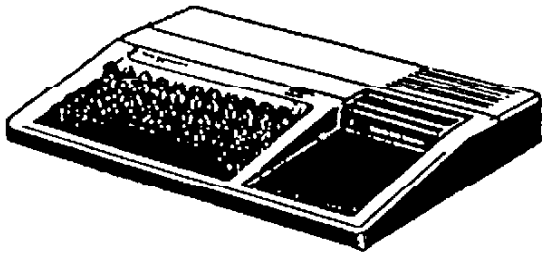
HOUSTON USERS GROUP



H U G N E W S
NOVEMBER 1988

MEETING SCHEDULE
SUNDAY Dec 04, 2:00
AGENDA: _ELECTIONS_OF_OFFICERS_1989
Last one _Multiple Demos?____Eats?__
at >> St. John's School - 2401 Claremont
(First Sunday of most months; 2nd Sunday if 1st is a holiday)

HUG TIBBS - 24-hour BULLETIN BOARD | Meetings: Nov. 13, 88 // Dec. 4, 88
(713) 781-4844 300/1200 bps | Jan. 8, 89 // Feb. 5, 89!

The Houston Users Group is organized to promote the use of the TI-99/4A Home Computer and the Myarc Geneve (TM). We invite persons of similar interest to meet with us. HUG is a non-profit group and is not affiliated with TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, INC.

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Library Addendums New Releases Newsbytes Reprints

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1988 HUG OFFICERS

President ---	BOB McCARTHY ...955-7939	BBS SysOp ---	HENRI SCHLERETH.952-4249	Membership/VP	KIM PETERSON ...498-3047
Soft Libr ---	LARRY PIPKIN ...499-9991	Program/VP --	MIKE CONNELL ...367-1047	Nwsltr Libr -	KIM PETERSON ...498-3047
SIG/VP ------	OPEN ... -	Secretary ---	JIM HUTCHINSON..437-1973	Cartr. Libr.-	GARY HUX ...991-0979
Treasurer ---	RUTH HERMAN ...271-4171	Exec Asst ---	TOM JAY ...850-0222	Editor ----	RICHARD LUMPKIN.469-5089

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Exchange Editors / Librarians: IF you have missed an issue of the HUG NEWS please let us know! If you fail to reciprocate or otherwise indicate your Group's interest for six months we will have to drop you off the mailing list. If you want a copy of our Library Catalog of Programs, please send $3.00 for disks for DV/80 files, or $6.00 for hardcopy: approx 80 pp. Back issues of the HUG Newsletter are available at $1.00 (postpaid)/issue, or $.50 / issue at the meetings, for members.

HUG MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership fees for HUG are $15. A ONE TIME initiation fee, for new members ONLY, is $10. The initiation fee, used to maintain user group services, entitles the new member to receive six free programs - of his own choosing - from the groups Public Domain and Shareware Software Library. Members receive a monthly issue of the HUG newsletter, may order programs from the software library and are permitted access to all "user" levels on the Group's bulletin board (BBS), HUG-TIBBS. All renewal and/or new membership fees and applications may be sent to the Group's Secretary at: Houston User Group, c/o Ruth & Sandy Herman, 6219 Sanford Road, Houston, Tx. 77096, or brought to the meetings. Membership applications are available at the same address, at meetings, or from the (BBS): HUG-TIBBS at (713) 481-4844. Please direct any questions regarding current membership to the Membership VP, Kim Peterson (713) 498-3047. Nov 88 membership = 103.

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<> <> <> <> MEMBERSHIP DEPT <> <> <> <>

Kim P. Peterson - October 1988

I'd like to welcome all our new members, listed below, to the Houston Users Group. If you have any questions regarding the use of your 99/4A, or anything else for that matter, please feel free to ask. There is no such animal as a "dumb" question, just one waiting to be answered.

Howard Aden	Joyce Starkey
Glenn Cox	Charles Goss
Patrick Ryan	Raymond Sarabia

Be sure to make these folks feel well at home with our group. They are HUG's MOST important asset!

---- WELCOME BACK! ----

We're glad to have with us all of you who have renewed their memberships for another year. You all, listed below, are what keeps this group going, welcome indeed!

