CLEVELAND AREA TI-99/4A USER GROUPS

APRIL 1997

From the Editor's Desk:

Hi TIers,

I wish there were a little feedback on the newsletter? The news is coming from a different direction and needs some kind of club input if I should continue in this vein. Let me know one way or another, OK?

I was hoping to receive the MICROpendium before finishing this NL, but even with a two month period it is not here. Hope to have enough for next NL.
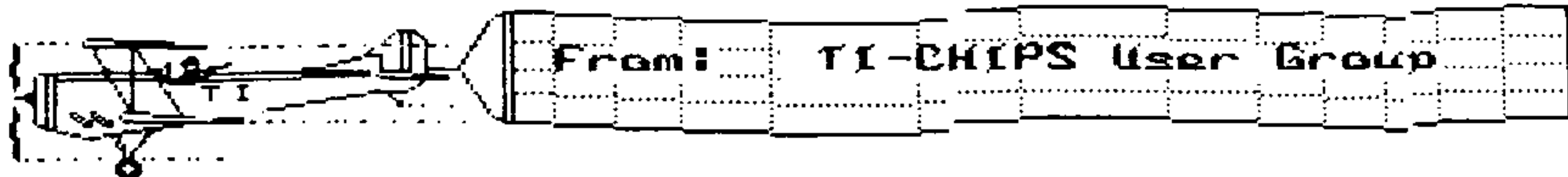
There is a lot of action on the "TI List Server" and developments for new software and updates is a good reason for joining. Tim Teach says he is working on some new stuff for the Geneve. Don O'neil has the finished v. 1.1 of the SCSI DSR (Device Service Routine). TIers from South Africa, Argentina, Australia, & Canada are regular writers. Tom Wills of the SouthWest 99ers is doing a great job of moderating the list, without being overly BOSSY. He will let you know if a better way of talking on the Server is called for and if you talk other than TI, you may be asked to leave. Great job Tom!

There is an ad on the back page for TI equipment for sale. Believing it necessary to keep such TI stuff circulating, I thought it was OK if the person was not a member. If I'm out of line, let me know!;-)

I hope everyone likes the Word Search on pages 4 & 5. I had a blast playing with Bruce Harrison's program. He is one prolific writer. Thank's Bruce.

To Blue Eyes: Joe, received your NL... 1/2 a page, you know... the half with the stamp still on it.:-) Would you Email what I missed, Please!

See you all at the meeTIng, **1**

By: Glenn Bernasek

Fred Ialacci opened the March meeting of the TI-Chips with a minute of prayerfull silence for Virgil Thomason. Fred then opened the floor for any memories of Virgil that club members wished to share. One of the many services Virgil provided the TI-Chips was the monthly raffle drawing. Jack Koryta graciously accepted the job of conducting the monthly raffle. (Thank you Jack.)

A motion to create a TI-Chips Memorial Service Award in the name of Virgil Thomason was made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Ron Markus volunteered to handle the sale of Virgil's system for the Thomason family. (Prices are reasonable and all proceeds will be forwarded to Virgil's son.)

Lin Shaw gave the Treasurer's report. Lin said our account is in good shape. John Parken reported that TI-Chips membership is at 24, and that March and April are the heavy renewal months. (Several Chips members renewed their membership on-the-spot.) A big welcome to Terri Babione for joining TI-Chips!

Les Kee gave the disk library report. Les handed out copies of the library update. Les is busy taking care of library requests. (So much for simple sentences for Les.) :-)

Les took the time to prepare and hand out an extensive listing of error messages for the TI-99/4A. This is a fifteen page effort in our behalf. (Thank you Les!!! It is through efforts such as yours that keep the TI user groups working, learning and sharing.)

Harry Hoffman gave us a demo of Bruce Harrison's (Harrison Software) WORDS. This is a word search creating program written in assembly that can handle up to seventy small words and create a word search matrix in the blink of an eye! (It takes 10 - 15 minutes for an x-basic program to do the same thing with only 25 words.)

