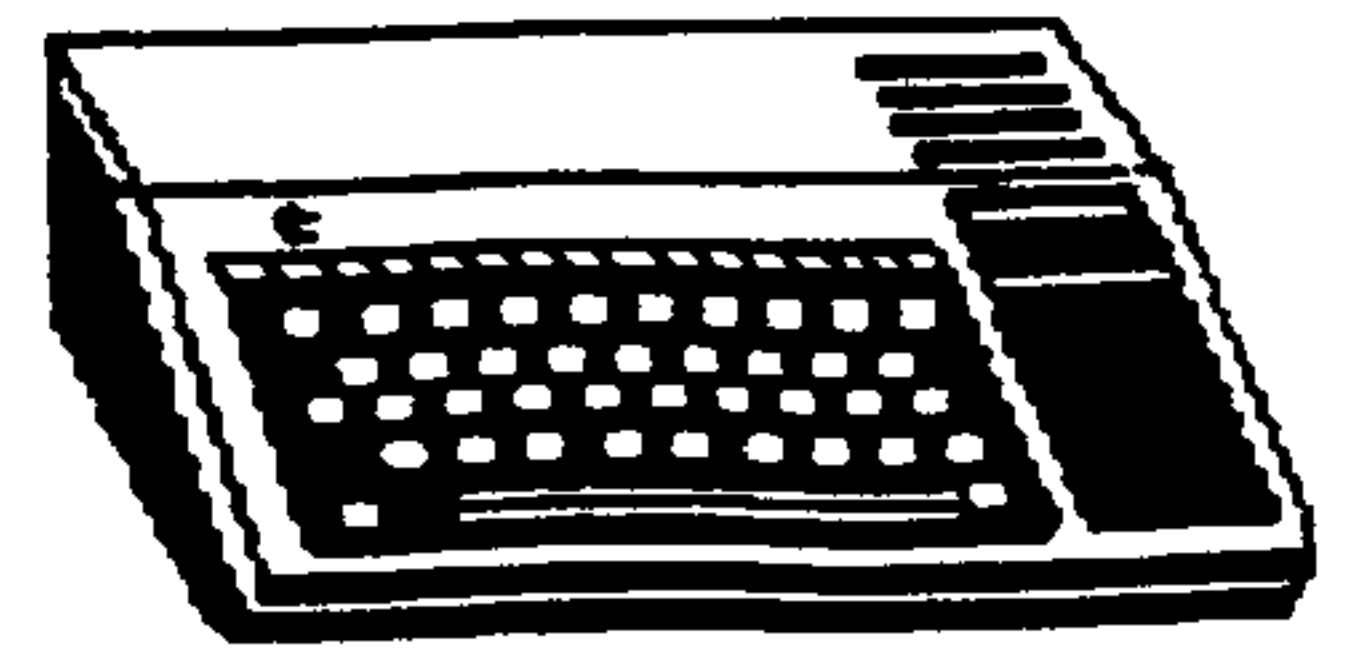




# CLEVELAND AREA

## TI-99/4A

### USER GROUPS



April 1994  
(March)

| OFFICE       | TI-CHIPS  | MEETINGS   |
|--------------|---|--|
| CO-PRESIDENT | Glenn Bernasek 238-6335   | 10:00 AM   |
| CO-PRESIDENT | Virgil Thomason 1264-7779   | N. Royalton  |
| TREASURER    | Lin Shaw 235-3912   | County Library   |
| MEMBERSHIP   | John Parken 331-2830<br>4172 W. 217th St.<br>Fairview Pk., OH 44126 | State Rd. SO. of<br>Route 82 1/4mi<br>EVERY THIRD SAT. |
| SECRETARY    | (Harry : : : Temporary)   |  |
| DISK LIBRARY | Lee Kee 238-6938  | MAR 19, 1994   |
| TAPE & MDDS  | John Parken 331-2830  | APR 16, 1994   |
| HARD COPY    | Harry Hoffman 631-2354  | MAY 21, 1994   |

| OFFICE       | NORTHCOAST  | MEETINGS  |
|--------------|---|---|
| CO-PRESIDENT | Ken Gladyszewski 1357-7274                                  | 1-4 P.M.  |
| CO-PRESIDENT | Walt Ryder 921-8223   | Euclidian Room                                  |
| Treasurer    | Frank Jenkins 283-8526                                      | Euclid SO. Mall                                 |
| MEMBERSHIP   | Martin Sooley 1-257-1661<br>6149 Bryson<br>Mentor, OH 44060 | E.260th off I-90<br>(South)<br>EVERY THIRD SAT. |
| SECRETARY    | Bernie Zuckerman 381-4088                                   |   |
| DISK LIBRARY | Martin Sooley 1-257-1661                                    | MAR 19, 1994                                    |
| TAPE & MDDS  | Frank Jenkins 283-8526                                      | APR 16, 1994                                    |
| HARD COPY    | Bick Alden 1-352-9172                                       | MAY 21, 1994                                    |



From the Editor's Desk:



Hope you all had a Happy St. Pat's Day

Hi Tiers,

TI-Chips welcomes new member Fred Lalacci to the fold! Fred lives in Cleveland and has been actively seeking information about his new machine!

Glenn Bernasek made the pages of MICROpendium again. This time with a picture of his TI system set-up! Way to go, Glenn. Anyone else game to send a picture in!!!

Don't forget the date of the LIMA RUG (Multi User Group) Conference, May 13,14th 1994. THIS IS NOT A MEETING WEEK!!! Anyone really interested in learning more about their computer should attend. New and old products will be shown at seminars and tables. Meet fellow Tiers from around the world! Nina and I always have a great time there. Come join us.

