

# DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 14, Number 1

January, 1994

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, January 22, 1994  
at the Dallas INFOMART  
I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit



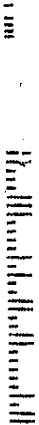
DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP  
P.O. BOX 29863  
DALLAS, TX 75229

\*\*\*ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED\*\*\*



FIRST CLASS

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



## DTIHCG'S JANUARY EVENTS

- 22 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART  
Oak Lawn @ Stemmons  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Program: ROUNDTABLE ON DTIHCG
- 29 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
For all Officers and Chairpersons  
Time and Place to be announced

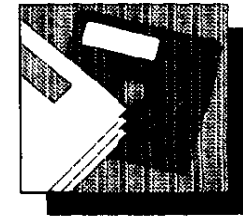


## DTIHCG'S FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 4 NEXT STEP  
JQJO's off Stemmons at  
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 PM
- 4 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE
- 5 First Saturday Sidewalk Sale  
Ross at Central, 5 AM
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 19 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART  
Oak Lawn @ Stemmons  
Time: 9:00 AM  
Program: To be announced
- 21 President's Day
- 26 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
For all Officers and Chairpersons  
Time and Place to be announced
- 27 SPECIAL DTIHCG FAMILY DINNER  
RYAN'S RESTAURANT  
Spring Valley at Marsh Lane  
5:15 PM  
Details elsewhere in this Newsletter

## OLD DSK1.

By Dan Lowe



Welcome to 1994!!!

A new year, a new beginning, time for renewed enthusiasm and optimism for the future and continued growth of DTIHCG. And as the new President of DTIHCG I want to do all that I can to expand and build on the foundation of the group laid by previous Presidents - Doyle Kelley, Bill Kauth, Rod Paulson, Robert Bayne, Richard Roberts, Louis Guion, Rip Dowling, Thierry Weber, and Mattie Bush.

Mattie Bush. . . What can I say! Did you notice that hers was the ONLY female name listed above as one of the past Presidents of DTIHCG? That alone would be an accomplishment but, coupled with the fact that she served three consecutive terms as President - 1991, 1992, and 1993 - speaks volumes about the kind of quality person Mattie is. Commitment, dedication, perseverance, tenacity - all describe Mattie and her many contributions to DTIHCG. And now, along comes Dan, picking up where Mattie left off. I hope I don't insult Mattie when I say . . . "I've got some might big shoes to fill." So, I'll just say "She's going to be a hard act to follow". And I'm sure that I speak for the entire membership of DTIHCG when I say . . . "Thank you Mattie for all you've done, for all your smiles, for all your words of encouragement, for all the late hours you put in and all your behind-the-scene efforts on behalf of the group - THANKS!

I would also like to take this opportunity to say "Thanks" to all of you who had enough confidence in me to cast your vote in my direction. I'm not as experienced (computer literate) as some of the others in the group nor am I politically oriented in any one direction ALL THE TIME. That's just a way of saying I'm always open to change. I do have a strong desire to see DTIHCG grow and evolve into one of the best computer user groups around. I suspect my feelings and motivations are probably due, in large part, to my association with the other members of our group. Like Will Rogers once said . . . "I've never met a person I didn't like." That's the way I feel about DTIHCG; everyone is always so friendly and helpful - we're probably as much a "family" as we are a user group. So, I'm hoping that what I lack in "technical expertise" I can make up for in enthusiasm, resourcefulness, and new ideas and projects for the group.

Those of you who already know me know that I'm no spring chicken (my gray hair always gives me away). And those of you who don't know me, well, no great loss. I retired from Texas Instruments Inc. in March of 1990 after 31 years, 3 months.

And before that, I worked for Chance Vought Aircraft (Grand Prairie), and before that, I worked for General Electric in New York. All of my working experience has been in the field of technical publications. I share this bit of background trivia so that you'll know that, basically, I'm a "publicator" and not a "techie."

