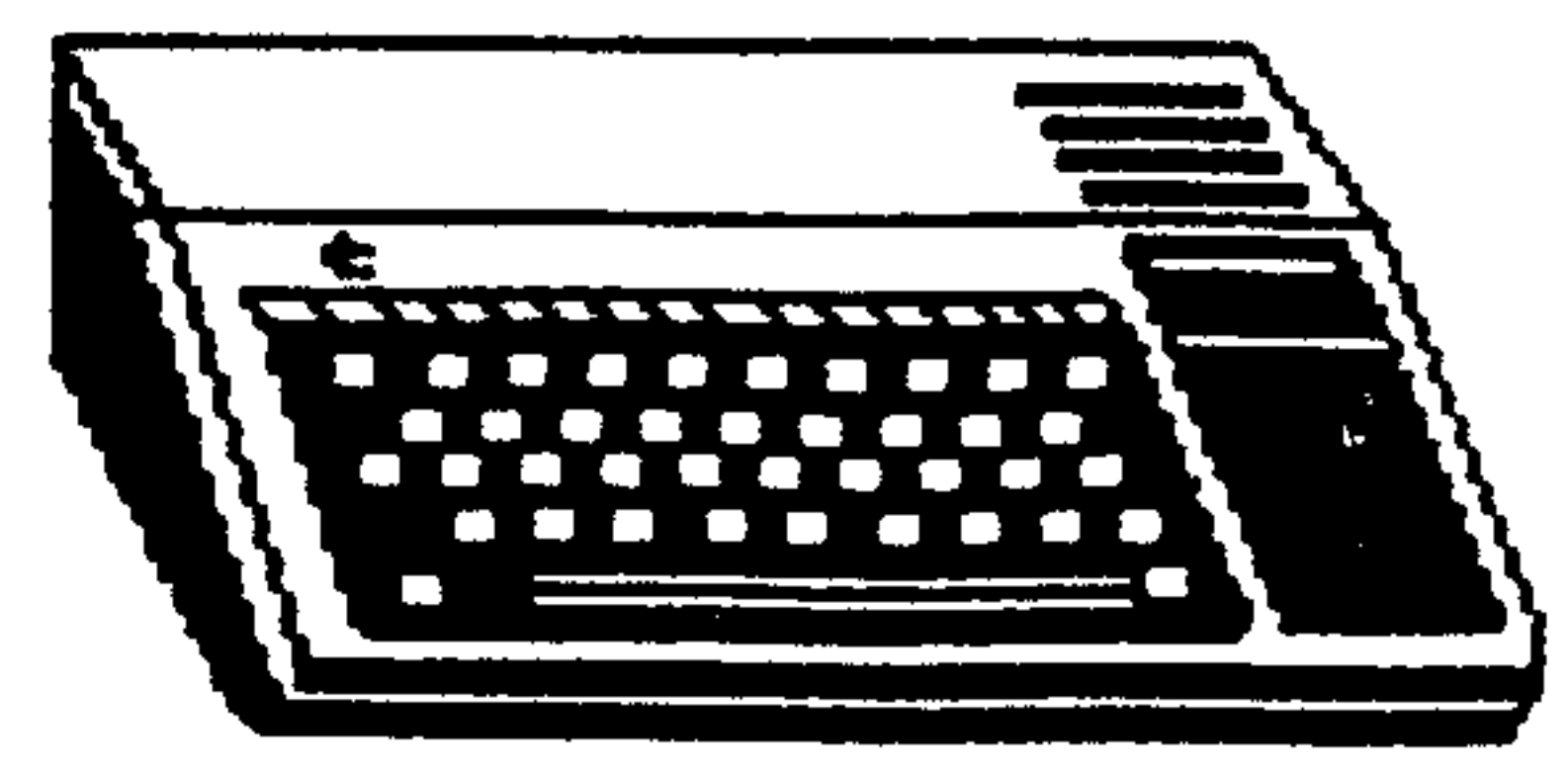




CLEVELAND AREA TI-99/4A USER GROUPS



1992

July/August

OFFICE	TI-CHIPS	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Glenn Bernasek 238-6335	10:00 AM
CO-PRESIDENT	Dinny Stockdale 1345-5239	N. Royalton
TREASURER	Lin Shaw 235-3912	County Library
MEMBERSHIP	John Parken 331-2830 4172 W. 217th St. Fairview Pk., OH 44126	State Rd. 50. of Route 82 1/4mi <u>EVERY THIRD SAT.</u>
SECRETARY	Dennis Likens 842-9627	
DISK LIBRARY	Matt Andel 676-9759	JUNE 20,1992
TAPE + MODS	John Parken 331-2830	JULY 18,1992
HARD COPY	Dennis Likens 842-9627	AUGUST 17,1992

OFFICE	NORTHCOAST	MEETINGS
CO-PRESIDENT	Ken Gladyszewski 1357-7274	1:30 PM
CO-PRESIDENT	Walt Ryder 921-8223	Euclidian Room
Treasurer	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	Euclid 50. Mall
MEMBERSHIP	Martin Smoley 1-257-1661 6149 Bryson Mentor, OH 44060	E.260th off I-90 (South) <u>EVERY THIRD SAT.</u>
SECRETARY	Bernie Zuckerman 381-4088	
DISK LIBRARY	Martin Smoley 1-257-1661	JUNE 20,1992
TAPE & MODS	Frank Jenkins 283-8526	JULY 18,1992
HARD COPY	Dick Alden 1-352-9172	AUGUST 17,1992



From the Editor's Desk:



Hi TI-99ers,

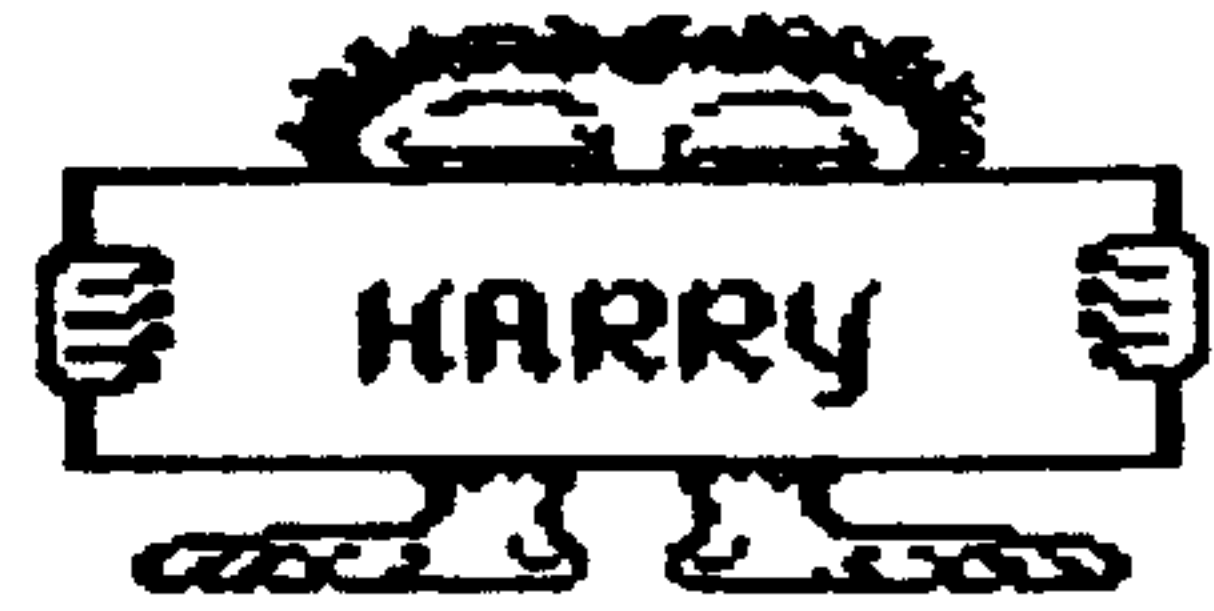
Announcement: This issue is a JULY/AUGUST newsletter. The next issue that you will receive is the SEPTEMBER one. The meetings will be as shown on the first page. (Normal dates and times)

On behalf of the Cleveland Area TI-99/4A User Groups, I thank the Lima TI User Group and the Ohio State University for a great Multi User Group Conference. This is a terrific opportunity for learning more about our computer; meeting other TI-99 users from other States; and for upgrading our systems at a reasonable price. What more could we ask for! There were two seminars going at all times for the entire day, and not to worry if you missed some, because Lima taped all of them (VHS). They are available for \$15.00 (3 Tapes) or send 3 blank VHS tapes and \$3.75 to:

Charles W. Good
Box 647
Venedocia, OH 45894

This editor would like to see more Tiers using MICROpendium, the ONLY TI magazine/newsletter in the country. At the very least, you should buy it at meetings. This fine publication provides news of new hardware/software, reader to reader letters, reviews, tutorials, stuff for sale, and user notes/tips. Did you know that Deanna Sheridan, Wes Richardson, Glenn Bernasek, Marty Smoley, and Ken Gladyszewski have all been in this magazine, including this issue! (Ken & Wes). My apology if anyone was missed. Without support, we could lose this great magazine.

I pray everyone had a safe and happy Fourth of July, and a very nice Labor Day holiday. Looking forward to seeing more bios for future newsletters. You have a couple of examples to go by in this issue. This is a great way to get to know everyone and maybe find someone of like interests, to help or be helped by. It would also be nice to know how many members are using another computer at home, besides the TI-99. See you next meeting!



NORTHCOAST TI-99/4A USERS GROUP MINUTES - JUNE 20, 1992
by Bernie Zuckerman

The meeting was called to order by Co-president Ken Gladyszewski at 1:45 PM. There were twenty-one members and two guests present. Ken opened the meeting with two sad announcements - the passing of two of our very well known members. Bob Kagy, one of our past presidents passed away in April. At the end of last year he had a heart attack followed by by-pass surgery. He then took a turn for the worse. It was just that morning that Ken heard about Howie Winkler, who died on June 13th. Both were outstanding members of this club and added a lot to the education and enjoyment of our members. Flowers were sent to Bob's services in the name of the club by Tom Miller and the club voted to reimburse him for the flowers. Since the services for Howie have already been held, the club will send a contribution to Mrs. Winkler or to a memorial fund if their was one set up.

The treasurer's report was presented by Frank Jenkins covering the period April 18th to June 20th. Frank then requested that we consider a change in the club's bank since its present bank, Trans-Ohio is a bit shaky and may be up for sale. Although there is no fear of losing our funds, if the bank is closed there will be several months delay in getting access to them. He suggested we consider another bank. Discussion then followed as to the various alternates; interest is not a factor, the minimum balance to get no-charge checking is. A motion was made, seconded, amended and passed that the clubs account be moved to a different bank at Frank's discretion and that he will handle all the details.

Co-president Walt Ryder pointed out that at the last meeting it was decided that if the minutes of the previous meeting appeared in the Newsletter, it will not be necessary to read the minutes at the meeting. Accordigly there was no reading of minutes.

There being no old business Ken asked for any discussion about the Lima Convention. Deanna mentioned that it was well covered in the last Newsletter. A program was presented that interfaced the computer with musical instruments and it was mentioned that Ron Markus had information about it.

Ken introduced the guest, Gary Hamm who was at the meeting with his wife and family. Gary came to find out more about the TI having received a console but without the necessary cables. His computer was installed into the clubs "box" and it worked fine. Frank Jenkins took him in hand and explained what he needed and how to get it.

