



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE K-TOWN 99/4A USERS' GROUP

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AND

THE ATHENS COMPUTER CLUB

FEBRUARY, 1991

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#### COMMENT

The K-Town 99'ER is published monthly for the benefit of the K-Town 99/4A Users Group membership specifically and the TI Community in general. The Articles in this newsletter to the best of our knowledge are factual but nevertheless the views expressed are the views of the author and are not necessarily the views of the K-Town Users Group. Any article, unless stated otherwise, may be copied by other users groups and published in their newsletter providing credit is given to the author and the K-Town 99'ER.

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#### K-TOWN FEBRUARY MEETING

The K-TOWN 99/4A Users Group will meet at the home of E.M. Smith. We no longer meet in the MLB Building due to change of policy which requires us to pay \$10.00 per hour for use of the building. We will continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. FEBRUARY 14th is our next meeting date. See "PRESIDENT'S FORUM" for UPDATES regarding this change and INFORMATION relative to "whats cooking" for the future of the K-Town 99ers, with suggestions on different options available to us. John Bull will favor us with a DEMO of ALSAVE with XBasic programing; a Barry Traver creation.

#### DUES / MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the K-Town 99/4A Users Group is open to any owner or user of the TI-99/4A Home Computer. Dues are twenty dollars per year and subject to our fiscal year which begins April 1 and ends March 31 of each year. Dues are classified as family memberships. New memberships are prorated at the rate of two dollars per month if less than a full year, except for the last three months of our fiscal year. There is a minimum fee of five dollars. Memberships are not prorated for current or former members. We welcome visitors.

PRESIDENT'S FORUM  
A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

DECEMBER/JANUARY FUN

If you missed either the December or January meetings you missed two of the most fun and interesting meetings of recent memory. Both meetings went into overtime and it was over an hour past our usual checkout time before the February meeting adjourned to McDonalds for food and/or refreshments. Much was said at the February meeting relative to the host supplying refreshments like doughnuts or pizza at our meetings but I noticed that no one offered to buy the host any post meeting refreshments. Hospitality is a two way street, isn't it?

I am certain that Bob Buehler will cover the events of the meetings in his monthly meeting report, but allow me to make a couple of personal comments or observations on the subject:

The demonstrations by Bill Sheridan of eight subprograms taken from three disks of Jia Peterson's "NUTS AND BOLTS" grafically illustrated some of the goodies which we have in our group and personal libraries which are seldom or never used. What a shame!

That demonstration along with an article in the December issue of Micropendium on the subject of "Getting TIs out of the closet" inspired an idea that I would like to share with you and a suggestion of what we as a users group might do in support of the TI Community at large.

Let's put our heads together and develop a promotional tape (cassette) for the 99/4A. A promotional video tape could also be developed. Users Groups could advertise these tapes in the local newspapers as a free gift or for a small fee adequate to cover the costs of the cassette and the costs of advertising. I like the idea of a small fee because those who respond indicate a willingness to invest in their computer. The tapes could promote the users group, 99/4A software and hardware and the sources where it can be obtained or purchased. The tape could be titled "The 99/4A HELPLINE".

It sure would be nice to see our group and others jump onto this and have something ready to demo and distribute at the upcoming LIMA MULTIUSERS CONFERENCE in May. If you have any thoughts to share on this idea you can reach me at the address of the K-Town 99/4A Users Group.

THE CHIP, BY T.R. REID

It seems that I can never find the time to do much reading that is not directly associated with Users Group newsletters. I read about thirty of them every month. However a friend recently gave me a book that once I got started reading it, it was very difficult to lay it aside

for the more important things, like eating and sleeping.

If you have any curiosity at all about the microchip and the revolution that was launched when it was invented, you must read "THE CHIP". None of the high tech weapons which we have witnessed in action in the "Gulf War" would be possible except for the genius of two men. Two men whom I dare say few of you have ever heard their names, much less know of their contribution to the current High Tech Age. Their names are Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce. I found this book to be a thriller! Get a copy and read it. It is a Touchstone Book published by Simon and Schuster, Inc.. The Author is T.R. Reid. Enjoy!

FEBRUARY MEETING

Reverend John Bull will favor us with a demonstration of ALSAVE AND EXTENDED BASIC PROGRAMING. Barry Traver demonstrated ALSAVE at the LIMA MULTIUSERS GROUP CONFERENCE and it was very interesting to say the least. I am certain that John will give us reasons to appreciate this little "gem". We will also conduct a little business, hear a report from the nominating committee, and accept contributions for the Authors of FUNELWEB and DISK UTILITIES.

DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FEBRUARY 14TH.

At our January meeting it was agreed that the group would accept contributions for the authors of FUNELWEB and DISK UTILITIES and send a collective sum in lieu of individuals making contributions seperately. Of course those who prefer to make independent contributions are encouraged to do so, it was a concensus of those present that it would particularly helpful for those members wanting to send money to the McGoverns in Australia. It has been determined that an International Money Order is the best way to send funds to Australia.

Belatedly, we learn that John Birdwell, author of DISK UTILITIES, succumbed to his illness in late December. John experienced a long and costly illness and I am sure that his surviving spouse would find our payments to be very beneficial. Thus, it is too late to pay to John personally our just dues in appreciation for his efforts in behalf of the TI Community. It is not too late to let his wife know how much we appreciated John and his endeavors. We extend our sympathy to John's Wife, Family and Friends.

February 14th, our monthly date is the deadline for you to make payments to the collective fund. If you can't make it to our February meeting, it might be a good idea to take care of that little chore while it is fresh on your mind.

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## KINDER KORMER 38

By Bob Buehler

### PLUS! REVISITED

For a couple of years I've meant to revive testing an early Version of PLUS! It's by Jack Sughrue in far away Massachusetts. It had 716 Sectors, 58 files, which skillfully integrated intrinsic TI-99/4A capabilities with utilities and other products of talented programmers. Intrinsic like Transliterations (.TL); Include File (.IF); and graphics. Utilities like Saallify and Instadump. Products like Calendars, Multi-column, and Labels. Also personalized letterheads.

I bought PLUS! in 1988, figured it had a lot to offer, and gave it to K-Town for Disk of The Month of September. Alas, I never found time to learn to use PLUS! well.

Recently I borrowed one of our Exchange Newsletters to try printing foreign language characters. No luck with that, but by sheer chance Jack Sughrue announced his Version 2.0 of PLUS! I had to have it. Now it has 1358 Sectors and 79 files. With Archiver III, on the DSK, Jack packed all this on one DSSD floppy.

I'm going to study this jewel slowly and carefully, to pass on the good things to you. At least that is my good intention.

**Principle Purpose of PLUS!** -- PLUS! is primarily to help prepare text - The Written Word - in letters, reports, papers, and the like. In this helping process, PLUS! offers TEMPLATES - PATTERNS - MODELS - FORMS - Call them what you will. A templet specifies page form: The margins, the font, the line spacing, etc. A Term Paper Templet for example could produce double space with wide borders; left, right, top, and bottom; the better for the teacher to 'correct,' to 'suggest,' or to flat out 'demand' change! Jack Sughrue is a teacher. A more formal templet would produce more conventional borders.

Another templet allows 134 Condensed characters on each line of text. This could be useful. Yet another specifying Condensed Superscript and reduced line spacing permits 134 columns and 134 lines. This is 18,000 characters on one page equal to almost 12 pages of standard typing! Interesting, but not very useful.

**.TLing and .IFing** These are short for Transliteration (.TI) and Including file (.IF) Together they are the life blood of PLUS! They are imbeded into specialized templets already in PLUS! or one you could personalize for yourself.

Jack Sughrue pushes Transliteration to the hilt! He uses every letter of the alphabet to tag transliterations which turn on printer functions and to turn them off. Take a squint at just a few in Jack's basic list.

>.TL 1:32,27,52

A / it A lics on

>.TL 2:53.32

B / itAlics off

>.TL 6:27,66,3 (or 6:27,15)

F / condensed F ine

>.TL 7:18

G / condensed Fine off

>.TL 17:32,27,69

Q / letter Q uality on

>.TL 18:27,70,32

R / letter Q uality off

First, note that '32' wherever it appears tells the printer to space once. Jack puts them into the Transliterations in case the tpeyst fails to do so when a Transliterate is used.

Next note that Jack has tagged each turn on Transliterate with a CAPITAL letter which is a prominent letter of the function itself, and to turn off that function the next letter of the alphabet is the tag letter; the better to memorize them.

Thus, to actuate itAlics printing, type CTRL 'U', SHIFT 'A', CTRL 'U' again. This leaves a distinctive symbol on the monitor which can not be hard copied. The 'A' leaves a tiny 1 with a tiny dot above at about 1 O'clock. Still in itAlics, actuating condensed font uses the tag letter 'F'. This leaves on the monitor a tiny 6 with a tiny dot above at about 1 O'clock. Turning off itAlics uses tag letter 'B'. Turning off condensed uses tag letter 'G'. So goes the full set of Jack Sughrues uniquely adopted transliterates.

