

-	Meeting No Me	eting 1984	7:30 P.M.	York Middle	School Rm. 300
-	Vol II No. 7		P.O. Box 203	•	York, NE 68467
	President Bill Hardy	Vice Pres. Dave Rich	Sec./Treas. John Mohning	Prog. Chm. Pat Pfeifer	Lib. Chm. John Linn

PRESIDENTS CORNER:

Hope everyone had a nice 4th of July and you're enjoying the summer. I'm finding it hard to get jobs done, so this will be a late and short newsletter.

Don't forget I need information on what you want to see in the newsletter and do at the meeting, so write it down and bring to the Sept. meeting.

Crossroad's 99'er Users Group receives a monthly newsletter from 99'ers Users Group Association. To continue receiving them a contribution of \$12 is needed to cover the cost of their newsletter. I've talked with the other officers and we agreed to send them a contribution as the newsletter has improved and includes good information. The June copy has 15 pages of small print so I have copied parts that I feel the Group would be interested in reading.

The first two paragraphs of "What's Happening?" describes the problem of getting information to members. Alot of information is received from Users Groups and venders, but it cannot be copied and sent to each member, because of the cost and time, but it will be available through our library and at the meeting before being turned over to the library.

Adenda No meetings in July and August.

TRADE/SWAP/SELL/BUY

If there are items you want to trade, swap, sell or buy, send a list and description to the newsletter and it will be included in the next newsletter without charge.

MONTHLY NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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VOL I - NO. 7 - 5/84

CREATED FOR TI-99/4A GWNERS AND USERS GROUPS BY THE

99'ERS USERS GROUP ASSOCIATION 3535 SO.H ST., #93 BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. 93304 (805) 397-4361 DON VEITH - EDITOR / PRESIDENT

WHAT'S HAPPENING ?!?

Some very distressing news has been forwarded to me. Letters have been received that this newsletter has not been made available to the general membership of some Users Groups. The purpose of the 99'ERS USERS GROUP ASSOCIATION NATIONAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER is the dissemination of information to all 99/4A owners. Information contained in the newsletter is to be made available to <u>ALL USERS GROUP NEWBERS</u>.

My purpose here is not to identify or criticize any specific Users Groups, but to make everyone aware of the purpose of this newsletter. We strive to provide articles of interest for everyone. A great amount of effort on the part of sixteen (16) people make this newsletter possible. I hope the Users Groups make the contents of this newsletter available to their membership. This newsletter is for all Users Groups members, not just a few insiders!!

I received a letter on May 2, 1984, from Morningstar Software. The firm has agreed to make their CPM System available to our organization for evaluation. The letter stated that the firm would be shipping the CPM card in about three weeks. Morningstar Software is very interested in working closely with the Users Groups. We shall keep you updated as the firm makes information available to us.

This issue has articles from our regular contributors John Phillips, Jim Vincent, and Jim Peterson. Product reviews on SST Software's BASIC COMPILER, THE MISSING LINK, and Games from VIDEO MAGIC have been completed and written. Several books were forwarded from Hayden Book Company for review. Reviews on the books will start with the June, 1984 newsletter.

BITS 'N BYTES

This space will be used for last minute items that arrive just prior to mailing the newsletter.

Jim Digan of Englewood, Florida is interested in contacting other handicapped users and forming a group. Jim is also interested in obtaining programs created for or by other handicapped users. The 99'ERS USERS GROUP ASSOCIATION believes we should support this effort and provide as much help as possible. Please contact Jim at:

JIM DIGAN 625 ENGLE¥90D RD., APT. 5 ENGLE¥90D, FL. 33533

NAVARONE INDUSTRIES has a unique new service available. Their RENT & PLAY club allows you to rent a game cartridge for \$9.95. You are allowed to keep the cartridge as long as you wish until a different game is desired. There is a lifetime membership fee of \$25.00 to join the "GAME OF THE MONTH" club. For further details, contact the firm at:

