

# KAWARTHA KRONICLE

## PETERBOROUGH, ONT.

The monthly newsletter of  
The Kawartha 99'ers

224 Woodward Ave  
Peterborough, Ont  
Canada K9L 1J7

Vol. 10 No. 08



\* NEW RESOLUTIONS \*

Jan. 1993

## CONSOLE-ING the ORPHAN

### EXACTLY HOW DID ALL OF THIS BEGIN?

On the local scene, the TI world began with a memo which was sent by Dan Germain, an employee of Canadian General Electric to several other employees through their internal mail system. The memo invited six other Texas Instrument 99/4A owners to get together to discuss the formation of what was to become the Kawartha 99'ers User Group. The original memo was sent out on January 3rd., 1983! Their first unofficial meeting was held on January 19th, 1983 (a Wednesday night!). The first organizational meeting was held at Dan's home in Peterborough. The memo is reprinted on page 3.

In the next couple of newsletters leading up to our TENTH ANNIVERSARY meeting in March I will attempt to retrace the early days of our group. If you know of any former members of the Kawartha 99'ers, let them know about our upcoming anniversary and invite them to the March meeting to renew acquaintances and see how far the ORPHAN has advanced in the first decade of its existence!

As for myself, back in October of 1983, TI was having a fire sale of its computers through many of our local retail chain stores. K-Mart happened to get my \$99.99 plus tax for a black and silver box which I purchased with the intent that my two and a half year old daughter would use to enter the computer age with. Needless to say, Dad spent many more hours at the keyboard than the first born did. Even so the TI helped with the

important early learning stages of letter and number recognition, shapes and colours. That "Early Learning Fun" module got a terrific workout in those days. As my daughter grew older and her younger sibling arrived, the TI served double duty as a patient teacher, and recreation provider for all members of our family. Now, TEN years later, my family still uses the TI for wordpro, database use, graphics and of course its games. The TI has also provided me with many good friends who also have owned or still own a 99/4A. My thanks go to TEXAS INSTRUMENTS ... I owe you, big time!

Keep on Console-ing the "ORPHAN",

Phil

### Index

- Page 1 - Console-ing the Orphan
- Page 2 - Group Info
- Page 3 - Historic Kawartha 99'er Document
- Page 4 - Pin Assignments
- Page 5 - Hash & ReHash
- Page 6 - Console-ing the Orphan (Part 2)
- Page 7 - Tiny Bits
- Page 8 - Computer Recycling Depot

KAWARTHA 99ers USER GROUP

FOR USERS OF THE TEXAS INSTRUMENT 99/4A HOME COMPUTER  
224 WOODWARD AVE.  
PETERBOROUGH, ONT.  
CANADA K9L 1J7

\*\*\*\*\*

PRESIDENT	JOHN ACHESON	705 743 7751
VICE PRESIDENTS	GLEN DANIELS/STEVE WRIGHT	705 740 0153
TREASURER	KAREN WILSON	705 742 3087
DISK LIBRARIAN	GLEN DANIELS	705 740 0153
TAPE LIBRARIAN	JOHN ACHESON	705 743 7751
MODULES LIBRARIAN	JOHN ACHESON	705 743 7751
PRINT LIBRARIAN	LINDSAY BROWN	705 932 5295
NEWSLETTER LIBRARIAN	DICK BULMER	705 799 6111
NEWSLETTER TEAM	DICK BULMER	705 799 6111
	PAT MCGILLEN	705 742 8374
	PHIL TOWNSEND	705 745 3757

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Meetings are generally held on the SECOND Wednesday of each month (Sept. to June) at the PETERBOROUGH POLICE DEPT. meeting room, located at the intersection of Water St. & McDonnell St. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

Membership fees are collected on an annual basis at the annual meeting. Fees are \$24.00 per annum. New members joining part way through the year are charged the rate of \$2.00 per month for the balance of the club's fiscal year. The group's annual meeting is held in March at which time elections for the group's executive is held. Memberships can only be held in an adult's name, though interested children / teens are welcome and encouraged to take part in club meetings and activities. Out of town members are most welcome.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily of the KAWARTHA 99ers USER GROUP.

