

HUG

HOUSTON USERS' GROUP
[OF THE TI-99 4A & COMPATIBLES]

MARCH
1987

HUG TIBBS - (713) 475-8909
24-hour BULLETIN BOARD

MEETING SCHEDULE
FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
(2nd Sunday if 1st Sunday
is on a holiday weekend)

AT THE NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 1987 2:00 P.M.

St. John's School - 2401 Claremont

The program scheduled for the March meeting will deal in the repair of your disks that have entered the TWILIGHT ZONE. If you have one of these (don't we all) bring it to the meeting and every attempt will be made to rescue it.

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HUG CLASSIFIEDS
SOUNDS OF THE DEEP

1987 HUG OFFICERS

President --- LARRY PIPKIN... 499-9991
VP/Membership FRANK REIDY.... 931-6848
VP/Program -- BOB FLOYD 455-1467
VP/S.I.G. --- EWELL BRIGHAM . 422-8616
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TIBBS/SysOp BILL KNECHT .. 473-5713
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SCOTT MEDBURY 277-6266

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TO ALL FELLOW HUG MEMBERS

This year has been interesting thus far. With Bill K's speech in January, thanks to a bad telephone line the year has started off well. The programs seem to be more interesting than I have ever seen them before. At least they were before I had to host the program at the last meeting. Oh well, you can't win them all. I understand that we have many more interesting and very informative programs yet to come. Let us know what you want to see and we will do our best to find a way to bring it to our meetings.

The library is still receiving many new programs for us to share. They are all available to our members. Please make good use of your computer and order programs for yourself and your family. Anyone out there that can program at all is needed to help us build our library and help our group continue to grow. Remember this is your group and its future rests in your hands.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped myself and the group be able to be what it is today. This thank you is extended to all of the officers, past and present, all of the members who have contributed of their time and programs to help make this one of the oldest and largest user's group in the nation. Without you we could not have made it.

1987 is off to a great start, let's keep it going and let's keep growing.

Sincerely
Larry R. Pipkin
H.U.G. PRESIDENT

EDITORS SOA-pBox

Keep your fingers crossed! Hopefully in the next couple of months our monthly meeting will be able to demo the Myarc 9640 TI compatible there are no promises being made at this time, but we ARE trying. If there is a particular subject that YOU would like to see presented at the meetings let Bob Floyd know (he gets lonely).

WELCOME to the following new members:

Linda Gratch; Frances A. Nussbaum; Paul Deutsch; John R. Ayers; James R. Oliver.

Thanks to Sandy Herman, Larry Pipkin, the Kirase Gang, and Rev. Gary Curry for their contributions to this issue. The next issue will feature articles written or submitted by _____ (YOUR NAME).

Scott Medbury
Editor

FOR SALE BY HUG

HUG has the following equipment for sale. Everything is sold "AS IS". Bids for any item listed below should be given to either Larry Pipkin or Bill Knecht no later than 2:00 p.m., Sunday March 1, 1987. Bids should be in writing or may be left in a private message on HUG TIBBS. Anyone may inspect the equipment immediately prior to the next HUG meeting. Bids may also be withdrawn anytime before the high bidder takes possession of merchandise.

ITEMS

1 Shugart 400L SSSD DISK DRIVE in working condition. The drive was used by the club library for a while and used on HUG TIBBS for about 1 year. In other words, the drive has some "mileage" on it.

1 CorComp RS232 card. The card has problems transmitting data after prolonged use. Probably a heat problem. Used about 1 1/2 years on HUG TIBBS. Repair estimate if sent to California \$35-\$50. Possibly could be repaired for less by someone who knows something about hardware repair.

(To be available next month)

Foundation 128K card. Current condition not working correctly, but trying to get it repaired.

HELP !

by Sandy Herman

Have you ever experienced problems like these when working on your computer?

1. You're in the middle of a program and the screen locks up
2. You get an ERROR message that you don't understand
3. You want to replace a disk controller card in your expansion box, but don't know how to do it it
4. You get some funny letters and squares in various colors on your screen, but don't know what the causes are

If these or any other problems have left you helpless, don't despair. That's one of the best reasons to belong to the Houston Users' Group. We have a very talented group of members who are ready, willing and able to offer advice and assistance to those who feel lost in the complex world of consoles, disk drives, modules and software.