Each .TL carries a number. This I don't yet understand. But it is the ranking in Jack's total list of 27 in all, 'M' being excluded. Letters 'A' through 'V' govern ordinary printer controls. 'W,' 'X,' 'Y,' and 'Z' are reserved for your own specialization. I could make 'Y' print my first name, BOB, if I first learned how.

That is a tiny taste of PLUS. Judging from the January Newsletter there likely will be only one more Newsletter. That means I can't possibly explain PLUS! properly by that route. I have too much to learn.

**Future of PLUS!** in K-Town My only remaining choice is to learn enough to demonstrate PLUS! in February or March or some latter date depending on the fate of K-Town 99er's.

Meantime, I recommend that you see me for a copy. Then, if you like it, send Jack Sughrue \$10.00

BB 1/5/91

HALLELUJAH My Christmas presents arrived January 19

by UPS from Bud Mills Services: A one Meg Horizon Radisk and a P-GRAM card. I kinda hated to hide them in my PE box beause they were so pretty, but I did. Then began reading the operating manuals. That took me down a peg or two. With six years into TI-99/4Aing I should have been able to get those jewels working by night fall, or mid-night, of next morning. Nope! Well I finally got X/BASIC loaded on the P-GRAM card, but that is all on that one so far. I only got to the important part for the HORIZON. In desparation I gratefully accepted help from EM Smith. He sat beside me in my crowded office and told me how to get my HORIZON working. I had the manual layed out to help him but he didn't even look at it. And I didn't make a cassette recording of the procedure, so I'm not sure I can continue.

To sum this up, I'm one happy old man!!!! I have all the hardware I think I'll ever want for my TI. Now I hope only for some more happy years at my keyboard BUT also in happy association with the helpful, hardy survivors of K-Town 99er's.

BB 1/21/91

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**POTPOURRI**  
by Bill Sheridan

The last batch of newsletters I read (mostly December issues) were a virtual gold mine of information. One article in particular caught my attention because it was unusual and different. The article, KOOKY FORTUNES by Ed Machonis, was in the December issue of VAST NEWS. They give credit to QB MONITOR, a newsletter of the QB-99ers, Bayside, NY.

**KOOKY FORTUNES**  
A Tiny Gram

One of the highlights of any visit to a Chinese Restaurant is opening the Fortune Cookie at the end of a meal and comparing fortunes with your fellow diners. A recent visit to New York City's Chinatown resulted in a family member toting home Fortune cookies by the pound.

After munching my way through a couple of dozen, (Hey, never stop when you're on a winning streak!), I was struck by the one-size-fits-all generic blandness of the fortunes. Any one would be pleased and flattered with the fortunes I was getting. Even if they didn't fit a person at all, that person would like to think they did. Another thing that struck me was the lack of duplication. I recalled reading a newspaper article years ago about a printer of these fortune slips and how difficult it was to keep coming up with new "fortunes". (nearly as tough as constantly coming up with new computer newsletter articles.)

Next thing I know, a little devil is whispering in

my ear, "Why not print up some look-alikes bearing fortunes that are decidedly different in tone and concept and substitute them for the ones you are extracting from the Fortune Cookies?" No sooner whispered, than done! The look-alikes required compressed pitch and fore and aft sailey faces.

The accompanying Tiny Gram will let you get into the act. I had a ball until the family got wise. If your culinary accomplishments include the ability to make Fortune Cookies, here is a great way to perk up those "China Nights". (And keep a starving author alive by sending him some!)

The program will let you input either one line or two line bon mots. For one liners, just press enter in response to the second prompt, Tex will know what to do. Print codes are for an Epson RX-80 printer. (OK for Panasonic KX-P1091 also - Bill)

```
1 !### KOOKY FORTUNES ###
  $ A Tiny Gram $
  $ By Ed Machonis $
  $QB-99'ers, Bayside, NY$
```

```
2 !This program will print those words of wisdom, and
other wise remarks, found in Fortune Cookies
```

```
100 OPEN #1:"PIO" :: PRINT #1:CHR$(27)&"*"&CHR$(15)::
K$=CHR$(27)&"L"&CHR$(12)&CHR$(0)
```

```
110 B$=K$&CHR$(60)&CHR$(66)&CHR$(66)&CHR$(137)&CHR$(165)
&CHR$(133)&CHR$(133)&CHR$(165)&CHR$(137)&CHR$(66)&CHR$(66)
&CHR$(60)&" "
```

```
120 CALL CLEAR :: FOR J=1 TO 2 :: PRINT "INPUT TEXT FOR
LINE";J :: INPUT T$(J):: NEXT J :: INPUT "HOW MANY? ":Q
```

```
130 FOR I=1 TO Q :: IF T$(2)=" " THEN 140 ELSE PRINT
#1:B$&T$(1):: PRINT #1:T$(2)&" "&B$ :: GOTO 150
```

```
140 PRINT #1:B$&T$(1)&" "&B$
```

```
150 PRINT #1 :: NEXT I :: GOTO 120
```