Advertisements and contributing articles for this newsletter may be given to the newsletter staff or sent to the group's mailing address. Articles may be submitted in print, disk or electronic format

The KAWARTHA 99ers would like to thank those groups who exchange information and newsletters regarding the TEXAS INSTRUMENT HOME COMPUTER with us. We endeavour to recognize and credit original authors and sources of articles of information which we reprint or make available to our membership.

The KAWARTHA 99ers USER GROUP is a non-profit group who welcomes any individuals who have an interest in the TEXAS INSTRUMENT HOME COMPUTER.

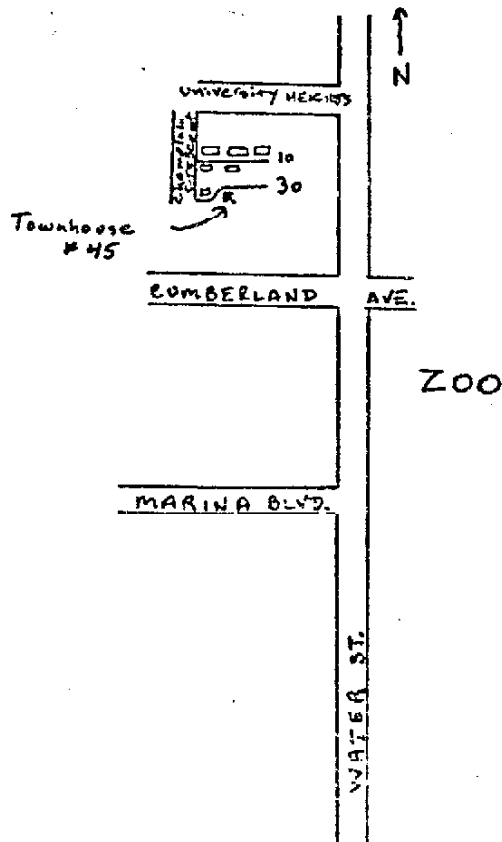
January 3, 1983

I. Carrick  
M. Keen  
J. Menzies  
G. Stenner  
P. Sutton  
L. Wilson

A meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 19, at 7:30 P.M. to discuss the formation of a TI 99/4A users group in the Peterborough area.

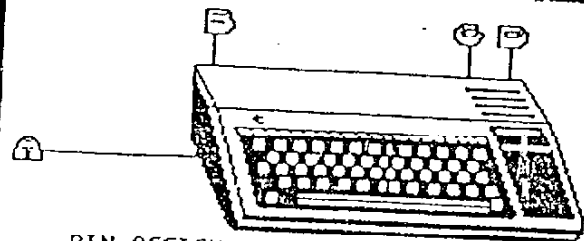
I have received a "Start-Up-Kit" from T.I. which helps organize the preliminary meetings and subsequent constitution.

Those wishing to attend are invited to my house. If you can't attend the first meeting but are interested, please give me a call at local 8199 or 743-4780 after 6:00 P.M.



Dan Germain  
45-30 Champlain Crescent  
Peterborough

# PIN ASSIGNMENTS



PIN ASSIGNMENTS APPEAR AS THEY WOULD IF YOU LOOKED DIRECTLY INTO THE PLUGS.

## II JOYSTICK PINS

- (1) N.C.
- (2) STICK B
- (3) UP
- (4) FIRE BUTTON
- (5) LEFT
- (6) N.C.
- (7) STICK A
- (8) DOWN
- (9) RIGHT

## ATARI/COMMODORE JOYSTICK

- 1) UP
- 2) DOWN
- 3) LEFT
- 4) RIGHT
- 5) N.C.
- 6) FIRE BTN
- 7) N.C.
- 8) GROUND
- 9) N.C.

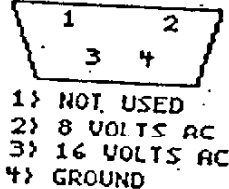
Use female PLUG.

Use male PLUG.