A member of long standing, Sy Spunt, who has not been to our meetings recently, advised the club that he has two complete systems available. He had purchased the systems for his grandchildren as they were growing up but they now are in to Apples so the TIs are available. He would have been willing to donate the systems to the club if we did not have one since the TI did so much for him and his grandchildren. The systems are complete with the

PEBox, drives, RS232, 32K, and lots of software. He asked that if anyone is interested to please contact him (the price is right) Tel. 831 1299

Sy was very complimentary to the TI and when he mentioned that one of his grandchildren live in Boise we heard a cry from Deanna who, with a tear in her voice said she was from Boise and just came back from a visit.

Sy said that the TI math and spelling software motivated the child to be one of the best. Sy left with a round of applause.

This brought up a discussion about the possibility of having a swap meet sometime in the near future. There are several people who have systems for sale and others who want to purchase them. The date for a swap meet was to be decided and it will be announced in the Newsletter.

Harry Hoffman had received a letter from Bucharest, Romania, from a TI owner requesting information about software. Harry wrote him to get more information on the system and is waiting for an answer. If anyone in the club speaks Romanian, or knows someone who does, please contact Harry so that he can correspond with the person.

Harry also requested that members send him articles for the Newsletter and if it were not for the three pages that Deanna sent him he would have had trouble filling up the spaces. Harry requested that any articles sent him should be on disk to minimize the amount of typing.

The new version of Funnelweb has not yet been received and Marty said that as soon as it is it will be available from the library. Also, if anyone wants the video tape taken at Lima it can be ordered at any time. Marty asked about the module library and Frank said he has it and that it is still available. As soon as the programs are received from Lima, Marty will catalogue the disks and put out pages for the library index. Question was asked by a member if anyone is working with a 128K Card with a Corcomp controller; he can work either card by itself but not together. Some suggestions were made including contacting Horizon.

The business meeting was adjourned and Les Kee gave a demo on a CHARIFIX program taken from Micropendium. It permits a programmer to change the CHAR! files in TI Writer. This program makes it possible to change the characters (on the screen not on printer) from, for example Roman to Greek or Russian. He will get a copy of the program to Marty so it can be included in the library. Ken then demonstrated his electronics with a program courtesy of Wes which used the console to print on the screen the temperatures sensed by his circuit. He also demonstrated a voice recognition setup so that when certain words were spoken they would appear on the screen in large print. Ken promised to demonstrate in the future how his magic electronic circuits can control Xmas lights using the TI console.



TI-CHIPS Notes



by Dinny Stockdale (in the absence of Dennis Likens).

The meeting was called to order at the North Royalton County Public Library, at 10:00 A.M.

TREASURERS REPORT - Lin Shaw reminded us that the funds are in reasonably good order.

TAPE/CARTRIDGE/MEMBERSHIP - John Parken reported that the membership is doing OK; a few are in arrears. Tapes and cartridges are available.

DISK LIBRARY - Matt Andel stated that if you will give him the name and number of any disk in the library, he will be glad to get it to you as soon as possible. Disks from Lima are being processed by Marty Sealey for the library. Hopefully, they will be out by the next meeting.

CLEVELAND AREA NEWSLETTER - Harry Hoffman (news editor and assembler) welcomes all news of meetings. He emphasized the wish to have BIOS about how you came to use the TI-99/4A, and what you use it for. (Note, again, the demo that is coming up on "The Mobile Armatron" that will be demonstrated on July 18 meeting). Harry, you're doing a good job with the paper.

XB PROGRAMMING - Les Kee, our XB expert, gave us a good demo on Subprograms (not GOSUB's) that allows you to use variables without a lot of repetitious GOSUB programming. A good lively discussion came out of it all.

LIMA CONVENTION MOMENTS - There were many good comments about the whole meeting. The people who went said there were some real good deals and some good get-togethers. That's the way to go!

SHOP/TUTOR/FIX-IT TIME - Even here, some generally good tips and info were shared with the group. One such item was the idea of having name tags for everyone. This has already been set into motion. At the July 18th meeting, there will be plastic/spring clip holders, name cards and markers ready for you as you arrive. Print your names **BOLDLY**. At later meetings, we will have these spread out on the table for you to pick up and use again, plus some blanks for those who missed the previous meeting.

Since Dennis was unable to be there, no raffle was held.



← This is one of the
drinks of choice for the
coming Holiday weekends.....

for a peaceful and happy time!



Newsletter Printer

Written By: Art Gibson, 439 West Rockwood St., Rockwood, TN 37850

Using the Hewlett-Packard ThinkJet

NorthCoast 99'ers User Group - June 15, 1992

Note: This page was printed with the FunnelWeb Formatter on my Canon LBP8 mkIII Printer, which allows me to access the special fonts and graphics I constructed in the last year.

A month has passed since I wrote the previous page and I must say that I like the HP ThinkJet a little more, but I still don't recommend that you buy one for use with your TI.

The default file printout you see below is my quick ref. sheet for the NLP printer codes as used with the HP ThinkJet Printer. Although most people will not buy a ThinkJet, the information may help you understand Art's Newsletter Printer.

. Filename is: **NLTHINKDEF**
. Printer Codes for HEWLETT-PACKARD
. THINKJET printer only.
. ^A-U = Ctrl A-U 05/14/92

Print this file with FunnelWeb Formatter on both the HP ThinkJet printer and the Star NX-1000 printer for a comparison of the printouts if possible.

