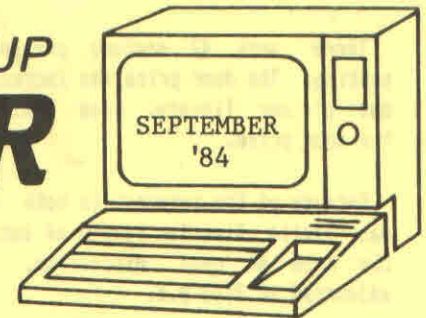


CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP **NEWSLETTER**



NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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**** MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER MEETING ****

The September meeting was called to order at 7:03 p. m. by President Jim Green. The first portion of the meeting was devoted to open discussion as neither member was present (on time that is) to give their presentation at the beginning of the meeting.

The minutes from the August meeting were approved and seconded as provided in the August newsletter. The Treasurer's report was also approved as written.

Discussion of old business concerned the sign-up sheet for Computer Magazine and other vendors. Discussion also centered around the non-existence of a current issue of Home Computer Magazine as previously promised. Also discussed was the Extended Basic Class which was to be offered this fall. Jim Trainor suggested that before we could get the class organized it would be the Christmas season and, therefore, we should wait until after Christmas to start.

The most important new business was to fill the Secretary position since the resignation of John Elam. Dean Helander offered to take the position and he was enthusiastically received. The nomination and seconding were over in seconds!

In other new business Jim Trainor discussed the establishing of a library of books for the Club. A show of hands indicated a great deal of interest in such a project but the mechanics were not worked out. Jim offered to lend his extensive library to other members. Chuck Moats donated his subscription to the Computer Shopper to the Club.

There was some discussion concerning conversion of programs written on other computers to the TI. Several helpful suggestions on sources of information were given from the floor. Members were also reminded in response to a question that earlier issues of our newsletter contain hints to the solution of adventure games.

Jim Green announced that we would be having a software exchange during our annual renewal meeting in November, in addition to an outstanding door prize. We will be awarding a Texas Instrument Cartridge for a door prize in October.

We were offered two outstanding presentations at the September meeting. The first presentation by Dave Dalton was a demonstration of the Super Sketch. This generated a lot of interest. The graphics were well presented. I think a lot of people left the meeting wishing they had one of these!! For the price, it looks like a lot of fun. The second presentation was

by Jim Trainor. Jim demonstrated the use of disk drive systems and the theory and mechanics behind them. There was also a lot of interest in his presentation. It was very professionally done and I think even those of us who have had disk drives for some time picked up new information.

There were 47 members present at the September meeting. The door prize was increased to six programs out of our library. Joe Bonifazi was the winner of the door prize.

Because of the interest in both presentations, there was little time for review of materials in the back of the room or open discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**** NEWSLETTER UPDATE ****

We have received our order of Home Computer magazine. There are fifteen copies available. The persons that signed up at the last two meetings will have priority. (NOTE: If you will not be at the October meeting, and you ordered the Home Computer magazine, contact Ed Hayek to reserve your copy. Any of the fifteen copies that are not picked up will be sold at the next meeting.) This will leave five issues available on a first-come-first-serve basis. Now the bad news. Home Computer has raised their cover price to \$3.50. They have also raised their dealer price. We will sell the first issues for \$2.50, a saving of \$1.00, to members. We may have to raise the price later.

At the last meeting there was inquiry into speech synthesizer availability. The latest catalog from TRITON lists it at \$49.95.

We are just short \$16 for an economical order from John Dow. The sign-up sheet will be available again at the next meeting. In addition, I will put out a new sheet of products from the Home Computer people. This is also a 40% discount for those interested.

For the Secretary
Ed Hayek

**** NEXT MEETING REMINDER ****

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 8th (the second Monday!) at the J.A. building, 330 Collins Rd. N.E., starting at 7:00 p.m. The planned program will be presented by Dave Dalton on the subject of speech synthesizers. The door prize for this meeting will be a TI command module. You must be a member, and you must be present, to win. Bring a friend!!

**** THE TREASURY ****

	THRU JULY 1984	AUGUST 84	TOTAL
INCOME			
Memberships	\$1682.00	\$ 5.00	\$1687.00
Sales of software	694.95	3.00	697.95
Sales of cassettes	560.95	4.00	564.95
Programming classes	195.00	0	195.00
Dividend	10.07	0	10.07
Group S/W purchases	953.25	0	953.25
TOTAL	\$4096.22	\$ 12.00	\$4108.22

DISPERSALS

Receipt book	\$ 6.00	\$ 0	\$ 6.00
Meeting rent	137.00	28.00	165.00
Postage	301.68	25.00	326.68
Bank/Check charges	9.92	1.00	10.92
Cassettes purchase	661.94	0	661.94
Software purchase	64.00	0	64.00
Subscriptions	34.50	0	34.50
Class teacher salary	250.00	120.00	370.00
Class tuition refund	5.00	0	5.00
Address labels	24.18	0	24.18
Recorder purchase	109.19	0	109.19
System purchase	953.16	0	953.16
Advertising	71.80	0	71.80
Group s/w buy	952.75	27.00	979.75
TOTAL	\$3581.12	\$ 201.00	\$3782.00

