



SASKATOON
TEXAS
INSTRUMENTS
COMPUTER
CLUB

NEWSLETTER
NEXT GENERAL MEETING AT:
SASKATOON REGIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
ROOM 114, 145 1ST AVE. N., 7:00PM

JUL 8TH, 1985
AUG 12TH, 1985
SEPT 9TH, 1985

WE DISCUSS AND REVIEW NEW PRODUCTS FOR THE TI 99, WHILE PROVIDING TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR ANY PROBLEMS THAT A MEMBER MAY HAVE. WE ALSO SUPPORT A SOFTWARE LIBRARY AND HAVE REGULAR CONTACTS WITH OTHER GROUPS IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES. OUR MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE VERY REASONABLE FROM \$10.00/SINGLE TO \$12.00/FAMILY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OR REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

FRANCIS X. GASTON 978-0182
DEAN JAMIESON 373-3548
HARRY CARUK 244-8379
KEN READ 384-2844 (BBS)

1985 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: FRANCIS X. GASTON 978-0182
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STICC BBS

OUR BBS IS OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DAILY MAINTENANCE), AND CAN BE CONTACTED AT (306) 384-2844. KEN READ IS OUR SYSTEMS OPERATOR, AND BARRING ANY PROBLEMS, CAN ALSO BE REACHED AT 382-2527 (VOICE). THE SYSTEM OPERATES AT SEVEN BITS, EVEN PARITY, AND ONE STOP BIT.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELD, NEXT THING TO BEING THERE. (THERE GOES OUR DISCLAIMER!!!).

EDITORIAL

Agghhh!!! Please read the next page as to the reason for this outburst.

Well, after over a year of speculation, it is finally confirmed: The so called 99/4 Home Computer Users Group Inc., also known as International 99/4 Users Group, IUG, The LaFara Publishing Company, Lapubco.. has finally declared BANKRUPTCY!! (see attached notification). Boy am I peeved!!! You see, I naturally paid them for membership status just before they started having problems. Although this would not have been enough to really get me hopping mad, it was the matter that they owe me an Editor/Assembler package and some other software items which I had ordered. (at last years prices yet!!!). Which brings up some points worth pondering: How can a company, with over 12,000 members (my number is around 12,400) go bankrupt? With a capital of over \$200,000 in just membership fees alone, I find this rather hard to believe. Not only that, but they sold hardware and software (TI, Third Party, and Owner written). From the last notes, they had just purchased a mainframe, and apparently increased

IN RE:

99/4 HOME COMPUTER USERS-GROUP, INC
P.O. BOX 67
BETHANY , OK 73008

ID NUMBERS
73-1100538 /
73-1199710

OTHER NAMES USED:
INTERNATIONAL 99/4 USERS-GROUP
THE LA FARA PUBLISHING COMPANY
LAPUBCO

ORDER FOR MEETING OF CREDITORS, COMBINED WITH NOTICE THEREOF AND OF AUTOMATIC STAY

To the debtor, his creditors and other parties in interest:

An order for relief under 11 U.S.C. Chapter 7 having been entered on a petition filed by (or against) the above named debtor on

IT IS ORDERED, AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT: JUNE 14, 1985

1. A meeting of creditors pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §341(a) shall be held at

POST OFFICE BLDG. R721 DATE
201 DEAN A. MCGEE AVENUE FLOOR 7 JULY 18, 1985
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102 HOUR
9:00 A.M.

2. The debtor shall appear in person (or, if the debtor is a partnership, by a general partner, or, if the debtor is a corporation, by its president or other executive officer) at that time and place for the purpose of being examined.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED THAT:

The meeting may be continued or adjourned from time to time by notice at the meeting, without further written notice to creditors.

At the meeting the creditors may file their claims, elect a trustee as permitted by law, elect a committee of creditors, examine the debtor, and transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

As a result of the filing of the petition, certain acts and proceedings against the debtor and his property are stayed as provided in 11 U.S.C. §362(a).

Unless the court extends the time, any objection to the debtor's claim of exempt property (schedule B4) must be filed within 30 days after the conclusion of the meeting of creditors or the date of the filing of any amendment to the list of exempt property.

