 OP 00 R/S GTO E
```

TWO-VARIABLE GRID-PLOT. As the name implies, this short routine by Bill Skillman, will plot simultaneously two variables in the range 0 to 19. If out of bounds, a "?" is printed at the appropriate edge. The grid spacing is 5 printing spaces. The symbol for x is the asterisk (*) and for the y he used an "8". A cross-over is indicated with an "x". The instructions are: Write the definition of $f(x)$ in user memory. Place x in the t-register, place y in the display, a call to E' will plot both.

```
000: LBL E' INV STF 4 INV STF 5 STO 04 2 OP 01 OP 02 OP 03 OP 04 X:T NOP
SBR 137 EXC 04 SBR 137 OP 22 OP 23 X 49 + RCL 02 X:T RCL 03 EQ 049 2 =
OP IND 02 RCL 04 X 58 X:T 9 = EQ 064 NOP + 2 = OP IND 03 INV IFF 4 093 1
+ 71 X HIR 15 X:T 1 EE 4 +/- GE 090 1 EE 6 +/- = HIR 35 INV IFF 5 134
1 EE 10 +/- X:T HIR 18 GE 123 X 50 = EQ 123 71 X X:T GTO 129 69 EE 12
+/- + 1 = HIR 38 OP 05 RTN INV EE CP INV GE 174 X:T 20 X:T GE 180 INT
+/- + ( CE +/- DIV 5 ) INT X EXC 02 STO 03 5 + 4 = INV LOG  $x^2$  RTN
STF 4 CLR GTO 183 STF 5 3 EXC 02 STO 03 CLR RTN
```

To demonstrate its abilities, I wrote this short sin-cos routine. Start with A.

```
LBL A RCL 11 SIN + 1 = X 9.9 = INT X:T RCL 11 COS + 1 = X 9.9 = E' 18
SUM 11 GTO A
```

Bill's routine uses registers 2, 3 and 4 and flags 4 and 5.

I received in the mail a special offer from the Alchemy press, Aptos, California, for the Handcalculator Handbook. They offer this \$ 5.95 book for only \$ 2.99. I sent away for it and I am delighted. At this price it is by far the best offer I have received in a long time. Although the book was not intended for programmable calculators, all the programs, and there are over 500 in the book, can be keyed into a programmable calculator. The programs work for both RPN and AOS system calculators. On V1N1P6 I have reproduced the entire page as I received it in the mail. Judge for yourself!

\$2.99**\$2.99****The HANDCALCULATOR
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This Handbook is a complete calculator reference book. A reference containing a wealth of algorithms for mathematical applications of typical scientific calculators. Nearly 500 program examples illustrate a wide variety of calculator uses. Programs are given in RPN (Reverse Polish Notation), AOS (Algebraic Operating System) and Algebraic number processing illustrating the use of any typical calculator. Each algorithm is explained and described in a flow chart type of notation. This notation allows the direct and specific implementation of the algorithm on a calculator. Furthermore this flow chart notation can be used as a direct aid in the computer implementations of the algorithms.

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MASTER LIBRARY PRINTING ROUTINES.

The printing provision in the Master Library module has been variously described as..... well, all the descriptions I have heard or seen in print were all rather derogatory and I don't care to repeat them. During my visit to Lubbock, in the summer of 1979 I was unable to find out which of the applications programmers was responsible for it. Instead it was pointed out how well programmed the newer modules are. Thus, I met Don O'Grady and Garry Morella, who did the EE, the M/U and the RPN modules. All my respects. Those modules are tops. This not only according to my opinion, but I still have to meet a good programmer who knocks them. Also during the summer of 1979 I got into contact with Valentino Ducati, a top programmer who lives in Winterthur, Switzerland. Among the many good routines and programs I received from him I found a pakette of programs to access the PGMs in the Master Library. Valentino has kept each routine under 240 steps long, such that two routines fit on one mag card. You may now throw away the useless plastic cards and use real mag cards instead. Valentino told me he hadn't developed routines for ML-24 and ML-25 yet, but he sent me routines for all the other ones. So, I quickly wrote the missing ones, according to Val's recipe. Those two are reproduced on P8 and P9. If there is enough reader interest, I'll ask Valentino's permission to publish the rest of them. The instructions are extremely simple:
 Read in the card side necessary for a particular program.