ASSETS

Savings account	\$ 153.37	\$ 0	\$ 153.37
Cash on hand	145.00	(121.00)	24.00
Checking account	216.73	(68.00)	148.73
TOTAL	\$ 515.10	(\$189.00)	\$ 326.10
PROOF	\$ 515.10	(\$189.00)	\$ 326.10
	\$ 515.10		\$ 326.10

Ed Hayek
Treasurer

**** NEW SECRETARY!! ****

We now have a new secretary to replace John Elam, who resigned last month. Please welcome--Dean Helander. We know he'll do a good job for us. (And the fool even volunteered for the job!)

Editor

***** R2D2 SOUND EFFECTS *****

For anyone interested, here is a short program to make the TI 99/4A sound like good ol' R2D2 himself. Dave didn't say if the speech synthesizer was necessary, but this program can be used in either Basic or Extended Basic.

```
10 CALL CLEAR
20 PRINT "R2D2 SOUND EFFECT"
30 RANDOMIZE
40 D=INT(10*RND)
50 IF D<1 THEN 30
60 F=INT(RND*5000)
70 IF F<110 THEN 50
80 V=INT(RND*20)
90 CALL SOUND(D,F,V)
100 GOTO 30
```

Dave Dalton

***** MODEM SUPPORT *****

At one of the recent meetings we had a discussion on modems and the ability to transmit graphics and sound. Dave Dalton has located the address for a protocol manual for use with the modem and Terminal Emulator II cartridge that will tell you everything you wanted to know about modems and their use. Write to:

Computer Manuals-Terminal Emulator Protocols
Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 53
Lubbock, TX 79408

Or, phone: (806) 741-2000

The cost will be \$5.00 for the manual, and \$2.00 for shipping and handling.

***** SPEECH SYNTHESIZER CHECK *****

Do you want to see if your speech synthesizer is electrically attached to the TI 99/4A, and the chips inside the synthesizer are working properly? Enter the following short program in Extended Basic:

```
10 CALL PEAK(-28672,SP)
20 PRINT SP
30 IF SP THEN CALL SAY ("WORKING")
40 END
```

The address -28672 is part of the speech read/write buffer. If SP is 96 and the computer says "working", your synthesizer is fine, otherwise you had better find a fix-it shop!!

Dave Dalton

***** SOUND EFFECTS *****

For you new users, here is a short program on how to make your computer sound like a car engine trying to start:

```
10 REM ENGINE
20 FOR N=1 TO 8
30 CALL SOUND(60,220,8,-5,0)
40 CALL SOUND(60,220,8,-5,5)
50 NEXT N
60 CALL SOUND(80,220,8,-5,5)
```

Now, if you want the engine to rev up, try this short program:

```
10 FOR F=1000 TO 5000 STEP 20
20 CALL SOUND(-99,111,30,111,30,30,-8,0)
30 NEXT F
```

The last thing we should do is get the engine to slow down. So, try this:

```
10 FOR F=4000 TO 800 STEP -50
20 CALL SOUND(-99,111,30,111,30,F,30,-8,0)
30 NEXT F
40 END
```

***** NEW LIBRARY TO BE FORMED FOR MEMBERS *****

Our education committee recommended last month that the group start a library of books related to the TI 99/4A. The books will be available for checkout at the monthly meetings and must be returned at the following meeting. Jim Trainor volunteered to start the library with some of his personal volumes, but we will need more contributions from other members in order to make it successful. If you have one or more books related to computers and/or the TI, please consider sharing it with your fellow members. Checkout will be on the honor system, and abusers will be subject to loss of group membership. Bring your books to the October 8th meeting, and let's get this new venture off the ground! (Those wishing to check out books will need a valid group membership card.)

Jim Green/Pres.

***** LITERATURE TABLE IS OVERFLOWING *****

Due to the large number of advertising and product brochures the group receives each month, it is difficult for everyone to absorb all the information during our two hour meetings. One member suggested in September that we initiate a check-out system for literature so that he might read particular items at

home at his leisure. I personally agree with him, but I have concerns that the demand will be too large for the resources, and also that a one-month check-out period doesn't give much opportunity for others to keep current on the mailings.

I propose that this be a topic for discussion at the October 8th meeting, so please come with some ideas and recommendations. Can we check out literature for only two weeks? Or one week? How/where will it be returned to the group? Would you want to check out literature at times other than monthly meetings? Bring your ideas!!!

Jim Green/Pres.

**** MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS NEXT MONTH ****

This is a reminder that all group memberships are to be renewed at the November 12th meeting. Our attendance was up at September's meeting, but still only 1/3 of our members have been active during the summer. Now that the cool winds of autumn are upon us, we hope to see the rest of you returning in October and November. Our programs continue to be very informative and entertaining, and we feel that we have something for everyone. So come back and join us; pass the word to other TI owners; and don't forget to renew your membership in November!!