.PD PIO.CR.LF print device name

.RS ^ required space

.PS % page number symbol

.BD 1,14,15	^A Exp. + Comp. ON
.NB 2,20,18	^B Exp. + Comp. OFF
.UN 3,27,45,1	^C <u>UN</u> derline ON
.NU 4,27,45,0	^D Underline OFF
.IP 5,27,69,27,71	^E Bold + Quality ON
.NI 6,27,70,27,72	^F Bold + Quality OFF
.HP 7,14	^G Expanded ON
.NH 8,20	^H Expanded OFF
.LP 9,27,65,18,138,27,65,12	^I
^I = Set 1/3" LF do LF + Set LF to 1/12"	
.NL 10,0	^J Stops .LP Repeat
.XX 11,138	^K Line Feed 138
.NX 12,0	^L Stops .XX Repeat
CANNOT USE (Ctrl M)	
Expanded (Ctrl-N) (^N) e Works alone	
.YY 13,27,65,6,138,27,65,12	^O
^O = Set 1/12" LF do LF + Set LF to 1/6"	
.NY 14,0	^R Stops .YY Repeat
.ZZ 15,20,18	^S Standard Print
.NZ 16,0	^T Stops .ZZ Repeat
.DP 17,15	^U Compressed ON
.ND 18,18	^P Compressed OFF
.BS 19,8	^U BackSpace <==<<
.PP 20,18,27,69,27,71	Pica Print codes
.PC 20,15,27,69,27,71	Pica Condensed print
.PG 27,75,224,1	Print Graphics codes
.L6 27,65,12	1/6" Text Line feed
.L9 27,65,8	1/9" Graphics Line feed

The information in the NLTHINKDEF file is similar to a Transliterate file. Starting at the left you have a dot command, like those used by FW or TI-Writer. It would appear as (.PD) or (.BD) etc. This part tells NLP to load the control codes into memory and send them to the printer whenever it encounters the corresponding execution character. The next character is a space. The small graphic character after that is the execution character, as seen on your screen, which tells NLP to insert the codes that follow at that point in the text. That character is followed by a comma and then the ASCII numeric values separated by commas which make up the printer control codes. The ^A (circumflex A) represents (Control A) or (Ctrl A). So circumflex (^) means hold down the Ctrl key and press A. Do this at the location in your text file where you want the print style to change. At that point the small graphic 1 will appear. As I hope you can recognize, the column below ^A represents the key combinations for each control code you wish to insert. The last column is just an enhanced description of what the command will do. This file is not the command file used by NLP, it is a visual reference sheet. The file that NLP needs (for the ThinkJet) is NLTHINKJET. NLTHINKJET contains the necessary command codes, as seen in this file, but no comments or extra junk. NLP has no need for the comments. If I were using a ThinkJet frequently, I would rename NLTHINKJET, NLDEFAULTS, which is the name that comes up automatically when NLP is used. This saves a lot of typing. I would also probably try changing the codes around from time to time to see if I could make any improvements. My wife says that most of the stuff I write is hard to understand and if you only read this article that's very true, but if you want to produce nice documents a lot of work is required. Don't just read this article, or any other article alone, read them all. Read the manual that came with your printer several times. The information your printer needs to receive to change type styles will be listed in two or three different forms. The information your word processor can send is similar in most of the programs, ie. TI-Writer, FunnelWeb, Newsletter Printer, etc. Read all the documentation for every program. TI-Writer may have one tiny tidbit of info that the FunnelWeb Docs don't have and so on. And last, but not least, don't be afraid of making mistakes. Trial and error is the way that most of us learned to make these darned computers do what we want them to do, and I still find that my old TI does many jobs with all the style and speed necessary to make it a valuable tool in today's world. More later. Marty.

Note:

If this article doesn't make any sense to you, read both my last article on Art's NLP (in the April NorthCoast Newsletter) and Art's Documentation.

The Hewlett-Packard ThinkJet and you.

A Tutorial-Review of sorts.

5/10/92

By

Martin A. Smoley

NorthCoast 99ers UG
Cleveland, Ohio

G >>>=>> Newsletter Printer

By

Art Gibson
439 W. Rockwood St.
Rockwood, TN 37854

U S I N

Background

If you are interested in Printers, Bubble Jet Printers and weird stuff, this article might interest you, otherwise it's just Newsletter Landfill. As you may know I recently did a Demo and a small article on Art Gibson's Newsletter Printer program. The Demo and Article I did prompted me to ask Morris K. Morgret, Ph.D., a NorthCoast member who lives in Idaho, if he was doing anything on his Hewlett-Packard ThinkJet Printer that could be used for an article in the Newsletter. I knew he had a ThinkJet because of previous letters. Morris sent me some stuff that he had done on an IBM Compatible and stated that he was having trouble with the

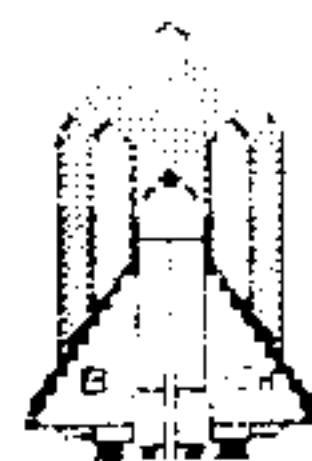
control codes between his TI and the ThinkJet. I called Morris that day and volunteered to try and help if he would send me one of his spare manuals. I knew that he had two ThinkJets and a Quiet Jet at the time. Morris said that he would loan me the manual, but a few days later I received the manual and a new ThinkJet printer in the mail. At that point I figured that I might as well make a project out of it and do a Newsletter article at the same time. Because graphics are being used a lot at this time, I decided that Art Gibson's Newsletter Printer was the only way to go for this project.

The ThinkJet

I hope that Morris doesn't get mad at me, but I must recommend that Tier's not buy HP ThinkJet Printers. To start with, the one inch margins you see on this page are forced by the mechanics of the printer. Next, although the ThinkJet seems to be a good graphic type printer, it needs a computer that is capable of downloading a great variety of fonts, like you find in the IBM world. The Fonts that are built into the ThinkJet amount to little more than

using Draft Mode, with cosmetic improvements like Bold, Quality (or Emphasized) and Double Strike, which must be done by backspacing and running over a character twice. This page was printed on the ThinkJet and contains the best I can do with the ThinkJets built-in fonts. Last, but not least, is that the ink Cartridges and paper for the ThinkJet are expensive in comparison to a printer like the Star NX-1000.

ThinkJet Graphics



This is the Skuttle
The text was put in
with TI-Printer



This is Snoopy resting, but it is also a good representation of Marty's mental state during some of the TI projects that I find interesting and challenging.

