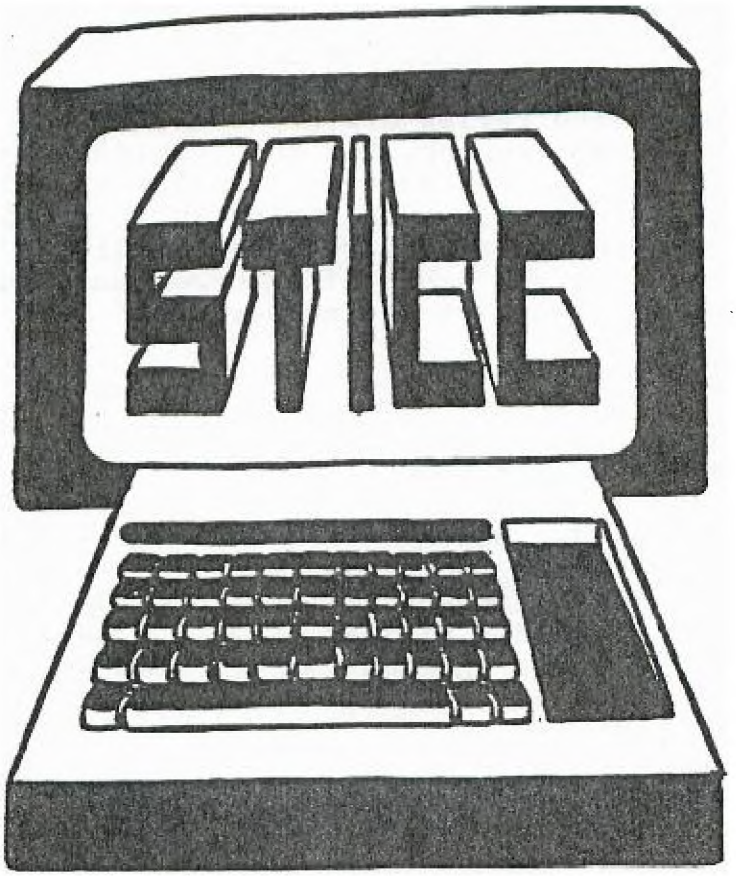

SASKATOON TEXAS INSTRUMENTS COMPUTER CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MAY 1986

SASKATOON TEXAS INSTRUMENTS COMPUTER CLUB

We discuss and review new products for the TI99/4A 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: $10.00/single or $12.00/family. If you would like to become a member, or require more information, contact any member of the executive or call the STICC BBS.

1986 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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SECRETARY:	Randy Mortensen	242-1622
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MAILING ADDRESS

P.O.BOX 7925, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada S7K 4R6

STICC DISCLAIMER

We are a small, nonprofit club here in Saskatoon. We never have, or ever will, consider our newsletter a professional medium in its field. Therefore, with this consideration, the views presented in the articles, by various authors, may not be the views of the newsletter committee, the STICC executive, or its members. On this basis, this club cannot be held responsible for errors, omissions, views, or copy infringements, as presented in the articles.

MEETINGS

General meetings are normally held at 7 PM on the first monday of each month at the Saskatoon Region Community College, 145-1st Avenue North. Any changes in date will be announced in this newsletter. The meeting room number will be posted on a sign at the main entrance. (Usually room 144)

NEXT MEETING: June 2, 1986

Bulletin Board System

There is no longer a TI99 BBS in Saskatoon. What was the STICC BBS is now the Benden Weyr. It may still be reached at (306)384-2844. Ken Read and Colin Hinz are the sysops. This BBS is node 22, net 140, of FidoNet™. Hours of operation are 4AM to 3AM, 7 days/week. 7 bits, even parity, or 8 bits, no parity, and one stop bit. The voice line is 382-2527.

BITS AND BYTES

by F. X. Gaston

Well, I promised you a listing from Databiotics at the last issue. Only problem was that it had not been enclosed. Hopefully this time it made it. Therefore if you are interested in any of their products, ensure you contact me as soon as possible. Already one of our fellow members has taken advantage of their offer and received his package in less than two weeks time. We hope to see a review in this issue (hint, hint...). By the way, he purchased a Superspace. So, anyone else interested?

Some good news, and some bad news. First the bad: Unisource, the second largest TI dealer, has folded. Also if you have been wondering, HCM also has folded and changed hands. I dont really think that this one will be missed. I wonder if it had something to do with lack of advertisement? I have no further news on these so keep your ears open.

