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# net99er news

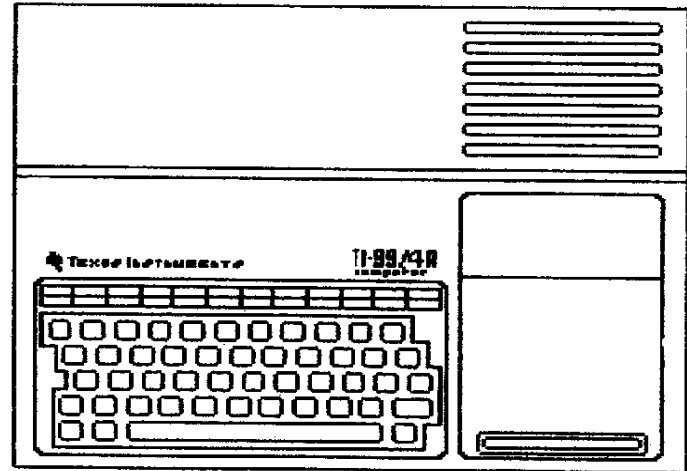
NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHEAST  
TARRANT COUNTY TI 99/4A USERS GROUP

VOL. 6 NO. 5

MAY/JUNE 1988

**NEXT MEETING:  
SATURDAY  
AUGUST 6th**

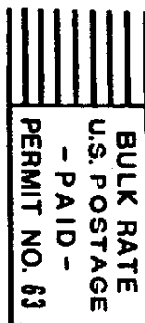
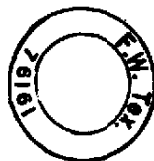
At the North Richland Hills  
Community Center on Loop 820  
and Rufe Snow Drive.  
9:30 A.M. in Room 2B



The reviews, evaluations and opinions contained in articles in this newsletter are the author's own and do not reflect the views of the NET99ER HCUG.

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HURST, TEXAS 76053

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COMPUTER GROUP  
P.O. BOX 29847  
DALLAS TX 75229



----- PRESIDENTIAL WORDS -----

Some of the members who took sheets of the addresses that TI had provided have reported that they have been very pleased with the responses and are looking forward to meeting several visitors who own 4A's and are interested in our users group. I hope all are experiencing this response.

I am very sorry to report that our V.P. is still not recovered. Doc Graves is still unable to do those wonderful things he could do before his stroke. We wish him a very speedy recovery to his old self.

This month's program at the meeting will be on MULTIPLAN by Lee DeForest and no doubt will include some of his experiences with his new hard disk. Next month, we hope that he will be able to report on his 9640 with his experiences on operating that hard disk.

I have at last received my GRAMULATOR and am trying to learn what all it will do. The reference manual says "The GRAMULATOR is designed to be used by the novice while still providing considerable flexibility for the expert." I will put that statement to the test.

I hope to see all of you at the next meeting on July 2, 1988 in room 21 at the N. Richland Hills Community Center located at the SE corner of 820 and Rufe Snow Dr. Bill Duncan, President

----- TREASURY REPORT -----  
MAY 1988

We started the month with \$463.19 We had a total income of 66.33 and expenses of \$138.11. This leaves us a total of \$391.41. As everyone can see We are spending money faster than we take it in, which can't cont. at the present rate for long. Since the first of the year we have taken in \$927.25 and spent \$936.68. The only thing that keeps us out of the hole is the \$400.14 we started the year with.

JUNE 1988

At the end of May we had \$241.41 in the cash box. During the June meeting we had a lot of people to renew their sub. to Micropendium and to pay their fee to the BBS so we had a good month for deposits. A total of \$248.75 leaving us with a total of \$462.78 in the Treasury. Respectfully Submitted, Lee DeForest

----- SECRETARY'S REPORT JUNE 4, 1988 - TOM HALL -----

With 19 people present, President Bill Duncan called the meeting to order at 9:50 AM. The TREASURERS Report was read and approved. A status report was discussed on MICROpendium - Chairman in charge, Roy Willis was not present. It seems that in past years when a member subscribed thru the club, his \$12 was sent to MP. Micropendium's procedure was to invoice the club for the number of issues mailed to the club. It seems that it didn't occur to anyone to reconcile the two methods. Presently, MICROpendium indicates the club owes money on past issues mailed. It appears that the club has no alternative, but to pay or default on the

members who pre-paid their subscriptions thru the club. It seems to me that the President, Treasurer and Committee Chairman need to sit down and audit and reconcile until they get this problem resolved.

A resolution was passed to send flowers to Doc Graves. The method of payment is for a "collection" to be made among the members and the club will pick up the remainder of the flower cost.