Many's the time that people like Bill Knecht, Don Lewis, Larry Pipkin, Wayne Wright, Mike Matula, Tony Johnson and MANY others, have given THEIR time and help to our members who needed to solve a perplexing problem.

And, if the person you call feels he is unable to help, he usually knows of someone who can. A good time to button-hole someone for help is at our monthly meetings. You will find consideration and sympathy to your plight, and will learn a great deal more about your TI 99/4A, in the bargain. Join us this coming Sunday (March 1), HUG's got a lot to offer.

One-Liners

by Andrew and Chris Kirase

One thing I liked about Home Computer Magazine was its one-liner section.

They used to have a contest for the best one line Extended BASIC programs. Here are a few of our own:

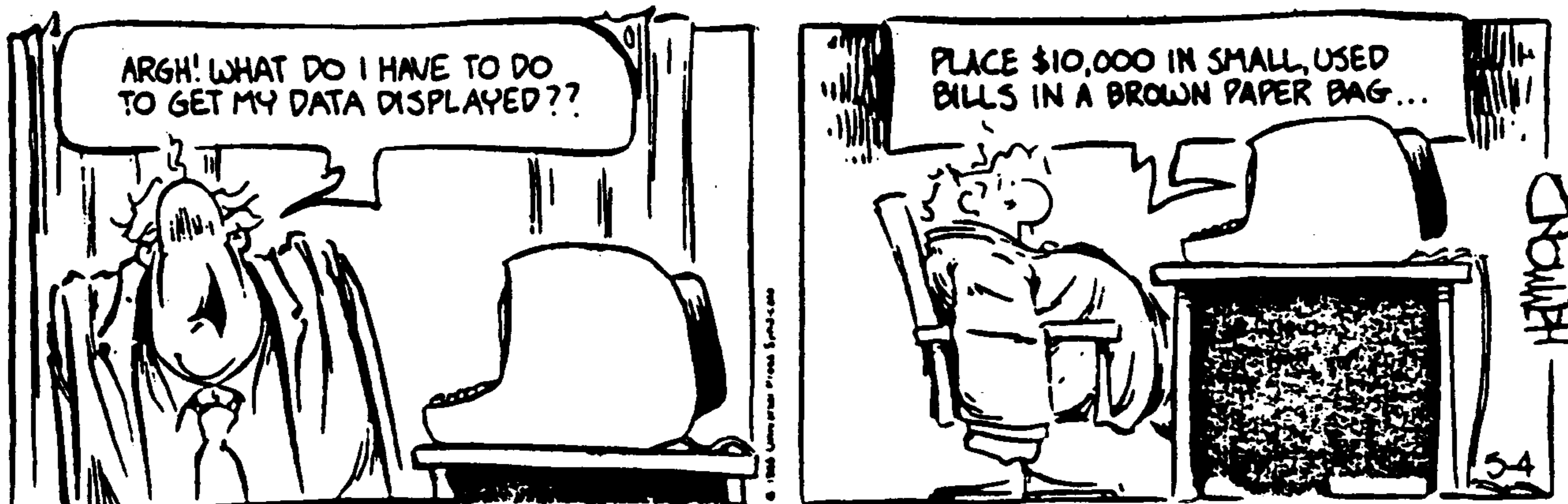
```
1 CALL CHAR(40,RPT$("3C42A59999A5423C",4)):: CALL CLEAR :: FOR A=1 TO 28 :: CALL MAGNIFY(A/9+1):: RANDOMIZE ::  
X=2008RND-99 :: CALL SPRITE($A,43,A/2, 99,99,X,A83-42):: NEXT A :: RUN
```

```
1 FOR I=33 TO 90 :: PRINT CHR$(I);: B$="" :: CALL CHARPAT(I,A$):: FOR J=1 TO 16 STEP 2 :: B$=B$SEB$(A$,16-J,2)::  
NEXT J :: CALL CHAR(I,B$):: NEXT I :: FOR I=1 TO 500 :: NEXT I :: RUN
```