And while we're on the subject of new faces, how about a round of applause and congratulations to all the new officers and chairpersons for 1994: Tom Hall, Vice-President; Mattie Bush, Treasurer; Charlice Althar, Secretary; DOM Chairman, Jim Lesher; Member-At-Large, Imogene Osborn; Newsletter Editor, Charlice Althar, assisted by the Newsletter Committee of Jackie and Louis Guion, Jim Lesher, and Tom Hall; BBS Sysops, Jacke and Louis Guion; Membership Chairman, Mary Leard; Disk Sales, Guy Hunter; Historian, Dan Lowe; Lobby Kiosk, Charlice Althar; Adventure Librarian, Charles Brock; Software Librarian, Robert Watts; and Video Librarian, Robert Smith. These are the folks who will make DTIHCG go in '94, but only with your help, encouragement, and assistance. From time to time you may be called upon to help one of these individuals with a particular task. Please do so as they will need your help and support to make DTIHCG go! So, at our next meeting (Saturday, January 22, 1994) why not go up to one or more of these fine folks and shake their hand, pat em on the back, and say . . . "Call on me if you need any help." And best of all, it won't cost you a thing.

Our first program for 1994, ROUNDTABLE, will be a general discussion (some call it "Brainstorming") of DTIHCG - where we've been, where we are now, and where do we go from here. While I was still working at TI, we used to call these sessions PSGS (Problem Solving, Goal Setting). I'm a strong believer in setting goals; otherwise, how can we know where we're going or where we WANT to go? This will be your chance to sound off - EVERYONE will want to participate by voicing ideas, complaints, suggestions for improvement, new concepts and ways to stimulate interest and enthusiasm - ANYTHING that will help the DTIHCG in 1994. (I already have some ideas, but I'll save them for the meeting.) So, come prepared to put your two cents worth in; your grips, praises, and kudos. And most especially we need your inputs regarding what kind of programs you would like to see presented in 1994; maybe you'd like to see one repeated or maybe a new one. A.so, what can we do to get more of our membership to come to our meetings; if you have any suggestions, let's hear them.

AND, mark your calendars for the big, upcoming DTIHCG feed fest to be held on Sunday, February 27th, 1994 at Ryan's, located in North Dallas at the corner of Spring Valley and Marsh Lane. If you like to eat, you'll like Ryan's (trust me). (For more details, see Mattie Bush's article elsewhere in this newsletter.)

So, in closing, let me remind you again of our next meeting; it will be held on Saturday, 22 January 1994, in room 1061 at the Infomart. This will be our FIRST meeting of 1994, so let's have a BIG turnout and get the new year off to a great start!!

DAN LOWE, President




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## NEXT STEP

Due to the holidays, we missed having a NEXT STEP following our December INFOMART meeting. But we WILL have one following our January meeting, although it won't technically fall in the month of January. Due to the meeting date, our NEXT STEP will be on February 4, held as usual at JOJO's just off I-35E at the Motor St. exit, starting at 5:15 PM. We'll be looking for you!

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## OUR SYMPATHY...

All DTIHCG members join in extending our heartfelt expressions of sympathy to Louis and Jackie Guion and their son, Louis IV, on the death of Louis' father, Louis I. Guion Jr. of Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Guion passed away January 1 following a brief illness. Memorial services were held at Grace Episcopal Church in Canton, Mississippi on January 4. Louis, Jackie, and Louis IV, the flowers you received were but a visual expression of our thoughts that are with you and your family at this time.



## DTIHCG PROFILE

by Mattie Bush



Mary Leard has been a dedicated member of the DTIHCG since February, 1990. She is currently the group's Membership Chairperson, which she has held for three years. She has been the Hardware/Merchandise Chairperson for 2 years plus. Mary has expertise in using TI-WRITER and FUNNELWEB plus many, many more. She is great with PAGE PRO. She helps all of club members who ask her, too.