Robert Cissell	Chris Kirmse
Wm & Mat Cowan	Gary Middleton
Tony Johnson	Levi Norman

----> NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS <----

Be sure to check the mailing label on your newsletter for the date that your membership expires: "8810" = October 1988, "8811" = November 1988 and so on. Membership renewal information is listed on the inside front cover. As a friendly reminder those memberships expiring at this time are listed below. (Don't despair if you have already renewed and your name still appears below, the officers "wheels" sometimes turn slow.)

~~James Barnes~~	Reed Giles
Ray Beck	~~RA & Delores Lendrum~~
Jack Carmichael	~~Paul Lee~~
Michael Connell	~~Bob Seddon~~
~~Jerry Coppens~~	James Uzzell
Deborah Davis	Alfred Withrow

----> GOING.. GOING... GONE!! ---->

The financial resources of HUG are not limitless. Expired memberships will be covered for ONLY THREE (3) months before deletion. These members will be dropped if dues aren't paid by the next meeting:

~~Adlee Anderson~~	Greg Johnson
~~John Ayers~~	James R. Keene
Doyle Batey	Timothy R. Kirk
Ewell Brigham	Eric V. Neuman
William Bush	James Oliver
~~Gary R. Curry~~	Joseph A. Roach
Ralph Ford	Martin Roberts
Bradford Hearne	Roy L. Snyder

---- TI-CARE FORUM ----

As part of a continuing effort to enhance support services, TI-CARE has introduced an on-line bulletin board that gives customers technical assistance and the latest news about TI-CARE and TI.

The board, called the "TI-CARE Forum", is a multi-line system which permits simultaneous access by multiple users. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be accessed using almost any Bell 212a compatible modem at baud rates of 300, 1200, and 2400.

Any user who dials up the Forum can peruse general information about TI, its products and services; view product demonstrations; and read important announcements.

Users who have purchased TI-CARE Support Services for specific software or hardware products may access technical information for those products. The technical material include direct responses to the user's questions and answers to technical questions asked by others. It also allows the user to download files from the Forum to a remote system. The Forum has been designed for ease of use with on-line help and menu driven functions. Special features help maximize the user's time. For example, there are separate file areas for each product. Also, a key search can be run in background mode while the user performs another task.

TI-CARE expects users to enjoy the Forum's advantages of immediate access to information, instead of waiting for assistance over the phone. In addition, the Forum allows customers to obtain selected TI owned software product updates electronically, saving the mail-time of conventional distribution.

There is no connection charge or user fee for access to general information on the Forum; the only cost is the phone call. The technical assistance is available through subscription to TI-CARE Support Services.

For more information, you may dial directly into general information section of the Forum at: "(512) 250-6112" (modem). Or if you would like to discuss the Forum, please call "1-800-847-5757" (voice).

(Reprint courtesy of the Net99er News - August 1988
NET 99er HCUG, P.O. Box 534, Hurst, Texas 76053)

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Check it out and let us know what you found, GOOD and BAD. It may not be HUG-TIBBS (713-781-4844) or The Phoenix (713-537-0741), but after all, its from the folks that brought you your 99/4A and it sure beats talking to the wall..... and then again, maybe not! (kpp)

TI-CARE "Forum" (512) 250-6112

ED.ECHOES

WELL, we have arrived at the end of another 'year' in the life of the world's most popular "orphan computer--basing the calendar on "Black Friday": October 28, 1983. And incredibly, most of the systems in use THEN are STILL being used today, sometimes by the same owners and sometimes by other, NEW owners. I quote from a NOV 11, 1983 article in the Houston Chronicle: "...Those moans you heard were from consumers with out-of-warranty TI PC's and TI-proprietary software that no other manufacturer's hardware will run." Well, guess what: the hardware has long outlasted the software of THOSE days, which has been superseded by MUCH BETTER programs. So has some of the hardware, of course. I think I will send this writer a copy of some of the latest articles on 4A Software and Hardware, and note that they just repaired an "out-of-warranty" console for me.

