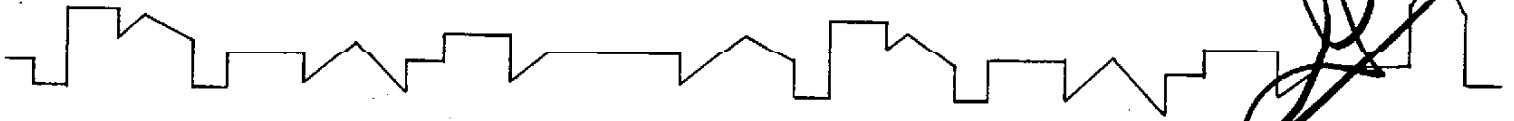


CPUg NEWSLETTER



Volume 7 Number 2

77er

February, 1988

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MINUTES FOR MONTHLY MEETING JANUARY 18, 1988

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Our interim President, Dave Ratcliffe opened the meeting of 30 plus members with an update on our new computer systems BBS. The Molecular is up and running, but not all the code is finished as yet so, cut-over is a while off. Dave indicated that with all of the improvements, we WILL BE PLEASED!

Nick announced that he is working on our Proto-board in an effort to produce: 32K, Speech, and a Print Spooler, among other ideas.

Barry gave the current balance in our account (healthy) and mentioned that we have MicroPendiums, discs and various other supplies for sale.

Dave Ratcliffe spoke about the future TI-EXPO and the negotiations with the Carlisle Amateur Radio Club to co-sponsor the event.

Bob Miller updated us about the NO-SLOT CLOCK. Indications are that unless many TI owners express an interest, TRITON will not produce it for us. Bob donated the chip he received to Hardware SIG for experimenting.

Barry announced that he had mailed a letter to ASGARD SOFTWARE concerning our interest and problems with FONTWRITER II. He invited Chris Bobbitt to speak and demonstrate his software at an up-coming meeting. No response as of this meeting.

Myarc is having a few problems with the development of the Hard Drive Controller Card. Hope to have it finished by Spring.

Warren Agee and J. Peter Hoddie are working on an advance Data-Base program written in small 'c'. Expected retail of \$50 from Genial Computerware. Release date sometime in the Spring. (late)

Announcements of the failure of several companies that used to supply the TI world with software and hardware were made. Among those dropping out were: Innovative Programming. RYTE-DATA AND DATABIDTICS have not been responding to inquires regarding orders, etc. Could they be gone as well? Along a better note, RAVE 99 has been very good to deal with, according to several members. They are releasing a new memory card. We don't have all the details as of this writing.

The general membership motioned and seconded a motion to supply and sell hot dogs and soda at future meetings, since many members are leaving from work to arrive early and would like a quick supper to tide them over. Nick volunteered to supply the food, and the Group would reimburse him and resell the food and soda for a small profit. A vote was taken and the motion passed without any dissents.

Dave Ratcliffe showed a TRS 80 mouse that will work with the TI, using Super-Sketch. More at an up-coming meeting.

The demos this month were given by Nick and Dave Hultberg. Nick demonstrated the GIF pics on his 9640, while Dave showed us the new PC Transfer program that will read and write MS-DOS text files using a TI drive. (must use CorComp or Myarc controller cards)

Everyone was pleased at our new surroundings and hoped that we could keep the room in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Till next time,
Barry Long, Secretary

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX NEXT MEETING: MONDAY MARCH 21st XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FROM THE PREZ

=====

Well as you can see I could not meet the deadline for the column this month. I have been working on a new PHONEMAKE program and by the time you read this it should be completed. With all my other hats I wear in this Group I have not had the time to write my column this month, so I hope the phonemake program will do in its place.

DAVE

FROM THE EDITOR

=====

Well here it is newsletter time again and I am working the keys to put this issue to bed. As you will see most of this newsletter is devoted to the Geneve this month, but have no fear the TI will return next issue. I had received these article back in December and just did not have time to fit them in with all the other articles. If you have any articles or would like to see something in the newsletter please let me know.

TERRY



TI/IBM CONNECTION
Review by David Hultberg

Media: Module
Copyright by: IDT Incorporated
Distributed by: CorComp Inc.
2211-G Winston Road
Anaheim, CA 92806
714/956-4450

Performance:.....B
Ease of Use:.....A-
Documentation:.....B
Value:.....C
FINAL GRADE:.....B-

LIST PRICE:\$59.95

System Requirements: TI 99/4A
32K Memory Expansion
CorComp Disk Controller or 9900 Micro Expansion System
2 Double Side/Double Density Disk Drives

Many of us have IBM personal computers, IBM compatibles or other MS-DOS computers at work or maybe even at home. How many times have you wished that you could transfer a file from the MS-DOS machine to your 99/4A or vice versa? The TI/IBM Connection module allows you to do this without wiring the two computers together through their RS232 ports or by modem. The module allows your 99/4A system to read IBM formatted disks in drive #1 and TI formatted disks in drive #2. As long as the file is a text file-ASCII on the IBM and Display/Variable 80 on the 99/4A-this program will transfer it from either disk format to the other.