Also in MICROpendium this month: Bruce Harrison explains some fundamental 'instructions' in Assembly Language and shows the relationship to instructions in Basic. The SCSI (Small Computer System Interface) peripheral card and more NEW stuff from Western Horizon Technologies and Bud Mills Services is now being sold. Ask Ron Markus for details. Maybe we should take them up on the demo for a club meeting. There are many XBasic programs to type in and use. Dr. Charles Good reviews 2 programs by Brukin Software, and Ken Gillilands 'How to use TPA (The Printer's Apprentice and not go insane'. Of course 'User Notes' and 'Feedback' is always interesting!

Beery Miller has come out with 9640 news #3 and MDDS 2.0 for the Geneve. Geneve owners should be very happy with this new update!

If anyone has questions that he/she is embarrassed to ask at the meetings, please give it/them to Harry or Nina at the meeting or call us at home. We will attempt to get the correct answers and put them in the newsletter, so ALL can benefit from this knowledge. Thank you in advance for contributing to the learning process of TI'ing!

Running out of time as usual,

Harry



# TI-Chips

TI-Chips...02/19/94

Glenn opened the meeting with a statement that he was misquoted in the newsletter, in the first paragraph! It was a lot stronger than his actual comments! (This editor apologizes for the misinformation).

Treasurer, Lin Shaw, said we are still solvent. He checked around and the only way we can get an interest free account is to go to an individual account and not a commercial one. He would like to see us bring up the amount to a interest free level! A motion was made by Harry, seconded by John Parken to let Glenn open a dual account with Lin so we can stop this depleting of our account. Approval of Lin is necessary for this move. Passed unanimously.

John Parken gave his Membership/Tape Library report. We are holding our own on membership, but there are a lot of members who are coming due within the next three months. The Lima video is still being passed around.

Les Kee gave his Library report. The library has been stacking up, since the Lima disks are coming in every month. No raffle disks this month. A discussion followed about changing the raffle, so Les doesn't have to make up 10 disks every month. Les does have a program he made up that will choose random numbers to pick the disks to copy for the month. Nina suggested that if someone won the 10 disks, they could pick the disks of their choice! We also discussed a 50/50 cash drawing. Suggestions will be appreciated from the membership!!! Les tried out the disks from the library and some of them had LOAD programs that didn't work and some of the games/programs didn't work! Les will check these out and let us know! Anyone that has the time and inclination can get these disks from Les and try his/her hand at repairing the problem.

We still NEED a CO-SECRETARY while Chris is away at college. All it takes is to get an agenda (Glenn leaves them on the table at each meeting), and take notes on each section of the Agenda! Write it on paper or disk and mail it to Harry. If you live in the Cleveland area, Harry will be glad to pick it up! He told me so!!!

Glenn brought up the subject of supporting TI members who also use MSDOS machines. This was tabled last month because so few members showed up. A long discussion followed. A hand count showed that most members had MSDOS machines at home or used them at the office. John asked if the group would want to buy the TI-Emulator for demos. This helped further the discussion more. Ken Gladysewski, visiting Co-president of North Coast, said he would bring this up at his meeting at N.Coast. Nina brought out a

point that, the young members need support in MSDOS, as they will be using this at school and work. Many people had comments and the question was again tabled until next month. Motion was made by Lin and seconded by Harry. Passed.

Ron Markus, our resident member/dealer, brought out some very interesting items. He let his Tenth anniversary lapse, but was celebrating now with some bargains for the group! This may carry over to the next meeting. He also brought up a point that he cheats himself & the club by setting up all he can bring and misses out on demos and people come to his table during demos. He is a member of both clubs and would like to participate as a member, also. He will be bringing less of his store of products and if some member wants something special brought to the meeting, just call Ron at home (before the meeting day) and he will bring it along! Ron has available a new ribbon re-inker that he feels is a great product. With the cost of new ribbons and a person who uses his/her printer often would save money using a re-inker! He also has 3.5" & 5.25" disk drives for \$49.95. Pocket 2400 baud modems for \$34.95, while they last. Ron is selling 4000 Horizon Ram Disks, ZeroK for \$135.00. 128K ram chips for, the clubs only, \$20.00, no limit! Ron is now taking orders for the SCSI (Scuzzy) card, \$170.00. This controls up to 8 SCSI devices. There is an add-on board that you can buy for \$100.00 that allows you to use all your old equipment, such as your MFM or RLL hard drives, and floppy drives, plus using 1.2meg 5.25" drives or 2.88meg 3.5" drives! This card may take up one spot on the SCSI card. Ron is checking on this! At Fest West, an AT interface (\$65.00) is coming out that will allow you to use your TI keyboard along with an AT keyboard for members with 80 column devices (DIGIT). Not including the AT keyboard, which can be bought pretty cheap! A module form of Rich Gilbertson's XBasic, \$60.00. The Lima show should be a very special show for us this year! A new card is coming out that will use the 9958 chip for 80 column and also VGA compatibility. There will be no problem using your RGB monitors, you just cannot access VGA. The new 4A Memex Jr. is a 4 meg card out that gives an extra 4 meg expansion to the 4A. Ron hasn't received a price as yet!

Les brought up the Clearing House OBS and what is happening with it! Ron and Harry promised to have something for next meeting.

Virgil announced that Ken Gladysewski was giving a demo and Les Kee, who didn't get a chance this month because of time lapsing, will put on his demo next month! Glenn will not be here next month, so Virgil will run the meeting. The equipment is stored in the Library.