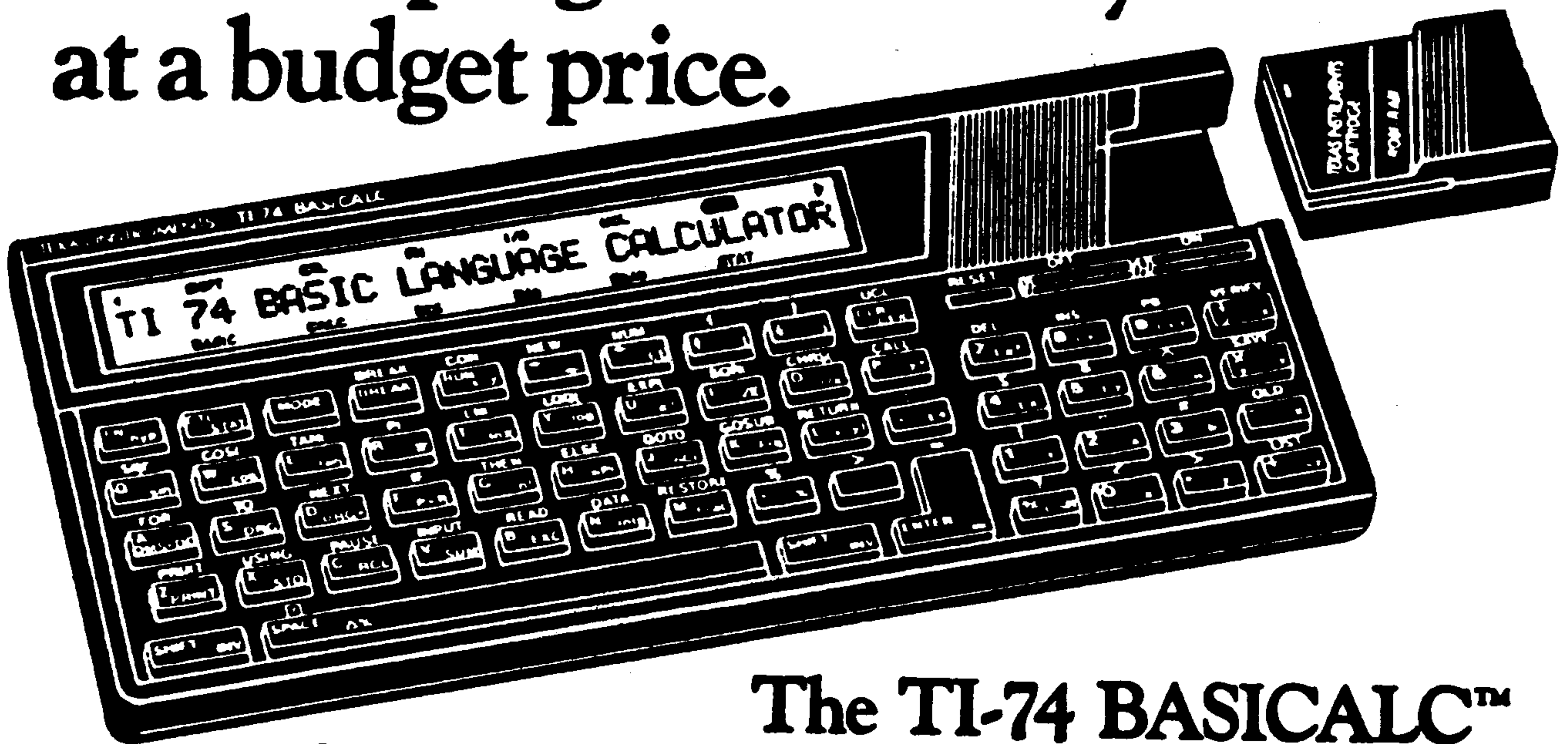
To enter these programs, or make your own, type the line with no unnecessary spaces until you hear the beep at the end of the fifth line. Then press <FCTN 8> (REDO) and finish it. Some suggestions if you decide to write your own:

- Use DISPLAY AT ERASE ALL instead of CALL CLEAR:: DISPLAY AT when possible.
- Always use a one-digit line number.
- If you want the program to loop, use RUN instead of GOTO.
- Graphics programs, especially sprites, usually turn out the best.
- Try to reuse variables, such as A in the first example is used for the sprite speed and magnify to save space.

Hope to see some of your best one-liners!



BASIC programmability— at a budget price.



The TI-74 BASICALC™ is powerful, flexible, friendly...and economical.