My good news is that Myarc finally displayed their new compatible computer at the New England faire. Only problem was that a faulty connector to the monitor prevented its operation. Oh well, back to the drawing board.

Ottawa Users Group and the National Users Association of Canada is having their faire on April 26, Saturday. This will probably be already old news, but then its better than none. Manufacturers who have confirmed their appearance are Myarc, RyteData, Horizons from Ohio, and many others. It is expected that the new computer will be shown, along with a mouse from Germany, and an 80 column card, and other goodies. Busloads of user groups will be arriving from Montreal, Toronto, and other major nearby centres. Some U.S. groups will also be making an attempt to show up. Too bad it is way too far for us. Also making its debut will be Timeline Users group from Montreal. They will have a set up there while also allowing free conference on datapac directly to the show from all over the country. I expect to sign on at this time to receive first hand news on the events. We wish the faire our best of luck. I will send them our best regards on behalf of all of our club.

We have received numerous newsletters lately from the U.S. We thank them for the correspondence. We hope to reciprocate by sending them ours also. As I have observed, there still is a great deal of support for our machine. There are also many innovations for support and new products. Keep it up!

Well, this is all for now. I'll see you on the next one.

[EDITOR'S NOTES]

>> I recently received the "Super Space" module from Data Biotics and it works! I intend to demo it at the May meeting. For an explanation of its features, see the information sheet elsewhere in this newsletter.

Since I have been extra busy at work lately, and will continue to be for some time, I have not done very much with this cartridge. It will become more useful as I learn to write assembly language programs.

Actually, I was more impressed with the demo program that comes with it! This is a bit-mapped graphics program that repeatedly draws different multicolored line patterns across the screen. Since some parameters are chosen randomly, each pattern is different from the preceeding one. A computer kaleidoscope.

It is rather neat to see your own program name listed as an option on the power-up/reset master selection menu!

>> Just another reminder to STICC members that we intend to implement a club programming project. Depending upon the interest shown, it could start this summer, otherwise in the autumn. In any event, please keep your thinking caps on for good ideas.

>> For those of you who own TI Mini-Memory Modules - eventually the battery will run down. Although inexpensive lithium cells are commonly available, they usually do not have the required tabs welded on. To solder directly to a lithium cell is potentially dangerous, as the cell could explode if heated sufficiently. A better idea is to obtain a Sanyo CR2430 cell, with tabs welded on. This is TI part number 1034598-0002 and is available for US$ 2.48 (plus $2 shipping) from TI Repair Centre, Parts Dept., P.O.Box 2500, Lubbock, Texas 79408. (806)741-3064

>> According to an item in the Edmonton UG newsletter, Home Computer Magazine has been sold to another publisher. Apparently the magazine will go back into publication soon, will contain advertising, will continue to feature TI-99/4A, will be called Home Computer Journal, and old subscriptions will be honoured. [I'm glad to hear that, since I bought a three year subscription last year.]

>> FOR SALE: TI99/4A COMPLETE SYSTEM or pieces.
Contact Randy Mortensen [deserter!] at 242-1622.

Console	$ 100
PEB w/Mem Exp/Disk	$ 500
Speech Synth	$ 75
Logo II	$ 100
Mini-Mem	$ 50
Plato	$ 25
Early Reading Fun (speech)	$ 20
Early Logo Learning Fun	$ 20
Household Budget Management	$ 15
Parsec	$ 20
Munchman	$ 20
Football	$ 15
Alpiner	$ 20
Tombstone City	$ 10

DataBioTics, Inc. Announces the Release of

SUPER SPACE

SUPER SPACE is a cartridge based product for the TI-99/4A that contains an Editor/Assembler GROM and an 8K-byte battery backed up RAM. A diskette contains several powerful programs that take advantage of the additional RAM memory in SUPER SPACE. The manual describes the product and the diskette features. The product is available in kit form as well as fully assembled and tested. Assembly instructions, component layout, and parts list for the cartridge are included in the manual. The manual and diskette may be purchased without the cartridge.

The cartridge provides the following features:

1) Editor/Assembler GROM. All features of the Editor/Assembler cartridge are fully functional with SUPER SPACE.

2) 8K-bytes of Expansion RAM in addition to any other expansion RAM on your system. This memory space is fully available to assembly language and console BASIC programs.

3) A built-in battery to preserve the data or programs stored in RAM memory. The battery is socketed for easy replacement.

4) The ability to create your own cartridges. If a GROM header is included with programs stored in the 8K-byte RAM, the programs can be selected from the start-up menu screen just like a normal cartridge program.