## FORT USER GROUP

FEBRUARY, 1987

### POWER SUPPLY PLUG



### MODULATOR PLUG



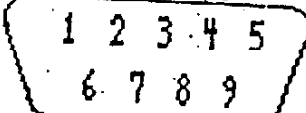
- 1) RED
- 2) TRANSPARENT
- 3) WIRE WRAP (not a ground)
- 4) BLACK (ground)
- 5) WHITE or YELLOW

### VIDEO/SOUND PLUG NOTCH



- 1) +12 volt
- 2) VIDEO OUT
- 3) SHIELD
- 4) GROUND
- 5) SOUND OUT

### CASSETTE PORT IN CONSOLE

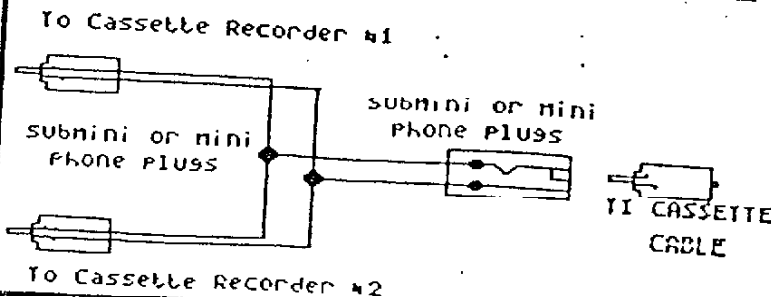


- 2) NEGATIVE REMOTE CS1 — sleeve
- 1) POSITIVE REMOTE CS1 — tip
- 3) NEGATIVE MIC 1 & 2 — sleeve
- 5) POSITIVE MIC 1 & 2 — tip
- 7) NEGATIVE REMOTE CS2 — sleeve
- 6) POSITIVE REMOTE CS2 — tip
- 9) NEGATIVE SPEAKER CS1 — sleeve
- 8) POSITIVE SPEAKER CS1 — tip
- 4) NOT USED

SMALL REMOTE PLUG 3/32"  
PHONE PLUG 1/8"

### CASSETTE CABLE BELOW

Use Y splitter to record to two tapes



## Hash and Rehash

It seems that I always neglect to mention a few things at our monthly meetings. So, this article will cover a rather wide spectrum, things I have clearly in mind now, but which I may not readily recall by the time our January 13th meeting rolls around.

While in Toronto, on Dec. 13, I visited and chatted a while with Gary Bowser of OPA. But first, on my way downtown at 11:30, I dropped off Phil Townsend's malfunctioning RS232 card. Gary was out at the time. When I returned at 2:30, Phil's RS232 had been repaired, it no longer balked at communicating with a printer. And the repair cost was quite reasonable.

I don't know of anyone in our group who has an OPA repair or purchase order outstanding, if so, take heart, Gary said there were just a few outstanding back-orders left to be cleared and it would not be long before he would be completely caught up, with delays an embarrassing but dimming memory. Keep your eyes open for a new product announcement, maybe two.

Between leaving the RS232 at Gary's and picking it up, I was able to check out the bargains at the Active electronics parts surplus store. Amongst other things I found and bought, were a couple of RF modulators to be available to our group members. One has already been purchased by a new member. I think we still have one available.

A few of you missed the December meeting at the Daniel's den. A couple of others had to leave before our visitor from OSHTI, Tom Jakabfy, demo'd some of the programs he brought and donated to our group's library. You missed some top-flight educational programs for both children and adults. Thanks Tom!

Tom also mentioned a contact for used Commodore 1701 monitors at a very attractive price. Two members hope they'll be lucky. We should know soon.

Those who couldn't get to the December meeting missed excerpts read from a letter received from our wandering Snow Bird, John Baal. His addresses were handed out and will be available at our next meeting if you wish to drop him a note.

We're still waiting for the group's Horizon card. In fact, all told, we're waiting for three. Here's a recap:

You may remember that, last spring, Glen Daniels and I each bought a Horizon 2000. At the same time, we bought a Horizon 1000 for the group's PEB. But, before we bought them from Bob Boone who said they might need minor repair, I telephoned Bud Mills. Mr. Mills said there would be no problem, just send him the Horizons for testing. He assured me he would fully stand behind any Horizons bought from Mr. Boone.