I recently made a point of noting that TI is still providing STRONG support for the 99/4A, but may not do so much for us after next March. I would think that they will not just trash the spare boards, etc, but I also have heard rumors that a Dallas-based company(?) has purchased rights to the various loose parts. I will let you know this: I recently returned to TI Service in Lubbock, a console which had stopped working and suffered loss of keys in storage. I actually expected them to either claim it was abused and refuse it, or else send me a new black and silver console as they have been doing on other exchanges. I received back (8 days total time!) a biege console with no 99/4A box, and noted as "re-conditioned". The biege console is not a production model--no serial number, and an "R" stamped into the bottom. The biege case, keyboard, Pwr Supply and Modulator are all new parts. The motherboard is USED and from a black and silver console, (quite possibly the one I sent in??) since the plug-in for cassette etc are black, not biege. Folks, they probably have hit the bottom of the stack of left-over new consoles in Lubbock!

There probably ARE several thousand un-used 99/4A's in boxes in various storage places--TENEX coming to mind there. What will become of all these is another question. They may still be selling these machines NEW for the next 5 years, but at some point TI will drop out of the picture, I suspect. I suggest that you patronize the people such as Louis and John Guion of the Dallas U.G. who have been repairing the equipment for years now. John might make his college money that way! Ask about their hardware upgrades also. Others with lots of technical knowledge on the TI equipment are John Willforth of the West Penn group, and Ken Hamai of the Brea 99ers in Whittier CA. Stay away from Hacks like me that just push wires until something lights up! //

MORE DATABIOTICS: The Dallas people are still REAL MAD because of the 12 "Grand-Rams" they ordered. As of Sept 1 1988 they had received '1' 128k unit (the price on IT now evidently being about the same as what they had ordered the 512K units at, almost a year ago.) It reportedly **DOES NOT** WORK just fine! They have a notice on their BBS asking for other 'rip-off-ees' to contact them to determine the SIZE of this problem and co-ordinate remedial efforts.

cont.: Don Andrews of the Tidewater U.G. (Chesapeake, VA) who had been trying to contact various "non-receipients" of the GrandRam, had an article dealing with his court hearing in which he apparently got a judgement against Galean Reed and Databiotics and Bill Moseid. This might be worth just about as much as the cancelled check from his 'dis-honored' order! I WILL say that Bill Moseid and Databiotics HAVE created and marketed some good, workable products for the 4A, and we all hope they will be around to provide for their currently ordered products, but in order to do this, Mr. Moseid DOES need to tighten up on his business operations and SHIP the products he SELLS. I don't think anyone in the HUG group ordered a GrandRam, or WILL until all of this gets straightened out.

ASGARD NEWS is for real. Vol I, #2 had articles such as: 'Picasso', The Complete Story; TI Strikes Back!, or why Horizons cost more than they used to; Personal Viewpoint by Jim Horn; pro and con on the Myarc (two letters); New products (of which each of the five items mentioned really IS a NEW and worthwhile item); Harry Brashear's Corner; Beginners Corner- Telecommunications; Geneve Corner (Worlds most complete, up to date, list of Geneve SW); #New Updates and Bug Report list for SW; #The News (on product status, mostly; #Rumors; #Current Versions; and some good advertising. #These areas are a formal recognition of the fact that a lot of info gets passed around piece-meal and REALLY needs to be condensed into some manageble, coherent form. Subscriptions are $9.00 / year (4 issues) and definitely worth every penny of it! Even the layout, paper and print quality show attention to detail and readability are high priorities:

ASGARD NEWS
P.O.Box 10697
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Exchange Editors, and other interested parties: copies of some of the HUG articles, in DV-80, set up to screen read or print from Editor, are available on a disk. Request from Editor, HUG NEWS, with $1.00 (stamps ok) to cover disk, mailer, postage. Files include: telecommunications, files and loading, power supplies, FWB hints, etc, from 1988 HUG Newsletter.//

FOR SALE:

Complete system, incl. two consoles, PEB, Cor Comp RS232, TI 32k card, 192k Horizon RD, CC Triple-tech card w/ speech, CC Disk Controller, Two DSDD drives in PEB, BMC 13" color monitor, Volksmodem 12, 200 disks of programs, Many TI Utility PGMS, Many game modules, Extra parts, etc... $600.00. Robert W. Davis (HUG member) at 713-466-3934 nights or 713-523-6723 week days.