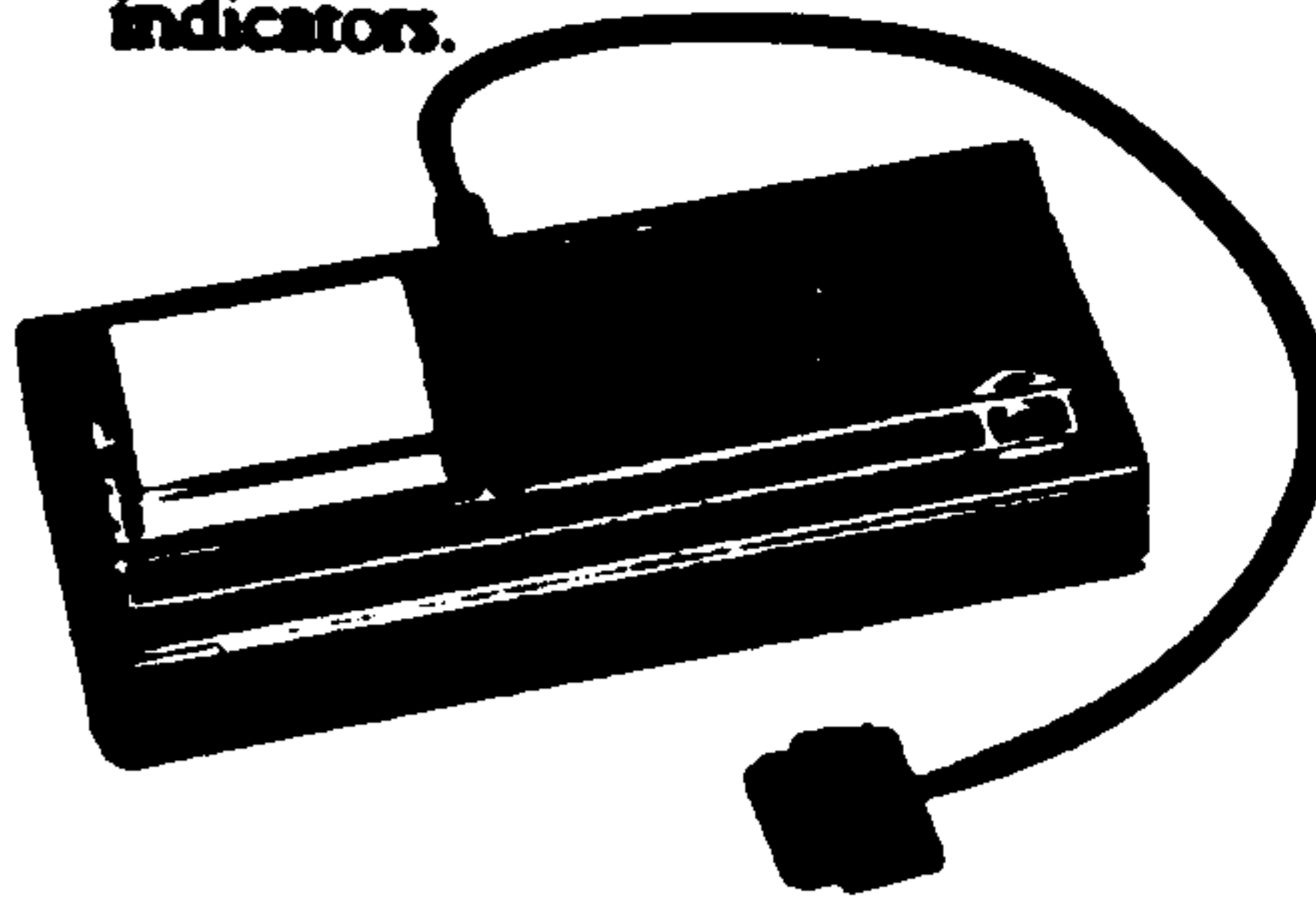
The TI-74 BASICALC™ calculator gives you more programmable problem-solving power than any other calculator at a comparable price.

It's both an advanced scientific calculator—with 70 functions—and a BASIC programmable calculator—with 92 commands.

It's "user-friendly" because you program it in simple, straightforward BASIC language (anyone with a fundamental knowledge of BASIC can use it). And its capacity is considerable: 8K bytes of built-in RAM, and another 8K

available in an optional cartridge.

A typewriter-style elastomeric "positive-action" keyboard helps prevent missed or double entries. Display shows 31 large alphanumeric characters (scrolls left or right to 80) and 14 status indicators.



