



NET99ER HCUG  
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# NEWSNET99ER

Newsletter of the NET99ER TI 99/4a  
& Geneve 9640 Computer Users Group

VOL 9 NUM 3

March 1991

Next Meeting:  
Saturday  
April 6th

9:30 AM at the  
NRH Community Center  
Loop 820 at Rufe Snow Dr.

## Club Officers

Barbara Massey	President
James Crosson	Vice Pres
Lee DeForest	Treasurer
Tom Collins	Secretary
Barbara Massey	NL Editor
Tom Collins	BBS SysOp
Gary Owens	BBS SysOp
Jeff Drinan	Librarian
Bill Duncan	M/S Chrmn

Call the **SUPERNET BBS**  
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—BAM's BABBLES—

The Net99ers picnic will be held Saturday, April 20th from 9:00 am to 2 pm. at the Chisolm park located on Norwood Street. For the price of \$5 per family, the club is providing the food, (hot dogs and all the trimmings) and ice. Each family needs to bring their own non-alcoholic beverages.

The idea of a year end raffle seemed to agree with everyone so starting in April for each meeting you make, your name will be put into a box. At the end of a year those of us who have attended 12 meetings will have 12 chances to win the prize. As of yet, the prize has not been decided upon, we'll have to discuss that further. Any ideas anyone? Do we want software programs? Games? Hardware? Give us your ideas. Also, you must be present to win! Hopefully this will bring some of our members back to attending the meetings.

I have had a few comments on the demos from last month. Some thought they went over the same thing too many times, others thought they were just right. In repeating myself I am hoping that no one is left behind. It does get a bit boring for those of use who know the program, but some of the beginners take a bit longer to understand what is happening. I have been having problems with my computer, so I hope to be able to get the next demo of Multiplan worked out for the next meeting. I may have to go and use my daughters system. You know me and my hardware problems! If I am able to get a presentation worked up, the next session of Multiplan will be identifying and naming cells, blocks of cells, and setting formulas for them. A formula can be as simple or as complicated as you want it to be. Practice using Multiplan, write out any questions you come across, and we'll try to answer them this next meeting.

Our next meeting is Saturday, April 6th, at the North Richland Hills Community Center, Rufe Snow Road and 810. We start at 9:30 am - hope to see you there!\*\*\*BAM\*\*\*

—VP REVIEW—

It's time for another meeting so that means that as usual I'm late again. For a recap of things going on I was able to get a member of ours to sign up with the city of Hurst so that we could reserve the grounds and a pavillion for our second NET99er picnic. Don't forget that the picnic is scheduled for April 20, 1991 in Chisolm Park in Hurst just off Norwood and Hurstview.

Also I understand that JoBell has got her a 9640, so guess who is going to be the next power user. And before I forget it, I recieved a phone call last week informing me that a certain person called Nyarc and was told to send the money that the HFBC card would be on it's way, since then I know of two people that have sent their money in and hope to have their cards very shortly, or at least hopefully. The new lower price is \$225.00 plus \$ 5.00 for shipping and handling for a total of \$230.00 which is exactly \$ 100.00 less than I paid. How can I get a refund?

Oh well I guess you can't win all the time, so until the meeting keep on trying and we will see ya there. \*\*James\*\*

—SysOp's RAMblings—

CONNECT 2400....

Hello fellow NET99ERS..... No real news in the BBS world, except there have been some problems develop in the rebooting from the Gameroom after playing the game. We are working on it, so be patient. Things have been kinda slow on the board lately,

with few uploads, mostly downloading. If there is something anyone would like to see on the BBS, let me know and we'll try to get it for you. I would like to have a version of PLATO that will operate correctly on my Geneve. Any one out there got the patch? Upload it to the BBS or send it to me. Much appreciated.

The system seems to be running so fine lately, I haven't even built the reboot circuit yet. The console we previously ran was the problem. So for now we'll just poke along.

So give the system a call.....you know the number..... 417-7043..... Click! NO CARRIER.....Tom Collins

—MINUTES OF NET99er MEETING  
of March 2, 1991—

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Massey at 9:50 am, with 17 members and one visitor present. James Crosson read the previous months minutes and these were accepted as read. Lee gave the Treasury Report, and it was also accepted, the club being fairly healthy in that regard. Future plans for a picnic were discussed, and volunteers were asked to actify as many members by phone as they could. The date for the picnic has not been set, but those attending have agreed to donate \$5 per family to help in the expenses. The newsletter printing expense was mentioned, having been brought down from high costs in the past. (I still have the copier folks....will be available soon....).