NAVARONE INDUSTRIES 510 LAWRENCE EXPRESSWAY, \$ 800 SUNNYVALE, CA 94086 (408) 866-8579

TI THOUGHTS FROM TEFRI BY TERRIE MASTERS, PRESIDENT - LA 99ERS COMPUTER GROUP

Happy May to everyone. These past few weeks I have had the pleasure of meeting T.I. owners and users beyond my own geographical range, face to face. What a nice happening. Up to now most communication has been through the mail, usually in response to a column in our newsletter. I made a fast trip to England, contacted, and met Clive Scally of TI#TIMES. We had a telephone chat followed by a luncheon meeting in Sutton. Clive is uniting the English TI owners via his newsletters. It seems they are too distant geographically for Users Group meetings. I purchased several of the local computer magazines, none of which is dedicated to TI, but some comments and programs do appear. The worst part is the difficulty in getting both hardware and software. It is great to have the machine but sad not to be able to use it to its capacity. I wonder if across this world, we who have a rich supply of software and hardware might consider "adopting" an English user on a one to one basis and establish a pen-pal computer friendship. It would not be that great an expense to once in a while send over a cassette or diskette with programs, marking it an unsolicited gift under \$15.00 so no import duty or tax would be assessed. If anyone is interested in such an exchange, please contact me and I will set it up with Clive. He, by the way, is a delightful person and very into his TI. Hopefully he and his family will get over here and be our guest.

My next direct experience was in Bakersfield, where I was the dinner guest of the TEX-BUG Users Group, prior to attending their meeting. Again a great experience. Don and Luci Veith are real fine hosts, and the group has a lot to be proud of. I have previously met handicapped users, both visual and audio, in Bakersfield they have both hearing impaired members and teachers of the handicapped. This computer is a great tool for persons with a handicap, and it warms my heart to see teachers using this tool as they do. Perhaps more groups will publish the programs created for and by these fine people and can be shared on a wider basis.

Another user I met there is very electronically fascinated by the workings of the machine, I am sure that it would be to all our benefits if persons with this area of interest were to know one another and put great minds working together. Many good things can come of such a relationship. I would like to see other groups look beyond their geographical area and reach out. Put it into your newsletter and we will pick it up, or contact us directly. Milwaukee is reaching out for FORTH, I think that is great. We can only learn from one another, but first we must reach out and share.

My next visit will be to the Decatur, Illinois group. I look foward to that having had a very short but good meeting with Joe McMahon, the President of the group. We have shared ideas and will now expand that by becoming more involved. Our own club has a lot to learn from other groups, and I am very happy to be able to travel to other areas and do so. I wish to extend an open invitation to any member of any club passing through Southern California to call me directly at (213) 271-6930. I will happily give you the schedule and location of any club in our area that may be meeting when you visit and invite you to join us for an evening. Thank you for spending this time with me, and hopefully one of these days we too can meet face to face.

AMNION HELPLINE

Amnion Software of San Francisco has established a helpline for TI-99/4A owners. Dr. Guy-Stephan Romano is available to answer any question about the 99/4A, provide information on hardware and software quality, and sources where both may be obtained. Dr. Romano may be contacted by telphone or letter. The firm requests that each written inquiry contain a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the purpose of returning your answer. The Helpline service is free to everyone whether you own or use their software or not. You may contact Dr. Romano at:

> AMNION HELPLINE 116 CARL STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94117 (415) 753-5581 HOURS: 9AM TO 3PM MON-SAT

TI FORTH PRINTER OPTION CHANGE

For those who have gotten a copy of TI FORTH from the library and found that as written, the only printer option supported is serial at 9600 baud, take heart. The change for other printer options is not hard. Enter an edit mode and call up SCREEN number 72. Then "arrow" down to line number 4, change the string after F-D" to the printer option you need. For instance, PID for the parallel port or change the baud rate from 9600 to whatever is used by your printer. Use the same "names" that are used by TI BASIC. Delete any unused parts of the old name, but leave the quote (") at the end. While you have SCREEN number 72 on your screen and are in the edit mode, look at line number 5. The copy I have has a typo in it and the "SWCH" did not work.

All that you have to do is change the following:

old PAB_ADDR VSBW

to PAB-ADDR VSBW

With the above change all it takes to send text or data to the printer is the word SWCH. The preceeding article was authored by Ted Michelson. It was taken from the May newsletter of the Rocky Mountain 99'ers, TIC TALK.

