



HUG

FEBRUARY 1984

FILE 001

HOUSTON USERS GROUP

PROP. of HUG
SET "A"
c/o R. Lumpkin
Houston Texas
713-469-5089

MEETING SCHEDULE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

(2ND SUNDAY IF 1ST SUNDAY IS ON A HOLIDAY WEEKEND)

2:00 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1984

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

ATTENDANCE AT THE JANUARY MEETING WAS EXCELLENT. ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THAT NFL PLAYOFFS WERE BEING HELD THAT AFTERNOON. A LOT OF NEW FACES WERE SEEN AND MANY OF THEM BECAME MEMBERS THAT DAY. WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS. WE URGE YOU TO TAKE PART IN OUR ACTIVITIES AND HELP OUR ORGANIZATION IN ANY WAY THAT YOU CAN. TO ALL 1983 MEMBERS. PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE WANT AND NEED YOU DURING 1984.

WE HAVE AGAIN POSTPONED ELECTION OF OFFICERS. A NOMINATING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN APPOINTED, WITH TOM JAY AS ITS CHAIRMAN. AND WILL PRESENT A SLATE OF NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR WILL BE ACCEPTED. SO DON'T BE BASHFUL IF YOU WANT TO BE AN OFFICER OR WANT TO NOMINATE SOMEONE.

ANOTHER GOOD REASON TO ATTEND OUR FEBRUARY MEETING IS TO HEAR OUR GUEST SPEAKER, CHARLES EHNINGER, WHO IS WITH FUTURA SOFTWARE IN FORT WORTH. CHARLES IS AN EXCELLENT PROGRAMMER AND IS EXCEPTIONALLY KNOWLEDGABLE ABOUT THE 99/4A. THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE HEARD HIM WHEN HE HAS SPOKEN TO US IN THE PAST KNOW THAT WE ARE IN FOR A REAL TREAT.

WE HAVE A LOT PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR. SEE YOU ON FEBRUARY 5.

WAYNE WRIGHT

HUG 1983 OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | - WAYNE WRIGHT |
| Vice-President | - JANE McASHAN |
| Treasurer | - JANE ROWLAND |
| Secretary | - J.R. BASTARDO |
| Librarian | - RALPH ARNOLD |
| Editor | - BILL KNECHT |

 THIS NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE HOUSTON USERS GROUP (TI HOME COMPUTERS). ANY OPINION OR ENDORSEMENT IS THAT OF THE AUTHOR, AND MAY NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL OPINION OF 'HUG'. PERMISSION TO REPRINT GRANTED.

PROGRAM

ScreenDump Program

```
2 REM <<< DISPLAY DESIGN ON SCREEN >>>
5 CALL CLEAR
10 FOR I=3 TO 21 STEP 2
20 C=ABS((34-I)/2)
30 CALL HCHAR(I-2,C,42,I)
40 NEXT I
50 FOR I=1 TO 3
60 CALL HCHAR(I+21,15,42,3)
70 NEXT I
100 REM<<PRINTING SCREEN >>
110 REM ^^ DATE: 3-7-82 ^^
120 OPEN #1:"PIO"
130 REM <<< ROWS >>>
140 FOR R=1 TO 24
150 M$=""
160 REM <<< COLUMNS >>>
170 FOR C=1 TO 32
180 CALL GCHAR(R,C,Z)
190 M$=M$&CHR$(Z)
200 NEXT C
210 PRINT #1:M$
220 NEXT R
230 CLOSE #1
```

THESE INSTRUCTIONS WERE PRINTED ON THE SCREEN. THEN 'DUMPED' USING THIS PROGRAM

LINES 2-70 ARE A SAMPLE OF A PROGRAM. LINES 100-230 IS THE 'SCREENDUMP' PROGRAM

WHEN ENTERING THE PROGRAM. YOU MIGHT WANT TO EXCLUDE THE 'REM' STATEMENTS. ALSO CHECK LINE 120 TO SEE THAT IT MATCHES YOUR PRINTER STATEMENT. TO USE THE DUMP. BREAK YOUR PROGRAM AND INSERT THIS ONE AFTER THE DISPLAYED MATERIAL YOU WANT PRINTED.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE DEALERS

The following dealers are members of our users group. If you are looking for something, check with them.

