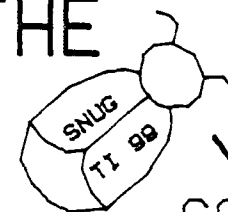


Snuglet

THE  **SNUGLET** *Sept 86*
 FROM THE SOUTHERN NEVADA USERS' GROUP

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Volume 4 - Number 8 September 1986

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NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 - 6:30PM

CHARLESTON PLAZA LIBRARY MEETING ROOM

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SNUG Officers for 1986/1987

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- President - John Martin - 647-1062
- V. President - Bob Sherburne - 642-6972
- Secretary - Bob Tipton - 643-7906
- Treasurer - Bob Bieber - 878-3167

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Committee Chairman and Committee Members

=====

- Librarian - Bob Bieber - 878-3167
- NL Librarian - Lance Wilson - 648-6452
- Membership - Bob Tipton - 643-7906
- Youth Liason - Joe Leavitt - 382-1409
- Newsletter - Bob Tipton - 643-7906
- Assoc Editor - Rudy Johnson - 871-9583
- Bulletin Bd - John Martin - 647-1062

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Newsletter submissions can be sent to P.O. Box 26301, Las Vegas, Nevada 89126. Articles using Ti-Writer on disk are ideal. You may also phone articles in using a modem, this is the preferred method.

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FROM THE EDITOR, WRITER, PRINTER, FOLDER, STAPLER, STAMP LICKER, MAILMAN...

HELP !!

August has come and gone. Time sure flies when your having fun. Last month's newsletter went out without a hitch. Everything seems to be falling into place. One thing that would make it better is to have a few (maybe just one) new writers to submit articles for the newsletter. You can only ask so much of your officers. Let's get involved, this is you newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - John Martin

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Due to some personal committments I have made, I will not be able to spend much time writing my message this month. Hopefully, I will be able to continue with my normal message next month.

At this month's meeting, we will be having several hardware modifications going on at the same time. We will be putting a quiet fan in the P-box, adding 32K memory inside of a console, and adding a load interrupt switch to a console. If you have been thinking of doing any of these mods to your equipment, this month would be a good month to come to the meeting. Most of these mods are very simple and can be done by anyone in the group with little or no help. The 32K is only a little more difficult (mainly due to the number of solder connections and stacking the memory chips.)

Don't forget the TI Octoberfest show at the Meadows Mall! Mark your calendars now for the 4th and 5th of October. Tell all your friends with '4A's to show up and see what's new with our "Orphan". I think we will have surprises for everyone (even most SNUG members), so come on out and bring someone with you!

We are also looking for more volunteers to man the booths. If you want to help (please), sign up with Bob Tipton at the meeting or call him (or me) at home. We will be trying to arrange the schedule so nobody has to be there through the whole 2 days unless they want to. Even an hour or two would be a help. Don't worry that you don't know enough about the computer. We also need people to hand out literature and sign up new members (I hope). Besides, this could be a great opportunity to find out more about operating your machine.

Dee Wellman has donated about 8 modules to SNUG. We will be deciding what to do with them at the next meeting (raffle, lending library, etc). Thanks Dee, we do appreciate the support!

If anyone else has any old modules that they don't use anymore, how about donating them to the group. Since our printing costs for this newsletter have gone up and our membership has been just holding even, we could use them to help defray the additional costs. On the same subject, we still have a couple hundred DSDD disks for sale at \$12.50 a package (25 to the package). This money also helps to offset newsletter and BBS costs. If you need any disks, you won't find a better deal anywhere in town, and you will be helping your User Group.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Bob Tipton

=====

The last Users' Group meeting was held on 11 August, at the Charleston Plaza Library Meeting Room. John Martin, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The following items were covered:

