

DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 13, Number 8

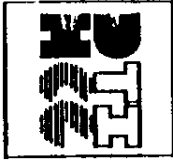
August, 1993

This newsletter is the official publication of the DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP, a non-profit organization serving our members and other users of the Texas Instruments 99/4A HOME COMPUTER. For more information you are cordially invited to attend our next meeting or send a S.A.S.E. to:

DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP
P.O. BOX 29863
DALLAS, TX 75229

Reprints of our articles are allowed, but must give credit to DTIHCG and be complete.

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, August 21, 1993
at the Dallas INFOMART
I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit



DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP
P.O. BOX 29863
DALLAS, TX 75229

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PHONE THE 99ER CONNECTION BBS
24 Hours, 300/1200/2400 Baud
(214) 233-1750



Member of the
Computer Council of Dallas

CCD Information line (214) 234-2667

DTIHCG'S AUGUST EVENTS

- 7 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
21 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: Workstations
by Dave Axberg
 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
@ 1:00 PM in main meeting room

**DTIHCG'S SEPTEMBER EVENTS**

- 3 NEXT-STEP
JOJO'S On Stemmons at
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 3 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 4 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
- 6 Labor Day
- 18 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: To be announced
 - 1:00 pm MiniSiG
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Time and Date to be announced
- 24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

DTIHCG'S OCTOBER EVENTS

- 1 NEXT-STEP
JOJO'S On Stemmons at
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 2 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
- 9 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART

SHAKING THE BUSHES

by Mattie Bush

Welcome to Shaking The Bushes. How do I begin or How do I start? Well I'll start by telling everyone what a wonderful vacation that my husband and I had.

While on our vacation of the Eastern States and headed home, we made a stop in Louisiana at the GUIDRY's. This is the home of Jonathan Guidry. Jonathan has 2 sisters and 2 brothers, he's the oldest. We enjoyed our visit very much with his family. His mother Sandra took us on tours of New Iberia during the week and Jonathan's father gave us a tour of the little Cajun towns on Saturday. We really enjoyed the tours and the very good Cajun food that was there. We left on Sunday and headed to Arkansas and then home. What a time; WOW!! Jonathan was preparing to set out for Washington, DC for the National Computer Concepts Contests. He had placed FIRST in Louisiana. Jonathan returned home and I found out that he made 95 on the test. He did very well out of all those students. He is now preparing for college in Indiana.

Then when I returned home on July 1, I got a call from Odessa, Texas and it was the voice of MIKE GODDARD. I did not know this gentleman at all. My name had been given to him by JEFFREY KUHLMANN, one of our members that is stationed in Germany. Mike, his wife VAL, and son NICK were on tour of the United States from England. He wanted to meet with me in Grand Prairie on Saturday. This was such a pleasure, honor or whatever to meet with a fellow TI-99/4A user from another country. I just couldn't wait to meet with them. When I arrived at the motel where they were staying it was as if we had known each other for years. We exchanged ideas and he told of his group in England and the New things that they are producing in the U.K. Mike repairs the 4/A's and is a consultant of computers. His son Nick has been the Cassette Librarian since he was 8 years old; he is now 14 years old, and Val is also very active and involved in their group as well.

After their stay in the Dallas area they then headed to Orlando, Florida then on to Key West for their journey back to England. It gave me such pleasure and a great feeling to meet with Mike and his family and especially another TI-99/4A user from another country.

Under siege here! Last minute and still waiting for articles. May be next month YES!! Regular writers, please forgive this statement. This is not meant for any of you who write articles, but for all the talent that is out there and hidden because of your shyness or whatever else. Our group needs your input to survive. Not only for what you can teach us, but also help the regulars rest up and so they can play with their TI TOY.

In past months or should I say since January we have lost 29 members. Some of those people had been in our group since day one. Do you as members still want a TI-99/4A group? If so get off your duffs, start calling and let's get this group going again. I know that people are burned out, fed up, just don't give a darn, but in order to survive at least the rest of the year or in years to come we need your HELP as members. It has been told to me that all it is now is just socializing, not a group to exchange ideas nor show New software nor hardware. Even when we are having a business meeting or even the program is being presented all the noise and talking. You know what; that is really bad because we as officers and chairpersons do care what happens and we work our careers off for all. We need VOLUNTEERS for INFOMART and for some of the other places. Am I so very wrong in caring what happens to the TI-99/4A group or better yet the Dallas TI Home Computer Group?