# NORTHCOAST 99ers By Bernie Zuckerman

The February 19th, 1994 meeting was called to order by Co-President Ken Gladyszewski at 1:30 P.M. There were 15 members and guests present. The financial report was given by Treasurer Frank Jenkins. Total income was \$93.60 (including \$60.00 from membership renewals) and total expenses were \$57.95 all for the Newsletter.

Marty Smoley requested information regarding "First Draft-Final Copy" and whether anyone has heard from Art Gibson regarding repairs to the program. Harry reported that he heard that Art Gibson will not do anything more with the program - what we have is what we got. Deanna reported that the second version works except for the print portion. There was much discussion about this program including the possibility that some copies work and others do not plus the use of Funnelweb in conjunction with the program.

Harry Hoffman discussed the use of the Freenet and the part the TI section plays. He reported that its use is getting bigger and bigger and that there are many Tiers that are writing through the Internet with information that we can all get some benefit from. So get on the Freenet!!

Kenthen reminded the group that it is officer election time and that he and Walt are very willing to relinquish their (high?) office to anyone who would like to take over. Bernie will have to give up the secretarial position and Ken asked for volunteers for the secretary's office. After a very pregnant silence, Harry offered to fill in as long as Ken will record the meetings on tape until a permanent secretary can be found. Deanna also offered to help out with the secretarial job despite the fact that Ken tried to talk her into taking a chance with the presidency. Both Ken and Walt agreed to continue as Co-Presidents but would like someone else to have the honor. Frank agreed to continue as Treasurer and Marty as librarian and membership secretary.

Ken announced the dates for the next several Hanfests with the mention that much electronic and computer equipment is found at these meetings, including parts for the TI. The next one after our next meeting is in Dayton on April 29th

A discussion then followed about the effect of the MSDOS world on our membership. Ken had attended the Chips meeting at which this was argued back and forth with the caveat that when IBM people were invited to join the TI group they would eventually take over. Ken suggested that we consider including discussion about IBM and MSDOS at our meetings since several of our members are already involved in the MSDOS world. At Chips, most of their members admitted to having or using PCs; at our meeting

half of the members said they also use PCs. It was felt that we should discuss the situation and its effect on the members. There is a program that emulates the TI on the PC and Ken suggested we may be interested in buying the program and demonstrating at our meeting as a start in integrating PC into our group. His intent is to keep our group together even if it means including IBM as part of the meeting programs and in that way keep up interest in the group and the TI Community.

Many members felt that if they wanted to hear about IBM, they can join an IBM group. Many comments from "it's going to happen someday - the TI will just fade away" to "I'll always use my TI, even as a hobby", to "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em - but the TI will live on with its vast supply of software". Marty Smoley, as the club librarian-membership chairman, offered to put together a questionnaire to be sent to all members (subject to availability of funds for this purpose) to collect hard data on whether the members are interested in IBM and to get more information and facts to permit a decision based on statistics not emotions. A motion was passed and seconded to have Marty proceed with a survey on how our members are using their TI and their feelings about the IBM and integrating it into the TI User's Groups.

Ron Markus, our resident specialist and source of TI "stuff", then gave us a rundown on new equipment that he has available or that may be shown at the next Lima Faire. In celebration of Ramcharged Computer's 10th anniversary, he is offering a terrific price on disks - \$.10!!! He also has printer ribbon reinkers for sale that are automatic and which he has research to be the most economical and useful for any printer you have (it comes with 10 drivers) retails for \$79.75 and Ron is selling it for \$69.00. He also has 5 1/4 and 3 1/2 Teac disk drives for \$49.00 and adapters for them for \$4.00. He is taking orders for SCSI cards that can control up to eight devices and an add-on board to use 3 1/2" H.D. drives. A new AT keyboard interface that mounts inside the console, a new 80 column card, and a flat PEbox with 10 slots and a 250 Watt power supply will be announced at Lima. Contact Ron for further information about all this "juicy" stuff.

This completed the business meeting and Bruce gave another rundown on future Hanfests. He will supply Harry with a full list for the next Newsletter. Bruce then gave a discussion and demo on converting programs in DV80 to DV163. This permits a merge into the computer and end up so that you can run the programs written in DV80 and avoid copying them line by line.

Due to a lack of time, Walt's demo of the editor in editor assembler was set for the next meeting in March.

# THE FABLED TI-99/5A

By Glenn Bernaset

TI-CHIPS Cleveland, Ohio

What you are looking at are un-retouched pictures of an actual TI-99/5A! Yes, you read me right! This is a real TI-99/5A. (Actually, these are pictures of a TI-99/5B.) I for one didn't think there was such a thing, and I'll be the first to admit it! (My sincere apologies to Messers Cohen and Woodard.) It wasn't until I posted a message on comp.sys.ti that the 99/5A didn't exist; that I received an E-mail missive that informed me that the TI-99/5A did indeed exist!

The first thing I did was to send an E-mail reply offering to buy this machine or at least get some form of documentation. Well Tiers, needless to say, I had to settle for some pretty super photographs, and here's a couple of what was sent to me.

The owner informed me that the TI-99/5A or 5B was being developed to replace the 99/4A when TI pulled the plug. (Probably to go head-to-head with the C-64. THE 5A WOULD HAVE WON HANDS DOWN!)

Anyway, here's what was built into the TI-99/5A.