The diskette contains the following programs and files:

1) SUPER SPACE Menu Loader. This feature allows you to configure the SUPER SPACE RAM with up to 7 assembly language program names that can be selected from the start-up menu. A BASIC program allows you to initialize the SUPER SPACE RAM with a loader and GROM header template, edit the program names, and reset the computer.

2) Cartridge Vacuum/Loader. This feature allows you to back up your ROM-only cartridges to disk files then load and run them from SUPER SPACE.

3) Bitmap Graphics Demo. The source and assembled object for a bitmap graphics program is included on the diskette. The demo draws lines or circles and allows a screen to be dumped to a graphics printer.

4) Editor/Assembler Utilities. The source for a version of VSBW, VMBW, VSBR, VMBR, VWTR, KSCAN, GPLLNK, and DSRLNK are provided on the diskette. This allows you to write assembly language programs that do not depend on the standard Editor/Asembler utilities being loaded.

5) GROM Header Templates. The source for several GROM header templates is provided to allow the user to easily create cartridge-type programs.

The suggested retail pricing for SUPER SPACE is:

Fully Assembled and Tested ------$49.95
Kit Form----------$42.95
Manual and Diskette Only --------$14.95

DBT

DataBioTics

P.O. Box 1194 • Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274 • USA

DATE: March 28, 1986

TO: All National Advisory Panel (NAP) Representatives

FROM: Mike Evanbar, Marketing Director

SUBJECT: UPDATE on Products, Availability and Benefits of NAP

...First, an update on new products and their availability:

SUPERDISK: A RAM Disk for the TI 99/4A
The DSR is approximately 65% complete. New hardware design is 90% complete and in checkout. It will include a complement of CorComp-type utilities, a print spooler, etc. One will be able to configure the memory to emulate multiple single-sided/single-density or double-sided/double-density disk drives. Basic version is now 512K bytes. Target availability date is 90-120 days from today.

RENOIR: A graphics module employing FORTH
Progress is slowing in final development phase. Target availability date is 3rd quarter of this year.

PILOT: A ...sette-based version generating 9900 assembly code
Development is ...% complete. Manual still needs proofing. Target availability date is 90-120 days from today.

SUPERSPACE: Editor/Assembler with 8K bytes of expansion RAM
There is a built-in battery to preserve data and programs stored in its expansion RAM, which is also fully available to ASSY and console BASIC, giving you the ability to create your own cartridges, and more. It comes with both a cartridge and diskette loader utility demos, program loaders, and other files including source code. AVAILABLE NOW at $49.95.

DISKMASTER I: A new disk manager with unique features
Includes on-screen catalog display of the selected disk; a full-screen editor approach to selecting desired files for delete, copy, move, rename, load & run, and protect (temporary and permanent) operations; ability to print the current screen, catalog or file contents (DIS/VAR 80); and a find file capability. With a single key stroke, up to three of these commands (per file) may be performed automatically. The program also includes the capability to read a specific disk sector, edit it, and then write it back to disk or copy it to other sectors, and much, much more. AVAILABLE NOW at $19.95.

...Next, an apology for the slow NAP order processing you may have experienced. We have been literally swamped with orders and are just now getting our heads above the waterline. But new versions of 4A/TALK, and the new DISKMASTER I and SUPERSPACE continue to keep our manufacturing department in overtime mode, not to mention our beloved product development crew. We continue to ask your patience and hope that any delays are worth their wait.

...New NAP Benefits for all user's groups! NAP representatives, if you send us the name and address of one or more local (or regional) 99/4A dealers, we will arrange with them to sell our products to your group members at discount prices! A special form for this Dealer Discount Program is attached. Please do not forget to include your NAP Number on this or any other correspondence (its on your mailing label).

...To answer your questions regarding our 20%-of-Cost NAP Demo Purchase Plan, all NAP "reps" are entitled to purchase TWO (2) copies of EACH DataBioTics product (hardware and software) at a discount of 80% off the retail price (one for the "rep" and one for the club library). You can place your order(s) at any time and there is no requirement to order all the products at the same time. A current catalog is enclosed to review any products you may have missed. Remember, however, you must include your NAP Number on your order (its on your mailing label). We can accept NAP orders for products that are not yet available; however, we can only promise delivery as products become available on a "first come, first served" basis.