© IF YOU GO FORTH WITH A FIFTH ON THE FOURTH  
YOU MAY NOT GO FORTH ON THE FIFTH. ©

**CHINESE FORTUNE COOKIES**  
Makes about two dozen

- 1/3 cup all purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 Tbsp cornstarch
- 6 Tbsp sugar
- 4 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 egg white
- 5 Tbsp water



1. Sift flour and measure into small bowl. Mix in

salt, cornstarch and sugar.

2. Mix oil with egg white and water until blended. Stir into dry ingredients; beat until smooth (about like heavy cream).

3. Heat electric griddle or frypan to 300 degrees. Brush surface of griddle with oil. Spoon 1 tablespoon of cookie mixture onto heated griddle. Spread with back of spoon to make 3 inch circle. Repeat with remaining mixture.

4. Bake until golden - about 5 minutes; turn over and bake 1 minute longer. Remove cookies from griddle one at a time. While still hot and pliable, place Fortune in center of cookie. Fold cookie in half; then fold into Fortune Cookie shape by pulling points together and creasing center. (It helps to fold cookies against edge of table.) Place folded cookies in custard or muffin cups to hold shape while they cool.

The above worked fine and several friends really enjoyed the cookies and fortunes (wise remarks). My wife decided that we ought to have the cookies at our next dinner party and I wanted to take some to the next K-TOWN meeting. It took me about 2 hours or more to find enough proverbs (looked in old Reader's Digest magazines) and to type them in using the above program. Decided that there must be some way to keep from redoing all that typing every time by using Funnelweb. The text was no problem. The smiley was. Then I remembered the graphics (G1, G2, G3) of the PLUS! program. Did a little research and came up with the following:

(I saved this (using Editor of FW) as DSKn.64 on the same disk with the proverbs and the recipe.)

.TL 23:27,15 (CONDENSED print on)  
.TL 24:27,75,12,0,60,66,66,137,165,133,133,165,137,66,  
66,60 (Prints smiley face)  
.TL 25:18 (CONDENSED print off)

On line 0001 of your text (proverb) file type: .IF  
DSKn.64

Next line press CTRL U/Shift W/CTRL U (for condensed  
print)

At the beginning and end of each proverb press CTRL  
U/SHIFT X/CTRL U for a smiley face. On your very last  
line press CTRL U/SHIFT Y/CTRL U to turn condensed print  
off. As you'll notice below, the smiley face is slightly  
larger than the one shown above using the Tiny Gram  
program.

☺ IT IS HARD TO SOAR WITH THE EAGLES  
WHEN YOU HAVE TO WORK WITH TURKEYS. ☺

About a week after I had typed in the above, my wife found another Chinese Fortune Cookie recipe in a Better Homes and Gardens Oriental Cook Book. Though the ingredients are the same, the proportions are slightly different. Personally, I like the below recipe better because the cookies don't seem as greasy. However, my

wife likes the taste using the above recipe better. So, you may have to try both recipes to see which satisfies your taste bud best. Follow the same instructions above. One note for either recipe - if your griddle or frypan has a non-stick surface, you will not need to brush surface with oil (see instruction 3 above).

#### CHINESE FORTUNE COOKIES

#### RECIPE #2

Makes 8 cookies

1/4 cup sifted cake flour  
2 tbsp sugar  
1 tbsp cornstarch  
dash salt  
2 tbsp cooking oil  
1 egg white  
1 tbsp water

#### K-TOWN MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 1990

1990 was a very good year! Against adversity K-Towners survived that calendar frame. December was a very good month! It's Newsletter again was easy reading, thanks to a new printer ribbon, simple easy helpful hints, and some K-Town hopes for the future. The 13th was a very good day! Soon after sun-down six gathered at EM's and that made us seven, a recent record. Ours was a very good meeting! There was another DELPHI visit by Bill Sheridan and new hardware shown and demoed by owner, Paul Blevins, and builder, Ron Hataker. Adjournment that rainy night was a very good stop! Most met at the new McDonald's on Broadway at Knox. Man can not live on silicon chips alone. Conversation was pleasant and hopeful. Joe Simmons would sure like to see us at a Saturday Athen's Computer Club meeting.