Mary was born in Spring Valley, Texas and came to Dallas in 1951. She has 2 sons and 4 daughters and lots of grandchildren. She currently lives in the country at Terrell, Texas with husband Tom.

Mary is retired from Texas Instruments of 25 years. She was an electronic assembler there. Mary is real familiar with the TI-99/4A system. She taught herself "how to use her system", because it was long distance for her to call Dallas. She got a metro number and it opened her world to get in touch with the group's members for extra help on what she didn't understand. All of her correspondence is done on the 4A. She makes her own label designs for her letterheads and for her labels. "In addition Mary loves to do T-shirts and she uses her graphics and transfers them into patterns for these shirts.

As for non-work related activities Mary uses her 4A for pleasure, personal correspondence, for record keeping, and her grandchildren loves to play games. Mary will tell you that this is the ONLY COMPUTER for her.

About DTIHCG Mary loves the friendship and the help between all the members are wonderful. She loves it when we exchange ideas and discuss the new software and hardware that is out on the market today.

In closing Mary loves her hobby of "The TI-99/4A World, her T-shirts, and refinishing old antiques". Mary encourages everyone, especially the new members, how easy it is to learn the 4A and to go to the meetings.

We were all beginners at once, and the people in this group are an unusual group of people. Mary loves being in the group and wants the TI-99/4A to LIVE FOREVER. EVERYONE AGREES, MARY, "FOREVER".

## DTIHCG ANNUAL DINNER

That's right folks! The annual DTIHCG DINNER will be held on Sunday night, February 27, 1994, at RYAN'S, 14450 Marsh Lane @ Spring Valley in Addison. This is an ALL YOU CAN EAT dinner.

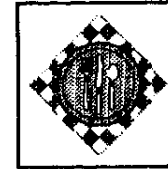
We will ALL meet in the private dining area before going thru the line, so we can go together as a group. DTIHCG will be paying for the dinner and we need an RSVP from each of you attending the dinner, and there will be a \$5.00 deposit fee which will be returned to you upon arriving at the dinner.

We need to know how many adults and children will be attending, and the ages of the children especially. This is so we can get appropriate seating arrangements.

The time of arrival should be a little before 5:30 p.m., and it will end at 8:30 p.m. Again, PLEASE SEND your RSVP and your \$5.00 refundable deposit (per family) to the DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP, P.O. BOX 29863, DALLAS, TEXAS 75229, to the ATTENTION of Mattie Bush for your reservations. I need all this before the 23rd of February to turn in the count.

Looking forward for a very wonderful evening of dining with all. SEE YOU THERE.

Mattie Bush  
Treasurer



## UPDATING THE DATABASE...

by Charlice Althar

RAYMOND BOUSKA became a new member of DTIHCG at our December INFOART meeting and almost immediately performed his first service to the group—he drew the ticket that belonged to STEVEN THOMASON as the winner of the Raffle for the complete TI-99/4A system. Welcome, RAYMOND, and we hope you'll volunteer to help DTIHCG in many other ways in the months ahead!










Our mailbox had several RENEWALS in it again this month. Many thanks to WILLIE GUPTON, CHESTER JOHNSON, HUGH MCKNIGHT, DAVE NOBLE, PHIL SMITH (after a long absence!), and ROBERT WATTS. We're delighted to have you all continue your DTIHCG memberships.