After having major problems with this project for a week or so I called Art Gibson for some help. Art filled me in on some of the inner workings of Newsletter Printer which I should have recognized on my own. You know, I would have seen the forest but all those darn trees got in the way.

* NLTHINKDEM *

TI-99/4A Biography Time

Another TI Biography - Ken Gladysewski

My introduction to computers got off to a bad start with a Fortran class in college in the early 70's. In those days, calculators were new and computers were mainframes with program entry via punched cards. After we wrote the program, we key punched it, turned the stack of cards and waited. Generally we would get back the cards the next day with a printout of the "RUN". Without fail, the program stopped after an error in the beginning of the program and a cryptic error message was printed. Close to graduation, the department got a 4k computer the size of two refrigerators. It ran basic and program entry was via a Teletype. Basic was clearly a breakthrough with instant feedback of program errors.

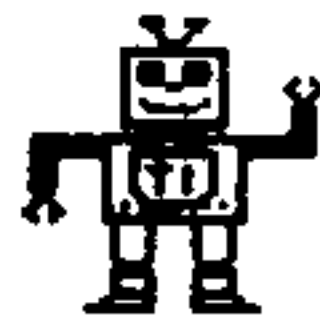
When the TI came out, I compared it to the other home

computers and acquired my system piece by piece in the high priced days. I joined the Salon Group and when it got big, helped found the North Coast Group. I continue to enjoy my TI and refuse to have an IBM compatible in my home even though I use one at work. I do not want any excuse to bring more work home! I use my TI as a hobby machine - it ties in perfectly with my other hobby - electronics.

My experimentation has become much bolder during this past year due to my discovery of Hamfests as a source of inexpensive computer equipment and electronic components. The ideas for many projects come from electronic and computer magazines, as well as input from fellow members. Finds at Hamfests and the close-out table at Radio Shack have also suggested a few ideas for projects.

Editor's Note:

Ken is currently serving as Co-President of the North Coast 99'ers and is doing some great stuff with Analog to Digital conversion programs using his A/D converter hooked up to the Joystick port. What he has done with the Armitron Robot alone is fantastic. Look for more good things from Mr. Ken Gladysewski! Read about it in this month's MICROpendium.



TI-99/4A Biography Time

by Dinsmore "Dinny" Stockdale

How I came by my TI-99/4A computer.....

Being responsible for the future of a local food and shelter relief program in our little burg, I felt the need of a computer to keep records of our operation of about 150 families and 800 to 900 calls from them, for help each year.

My younger son, who lives just south of Washington D.C., had a friend who was working with computers for the Social Security Administration, in Washington. I was hopeful that she could get me a used computer for under \$500.00. When I talked to her, she said she could do better than that. If the computer was going to be used to help others, I could have it for \$0.00. It was a TI-99/4A computer, PEBox, printer, monitor, voice synthesizer, TI cassette player, TI Writer, Editor Assembler, Basic & XBasic manuals, equipment manuals, plus many cartridges, and tapes. I didn't waste a moment getting it and bringing it home.

I enquired locally where I would find a Users Group. I was referred to Vonn Malcuit, and the rest is history. Without the TI-CHIPS, I would have been lost long ago and would have quit.

Editor Note:

Dinny is presently Co-president of TI-CHIPS and is giving back for the help he received, as it is with all good Tiers. Dinny comes all the way from the Wooster area of Ohio (about 80 miles one way).