COMPUTERAGE - SHARPSTOWN (next to Penney's). Ph: 270-1257

D.C.ELECTRONICS - DAVID SHOLMIRE. Ph: 482-0186

M&S COMPUTER SYSTEMS - MIKE MATULA. Ph: 486-0224

ATTENTION FISHERMEN!

If you are a fisherman, I am sure you like to brag just like me. Now you can use your computer to do the bragging for you. I have just finished writing a BASIC Program titled "Bill's 1984 Fishing Report". The program has a fine graphics display for the title as well as music and speech (with use of TEII & Speech Syn) when you return from fishing, just load this program and you will be prompted to input your catch. The program sets up a data file to store your records. Then when your friends come over, load this program and the computer will display your report as well as say something like "On May 28th Bill caught a 5 & 1/2 pound red-fish while fishing at Matagorda." The program will also give you a printed copy of the report. Besides for bragging purposes, the report comes in handy next year for pointing out when fishing was best.

If you are a fisherman and would like a copy of this program, let me know & I'll make you one. -Bill Knecht

REVIEW

MAGAZINE REVIEWS

by BILL KNECHT

COMPUTE! COMPUTE!. P.O.BOX 914, FARMINGDALE, NY 11737 - \$24.00/YEAR

This magazine carries articles on and programs for the TI-99-4A, Vic-20, Commodore 64, Timex/Sinclair, PET, Atari, Apple, TRS-80. It also features a "Programming Tips" column by C. Regena. It usually has about 5 programs that can be used on the TI.

HOME COMPUTER (formerly 99'er Home Computer) HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE, BOX 5537, EUGENE, OR 97405 - \$25.00/YR

In the past, HOME COMPUTER has been exclusively for the TI Computer. They are now adding Vic, Commodore and Apple. They say they will still have as much for the Ti as in the past. It usually has quite a few programs to type in.

FAMILY COMPUTING FAMILY COMPUTING, BOX 2512, BOULDER, CO 80321 - \$15.97/YEAR

This magazine carries articles and programs for the TI-99-4A, Commodore & Vic, Apple, Atari, Trs-80, Timex/Sinclair and IBM/PC. The programs are usually short family-type programs.

These are the three magazines that carry articles and programs for our computer. Before subscribing, you might want to pick up a copy from Computerage, M&S Computer Systems, some grocery stores and bookstores.

NEW LOCAL TI BULLETIN BOARD

Ralph Arnold has announced that he and his sons are starting up a local TI BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM called TI ZONE. Operations will start on February 1, 1984, so if you have a MODEM, give them a call at 497-3009.

1984 DUES NOTICE

\$10.00

1984 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE! THEY MAY BE PAID AT THE MEETING OR MAILED TO JANE ROWLAND, 5405 FINE ST. BELLAIRE 77401. IN ORDER TO STAY ON OUR MAILING LIST, YOUR PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 4, 1984. If you joined in the past few months and paid \$20.00, then your '84 dues are paid.

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MEMBERSHIP ROSTER CORRECTIONS

The following corrections need to be made to the printed copies of our Membership Roster:

GREER, LUCIA C. (change phone number to) 668-4500.

KARPATY, SANDOR 9115 Tepee Houston 77064 Ph: 955-113E.

MEETING MINUTES

01/08/84.

INTRODUCTION: Welcome of new members to this meeting. Introduction of HUG officers to newcomers. HUG financial status is \$1006 and in good solvent condition. To renew your fee membership is \$10.00. (which will not guarantee you 6 programs out the library, as was indicated in last month's newsletter). If you joined the club in December & paid \$20, then your dues for 1984 are already paid, and you are automatically a member for 1984. If you were a member in 83 and haven't paid your dues yet please do so before March 84 or you may not receive future newsletters. Mr Ralph Arnold, (HUG librarian), announced that starting February 1st he'll be operating a dedicated net from his system to all users and it will specially talk to other TI 99/4A computers. His net will be named "TI-ZONE" and it will be free to any user that has a phone modem and a TEII on his or her system. The net will operate unattended & capable of handling up to 100 messages of 12 lines each. Its main goal is to inform different users about TI 99/4A software and hardware news & TI 99/4A system environment. The net can be reached at (713)-497-3009 and it will be the first Houston net for the TI 99/4A computer to the general public..... Next on the agenda a nominating committee was created to propose and channel the election of HUG officers for 84. The committee was made of 4 volunteers and Mr. W.Wright (HUG President). Mr. Tom Jay (Principal of St John's School) was designated to be committee chairman, and Mrs. Lucia Greer, Mr. Joseph Mino, Mr. Larry Pipkin and Mr. John Sewell volunteered as committee members to resolve who will be nominated for office duty. Hopefully the elections will probably be in February or March.