Many of our Assembly Language readers will be familar with John Phillips from the monthly articles he writes for our newsletter. John was a Programmer for Texas Instruments in the Home Computer Division. While working for TI, he was responsible for development of the Mini-Memory Module. He also worked on Hopper and aided in solving problems on several other pieces of software. John has since left TI and started his own company VIDED MAGIC.

The four games reviewed by our organization were STAR TRAP, BEYOND SPACE, and D-STATION I & II. These Games all operate at high rates of speed and feature excellent graphics. It was a very special treat to preview them before their release for sale.

STAR TRAP presents the game player with a window view of the battle area from his spacecraft. Opponents fly direct at you. Other opponents also appear at the edge of your screen flying away from your position. Comparison to normal games ends here. The action is so fast that players must use a pause, operated by the 'P' key, to rest their tired hand after three (3) minutes play. The more successful you are at playing the game, the faster the action becomes until your wrist literally falls off your hand from exhaustion. The graphics are definitely "Arcade Quality" in the words of several players.

BEYOND SPACE presents a different challenge. This is a two player game with each player having a ship of equal firing power. The area in space is littered with asteroids which may be moved by firing your spacecraft's laser. Every set of players eventually ended up pushing asteroids back and forth until one of them failed to react swiftly enough and was destroyed. Arcade quality graphics and instant response of space ships to joystick movements are only possible in Assembly Language. The speed of game operation is, in fact, almost too fast. More asteroids will destroy your ships than an opponent until control of the spacecraft is mastered.

D-STATION I & II are an interesting pair of games. A helicopter and aircraft fly past a fixed gun emplacement. The helicopter drops paratroopers while the aircraft bombs your gun emplacement. Your defense is to shoot all items out of the sky before you are bombed out or overran by enemy troops. The D-STATION I version is a slow warmup for the II version of this game. Of course, the more successful your defensive effort, the faster opponents assault your defense efforts. It can get extremely fast-paced for experienced players in the II version of D-STATION.

The first two games appeal primarily to chlidren over the age of fourteen (14). No upper age limit is specified for game players. D-STATION is oriented towards children ages eight(8) to fourteen (14) based upon our observations during the evaluations. Adults enjoy STAR TRAP more due to its extremely high speed action. All the games were designed to be used with the TI joysticks. The games will be available in Cartridges from:

> SUNWARE LTD. PARK TOWER, SUITE 140 LUBBOCK, TX 79405 (806) 747-2534

Contact the firm above for prices and product availability. No date on their release was provided to our organization. We wish to thank John for making these excellent games available for review prior to their public release.

PRODUCT REVIEW - "THE MISSING LINK"

THE MISSING LINK is a printer interface that connects to the joystick port of the TI-99/4A. It is designed and manufactured by MIDWEST ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS. George Bowman, MSEE, MBA, is the owner of the firm and designer of THE MISSING LINK. The package of documentation accompaning this device is substantial. All aspects of the unit and its operation are discussed in detail.

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The package includes a cassette tape of programs for use with THE MISSIMG LINK. The tape includes the following programs:

SIDE A - General Utility Programs

1) Minimemory Algorithm (Use MMM "Load" Utility) 2) Ascencion Program (Home Security/XBasic Slow Speed) 3) Engineering Programs (3 Combined/XBasic) 4) General Programs (3 Combined/XBasic) 5) Ladder Network Program (XBasic/Slow Speed) 6) S Parameter Matching (XBasic)

SIDE B - Word Processing Programs

1) Minimemory Word Processor (Basic w/Minimemory) 2) Disk System Word Processor (XBasic/Disk) 3) Extended Basic Word Processor (XBasic) 4) Bonus Program!!!! (Basic)

Note: The "High Speed" versions may be ordered on Disk for an additional \$4.00 fee.

The features of this unit are:

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1) A high speed printer link at 200 CPS when used with the TI Minimemory Cartridge.

2) No modifications are required to the TI-99/4A or printer. Plugs on unit are compatible to both computer and printer.

3) Unit totally of modular construction with bright LED display and high impact plastic case.

4) No external power supply needed, low 5 volt design, low power from printer.

5) 35 pages of documentation including schematics, program listings, and detailed operating instructions.

