NET 99er
HOME COMPUTER USERS GROUP
PO BOX 534
HURST, TX 76053

Hello there! Fellow 99ers

NOTICE

Next meeting is the 8th of DECEMBER at 9:00 AM at the Hurst Public Library. Hope to see you there.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I feel like I just received a promotion--I am finnally writing an article for a newsletter with a name. It was a real shame to go around nameless for so long. If you missed the November meeting, it was there that the members decided that this newsletter should be called NEWS NET 99ER. I want to thank the group for choosing a name.

BIG NEWS--the disk order is in. Just like they promised, the folks in Florida shipped right away and we have the Wabash diskettes packaged 11 to the box. We got a good deal for the members and the group was able to make a little money. It was good for all. We can all wish for the prices to continue downward some each time so we can save more and more. If you ordered and paid for diskettes, please pick them up at the December meeting.

As I have mentioned previously, new officers will be elected at the January 1985 meeting. Please be thinking who you want to lead the group for the next year. Please also get the approval of the person you wish to nominate before you nominate them. Once again, I have no intention to be president again. I want a chance to delve into assembly language and FORTH.

I hope that you neglected to notice just I did that we passed the anniversary (?) of TI's demise in the home computer market without an article in the newsletter. I much prefer to look to the future with optomism rather than looking back to what might have been. We have received word from various sources that CorComp (even though filing for Chap 11) has absolutely no intention of going out of business. They are merely re-grouping to better meet the marketplace. Rumor has it that the 9900 Micro Expansion System from CorComp may be available by the time you read this. We all hope so. CorComp, we plan to continue your support!

In the early days of the CorComp double density controller card, it was said that it was not compatible with the Foundation 128K memory card. This was verified by one of our members. CorComp has perfected a fix in the form of a new ROM which they will send for the asking. This ROM is also supposed to make the DDDC work with ALL consoles.

I have had the chance to read many newsletters from other groups this past month. It is always good to see what is happening elsewhere on the TI scene. Several of the newsletters complained that a TI users' group in Arizona which had been freely exchanging newsletters, started charging $13 per year for a subscription. I always thought that users' groups were supposed to share information with each other for the common betterment.

One other comment from other newsletters is one from HCM. HCM seems to think that these groups are making derrogatory remarks about their magazine. One very good response that I saw was along the lines of-if you don't publish ads then how can we keep the TI end of things going. I hate to make bad remarks, and really, it is hard to judge something you hardly ever see.

I would like to express thanks to Charlie Bathman for leading a

discussion on the basics at the last meeting. The tremendous response to this discussion is most encouraging. We'll have to try it again. I would also like to thank our visitor for demonstrating OSCAR-the optical bar code reader. I must apologize that I have mis-placed his name. This next meeting we are looking forward to a program from Mike Bowen dealing with Multiplan--the multi-purpose tool.

The Assembly Language SIG was again attended by three brave souls. If you are interested in increasing our attendance, please let me know. We would even consider another night if necessary. Incidently, there will be no meeting during December for the ALSIG.

The FORTH SIG met and had another interesting meeting swapping information and techniques. At this meeting the CorComp Cursor (newsletter) was shown. In this publication, they gave information on how to convert TI FORTH to run on any available disk format including SSDD, DSSD and DSDD. I personally tried this and was 100 percent successful--even with the FORMAT-DISK word. It appears that CorComp really knows what they are doing with FORTH. Also, I was able to BSAVE and BLOAD my personalized version of DSDD FORTH by following Craig Miller's instructions from a few newsletters back.

We have received a nice gift recently--an assembly language screen dump for TI/Epson/Gemini printers which is loadable/callable from XB. This is nice in itself, but the nicest part is that language which was contained in the header to the source code (Yes we got the source also). The header said, "Program released into the public domain Sept 1984. This program not to be sold!! Anyone who wishes may have it free." This very generous gift and very generous statement came from assembly language wizard Danny Michael who lives in Florence, Alabama. It is really nice to run across such a generous, selfless person as he. We

should have more. Thanks, Danny.

The much-heralded Version III of STARTEXT is scheduled to debut on November 26. This version promises to have many improvements. I am looking forward to using it then. All new subscribers will have to pay a rate of $9.95 per month. This flat rate is still a super bargain--especially when compared to Compuserve or Source. ST was nice and gave all current subscribers a chance to extend their subscriptions up to 1 year at the old rates. We are fortunate to have such a good videotext service available locally at such reasonable rates.

The previously mentioned membership list will be compiled after the December meeting and then will be mailed to all members before Christmas.