1. OLD BUSINESS: Discounted Disk - 600 disk were purchased. It was decided by the group that the disk would sell for \$12.50 for 25. (CLOSED)
2. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Membership Drive - On October 4 and 5, we will be having a TI Octoberfest Show in the Meadows Mall. Times for the show are 10 to 6 on Saturday and 12 to 5 on Sunday. There will be 7 tables and 14 chairs available for our use. We currently have 9 people who have decided to help with this project. They are Dee Wellman, Bob Sherburne, John Martin, Bob Bieber, Joe Leavitt Sr Jr, Dave Murphy, Lance Wilson, and myself as Project Chairman. (OPEN)
 - b. Users' Group List - At the request of the president, we are currently putting together a local users' group list, so we can provide this info to anyone that shows up at a group function that is not a TI user. (OPEN)
3. SOFTWARE DEMOS: This month's Software Demos was dominated by Bob Sherburne, who give demos on Assembly Language Games along with the MBX System. (CLOSED)
4. NEW MEMBERS: SNUG added yet another member to the roster this month. Robert Scavetta. welcome aboard. (CLOSED)

John Martin closed this month's meeting at 9:00pm.

BBS REPORT - John Martin

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The BBS is alive and well. We are up to 167 users now with more added every day or so. If you haven't called for a while, now might be a good time to look in on us.

Assistant SYSOP, Bob Tipton, has just finished sorting the (T)i section of the (O)ther BBS's. He now has them listed by State in alphabetical order. This makes it MUCH easier to find a TI BBS in a specific area. Before, you had to know the area codes in the area you were looking for or just go through the whole list 'till you found one. Thanks Bob. I think you did a great job!

I have added 2 new things since the last newsletter. First, an on-line catalog of all the programs available in the SNUG disk library. This section is open to SNUG members only. There ar 23 files in this section broken down by program category. You just press "P" at the main menu and you will be presented with a choice of files to read. These files are in 80 column format, so set your terminal emulator accordingly (if you want them printed in 80 columns). I recommend using FAST-TERM, 4A TALK, TE3, or some other emulator that has a large text buffer to make it easier (and faster) to download the files. TE2 will work, but it is very difficult to get good ASCII transfers with it.

If you have difficulty getting into the (P)rogram section, leave me a message in the SYSOP message section and I will upgrade your access. I believe that I have updated everyone's access, but I may have missed one or two.

The other addition is a new (to the BBS) adventure type game. This one is called "LUNAR LANDER". It has actually been around in one form or another for quite a few years. It is a simulation of an Apollo landing craft landing on the moon manually (the on-board computer went down). It is a simple game, but very difficult to accomplish. This simulation can be found under the (A)dventure section from the main menu.

Give us a call....(702)647-1062

EPRINTED FROM THE TOPICS - LA 99ERS

(Ed - This is a condensed version)

FAIRWARE
=====

Here's something to think about for those of you considering submitting one of your cherished software accomplishments to the Fairware system--DON'T PLAN ON MAKING ANY MONEY, BUT DO PLAN ON SPENDING SOME TIME.

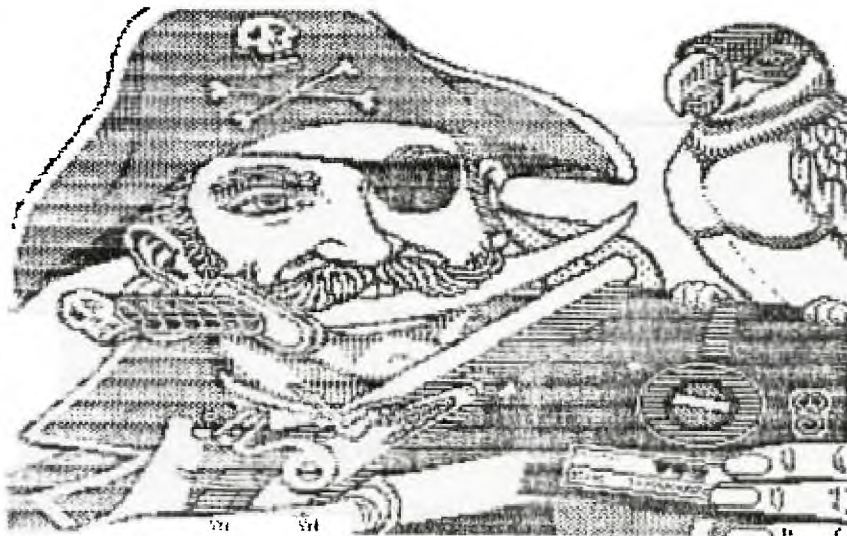
In early 1986, I tried marketing EE BONDMASTER at about \$15 a copy. EEB is an X-Bas program (manual on disk) that stores serial numbers, issue dates and purchase prices on government EE series bonds. I wrote the program because I buy EE series bonds and any program I ever wrote was done from necessity. I figured it would be a big seller. IT WASN'T.