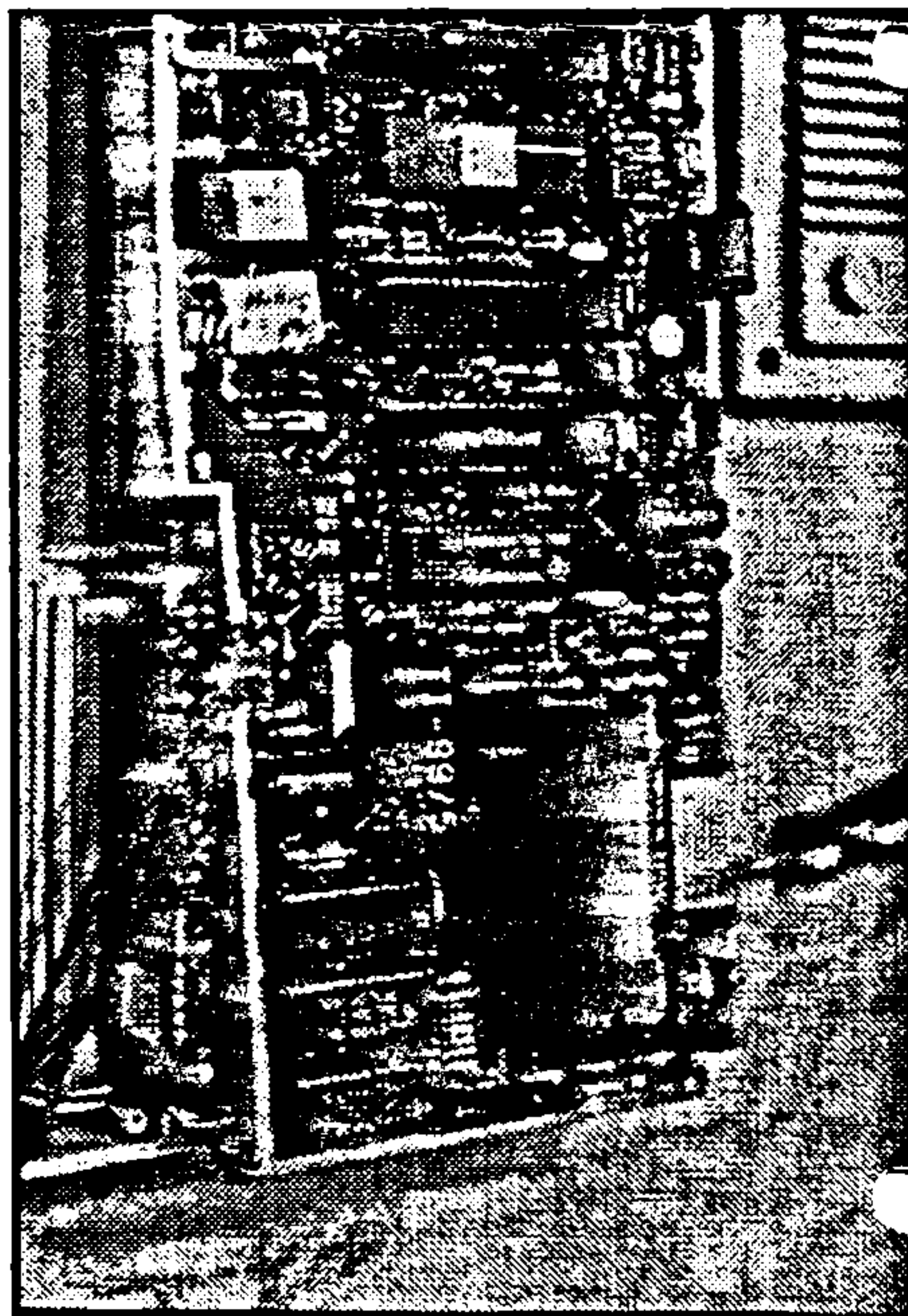
1. The cassette port was replaced with a Hexbus port. (The Hexbus was an eight wire, four bit wide communication cable. Devices designed for the Hexbus included a floppy disk controller, a serial port, streaming tape drive, 80 column video controller (doesn't that make your mouth water?), portable printers and portable plotters, to name most of them. In a way it was a return to the old "choo-choo train" concept.)

2. The insides were greatly simplified by the transition to the 9995 processor!

3. The TI-99/5B also had the 32K memory expansion and speech synthesizer built into the console.

If you still have doubts, a chip on the motherboard picture has a white label on it. The label reads, in part, "99/5 11/2/83" and "TI-99/5" is prominently printed on the circuit board!

There are probably some of you who will be fortunate enough to say, "Yeah, I've seen one of those before in a garage sale or at a Faire." You are very fortunate indeed because there were ONLY TEN TI-99/5A(5B)s MADE! I think this makes the TI-99/5A a pretty rare animal, don't you? I'll be carrying the original photos around with me to show to those who would like to take a look at the FABLED TI-99/5A. Enjoy!





# Do you own an IBM Compatible

By *Martin A. Smoley* © Feb. 20, 1994

6149 Bryson Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060-2324

We (in the NorthCoast 99'ers) are in a dilemma and need your help. We are concerned about members who are slipping away to the IBM Compatibles. We have

had lengthy discussions at our meetings over this matter and recognize that we need more data to enable us to make any decisions. For that reason we are asking you to fill out and return this questionnaire as soon as possible. We need and want your comments on this matter. I am compiling the information and will try to present a consensus of opinion at the NorthCoast meeting. Please print clearly. Thanks. Marty.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NorthCoast member \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_ TI Chips member \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ How often do you attend club meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own a IBM compatible \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, is it a hoby \_\_\_\_\_

Do you use a compatible at work \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what do you do with it.

