

VOLUME NO. 5 ISSUE 7

OCTOBER 1987

Bayou 99 Users Group, P.O. Box 921, Lake Charles, La. 70602

# BAYOU BYTE



Price One Dollar

Distribution: 250 copies

## MEETING NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE *BAYOU 99 USER GROUP* IS OCTOBER 20 7P.M.  
Be sure to attend and learn what's new on the 99/4A scene.  
(Directions on back of newsletter.)

## SPECIAL! SPECIAL!

A SPECIAL "OUT OF TOWNER'S" MEETING WILL BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, SATURDAY, 1P.M. AT THE HOME OF JOHN SINGLETON. THERE WILL BE TWO SYSTEMS UP AND RUNNING TO PROVIDE PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL THE OUT OF TOWNERS TO GET CAUGHT UP ON WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN MISSING. **NOTE!** THIS WILL BE AN RSVP ONLY MEETING! PLEASE NOTIFY JOHN BY NOVEMBER 4th IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. PHONE HIM BETWEEN 5 P.M. AND 9 P.M. WEEKDAYS OR AT ANY DAYLIGHT HOUR ON THE WEEKENDS. (318-433-5954) OR YOU MAY WRITE HIM AT P.O. BOX 921; LAKE CHARLES, LA. 70602. YOU WILL RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO GET TO HIS HOUSE. (If you write, please give your phone number.)

FOOD and DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED AS THIS WILL BE AN ALL AFTERNOON AFFAIR! (and later if the demand so warrants!)

## THE TALKING HEAD

Well, gather around for an interesting tale (True too!) and a sincere appology. Friday the 13th came late in August, a week and a day to be exact. Friday, 8/21, the day began like any other but before quitting time I was told September 4th would be my last day at work. 4 PM arrived and I hadn't gotten a paycheck (it was payday). I called the office and inquired. OOPS! The time had been entered into the computer but no check had come out! I was assured that one would be sent out Federal Express overnite and I'd have it Saturday morning. So ended "Friday the 13th" (or so I thought!).

Saturday morning rolled around and was a beautiful morning ( I do remember that anyway). Why not mow the grass while waiting for ye ole paycheck? So, I crank up the mower and begin on the backyard. Exactly three minutes into mowing as I moved down the east fence line "Friday the 13th" strikes again! I feel a sharp pain on my left foot and jerk back instinctively. "Darn torn vines!", I think. Looking down, I see a pretty bronze and brown COPPERHEAD slithering off! I swear he was smiling as he moved on. "Well, don't panic", I thought as I reached down and shut of the mower; "Don't run, walk to the back door" (about 80 ft. away).

Would you believe I could not focus on the door by the time I got there and was dripping wet? I won't go into all the gory details except to say I recovered quite well and to provide a couple of insights that I learned in the school of hard knocks: (1) Always bring your attacker to the hospital with you as the hospital will not administer the antivenom (or antitoxin) without proof positive of the brand of snake that bit you. In retrospect, this is perfectly logical; if they gave you the wrong antivenom then you would have two poisons in your system instead of just one. (Funny how these things just don't cross your mind when you are bitten!). (2) If you live in the greater Lake Charles area and are bitten by any poisonous snake but a Cotton Mouth Moccasin, forget item(1) as they don't keep any of the other antitoxins on hand. They have to fly it in from a zoo!(New Orleans or Houston, I assume). By the time they would have it, the worst would be over (based upon my personal experience). Oh yeah, about my paycheck... would you believe it didn't come until MONDAY! I was giving the poor little Federal Express girl a hard time about it not being here on Saturday and she says "But sir, the packing slip is marked *Week Day Delivery Only!*"

Some days it just doesn't pay to get out of bed! Especially if it's "Friday the 13th"!

Now for that sincere apology; I have not put out a newsletter since JUNE and I apologize. The fact that no one submitted any articles is no excuse but I hate to keep "stealing" articles from other newsletters.

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## MYARC 1024K RAM BOARD?

Or Sometimes A Little Knowledge Can Be A Dangerous Thing Department.