I gave the update of the MUG at Lima from postings by Charles Good. (Things are looking good.)

Ron Markus also announced that PC99 can be ordered from Cadd Electronics through Ramcharged Computers. PC99 will not be stocked by Ron. Orders will be processed on a prepaid ordered basis only.

Matt Andel won March's 50/50 raffle. (Congratulations Matt.)

Get ready for the Lima MUG - We have four tables!

MARCH, 1997
By: Deanna Sheridan

Ken called the meeting to order. After failing to drum up any old or new business, he turned the meeting over to Harry Hoffman for a demo.

The demo gremlims almost struck again. Harry was unable to load his demo disk after several tries. He made a remark about double density and we knew the problem. Unlike Chips, the NorthCoast system still has a TI disk controller which will not support double density. Deanna came to the rescue simply because she had been too lazy to take her mini-CorComp system out of the back of her car for several months. We brought it in, thawed it out, and Harry proceeded with his demo of Bruce Harrison's Wordsearch program.

The disk comes with a variety of ready-made puzzles with various themes. To make your own puzzle, use Funnelweb to make a list of 50 to 70 names, each on a separate line and save to disk with the appropriate name. Since this program is written in assembly the puzzle is created almost instantly. If you have a nine-pin printer, use Words9 and if you have a 24-pin or bubblejet, use Words24 to print the puzzles. This is freeware and I believe Harry gave Bruce a copy to make sure it gets in the library.

Harry also demo'd Castle - a graphical maze game with many levels of rooms and difficulties.

Les Kee will have the April Demo, and I believe Jim Harris will be back from Florida in time for the May demo. Don't forget that the week AFTER our May meeting is the Lima conference.

I have the June demo and hope I can pick up something interesting at Lima.

See ya at the meeting. Deanna

Charles Good's LIMA MUG page address is listed as:

www.bright.net/~cgood/mug1997.html

All new updates can be found there. Including any

additions or phone # changes.

Bruce Harrison's — Word Search

by: Harry Hoffman

This program is terrific! Thanks, Bruce, for such a fascinating and fast program. I demoed this program last month and there was a lot of interest, as many asked the librarian for the disk.

I wanted to see if it was possible to put in a clue word or phrase, such as the ones in the newspapers. So, instead of printing the puzzle out to the printer, it was printed to disk. Also printing to disk so the puzzle could be solved and show where there were letters left over. Then the disk file was loaded to FunnelWeb and edited. In the program editor (hollow cursor!), blanking out the left over letters shows how large the secret word or phrase has to be.

Well, I used the membership lists of both clubs and came up with 94 words for NorthCoast and 63 for TI-Chips! Having solved Chips puzzle first, that was the place to start. Boy, did I have a lot of blank space in the WordSearch!! To tell the truth, it was too big to write a phrase.... it was more like a book. As long as it was editable, that is what was done. Adding words in all directions was a lot of fun and brought the blanks down to a manageable size. Now, the puzzle came to 126 words and 27 blanks. A nice size for a little sentence.