Sorry, I can't remember enough about that popular song, "It Was A Very Good Year," to contrive a comparable conclusion for my pitiful plagiarism.

But I'm not foolin'. I drew new encouragement this 12th month of 1990 that those who care and will try can enjoy a new and happy kind of TI time together. Ideas toward this end have been mentioned in prior Newsletters and more will be forth-coming.

The new hardware, shown and demoed, is a ZEMO BOARD. It is housed inside a standard TI console and contains chips that hold more than I can imagine. Extended Basic and Editor/Assembler are examples. Any TI Cartridge ROM can be transferred to this Board. And a clock.

So you think that's all? Nosiree! With an LRM Interface (maybe it's RLM. One way or the other it's the builder's initials.) it permits connecting an IBM keyboard to our beloved TI-99/4A!

Paul much likes his IBM keyboard. If I weren't so cotton pickin' preudiced I probably would too. Hear me out. I was on the TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) Computer Committee for several years. We were flown to Poughkeepsie; dined; big, fat, cigared; housed; and promised enormous, early forthcoming goodies! Delivery dates were missed not by months, but closer to a year or more.

My son was in the market for a computer. We phoned his cousin, Dan, an IBM employee. Dan said, "Wait for the IBM PC Jr." Luckily we didn't. Do you remember what a bummer that was?

These are a couple of reasons for my low opinion of IBM

I'm not making light of Paul's and Ron's marvels, and if I were more fair minded I'd admit having had failures of three TI keyboards, but these had never promised me rose garden like IBM did at Poughkeepsie.

Again, I say there seems reason to believe some new and better things are in store for K-Town 99ers!! 1991 CAN BE A VERY GOOD YEAR!!

Bob Buehler, Secy-Treas.

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#### K-TOWN MINUTES FOR JANUARY 10, 1991

1991 began a very good year; hope is high that K-Towner 99ers will continue in new fiscal year in some happy useful form. January should be a very good month: War hasn't started but if begun it should be fast and furious! The 10th was a very good day: Despite pesky rain K-Town attendance at EM Smith's Rec Room was GOOD. Not LARGE, mind you, but GOOD. Meaning that the truly interested faithful were present; from as far as Rugby and Etowah. Happenings made a very good program; things talked about and demunstated.

Here ends the "a very good" style of stuff. It seemed like a good idea for December minutes, which didn't get published 'till now, but that should have been enough. Sorry.

In business session discussion included the impossibility of circulating our normal monthly newsletter after March to our own membership and some thirty club exchanges. Dues from the foreseeable continuing K-Towners just wont be adequate. One member offered "free" printing using his employer's facilities but only to our own membership. Also discussed was the idea of each K-Towner joining one other TI group solely to recieve their Newsletters. (Probably library privileg too.) Selected good stuff thus received would be submitted for a periodic compilation sent only to dues paying K-Town

members.

Location for meeting in fiscal 1991 seemed to be no problem when EM offered continuing use of his excellent Rec Room. Here both his and the club's equipment could be set up if needed. An officer slate would be needed so EM appointed Bull and Buehler to prepare nominations. This task remained prominate in their minds throughout the rest of the evening's program and on into adjourment to McDonalds.

EM cited a report in MICROpendium to the effect that John Birdwell, author of DISK Utilities, is seriously ill with liver cancer and faint hope for recovery. If you have used and appreciated this program a contibution, now, is appropriate. John's address is 1310 Kent Court, Wheaton, IL 60187.

This also brought to mind that Tony and Will McGovern have contributed to the TI community enormously; unequaled in huge measure by any. They have never complained, but contributions are not likely compatible with the wonders of FUNNELWEB, now in version 4.31!

Individual contributions were favored. by some present, or EM will accept them and pass them as a group contribution. Either way is OK.

Bill Sheridan demoed great graphics from Tiger Club, how they could be personalized, sprites too, and also a graphic he had downloaded from DELPHI. All were near unbelievable. Copies of PLUS!, V2 were supplied to three members. Joe Simmons delivered SONY floppy disks with labels, envelopes, and protection stickers boxed in units of 10 for \$1.60. It's about the best of many good bargains for the TI.