----------End Ed.Echoes-NOV88P2//

BITS AND BITES

MORE BAD NEWS for the purveyors of 'home-grown' software, ie., authors of programs released to Public Domain and authors of "Fairware" now are being challenged by another form of commercially organized rip-off of their efforts. Apparently more than a few of the programs listed in TEX-COMP's ads in Micropendium were NOT submitted by the authors and in fact may NOT be (as implied) Cont.:)

Bits/Bites cont.:) Public Domain OR 'permitted' Fairware. Items which I would have to question are: 1) "FUNNELWEB FARM UTILITY (42)", which is evidently, by description (April 88), a copy of FUNNELWEB (4.0?), and therefore SPECIFICALLY, by the authors' statement, "...is not to be sold nor distributed with excessive copy fees, nor made part of any commercial sale,... and is not to be placed on any BBS without the author's permission." Also specifically noted is that the "Vn 3.0 and later programs are NOT in the public domain, but are 'fairware', with all rights reserved by the authors."

TEX-COMP originally made claim that the submitters of the programs "warranted" that it was their property. Their newest ads don't even carry this disclaimer. Since SOME of the programs are NOTED as being permitted by the authors, I would guess that the ones which are NOT so noted, ARE NOT by the author's written permission? So what does TEX-COMP mean by their "submitter" policy? Surely they don't intend to claim that they have the right to distribute and profit from an author's work just because SOMEONE submitted it to them! Shades of C. Lafara! One thing--NO ONE could claim that they "did not know who the author was" on Funnelweb, since the Fairware declaration on that one is on the title screen and NOT easy to edit out! It is only being properly business-like to ascertian that WHAT you are selling is something you are PERMITTED to sell! Maybe TEX-COMP has some paper from the MCGOVERNS on this!? They should say so if they do!!!

2) "DISK MANAGER II (62) This is the TI Disk Manager II module on disk."
Tx Instr. has been, over the years, REALLY NICE about releasing a lot of their developed SW items such as Diagnostics, Upgrades on TI-Writer/MP, Forth, etc (each of which is on the TEX-COMP list!), but I have not heard that they turned loose on ANY of the module-based SW except X-Basic which was licensed to a Texas outfit for copy/resale. Any info on this??

3) And then there is "ASTROLOGY (22)" which has been claimed, in letters to TEX-COMP, by the Nutmeg TI 99ers Users Group as being a FAIRWARE program named 'ZODIAC', "created to raise money for the user's group" by one of their members and notably NOT SUBMITTED to TEXCOMP by any member of that group. Their letter to TEX-COMP continues: "We feel that there are certain inequitities (sic) associated with your packaging and description. In particular, the author should be identified and the original title should be used in your ad copy. From either our own parochial viewpoint, or that of any other programmer, we deserve to be recognized in print when a program is defined as being desirable (as you certainly have in your writeup)."

They further note that even if the program is noted as being Fairware and a donation amount is stated, that the typical purchaser, having paid $4.95 + postage for the program, will feel that he has paid enough and thus will not contribute to the REAL author, thus this "...sale of fairware programs...deprives the author of his due income." For a copy of the letters, contact John Bulakowski, Pres., Nutmeg TI 99ers; 162 Lorann Drive; Naugatuck, CT 06770.

This is exactly why some groups have distributed Funnelweb 4.0 on a "donation at pick-up" basis. Everyone knows what it is and does; you either are willing to pay for the privilege of using it, or you are willing to rip off the McGoverns for their extremely painstaking and time-consuming labors! Since so MANY people fell into the second category, possibly because it was a lot of trouble to write a letter and send the s/o, the groups are doing it for these "users". Your group librarian should be GLAD to collect the donations for at least Funnelweb and send one money order IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS (DEC 25 even south of the equator!)

Back to what I have said before: if you want to kill the incentive for people to produce something for you, make sure they DON'T get paid for it! And you might as well know that Mike Dodd has SWORN that he will not release any more FAIRWARE, un-protected programs.