Another problem was the lockup when trying to use the Words9 to sort and layout the word list. Sort was fine and putting the list in FWB, it was necessary to type in the words by hand. It came to 6 columns, which still left enough space to print the puzzle on a single page. (See next page.) It is granted that not all the words are computer words, but that is my fault.
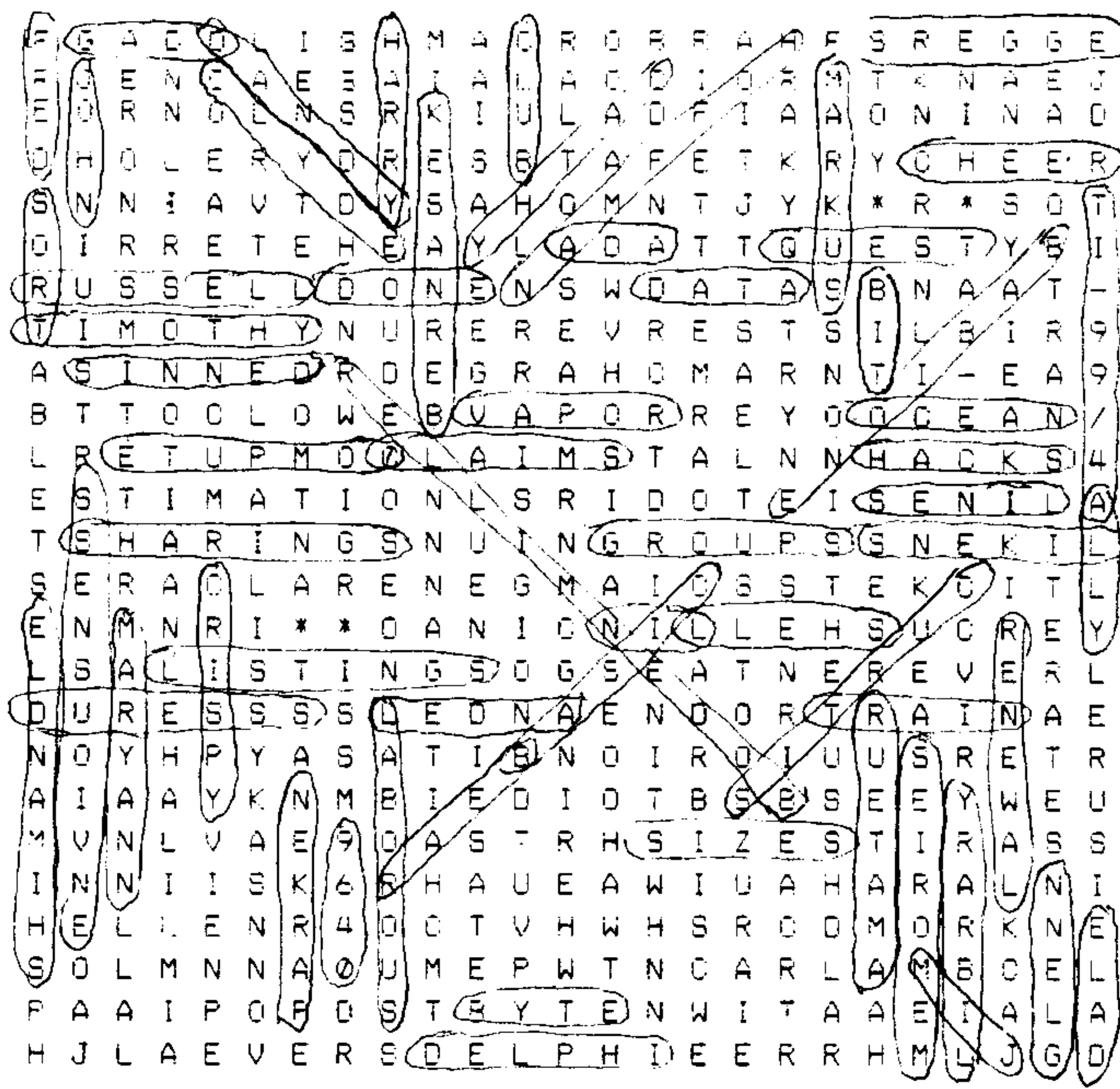
One thing that should be noted when doing this puzzle in this fashion! Try to circle the BIG words first or you will not find the 3 or 4 letter words that seem to be buried in another larger word. Believe me when I say that some of the little words typed in are in their own space.

I forgot to mention that when printing to disk I did not remove the built in printer commands that Bruce's program inserts. I have no idea if it will print out right without these symbols! This demo has taken up much time and has been so much fun that it will continue to be time consuming! There is every intention of making up more of these special puzzles for family and friends.

If you have to cut out words to get the puzzle to print, that is fine... you can always edit some of them back in with the program editor or add new words. It is a lot of fun. In getting 94 words in the NorthCoast puzzle, it took quite a few times before they fell into place. Next month I will finish North Coast's puzzle and put it in the newsletter.