...More marketing news! A suggested retail price reduction on three of our best-liked products. Effective April 1, 1986:

Product	Old Price*	New Price*
MINIWRITER II	$49.95	$39.95
MINIWRITER III	99.95	49.95
SUPERSPACE	64.95	49.95

...New message number for problem resolution is (714) 552-1244 (other numbers are no longer valid). Please limit calls to urgent problems and continue to write to/for other matters.

...Until the next update,

My best regards,

Mike Evanbar

Mike Evanbar
Marketing Director

4A/TALK

...terminal business program with ... [illegible] ... text files of 100 or 1000 Byte 4A/TALK compatible Chess file formats with ... [illegible] ... (3) ENCODE file which will translate any file to any other computer using an ENCODE program. The Terminal Emulator II adds to the protocol which was used in the 11 Hotline Disk Directory function.

For individually owned "remote" modems like the Hayes Micro 103, 4A/TALK is equipped with an automatic dialing function which will redial a number until a connection has been established. In addition to modems, the compliment of 1 million you is displayed including the Novation CAT, the Anchor Automation Mark XII, and the Hayes Micromodem 100. Interfacing with an office such as MICROFILER.

Requirements include at least one disk drive system, 32K memory expansion, RS232 card, and a modem. You will need either the Editor/Assembler, Mini-Memory, Extended Basic module or a CorComp Disk Controller Card.

Product available immediately. Order 8000DTA.

Suggested Retail Price - $39.95

BITMAC

BITMAC is a comprehensive graphics program for the TI-99/4A computer which allows you to easily place "dots" on the screen to any position with a choice of 16 colors. You may perform operations on the whole screen or any part of it. BITMAC also has the ability to save your pictures to disk in a format that is exactly the position you desire.

BITMAC can make "slide presentations" for group meetings, generate charts for the stockholder reports, print commercial-ready art for business advertising, and customize either the Mini-Memory, Editor/Assembler, or Extended Basic modules.

Product available immediately. Order 8000DTA.

Suggested Retail Price - ~~19.95~~ 14.95

RENOIR

A module which couples the FORTH language with a Graphic Construction Package. The Renoir package has a complete set of commands for creating, moving, and deleting objects. Renoir has the ability to use graphics in any desired device.

Product available 4th Quarter, 1985. Order 8000RNR.

Suggested Retail Price - $99.95

Dealers are invited to contact BaseStation for price lists at low volume listed below:

BaseStation, Inc.
P. O. Box 1194
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

MINIWRITER I, II, & III

MINIWRITER is a word processor available in three (3) different options. [illegible] in a cartridge is a powerful word processor for use with the TI-99/4A.

You are able to input printer control commands direct from the keyboard to make the printer do whatever you desire. MINIWRITER uses the same formatting as TI-Writer and displays the codes on the screen. Version III is available in a cartridge and requires only a console and optional printer and cable.

This version includes add/delete characters or lines. Move/copy lines, search, load/save from disk or cassette, print to RS232 or PIO, plus Horizontal tabs, word wrap, automatic use of console (163 lines) or extended memory (396 lines), chain printing of files, block (8) different screen and text colors controlled by function & FCTN D1, and printer with no printer. Will work with any printer with an RS232 connection (or direct Centronics) printer without investing in the expansion system.

Version I was created to be a low cost but powerful word processor for use with Wheelchair. You are able to load printer control commands from disk to make the printer do whatever you desire. Add/delete characters or lines, move/copy lines and load and save on cassette or disk are included. Version I will dump to a printer through the peripheral port.

Suggested Retail Price - MINIWRITER I - $39.95 Order 8000MWI
MINIWRITER II - $49.95 Order 8000MWII
MINIWRITER III - $99.95 Order 8000MWIII

~~49.95~~ AT THIS SHOW 39.95 UNTIL JUNE 15 ~~59.95~~

PILOT

Only eight (8) simple instructions to remember. Anyone can author programs using this language. A true compiler generates 9900 Assembly Code for you. Produce to diskette and requires extended memory.

Product available 4th Quarter, 1985. Order 8000PLT

SUPERDISK

A RAM Disk for the 99/4A. SUPERDISK contains Assembly, Basic, and Extended Basic operable faster than hard disks. Additional functions include a print spooler, screen dump, and many more, write VDP, call catalog, access dump, and scott files. SUPERDISK is a TI RAM card or 32K, expandable to 512K. The fastest advanced technology to afford the ability to place 512K on a 1" by 4" card.