After 4-6 months of trying to market the program through users' groups, it looked like nobody was buying series EE bonds but me. Well, I said to myself, "Let's put this in the Fairware system. Somebody out there probably wants it." So I listed it as a Fairware program in July's MICROpendium.

WOW! In the past three weeks I have sent out over 30 copies and I get new requests almost every day. It takes some time to fill all the requests--MY TIME! There are people that send me notes with their requests that say how happy they are that "someone has finally written a program to do EE bonds." They want/need the program. They are going to use it!

I have several Fairware programs that have been given to me. The only one I use is PRBASE and Bill Warren has my \$10. PRBASE is probably worth \$30 or more, I don't know why he didn't market it, but it probably would have been copied to death if he had. That seems to be the fate of most of the really good new releases.

So far I have collected \$20 for my efforts in writing the program, manual, listing it in the Fairware system, and mailing it all over the country. I figure that's about 20-40 cents an hour. But of course, I did write the program for myself and why should I expect anything. I have heard similar stories from other Fairware authors and now I have first hand experience. Les Merriman recently said to me, "The TI market seems to want something for nothing." and that seems to be true. In the future, that's probably what we will see being offered -- NOTHING!



R. KENT THOMSON

BITS AND BYTES

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DATELINE -- CEDAR CITY -- REGENA GOES INDEPENDENT

Rumor has it that Regena has gone into business on her own. One dollar should get you a catalog of many tape and disk based programs which are available for \$3 each. Drop a line to: Regena, P.O. Box 1502, Cedar City, UT, 84720

DATELINE -- WAUWATOSA -- CONSUMER ALERT FROM THE MILWAUKEE AREA UG

It seems a company called Microcomputer Corp. in New York recently sent out brochures advertising two pages of old TI software at bargain prices. The Milwaukee UG placed an order for about 20 modules and it seems that the company had only two of the 20 ordered. As of their August 86 newsletter, no monies had been returned or had be contacted on what the company intends to do.

DATELINE -- COLUMBUS OH -- TIGERCUB SOFTWARE

Jim Peterson is offering the name and address of the 140 newsletters he exchanges with each month. Send him a disk, mailer, and postage or \$1.50 and he'll send the list to you. Address is: 156 Collingwood Ave, Columbus, OH, 43213.

DATELINE -- REEDLEY CA -- COMPUTER PAL WANTED

Harry Allston would like to correspond with and exchange ideas and programs with anyone who has the time and/or interest. He lives in a small town where there is very little interest associated with the TI. If anyone is interested you can write him at: 103000 Kings River Rd #57, Reedley, CA, 93654

THE ARK AND THE COMPUTER - Puget Sound 99ers

=====

And the Lord said unto Noah, "Where is the Ark which I have commanded thee to build?"

And Noah said unto the Lord, "Verily, I have had three carpenters off ill. The gopher wood supplier hath let me down...yea, even though the gopher wood hath been on order nigh upon 12 months. What can I do, Lord?"

And God said unto Noah, "I want that Ark finished even after seven days and seven night!"