See you all at the meeTIng,
Harry

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F G A C L I S H M A C R O B R A H F S R E G G E
R E N C A E B A I A L A C C I O R A T N A E J
O R N G L M S R K I U L A O F I A A O N I N A D
H O L E R Y O R E S T A F E T K R Y C H E E R
S N N I A V T O Y S A H O M N T J Y K * R * S O T
O I R R E T E H E A Y L A D A T T Q U E S T Y S I
R U S S E L D O N E N S W D A T A S B N A A T -
T I M O T H Y N U R E R E V R E S T S I L B I R 9
A S I N N E D R D E G R A H O M A R N T I - E A 9
B T T O C L O W E B V A P O R R E Y O C E A N /
L R E T U P M O C A I M S T A L N N H A C K S 4
E S T I M A T I O N L S R I D O T E I S E N I A
T S H A R I N G S N U I N G R O U P S G N E K I L
S E R A C L A R E N E G M A I O G S T E K C I T L
E N M N R I * * O A N I C N I L L E H S U C R E Y
L S A L I S T I N G S O G S E A T N E R E V E R L
D U R E S S S E D N A E N D O R T R A I N A E
N O Y H P Y A S A T I N O I R O I U U S R E T R
A I A Y K N M B I E D I D T B S B S E E Y W E U
M V N L V A E 9 O A S T R H S I Z E S T I R A S S
I N N I I S K 6 S H A U E A W I U A H A R A L N I
H E L E N R 4 O C T V H W H S R O O M O R K N E
S O L M N N A 0 U M E P W T N C A R L A M B C E L
P A A I P O F O S T B Y T E N W I T A A E A L A
H J L A E V E R S D E L P H I E E R R H M L J G O
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FIND THESE 127 WORDS IN THE PUZZLE ABOVE.
THEN SOLVE THE PHRASE BY USING LETTERS & *'S IN ORDER FROM THE TOP.

9640	DATA	HARRISON	MARYANN	SHIMANDLE	WWW
ADA	DELPHI	HARRY	MATT	SIZES	ZBIEGIEN
ALLY	DENNIS	HOFFMAN	MEMORIES	SNAIL	
AMATEUR	DESTINY	IALACCI	NINA	SORT	
ANDEL	DONE	INNS	NOISY	STEVE	
BABIONE	DURESS	ISRAEL	NORTH	TABLET	
BASIC	EDUCATIONAL	JACK	OCEAN	TERRI	
BEAR	EGGERS	JAMES	PARKEN	THOMASON	
BERNASEK	ENSUES	JEAN	POLIVKA	TI-99/4A	
BII	ENTHUSIASTIC	JIM	QUEST	TI-CHIPS	
BODENMILLER	ENVIOUSNESS	JOHN	RAMCHARGED	TICKETS	
BRIAN	FRED	KORYTA	READ	TIMOTHY	
BYTE	FRIENDS	KRYCH	RELOAD	TRAIN	
CARES	GADD	LABOROUS	RENEWAL	TRANSLITERATES	
CAROLYN	GENERAL	LEISURELY	RERUN	TRON	
CATHY	GENEVE	LES	RESTARTING	TRUCK	
CHEER	GLENN	LIBRARY	REVEAL	TRUE	
CLAIMS	GROUPS	LIKENS	REVERENT	VAIN	
CLUB	HACKS	LIN	RICHARD	VAPOR	
CLYDE	HAL	LINES	RON	VIRGIL	
COMPUTER	HALL	LISTINGS	ROYALTON	VONN	
CRISPY	HACKS	LISTSERVER	RUSSELL	WACHTER	
CURTIS	HAL	MACRO	SHARINGS	WAHOO	
DALE	HALL	MALCUIT	SHAW	WATT	
DANDY	HARBOR	MARKUS	SHELL	WOLCOTT	

MADE USING THE FILE DSK1.CHIPS/PNT3

Compiled List of World Wide Web Home Pages and FTP Sites for the TI-99/4A or by 99/4A Enthusiasts.