There still are a lot of our members here as well as out of state that really needs and cares. Just stop and think what happens to our members. They say we are a UNIQUE GROUP, well, let's show it people.

I have been a volunteer first, then registration chairperson, then to President all within 1 year of joining the group. I now am on the third year as your President. I now serve in lots of slots just because I CARE. I don't want to lose our spot at INFOMART nor the 4/A group. So I'm asking just one thing of each: please come to our next meeting AUGUST 21 because we have a very special event coming up.

What does it take to get you to come to the meetings? Well folks, between now and Christmas we are going to have a special raffle for MEMBERS ONLY. That is for those who have paid their dues and are in current standing.

Are our meetings boring? Are they not what you want or is it because you are scared to ask questions?

I'm still learning each and everyday. I know how to fix a few things and I know some of our authors and vendors by phone. It's fun being in the 4/A group. Let's get our careers in gear and start the balls rolling people. We miss all who have quit or have gone to the opposite side.

The TRUE 4/A'ers are getting or have gotten so disgusted because they can't get the help they need. Our "old timers", as they put it are burned out or completely out. They come just to help the group keep going and the fellowship. The decisions that have to be made aren't the easy ones to make at all. You step on toes no matter what you do.

For our NEW MEMBERS and also as well of our old members we need to show them "HOW TO", do the things. Am I the ONLY ONE who really, really cares?

Sorry about the SOAP BOX but this is my heart talking. Ever since I made the announcement about not running for President next year it seems people are losing interest. Come on people, so I push, so my jaws go 90 miles an hour for the 4/A that's because I BELIEVE in what I'm doing for "YOU PEOPLE", I CARE!!!

My heart is sad because I see what is happening in front of my eyes. I love ALL OF YOU far and near and will still be in the group in the years to come. I believe in YOU!! If anyone has any questions or wants to talk to me or even write to me PLEASE do so. You can reach me though the group at P.O. Box 29863, Dallas, Texas 75229 or I can be reached on the TIBBS (214) 233-1750 or even at home (214) 637-4937. Do I have any takers on this subject? Let me hear from you. THANK YOU and to ALL "KEEP ON COMPUTIN".

UPDATING THE DATABASE . . .

by Charlice Althar



We're delighted to receive several DTHCG RENEWALS this month. DANNY THOMAS got back to us this month, we'd been missing him! And then PHIL MYRO and JIM STEWART renewed their memberships, too. Thanks, to all of you!

Visiting us again at INFOMART this month was LENDELL JONES, from Lancaster. Hey, LENDELL, how about joining our group?

We've also updated our listing for IMOGENE OSBORN, who has returned to the "high country" until cooler weather returns to Texas. We'll miss you, IBO, and hope you'll send us some more of your "Colorado Comments" while you and Carl are gone.

SSSTICKING KKKKEYS? INTERMITTENT LOCK-UPS?

DTHCG has replacement keyboards and grom ports which can resolve many problems such as those above. We also have sets of half-height drives with cables, and other replacement parts, as well as floppy disks in colors or beautiful black. Ask any DTHCG officer or chairperson for help!

NEXT STEP REPORT

by Charlice Althar



This month's NEXT STEP was held July 23 at JOJO's. We were pleased to see SHARON and JOHN CREVISTON, we'd been missing them lately.

Our ever-faithful JIM LESHAR brought and set up his system, and MATTIE did some disk copying, including the new "Latest and Greatest" for the group. ROBERT JONES modified JIM's "FACE" program which was published in our July newsletter. We had a lively discussion about various printers, and ways of setting the old familiar TI Impact Printer to print different fonts.

What's this we heard about a JOJO's discount coupon in the paper???

We talked about uploading and downloading files, using Fast Term. DAN specially needed help uploading files to Startext containing newsletter articles, as well as possible solutions to a TI-WRITER difficulty he's been experiencing. We discussed DTHCG members we've lost this year, some CCD problems, and the need for volunteers for helping out at INFOMART. In between all this serious work, LOUIS expanded our knowledge about cars having a large "S" painted on the side, talked about vacations taken and planned, and discussed the amount of time which can be consumed in painting a house. Since no gathering of two or more is complete these days without a thorough evaluation of the weather, the condition of yards and gardens with the heat and lack of rain, we covered that subject in depth. And of course, we ate...at least two of us indulged our "sweet tooth", or would that be "sweet teeth"?

All in all, we had a very enjoyable and helpful evening. Wish you'd been there, too. How about joining us Friday, September 3, 5-8 PM, at JOJO's? We'll save you a place!