 Then, instead of doing the first step in the manual, which ususally says SELECT PROGRAM, go to step 2. Use absolutely the same keys as in the manual. The program in user memory will access the correct program and correct SBRs.
 Inputs and outputs will now be printed with suitable descriptors in the right-hand margin. In both routines, you will probably recognize LBL PRT, at the start, as the interesting HIR application discussed on P1.

One of the main advantages of these routines is, that you may put your calculator in any mode (EE, ENG or NORMAL) and any FIX n, without fear of distortion in the descriptors.

*I-59 Firmware. In V3N10P4 of 52-Notes, Steffen Seitz showed us a routine to reveal the TI-59 firmware. His sequence was:

OP 09 PGM AB R/S R/S R/S OP 17 GTO FGH OP 17 R/S P/R LRN

In which AB is any of the ML-module programs: 02, 03, 04, 08, 11, 12, 13, 18, 24 or 25.

And in which FGH any step 000 to 575 or 800 to 959.

In a subsequent issue, V3N12P5 of 52-Notes, Bill Skillman identified the constants.

Then, reading GESPRO, a new German-language newsletter, I saw a contribution by one Walter Ulrich. His sequence OP 09 PGM 24 R/S R/S R/S OP 17 GTO 959 OP 17 R/S P/R LRN produces in the display 959 55. If you now SST you can advance up to 1374 00 ! The author wonders aloud what all this means. Obviously, he had never heard of Steffen Seitz's discovery. If you try to print Walter Ulrich's sequence, you discover that it is still Steffen's software, now at (apparently) different program counter steps. The printer even refuses to print anything above 999 and reverts there to zero.

Dick Blayney has compiled a nice summary of all this, unfortunately too long to fit in this newsletter. So, everybody might experiment on his own and signal anything unusual.

Dick also notes that, contrary to V3N12P5 of 52-Notes, (Steve Bepko could get a listing with mnemonics up to step 503 only) it is possible to step 583, with the PC100A. Dick says to use the usual GTO 479 9 OP 17 PGM 12 SBR 444 R/S P/R LRN, than manually SST to step 505, followed by LRN LIST, at which the listing is produced up to step 583 with mnemonics. Only step 576 is missing, which was the same in the listing without mnemonics. Any more ideas ?

Dick Blayney seems to enjoy delving into the inner workings of things and making sense of seemingly too complicated issues. I received a 24-page book he wrote with the title: "THE COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF SELF-PROGRAMMING, PROGRAM REGISTER TRANSFERS AND FRACTURED DISPLAYS FOR THE SR-52." And, although I will have to re-read some of it a couple of times, much of the mystery has been cleared up in my mind. Dick is willing to make it available to our readers at \$ 3.00 US, to cover the cost of copying and mailing. Dick's address is Richard D. Blayney, 26632 Guadiana, Mission Viejo, CA 92691. A real bargain to an avid 52 fan!

Special access routine.

[illegible]

TRACE? Don Laughery discovered a curious "new state." If, from the key board, you key in the sequence PGM 10 SBR 500 R/S CLR LRN LRN LRN the calculator seems to be in TRACE mode. PGM 10 can be 10 through 17. SBR 500 can be any high number. CLR can also be CE, but then the calculator stays in EE mode, otherwise the mode is NORMAL. As you guessed, the ML module has to be in place for all this. Resetting flag 9, nor pressing the TRACE key on the printer, will influence this state. But pressing RST or CP will. Some unknown flag? Or maybe the module itself?