NOTE: THE TRUSTEE WILL CONSIDER ABANDONMENT OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE AT THE MEETING OF CREDITORS. ALL CREDITORS SEEKING ABANDONMENT OF PROPERTY BY THE TRUSTEE SHOULD APPEAR AND PRESENT THEIR ORIGINAL PAPERS. ALL PROPERTY ARE THAT IS OF INCONSEQUENTIAL VALUE WILL BE ABANDONED BY THE TRUSTEE, UNLESS CREDITORS OR PARTIES IN INTEREST, OBJECT AT THE MEETING.

THE LAST DAY FOR FILING A COMPLAINT TO THE DISCHARGE OF THE SAID DEBTOR(S) AND TO DETERMINE THE DISCHARGEABILITY OF ANY DEBT PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. 523 AND 727 IS NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS FOLLOWING THE FIRST DAY SET FOR THE MEETING OF THE CREDITORS HELD PURSUANT TO 341 (A). IF NO COMPLAINT TO THE DISCHARGE OF THE DEBTOR(S) TO DETERMINE DISCHARGEABILITY OF A DEBT IS FILED ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DAY FIXED, THE DEBTOR(S) WILL BE GRANTED A DISCHARGE AND THE DEBTS MAY BE DISCHARGED. IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE AGGREGATE GROSS VALUE OF THE NON-EXEMPT PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE IS LESS THAN \$2500, THEN THE TRUSTEE MAY GIVE NOTICE OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SALE OF PROPERTY AT THE MEETING, IF NO OBJECTIONS, THE TRUSTEE MAY PROCEED WITH SALE.

ATTORNEY FOR DEBTOR:
GARY M DAWSON
500 COLCORD DRIVE
OKLA CITY OKLA 73102
405-236-5400

APPOINTED INTERIM TRUSTEE:
GUILFORD J. HAGMANN
615 N. E. 18TH STREET
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105
405-524-5997

FAILURE OF THE DEBTOR AND HIS OR HER ATTORNEY TO APPEAR AT THE SCHEDULED MEETING OR FILE STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS & SCHEDULES PRIOR TO THE MEETING OF CREDITORS MAY RESULT IN SANCTIONS.

SPECIAL NOTICE It appears from the schedules of the debtor that there are no assets from which any dividend can be paid to creditors. It is unnecessary for any creditor to file his claim at this time in order to share in any distribution from the estate. If it subsequently appears that there are assets from which a dividend may be paid, creditors will be so notified and given an opportunity to file their claims.

JUN 24 1985

DATE:

FOR THE COURT
WALTER W. MOUNTS, CLERK
BY: *Elaine Featherly*, DEPUTY

their staff (and also their salaries). Boy oh boy... if ever I see Charles LaFara, I surely would give him my two cents worth of argument.

Now that I have vented my frustrations, let me just say that the service that IUG had given up to that point was definitely first class. They produced an outstanding, and still the very best magazine (Enthusiast) that I have ever seen for our machine. The articles were very well written and the format easy on the eyes. Glossy colored pictures and illustrations greatly assisted this and I would have gladly paid my membership fee for just this service alone. Many who have membership or have seen their efforts can also account for the same praise.

During the hiatus after that point though, I had sent many a letter to Charles LaFara to make inquiries about their problems. I also indicated my support in assisting the "club" out of its predicament. But alas, no reply from Mr. LaFara. I can only say "So long, and thanks for all the fish".

I wonder if many will show up in Oklahoma for the Bankruptcy hearing?? I know I would if I lived nearby!!!!

Xavier -

MORE TRASH
from - MICROPENDIUM

TI has apparently trashed its remaining inventories of cartridge based software. Reports are that a number of railroad cars were seen leaving Lubbock, Texas, with the remains of tens of thousands of smashed modules. The train is bound for Providence, Rhode Island, where the cartridge are to be buried.

TC-99/9
MICROPENDIUM

A TI 99/4A compatible coputer have been announced by Tex Comp Users Supply Company of Granada Hills, California. They were shown at the Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago. The design is based on the IBM PC like enclosures. There are three configurations of the compatibles: TC-1, TC-2, and TC-3.

TC-1: heavy duty regulated fan cooled power supply, two double sided, double density half height drives, and a rear panel of six surge and spike protected electrical outlets, each controlled by a switch on the front panel. Retail is \$450.00 (us).