A brief manual is included with the module, but the program is easy enough to use that you won't need it very often. After selecting TI/IBM Copier from the module menu, you are presented with three choices by the program's main menu: IBM Copy, TI99/4A Copy or Exit. Selecting either of the first two choices causes the program to catalog the appropriate disk. The screen displays the catalog similarly to Disk Manager 1000. Like DM 1000, you also select your choice for each file by placing a single letter command in the left most column. Valid commands are: C-copy, D-delete, R-rename, P-protect, U-unprotect. The last two commands are only active for TI format files. When you select R to rename a file, the cursor moves to the filename field so that you can modify it. FCTN-S and FCTN-D are used to move the cursor and CTRL-X and CTRL-E are used to change disk catalog pages. FCTN-9 (Back) allows you to return to the main menu. After you have finished entering your commands, FCTN-6 (Proceed) is used to execute them.

All of the above features worked exactly as described in the documentation. There are some limitations to the program that may reduce its usefulness for some people. The program will not work on a Geneve no matter which disk controller card you use. In addition it will not work properly with a CorComp Controller that has Miller's Graphics EPROMs installed. There is a limitation to the size of the file that can be copied. According to the manual, the maximum file size for an IBM file to be copied is 23K bytes. TI file size is also limited even though the manual doesn't talk about it. I successfully transferred two very large TI files (I thought) to an IBM disk. When I loaded this disk in my AP's word processor, I found that both files had been truncated. Smaller files had been transferred to IBM format completely. The manual describes how to transfer spread sheet data between TI and MS-DOS computers using ASCII files, but the file size limitation means that large spread sheets can't be transferred. Another inconvenience is that you must have previously formatted your IBM disks. The program cannot format a disk in either TI or IBM format.

Since my main computer is a Myarc Geneve 9640 and I routinely use large files, this program doesn't completely fill my needs, but if the limitations I

mentioned above are OK with you, you might want to try it. Before you spend \$60+ however, you might want to consider that Genial Computerware has announced a program called PC Transfer which is supposed to do all that the TI/IBM Connection does plus work with the Geneve and Myarc controllers in addition to the 99/4A and CordComp condtroller. It also will format IBM disks. Suggested list price is \$25. I have ordered this program and will review it in a future article.

**** COMPUTER SHOW SCHEDULE ****

FEBRUARY 21st, 1988 (SUN) LONG ISLAND MICRO SHOW - 10AM-4PM -225 TABLES - GRAND ROYAL HOTEL - CLINTON AVE. - HEMSTEAD, NY (KEN GORDON PRODUCTION)

FEBRUARY 27-28, 1988 T.I. FEST WEST/T.I. EXPO 88 will be held by Southern Nevada User's Group (SNUG) 702/647-1062 or 702/878-3167 for info. PSA will give discounts on airfare. T.I. FEST will be at the PALACE STATION HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS, NV.

MARCH 26th, 1988 (SAT) (T.I.C.O.F.F.) A TI/994A AND IBM CLONE PC SHOW. ROSELLE PARK, NJ. NY/NJ TI 99ERS USER GROUPS.

MARCH 26-27, 1988 THE LARGEST HAM FEST ON THE EAST COAST WILL BE HELD AT TIMONIUM, MD. GATES OPEN AT 8AM (?) *BE THERE EARLY (ABOUT 7AM). THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO PICK UP NEW AND USED EQUIPMENT AT VERY REASONABLE PRICES. TAKE I83 SOUTH TO THE TIMONIUM EXIT AND FOLLOW THE SIGNS. IT WILL BE VERY WELL MARKED.



(215) 926-4372
BBS (215) 926-1661

Pete Baney

Buy & Sell TI 99/4A Computer Systems

RD #1, BOX 1034
LEESPORT, PA 19533



TI-99/4A SUPPLIERS
 Courtesy of Janet Ryan
 NUTMEG TI-99ERS Users Group
 12/12/87
 Via SFV Times 1/88
 Updated by
 Barry Long
 Central Pa 99/4A Users Group
 1/26/88