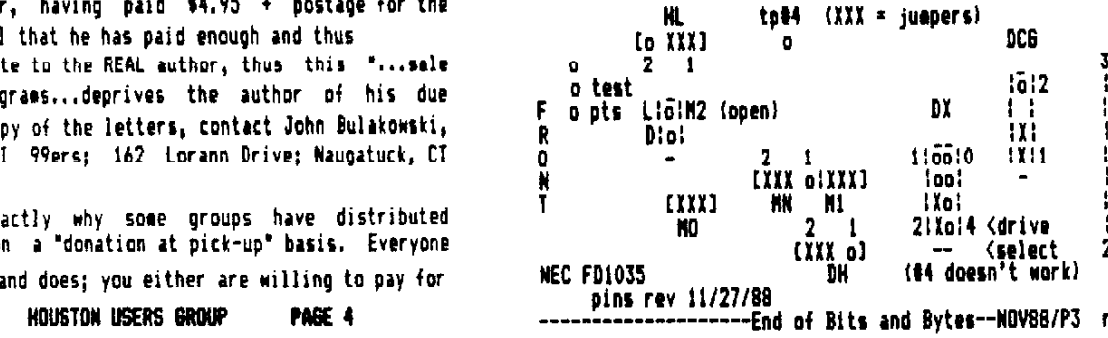
The other side of this is that there are a lot of people out there who DO still use the 4A because of the vast number of cheap programs for it, and many of these programs really ARE meant by the authors to be distributed freely. The key word here is probably, "freely". Not necessarily "free", but rather, "not for someone else's profit".

3.5" Disks/Drives

It seems that 3.5" drives are becoming as common as 5.25" drives, and as cheap as quality 1/2 ht. drives. In fact, industry predicts that in 1988 the there will be more 3.5" format units shipped than the 5.25 size. Since they are quieter, cooler, smaller, AND all are "80-track" capable, it makes sense to at least consider whether you should expand your system by adding more 5.25s or whether you might want to make your third or fourth drive a 3.5".

IF you presently do not have at least TWO double-sided 5.25" drives, DON'T CONSIDER changing formats. There is too much software out there on 5.25" to NOT have at least the capability of copying those disks! On the other hand, if you happen to have a couple of good 1/2 height drives, and a Myarc card with 80-track capability, the 3.5's are a NATURAL for further drive expansion, since they are MADE for 80-track 720k use anyway, and can step at rates of 2 - 3 ms. A pair in an external box would give you almost 1.5 Megabytes on DSK3 + DSK4.

NOTE: ANY DRIVE set up for an IBM XT controller card will usually work on the TI, but NOT ALL 3.5's are made for XT's! Some are made for XT (and apparently Macintosh (tm)) use, and some are made for the higher density AT 1.44 Meg format. SOME can be pin-set to work on either XT or AT-type controller cards. I recently ordered (Comp. Shopper, $59.00) an NEC FD1035 3.5", just to see what I could do with it. The Jumpers were the hard part...but I finally got it working and into a box (with power) just 4.25"x2.25"x8". WORKS LIKE A CHAMP! and sooo quiet! NEC jumpers setting follows: PLEASE NOTE THAT THE POWER PLUG IS NOT LABELED FOR +12/+5 volts. Get a standard plug adapter from your local "hacker" shop.



HUG ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTIONS --
DECEMBER 4, 1988
and Other NEWS BYTES

Folks, I know this is not an annual event (or is it, Scott?) but probably would be a "winning vote", so I just wanted to say CONGRATULATIONS! to Scott and Lou Ann Medbury on the recent arrival of Kelli Nicole Medbury, on Nov. 25, 1988. We are all most happy for all four of you (don't forget Warren).

As you might have noticed, I made a change to the jumpers for the NEC drives and consequently had to go back and change the page 4, which I had already had printed. More on disk drives will be included in the December Newsletter, and it will explain WHY the change was made.

Now for a recap of the October Meeting: First, we had NO SYSTEM there since Mike C. was in Chicago, and since St.John's has so few pieces left that they no longer have a complete system to use--which was news to me and most of the other members. Makes the system recently donated to the group that much more important! Now Bob McC will have to remember to BRING IT. Which raises the next interesting question: BRING IT WHERE??? Looks like we are going to wind up going to Mr. Gatti's extra room, judging by the fact that all the other possibilities have turned out to be either non-existent or pretty expensive. There are several people who say they are still trying to get a line on some possible places. Keep trying! Wherever we go, we are most or less "on our own" in having to carry in our own complete system, something new to us, but done for a long time now by most other groups! We been real lucky a real long time, I think.

Our thanks to St. John's for the GREAT meeting place which they have so graciously allowed us to use for the last three years+. And by the way, they DO still have some 4A Equipment / Software for sale. Contact Thomas Jay, 713-850-0222, days.