A discussion was held on the TI ZIP CODE LABELS. Reports are that this is one of the most successful projects in recent memory. Results were exceptional, it seems that those who worked, really worked, had a lot of success in locating potential new members. ATTA BOY TEAM!

A rather lengthy discussion was held on the CLUB BULLETIN BOARD. It seems that the BBS needs more money for operating expenses. The popular solution for this problem is to hold a "Garage Sale" with all proceeds going to benefit the Club Bulletin Board. Member, Tom Collins, donated three consoles for the "Garage Sale". The date and place of the "Garage Sale" was not determined. James Cresson deas'd and discussed the DISK OF THE MONTH. This is one of the real tangible services by the Club for the members. If you are not buying a DOM every month, you are missing out on a lot of fun.

Following a "BUY-BELL-SNAP" Session President Duncan declared a break. Key Member Fulton Cook Reported on the DISCOVERY S16. The next meeting was announced to be scheduled on June 9th at the First Baptist Church on East Loop 820. Librarian (and Key Member) Ron Miller made a report on the Library, including some recent additions. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Tom Hall (for Dave Shivers)

----- NEWS FOR 16 BIT 32K CONSOLE USERS -----

The following list of programs have been giving problems when used on the currently wired version of the 16 bit 32K console. This list is not complete nor is it intended to be accurate. These particular problems have arisen on my console and may or may not be a problem on other converted consoles. The problems are generally related to graphics and sprites.

Midnite Mason, Picasso, Wargames(at high levels), Tennis, Dig Dug, River Rescue, Submarine Commander

One solution would be to build a 32K standard console from the ones that are stashed in the closet (we all have 4 or 5, right?) and use it in place of the 32K 16 bit console when playing these games. This is better than changing to a standard 16K console and searching for the 32K card (you did keep it JUST in case, didn't you?), and move the stuff around to get to the P-box, at least in my case.

Tom Collins - Editor

----- Editors Input -----

This is the first newsletter published under the new plan of one every other month. We are looking at several ways to publish this newsletter at the most minimal cost to the club. I call on the club membership to help in any way possible to do this. This is a team effort and all I really do is set it up and run it through TI Writer and the printer. Then an evening of folding and labeling is handled by my children and myself and it's ready to mail the next day. I have a few suggestions for input since I haven't received any so far. I would like for someone in the group to review the DOM disk that we all purchase to help our group. It could be a real review with all the pros and cons of the programs provided on the previous month's disk. It wouldn't take a lot of time or effort since we all go home right home and sock that disk into the computer to see what we bought, right? Then just write a paragraph for the newsletter! That's all there is to it! We have had in the past a library review but since Phillip has been running the BBS he hasn't a lot of time to do this. How about a volunteer to review our library? I have a partial list of our programs that will not run on 16 bit 32k consoles and will keep providing these as I (or my kids, mostly) come across them. This doesn't mean that they won't run on someone else's 16 bit 32k system and is only provided for club information.

I hope every body is thinking about Doc Graves. He is back home and recuperating from his stroke/heart attack. He really deserves our best wishes and I hope each of us can express our feelings to him and his family in our own way. He has really helped me and I can't thank him enough.

Now for the BBS happenings. As most of you know the BBS was crashed recently for reasons unknown. I hope that it doesn't happen again. Phillip has upgraded me to co-sysop position. My endeavors on the BBS are generally related to the hardware end of it. I will help James in any way I can to get it reliable and keep it up and running. I have some programming ideas and will discuss these plans with the Sysop and co-sysops in the future. The Gameroom has become extremely popular among other paying users who are not club members. This has created a problem that we as club members and the non club members are going to have to debate sooner or later. I have started a debate on the BBS sub-board called User's Forum. Please take the time to respond to it as this is but one way the Sysop can keep in touch with the BBS userbase. It's got to be discussed and what better way than on the BBS. We meet once a month but we can keep a closer contact about this subject on the BBS. After all the BBS belongs to all of us and we do want to keep it going.

I hope that everyone who took the labels of TI owners names home last meeting had some success. I have had many responses and hope that these fine people take the time to visit our meeting and consider joining us. We need to expand our club's membership and can offer a lot in the way of programming, software, hardware, and book library support. We could use some hardware donations to help the club's membership drive. Any and all will be gladly accepted. Please contact any club officers for information.

Tom Collins - Editor

----- MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT -----

We had no new members this month!