All of this in a truly portable battery-powered package just 4.2 x 8.3 x 1.3 inches.

Optional accessories include a 24-column, battery-operated thermal printer (PC-324), a Constant Memory™ 8K RAM cartridge that retains data even when removed from the TI-74, and an interface cable that lets you use a standard audio cassette recorder for data storage.

Currently available software cartridges include: Learn, Pascal, Statistics, and Mathematics.



US Tech

TI HOME COMPUTER SALES

15335 PASEO DEL REY
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77083
(713) 488-3141

498-3141

HUG LIBRARY CATALOG ADDENDUM
February 1987

0218 TI-RUNNER EDITOR**XB

A program by Chris Kirase that will allow you to edit your TI-Runner screens. 46 sectors

0219 MUSHROOMS**TI BASIC OR XB

A well-written game from Australia. Try to gather the mushrooms without crossing your own path. 21 sectors

0220 CRYPTO**XB

A "Fairware" program by Paul Scheidemantle. A super cryptogram program. Well worth the \$5.00 donation requested. Requires 1 SSSD disk. 293 sectors

1121 ANTEATER**EA/3

A cute graphic picture of an anteater. Loads in EA/3. Program name is START. Comes with source and object code. 69 sectors

1122 INSTANCES**XB

This program converts TI-Artist Instances into mergeable files that can be used in Extended Basic programs. 31 sectors

1123 GARFIELD**TI BASIC

A good graphic drawing of Garfield. 14 sectors

3058 3 TERMINAL REGULATORS**XB

This program calculates resistor values when designing around LM317 or LM337 adjustable regulators. 24 sectors

4235 NEW VERSION OF DSKU**XB Printer recommended

New Version 3.2 of "Fairware" program by John Birdwell. Has many added features. 209 sectors

4255 NEW VERSION OF UTIL1&UTIL2

New version of both files that is compatible with PC-Pursuit. Replaces old files by same name on Fast-Term. 56 sectors

4256 SUPER CART MODIFICATIONS TI-Writer File

This file allows you to print out instructions on adding additional memory to your Super Cart with battery backup. 116 sectors

4257 SAVE AS**MINI MEMORY CARTRIDGE

A utility for Mini-Memory module. Makes it possible to save memory to disk in TI tagged object code rather than to cassette. 23 sectors

4258 TAX MASTER 87**XB Printer required

This program will figure your 1987 income taxes. Needs to be put on a dedicated disk to allow room for data storage of tax information. 109 sectors

4259 HORIZON RAM DISK AID V5.5

This program contains many new CALL LOADS and DSR's for the Horizon Ram Disk. It also has a menu load for all of your favorite programs. Comes with complete documentation. 307 sectors

5261 MILITARY MARCHES**XB

This program will play the theme marches for all 4 branches of the service. Music by Ralph Landrum and graphics by Bill Knecht. 87 sectors

5262 TI-SINGS00TEII BASIC

This program allows your computer to sing four songs to you. Included are: "I Want To Live In An Octopus Garden", "Here Comes The Sun", "You're So Vain", and "I Saw Her Standing There". 63 sectors

5263 NEW YEAR 0600XB

A cute musical & graphic program sending out the old year and bringing in the new. 35 sectors

RAPID COPY

A review of the new disk copy program from Barry Boone.

by Rev. Gary R. Curry

All of us who have disk systems have a need for several copy programs. Sometimes we just need to copy one or more files from one disk to another (a disk manager program is good for that). Sometimes we want to just update a back-up copy of a program's disk or data disk and there are plenty of copy programs around, some public domain, some FAIRWARE, and some copyrighted, that will do the job. But there are certain times when you have a friend over who is raiding your disk banks or you are over at another friend's computer room raiding his disk banks or perhaps you have just received by UPS a rather large number of disks of software from some mail or telephone order and you want to make a lot of copies of whole disks to new, unformatted disks (or used, recycled ones) in as short a time as possible. That is the time when the oh so slow file-by-file copying of the disk manager is unacceptable and even the near two and one-half minute copy time of most sector copiers is maddening. That is the time for **RAPID COPY!**

Prepare yourself for a new dimension in disk copying. Not only will it format the target disk for you (automatically in the Myarc and Corcomp versions), **BUT**, it then will copy the whole disk, track by track, in groups of 90 sectors, or 10 tracks. It does not matter how little or how much of the master disk is used for files, this program copies everything and fast! I copied a SSSD disk to an already formatted back-up in only 32 seconds (actual copy time with verification ON). I have not seen any other copy program do it that fast.