By John Van Weelie
    President of the 9T9 Toronto User Group
    Email: jvweelie@mail.ca
Note: This is a collection of WWW Home Pages that I have compiled recently. The number of Sites are constantly becoming greater every
day as the WWW does. I have come across these pages in my travels on the Internet.
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TI 99/4A Related Web Pages

TI-99/4A Home Computer Page - Rich Polivka(Ohio,US)>>> http://w3.gwis.com/~polivka/994apg.html
TI Parallel Computing Page-Henry Koolien(Germany)>>> http://sys00.ti6.tu-harburg.de/~ti6hk/hobby/
Kerry's TI-99/4A Page - Kerry High (Missouri, USA)>>> http://www.uar.edu/~khigh01/994a.html
Emperor Ken's World-Ken Gililland-Notung Software>>> http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/notung
Don Shorock's Home Page - Don Shorock (Kansas,USA)>>> http://homepage.midusa.net/~shorock/don.html
TI-99/4A Page - Owner ??? (Minnesota, USA)>>> http://www.umn.edu/nlhome/m235/walt0101/index.html
Comp.Sys.TI News>>> http://www.tile.net/news/ti.html
The Virtual TI-99/4A Page - Red Wolf>>> http://www.he.net/~schmeli/ti.html
Gary W. Cox Home Page (Tennessee, USA)>>> http://www.netten.net/~garycox/
Bruce Tomlin's Home Page>>> http://www.crl.com/~btomlin/
Eric LaFortune's Home Page(Rock Runner Author)>>> http://www.cs.kuleuven.ac.be/~ericl/rock/
OPA - Gary Bowser's Home Page>>> http://www.io.org/~opanit/
Western Horizon Technologies HomePage(Don O'Neil)>>> http://www.sonyx.com/wht/
TI-99/4A Classic Computer Page (Rob Patton)>>> http://www.sundial.net/~rob/ti994a.htm
TI MBX Page (Rob Patton)>>> http://www.sundial.net/~rob/ti_mbx.htm
Aurora's Homepage>>> http://firewall.fh-rosenheim.de:8888/~aurora/ti99.html
Sam and Mary's Home Page-TI-99/4A Business SIG>>> http://members.aol.com/smorab/smhp.htm
Mark Wacholtz Home Page>>> http://www.paradise.net/~wacholtz/
Larry Conner-L.L.Conner Enterprises(Indiania)>>> http://www.holli.com/%7Elconner/
Graphics and Picture Stuff Home Page - Bob Wray>>> http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/wrayre/explain.html
George Lin's Emulator Home Page>>> http://www.gal.com/pub/george/
Dean Dierschow's Homepage>>> http://www.xocolatl.com/dean/
Dean Dierschow's Cartridge Lists>>> http://www.clark.net/pub/vqr/dierschow.html
Misc Video Game Stuff>>> http://www.dstc.edu.au/BDU/staff/dennis/vgames.html
Obsolete Computer Museum (Tom Carlson)>>> http://www.ncsc.dni.us/fun/user/tcc/cmuseum/cmuseum.htm
TI Frequently Asked Questions (Novak)>>> http://www.io.com/~vga2000/faq/ti.faq
Emulators - TI-99/4A>>> http://members.aol.com/chrisealo/emu2.htm#eti994a
TI-99/4A User Group list - 12-aug-90>>> http://web.state.ut.us/bbs/IBM/DL01/TI_USERS.TXT
TI-99/4A User Group list - 12-aug-90>>> http://folio.state.ut.us/bbs/!BM/DL01/TI_USERS.TXT
Mike's EMULATOR List>>> http://goliat.eik.bme.hu/~korn/emulator.html
TI-99/4A Comp.Archives (Nova Scotia, Canada)>>> http://www.cs.dal.ca/ftp/pub/comp.archives/comp.sys.ti/
Phillip's CG-PAN Home Page>>> http://cg-pan.cqu.edu.au/students/phillihl/
Frequently Asked Questions>>> http://stekt.oulu.fi/~jopi/link/cem.faq
The Machine Room: Index of Micros>>> http://www.dcs.ed.ac.uk/~axc/MACHINE-ROOM/
JerryG's Classic Video Games>>> http://www.hevanet.com/jerryg/Games.html
The 3rd Dimension>>> http://www.hsv.tis.net/~jonecool/index.html
iNTERdiNE dESIGN>>> http://www.interdine.com/
Emulator FAQ's>>> http://www.jmas.co.jp/FAQs/emulators-faq/part2
Adventure Game History File>>> http://www.lysator.liu.se/~unicorn/adv/agh.html
TI Frequently Asked Questions>>> http://www.officialsports.com/~vga2000/faqs/ti.faq
PHOAKS: Resources (comp.sys.ti)>>> http://www.phoaks.com/phoaks/comp/sys/ti/index.html
Classic Games Cart List Server>>> http://www.serc.nl/People/zeist/d.atari/carts.lst
Nerd World : COMPUTER SCIENCE>>> http://www.tiac.net/users/datein/nw402.html
The 3rd Dimension http://www.travelier.com/~jonecool/
Virtual Computer Library: Computer Technology http://www.utexas.edu/computer/vcl/comptech.html