April 1986

Product available ~~1st Quarter, 1985~~. Order 8000SDS

Suggested Retail Price - $295.00

DataBioTics Inc
P. O. Box 1194
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

DISK MASTER I

DISK MASTER I is a powerful new program that can be loaded from BASIC, Extended BASIC, TI-Writer, MINIWRITER, 4A/TALK, or MINIMEMORY. It is compatible with the CorComp disk controller card and will work with any disk drive. Configure Master and the ability to activate all file utilities at the same time, this program is a major advance in computer software.

- CATALOG/COPY/REMOVE/PROTECT/RELEASE/RENAME PRINTOUT - DISK MASTER I allows you to do all of the above functions at the same time. With full screen editing of a catalog listing, it is quite easy to list your fingers do the walking through the command list, then DISK MASTER I does as your assistant, doing the work.

  Note: Additional features are:

  - Protect all diskette files
  - Unprotect all diskette files
  - Copy a file, names the destination name only

- CHANGE COLORS - Change the screen and text colors.
- RECOVER FILE - Recovers a previously deleted file on disk.
- PRINT CATALOG - Prints the disk catalog to a selected printer or disk file. Prints ALL of the catalog in one pass!
- FORMAT A BUNCH - This feature lets you format the amount of disks you specify in a single and easy way.
- LOAD AND RUN ASSEMBLY FILES - This function allows you to load Assembly Language DIS/FIX type files without using the XBAS MEMORY or Editor/Assembler Modules.
- CONFIGURE MASTER - Allows configuring up to 5 disks, and all the other features. Saves the information to disk - if requested.
- COPY DISKETTES - This is a sector for sector copy and it produces an EXACT copy of the master diskette.

  Note: The Disk Copy function writes over information that was on the Copy (destination) Disk.

- REMOVE DISKETTES - You can easily Remove any of your diskettes with this function.
- INITIALIZE DISKETTES - Diskettes may be initialized in any format from Single-sided/Single-density through Double-sided/Double-density (CorComp at 1440 sectors and MYARC at 1280 or 1440 sectors) depending on the type of disk drive.
- DISKETTE TESTS - DISK MASTER I - tests two ways in order to determine if the system or the diskette(s) are good. (1) Read Only non-destructive test. (2) Destructive Write test, all information on the diskettes is lost.
- TEXT MASTER - This feature lets you perform a full screen edit of the selected information. When Edit Master is active, the data can be displayed in HEX or ASCII on the TV or Monitor.

The Suggested Retail Price is $19.95.

Order 8000DSM

DISK MASTER I

DATABIOTICS, INC. P.O. Box 1194, Palos Verdes Estates, Ca. 90274.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip ____

QTY.	ORDER NUMBER	ITEM	TOTAL

Sub Total
Calif. Res. Add 6½%
Shipping & Handling 3.00
Total

NEW HARDWARE FOR THE 99/4A

CorComp has introduced an all new 256K, or 512K, memory expansion card (or stand alone unit) that both replaces the 32K RAM and performs as a RAM disk. It has an external power supply to retain memory. They promise a new line of software including a Data Base Manager, Word Processor, and Spreadsheet. Prices are as follows:

256K PEB CARD	US$ 169.95	PLUS SHIPPING
256K STANDALONE	US$ 249.95	
512K PEB CARD	US$ 229.95	
512K STANDALONE	US$ 269.95	

These items are available from Tex-Comp, P.O.Box 33064, Granada Hills, California 91344. (818)366-6631

Ryte Data are marketing several new items including a TI Mouse, a 128K/512K RAM/GRAM card, and a MAXIMEM cartridge. Rather than try to explain their card, and considering the potential significance of this product, I have taken the liberty of reprinting their ad as it appeared in the April 1986 issue of MICROpendium magazine.

Of course there is the GRAMKRACKER module that most of you already know about. It is available for US$ 178.95 from Millers Graphics, 1475 West Cypress Ave., San Dimas, California 91773.

Then there is the New Horizons User Group RamDisk. This one is available as a do-it-yourself project or fully assembled. Bob Boone has tried one, so I have copied his evaluation from the April 1986 Ottawa T.I.99/4A Users' Group Newsletter.

We received a DSSD RamDisk from the New Horizons User Group a few weeks back. Luckily it was mailed directly to me or I'd probably never have had the pleasure of plugging it in to one of my systems! I feel this way because I now don't want to let it go, and I feel confident if someone else had it, they would likely feel the same way! On a scale from 1 to 10 I grade it a 12(at least). John, Dave and Ron(Clulow, Romer and Gries; the principals in the production of the product) are bending over backwards to make this product available to anyone that wants it at a price they can afford.... Prices range from $42 for the circuit board, schematic diagram, parts list and support software(including source code) to $230 for the DSSD, fully assembled, tested and warranted version that we've received(prices quoted are in US funds).