# DTIHCG ACTIVITIES

January 16 - February 26, 1994

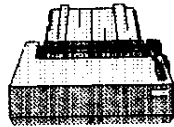


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18	Jan 19 ● FQ	Jan 20	Jan 21	Jan 22 <b>SUPER SATURDAY</b> 9:00a Roundtable 1:00p EC Meeting 
<b>WALKING IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION</b>						
Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27 ○ FM	Jan 28	Jan 29 <b>CONFEDERATE HERITAGE DAY</b>
<b>New Year's Resolution for 94 - STAY ALIVE</b>						
Jan 30 The BLUEBONNET is TEXAS' State Flower.	Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3 ● LQ	Feb 4 <b>NEXT-STEP</b> 5:15p Jo-Jo's on Motor Street 10:00p NEWSLETTER D/L	Feb 5 <b>1st SATURDAY SIDEWALK SALE</b> 
<b>RE-NEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1994</b>						
Feb 6  Jim Leshar is our Resident TI99/4a Dealer	Feb 7	Feb 8 Please Don't Drink and Drive	Feb 9	Feb 10 ● NM	Feb 11	Feb 12
Feb 13	Feb 14  Valentine's Day	Feb 15 	Feb 16 Ash Wednesday	Feb 17	Feb 18 ● FQ	Feb 19 <b>SUPER SATURDAY</b> 9:00a Meeting 
Feb 20 <b>JACKIE GUION IS A KEY MEMBER</b> 	Feb 21 President's Day	Feb 22  Washington's Birthday	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25 ○ FM	Feb 26 <b>EC MEETING</b> 

HAVE YOU CALLED THE 99'er TODAY? (214) 233-1750 - 24 HOURS

## BEGINNER PRINTER

### DALLAS TI CALENDAR



LOOKING BEYOND the Christmas holidays, we start thinking about the next year's calendar. Here is a program I found in a disk of calendar programs, which will be January's DOM. The author is unknown.

This calendar program prints out 4 months per 8 1/2 X 11 page with a header with the name, "DALLAS TI 99/4A HOME COMPUTER GROUP" on each page. This is a no frills clean cut compact calendar which can surely find a place in your computer room for easy access. If you wish, you can go into line 250 and change the header to anything you wish. For example, a personalized calendar for a friend or relative with their name in place of the DTIHCG and on colored paper would be very attractive.

The program used to make the centerfold calendar is too large for this newsletter, but will be included in the January DOM as well as this one below.

```

100 @-1 :: OPTION BASE 1 ::
OPEN#0:"PIC" :: CALL CLEAR :
: DIM A$(19),B$(2,19),C$(12
),A(12) :: C$(1)-" JANUARY "
:: C$(2)-"FEBRUARY" :: C$(3)
-" MARCH " :: C$(4)-" APR
IL "
110 C$(5)-" MAY " :: C$(
6)-" JUNE " :: C$(7)-" JU
LY " :: C$(8)-"AUGUST "
120 C$(9)-"SEPTEMBER" :: C$(
10)-" OCTOBER " :: C$(11)-"
NOVEMBER" :: C$(12)-"DECEMBE
R "
130 FOR B=1 TO 12 :: READ A(
B) :: NEXT B
140 DATA 31,28,31,30,31,30,3
1,31,30,31,30,31
150 DIM C(20)
160 FOR B=1 TO 20 :: READ C(
B) :: NEXT B

```

```

170 DATA 4,5,6,0,2,3,4,5,0,1
,2,3,5,6,0,1,3,4,5,6
180 A$(1)-CHR$(095)&RPT$(CHR
$(095),35) :: D$=" "CHR$(
(245)::A$(2)-CHR$(245)&D$&D$
&D$&D$&D$&D$&D$ :: A$(3)-A$(
2)
190 D$-RPT$(CHR$(095),4)&CHR
$(095) :: A$(4)-CHR$(245)&D$
&D$&D$&D$&D$&D$
200 FOR B=5 TO 19 :: A$(B)-A
$(B-3) :: NEXT B
210 INPUT "ENTER YEAR(1985-2
000)":E$ :: D=VAL(E$)-1980 :
: IF D>0 AND D>21 AND D =INT
(D)THEN 230
220 PRINT :: "Has to be a NU
MBER " :: PRINT "from 1985
TO 2000" :: :: GOTO 210
230 E=C(D) :: IF D=4 OR D=8
OR D=12 OR D=16 OR D=20 THEN
A(2)=29
240 PRINT "Be certain printe
r is ":"ready, then press
" : "ENTER to print calenda
r " :: INPUT F$ :: PRINT :
: PRINT "(LINE 240) --- The
P L U S ! Yearly Calendar":
: : : :: FOR F=0 TO 2
250 PRINT #0:CHR$(14);CHR$(2
7);"E":: PRINT #0:" DALLAS
TI 99/4A HOME COMPUTER GROUP
":CHR$(14);CHR$(27);CHR$(
00);
260 PRINT #0:"
":1980+D
270 FOR G=@ TO 2 :: PRINT #0
:"" :: NEXT G :: FOR H=(@+F*
4)TO (3+F*4)STEP 2
280 FOR G=@ TO 2 :: PRINT #0