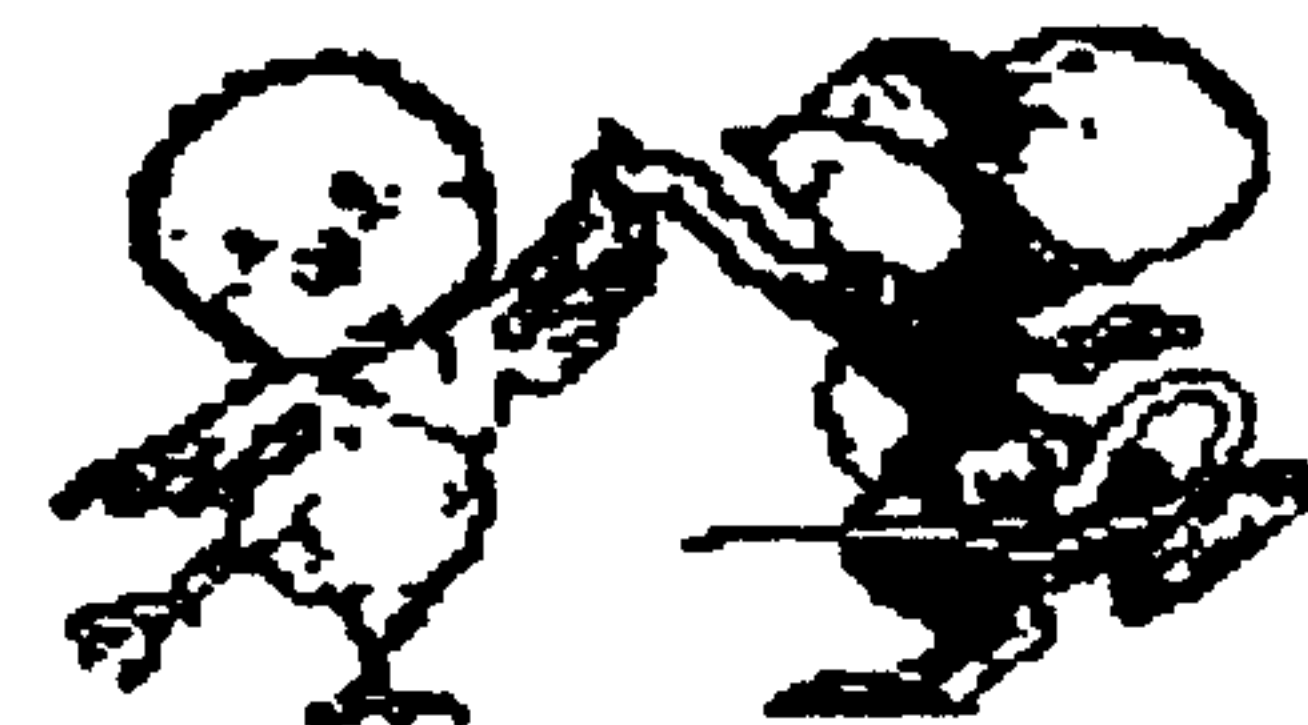
Swap Meet *^{*}*_{*^{*}*} Swap Meet

Where : North Coast 99er User Group Meeting

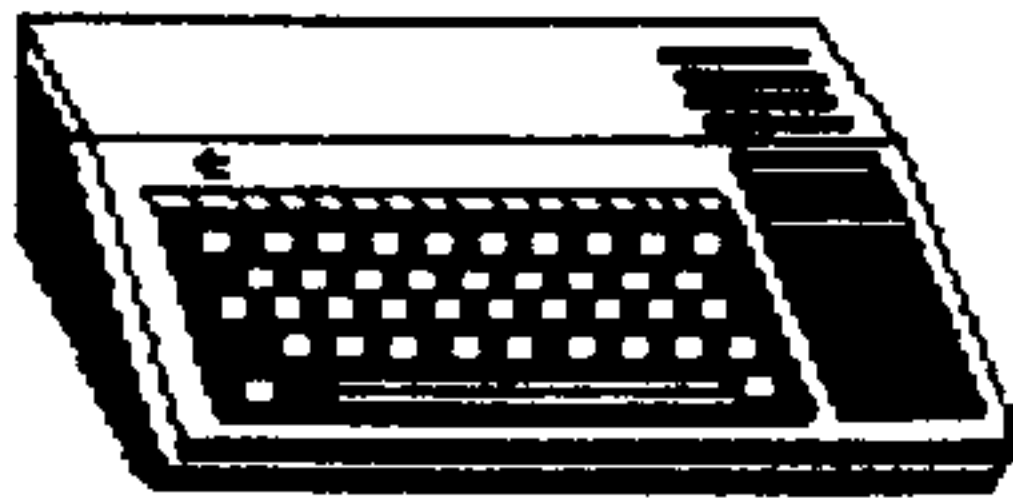
**EUCLIDIAN ROOM in the EUCLID SQUARE MALL
just south of I-90 on Bobbit Rd.**

When : AUGUST 17, 1992 at 1:30 P.M.

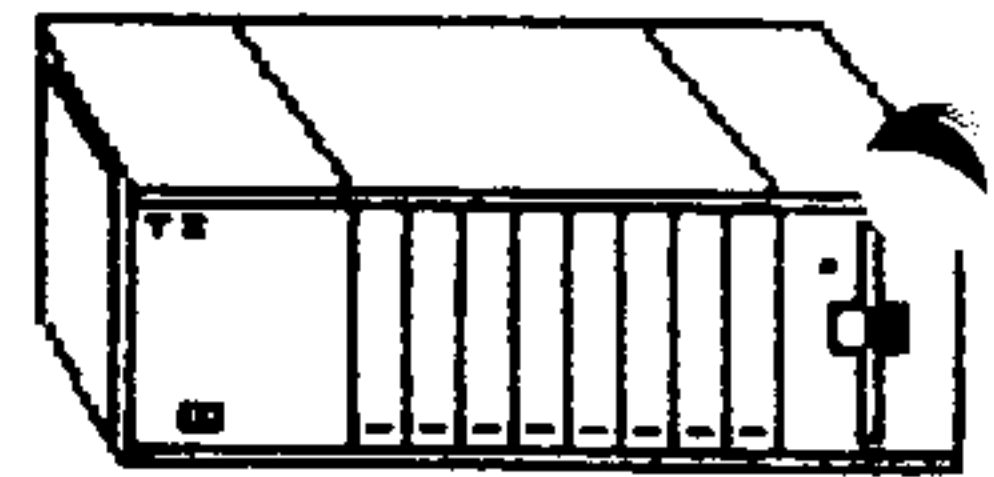
**You have a whole month to look for all those
TI-99/4A stuff that has been lying around or
stuck in a closet somewhere. Bring it to the
SWAP MEET and sell it to someone who wants a
bargain! Keep it in circulation.**



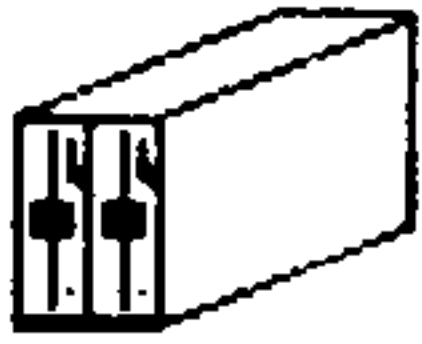
BIG SWAP MEET ** AT NORTHCOST



Saturday
AUGUST 17TH



At the Euclid Sq. Mall
In the Euclidian Room
Time: 1:30 PM
To: 3:30 PM ???