TC-2: CorComp 9900 system and TE speech synthesizer built

in along with the features of the TC-1. Retail \$750.00(us)

TC-3: upgraded TC-2 with 128K ram and buffer board added. Retail is \$875.00(us).

The TC-99/9 is basically the TC-3 128K with modified 40/80 column TI processor board and designed to accept the new Wico smart keyboard which has a 10 key pad and built in Track ball. It is 128K fully compatible and with a color monitor, retailing in the \$1,300 - 1,500 range (us.).

Pictures of the units in the June 85 issue of Micropendium.

TID BITS

- Items are still available at Super Valu: ie. cassette and monitor cables can be bought at the 8th street location. Also Radio Shack have various items for sale (!!) such as keyboards for \$5.95 and power supplies, etc. Lots more!

- MBP is now offering an improved PCB kit which provides your PEB with a real time clock/calendar and 8 channels of analog input capability. The kit includes a printed circuit board, assembly manual, and a disk with demonstration programs. The cost is \$41.50 (us) including shipping. They also offer all of the parts to use with the kit for an additional \$41.50 (us). You can call Wichita Tibbs at (316) 681-3167 (3/1200) for additional information, free application programs and order form.

- Home Computer Magazine is now available at the Book Nook and Coles.

-Subfiles 99 is back on line with some assembly language subroutines on the SOURCE.

- Have a basic program too large to run with disk drives attached? Then try the following: Plug in Mini Memory and load the program in basic. Type in SAVE EXPMEM, then CALL LOAD (-31888,63,255). Then type in NEW, OLD EXPMEM, and RUN the program. You are saving the program into memory expansion, fooling the computer into thinking the disk drives are not hooked up, then reloading the program. If still memory full, then sorry. You can get the drives back by typing in CALL LOAD (-31888,55,215).

- John Behnke of 5755 W. Grace, Chicago, Illinois 60634 has developed a new game for the Tunnels of Doom Cartridge. The game is called "Tomb of Death" and sells for \$8 (us) on disk or cassette. Documentation and game background are included in printed or electronic format. New spells, monsters, weapons, graphics, and quest items are to be found. A Tunnels of Doom cartridge is needed.

- John also has written a new program which is FREE for the Tunnels of Doom. It will be placed as FREeware, meaning that you give him what you think the program is worth. Other rumours has it that TI has release other Tunnels of Doom games from its archives. Well so much for support.

- Need to start over? From Central Iowa UG of Des Moines. CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD (-31962,255) will look for a LOAD program in the disk drives, if none then return to the extended basic screen.

- Have you tried Shift 8 (*) on the Burgertime cartridge?

- From Northern Alabama 99 Comp UG, Huntsville, BAR
CHART: 100 call clear 110 for set = 1 to 31 step 2 120 call color(set/2,8,8) 130 a = int(rnd)+1 140 call vchar(25-a, set, set * 8 +31, a) 150 call vchar(24-a, set + 1, set * 8 + 31, a) 160 next set 170 for x=1 to 16 180 call color(x,x,x) 190 next x 200 goto 200

- From Delaware Valley UG, Wilmington. SOUNDS 100 call sound(110,262,1) ... (110,330,1)... (110,392,1)... (298,523,1)

- Try CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD (-31866,33,0) then do a SIZE command.

- Be a Junkie!!! (Hardware that is). Wiring diagrams, diagnostic procedures, parts lists, etc. are available from Sams and Co., 4300 west 62nd street, PO Box 7092; Indianapolis, In 46206, USA. Quote #8901 and for a price of \$19.95 (us).

- The latest from TINS on Mark Evans (UMBBS fame) is that he has converted and sold his creation to Manitoba Tel for \$15,000. Rumored to have a BBS through Datapac with 10 input lines for a cost of \$1.50 per hour. Available nationally (and hopefully internationally!!).

- From Winnipeg: Borland intl. will be producing a version of Turbo Pascal for the TI. Debut around Christmas '85.

- Need to know what the screens in any of the levels of TI Runner are, then get a hold of our archive library, Winnipeg May 85 issue has the program there.