(Editor Note:) This is but part of the list John has put up on the net! I will put more on at a later time. USE YOUR MODEMS FOR MORE
FUN!!!

(News from the "TI List Server.)

From: David Nieters <W097@dtc.fingerhut.com>
Date: Thu Apr 10 12:45:10 1997

Well folks, we just finished Fest West. It's been a good year for the SCSI DSR. At last year's Fest West, I had just released version 1.0-2 of the DSR. While at the time, it was a major accomplishment for it to be as good as it was, it was still lacking a few routines and was hiding a few unknown bugs.

I kept working on the DSR releasing a new minor version every month or so until version 1.0-7 came out in June of 1996. This was the most stable, most bug free, most feature rich DSR for the SCSI card the world had ever seen.

The drive for excellence didn't end here. With the help of Rich Gilbertson who would use and abuse the SCSI DSR in ways I never thought humanly possible, we identified a couple of obscure bugs that had never turned up in mormal everyday use.

As Rich found them, I'd crush them. Sometimes working into the wee hours of the night. At times I hated Rich because Fest West was drawing near and I wanted to release a new DSR. But I knew what I had to do. I kept hammering away. Sometimes, the code grew too big to fit into the 4K banks of DSR space forcing me to rewrite code to make it more efficient. What we ended up with is version 1.1 of the DSR for the SCSI card.