DTHCG RAFFLE IS COMING!

YES--We're going to have a Raffle! A fantastic Raffle! A complete system, and we DO mean COMPLETE--this system even has a RAM DISK!

This month's "centerfold" has all the details, so pull out the next page. You'll also have Tom Hall's beautifully prepared DTHCG ACTIVITY CALENDAR for the next 6 weeks, with all the events you won't want to miss!



OLD DSK1.

By Dan Lowe



Is it my imagination or just a coincidence that as soon as I start writing articles for this newsletter everyone seems to start leaving town - going on vacations, watching more television, listening to more radio talk shows, going to more movies, visiting neighbors more often, etc. Is it my imagination or is someone out there trying to tell me something? If so, be forewarned that it takes a lot of doing to hurt my feelings (although I WILL TAKE MONEY IN RETURN FOR MY SILENCE). And remember, I told you last time that someone in this group asked me to do this, so if there's anyone to blame, it's THAT person. (Someday I might even reveal the person's name.) But to tell the truth, I really can't blame anyone for going on vacation; even our esteemed President, Mattie Bush, took off for Georgia and Florida. As many of you already know, Mattie is big on family reunions and that's what she said she was doing while wandering around the Southeastern part of the country. I say "wandering" because, would you believe, that she actually got lost and started driving up and down people's driveways and asking "Where am I?" Finally, a state trooper stopped her and asked "Hey Tex, have you all got a problem?" Mattie replied "No, I all ain't got a problem; I'm just trying to find my #\$\$%&* house!" Well, the trooper decided not to arrest her for reckless driveway maneuvering; instead, he aimed her in the right direction (much like you'd aim an unguided missile). And finally, she and Paul arrived at their destination (although Paul was overheard to say "Now I know what Elvis meant by 'All Shook Up'"). Now we know what to give Mattie for Christmas - a compass.

Also on the highways were Greg Justice and family who were also vacationing in Florida (Orlando). Unlike Mattie, they were not the least bit interested in driveways, but rather DisneyWorld, Universal Studios, and the Kennedy Space Center. According to Greg, "We had a blast".



Those of you who missed our last INFOMART meeting (Saturday, 7/10/93) missed out on another super program presented by David Axberg. Actually, it was really two programs; (1) Remind Me, and (2) Schedule Manager. Of the two, my favorite was Remind Me. For me, it means no more missed doctor's appointments, no more marked-up wall calendars, and no more Post-It notes falling to the floor. And, best of all, I now have a sure-fire method of remembering my wife's birthday AND OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. (Wife said it's O.K. to forget the birthday.) As always, Dave gave us another great program; thanks, Dave, from all of us.

And while we're on the subject of the last INFOMART meeting, one of our members was so intent on attending that (let's see now, how can I put this) he failed to see the red signal light. We all had a big laugh when his granddaughter Missy "squealed" on him. What's the old saying..."Out of the mouths of babes..." And Hugh McKnight surprised many of us by the revelation of his talents as an actor. Seems Hugh was a "Kingly" character in the fifth annual presentation of Platinum Follies held June 27th at Brookhaven College. The show was a musical version of Sleeping Beauty (Hugh was not sleeping nor was he the beauty). Guess you never know what hidden talents some of our members have (although I'm sure many of us would do well to keep our hidden talents hidden). Next time, Hugh, let us know in advance so we can all attend and see you on-stage.

It's that time again to start thinking about new officers and chairpersons for 1994. Our President, Mattie Bush, has stated that she does not care to serve another term as president (she's currently finishing her third term as president.) And I agree with Mattie; it's time for someone else to take over the reins of running DTIHCC. So, all you campers reading this should start thinking who you would like to see as president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, member-at-large, and chairpersons. (See inside back cover of this newsletter for listing of offices.) Elections will be held toward the end of this year, and while it may seem a long way off, it's really a good time to start thinking about this NOW. And, if YOU would like to volunteer for a position, please submit your name and position desired to Mattie Bush or Dan Lowe.

Guess you've heard by now that MICROpendium is increasing its subscription rates to \$35.00 per year effective July 31, 1993. According to the publisher, John Koloen, the increase is the result of reduced advertising and increased costs. Since they've not had a price increase since October 1989, I guess it's not too surprising. As for me, since they still print lots of good articles relating to the 99/4A and the Myarc 9640, I will continue my support of this monthly publication.