LeRoy Thompson

Hello fellow 99ers this is James Crosson and this is my first and maybe last time I write an article for the 99er letter, depending on how badly I do this time. What I am writing to you about is a problem I have been having for sometime and didn't know what to do about it or who to see. The problem is mystery fingerprints on a good many of my disks and how to get them off. Up until now I was cleaning my disks with alcohol and lentfree cloth, but this didn't work so good since this usually just spread the oil from the fingerprint and made the area larger and left a stain, that to me looked very suspicious. This is when I decided to talk to someone that was very worldly about these things , Gerry Myers(our head liberarian). He suggested that I try a good product known as "Bestine". The only place I could find this is a art supply such as Azle Art Supply. It worked very good and didn't even leave a stain. Oh, by the way use a cotton swab it does very nice. However, this still didn't solve all the problems with the disks. I kept using a Quick Test from Disk Manager 2, and it would

still say I had an error, and just by chance I stumbled on the answer sometimes the catalog line remembers that a error was recorded on its sectors. By reintializing the disk it removed its memory and the disk would read free of errors. However, you also have to remember that this erases everthing else on the disk.

NET 99'ER USERS GROUP MEETING MINUTES
Nov. 3, 1984

President Leroy Thompson called the meeting to order, and minutes from last meeting were accepted. Treasurer Charles Bathman gave a financial report and reported that the club had a net $262.48 in its account.
SIG (Special Interest Group) leaders gave brief reports and Mike Bowen, leader of the Multiplan SIG said his group would not meet in December.
There were other reports of retails stores clearing out their TI software, including Babbages in Northeast Mall.
Thompson reminded of elections for new officers will soon be here and that members should be coming up with possible candidates.
There were no entries in the Christmas theme programming contest.
A buy, sell, swap session was held and, afterward, Bathman said there are $12 kits now available to help anyone install any half-high double-sided, double-density drives in their Peripheral Expansion Box. Contact him for more information or to purchase the kits, which includes the hardware and instructions for installation.
There also were a couple of deals on the half-high drives: one for $145 for Shugarts and another for $130 for TEC drives.
Bathman also urged members for more input into the newsletter, no matter how simple or complex the subject matter might be.
Bathman also announced that BASIC classes probably would start this month for anyone interested. He also requested that these classes be limited to anyone 16 years old and older.
Bathman, for the benefit on many new members who are now just becoming acquainted with their 99/4A, explained the many facets of the computer and how to expand it.
Following a short break, Franklin Vest gave a demonstration of OSCAR, the bar code program reader.

Respecfully submitted,

Charles Clines

CHARLIE'S CHATTER

"How do you know that an Aggie has been using TI Writer on your computer?"

The rumors we've heard about someone taking over production of TI's EXTENDED BASIC have finally been verified. Exceltec, Incorporated of Lubbock, Texas has the "Cheese". We received a short letter from Charles H. Roberts, president of Exceltec, advising us that they would be producing EXTENDED BASIC using TI parts. Exceltec is quoting a group purchase price of $79.95 for five or more modules. I personally feel that price is too high, since B J Sales (AKA Bob Wallace) is currently selling TI Extended Basic for $85.00. In the future, Bob hopes to be able to get Exceltec's Extended Basic at a lower price.

One of the books that many members have been anxiously awaiting, Amlist's BASIC "Tips", has finally been ordered and should be available at the next meeting. There will be a little surprise package with each book along with a surprise reduced price of $11.50. This is a very good self-tutorial book on TI Basic and includes many excellent examples of TI Basic routines. Incidentaly, Amlist, as a business, is no longer in the third party TI market. After many phone calls, I found out that TEX+COMP is now the primary supplier for this publication.

FOR SALE - Kathleen Wilson, at 838-0044 (evenings), has a TI Disk Controler card with Disk Manager 2 and a SS/Single or Double Density Tandon disk drive for sale, $200.00 for both.

FOR SALE - A non-member, Bert Wells at (214) 790-8527 (home) or (214) 438-0295 (work) has a complete, and I Do Mean Complete, TI system for sale for $1500.00. Lots of TI cartridges, disk and cassette software, books and magazines.

The TEC DS/DD 1/2 high disk drives that B J Sales are offering for $135.00 each are, as far as I can tell, completely compatible with the TI system and can be mounted in the PEB in exactly the same manner as the Shugart/Panasonic/National drives and using the same installation kit that the group has available.