HARDWARE : A Ribbon Inker was shown by Mr. Ralph Arnold as the alternative to ribbon replacing, if one has to do tons of printing. A \$60 one-time investment can save you lots of money in the long run. Also Ralph showed us his solid state cartridge multi-port switch. This switch, he pointed out, can be purchased for (\$39.95) at TI 99/4A authorized dealers.

SOFTWARE: For this meeting Mr. Bill Knecht demonstrated a graphics application program which couldn't run due to hardware failure. Bill did a good job showing us how to map and graph details of a typical building.

QUESTIONS ANSWERS AND COMMENTS: Few questions were asked during the course of the meeting most of these are summarized as follows: (c) The TI 99'er magazine offered a synthesized 300 page publication compiling all info on the TI 99/4A for all 1983 (Dec-Jan), and Mr. Tom Dasenbrock offered to donate his collection to the club library for all users references. (q) Was letter of complaint sent to TI ? (a) Yes but haven't heard from other groups. (c) Exchanging your console at a ex-change center may cost you \$28.95 and the phone numbers of the two Houston centers are: 490-3690 or 937-2522, (q) How can one use a TEII to up-load or down-load data from other systems to a TI99? (a) Must use a TI Extended Basic prgm and control keys(ctrl 2 ctrl 3, etc.) (q) Can the TEII follow the protocol of DEC VT-100 terminal ? (a) No. (q) Can one use a TI printer to print graphics ? (a) The TI impact printer doesn't have graphics capability, one must insert a grapax chip into the printer before being able to plot nice graphs with the printer. (c) The multiport solid state switch can save you computer aging. (q) Has the Assy language beginner's book become available ? (a) Yes, and it is an excellent publication, Steve Davis is the editor and Ralph Molesworth the writer, the book's title is Introduction to Assembly Language for the TI Home Computer, first edition "Steve Davis Publishing Co. P.O. Box 190831 Dallas Texas 75219. (\$14.95+1.50 postage)

END OF MEETING.....J.R. Bastardo.

New National Newsletter

DON AND LUCY VEITH, MEMBERS OF THE RELATIVELY NEW USERS' GROUP IN BAKERSFIELD, CA, HAVE JUST STARTED A NEWSLETTER INTENDED TO KEEP ALL OF THE USERS' GROUPS AROUND THE WORLD INFORMED ABOUT UP-TO-DATE ACTIVITIES THAT WILL CONCERN US. THEY ARE DOING A LOT OF WORK AND ARE MAKING THE NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE. THEY ARE ASKING SEVERAL USERS' GROUPS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY TO FOLD, STAMP AND MAIL THE NEWSLETTERS TO OTHER USERS' GROUPS IN THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS. THE HOUSTON USERS' GROUP HAS BEEN ASKED TO HELP AND HAS BEEN SENT THE FIRST BATCH OF NEWSLETTERS TO DISTRIBUTE. THIS IS STRICTLY A NON-PROFIT EFFORT INTENDED TO HELP US KNOW JUST WHAT IS GOING ON AND WHERE IT IS HAPPENING. SEVERAL SPECIAL INTERVIEWS ARE BEING HELD WITH OFFICIALS OF COR COMF, WHO IS PLANNING A 99/4A COMPATIBLE COMPUTER, WITH CRAIG MILLER OF MILLER'S GRAPHICS, AND OTHERS WHO CAN HELP TO KEEP US INFORMED.

LET US HOPE THAT THIS EFFORT IS SUCCESSFUL AND CONTINUES FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. OUR GROUP CAN HAVE A PART IN KEEPING ALL OF US AND OTHER USERS' GROUPS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT NEW HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST TO US. HOPEFULLY WE WILL HAVE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE.

TO DON AND LUCY VEITH. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

JAY'S ROOST

Christmas is over and we are all preparing for the new year. Some potential new members have begun using their recently acquired TI 99/4A computer and are wondering what good things can be done with it. I hope that everyone who is currently a member, and especially those of you at the December meeting, will be encouraging anyone who has one of these great computers to join our users group. We can help each other to continue to get the best out of this machine.