First business at the reconvened meeting at McDonalds was a nominating committee meeting and report, followed by the election for 1991. By unanimous vote, EM will be Presiding Officer, assistant publisher, and Treasurer in Fact. Bill Sheridan will be Publisher and Assistant Presiding Officer. Buehler will be Secretary and Pseudo Treasurer. John Bull will continue as Publicity Chairman. Election was followed by comradeship until everyone forgot to adjourn. Maybe first business in February should be adjournment of the January meeting.

Bob Buehler, Secy-Treas 1/22/91

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#### IT WAS ALL IN THE SOFTWARE

At our December meeting, and in the January Newsletter I reported an alleged disaster with my computer. In my haste to have a system operational for the December Meeting I hauled out my backup system and hurriedly exchanged cards in the PE Box in a futile process of elimination.

I finally put an operational system together but it had only one disk drive. Knowing that we often copy disks at our meetings I resolved that it was quicker to substitute the Group System in place of my System than it would be to try to get another disk drive into operation.

Following the December meeting I proceeded to do another "process of elimination". Card by card I tested my alleged bad cards in the group system. Each' checked to be good. Believing that one of my Horizon Ramdisks was a victim in the disaster I had returned it to BUD HILLS SERVICES for repair and update to more memory.

Having satisfied myself that all was well with my system except for the ramdisk, the disk that was in drive 3 at the time of the disaster, and the Gram Kracker I had restored my system to operation less the ramdisk. I wiped the memory in my Gram Kracker clean and reloaded SXB. It too tested to be OK.

Bud returned my ramdisk with expanded memory just prior to our January meeting but I didn't have time to install it in my system until after the January meeting. The ramdisk was delivered to me with a version of ROS loaded but my use of the ultra memory required that I reload the ROS and partition the ramdisk into four separate drives. Much to my shock and dismay as soon as I loaded the ROS I was back to square one. The screen went blank, an alarming sound was emitted from the monitor and the computer locked up. I concluded in haste that Bud had done nothing to repair the alleged bad ramdisk.

My immediate impulse was to call Bud and read him my riot act but my characteristic to save money on long distance calls allayed my anger in favor of cheaper phone rates. I continued to steam in my own mental anguish and was concentrating on what I might have to say to Bud as opposed to analyzing the problem. About mid-afternoon I went out for my usual coffee break. As I sat in the coffeshop swapping chit chat with friends my subconscious mind took advantage of my emotional vacation and turned on a light in my conscious mind.

Is it possible that the ROS I was using to initialize my ram disk was somehow contaminated. The disk which contained the ROS was after all in Drive 1 when the original disaster occurred. In fact I was in the process of partitioning my 512K ramdisk when the trouble developed. I hastened to take leave from my coffee break and return home. I loaded the ROS from my backup disk and EUREKA! Everthing was working fine. Just like it was supposed to be.

In summation, the only thing that was damaged in the original disaster was a disk that was in drive 3. What contaminated my Gram Kracker and the disk containing the ROS in drive one remains a mystery.

My experience was probably not all that rare in the computer world and if one is operating in an environment that is void of expert technical support it has to be extremely frustrating. Unfortunately many areas in the TI Community are lacking in such technical skills. I can't help but wonder how often in the computer world at large such problems develop from tainted software and expensive technicians have to be called in needlessly.(??).

The fact that I know I am not a qualified technician does not keep others from calling me for help on occassion. Apparently some people credit me with having more skills than I really possess. This illustrates the real strength of a Users Group. In times of difficulty we lean on each other for support. It helps in stimulating the thought process when we lean on someone for support and in the process we resolve our problems. Ain't it fun!

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#### NOTICE TO ATHENS MEMBERS

No newsletter material from the Athens Users Group had been received by press time. For information relative to the Athens meeting place and time members should contact Joe Simmons.

Joe contacted me, EM Smith, over a week ago and left me with the impression.. that he had material ready for mailing but was mixed up on the press time and thought it would not arrive in time for publication. I advised him that he still had another week until the deadline. I have watched the mail daily since his call but have not received anything. Sorry! EM Smith.

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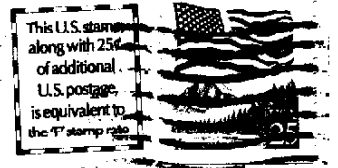
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NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE



1991 DUES ARE DUE  
PLEASE COMPLY!

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