Do you belong to a compatible club \_\_\_\_\_ Wordprocessing, Data base, etc.

Do you use a compatible bulletin board \_\_\_\_\_

Is work forcing you towards a compatible \_\_\_\_\_

What do you do with your compatible that is harder, or can't be done on your TI. (Wordprocessing, Data Base, Graphics, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If part of the meeting was devoted to IBM Compatibles would you attend (More, Less, Not at all, The same as you do now?) \_\_\_\_\_ In the space below please give us your ideas on this subject.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# North Coast 99'ers TI99/4A Users Group

By *Martin A. Smoley* © Feb. 18, 1994

6149 Bryson Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060-2324

So there I was, standing in front of a bar in San Diego, California at two forty-five AM, November 5, 1983, when some joker hurls a box through the fourth floor window of the sleazy hotel across the street; it sails over and hits me right in the noggen. If it hadn't knocked me out cold, I would have realized that I had just made contact with the Asian industrial espionage ring I tracked from Fort Worth, Texas and the TI-99/4A computer they were trying to get out of the country. If I was awake and a better detective, I would have also figured out that Texas Instruments was dumping the 99/4A project and I would be canned the next time I checked in with my office. I might have figured that out by the fact that the Asians had thrown the TI out the window. They knew it was over.

*Gee, I always wanted to be a mystery writer, what do you think gang? Huh?*

Actually my story starts with me as a bricklayer in the late seventies. Times were tough and there wasn't enough work for bricklayers, so I got a job with Eaton Corporation Axle Division as a Test Lab Technician. "If you're curious, they hired me because years before, I was a machinest, a welder-fabricator and did quite a bit of mechanical work on cars." Around 1980 Eaton started a computer monitoring program to collect and process data from their testing program that would be fully implemented by 1982. They allowed us to play with a small HP computer in the lab that had a form of Basic and some rudimentary Fortran. I became interested in the computer because I was also interested in math, but I never liked working with a sliderule or all of the hand calculations. At roughly that time I enrolled at the Willoughby Adult Education Center, to study computer programming (in Basic). During that six week course I purchased a Timex Sinclair computer for the amazing price of \$49.95 plus shipping. I played with the Sinclair for awhile, but I found the keyboard program entry to be too different from what I was learning at work and at school. Low and behold one day at work, a fellow employee showed up with a computer that he thought would revolutionize computers, and most of all, home computers. It was a TI99/4A home computer. It worked in color, if you had a color TV. It had a bigger and better keyboard than the Sinclair, and the Basic was closer to what we were learning at work, but it cost

three hundred dollars. I had started at Lakeland College, because Eaton reimbursed us for the tuition. I was taking math courses at that time and I really wanted one of those TI computers bad, but \$299.95 was out of the question. Well, time had passed, it was the fall of 1983 and guess what, I saw an ad in the News-Herald that K-Mart would sell a limited number of TI-99/4A computers for \$49.95. "Wow!" I was in line almost two hours before the store opened and I was number twenty-nine in line. "Bummer! What if they only had five or six TI's?" About fifteen minutes before the store would open, a guy came out with thirty-six numbered cards and handed them out. He said that 36 was all the TI's they had, and that everyone else might as well go home. Since I was about number twenty-nine, I got one. "My first TI-99/4A computer, and I am using that very computer to write this BIO."

Once I started using the TI, I was hooked. TI Basic, and then Extended Basic were almost identical to the Basic at Lakeland. One day Gold Circle decided to cut its losses and run. They sold out all their stock- cheap. I got a PE Box with the 32K card, a disk controller card and the Shugart SS/SD drive for \$179.00, and an RS232 card for \$69.00. At the time those prices were unbelievable. Once I had the PE Box, I was on my way. I purchased a Brother electronic daisywheel typewriter, an interface box to hook it to my serial port, and I had a real computer.

It wasn't long after that when I came wandering into a TI computer club meeting at the Euclid Square Mall. The meeting was out of the way for me. But I figured what the heck, if I didn't like it, or if I didn't like the people, I didn't ever have to come back. It's 1994 now and I should warn you people, if you're not nice to me, I'm never coming back.

I presently own six complete TI systems with full PE Boxes. I have two complete systems set up and ready to run at all times. My main TI system, the first one I purchased and am using now, has a full PE Box with one Qume full height DS/DD drive. I have two Teac half height DS/DD drives in a separate box, with power supply, and a NEC three and a half inch DS/DD drive in another box. My PEB has a Corcomp disk controller, my original TI RS232 card, and two (1 Megabyte) ramdisks. I still have my Brother daisywheel typewriter, but hardly ever use it. I have a Texas Instruments 99/4 impact printer, an Epson RX 100, a Star NX-1000 II, and a Canon LBP-8/mrkIII laser beam hooked up and ready to run at all times.

Since I can't sell this stuff I expect to be using it and attending the meetings for the foreseeable future. So if you want to contact an old TIER, I'll be at the address in the upper left corner of this page.

# LIBRARY UPDATE - March, 1994

## DISK 93070:

An assortment of XB games and utilities. HOUSE/INV will allow you to make an inventory of your house by item, room, value, serial number etc and save the file to disk or printer. MATH/EX is an educational program for the youngsters to drill them on addition, multiplication etc. FLAG/ANTH, GEEN/GAME, GRIZZLY, HOME/PLANT, HOUSE/INV, KEYBOARD/1, KEYBOARD/2, LOAN/CALC, MARTIAN/P, MATH/EX, MAZE/BOG, MESSAGE, MUSICMAKE, NOVEL/TI, SHOOT'EM, SKI/RACE, SOUND/EPFT, SPACE/FURY, STATE/CAPS and VALENTINE.