6) Low speed option available for use with BASIC or X/BASIC. X/BASIC operates with or without a P.E.S.

The unit is not intended as a substitute for the RS-232 card or unit. It will only operate a printer with a CENTRONICS parallel port and not printers with serial ports or modems. The unit's speed of operation in BASIC or X/BASIC without the · . . . P.E.S. is four (4) cycles per second.

THE MISSING LINK was designed with a minimum system configuration of the 99/4A, cassette recorder, and monitor needed to operate with it. The TI Minimemory, if available, allows operating the printer at the 200 CPS rate with a minimum system. The system's inventor uses a GEMINI 10% printer with the unit. All types of word processing programs work with the unit, whether cassette or disk based.

The price for this unit is only \$40.00 (\$36.95 plus shipping) to your door. You may obtain more information or purchase the unit from:

> MIDWEST ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS HAWTHORNE CENTER P.O. BOX 159 VERNON HILLS, ILLNOIS 60061

> > TIGERCUB TIPS NO. 11 By Jim Peterson Tigercub Software

These Tips are distributed by Tigercub Software for promoting purposes, and may be reproduced by non-profit organizations provided proper credit is given to Tigercub Software. This firm is a kitchen-table enterprise specializing in original low cost quality software for the TI-99/4A.

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100 CALL CLEAR :: CALL COLOR (2,16,5,3,16,16,4,7,7):: A\$(1)="11111110B0B08" :: A\$(2)= RPT\$("80",7):: CALL CHAR(33, RPT\$("01", B)):: CALL VCHAR(4 ,4,33,20)

Last month's challenge was to unfurl the U.S. flag (with 49 stars) from the mast out in two (2) lines of Extended Basic 110 FOR C=5 TO 22 :: X=1+A95 (C)11):: FOR T=1 TO 13 :: CA LL VCHAR (5+T, C, ASC(SE6\$ (A\$ (X), T, 1))):: NEXT T :: NEXT C :: 60TO 110

FROM INTERNATIONAL 99/ Users Group "ENTHUSIAST 99"



P.O. Box 67 Bethany, OK 73008 (405) 948-1023

As of May 1, the International 99/4 Users-Group ceased purchasing Texas Instruments products to sell to its membership. Below is a list of products currently available from the IUG. Texas Instruments titles are in extremely limited supply; third party products are readily available.