Smart me I got 16 QUAD RAM chips (TI's TMS4164 or equal) and replaced my 4 chips in the Myarc 128K Memory Expansion Card (MEXP-1). Powered it up and tried to partition it as a ram disk and could only get a syntax error message no matter how I divided it! Then I remembered that the Myarc disk manager program had a ram disk utility. So I loaded it (the 48K section was happy) and proceeded to the utility section. When the ram disk available memory was displayed it said "1024K AVAILABLE"! NOT 512K! Surprise! Surprise! However, the program went bonkers when IT tried to partition that much memory. The EPROM can only count to 512K, I assume, therefore can not label the additional 512K! Well, I've put my original 128K back in but if anyone knows if there is an EPROM available to handle the 1024K I'd sure like to get one. (I hate to throw away the Quad Ram chips considering how hard they were to find!)

The solution may not be that simple but then again it may. I called Myarc and inquired but got no direct reply. Lou Phillips certainly has his hands full with other more pressing matters so may not get back to me. Anyone have any suggestions?

DISK DRIVES, FOR THE TI99/4A EXPANSION BOX (PEB)#PHP1200  
BY LESLIE M. LOWERY

TYPE OF DISK DRIVE	NUMBER SECTORS	KILOBYTE STORAGE (K)	CONTROLLER CARD REQUIRED
SSSD (SINGLE-SIDED SINGLE DENSITY)	360	90	TI, CC, OR MYARC
DSSD (DOUBLE-SIDED SINGLE DENSITY)	720	180	TI, CC, OR MYARC
DSDD (DOUBLE-SIDED DOUBLE DENSITY)	1440	360	CORCOMP OR MYARC

FULL SIZE OR "FULL HEIGHT" DRIVES COME IN BOTH SINGLE AND DOUBLE CONFIGURATIONS AND OCCUPY THE ENTIRE DRIVE SLOT IN THE EXPANSION BOX OR SEPARATE BOX WITH ITS OWN POWER SUPPLY.

NOTE: DO NOT GET INVOLVED WITH THE OLD "SLIMLINE" OR 1/3 HEIGHT DRIVES. HALF HEIGHT OR "HH" DRIVES WILL FIT TWO IN THE EXPANSION BOX IF LOW POWER TYPE, USUALLY COST DOUBLE WHAT THE FULL HEIGHT DRIVES COST ON THE COMMERCIAL OR UNDERGROUND MARKET. A GOOD PLACE TO BUY PERIPHERAL HARDWARE IS THROUGH ONE OF THE MANY USER GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE US AND ABROAD.

CURRENT GOING RATES ARE:

\$90 TO 110 FOR NEW HH DRIVES;

\$45 TO \$85 EACH FOR FULL HEIGHT DOUBLESIDED DRIVES.

DIFFICULT TO FIND SSSD TI DRIVES (USUALLY MADE BY SHUGART) UNLESS ONE BUYS A USED PACKAGE, BUT SOME CLUB DEALERS WILL SELL SEPARATELY.

\$40 TO \$65 EACH FOR FH SINGLE SIDED TI DRIVES.

DRIVES USED BY THE TI99 ARE 40 TRACK; 48 TPI, SAME AS IBM OR COMPATIBLE PC'S. APPLE AND RADIO SHACK ARE NOT COMPATIBLE, NOR IS ATARI OR COMMODORE UNLESS IBM COMPATIBLE TYPES. RADIO SHACK MODEL 1 IS 35 TRACK, FOR EXAMPLE.

ORIGINAL SSSD TI DRIVE AVAILABLE FROM TENEX IS \$79.95.

NEW EXPANSION BOXES FOR TI DO NOT SHOW IN ANY OF THE CATALOGS. MOST OF THE EXPANSION BOX EQUIPMENT SOLD BY DEALERS IS CORCOMP OR MYARC.

WITH THE ORIGINAL TI CONTROLLER CARD ONE CAN FORMAT USING MANAGER 5000 PROGRAM ON DISK TO 180 K OR 720 SECTORS, TWICE THE STORAGE OF A SSSD DISK.

TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM STORAGE FROM YOUR TI, YOU NEED A CC OR MYARC CONTROLLER CARD FOR THE TI EXP BOX; AND A DOUBLE SIDED DISK DRIVE. MANY OF THE SOPHISTICATED USERS ARE SATISFIED TO ACHIEVE THE 180 K OR 720 SECTORS OBTAINED WITH THE TI CONTROLLER CARD AND A DSSD OR DSDD DRIVE AS A CC OR MYARC CARD ARE AROUND \$140 EA. ! HOWEVER, THE MYARC OR CORCOMP CONTROLLER CARD WILL SUPPORT 4 DRIVES; TI ONLY 3.