## DISK 93071:

XB Games and educational programs. The titles should be a good guide as to content. MASTERCAT, MASTERMIND, MENU, SHERLOCK, SPELL/EX, SPRITECHAR, T/T/T, TICTACTOE, TONK, TOWERS, WONDERMATH, WORD/CRAZE, WORDSEARCH and ZARGONS.

## DISK 93072:

There are 61 XB programs here, most of which are from a book called Basic Tricks. These are programming utilities which can be worked into your own programs. There are some fancy ways to display your program menus and there are routines to produce a variety of sound effects or geometrical designs. If you do your own XB programming this is something you will find useful.

## DISK 93073:

GRAPHIC ATTACK is a game written in c99 by Brad Thurgood. In the README file he explains that this game was developed first on a Timex/Sinclair 2068 home computer by Michael Thurgood. Brad wrote a TI-Basic version and since it was not fast enough, he wrote several versions in c99. He includes his development of the program (uncompiled) which should be of value to those trying to learn the c99 compiler language. It is a simple program but enough of a challenge to amuse you for awhile.

## DISK 93074:

Two lessons in astronomy in game form. Various constellations are shown and information is given on each. The program then prints a quiz to see what you have learned. The graphics are nice and the source code is also given. Archived.

## DISK 93075:

More XB games and utilities as follows: ADDRESS, ANALYZE, BALANCE, BILLBOARD, CHECKERS, GRAPHICS, HANGMAN, OTHELLO, PHONETIC, SEEK, SPEECH, SUPER and TANK.

## DISK 93076:

A baseball game written in assembly language. The source code is included in two archived files. The game has excellent graphics, marred only by some garbled text which probably could be easily fixed by some of you are knowledgeable in assembly code. To run the game, load the UTIL1 program using Diskreview, Boot or an E/A cartridge.

## DISK 93077:

Just about everyone has and uses the TI Writer program in one form or another. Here is the source code for TIW for those of you who have the ability to modify it for special uses. It dates back six or seven years and is archived.

## DISK 93078:

Last year I started to collect programs that had been used in demonstrations at our meetings. As it turned out there were not programs at each of our demos so I decided to issue what I have so far. There are two solitaire games, ACCORDIAN and CHALLENGE... I gave a demo of a program that will catalog disks (only in DSK1.) and then will sort them out by program in alphabetical order. This is called DISKSORT. I also use the SORT program for address sorts. Documents are included. The STOCK-VAL program is one I wrote using Brad Snyder's 40-column utilities and will allow you to calculate the value of your stock portfolio and display and print it in forty columns. CONVERTXB and docs are also here. This is an update of the program I put on some recent library disks. It will enable creating an XB program from a program listed in DV80 format. Sometimes programs are found in text files and this is an easy way to get a runnable program without having to retype them as a program.

## DISK 93079:

HAMFESTS is a listing of the Hamfests for the rest of 1994 for you hams and tinkerers. Since there was still room on this disk I included the DV-80 file showing all the library disks with the 93xxx numbering system. This might be handy if you wish to do a FindString search looking for a particular program. This is why I am including the disk catalog for most of the listings. The catalog for this disk is as follows: ACCORDIAN, CHALLENGE, CONVERTXB, CONVERTDO, DISKSORT, SORT, SORTDOCS, STOCK-VAL, CLELIB93A, CLELIB93B, and HAMFESTS.

*Note: Where are all questions and comments I asked for?*

*Marty.*



By Martin A. Smoley © Feb. 21, 1994

6149 Bryson Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060-2324

## What's on that disk?

| EXT-7/9/88<br>Filename | Free<br>Size | 235<br>Type/No | Used<br>60 | 1205<br>P |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
| 1PRNT_EMPH             | 2            | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| 7/20/86SX1             | 34           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| 7/20/86SX2             | 34           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| 7/20/86SX3             | 34           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| 7/20/86SXB             | 34           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| AT-ADRS                | 3            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| CAL-LBP8               | 37           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| CFG814                 | 27           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| CHARA1                 | 5            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| CNTRLCNVRT             | 6            | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| CNVRTBACK              | 3            | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| DEMO1OBJ               | 28           | DIS/FIX        | 80         | U         |
| DEMODOC                | 42           | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| DISKLIB4/C             | 9            | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| DISKLIB4/D             | 34           | INT/FIX        | 104        | U         |
| DISKLIB4/S             | 3            | INT/FIX        | 255        | U         |
| FILEREADE              | 63           | INT/VAR        | 254        | U         |
| HEX/DEC                | 5            | PROGRAM        |            | P         |
| LOAD                   | 31           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MAIL/TI-87             | 32           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MANAGER                | 98           | PROGRAM        |            | P         |
| MAS-ADRS               | 3            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MENU                   | 29           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MG                     | 33           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MH                     | 31           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| MS-ADRS                | 3            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| NEW/SYS/2              | 34           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| NO/DR/EXB              | 2            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| QUICK/CATP             | 11           | PROGRAM        |            | P         |
| README4/89             | 38           | DIS/VAR        | 80         | U         |
| ROS10/8/93             | 33           | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| SYSCON                 | 6            | PROGRAM        |            | U         |
| TAGS_NOCO              | 97           | INT/FIX        | 150        | U         |
| TLS                    | 3            | DIS/VAR        | 80         | P         |
| XBFUNCT                | 11           | DIS/VAR        | 163        | U         |

Good luck TI'ers.