As an added bonus for the November meeting, we are going to hold a swap meet November 12th! This is your chance to trade or sell software, hardware, or other unused computer gadgetry. Tired of "Early Learning Fun"? Trade for the excitement of "Parsec" of "A-Mazing". Trades may be permanent or temporary-terms are up to the individuals involved. Want to sell a second cassette recorder? Bring it to the November swap meet!!!

The door prize for November will be a valuable addition to your system. You must be present to win!

Jim Green/Pres.

**** EXTENDED BASIC CLASS ****

The club is planning on starting an Extended Basic Class in January. We do not want to start earlier due to the holidays that are rapidly approaching us. Anyone interested should contact Jim Trainor and get signed up.

Jim Green/Pres.

**** HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE ****

For those of you who have not attended a meeting this summer are missing out on a very neat opportunity to purchase the Home Computer Magazine through the club. If you are interested, come to the next meeting and sign up. The club has negotiated with the Home Computer Magazine people to allow us to order an X amount of magazines per month and return any that are not sold. However, I have my doubts that any will be returned!! Contact Ed Hayek to get your name on the list.

**** NEW PRODUCTS, MAILINGS, ETC. ****

This month's mailing include:

NATIONAL ELECTRONIC TRADER	New monthly advertising publication
HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE	September issue of Home Computer Digest
RIDGE SERVICES	Professional Football Selection Program
SOFSERVE, INC.	Mail order hardware & software
COMPUTER SHOPPER	Monthly magazine
BIG BYTES COMPUTERS	Bulk quantity disks
HOME FINANCE SYSTEM	Personal finance program

**** PROGRAMMING TIPS ****

From the Rocky Mountain 99'ers TIC TALK comes an interesting tip on an easy way to get rid of those print statements whenever you want to put a bunch of words up on the screen.

The colon (:) acts like a carriage return on a typewriter. Here is an example:

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 PRINT "THIS IS A DEMONSTRATION OF"
120 PRINT "HOW TO STACK A BUNCH OF"
130 PRINT "LINES TOGETHER."
140 PRINT
150 PRINT
160 PRINT "USING THE COLON IS EASY!"
170 PRINT
180 PRINT
190 PRINT
200 GOTO 200
```

Now use the colon to stack them up and save memory:

```
100 CALL CLEAR
110 PRINT "THIS IS A DEMONSTRATION OF":"HOW
TO STACK A BUNCH OF":"LINES TOGETHER.": :
"USING THE COLON IS EASY!"
120 PRINT : : :
130 GOTO 130
```

***** HOWARD W. SAMS BOOKS AVAILABLE *****

Several Howard W. Sams books for the TI 99/4A are available through Iowa Radio Supply. Some can be ordered in combination of book with cassette. Titles available are:

1. The TI 99/4A User's Guide
2. TI 99/4A: 51 Fun And Educational Programs
3. Entertainment Games In TI Basic and Extended Basic
4. TI 99/4A: 24 Basic Programs
5. TI 99/4A: Games
6. TI 99/4A: Calc
7. Tool Kit Series: TI 99/4A Edition
8. TI 99/4A: Basic Reference Manual
9. Basic Programs For The TI 99/4A
10. Basic Tricks For The TI 99/4A
11. TI 99/4A Basic Programs
12. TI 99/4A Graphics and Sound
13. TI 99/4A Trivia Data Base
14. CC-1 Computerfacts on TI 99/4A (Schematics and Parts List)

LeRoy Bopp

***** BUY AND SELL *****

WANTED: Tunnels Of Doom cartridge to swap for 30-days for Munchman, Parsec, or Honey Hunt. See Jim Green at the November swap meet.

FOR SALE: SAMS books and tapes:

#22071	The TI 99/4A User's Guide	\$6.00
#22247	TI 99/4A: 24 Basic Programs	\$6.50
#22204	Entertainment Games in TI Basic and Extended Basic	\$4.50
#22291	Cassette tape for #22247	\$3.75
#22285	Cassette tape for #22204	\$3.75

Will sell separately or as a set. Contact LeRoy Bopp at 393-4510 (during day) or 396-6326 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: TI Mini Memory (with some assembly language information) \$30.00
TI Hunt The Wumpus \$5.00

Contact George Fulford at 436-2095 (Shellsburg) after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: Alpiner (with manual) \$10.00
Chisholm Trail (with manual) \$5.00
Car Wars (with manual) \$10.00

WILL TRADE: TI Invaders or Indoor Soccer

Contact Dave Dalton at October meeting or at 377-1715

***** REM *****

The CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP NEWSLETTER is published by the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group in the Cedar Rapids/Marion, Iowa area. Members are encouraged to contribute articles. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group, its Officers, editor, or members. Other user groups may copy or use any article published in this newsletter without the written consent of the CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP as long as credit is given to our group.

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