	PERIPHERALS	
MODEL	NAME	PRICE
CHC 1220	CorComp R\$232 Card	88.00
CHC 1220 CHC 1260 JSA 7000	CorComp 32K Memory Card	135.00
JSA 7000	Joystick Adapter (Atari, Wico or ProStick II to TI)	7.75
NPT 6646	ProStick II to TI) Prostick II Remote Controller (single)	22.00
CABLES PHA 2622	TI Single Cassette Cable	13.00
FIIA 2011	11 Single Casaelle Cable	13.00
DISK DRIVES		
PHP 1250	TI Single Sided Bare Drive for P.E.S.	. 00
CAC 1742	Tandon TM 100-1 (single sided) Bare Drive for P.E.S. box	00
CAC 1743	Tandon TM 100-1 (single sided) Disk Drive w/chassis and cable	315.00
CAC 1744	Tandon TM 100-2 (dual sided) Bare	315.00
CAC 1745	Drive for P.E.S. box Tandon TM 100-2 (dual sided) Disk	375.00
	Drive w/chassis and cable	
PER 951 PER 952	Percom Single Disk Drive Percom Dual Disk Drive	385.00 715.00
PER 9A1	Percom Add-On Disk Drive	335.00
	SOLID STATE COMMAND MODULES	
MODEL	NAME	PRICE
TEXAS INSTRUMEN		
INFORMATION MAN PHM 3006	AGEMENT Home Financial Decisions	15.00
PHM 3007	Household Budget Management	15.20
PHM 3111	TI Writer (32K Memory Expansion, RS232 Printer, Disk Drive and Controller are	85.00
PHM 3118	Printer, Disk Drive and Controller are required)(available for 99/4A only) Microsoft(tm) Multiplan(tm) (32K	85.00
FUM JELD	Memory Expansion, Disk Drive and	65.66
	Controller required. RS232 and printer recommended.)(Available for 99/4A only	,
EDUC:		
PHM Second	Early Learning Fun Beginning Grammar	15.00 15.00
PRM 3004	Number Magic	15.00
РНМ 3005 РНМ 3750	Video Graphs Numeration I (Speech Synth, recom.)	15.00 18.50
56-3C MH4	Addition	34.30
PHM 2114 FHM 2115	Alien Addition	15 00 15.20
PPM 3116	Cemolizion Division	15.00 44.00
PHM 3122 PHM 3144	Beginning Grammar Numeer Magic Video Graphs Numeration I (Speech Synth. recom.) Addition Alliaator Mix Allian Addition Pemolition Division PLATO Interpreter Early LOGO Learning Pun	34.00
ENTERTA ÎNMENT		
PHM 3009 PHM 3018 PHM 3020 PHM 3020 PHM 3023 PHM 3024 PHM 3030	Football	15.00
PHM 3020	Video Games I Music Maker	15.00 34.00
PHM 3023	Runt the Wumpus Indoor Soccer	12.00 15.00
PHM 3030	A-naze- mg	12.00
PHM PHM JUJJ	*The Attack *Blackjack & Poker	12.00 15.00
PHM 3034	*Fustle	12.00
PHM 3036 PHM 3041T	*Zero Zap Adventure	15.00 18.50
PHM 3052	Tombstone City	12.00
РИМ 3053 РИМ 3110	TL Invaders Chisholm Trail	12.00
PHM 3112 PHM 3145	Prisec Sneggit	12.50 24.50
PHM 3150	*Sewermania (MBX Exp. recomm.)	24.50
PHM 3219 PHM 3229	Super Demon Attack Hopper	24.50 24.50
 Milton Bradl 		
APPLICATION PRO		24.20
PHM 3055	Editor/Assembler (Disk drive, Controller and 32K Memory Ex. req'd.)	34.00
PHM 3058	Mini-Memory	80.00
SCOTT, FORESMAN		
*Each module co SFC 1182/1185	ontains two (2) programs Pyramid Puzzler/Star Maze	34.00
SFC 1176/1179	Frog Jump/Picture Parts Number Bowling/Space Journey	34.00
	Number Rowfrug/Sbace JonineA	34.00
1SOFT 8512	Donkey Kong	20.00

Master 99 Serie M9-242C	es ECPC(tm) Reprogrammable Cartridge D-Station	24.95

Temporary Price List for Both Presidents Club and **Regular Members**

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Prices effective June 1, 1984

DISKETTE SOFTWARE

IUG Master 99 Series programs--All programs require at least single disk system unless specified.

M9-100	DataBase 500 (dual sided drive)	14.95
M9-101	DataBase 300	14.95
M9-120	Accounts Receivable	14.95
M9-13Ø	Accounts Receivable (dual sided drive)	14.95
M9-140	Statistics Package	14.95
M9-15Ø	Bookkeeping Accounting System	14.95
M9-16Ø	Point of Sale System (2 recorders reg)	14.95
M9-170	Retail Accounting System	14.95
M9-180	Infocenter Record Management	14.95
M9-198	Food Management System	14.95
M9-200	Departmental Budgeting	14.95
M9-210	Tax Depreciation Package	14.95
M9-220	Production Cost Allocation	14.95
M9-23Ø	The Bowler's Record (dual sided drive)	14.95
M9-240	D-Station (cass. for Mini-Mem)	12.95
M9-241	D-Station (Ex. BASIC & 32K RAM-disk)	14.95
M9-242	D-Station (E/A & 32K RAM-disk)	14.95
M9-250	Sprite Designer	14.95
M9-26Ø	Caverns (cass. for Mini-Mem)	14.95
M9-261	Caverns (Ex. BASIC & 32K RAM-disk)	14.95
M9-262	Caverns (E/A & 32K RAM-disk)	14.95
19-270	Tafara (cass. for Mini-Mem)	14.95
M9-271	Tafara (E/A & 32K RAM-disk)	14.95
PHD 5019	Teach Yourself Extended BASIC	17.50
ARTIOS SOFTWARE		
ATO 3331	CUBIT (cass. for Min1-Mem)	15.95
ATO 3332	CUBIT (Ex. BASIC & 32K RAM-disk)	18.95
ATO 3333	CUBIT (E/A & 32K RAM-disk)	18.95
INTELPRO		
INP 7701	Companion 2.0 Word Processor (reg's. 32K RAM, disk, v.i10 £x. BASIC)	71.00