*Marty.*

Due to some questions at our last meeting I decide. give everyone some info about the files and programs might encounter on a library disk from our library. I referring to the names, numbers and characters found when cataloging a disk and what they might mean. This is new information and it may not be complete or completely accurate, it's merely a starting point for your investigation. The first thing you need when you encounter an unfamiliar disk is a directory (Dir) printout, as seen here. You can get this with DM-1000 or FunnelWeb's SD function. I normally use FunnelWeb (FWb) because it tells you if the program is Extended Basic (XB) or Editor Assembler (EA), and that's half the battle. If you learn this without FWb, you will appreciate it more later.

On the top line of the Dir you find the diskname, the amount of storage space remaining Free on this disk, and the space already used. The diskname may be important on disks for Microsoft Multiplan (which is TAMP), but most times it is not important. The total amount of space on the disk (Free and Used) is important. A SS/SD drive holds 360 sectors, a DS/SD holds 720, and a DS/DD drive holds 1440 sectors. If you know that you have SS/SD drives and you receive a disk with a total of 720 or 1440 sectors, you should recognize that you will probably not be able to get any of the data off this disk. You will need the help of someone with DS/SD or DS/DD drives.

The first file on this disk is a DV80, DIS/VAR 80 or Disk Variable 80 format, they all mean the same thing. A DIS/VAR file can perform work, as a Transliterate (TLS) file or printer drivers, but a DIS/VAR 80 file is a word processing type text file used by TI Writer (TIW), FWb, etc. You can use FWb to both catalog your disk and load, read and print any of the DIS/VAR 80 or DIS/FIX 80 files on this disk. One of the more important functions of DIS/VAR 80 files (named README or DOC) on a disk is that authors place instructions on their programs in these files. The first thing you should do is look at all the DIS/VAR 80 files to see if there is any information to help you START or run the programs. In this case DEMODOC is probably where you will find out about DEMO1OBJ.

DIS/FIX 80 files can be looked at or printed using FWb or TIW. If you pull one into FWb, you might see a mish-mosh of chaotic numbers and characters that mean nothing to you. This would be an Assembly language program that could be run with an E/A cartridge under Option 3. After firing up your E/A Cartridge and selecting Option 3 (with this disk in drive 1), you enter DSK1.DEMO1OBJ and press enter. "DEMO1OBJ is the only E/A 3 program you will see to the left." When asked for a File Name, you will need to know the word that starts the program. In some cases you can just press enter or try some words like START, RUN or GO. If there are no DOC files and you are not familiar with an E/A program, I recommend that you leave it alone. E/A programs can mess up your RAM disk even files on a floppy disk if it starts up and takes over your system. [ Next month. ]



## HAMFESTS by Bruce Rodenkirch, KX8U

What is a Hamfest? This is a flea market specializing in radio equipment, electronic parts, and gadgets, computers, software and supplies. There is new and used equipment and like most flea markets a lot of jewels mixed in with a lot of junk. If you like to browse they are great and if you are an electronic hobbyist they are a great source of parts and information. The cost is usually about \$4 or \$5 at the door and a dollar less for a ticket in advance. When I go to one in another town I park my wife at the local Women's Day Car Center (Shopping Mall) and we both end up tired and happy. Here are some of the Hamfests within a reasonable drive for our area.

The Dayton Hamfest is the grand daddy of all hamfests with about 30,000 enthusiasts from all over the world attending. It is held the last weekend of April in Dayton at the Ohara Convention Center and is quite an adventure. I know of two bus trips sponsored by area amateur radio clubs and the pertinent info is listed below. A big advantage of taking the bus besides not having to drive is that the bus parks close enough so that you can return during the day to put your goodies in the bus. After all, if you buy an old radio receiver weighing in at 50# or so (boat anchors we have call them) you might get a little tired carrying it.

### DAYTON BUS TRIPS:

The Tusco ARC is planning a bus trip to the Dayton Hamfest on Saturday April 30. The bus will depart at 3am from the CTE Warehouse parking lot, on Commercial Parkway in Dover Ohio. The cost is \$39 (\$11 for Hamfest ticket in advance and \$28 for the bus ticket). There will be a breakfast stop in Springfield and a stop at the NCL Cafeteria in Columbus on the return trip. Dave, WD8CKK, is the chairman. His number was not listed in the Tusco Newsletter but you can probably contact him on the 146.73 MHz repeater or by mail to 723 E Front St. Dover Ohio 44622. (Editor: The Dayton ARC will not furnish shuttle busses from the hotels this year, which should make a bus trip even more attractive).

The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society (CARS) will also have a bus departing for Dayton on Saturday, April 30, from the Breckville area at 4:00am and returning late that night. There will be a breakfast stop and a dinner stop. Cost is \$39.95 (\$28.95 if you already have your own Hamfest ticket). Reservations must be postmarked by March 26th to get a hamfest ticket included and to be eligible for a drawing. Winner to get refund of cost of bus ticket. Call Rich LaCoix, N8H06, at 1-467-7567 for more info call, or send name, address, and check or Money Order to Dayton Bus Tour, 81 Ledge Rd. Apt. 105, Northfield, Ohio 44067.