TI ASSESSED \$12 MILLION
MICROPENDIUM

Texas Instruments Inc. agreed to pay \$12 million to settle a class action suit which claimed that company officers misled investors by not disclosing unfavorable information that led to TI's forecast of a major loss in its home computer business last year. The agreement was reached in early October of 1984.

the suit, brought by the Council on Social Work Education Inc, named TI chairman Mark Sheppherd Jr., chief executive officer J. Fred Bucy, controller Marvin Lane and Jim Fischer, former executive vice president.

The suit alleged that the men knew but failed to tell potential investors that sales of the TI 99/4A were flagging and that profit margins were cut because of price cutting. TI announced June 10, 1983 that it would lose up to \$100 million on its home computer business.

The settlement was filed in the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of Texas. Court approval is still required. A hearing was planned for Jan. 18, 1985.

A TI spokesman said the defendants denied the allegations in the ocmplaint and that the settlement was reached to avoid the expense of litigation and "the diversion of managment time".

Under the settlement, the \$12 million will be distributed to an unknown number of investors TI stock, put and call options between March 1 and June 10, 1983.

TI stock plummeted some \$50 per share within two days of the company's announcement of its anticipated losses, from \$157.75 per share to \$107 per share.

RAM CARD FROM THE SOURCE

An 8K Ram / single stepper board is now being manufactured for the TI 99/4A.

This board provides Ram at >6000 to >8000 (same address as ram in the cartridge port). It may be used for any environment which does not make use of this address space. That means no XB.

This provides DEBUG the capability to single step through code using the "S" command.

The board is powered from the console expansion port. It is an open construction epoxy glass double clad board. It is fully exposed with no case, so you must either add your own case or be very careful in handling.

Two switches.. one to turn it on/off and the other to activate the load interrupt.

It is used to place programs such as DEBUG to examine code in other parts of memory when they are very large or manipulate memory to prevent yo from examining them.

This is a tool for the advanced programmers and you would need a specific application. Price is \$73.00 (us) and info from Chris Caletka, 511 Martha, Eules, Texas 76040, (817) 267-8338 (Specialty Services).

HOT SOFTWARE HOT DEAL

Unisource Electronics has a sale on Microsoft Multiplan for only \$39.95 (us). TI users have used this program for a versatile and powerful spreadsheet program.

It allow you to set up a spreadsheet ot 63 rows by 255 columns. Many arithmetic functions are possible and commands are in plain English. It previously sold in the \$80-90 range. Contact Unisource Electronics, 7006 University, PO Box 64240, Lubbock, Texas 79464, 1-800-858-4580

Databiotics has announced the following:

Bitmac - a graphics program similar to Macpaint \$39.95.

Pilot - a true compiler generates 9900 assembly code with only 8 simple instructions to remember \$19.95

Superdisk - a ram disk for the 99 with basic, xb, and assembly utilities. Faster than a hard disk card for the P-Box. Available in 2nd quarter of 1985. expandable to 512K \$299.95.

Renoir - contains Forth with a graphic generation package in an easy to use cartridge.. \$99.95.

4A/Talk - terminal emulator with te2 transfers and X-MODEM!! protocols. \$19.95.

More info? contact Databiotics, PO Box 1194, Palos Verdes, Ca, 90274.

MY FILL SPACE!!

My aplogise from the last newsletter. I meant to sell one Microsurgeon Module for \$10.00 and not Micropendium!!

We are receiving newsletters from England and Australia now. I can only say that they are very professional. The Australia newsletter is more like a magazine complete with photographs. I will see if I can bring it to the next meeting. Also check our Archives Library for copies at a later date.

The last Toronto newsletter contained a write up from Australia in regards to a 32k expansion built into the console itself!! The schematics and diagnostic also included.

Other hardware modifications will also be received hopefully soon!! Keep your ears open!!!

I need help on some of the above projects and others I have in mind. A specialty group may need to be incorporated within our group to ensure we follow what others are doing!!! Please acknowledge by contacting me at the meeting - Francis.

MY THANKS TO DENNIS HANCOCK FOR THE ARTICLES WHICH HE HAD DOWNLOADED FROM SOURCE. WE WILL HAVE MORE AT A LATER NEWSLETTER.



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T5J 3L1

MAY 19 1985