When you go into LRN mode, the only unusual thing you will see is an x:t step at 000. But if you attempt to key in a program, the calculator insists on reducing all the codes by 10. Thus, LBL becomes PAU, etc. If you take this into account and key in a code 10 higher than the normal one, your keyed-in program will run. If it contains an RST, however, it will reset this "new state." To access your program in user memory you will have to treat it as PGM 00 and call it as such, because you seem to still have access to PGM 10. Don't press RST to get rid of the access to PGM 10, because it will also "kill" the "new state." Anybody has any ideas what is happening?

PRINTING DOTS CLEANING ROUTINE. TI recommends to clean the printing dots every time you put in a fresh roll of paper. To this end, you insert the strip of bond paper that comes with the rolls of paper and run the program from page VI-12 of the manual. The idea is, to exercise all the dots, 100 in total. But, one should not only exercise all dots, but also produce the maximum possible heat in them, to burn off the tiny shreds of paper sticking to them. Thus, the OP 05 loop should be as short as possible. What could be shorter than OP 05 RST, reasoned Don Laughery. He proposes the following routine:

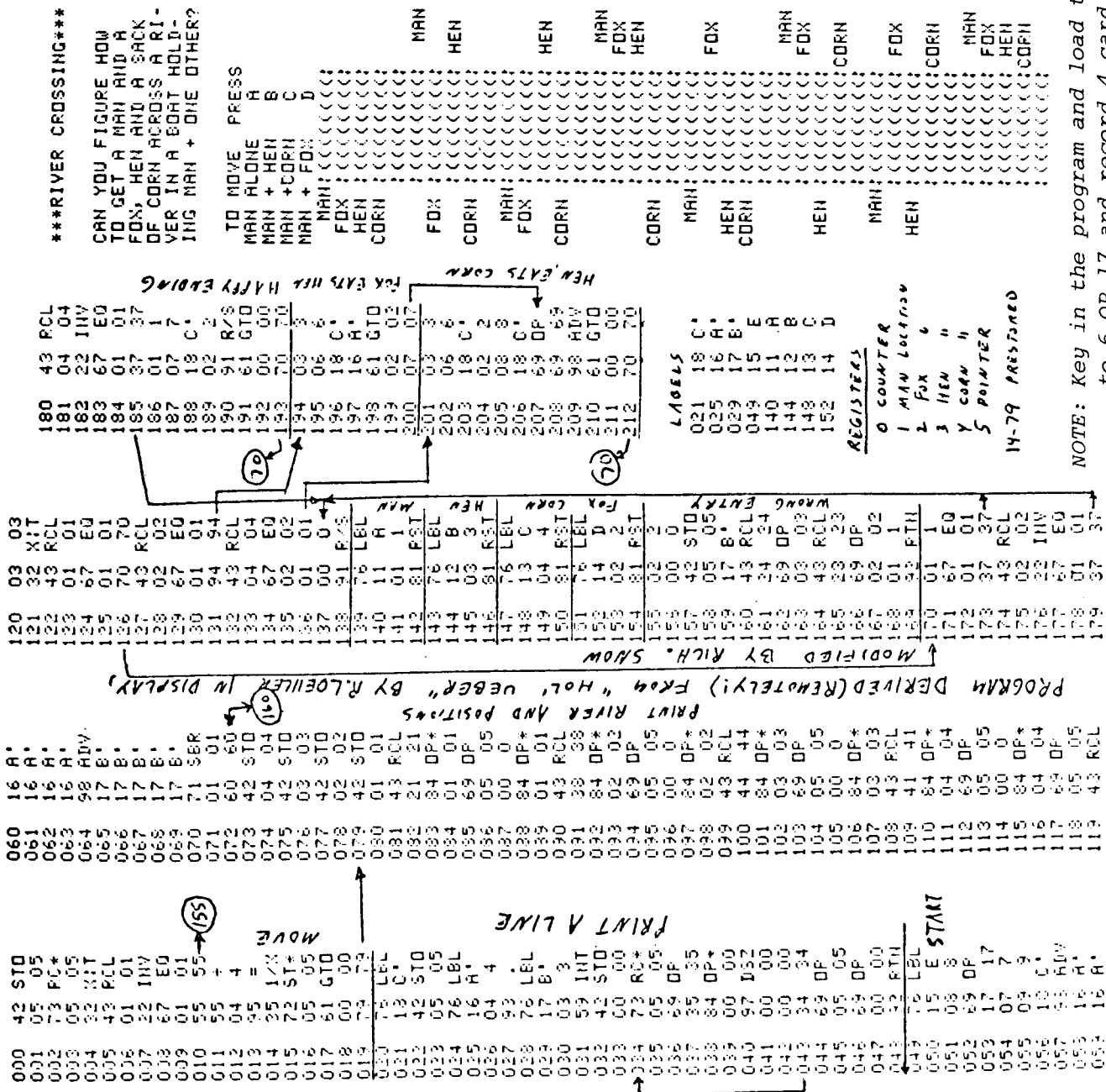
OP 05 RST LBL A 11 11 11 11 11 OP 01 OP 02 OP 03 OP 04 RST Press A to start.