Codes: S=software H=Hardware K=Keyboards P=Publication *=Catalog Available

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| AMNION HELPLINE (S)
116 Carl St.
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 753-5501 | McCANN SOFTWARE (S)
P.O. Box 34160
Omaha, NE 68134 | TENEX COMPUTER EXPRESS (SH*)
P.O. Box 6578
South Bend, IN 44660
(219) 259-7051 (info)
(800) 348-2778 (order line)
(800) 259-7053 (order status) |
| ARMADILLO BYTES (SH*)
Box 181662
Dallas, TX 75218
(214) 328-9257
(also hardware repairs) | MILLERS GRAPHICS (SH*)
1475 W. Cypress
San Dimas, CA 91773 | TEX-COMP (SH*)
P.O. Box 33084
Granada Hills, CA 91344
(818)-366-6631 |
| ASGARD SOFTWARE (S*)
P.O. Box 10306
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 559-2429 | ML SYSTEMS (K)
BOX 268
Valley Falls, RI 02844 | TEXAMENTS (S*)
53 Center St.
Patchogue, NY 11772
(516) 475-3480 |
| L.L. CONNER ENTERPR (SH)
COMPUTER & ELECTRONICS
1521 Ferry St.
Lafayette, IN 47904
(317) 742-8146
(317) 423-4879 | MYARC, INC. (SH*)
P.O. Box 140
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 | TRITON PROD. CO. (SH*)
P.O. Box 8123
San Francisco, CA 94128
(800) 227-6900 |
| DATABITDICS, INC (SH*)
P.O. Box 1194
Palos Verdes Estates
CA 90274 | NAMELOC SOFTWARE (S*)
3971 SE Lincoln
Portland, OR 97214 | VIDEOVISION (SH*)
236 Upton St.
Grafton, MA 01519
(617) 839-4134 |
| DIJIT SYSTEMS (RGB Conv)
4345 Hortensia St.
San Diego, CA 92103 | PILGRIMS PRIDE (SH*)
P.O. Box 2
S. Williams Lane
Hatboro, PA 19040
(215) 441-4262 | MICROpendium (P)
P.O. Box 1343
Round Rock, TX 78680
TI-99/4A monthly news
publication (GOOD!) |
| DISC ONLY SOFTWARE (SH*)
P.O. Box 4170
Rockville, MD 20850 | QUALITY 99 SOFTWARE (S*)
1884 Columbia Rd #1021
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 667-3574 | COMPUTER SHOPPER (P)
P.O. Box 1419
Titusville, FL 32781-9988
(800) 327-9926
May be purchased locally |
| ENHANCED PC PURSUIT SERV.
GTE Talent Comm. Corp.
12490 Sunrise Valley Dr.
Reston, VA 22096
1-800-368-4215 8-5 M-F
1-800-835-3001 24 hrs | QUEEN ANNE COMPUTER
SHOPPE (SH*)
6102 ROOSEVELT WAY N.E.
Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 283-0953 | CORCOMP (SH*)
2211-G Winston Rd
Anaheim, CA 92806
(714) 936-4450 |
| GENIAL COMPUTERWARE (SP)
835 Green Valley Dr.
Philadelphia, PA 19128
("DISC-A-ZINE") | RAVE 99 Co. (KH)
112 Rambling Rd.
Vernon, CT 06066
(203) 872-9272 | THE BUNYARD GROUP
P.O. Box 53171
Lubbock, TX 79453
Manual for TI (hardware) |
| GREAT LAKES SOFTWARE (S*)
804 E. Grand River Ave.
Howell, MI 48843 | MR DAVID ROSE (S)
2781 Resor Rd
Fairfield, OH 45014-5053 | TIGERCUB SOFTWARE (S*)
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Columbus, OH 43213 |
| HORIZON RAM DISK (H)
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Walbridge, OH 43465
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Haliburton, Ontario
K0M 1S0
(705) 457-277 (order) | |
| INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING (S)
P.O. Box 2737
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-3922 | T.A.P.E. Ltd. (SH*)
1439 Solano Pl.
Ontario, CA 91744
(714) 989-9906 | |

Note: Discontinueing support

WE'LL LOOK FOR

YOU

AT THESE MEETINGS

Circle your Calendar with these meeting dates

JANUARY	18	JULY	18
FEBRUARY	15	AUGUST	15
MARCH	{21}	SEPTEMBER	19
APRIL	18	OCTOBER	17
MAY	16	NOVEMBER	21
JUNE	20	DECEMBER	19

All meetings begin at 7PM but the Group equipment will be up and ready for use at approximately 6PM.

All meetings are held at the CAMP HILL SHOPPING MALL COMMUNITY ROOM.

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This newsletter is published monthly by the Central Pa 99/4A Users Group. Material may be reproduced without permission provided the author and the source are acknowledged. If you desire more information about the Central Pa 99/4A Users Group, contact:

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WIZ/TIB BBS # 717-657-4992 or 717-657-4997 24hrs 7 Days-- SYSOP Dave Ratcliffe

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HARRISBURG, PA 17104-0126

Dallas TI Home Computer Grp
P.O. Box 29863
Dallas TX 75229



NEXT MEETING:: MARCH 21st, 1988 at 7pm.