And Noah said, "It will be so."

And it was not so. And the Lord said unto Noah, "What seemeth to be the trouble this time?"

And Noah said unto the Lord, "Mine sub-contractor hath gone, alas, bankrupt. The pitch which thou hath commandest me to put on the outside and the inside of the Ark hath not arrived. The pipefitter hath gone on strike. Shem, my son, who helpeth me on the Ark side of the business, hath formed a rock group with his brothers Ham and Japheth. The canvas, although on hand, is not the right color. Lord, I am undone."

And the Lord grew angry and said, "And what about the animals, the male and the female of every sort that I hath ordered to come unto thee to keep their seed alive upon the face of the earth?"

And Noah said, "They hath been delivered unto the wrong address but should arriveth on Friday."

And the Lord said, "How about the unicorn and the fowls of the air by sevens?"

And Noah wrung his hands and wept aloud, saying, "Lord, unicorns are a discontinued

line, one canst not get them for love or money. And fowls of the air are sold only in half-dozens...the peacocks even then, are on back order for weeks to come. Lord, Thou knowest how it is."

And the Lord said, "Rest, my son, in my wisdom I should have known this would follow when I listened to Satan and installed a computer."

TI OCTOBERFEST SHOW

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WHEN: OCT 4TH AND 5TH
WHERE: MEADOWS MALL (PENNY'S COURT)

SNUG's first TI Octoberfest Show is in the works. Maureen Taylor-Crampton, Marketing Director, of the Meadows Mall was kind enough to grant us the use of the J. C. Penny's Court (Lower Level) for our first TI Octoberfest Show.

We currently have nine members who have said that they would participate in manning the 7 stations that we will have set-up. We would like to have more people volunteer some to their time to man a station sometime during the two days that we will be at the Meadows. I will be taking names and time during the next meeting or you can call me or John Martin and get you times.

Some of the hardware/software we'll cover follows:

New Horizon Ram Disk	Micro Expansion System
32K Memory in Console	Two New Extended Basics
Logo I and II	Pascal
'C' (compiler)	Forth
Games	MBX System
Graphics Programs	Music Programs

and many more.

This is a great opportunity for you to get out and meet fellow TI users and hopefully have them join SNUG. Lets make this a show to remember and maybe the Meadows will host us next year.

LIBRARIANS REPORT - R. J. BIEBER

=====

I keep saying I'm going to make this a monthly column; however, I never seem to be able to come up with the time to sit down and compile all the little notes I've written to myself into a nice neat article fit for printing. After a while the notes pile up and I tend to forget what they all referred to. So I just add more notes to the pile until I can't stand the sight of it any longer at which time I jump in and start sorting.

Evaluating Programs or Program Series takes patience and ingenuity just to figure them out. Sometimes writing a brief description of a program can be more difficult then trying to figure out how it works or what it does. Some are beyond description, others are beyond help, and still others are discarded after a long and arduous evaluation tells me we have a shorter and easier to use program that does the same thing.

A quick review of my notes indicates we have over 1000 Programs and/or Program Series in the Disk Library. The Disc Catalog that was distributed the first part of this year contains descriptions on about two thirds of these programs. The remaining programs are

on the Library Disks; but, descriptions have yet to be added to the Master Catalog.

Here is a brief list of some of the latest submissions to our Disc Library. NOT ALL of them have been evaluated.