They've included routines to allow you to set the RamDisk drive number anywhere from 1 to 6, a resident disk manager(DM-1000 Vers 2.3 so far...), and several other nifty little CALL statements as well. It's all very well documented and simple to use and backed up with self-charging NICAD batteries as well. I can't say enough good things about the product or the people behind it to do justice to it: suffice it to say I now don't want to do without it!

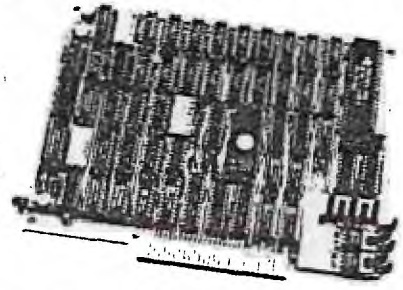
It's available in SSSD as well at a price of about $158 and is upgradible to DS later if you decide to go this route.

from Mechatronic

New 128k 512k RAM/GRAM CARD

the ULTIMATE EXPANSION for the TI 99/4A

The most innovative expansion card ever designed for the TI 99/4A. This peripheral expansion memory card gives you new features, more power and control than ever before. Your computer can now perform tasks beyond all limits. It is packed with unique functions; to transform your 99/4A.



Features:

- > 128k RAM/GRAM memory • 64k RAM and 64k GRAM
- > Expandable to 512k • Two = 1 megabyte RAM
- > Use "Load" files for custom system operation from main menu screen
- > Add an extra 13k to Basic programs
- > Load and run assembly programs
- > Load and run GPL programs
- > Save GROM modules and programs to disk
- > Save ROM programs to disk
- > Load and run ROM/GROM programs
- > Load console GROMS 0-2 into the GRAM card, modify the 99/4A console operating system for new features!
- > Menu access up to 8 choices (modules, etc.) from main screen
- > Hex monitor allows you to change CPU, VDP and GROM memory directly from keyboard input
- > All software is on card. No disk required.
- > Change CRU address base via switches
- > Review module library from main menu

Available: NØW

$249.50 US FUNDS

with the GPL Package: $310

99 MOUSE · w/software	$98
Extended Basic II plus	$75
128k Stand-alone memory ß printer port incl	$149
MAXIMEM	$145

TI DOS w/icon interface $25

and AVAILABLE VERY SOON:

80 Column Card - 'Library' Card - Internal 32k w/ battery
New module Command Centre.
GPL Memory Module .... and more!

Fully compatible with TI, CorComp and Myarc disk controllers. Switch selection ensures compatibility with all current and future expansion cards. Tested with Foundation 128k and Myarc 128k memory cards, Horizon RAMdisk, Myarc and TI RS-232 cards. Now you can access all the true power of your TI 99/4A at a remarkable price. Anything you wish can now be accomplished! Download your most used modules. Modify programs to suit your needs. With the imminent 80 column card, you can have a "new" computer now, equal to any comparable machine on the market. Place your order today.

Ryte Data
MILLENNIUM COMPUTERS
210 MOUNTAIN STREET,
HALIBURTON, ONTARIO K0M 1S0

INTERN TI 99/4A ROM and GROM Listings w/ Commentary plus GPL Directions

by H. Martin

THIS BOOK IS THE KEY! INTERN ("Inside") the TI 99/4A reveals the hidden secrets of the 4A. Essential for owners, enthusiasts, programmers, developers or anyone who wants in-depth understanding of how the TI 99/4A works.

Over 200 pages of complete disassembled internal code found in the 4A console. ROM and GROM listings are fully commented with GPL directions explains how the entire operating system functions — including the GPL interpreter. Hidden tricks and tips are discussed along with the commands, format, opcodes and uses of Graphics Programming Language used in the computer.

Starting with the console ROM: address >0000 to >1FFF, this book gives you a detailed look at every secret. Interrupt routines, power-up functions, system Monitor, cassette routines, Basic and Extended Basic interaction and various utility routines. GROM 0, 1 and 2 are also listed and commented in detailed descriptions.

If you've ever wondered why your TI 99/4A acts as it does, what the tricks and hidden features are, where the "blank" spaces exist, why Texas Instruments kept all this information a secret: well, this is your chance!