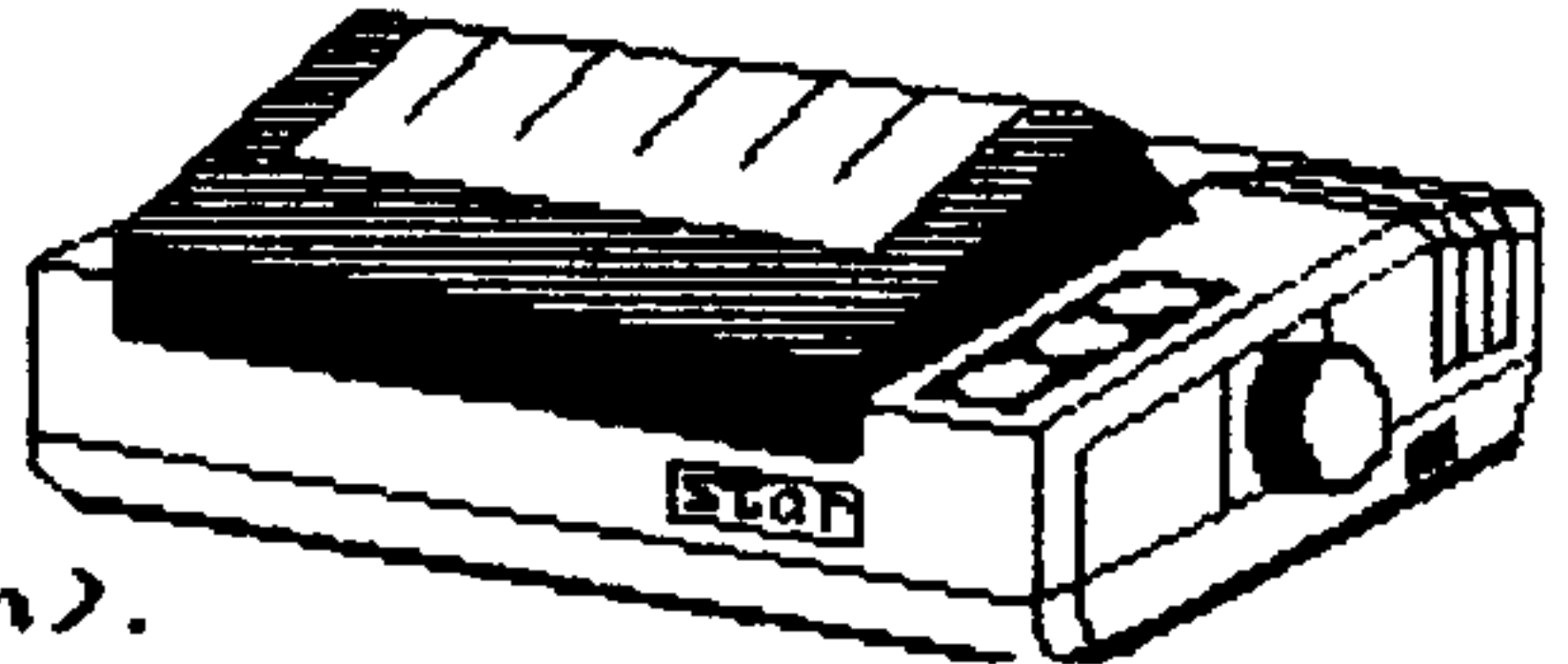


You have a
whole month



to gather together
all the 'stuff' you

want to pass on (for cash).



Ron is a member of TI-Chips and North Coast 99ers. This ad shows one of the top quality products that he has in stock.

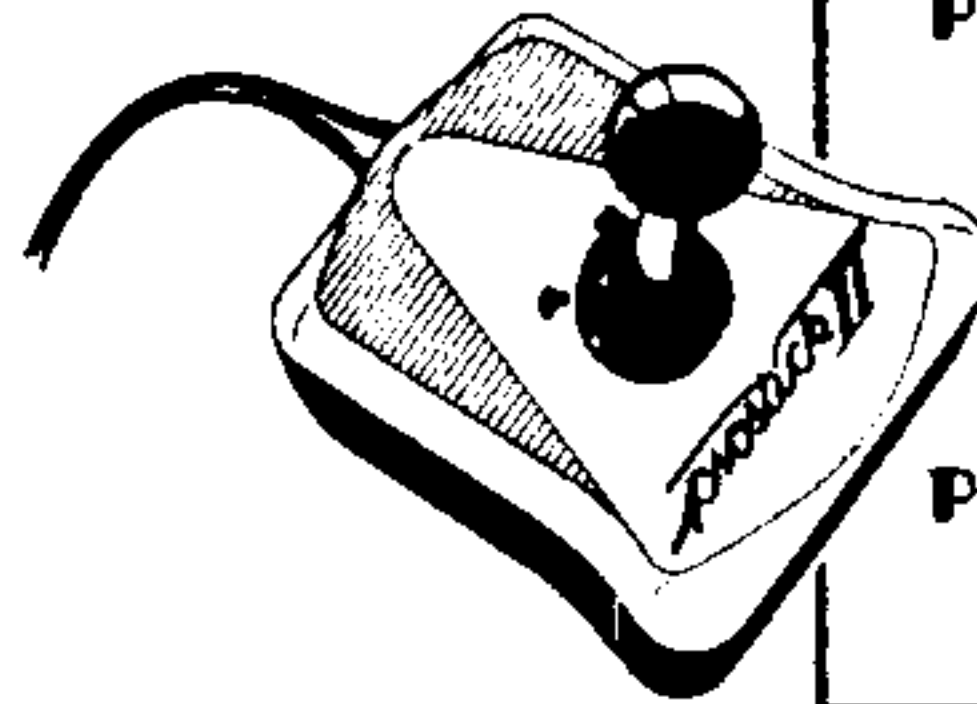
This is the best Joystick I've ever used, and that includes a bunch that have long ago been discarded.

This is not a paid endorsement, but a support of a very good friend of our TI-99/4A clubs. If there is any product you are looking for, Ron will always do what he can to get it for you at a small discount, plus the savings of postage and handling. You can not beat that with a stick! HaHa,

Harry

Ramcharged Computers

Prostick VIDEOGAME//COMPUTER PRODUCT LINE



ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	Price each
#7602 Prostick II	1-23	\$ 8.35
	24-47	8.85
	48-71	8.35
	72 or more	7.85
#7603 Prostick III	1-23	14.40
	24-47	13.90
	48-71	13.40
	72 or more	12.90
#7510 TEXAS INSTRUMENTS Y-ADAPTER	1-23	4.50
	24-47	4.25
	48-71	3.75
	72 or more	3.25

Sold and distributed exclusively by:

Ramcharged Computers

P.O. Box 81532

Cleveland, Ohio 44181

(216)243-1244

(800)669-1214

In Memory Of:

There is no harder task than to announce the passing of a friend. This month there are three such announcements. The Newsletter went to print last month before I found out about Bob.