### Other Hamfests/Computer shows:

March 20th: 22nd Annual ARC Hamfest and Computer Show sponsored by Two Rivers ARC of McKeesport, Pa. at Pittsburgh's Showplace, The Monroeville EXPO MART in Monroeville, Pa. From the PA. Turnpike (I-76) take Exit 6 and follow signs to Business 22-Monroeville. Travel West on Business 22 for 2 miles. The EXPO MART is on the left. Exit from the right lane at the main entry ramp for the Monroeville Mall. As you approach the underpass, the EXPO MART East Wing Parking Lot is on the left. The Monroeville Mall is very large and is part of the "Miracle Mile", a long stretch of shopping. There is usually a talk-in on 146.52 MHz.

March 27: Lake County Hamfest sponsored by the Lake County ARC at Madison High School in Madison, which is located about 12 miles past of Painesville Ohio. Exit I-90 @ Rte 528, go directly north to Middle Ridge, then West to the Hamfest which is just past Burns St. VEC testing: 8:15 - No-Code Tech Theory; 8:45 - 20 wpm; 9:15 - 13 wpm; 9:45 - Supp; 10:15 - Novice, Tech & General Theory; 11:45 - Advanced & Extra Theory. Talk-in on 224.50 (PL 141.3). For more info contact: Roxanne, Lake County Hamfest, 6899 Melridge, Painesville, Ohio 44077, or

call (216) 352-6756.

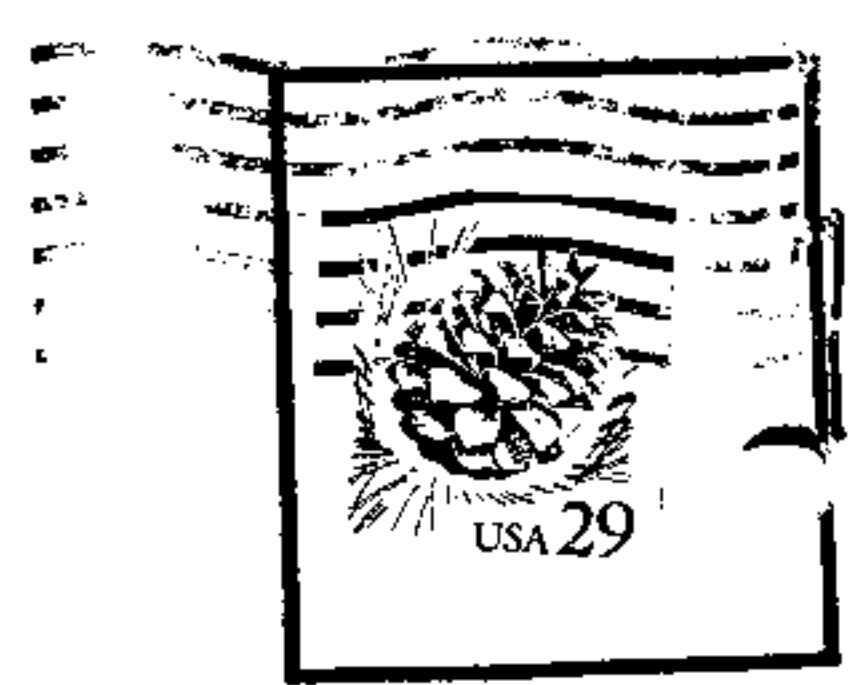
April 29th-May 1st: Dayton HAMVENTION in Dayton Ohio.

May 15th: Wheeling, WVA. Hamfest: sponsored by the Tripple States Radio Amateur Club (TSRAC) at White Palace in Wheeling Park. \$3.00 at the door, women and youth under 17 free. Check-in directions on 146.91 and 146.715-MHz Repeaters. For more info TSRAC, Box 240 RR#1, Adena, Ohio 43901. Phone /Fax: (614) 546-3930.

May 15th: Hamfest and Computer Show by the Lorain County Amateur Radio Assoc. (LCARA) at the Lorain County Community College. Talk-in on AF88, 147.915/.315MHz. repeater. INFO: Joe Shapko, N8OUB; 537 Bon Air Ave., Elyria, Ohio 44035, or call (216) 365-0265.

May 22nd: Hamfest Computer/Electronics Flea Market and Craft Show by the Twenty over Nine Radio Club at the Mahoning County Fairgrounds on Rte. 46 just South of Rte. 224 in Canfield, Ohio. Check in and direction on 147.915 MHz. 443.225+R, and 224.150MHz simplex. For more info: Don Stoddard, N8LNE; 42 S. Whitney Ave.; Youngstown, Ohio 44509; or call (216) 793-7072.

Cleveland Area User Groups  
% Harry Hoffman  
3925 Trowbridge Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44109-1348



**Check your Expiration Date  
This may be your LAST issue!**

**FIRST CLASS**

**FIRST CLASS**

**FIRST CLASS**

**FIRST CLASS**

**Due to the rising cost of the Newsletter:  
Newsletter only cost is \$12.00  
Full membership price - \$15.00 w/library priveleges.  
Join either club. See front cover for membership chairs.**



Member:

Jerry Reising has the following  
TI-99/4A equipment for sale:

4 consoles: One has a Howie IBM style keyboard interface.  
PEBox with 32K memory, TI disk controller, TI RS232 card, 500K Howie  
Ram Disk.  
Gram Kracker.  
2 Half Height DSDD Drives in a stand-alone box w/Power Supply.  
Multi-Plan, TI-Writer, Editor/Assembler.  
Much Software: WriterEase, CSGD, TIBase 3.0, Page Pro, many fairware  
disks.

Everything for \$400.00, or parts seperately.

Call or write: Jerry Reising  
178 Vinewood Dr.  
Avon Lake, OH 44012-1433  
Phone: (216) 933-3354