Order now! Only $17.95 (US) Cheque, Money Order or COD. Add $1.00 via Ground $3.00 via Air $5.00 shipping overseas.

GPL Assembler V2.1

UNLOCK ALL THE SECRETS! New GPL Assembler Version 2.1 available exclusively through Ryte Data.

This program provides the power to write, edit and assemble true GPL programs for the TI 99/4A. Create code that accesses console operating system routines directly. Develop programs that use the GPL Interpreter and all the features of the TI 99/4A.

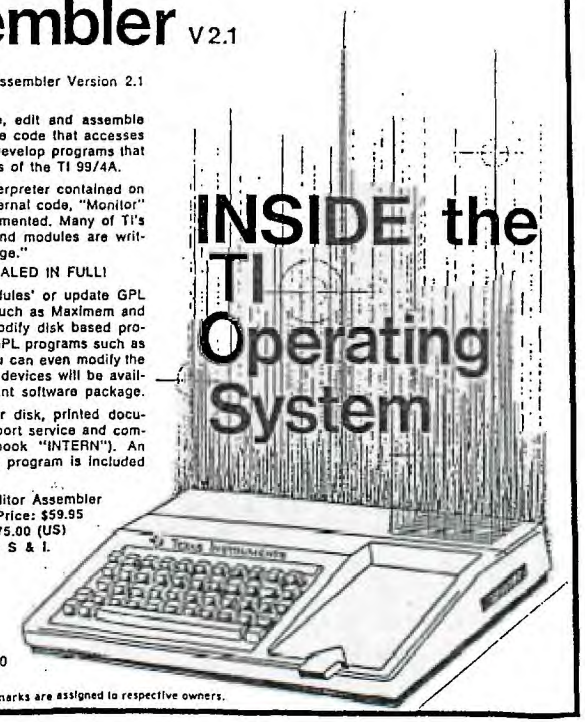
One of TI's major secrets was the GPL interpreter contained on GROM chips in the 99/4A console. This internal code, "Monitor" and the operating system, was never documented. Many of TI's routines, programs, languages and command modules are written in this "Graphics Programming Language."

NOW THIS 'HIDDEN CODE' IS REVEALED IN FULL!

It is now possible to write your own 'modules' or update GPL modules (with the new hardware devices such as Maximem and GramKracker which are now available), modify disk based programs written in GPL and create working GPL programs such as Myarc's new Disk Manager III program. You can even modify the TI 99/4A operating system! New hardware devices will be available to take full advantage of this important software package.

This package includes the GPL Assembler disk, printed documentation, GPL tips and hints, [illegible] e support service and commented GROM/ROM listings [illegible] the book "INTERN"). An example for a command modu[illegible] type GPL program is included with source, object and list files on disk.

Requires: 32k memory, disk drive(s), TI Editor Assembler package. Printer/RS-232 recommended. Price: $59.95
Package w/ INTERN $75.00 (US)
Add $3 S & I.


INSIDE the TI Operating System

Ryte Data
210 MOUNTAIN STREET,
HALIBURTON, ONTARIO K0M 1S0
(705) 457-2774

All trademarks are assigned to respective owners.

The following is reprinted from the April newsletter, Ottawa U.G.:

TI-99/4A National Users Association (NUAC) News By Bob Boone

You're a great bunch of people out there! Without you and the support you're giving us here in Ottawa we'd be much ado about nothing; instead we're getting to be a real entity! Thank you all.

Special thanks to Terry Atkinson of TI-Nova Scotia, who since his return from the sunny south seas, has injected new vitality into the Canadian TI scene. Timeline is fairly bristling with message traffic since he came home; with great product reviews, great Faire reviews and just to be different and a little innovative, a touch of software too. Well done sir! Terry has spared no expense and also expended much time and effort to contact high profile TI Glitteratti south of the 49th and keep himself and all Timeline TIers in the know.

Thanks too, to the untiring efforts of Michel Johnson of CIM-99, who almost single-handedly(I'm told) has brought not one but now two large and very active Francophone TI groups into the fold...CIM-99 last month; GOTIK(of Quebec City) this month and next month the world, eh Michel!? Special thanks as well for your efforts in promoting our upcoming faire so capably to Quebecois throughout your Belle Province.

Michel attended our last general meeting here in Ottawa and was good enough to contribute a suggestion to our regular suggestion box at the meeting. Since the suggestion deals with NUAC I'll depart from my normal procedure and answer it here rather than in the Prior Patterns column...