And last but not least, did you hear about one of our Sterling Members who hasn't been feeling too well lately and went to see the doctor? "Doctor," said Sterling, "I haven't been feeling too well lately, and every time I put on my hat I hear music." "Oh, I know how to remedy that," replied the doctor, "Hand me your hat." So, Sterling gave him his hat and the doctor removed the band.



BEGINNER PRINTER

DOT GRAPHICS 93H—by Jim Leshar



Here is an interesting program Gemini Star had published as a subroutine and then some good and intelligent soul converted it for the 99/4A. Using DOT GRAPHICS and a lot of math, the polygon is very interesting, and if you play around with some of the numbers within the program, you can create some more of your own. But, First I must tell you, it takes about 90 seconds for it to start printing, so be patient. The computer must do a lot of calculating and computing before it can start printing. So to get some interesting effects change the 135 in line 436 to 180. Here are some numbers to give some more shapes. 144, 45, 90, and 120. It is better to use a number which divides evenly into 360, but you can insert any number you wish, to see what it will do. Then after you print those out, change the 45 in line 410 to any number you want. If you like geometrical figures, you will like these. I would really appreciate it if someone would figure out a way to place the shapes further over on the page and also change the size of the figures.

Also would appreciate some other programs to make the printer do some interesting things.

```

10 OPEN #1:"PIO"
20 MAXCOL=75 :: MAXROW=14
30 DIM BIT(75,14)
40 MASK(1)=64 :: MASK(4)=8
50 MASK(2)=32 :: MASK(5)=4
60 MASK(3)=16 :: MASK(6)=2
70 LX=20 :: LY=20
80 LXFAC=72/LX :: LYFAC=87/LY
90 GOSUB 390
100 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"A";CHR$(6)
110 FOR ROW=0 TO MAXROW
120 A$=""
130 PRINT#1:CHR$(27);"K";CHR$(MAXCOL);C
HR$(0)
140 FOR COL=1 TO MAXCOL
150 A$=A$&CHR$(BIT(COL,ROW))
160 NEXT COL
170 PRINT #1:A$;" "
180 NEXT ROW
190 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"2"

```

```

200 END
210 REM
220 XL=X2-X1::YL=Y2-Y1
230 NX=ABS(XL*LXFAC)::NY=ABS(YL*LYFAC)
240 IF NX
250 NS=INT(NX+1)
260 DX=XL/NS::DY=Y1/NS
270 FOR I=1 TO NS
280 X1=X1+DX::Y1=Y1+DY
290 GOSUB 320
300 NEXT I
310 RETURN
320 REM
330 XX=X1*LXFAC::YY=Y1*LYFAC
340 COL=INT(XX)+1
350 ROW=INT(YY/6)
360 XIT=INT(YY-ROW*6)+1
370 BIT(COL,ROW)=BIT(COL,ROW)OR MASK(XIT)
)
380 RETURN
390 REM
400 RAD=9
410 FOR ANG=0 TO 360 STEP 45
420 RANG=ANG*3.14159/180
430 RANG2=(ANG+135)*3.14159/180
440 X1=RAD*COS(RANG)+10
450 Y1=RAD*SIN(RANG)+10
460 X2=RAD*COS(RANG2)+10
470 Y2=RAD*SIN(RANG2)+10
480 GOSUB 210
490 NEXT ANG
500 RETURN

```

Should you need any help call or write to:

Jim Leshner / 722 Huntley, Dallas Tx 75214 / 214-821-9274

**GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FROM
MARY LEARD OR MATTIE BUSH!**



OFFICERS FOR 1993

PRESIDENT	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
TREASURER	Vacant	
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	WILLIE GUPTON	214-375-9575

CHAIRPERSONS FOR 1993

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN	DAVID AXBERG	214-416-3769
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
CCD REPRESENTATIVES	JACKIE & LOUIS GUION	214-239-6829
MERCHANDISE/HARDWARE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
D-O-M CHAIRMAN	RIP & NICOLE DOWLING	817-467-0369
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEXT STEP CHAIRMAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240

LIBRARIANS

CART/TAPE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568
ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822

These people are DTIHCG officers and chairpersons. They help themselves and you, by giving much of their time in working to make this a better club for all of us. They attend the Executive Committee Meeting usually held the Saturday afternoon following the INFOMART meeting. Any interested member is invited to join us for the next Chairperson's portion of the meeting.

If you'd like to become more involved in helping the group, please let our DTIHCG President, Mattie Bush, know what you'd like to do.

Please take the time to thank these people individually for their efforts. It makes their job easier.