Robert Kagy

Bob Kagy was an active member of the North Coast 99'ers. He served as Co-President and always made you feel right at home at the meetings. Bob was a quiet and kind man who never said ill of anyone. After his by-pass surgery, we were looking forward to seeing him return to the North Coast meetings. He will be missed by everyone that knew him. God speed, Bob.

MONNA I. THOMASON:

Monna passed away on June 14th. She spent 80 years with us here on earth. Monna was married 22 years to Virgil Thomason, a member of TI-CHIPS. This happy marriage was the second for both Monna and Virgil. He comes to TI-CHIPS meetings all the way from Wooster Ohio, about an 80 mile trip (one way). This is a great loss for Virgil and he has our deep heartfelt sympathy.

Howard Winkler:

Howie, a North Coast 99'ers member, passed away on June 13. Though Howie was ill for a long time, it was still a great shock to many of his friends. Howie was one of the most skillful men with computer hardware that I've ever met. He gave back to the club 10 times over whatever he may have received, because he was that kind of man. Whenever anyone needed help, Howie never refused and always cheerfully volunteered his expertise in electronics without ever making anyone feel inferior or embarrassed. He has built many projects for the groups here in Cleveland and helped many with their hardware problems. Howie, we will all miss you tremendously!

This prayer was on a loving memory card for Monna Thomason. It is appropriate to all our friends.

May the angels lead you into Paradise, may the Martyrs receive you at your coming, and take you to Jerusalem, the holy city. May the choirs of the Angels receive you, and may you, with the once poor Lazarus, have rest everlasting.

AMEN!



RETURN ADDRESS:
CLEVELAND AREA 99/4A USERS GROUPS
C/O HARRY HOFFMAN
3925 TROWBRIDGE AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OH 44109



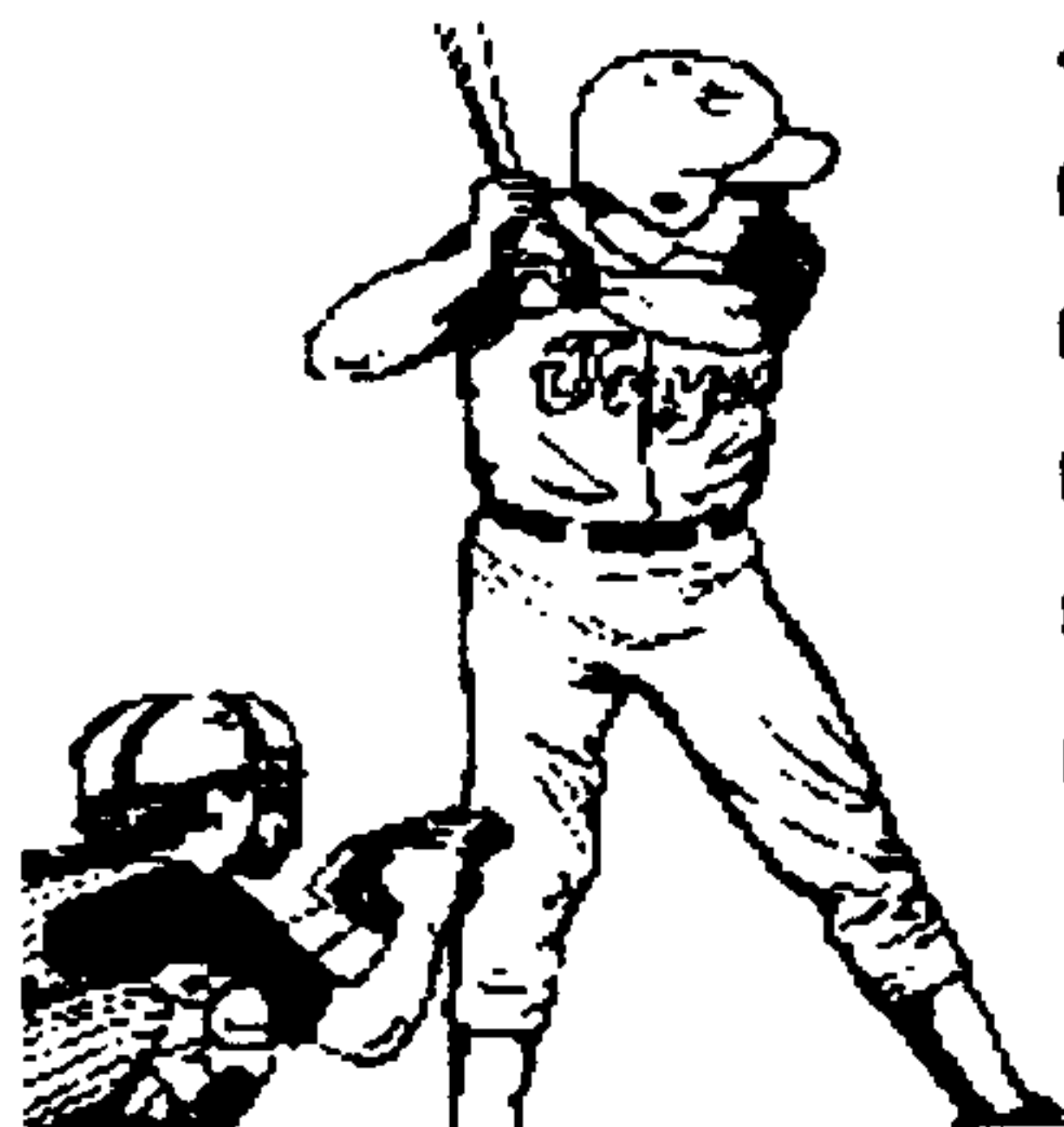
CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE.
THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE!

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS



July 4th has come and
gone,
But Labor Day is
coming along.
Have a glorious and
eventful summer,
Don't let it become
a bummer.
When outdoors you
cannot be,
Boot up your TI and
see,
That rainy days are NOT bad at all,
RUNNING YOUR TI IS A BALL!