CASSETTE SOFTWARE

TEXAS INSTRUMEN		
PHT 6054		24.20
FHT 6067	Beginner's BASIC Tutor	24.00
	RE DESIGN AND DISTRIBUTION COMPANY	
*ADD \$2 EACH if	product is desired on disk.	
ASD 0345	Ski	14.00
ASD 0336	Laser Shield	14.00
ASD 0347	Space Battle 2056	13.00
ASD Ø348	Barnyard Fun	14.00
ASD 0350	3-D Maze (Ex. BASIC reg'd)	14.00
ASD Ø351	Bomb Squad (Ex. BASIC reg'd)	14.20
ASD 3052	Mr. Frog (Ex. BASIC reg'd)	14.00
ASD 3053	Wizard's Dominion (Ex. BASIC req'd)	18.00
	PRINTERS AND ACCESSORIES	
MPI 099	FrintMate Model 99 Printer (includea	425.00
	serial interface cable and single	
	sheet feeder)	
MFI 150	PrintMate Model 150 Printer	779.00
MPI 7420	Serial Interface Card for MPI 150	75.00
	DISKETTES AND CASSETTES	
DSK 5141	5 1/4" diskettes 40 track (5-pack)	16.50
DSK 5080	5 1/4" diskettes 80 track (5-pack)	18.50
DSK 5081	5 1/4" diskettes 80 track (10-pack,	35.00
	includes plastic case)	55120
CST 3030	C-30 Cassette tapes w/case (5-pack)	7.75
	MISCELLANEOUS	
SRC 1111	SOURCE-TEXNET Service (registr, fee)	100.00
DBC 202	CSCAR Optic Reader	66.00
NAV 365	Widgit Multi-Port Excansion	34.95

NOTE

All products are subject to manufacturer's availability and some products may be discontinued by the manufacturer without notice. A three percent service charge will be added to all VISA and MasterCard orders. A minimum order of \$15 is required on all charged orders. All backordered items will be shipped upon delivery from the manufacturer.

All prices include shipping in the continental United States.

FOR PRODUCTS TO BE SHIPPED OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, CALL FOR ADDITIDNAL SHIPPING CHARGES.

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SEND ORDER AND MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO



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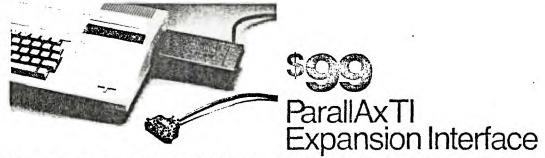


For Your Texas Instruments Personal Computer



\$300 Direct-Connect Printer, GP-100T

Because of our built-in interface, all you have to do to connect a GP-100TI printer to your Texas Instruments 99/4A computer is plug it in. The GP-100TI has adjustable tractors, cartridge ribbon, uses standard fan-fold paper and has full dot-addressable graphics. It provides clear, dot-matrix printout from all TI software including cartridge, which allows you to set number of line feeds per line, line length, margins and self-test. Another plus — expansion modules can be daisy-chained through the built-in edge connector.



You no longer have to settle for Texas Instruments' bulky expansion box with its messy cable when for just \$99 you can connect any parallel-input printer to your TI computer using our ParallAx TI printer interface. It's smaller, neater, and plugs into the side of your TI computer. ParallAx TI has the same features as our GP-100TI printer (described above) and you can daisy-chain expansion modules through the built-in edge connector.

THESE QUALITY AXIOM PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE AT LEADING DEPARTMENT AND DISCOUNT STORES.

FOR THE OUTLET NEAREST YOU, CALL 818/365-9521.

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CROSSROADS 99'er User Group P.O. Box 293 York, NE 68467

Dues Form/Newsletter					
NAME	······································	-			
ADDRESS					
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Interest/Comments					
Active Member - \$12/year or \$1.25/ mo. Newsletter only - \$6/year or .50/mo. Dues are from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 Monthly dues figured for remaining number of month of calender year					

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