Michel suggests that we encourage, and in fact solicit, submission of articles each month from those individuals and groups that have joined the Association. He asks ME; 'Do I think its possible?'....I'm gonna pass the buck on this one!

Do YOU think its possible!?
(and if so PROVE IT by submitting something)

Describe your club; its origins, its history, its current state, its goals, a pet project....whatever.... Thats just for starters! Hardware and software reviews are always well recieved; wish lists for both hardware and software might tickle anothers fancy and generate some healthy wish fulfillment now and again! Maybe your express wish has ALREADY been fulfilled somewhere within sight of this newsletter! Do you want a soapbox on which to express your opinion on something; here's your chance! Give it a go and you might just find you enjoy seeing your name in print. If possible try to send files in DV-80 format on disk; if not possible please send them any which way you can.

Tony Hopkins(Ottawa UG Newsletter Ads Chairman) and I had a discussion a while back as to directions into which NUAC might diversify. He suggested we might all benifit by inviting input from other countries. We have friends with the gift of gab from England, Australia, USA, and most recently Argentina and Italy. I'm going to personally invite people from each of these locales to let us know whats happening in their neck of the woods. Might be exciting to see whats going on in THEIR TI microcosm.... Paul Berlinguette is returning to Germany mid-April to further broaden our arena in Europe. Prior to returning to Canada in January, he had already contacted a large group in Sweden and yet another in Denmark.

Report on the New Jersey Faire
From the BETTER HALF

Eight of us went and despite a minor brush with a 24-wheeler and the fact we had two young and beautiful Canadian women merrily touring New Jersey, almost New York city too(perhaps co-incidentally my OTHER half was driving on both of these occasions....I'm smiling dear...), we did enjoy ourselves immensely! As with the Hamilton show it was over all too soon. They had a gymnasium chock ful of distributors: Myarc, Texaments, Inscebot, Tigercub, Ryte Data(all the way from Haliburton here in Ontario!) were just some of the companies on hand. We were personally greeted at the front door by TICOFF organizers who, although they bent over backwards to do whatever

NUAC News, continued:

they could for us, experienced a lot of difficulty scaring up a system for us to use. The Delaware Valley Users Group eventually, very generously loaned us one, and sometimes two of theirs! Very special thanks go out to Jack Shattuck and his DV-99ers.....

Notable product releases were TI-ARTIST Vers. 2.0; Program Manager and Module Emulator(both by John Keown of Hatboro Pennsylvania), our DM-1000 Vers. 3.1, some new hardware products were shown at Bruce Ryan's RYTE DATA booth(notably the TI-Mouse and Gram Karte from Germany). Of high interest to all in attendance was Lou Phillip's new concept; that being his operating system on a card(more later)...

Notable names in attendance were our Tom Bentley(Turbo-Dataman), Barry Traver (Diskazine), John Keown(see above), Chris Faherty(TI-Artist), Paul Charlton (FastTerm etc.), Bruce Ryan and of course Lou Phillips from MYARC. Many many others with whom I've exchanged letters and/or software walked up to introduce themselves as well. A special treat for me was meeting Ellen Kramer, who, in her enthusiasm for her TI has joined anyhthing and maybe everything with a TI in front of it over the past few months, including NUAC! A thoroughly charming lady and just one of many nice folks I can now put a face to.

Lou Phillips again kept a lot of people on the edge of their seats for most of his 2 hour presentation in the Auditorium. He finally pulled the cover off his new concept though. Visible disappointment and audible moans were seen and heard when we learned he STILL wasn't gonna plug it in and turn it on but... it wasn't the same as what we'd seen before.... A few people walked out at this point. I feel(and sincerely hope) they might someday regret leaving. I liked the idea he's come up with! It seems far more practical than building a whole new console and more realistically within the means of a small company like Myarc. He stressed that the console version was still in the works(for those who had unexpanded systems or none at all). This new concept briefly entails an operating system on a card, designed for insertion into TI's PEB and an IBM keyboard. Neat, compact and with all of the features originally planned for the old concept. WHEN??? Lou only had a protype with him. I have since heard that he plugged it in at the New England Faire on April 5th. People actually saw it working and were suitably impressed until it blew a chip part way through the demo. The operative words there: PEOPLE ACTUALLY SAW IT WORKING!! and were impressed. They are CLOSE! Lou's best guess is 2nd quarter this year We might just be its debut! I just now called Myarc! Lou is 95% sure of being able to make it and will likely drag Paul Charlton along for the ride as an added bonus.

Take care; Keep on TIing and see a heck of a lot of you at the Faire!

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