```

C

A

L

E

N

D

A

R

S

```

:"" :: NEXT G :: PRINT #@:CH
R$(14);CHR$(27);CHR$(69) :::
PRINT #@:" ";C$(H);"
";C$(H+@):: PRINT #@:CH
R$(27);CHR$(70)
290 FOR B=@ TO 19 :: B$(@,B)
-A$(B) :: B$(2,B)-A$(B) :: N
EXT B
300 FOR G=@ TO @ :: PRINT #@
:"" :: NEXT G :: FOR I=@ TO
A(H :: J-(E+I-@)/7 :: K= INT
((J+.0001-INT(J))*7):: L=INT
(J):: G$=SEG$(STR$(I),@,2) :
: IF LEN(G$)-@ THEN G$=G$&"
.
310 B$(@,2+L*3)-SEG$(B$(@,2+
L*3),@,@+K*5)&G$&SEG$(B$(@,2
+L*3),4+K*5,80) :: NEXT I ::
M=INT(((A(H)/7)-INT(A(H)/7)+
.0001)*7)
320 E=INT(((E+M)/7-INT((E+M)
/7)+.0001)*7) :: FOR I=@ TO
A(H+@) :: J=(E+I-@)/7 :: K =
INT((J+.0001-INT(J))*7) :: L
=INT(J) :: G$=SEG$(STR$(I),@
,2) :: IF LEN(G$)-@ THEN G$=
G$&" .
330 B$(2,2+L*3)-SEG$(B$(2,2+
L*3),@,@+K*5)&G$&SEG$(B$(2,2
+L*3),4+K*5,80) :: NEXT I ::
M=INT(((A(H+@)/7)-INT(A(H+@)
/7)+.0001)*7)
340 E=INT(((E+M)/7-INT((E+M)
/7)+.0001)*7) :: PRINT #@:CH
R$(27);CHR$(69)::: PRINT #@:
" SUN MON TUE WED THU F
RI SAT SUN MON TUE
WED THU FRI SAT"
350 FOR B=@ TO 19 :: PRINT #
@:" ";B$(@,B);" ";B$(2,B):