A warm welcome to the following new NET 99er members since our last newsletter:

Charles D. Ashley
1312 Brookhurst
Irving, Texas 75061
(214) 438-6554

Mark Bishop
405 East Springdale Lane
Grand Prairie, Texas 75051
(214) 262-7398

Danny Clark
1129 Lakeview
Mesquite, Texas 75149
(214) 285-4124

Ron Clark
2008 Edgebrook Court
Arlington, Texas 76015
(465-0489

Wayne Clovis
1101 Thornbush Circle North
Arlington, Texas 76013
460-7258

Jerry L. Colburn
1041 Cole Court
Fort Worth, Texas 76115
927-0270

Leo Hendersin
1402 Cedar Keys
Lewisville, Texas 75067
(214) 436-5291

Charlie D. Howard
12009 Bencrest Place
Dallas, Texas 75244
(214) 247-3928

James P. and Lorraine Morrisroe
1017 Denmark Drive
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050
(214) 264-9725

Brett Pijan
845 Melrose
Garland, Texas 75040
(214) 276-2914

Ron Sallabedra
2517 Westridge Drive
Plano, Texas 75075
(214) 596-2737

John Wadle
1117 Atlanta Drive
Bedford, Texas 76022
283-0975

Ron Woolf
1901 Maid Marion
Arlington, Texas 76012
265-0335

I'd also like to recognoze the following members for their outstanding perception and foresight in renewing their memberships:

Ron Cook

Tom Crabtree

James and Andy Dieb

Jack Kishpaugh

Cal Koether

Norman Smith

Jim Yingst

And a special "HELLO" to an additional family member:

Elizabeth Monterosso

Well, I seem to be running out of Literary Steam. So, until December the 8th, Be kind to your computer.

OH!!! In case you're still wondering, "It's because there's Liquid Paper all over the screen."

MULTIPLAN SIG MEETING NOTICE

There will be no MULTIPLAN meeting in December. We will resume in January.

TIPS FOR MULTIPLAN BEGINNERS

Here are a few hints for people who are starting to use MULTIPLAN. You should make a copy of your MULTIPLAN disk and use the copy as your master disk. You can use the Disk Manager to make the copy, but the disk must have the name 'TIMP'. This disk should be kept in drive 1 if you have two drives. If you have two drives, make drive 2 your data disk by entering 'T' for transfer then 'O' for options. From this screen tab to the 'setup:' field and enter 'DSK2'. The system will automatically go to drive 2 for loads and saves. Also, the default is to recalculate everytime a cell is entered. This is time consuming and gets more so the more info you put in the spreadsheet. Turn this off by going to option screen by entering 'O' and then press the space bar to change the recalc option from 'Yes' to 'No' and then press enter. The spreadsheet will be recalculated only if 'FCTN 8' is pressed or if you save your spreadsheet. MULTIPLAN will not save a spreadsheet unless it has been recalculated.