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## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

SANTA is spelled CHARLES FOSTER! Who's Charles Foster you ask? Well, he's an out of town member of the Bayou 99 User Group and has donated 10 books on the TI and other computers to our group PLUS a Foundation Z80 Card and associated hardware! This represents hundreds of dollars in original investment. The books will be given as meeting door prizes and the Foundation Z80 Card will be raffled off at \$2.00 per chance.

THE RAFFLE WILL BE OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL TI USER GROUPS.

The raffle drawing will be held at the February 16, 1988 meeting. (That's only four month's away.)

Anyone interested in purchasing a raffle ticket should contact one of the officers or write to :

BAYOU 99 USER GROUP  
P.O.BOX 921  
LAKE CHARLES. LA 70602

If you send a check, please make it payable to Bayou 99 User Group. You may purchase as many tickets as you wish. The more you buy the better your chances of winning.

Just in case you don't recall, all this is through the generosity of Mr. Charles Foster.

**Thank you Charles!**

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### PRINTER BARGAINS EXCERPTED FOR BAYOU 99'ER BY LESLIE M. LOWERY

The following are some printer items that may interest some of the readers.

INFOWORLD Computer News has some nice bargains advertised:

EPSON HOMEWRITER 10

Dot Matrix, NLQ, 100 CPS, 80 Column, LIST \$299.00  
SPECIAL SALE: \$ 139.00

BROTHER M-1109

100 CPS, 25 CPS NLQ, 80 Column, 2K Buffer, Dual  
Interface : \$ 219.00

The above available from:

EASTERN ENTERPRISES INC

6001 Bandini Blvd

Los Angeles, Ca 90040

1-800/392-7081 or 213/725-3080

Fax: 213/638-5301 VISA MC AE

EPSON HI 80 PLOTTER, 4 COLOR

or

EPSON PORTABLE HS80 INK JET

YOUR CHOICE: : \$ 149.00

CUSTOM MICRO

P.O. BOX 12760

Houston, Texas 77217

1-713/944-1840

**Ryte  
Data.....**  
MILLENNIUM COMPUTERS

TELEPHONE: (705) 457-2774

210 MOUNTAIN STREET,  
HALIBURTON, ONTARIO K0M 1S0

TELEX 06-986766 TOR. ATTN: RYTE DATA

PROMISES - PROMISES

5 JULY, 1987

Dear Group Executive,

Thankyou all for your wonderful newsletter and the dedication shown. The information contained in your newsletter is an excellent example of the support you provide to TI 99/4A owners everywhere.

Having a great deal of experience with the work and difficulties involved, we would like to express our appreciation of your efforts.

Many groups were kind enough to include an advertisement for Ryte Data in the newsletter. We offered a free issue to one of your members in exchange. For each group that notified us, we added a new name to our mailing database.

Unfortunately we did not receive many new subscribers from this campaign. This had a negative effect on the ever critical 'cashflow'. As a result, it has been difficult to maintain our end of the bargain. Please find <sup>some</sup> enclosed issues of R/D COMPUTING published over the past four months. This has left us wondering just exactly how to serve the numerous users groups.

We would appreciate your comments on this subject!

One suggestion from Dan Eicher of the HUG group included a group subscription rate:

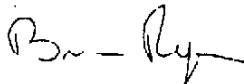
\$12.00 per year per member for five or more subscriptions - mailed to separate addresses. \$11.00 per year for five or more issues mailed to the SAME address.

The same offer of a 10% discount for group orders of Monty Schmidt's book "TECHNICAL DRIVE" still applies. This book received a straight A rating in Micropendium last month.

In fact, we will make the same offer regarding the new "COMMAND DOS" program - a 10% discount for three or more orders. This powerful new program also received a straight A rating from John Clulow.

We sincerely hope these offers meet with your approval. Support is a mutual agreement - in this way we can continue to provide support for the TI 99/4A community.

Yours,



Bruce Ryan

# "NOTICE"

## BAYOU 99 USERS GROUP

### OFFICERS

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 VICE PRESIDENT    Richard Mitchell  
 SECRETARY           Sonny Hoffpauir  
 TREASURER          Roger Hickerson

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 LIBRARY             Pete Still  
 EDUCATION          John Singleton  
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     & EQUIPT.  
 TIBBS (SYSOP)      Roger Hickerson  
 TIBBS PHONE #      318-474-6144

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FULL PAGE.....\$14.00/ISSUE  
 HALF PAGE..... 8.00/ISSUE  
 QUARTER PAGE..... 6.00/ISSUE  
 EIGHTH PAGE..... 4.00/ISSUE  
 MINIMUM CHARGE... 3.00/ISSUE

MEMBERS are entitled to three lines free each month for non-commercial personal ads or notices.