The next item discussed at the October meeting was the possibility (necessity) of a change to the BY-LAWS concerning the procedure for AMENDING the BY-LAWS, which at present is near impossible. And since some of the mandated conditions can no longer be maintained, the ability to make changes at other than the December Annual Meeting is a virtual necessity. The motion to amend the BY-LAWS was made by Jim Uzzel, then retracted and amended and re-proposed, so now we have a chance to make a change, otherwise we technically will have no chance to make any changes UNTIL NEXT DECEMBER.

We (the board) probably did not do a good job of planning and preparation for presenting this necessary change to the group, since most people did not understand the reason for the proposal; the Bylaws, as they stand, ONLY allow a proposal to CHANGE THE BYLAWS to be presented to the group for a vote AT THE DECEMBER ANNUAL MEETING. During the rest of the year, no changes can be proposed and voted on! Kind of limiting, huh? Especially since (I think) somewhere in there, there are included some small details such as meeting place, etc, and as you all know, our meeting place is now subject to change, possibly several times, in 1989. We should be able to manage our affairs better than waiting for once a year!

Anyway, the proposal was made, more or less as follows: Proposal to change the BYLAWS of the Houston Users Group:

"The BYLAWS of the Group shall be amended to allow changes in the BYLAWS to be proposed at any regular meeting of the Group, by any member(s). Said Proposal shall be published in any Newsletter editions issued before the next meeting. Said Proposal shall be reviewed by the Board, and a recommendation concerning the Proposal shall be presented at the next regular meeting as part of the discussion of the Proposal, after which a 2/3 vote, of the attending members, in favor of the Proposal shall be sufficient to change the BYLAWS and incorporate the Proposal and its effects into the BYLAWS." (As proposed by Jim Uzzell, Nov 13, 1988.).

The other topic for the meeting was concerning the nominations for 1989 Officers for the group. Sysop is OPEN, although Henri will continue to operate it for a while. President, Software Librarian, and Treasurer volunteered to keep the positions, as did Newsletter Editor and Secretary. The committee certainly accepts these persons as nominees! We now have a volunteer for SIG/VP; and a new volunteer for Newsletter Librarian, but I lost the paper with their names (blush). If we get the Cartridge Library back in hand (it fits in one hand!) maybe this gentleman can also handle that.

Membership/VP is open at this point, as far as I know, and this needs to be someone who will try to "Drum up some business" in terms of contacting prospective members and staying in touch with current members. The position of Program/VP had no volunteers so far as I know, although whoever planned the Nov. 13 program topic hit the target--(There was no "program" planned, just show up and have a good time). Any other nominations will be from the floor during the December Meeting, I guess. One thing you all might want to keep in mind is that in order to HOLD OFFICE (be electable) or VOTE at the December meeting, you must be a current (PAID) member of HUG!

The meeting then ran off into a description (very informative) by Jim Uzzell of his Fast-term Default File Builder program, and how to use it, plus a series of general questions and answers by several of our members, regarding printers and cables, etc.

As per Mike Connell's call to me the other night, the meeting agenda for December also includes, in addition to the elections, and possibly some "goodies-eats", demonstrations of "TI-Base" and "Press Word Processor"(?) and something about a "work station" designed to compete with the Calm-a-door or to convince TI owners not to switch

(?)--a moot question, I would think, or at least one which most people answered one way or the other, 4 1/2 years ago. I am curious about what this IS, anyway, and also about How all this is going to get done in two hours or less, plus have time to eat the Christmas goodies.

Oh, I forgot, we don't seem to have any special program planned, Seasonally that is. And that is a shame, I think, since we have always HAD a little Christmas party as part of our December meetings. And (editorially speaking) I think that is one of the reasons we are having trouble maintaining a group feeling and cohesiveness in HUG--no social interaction, No Fun, no real effort to try to enjoy the groups meetings. At least the Chicago group is having some difficulties DUE TO conflict and strong opinions. Everyone here has been acting like it's just TOO MUCH TROUBLE to get up and DO anything! Come on, folks, stand up and SAY something. Last real good row we had was when Boyd McFatter jumped on our 'missing man' Pres. a couple of years ago for not coming to meetings and for NOT DOING ANYTHING! And now we ALL have been acting that way. So, Bob McCarthy and I are going to provide some chips (not COM) and dips (besides ourselves!) and soft drinks, and if a few more people will come up with some "seasonally appropriate" cookies, etc, maybe we can have our Christmas Social after all! That's THIS SUNDAY, December 04. We do have to pick up after ourselves, though.