Following is a program from Craig Miller of Millers Graphics that is a BASIC program that allows one to save and load the Mini Memory RAM to and from disk. This program saves and loads an entire 4K so one can use it with one of the third party assemblers to write 4K assembly programs. It does, however, require CorComp's 9900 Disk Controller since it uses some of the new commands and programming statements that are built into the card's DSR ROM.

```
1 REM The following program requires
the CorComp Disk Controller Card.  It
uses new commands built into the
card.
2 REM This program allows you to Save
or Load programs in the  Mini  Memory
Module to disk.
3 REM Since it is written in BASIC,
you can Save or Load a  4K  assembly
program in Mini Mem RAM.
4 REM For a Save, it creates an 18
Sector file with an Internal Variable
254 file structure.
5 REM After a file has been Saved, it
only takes approx.  7.5  seconds  to
reload it through this program.
6 REM You can  not reload the file
through the Load and Run option,  but
it's much faster than a CS1 load.
7 REM Note:  The quoted item at the
end of the new commands is a  way  of
adding remarks to the new commands.
100    REM   MMLOAD  PROGRAM  by  C.C.
Miller Millers Graphics
110 CALL CLEAR
120 CALL   WRTRG(7,244)"set  up  color
screen"
130                                CALL
VPOKE(783,0,244,244,244,244,244,244,244
244,244,244,244,244,244,244,244,244,244
" set text/cursor"
140 CALL CLEAR  150 A$="Mini  Memory
Save and Load To and From Disk"
160  B$="Press  for  1  Save Mini Mem
RAM"
170 C$="2 Load Mini Mem RAM 3 Quit to
Title Screen"
180                                CALL
VPOKE(131,96,A$;355,96,B$;485,96,C$)"
display menu on screen"
190 CALL SOUND(-100,1000,0)
200 CALL KEY(0,I,S)
210 IF I<49 THEN 200
220 IF I>51 THEN 190
230 IF I<51 THEN 260
240 CALL MPEEK(2,0,I,S)" get power up
routine address"
250  CALL MPOKE(33732,0,I,S)" load it
in the ISR hook"
260  CALL  VPOKE(674,96,"INPUT  FILE
NAME")" show prompt"
270 INPUT "DSK":F$
280 F$="DSK"F$
```

```
290 ON I-48 GOSUB 320,490
300 CLOSE #1
310 GOTO 140
315 REM << Save_ Mini Mem >> note:
Strings A-D are 250 bytes and E is 96
bytes.
320    OPEN   #1:F$,INTERNAL,VARIABLE
254,OUTPUT
330 A$=SEG$(A$,1,50)
340 A$=A$A$A$A$A$                _____
350 B$=A$
360 C$=A$
370 D$=A$
380 E$=SEG$(A$,1,96)
390 FOR I=28672 TO 31672 STEP 1000
400 CALL MPEEK(I,0,A$,B$,C$,D$)" read
100 bytes of memory"
410 PRINT #1:A$
420 PRINT #1:B$
430 PRINT #1:C$
440 PRINT #1:D$
450 NEXT I
460  CALL MPEEK(32672,0,E$)" read 96
bytes of mem"
470 PRINT #1:E$
480 RETURN
485 REM << Load Mini Mem >>
490    OPEN   #1:F$,INTERNAL,VARIABLE
254,INPUT
500 FOR I=28672 TO 30672 STEP 2000
510 INPUT #1:A$,B$,C$,D$,E$,F$,G$,H$
520                           CALL
MPOKE(I,0,A$,B$,C$,D$,E$,F$,G$,H$)"
write 2000 bytes to mem"
530 NEXT I
540 INPUT #1:E$
550 CALL MPOKE(32672,0,E$)" write  96
bytes to mem"
560 RETURN
```

And, that's the end of the program.

VOLUNTEER LIBRARIANS TO LEND A
HELPING HAND

In addition to our club-sponsored
librarians located in West Fort
Worth, Haltom City, and South Grand
Prairie, we now have the following
VOLUNTEER LIBRARIANS:

Mike Cantu
ARLINGTON
(METRO) 461-1769

James Crossen
N.RICHLAND HILLS
(817) 281-4868

Clint Joplin
HASLETT
(817) 439-3388

Mike Thombley
IRVING
(214) 255-9832

So give them a call to set up a
convenient time for help and
assistance. This is also a good time
just a rap about computers and, of
course, the 99/4A.

EDITORS NOTES

A new heading will appear for the
name of this newsletter, when time
will permit. As far as the name it
is NEWS NET 99er.

Second note

If the programs seem a little mixed
up,but in proper order, blame me
because I am still learning how to
use TI Writer.

FOR SALE: Complete TI-99/4A system.
This includes keyboard, expansion
box. TI disc drive,disc drive
controller, RS232 card, 32K memory
card, cassette cable, printer cable,
editor/assembler, multiplan, extended
basic. and TI writer. All for
$600.00 from Don Anderson at
(817)232-4458.

NET 99er Home Computer Users' Group Officers and Key Personnel

OFFICERS

President:
Leroy Thompson (817) 429-2039

Secretary:
Charles Clines   (817) 485-0407

Vice President:
Frank Schnell (817) 267-3860

Treasurer:
Charlie Bathman (817) 284-5147

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) LEADERS

MULTIPLAN SIG:
Mike Bowen   (817) 571-4956

FORTH SIG:
Charles Clines   (817) 485-0407

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE SIG:
Harold Stanton (817) 294-4510