The following members renewed their memberships:

Lee Boddie E06/89

Terry Irtz E06/89

Unfortunately we had some members who did not renew their memberships:

Rip Dowling

The following members will be dropped if dues are not paid at the next meeting:

Sormon Chance, Douglas Klingman, Jim Leshar, Charles T. Long, Dennis Pool

A NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS: Look on the mailing label on your newsletter for the date that your membership is renewable, such as E01/86 is January 1986, E05/86 is May 1986, etc.. The club does not send out reminders on dues because the postage is prohibitive. If you know any of the members who did not renew, please give them a call and see if you can learn the reason. Let your officers know so they can look into the reasons. Your help on this will be greatly appreciated. John Lambert, Membership Chairman

----- Just For Fun... -----

The following comes courtesy of Steve Mickelson, Editor of Newsletter 919, 109-2356 Gerrard St. East, Toronto, M4E-2E2, Canada.

So you are bored with your Geneve and/or tired for waiting for the final version of MOOS, with new features... well don't look now, but there are a few undiscovered secrets hiding inside your current version of MOOS. The following discoveries were found by fellow member, Gary Bowser, who called me last evening and let me discover what happened on my own 9640.

First boot MOOS as usual. At the A> prompt enter the following command XY:ZY and see what you get. Not impressed? Well, we saved the best for last, at the A> prompt enter the following command DIR JP: And who says programmers take themselves too seriously!

Now if I can only figure out what the R command in MYWOR is looking for, (certainly not a REMIND ME file- I tried it). Playing with it can disable disk drive #2, though. Anyway, I hope the JP swan gets well soon.

####Announcing####  
"A New Magazine for the TI-99/4A"

The 99/4A is a remarkable story that isn't over yet. Even 5 years after being discontinued there are still hundreds of thousands of users of this remarkable device. The range of familiarity with the 4A is almost as wide as the range of users - everyone from the bare beginner with a garage-sale console up to the "power-user" with hard-drives, and everything in between. The number of applications is equally as broad - tens of thousands of programs run on the 4A from 9 year old dusty databases to the latest in word processing. No one or dozen magazines can adequately describe this incredible diversity. Asgard Publishing felt that there were a lot of things that weren't being covered - that is why we created ASGARD NEWS.

What is ASGARD NEWS?

Well, for the owner of one or more Asgard Software products it is an indispensable source of tips, update notices, and new or related product information. It will tell you what's wrong and what's right about what Asgard Software publishes, and what we have up our sleeve next for the TI community.

For the average user, it is a source of the most important news from the grapevine - what the "rovers and shakers" of the TI community are doing now. It will keep you informed without you having to spend hundreds of dollars on telecommunications networks and phone calls. For the person in the market for 99/4A hardware - it is an unbiased, nuts and bolts reviewer of the latest in TI technology. It will help you by dissecting a new device for you so YOU won't have to spend hundreds of dollars before finding out it's a lemon or a prize.

For every TI-99/4A owner, ASGARD NEWS is a forum where all the issues facing the 99/4A will be discussed - from every angle. It is a magazine of opinion that is an intellectual free-for-all. We'll deal with the hard issues - what is the significance of the Geneva? Is piracy killing software support? Where will the 4A be in 2 years? 10 years?? ASGARD NEWS invites anyone with a clear opinion on anything to speak up - and anyone who doesn't like what is said to write in response. Finally, ASGARD NEWS is devoted to the non-programmer. It is a users magazine with an emphasis on "users". We recognize that 90% of 99/4A owners don't care about programming, and aren't interested in programming. All most users are interested in is getting the most from what they have, and finding out about things they don't have. They want to know what something is USEFUL for - what BENEFITS it offers - not feature lists. In short, ASGARD NEWS is a news magazine for the 4A. We'll keep you informed, we'll outrage, and we'll prove you right or wrong. If you are interested in the 99/4A - this magazine will interest you. This 16-32 page quarterly can be obtained until July 31st for only \$6.00/4 issues - 50% off the cover price! Canadian, European and Australian owners please add \$3.00 for air mail delivery. An offer like this will never come again - take advantage of our special introductory price because soon it - like the Commodore Vic 20, the IBM PCjr and the Coleco Adam - will disappear.

YES! Please send me 4 issues at your introductory price of \$6.00 for 4 issues (Canadian/European/Australian subscribers add \$3.00 for airmail delivery)

(please print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

NATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

ASGARD NEWS  
c/o ASGARD PUBLISHING  
P.O. BOX 10677  
ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

NOTICE!

The deadline for newsletter contributions is 2 weeks before the next meeting. Please try to get your newsletter columns to me by that time. It will help me get the newsletter on a more timely basis. Any and all input is welcome and needed!

For more information on club activities please contact the club officers listed below:

Bill Duncan - President - 498-0587  
Tom Collins - Newsletter Editor - 738-2428  
Dave Shivers - Secretary - 656-0583  
John Lambert - Mem. Chairman - 232-8306  
Ron Miller - Librarian - 927-8831  
Lee DeForest - Treasurer - 237-9746  
Fulton Cook - Discovery Sig Chairman - 284-9680