At the December meeting, one of the questions asked had been answered previously, but I thought it worthwhile to answer it again in this column. How do you use the printer other than to print out a listing of your program? To use the printer as part of a program you are writing to print out information as hard copy rather than on the screen, you must first OPEN the printer in the same way you OPEN a file. If you have a printer attached to the parallel port of the RS232 card you would use the following statement in your program to OPEN the printer:

```
100 OPEN #1:"PIO"
```

In the remainder of your program you would write each PRINT statement that was to utilize the printer as follows:

```
550 PRINT #1:"WHATEVER YOU WANT HERE"
```

It is possible to write your program so that the user has a choice of whether to have the printout be on the printer or on the screen. A sequence of statements that will allow this follows:

```
100 OPEN #7:"PIO.LF"  
110 INPUT "SCREEN (S) OR PRINTER (P) :":A$  
120 IF A$="P" THEN V=7 ELSE V=0  
550 PRINT #V:"WHATEVER YOU WANT"
```

This allows you the option each time you run the program. It also helps to make the program user friendly.

I have asked for your input into this column and to date I have received none. I do not mind writing the column but I would like to make it meaningful for you. As a teacher I am going over this daily. I would like to help you. Give me some ideas.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------|---|
| BILL KNECHT | EDITOR - 815 YORKSHIRE, PASADENA 77503, Ph: 473-5713 |
| DODD EASTHAM | ADVERTISING, REVIEW OTHER NEWSLETTERS, Ph: 688-9472 |
| JOHN SEWELL | QUESTIONS, HARDWARE & SOFTWARE REPORTS, TEENS, Ph: 729-0975 |

DEADLINE each month for submitting information - 2ND WEEKEND!

PROGRAMMING

Joy Stick Routine

by TED MICHELSEN

From TIC TALK-Rockv Mountain 99ers:

This routine can be used to add the use of joy sticks to club library programs. It is suggested that you review the sections in the basic manual on the use of CALL JOYST and CALL KEY, as you will have to select the correct statements to change. Also, this routine is written for a program that does not stop for keyboard input.

To use this routine, you need to find the CALL KEY statements that control the motion (the routine is set up to use the arrow keys (S,D,E,X) and any action you want the fire key on the joy stick to control. Replace the CALL KEY statements which controls the motion with GOSUB 10000 and the CALL KEY which controls the fire button with CALL KEY(1,XX,S), where XX is the variable in the original CALL KEY statement, followed by the following statement: XXXX XX=ASC(Q)-18+XX where Q is the keyboard "fire button", and XXXX is the next line number. Then add lines 10000 thru 10130 listed below:

```
10000 CALL JOYST(1,X,Y)
10010 N=(3*X/4 + Y/4 + 5)/2
10020 IF INT(N)-N<>0 THEN 10040
10030 ON N GOSUB 10050,10070,10090,10110
10040 RETURN
10050 K=87
10060 RETURN
10070 K=8E
10080 RETURN
10090 K=6F
10100 RETURN
10110 K=6E
10120 RETURN
```

NOTE: The above program is only set up for joy stick #1 and assumes that the CALL KEY statement that controls motion uses K as it's variable. If another symbol is used, change the K to that symbol.

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

Is there a LIGHT PEN available for use with the TI-99-4A?

I DO NOT KNOW OF A LIGHT PEN THAT IS COMMERCIALY MARKETED FOR OUR COMPUTER. BUT DON'T GIVE UP. I HAVE THE PLANS TO BUILD ONE AND IF ALL THE PARTS CAN BE LOCATED, I WILL HAVE A REPORT AT THE MEETING. -Editor

SOMEONE HELP!!! Ellen Raghavan (721-9043) is having trouble using footnotes (subscript) with the TI-WRITER. She is using a Brother HR-15 typewriter/printer. If anyone can help her, please give her a call.

Chia Greer (668-4500) has a TI BASIC program that won't run on her system, but will run on another that does not have any peripherals attached. Even with the peripherals turned off, it still would not run. The program is quite long (only 1776 spaces left) and will not run in Extended BASIC. Can anyone suggest how this program can be ran without disconnecting the peripherals each time? If you can help, call her.