A couple of weeks later, when Glen received the Horizons from Mr. Boone, he phoned Mr. Mills, confirmed his assurance and forwarded them. That was on April 20th.

Several weeks later, having heard nothing, Glen phoned Mr. Mills said the group's 1000 was missing some 8k chips, fortunately for us he had some used 8k chips, it would cost U.S.\$25. Glen gave his approval.

More weeks passed, then early in August, Glen wrote Mr. Mills and asked if we could have the Horizons in time for our Sept. 9 meeting.

Since then, Glen has phoned once, I have called twice. My most recent call was around the end of October when Mr. Mills said he had a couple of "free days" coming up and we could expect to have all three Horizons, shortly.

Well, 1993 has arrived. A good luck year? Time will tell.

Dick Bulmer

MIDI

In the December newsletter I said I would have more to report in this issue. Well, I'm still trying to understand it all. Much more to find out about than I at first thought. Maybe next month. Meanwhile I'll continue to explore and drool over the new model musical keyboards that can interface the TI.

Dick Bulmer



?? ANYONE OUT THERE ??

\* Who has a current address for Steve McWatty, creator of the GRAFLABEL program. I wrote him at RR, Kinburn, ON. KOA 2HO, but my letter was returned, marked "Moved address unknown"

contact Dick Bulmer  
c/o the Kawartha Chronicle

Hard Drives  
the inside story..

See what the inside of a hard drive looks like! We'll have one at the Jan. meeting, courtesy of COMFIX a computer repair centre at 227 Geprge St. N.

Dick Bulmer

[Ed. Dick Bulmer's note. The following is a departure from our usual newsletter fare. Club member Bob Tisdale is a "Published Poet." This month we get an advance peek at a couple of his contest entries]

TISDALE'S CULTURE COLUMN

WHERE HAVE ALL THE CHILDREN GONE

I AM ASHAMED OF WHAT WE HAVE DONE  
TO THE WORLD'S CHILDREN  
BY THE BOMB AND THE GUN.

ARE WE MAD! HAVE WE LOST OUR PRIDE  
IN OUR BLIND RAGE WHY? WHY?  
FOR THE CHILDREN MUST THEY DIE?

DO YOU NOT REMEMBER OF BEING YOUNG  
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MEMORIES OF ALL YOUR FUN  
NOW THAT YOU USE YOUR GUN

STOP! THINK! THAT CHILD COULD BE YOURS  
IN FRONT OF ANOTHER GUN.

A SILENT PRAYER FROM THE WOMB

I WANT TO BE BORN  
I WANT TO GROW  
I WANT TO PLAY  
I WANT TO GROW OLD  
THEN PASS AWAY

BY Bob Tisdale  
KAWARTHA 99ers

# 1993

January								February								March											
		1	2					1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4	5	6				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		7	8	9	10	11	12	13				7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
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31																											

# Computer Recycling Depot

The following computer items are for private sale by the owner unless otherwise stated. The Kawartha 99'ers makes no claim or accepts no responsibility as to the suitability or condition for any items advertised through this service. Free advertising space for the private purchase or sale of computer related products is offered and limited to members of the Kawartha 99'ers User Group.

For sale:

- a complete set of disk software c/w manuals for **TI COUNT by Pike Creek Computer Co. Inc.**, a small business, modular software program for the TI 99/4A which includes; general ledger, accounts receivable / payable, inventory system, payroll system and mailing system. (\$10.00)
- **Database Management**; module c/w manual by Navarone Industries (\$10.00)
- assorted **games modules** c/w manuals - will run on console only systems (\$2.00 each)
- assorted **educational modules** c/w manuals - will run on console only systems (\$5.00 each)
- assorted "how to..." and **educational books** for the TI 99/4A, suitable for children or adults wanting to learn more about the TI 99/4A computer (\$4.00 each)
- cables, connectors, spare TI 99/4A parts, working consoles etc. also available at varying prices

For more information or to make a purchase on any of the above items call Phil at 705-745 3757 (evenings 6pm - 11pm EST) or (weekends 10 am - 11pm EST).