* * * * GAMES * * * *	* * * MISCELLANEOUS * * *
TI99-OPOLY (Computer Monopoly)	SERIES EE BOND TRACKER
PITSTOP	OVERLAY STRIP PRINTER
4-IN-A-ROW	3 ACROSS LABEL PRINTER
ALIEN DESTROYERS	PR-BASE Series Ver 1.2
ALLIGATORS	D-COPY Series
ANT WARS	DISK MANAGER DM-1000
BATTLE FOR IAPETUS	FAST TERM UTIL1 2 Updates
BLACK FISH	* * * MUSIC PROGRAMS * * *
BRIDGE GUARD	BACH MINI CONCERT
CHAOS Series	BACH PRELUDE
CRAZY CLIMBER	C-SCALE
ISLAND JUMPER	DOG GONE BOOGIE WOOGIE
KRAZY KOALA	GUITAR NOTES
MONEY MAN	GUITAR STRINGS
OZ RAINBOW Series	HEY JUDE
PALEOLITHIC HUNTER	LET IT BE
PEG JUMP	LITTLE DRUMMER BOY
PIE RING	NOTEKEY3
POW RESCUE	NOTE WHIZ
RESCUE SPACE COLONISTS	OP-23
SHUFFLE SQUARES	SWINGIN' SHERHERD BLUES

This is just a small sampling of some of our newest programs. Try them out. You may be suprised; some are very good. Until next time; happy computing !!!

MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER - Bob Tipton

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MEMBERSHIP: Currently we have 33 active members with 2 coming up for dues.

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE: We are sending out 61 newsletters to other user groups around the United States. Out of those 61, only 32 have send us a recent copy of their newsletter for exchange. Lets hope the others will get the message and start sending a copy of their newsletter.

SWAP SHOP

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Swap Shop is used for computer hardware/software for sale. If you have something you want to sell, write down what the item is, amount, and your name and phone number and give it to any officer or phone it in the the newsletter editor.

HAPPENINGS

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Well, another month has come and gone. Nothing seems to be going on, no Birthdays, Weddings, Get Togethers, or anything. Its doubtful that this section will survive another month.

ATTENTION TI 99/4A OWNERS

NEW EXPANSION CARD FROM CORCOMP THE 512K MEMORY PLUS!

512K CARD FOR THE TI P-BOX
W/256K FACTORY INSTALLED & CERTIFIED..... \$164.95
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CORCOMP:

CORCOMP RS232 INTERFACE..... \$ 79.95
CORCOMP DISK CONTROLLER CARD..... \$147.50
CORCOMP 32K MEMORY CARD..... \$ 99.95
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CORCOMP 9900 COMPLETE EXPANSION SYSTEM (INCLUDES
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DRIVE ENCLOSURE WILL HOUSE TWO DRIVES..... \$ 59.95
CABLE KIT FOR DUAL DRIVES..... \$ 24.00

PRINTERS:

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PANASONIC KX-1091..... \$269.00
STAR NX-10 \$259.95
CITIZEN 120D..... \$195.00
WRITEHAND 1200L..... \$249.95
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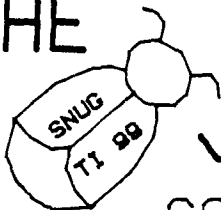
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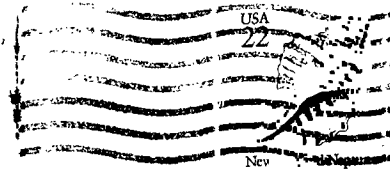
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THE  **SNUGLETTER**
FROM THE SOUTHERN NEVADA USERS' GROUP

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The SNUGLETter is published monthly by the Southern Nevada Users' Group (SNUG). SNUG is a non-profit organization of individuals with an interest in all aspects of Texas Instruments' 99/4A home computer, including related hardware and software by third party vendors. The GROUP meets at 6:30 PM on the second Monday of every month - currently in the Clark County Library meeting room, 1726 E. Charleston Blvd (Charleston Plaza Mall). Visitors and guests are welcome to attend the meetings. Information on membership is available at each meeting. Articles may be copied from the SNUGLETter provided credit is given to both the author and the original source and that the article not be used for profit (For profit organizations wishing to use any articles from the SNUGLETter, you will need to make prior arrangements with the Executive of the Southern Nevada Users' Group).
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Southern Nevada Users' Group (SNUG)
P.O. Box 26301
Las Vegas, Nevada 89126-0301



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