And that brings us BACK to a subject of prior comments on my part: The people who really WANT to get together and do something at the meetings had better be willing to STAND UP and ASK and DO, and maybe volunteer to hold office; They either ARE THE GROUP for 1989, or they AREN'T no group for 1989. AND DARNIT, you don't have to be an expert to stand up and ask a question or offer to help or even just to give your opinion on something. Just BE THERE and BE ACTIVE, and be willing to be a committed member who contributes some effort, please. Young or old, new or old, nice or old (grouch, like me), it doesn't matter-- I still value your opinion and your company, and so do the other members who show up and want to see you there.

SO..., WE'LL SEE YOU THERE, RIGHT?!

MACFLIX (reprint of review
by Deanna Sheridan - Northcoast 99ers, Cleveland Ohio)

We thought we had "arrived" when Travis Watford developed the MAXRLE and we could view and download the many digitized RLE pictures available on Compuserve, GENIE, etc. The new MACFLIX written by J. Peter Hoddie and distributed by Genial Computerware gives us another powerful graphics viewing program, this time for MacPaint pictures.

These are usually full-page pictures and even on my MSDOS machine with 80-columns, I am unable to see the entire picture at one time. I have downloaded lots of

cont.) these pictures, but was unable to find any real use for them, except to print out. I have been unable to find, at least on public bulletin boards, any utilities to transfer them into other graphics programs where they could be used for clip art.

MACFLIX for the TI lets you view them, print them and clip them. Just as on my Leading Edge, it is impossible to see the entire screen at one time, and you must scroll across and up and down. The best way to get an idea of what it looks like is to make a printout. The program supports Epsons an Compatibles, and Pro-writer printers. You can print in your choice of 3 densities, but are warned that option 1 will cut off part of the picture, and option 3 will make it look elongated. So, with option 2, print out and see what you have.

You can save the portion of screen in view to disk in TI-Artist format. I found a disk of Christmas characters for which I did just that and retrieved 8 clips for a Christmas disk. There seems to be a wide variety of pictures available and we will no doubt soon have a special section in our library just for MacPaint pictures (who would have ever thought?). Most of the ones I have are drawings rather than digitized pictures like the RLE's. Thus, those which are "clippable" are much clearer and of general use, than the RLE's.

The docs state that if you have a CorComp or Myarc disk controller and PC Transfer, you can take IBM disks with MacPaint pictures and transfer them for the TI. I don't have the right disk controller or PC Transfer, but I do have a cable between my TI and my Leading Edge. I fired up both machines with a terminal emulator program in each. I sent some MacPaint pictures over via X-Modem, which results in a DIS/FIX 128 format. I held my breath, fired up MACFLIX and tried loading one of the files. There it was, just the same as on my other machine. Suddenly I found myself with 3 disks of MAC pictures for my lowly TI. I will download some more from the local bulletin board to which I subscribe and we should soon have a good start on a MAC library for the club.

This program is written in assembly and only $10.00 plus $1.00 S+H from Genial Computerware; P.O.Box 183; Grafton, MA 01519. Note: ....I would suggest a bank check or money order.

When I first wrote the above, I had not explored all the possibilities this program offers for us TIers. Did you ever think there would be a day when you could utilize the various graphics from PrintMaster, PrintShop, Newsroom, etc, on your TI? I have even discovered that I can reverse the procedure and use my TI graphics on those MSDOS programs.

I found an MSDOS program called "ICONVERT". This converts PrintMaster, PrintShop, Newsroom, MacPaint, RLE's and many more from any of the above to any of the above. I have several libraries of PrintMaster graphics and decided to give it a whirl. ICONVERT will take a set of PrintMaster graphics which usually are 120 individual graphics and automatically convert the first 50 of them to MacPaint format. I can convert the remaining by choosing the graphics individually. Thus, it taks 3 files of MacPaint to use up one set of PrintMaster graphics. You can send them over just as described above. They are saved on a sheet which can be "clipped" out to TI-Artist. I have 26 of these files already and am just getting startted. By the next meeting, I may have up to 20 disks of new clip art.
(end of space, not of review. Deanna Sheridan is a marvel of graphics knowledge and abilities--always working with the newest ideas and software! TKS.; Ed.)