Again, I can say this is the most bug free, most robust DSR for the SCSI card the world has ever seen! Unfortunately, one major criticism of the SCSI card still remains. The Disk Manager can use some improvements. I had been spending so much of my time working on the DSR, I didn't do much with the disk manager. I figured it was easier to distribute a new disk manager (via internet, bulletin boards, floppies) than it was to distribute new EPROMS with an updated DSR.
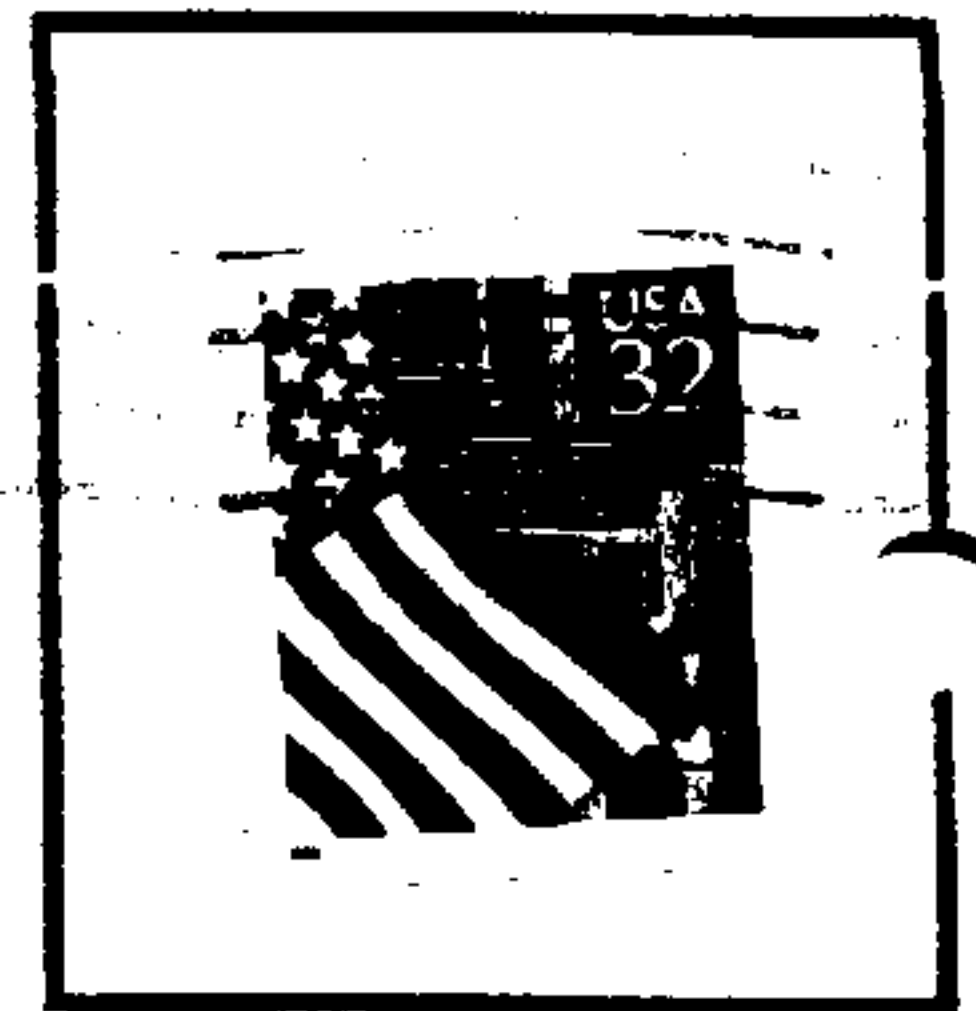
In the upcoming couple of months, I hope to change this. I will work on making the disk manager more easy to use. Who knows, I may even add an option to catalog the disk!

I hope to make it out to Lima mater this Spring. I just wish they didn't schedule it on Memorial Day weekend. If I do come out to Lima, I hope to see as many of you as possible and listen to you tell me how much you love using your SCSI cards!

David Nieters   Dave.Nieters@dtc.fingerhut.com
SCSI DSR developer

Check your experation date.
This may be your LAST issue!

FIRST CLASS   FIRST CLASS

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Full Membership. $15.00/Yr, with library privileges.
Newsletter only. $12.00 per year.

From: eo150@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Sally R. Gambatese)

Here's what I've got for sale, give or take what I haven't
laid my hands on yet.

TI computer 994A in original box w/all books
The following items also have the original books & in some
cases the original packaging:
Speech Synthesiser
TI joysticks (have but can't put finger on them
yet;haven't looked

Adventure (Applications Software) in box software & game
Numeration I & II solid state cartridges & books
Hunt the Wumpus
Munch Man
Number Magic
Laws of Arithmetic
Early Reading
Beginning Grammar
Car Wars
Terminal Emulator II
Early Learning Fun
Alligator Mix

Computer Math Games II
Equations
Division
Super Demon Attack
Blasto
Parsec
Meteor Multiplication
Multiplication
Demolition Division
TI Invaders
Othello
A-Maze-ing

As I said the joysticks are here somewhere along with the
Video Modulator Model UM1381
At this time I prefer to just say make an offer for pieces
and parts as I haven't really thought about/researched
prices.

If you are interested in any of these products, Email
Sally with an offer.

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