This could be even shorter, although not as easy to key in:

OP 05 RST LBL A 9 1/X HIR 05 HIR 06 HIR 07 HIR 08 RST also started by pressing A.

I thought I had seen it all! Not necessarily so. Part of my job description at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research reads, in typical governmentese, as follows: "Incumbent scrutinizes existent and current literature for articles with medical, biological and medico-biological engineering relevance and transmits same to qualified personnel." In normal English, that means that I am required to read all kinds of "strange" magazines and journals. Thus, I recently saw in "The Journal of Extra-corporeal Technology" (I kid you not, this one is for real!) an article called "Programmable Calculators and Cardiopulmonary Bypass." The three authors, two medical doctors and one registered nurse, have developed several programs for the TI-59/PC100A, to be used right in the operating room! One program, nicely interactive, computes the required amount of heparin, a blood thinner, needed by the patient during bypass surgery. Another program calculates protamine reversal, still another one body surface and from it the needed blood pump volume during surgery. Then there are several programs to be used in post-op, most of them to compute the correct concentration of drugs for intravenous administration, such as dopamine, epinephrine, lidocaine and the antihypertensive drug nitroprusside. As one of the lab technicians said the other day: "Far out, man!"

This newsletter wouldn't be complete without a game program. This one concerns the riddle how to bring a man, a fox, a chicken and a sack of corn across the river. In Europe a similar one concerns a farmer, a wolf, a goat and a cabbage. The first program I saw appeared in Display, written in German by R. Loehler. After I translated it for our local club, we soon had several versions, each one more optimized than the former one. The one by Richard Snow stood out of the pack, however, because it was the first one to have a "real river." The one on page P11 is the latest version. (by Bill Skillman, after he saw Richard's version) In my opinion, it is an ideal game program, in that it requires the user to press just one single key. All instructions are subsequently printed. So, just press E and sit back.



NOTE: Key in the program and load the registers with 8 OP 17. Then repartition to 6 OP 17 and record 4 card sides.

[illegible]

USER INSTRUCTIONS

1. READ CARDS BANKS 1-Y

2. PRESS E, FOLLOW

1457 REVIEWS

(Requires PC+100)

ALPHA'REG LIST:

NUMERIC	REG	ALPHA
1532312335.	14	CONGR
1337365700.	15	ATS.
4532410016.	16	YOU D
2416003437.	17	ID IT
4335323122.	18	WRONG
1731313735.	19	ENTR
4500733737.	20	Y ^^^
30133100.	21	MAN
0.	22	
62555555555.	23	:((((
55555555562.	24	:((((
37323170033.	25	THE H
17310011337.	26	EN AT
17003372317.	27	E THE
15323531.	28	CORN
3723170021.	29	THE F
3244001337.	30	OK AT
1700372317.	31	E THE
241731.	32	HEN

NOTE: Key in the program and load the registers with 8 OP 17. Then repartition to 6 OP 17 and record 4 card sides.