The disk includes an extended basic **LOAD** program that automatically selects the right version to run with your disk controller, be it TI, Corcomp, or Myarc. **RAPID COPY** can also be loaded with the Run Program File option of the Editor/Assembler cart.

The TI version has the option of formatting a target disk or not, but the other two versions format the target disk without asking. The option is one feature that I would prefer to see in all versions. One can waste a lot of time waiting for the disk to format when it is already formatted. Or, alternatively, I would like to see the program able to function like the **TURBO COPY** and write directly to a blank disk track by track without having to format it in advance. The speed gained by the track copying technique is greatly lost by the "have to format" situation with this copier.

However, this program has a disk catalog option that lets you look at what you are about to copy or what you have just written to a copy disk; or you can check to see what is on that unmarked disk that you are about to use for making a copy. There might be something you want to save on there.

These features (disk catalog, fast copying, formatting) make this **THE** copy program to use in the above mentioned situations and many others that you might think of, not to mention what might be going on at the Users Group meeting ("Let me make a copy of that right quick.").

This commercial copyrighted software is little more cost than **FAIRWARE**, and at \$14.95 I believe is worth the price!

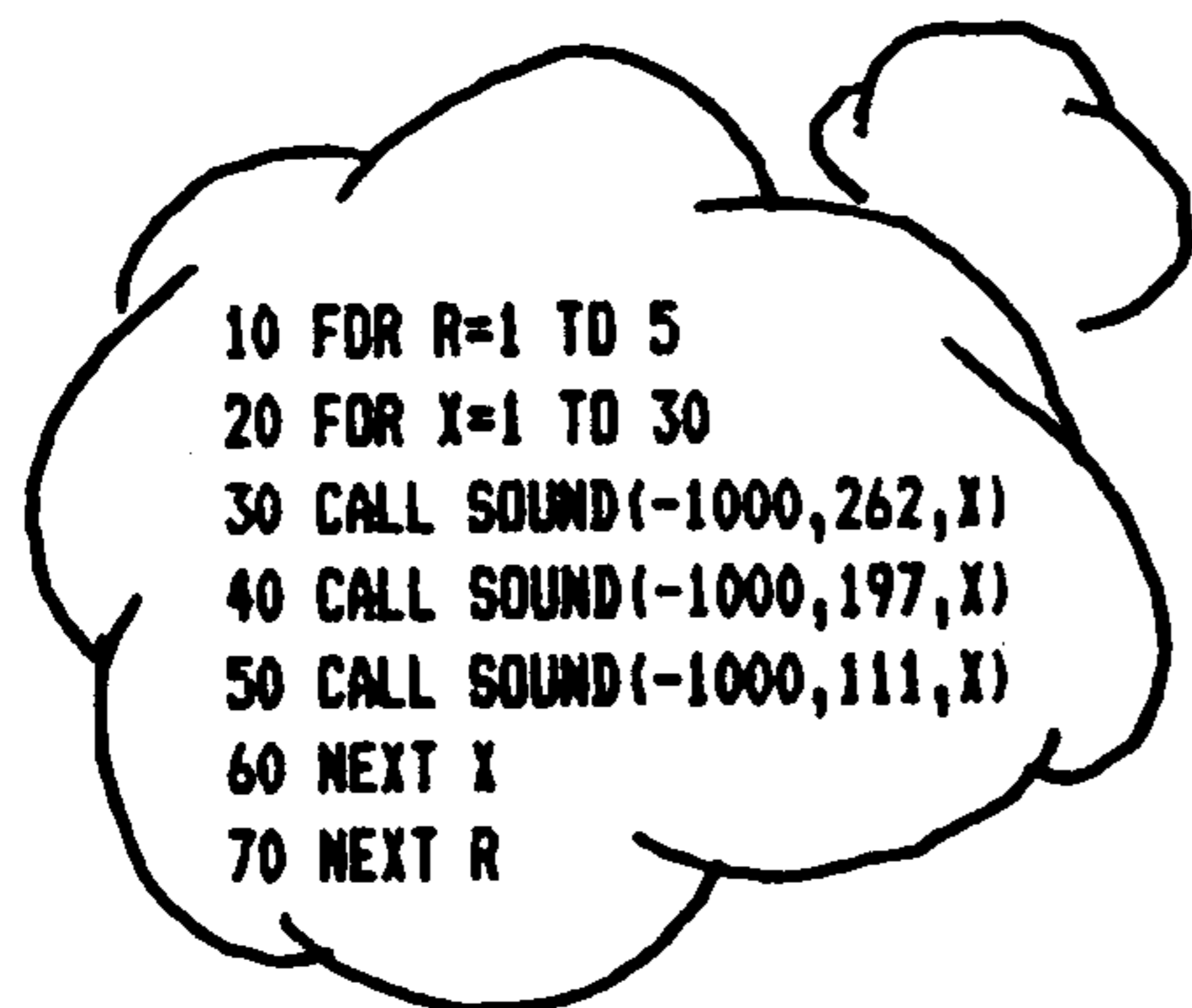
M & S COMPUTER SYSTEMS
 15918 CAVENDISH DRIVE
 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77059
 713/486-0224

FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL 1987 SPECIALS

DISKETTES, DSDD, 10 PK, (LTD QTY)	5.00	TI ARTIST, GRAPHICS PROGRAM	19.95
VEREX DISKS, SSDD, 10 PK	6.95	ARTIST COMPANION 1,5 DISK SET	17.95
BONUS DISKS, SSDD, 10 PK	7.25	" " 2,2 DISK SET	9.95
DSDD, 10 PK	8.95	ARTIST DISPLAY MASTER	13.95
VERBATIM HEAD CLEANING KIT	5.95	NOTE: TI ARTIST USES GRAPHX	
REFILLS, 10 PK	9.95	COMPANIONS & ARTWORK!!!!	
SAFEKEEPER 20 DISK STORAGE	8.95	GRAPHX II W/ GRAPHX COMPANION	43.95
FLIP 'N FILE 10	2.99	I & II	
DISK MINDER 75	12.95	GRAPHX COMPANION III	6.95
VOLKSMODEM 12 W/ TI CABLE	149.95	SUPER SKETCH(1 LEFT!)	28.95
COMPUSERVE STARTER KIT	9.95	DATABIOTICS SUPER FORTH	24.95
NETWORK MODEM PROTECTOR	16.95	(SUPERSPACE REQUIRED)	
HES SOUND BOX(HOOKS UP	6.95	SUPERSPACE, 8K MEMORY CART.	39.95
STAR PRINTER DUST COVER	4.95	W/ MACRO ASSEMBLER, EDITOR	
ALL BOOKS IN STOCK	60% OFF	& INTRO TO ASSM. LANGUAGE BOOK	
STAR NX-10 NEAR LETTER QUALITY	259.95	SUPERSPACE II, 32K MEM. CART.	79.95
DOT MATRIX PRINTER, 120 CPS		W/ "C" COMPILER & SAME ITEMS	
DRAFT, 35 CPS NLQ, 5K BUFFER		WITH SUPERSPACE & MUCH MORE!	
STAR NX-15(15" CARRIAGE)	389.95	SCOTT ADAMS ADVENTURES: HULK	10.95
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PRINTER PAPER, 18#, 2900 SHTS.	22.95	W/ FREE "ELEMENTARY TI-99/4A"	
9-1/2 X 11, DISAPERF		BOOK BY DATAMOST(\$14.95 VALUE)	
PRINTER PAPER, RAINBOW PACK,	8.95	ARCADE SPECIAL: PACMAN,	11.95
24#, 100 EA-RED, BLUE, GOLD		DONKEY KONG & CENTIPEDE	
PRINTER RIBBONS, G-10,-10X,SG-10	2.00	TI-99/4A BLACK COMPUTER	74.95
(BLACK ONLY) TI IMPACT, MX-10	4.95		

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SOUNDS OF THE DEEP



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Individual HUG Members

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List your "PERSONAL"
hardware/software ITEMS
for sale for FREE in
in this section

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NEW ADDRESS

FIRST CLASS

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HUG Newsletter
c/o Kim Peterson
13107 Bafing
Houston, Tex. 77099-2244

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**DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY**

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--\ CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION DATE //--
--// THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE! \--

(four digit code left of YOUR first name)