GRAPHICS SIG:
Charlie Bathman (817) 284-5147

SOFTWARE LIBRARIANS

EAST LIBRARY:
Mike Maier
(214) 264-7762

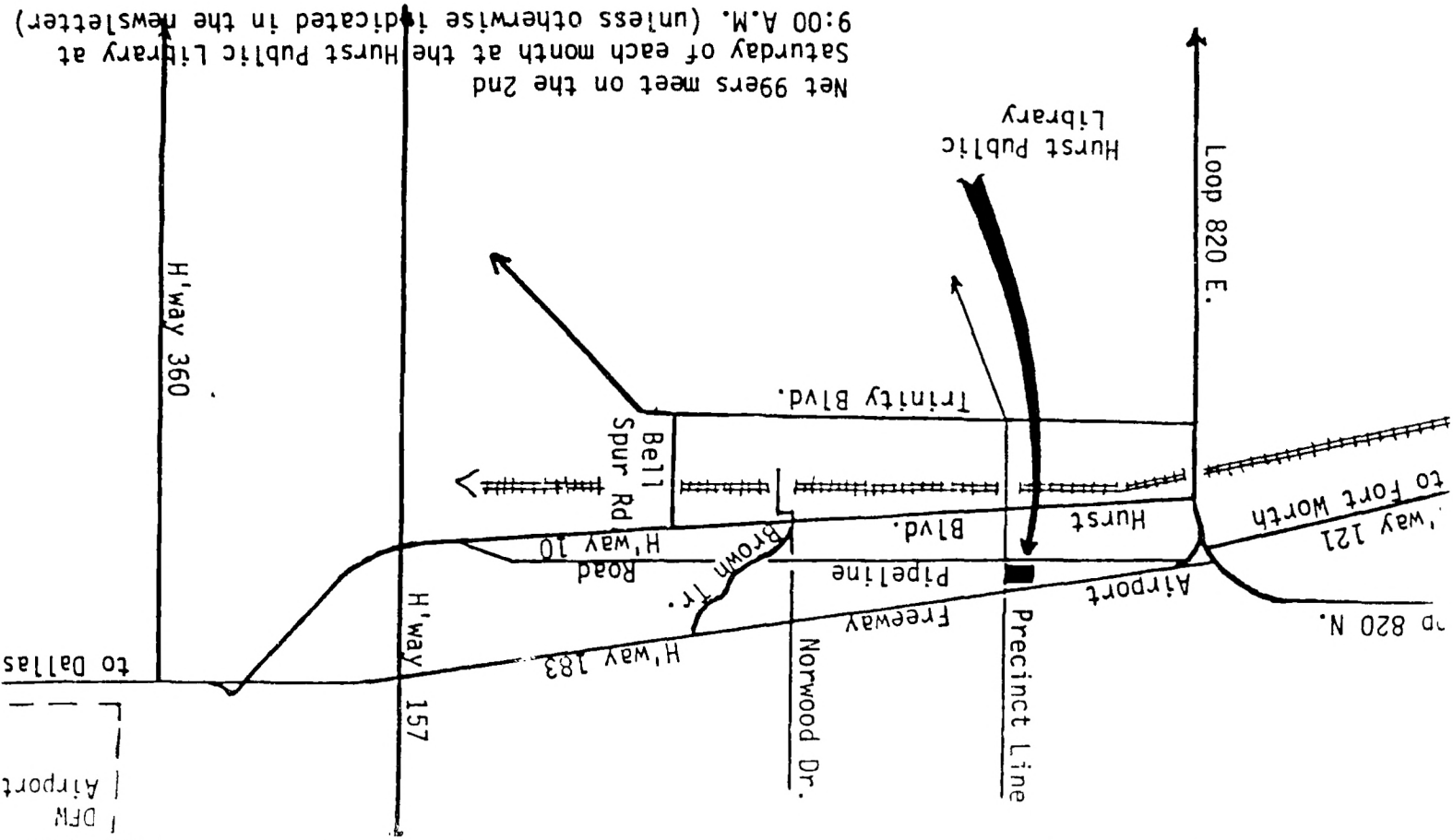CENTRAL LIBRARY:
Gerry Myers
(817) 834-6138

WEST LIBRARY:
Robert Scarborough
(817) 244-0389

NOMINATIONS FORM: I nominate the below named individuals for the offices indicated. In nominating the individuals indicated, I certify that I have also determined that they are willing to serve if elected.
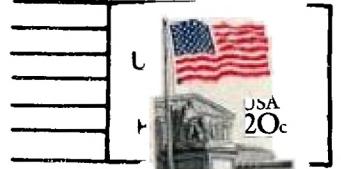
President:_____   Secretary:_____

Vice President:_____   Treasurer:_____

Please turn this form in to one of the officers at the December 8th meeting.

Net 99ers meet on the 2nd
Saturday of each month at the Hurst Public Library at
9:00 A.M. (unless otherwise indicated in the newsletter)

Hurst Public Library

Loop 820 E.

H'way 360

Trinity Blvd.

Bell Spur Rd.

H'way 10

Brown Tr.

Road

Hurst

Airport Blvd.

to Fort Worth

H'way 121

Loop 820 N.

Pipeline

Freeway

Precinct Line

H'way 183

Norwood Dr.

H'way 157

to Dallas

DFW Airport

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