NEWCOMER'S CORNER.- Although some of my friends advised me to call this the beginner's corner, I hesitate to use that word. Beginner, in my mind, con-jures "rank amateur." Most of our members have had the calculator now for some time and are fairly familiar with its operation. But they might be newcomers to the world of calculator fanatics, which most of the old 52-Notes members are. And they might not know all the tricks and quirks we all learned during the last couple of years. In this corner then, we will try to rehash those tricks and discoveries that have proven to be the most useful. This way we hope to bring the newcomers up to par in a rather short time. Once this is done we will abandon this part of the newsletter and use the space for some other useful purpose.

THE HIERARCHIAL INTERNAL REGISTERS.- Besides the 100 data registers, the TI-59 has eight registers normally used to temporarily store operands during execution of arithmetic. Each time a calculation requires opening up one more set of parenthesis, one more HIR register is called upon to perform. Normally, those registers are not access-ible from the keyboard. TI did not mention them in the manual. I first read about them in Display whose editor, Heinrich Schnepf, reported on them and on their respective functions in June 1977, just one month after the TI-59 arrived on the market. As I said, there are eight HIRs, 1 to and including register 8. All the normal register arithmetic, such as store, recall, product, sum, and the inverses of the last two, can be performed on them. This can only be done under program control. That is, we have to write the necessary commands into a program. The two-digit code that represents HIR is 82. This we can easily synthesize by keying STO 82, followed by a deletion of STO. So, key STO 82 BST BST DEL SST. Granted, it is a little cumbersome, but, as you will soon realize, the HIRs allow neat tricks to be performed. Next we have to follow the HIR command by a two-digit code that will tell the calculator 1) which function is required and 2) on what register to execute it. The first digit then means: 0 = STO, 1 = RCL, 3 = SUM, 4 = PRD, 5 = INV SUM, and 6, 7, 8 and 9 all mean INV PROD. Thus, if you want to write "store into HIR 8" you write 82 08, which will be listed as HIR 08. If you now want to recall from that same register you write 82 18 and it will be listed as HIR 18.

So, to recapitulate, if you want to write HIR 35, meaning SUM into HIR 5, you key: STO 82 BST BST DEL SST STO 35 BST BST DEL SST.

Some of the HIR registers are shared by other internal functions of the calculator, which, because of its rather complex rules, was the reason TI did not mention their existence. But that did not deter the real fanatics to learn how to use the HIRs with great success. For example HIR 5 to HIR 8 are identical to the print.code registers OP 01 through OP 04. In a later article we will go deeper into the rules that govern those special uses. For now, it suffices that, if you see in a program HIR 45, for example, you know what it means and how you can key it in.

DSZ ON REGISTERS HIGHER THAN 9.- The manual says that DSZ will work only on registers 0 through 9. But soon after the calculator was on the market, a lot of people announ-ced that they had found a way to DSZ all the registers. It is done the same way we synthesized the HIRs. Suppose you want to DSZ register 35. So, you key DSZ STO 35 BST BST DEL SST. That will leave the code 97 35 in program memory. As you can see, it is not possible to DSZ a register higher than 9 FROM THE KEYBOARD, but it is possible to do so under program control. If that DSZ 35 is followed by a direct address, such as 255, you key GTO 255 and go back to delete the GTO. The end result will be 97 35 02 55.

PROGRAMMED PARTITIONING.- Although the manual advises to mark the correct partitioning on each recorded magnetic card, that should hardly be necessary. You should try to write all your programs, such that they contain within the first 160 program steps, a sequence that tells the calculator to re-partition automatically. For example, you are using a total of 712 steps and 27 data registers. Obviously, the partitioning should be 719.29. So, your initialization routine, usually Label E, should contain: LBL E 3 OP 17 To key in your program you press from the keyboard 3 OP 17, go into LRN and enter all the needed program steps and load the required registers with data. Then you go out of LRN, press 6 OP 17 and record the two mag cards, all four sides in that partitioning. No need to write the partitioning on the cards: It will always be the turn-on one. And it reduces the amount of button pushing, as an added bonus.

I hope you enjoyed this first issue of our newsletter. See you next month. *manice*