```

1994

~~JANUARY~~

MONDAY

AUGUST

FRIDAY

JULY

APRIL

TUESDAY

MARCH

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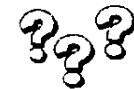
: NEXT B
360 FOR G=@ TO 4 :: PRINT #@
:"" :: NEXT G :: NEXT H :: F
OR G=@ TO 2 :: PRINT #@: " " :
: NEXT G :: NEXT F :: CLOSE
#@ :: STOP

```

Should you need any help call or write to:

Jim Leshar / 722 Huntley / Dallas TX 75214 / or call 214-821-9274

THE WINNING NUMBER IS?



On December 11, 1993 the drawing was held for the system that we raffled. It was won by one of our NEW members of one month, STEVEN THOMASON of Haslet, Texas. Yes, that's right folks, Steven won the system with the winning number of 16.

Our winning number was drawn by another NEW MEMBER of only a few minutes, Raymond Bouzka. When I called, Steven and his wife Ann were out of town and I talked to their son Alex. When I told Alex that his dad had won the complete system, he said "I get his old system now". Steven was very excited when he gave me a call.

On January 1, Steven and his wife Ann had been to First Saturday and they stopped by and picked up the system and they were both amazed how much equipment there was. He said Christmas was good. He couldn't wait to get home to Haslet and get started putting it together. He will be doing a TI Bulletin Board for the Ft. Worth area.

It really made me feel great to see his face like a bright light being turned on. The smiles and the excitement there was. I felt real glad to get another 4A system into use. Steven was amazed at how much there was in the boxes. He thought it was just what was mentioned in the newsletter.

This raffle was made possible by a very longtime member, Rip Dowling, who donated his entire setup. Steven said "THANK YOU". It will be put to very good use and what a treat it will be for Steven when he gets it ALL together and starts the use of it.

Again, CONGRATULATIONS to STEVEN THOMASON of Haslet, TX. SEE YOU SOON.

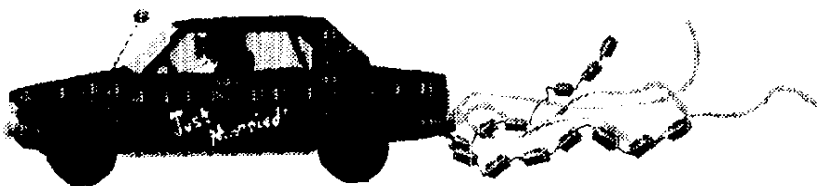
## **FAIRWARE, SHAREWARE AND FREEWARE**

These terms are not fully understood by everyone. These terms refer to software that is NOT Public Domain. Any Computer software that is "released to the Public Domain" is the only software that should be deemed free to users. Fairware, Shareware, or Freeware are all similar terms that mean the user is obligated to send the authors a contribution. Inasmuch as very few authors ask for much in the way of a donation, the user should take this obligation seriously. If you don't use the product, that is another matter. The authors often ask you to pass it on, gratis, if you aren't using it. It is the Ultimate User that owes the author something. TI-99/4A user groups are often complimented for what nice people belong to the group. But if one reads what some of the authors say, they get VERY LITTLE in the way of royalties or donations from users. It is not known how many users DO NOT PAY the authors, nor how many users fail to follow the author's request (if they do not use it) that they pass the program along to some one else who can use it. Procrastinating in sending the author his due, rather than intentional avoidance, is probably the main reason more users do not send in their money. I thought it worth mentioning this topic so that others who might possibly also be confused with these terms Fairware, Shareware, and Freeware, might be updated. If Santa Claus was very good to you this past Christmas, perhaps you can reach DEEP into your pockets and send the authors what you owe. Where would we, that is the TI WORLD be if we did not have these many, many hardworking authors? The only way they know you is if they receive a THANK YOU (with their requested fee)!

We need these people to stay ALIVE in the TI-99/4A WORLD. So won't you give today for these very fine programs. THANK YOU.

## **WEDDING BELLS RING FOR DTIHCG MEMBERS**

Our own ROBERT SMITH of Carthage, Texas wed BERTHA MESTANZA of Equitos, Peru on Friday, December 31, 1993, in Carthage. Many of us have come to know BERTHA since her arrival here, as she has attended many DTIHCG meetings at INFOMART as well as NEXT STEP meetings with ROBERT. We all join in wishing you both the very best, ROBERT and BERTHA! We hope you'll be at our next meeting and share all the details with us!



## **1994 OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-837-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
TREASURER	MATTIE BUSH	214-837-4937
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	IMOGENE OSBORN	214-252-5985

## **1994 CHAIRPERSONS**

BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
DOM CHAIRMAN	JIM LESHAR	214-821-9274
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBERSHIP CHARMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	JIM LESHAR	214-821-9274

## **1994 LIBRARIANS**

ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	ROBERT WATTS	214-353-9824
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568

These are your DTIHCG Officers and Chairpersons. They help themselves and you by giving their time and efforts to make this a better club for all of us. If you'd like to become more involved, please let our President, Dan Lowe, know what you'd like to do.

Please take the time to thank these people individually for their efforts. It makes their jobs more rewarding.