
U P T I M E

MUSIC CITY 99ers USERS GROUP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FOURTH QUARTER 1987

TI-SDOM FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello again! Happy News! TIS THE SEASON! GET READY and make plans to be at our Christmas meeting. Bring any hardware, software, printers, disks, cartridges, cables, or anything that you wish to trade, sell, give-away, buy, or share. We have three Disks-Of-the-Month to offer for your enjoyment. One is full of memory resident assembly routines that REALLY enhance your programs. One is full of fine X-BASIC utilities that are a must for anyone who likes to get some work done and have fun too! One is full of X-BASIC holiday music which come complete with beautiful graphics. These three disks are brand new to our library and will be demonstrated at the meeting. We will also have one of our club members' two MYARC 9640 (GENEVE) computers for a demonstration. Lastly and most importantly, we will have some snacks and refreshments to complete the festive occasion. DON'T BE LATE!!

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M  M  EEEE  EEEE  TTTT  III  N  N  GGG      DDD  AA  TTTT  EEEE  !
MM MM  E    E    T    I  NN  N  G  G      D  D  A  A  T  E    !
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M  M  E    E    T    I  N  NN  G  GG      D  D  A  A  T  E    !
M  M  EEEE  EEEE  T    III  N  N  GGG      DDD  A  A  T  EEEE  *
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IT'S AGAIN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY DEC. 15th 7-9 p.m. in ROOM #312 at the WEST END METHODIST CHURCH. DON'T FORGET IT! WE WILL MISS YOU, TOO! DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO MEET WITH YOUR GROUP WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUR TI NEEDS AND RESPONDS TO THEM WITH ANSWERS, TUTORIALS, & TECHNICAL HELP. For further information, write our Post Office box or call me at home, (615)889-5852 or at work (615)242-9634. I'll be listening for you! Make it a point to get involved in this great club experience! JOIN, LEAD, ENJOY! If you would like to contribute some TIME or some articles for UpTime, contact me or any of our officers and know that your input will be well received. Our club program library is really growing and to date, we have well over 1000 great programs. These are all available to you for copying at either of our regular meetings. We manage to get together a full DISK-OF-THE-MONTH for each meeting & we have a good cassette library. Our 300/1200 BAUD TIBBS is not running and is in need of a SysOp. We will make arrangements with anyone who will dedicate some of their TIME for this service. It's fun and educational too! Don't forget your \$15.00 annual membership. Your dues include membership, library, and this newsletter. The Music City 99ers Users Group offers complete support for the TI-99/4A HOME COMPUTER. Tell us how we can serve you better.

ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!! ATTENTION!!
Please let us know your needs and we will surely help all that we can. This group is worth every thing that you put in to it and more. Sometimes if you feel that you are not getting enough out of this group or any group, try donating your time and talents to making it better. You as a group have purchased a sometimes idling dual-disk system with double-sided/double density drives. You should determine how to make it useful to you, to benefit you, to help you, and also to nourish your desires to be productive with your own TI-99/4A Computer.
MEETING DEC. 15th, 7 p.m. BE THERE !

LET'S ROUND UP THE MAVERICKS! by Jim Peterson

A maverick, for the information of you tenderfeet, is a young Texas critter which has lost its mama. There are over a million of them hiding in the closets of America, and I think it's time for a roundup!

There are perhaps 200, possibly 300, TI user groups in the United States and elsewhere in the world. A few boast of several hundred members, but some have no more than a dozen, and I doubt that the average is more than 50 users actually paying dues and attending meetings. That computes to at most 15,000 members of the "organized" TI world. Of course, there are many others who keep in contact by subscribing to those magazines which support the TI, and still others who are kept up to date on new developments by the catalogs from the big mail order houses. Still, no matter how you compute it, there are certainly well over a million owners of the TI-99/4A who have no way of knowing that our computer is still alive and well.

These people have read that Texas Instruments abandoned the computer. They have seen the supplies of hardware and software disappear from the big retail stores. Many of them bought their computer during the final suicide sales, therefore never got on the mailing list for the Texas Instrument newsletter.

And yet, relatively few of the TI-99/4A are showing up in the classified ads and in the garage sales. A recent national survey found that the TI-99/4A was owned by more people than any computer except the Commodore.

True, many of these owners are only interested in plugging in a module and playing a game. But some have a deeper interest - and even five percent of a million is an awful lot of people!

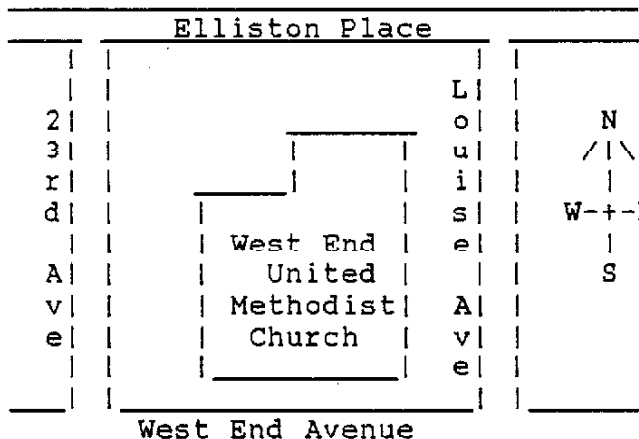
When I bought my TI, in March of 1982, I searched in vain through the articles and ads of every magazine on the newsstand, for anything relating to my computer. It almost seemed that there was a conspiracy of silence. I had taught myself to program, and written dozens of programs, before I finally made contact with the TI world. I was once a maverick, and I can sympathize with those who are mavericks now.

Is your user group dwindling away, as some of your members move on to bigger but not necessarily better computers, while others become so polarized in their interests that they have little in common with each other? Are your givers tired of giving to your getters, and your doers tired of being used by your users? Do you miss the enthusiasm and excitement of your first meetings, when everyone was learning together? Does your group need a transfusion of fresh blood? The donors are out there and waiting, if you can find them!

Do you want to see new hardware, new software, new publications for your computer? The bigger the market, the more that will be produced to be marketed. And the market is there - it just doesn't know that it's there!

The user groups are the only ones who can round up the mavericks. You can do it by publicizing your meetings, by letting the TI owners in your community know what you can do for them. You can get newspaper publicity and television publicity. Some of you are already offering classes in programming or in computer use to the general public, to the schools, to libraries, to senior citizens, to foster children, to the handicapped. These are very fine endeavors in themselves, and they can also bring the publicity which will attract new members. And here and there among those new members will be an ingenious hardware hacker or programming genius who will make our computer better than ever.

WE WELCOME ALL NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS!



Meeting at the West End Methodist Church in Room #312. Go into the back doors and take the elevator up to the Third Floor. Turn left, go through the double doors, then left again to the end of the hall-ROOM #312. The meeting begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. on the Third Tuesday evening of every month. DON'T MISS A SINGLE ONE!

Send inquiries to the address below or call Bob Teague at 615-889-5852.

MUSIC CITY 99ERS USERS GROUP provides complete support for TI-99/4 Computers

>L O O K< NEW ADDRESS >L O O K<

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