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### DUES

INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY--- \$12.00/yr.  
 CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL TO SEE YOUR EXPIRATION DATE. IF YOU THINK THERE IS AN ERROR, NOTIFY ANY OFFICER.  
 OUT OF STATE NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE \$6.00/yr. (INSTATE IS \$12.00/yr.)

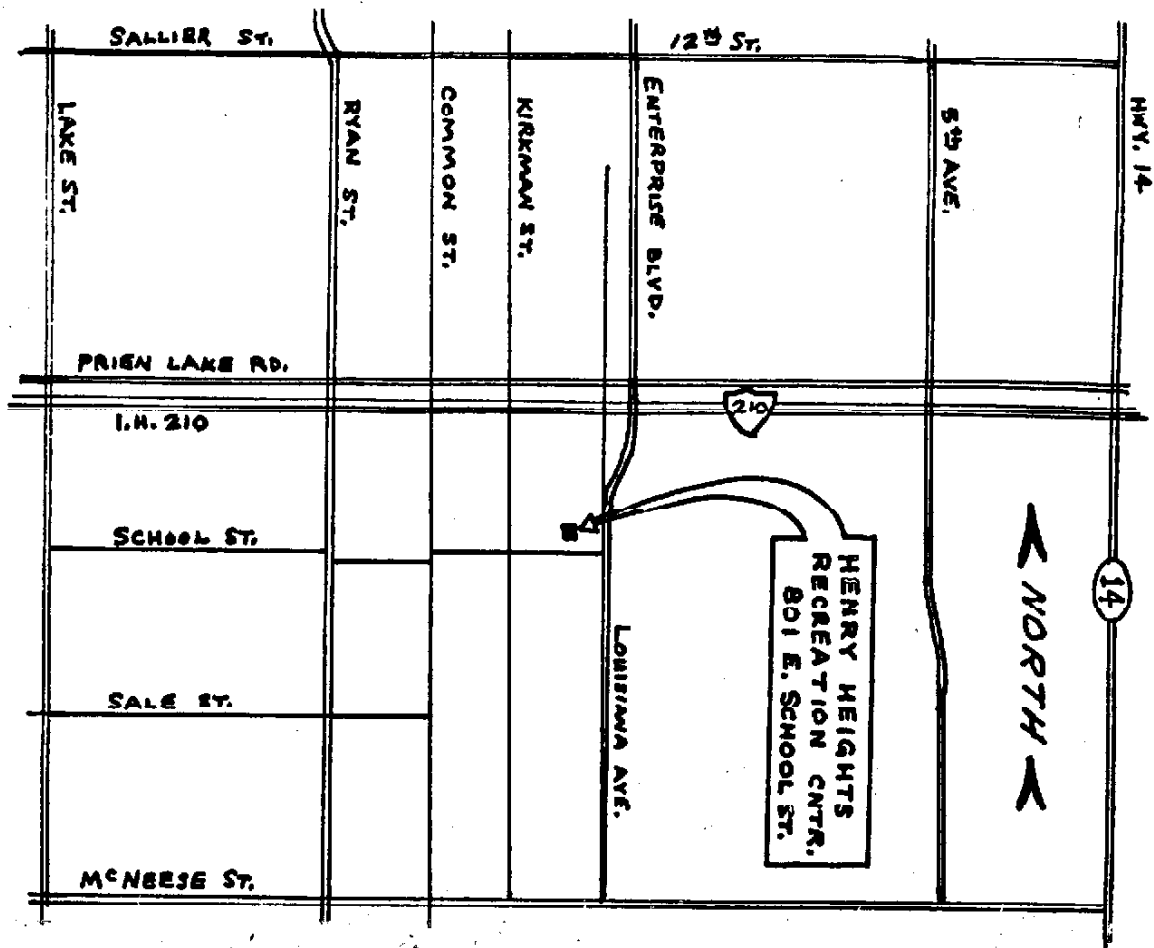
### MEETING DATES

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM IN THE **HENRY HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER**, 801 E. SCHOOL ST. (JUST WEST OF LOUISIANA AVE. BEHIND HENRY HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE ROAD.) ALL VISITORS WELCOME!

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