Barbara mentioned a year end drawing that will be tied to attendance, perhaps having a prize such as the DON free for a year, blank floppy disks, or some prize yet to be determined. More details from the Prez in future IB's and meetings. It is hoped that this will bring attendance up over the coming months. James told us of the problems that EDS was having with their HFBC. Sadly, the boards have been etched, but now the chips are not available from the company supplying them anymore. Another hardware hopeful bites the dust. The club thanked Jim Lesher for his donation of an RS232 card for the club system. He donated a monitor cable at the last meeting. Thanks Jim! A quick demonstration of MOOF and an in depth demo of ARCHIVER was presented by James, for those who have had some difficulty with these programs. The Fairware donation for this and other programs was brought up and several members have decided to do so, thru a method acceptable to Barry Boone.

The DON, Family Accounting was demned by the President, going thru all the steps for the program. No docs are available for this DON, but they are not really needed. Great demo and great program.

A light BUY-SELL-SWAP session was held. After the break, Barbara again took the awesome task of doing more demos! She did an intro to setting up a template for Multiplat, first in a series. Jim Lesher has Multiplan for the fantastic price of \$15, and also has E/A for \$10. The meeting began to break up after 12:30, with several members pairing off for some one on one program help. During this, Barbara copied the new TIPS program for members who had gotten the bad copies from an earlier DON.

The meeting ended about 1 pm.\*\*\* Tom Collins\*\*\*

—TREASURY REPORT—

We collected \$528.78 total for the month of March. This includes \$75 for one of the TI programmers with more to come at the next meeting before we send it to him. This also includes \$50 donated for the picnic to come. We had a total of \$589.93 in

expensis, leaving the club with a total of \$731.36. <sup>14</sup> Lee De Forest - Treasurer\*\*

-----RENEWALS DUE-----

The only member who needs to renew his membership in March John Mesburg. Please be sure to check your address label, if your membership expiration date is incorrect please let me know.

I want to thank all of those who have renewed. However, recently we have had to drop quite a few members who were over three months past due. If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may send your \$20.00 membership fee to NET99er ICDG, c/o Bill Duncan, PO Box 534, Hurst, Texas 76053.

Also, be sure to check with Lee De Forest for your expiration date of your MICROpendium subscription.

-----TI WRITER-----  
by Stan Katzman  
PART 6

Well let's do some more things that by this time you probably already know about, using some "special" keys.

Let's start with Fctn 1 (Delete Character). This key allows us to remove the letter that the cursor is setting over. We have already discussed Fctn 2 (Insert Character). Fctn 3 (Delete Line), will remove the entire line that the cursor is on. Fctn 4 (Roll Down) will show the next 24 lines of text. (Eg. If lines 1-24 are showing, pressing fctn 4 will now show lines 25-49.) Fctn 5 (Next Window) will "wrap" twenty columns at a time across the screen. Fctn 6 (Roll Up) will move the display up the screen. (Eg. If lines 25-49 are showing, Fctn 6 will now show 1-24.) Fctn 7 (Tab) will now "tab" the cursor across the screen that has been preset in the "tab" function of the Command Mode. Fctn 8 (Insert Line) will insert a blank line above the line where the cursor is setting. Fctn 9 (Command/Escape) has been discussed many times before. Fctn 0 (Line Numbers) toggles between showing and not showing the line numbers on the left side of the screen.

Now let's discuss the Ctrl Keys. Ctrl 1 (Cops!), if you make a removal change like Delete Line and you want the line back, press Ctrl 1 and you get the line back. There is a catch, you cannot have pressed any other key before you pressed Ctrl 1. Ctrl 2 (Reformat) we have discussed previously. Ctrl 3 (Screen Color) "toggles" you through a series of screen colors and character colors (I personally just use the starting colors.). Ctrl 4 (Next Paragraph) moves the cursor ahead to the next paragraph with each press. Ctrl 5 (Duplicate Line) will duplicate the previous line. (I have yet to find a use for this one!) Ctrl 6 (Last Paragraph) moves the cursor back through the text one paragraph at a time. Ctrl 7 (Word Tab) moves the cursor across the line one word at a time. Ctrl 8 (New Paragraph) places a paragraph symbol and starts a new paragraph. This is useful in the middle of a document. Ctrl 9 (New Page) places a new page symbol on the screen at the place the cursor is setting. This symbol will cause the printer to advance to a new page. Ctrl 0 (Word Wrap) we have discussed it toggles between word wrap and fixed mode).

These special keys also have a duplicate set by using the Ctrl plus letters. There is only one key that is not duplicated with the Fctn or Ctrl plus a number. This is Ctrl 7. When you press Ctrl Y it allows you to go past the left margin (a left margin release.). More next time. s.h.

Finally from the MS EXPRESS, there are SLIDING BLOCK PUZZLES (Series 1) and SLIDING BLOCK SOLUTIONS (Series 1) each \$7.95 + \$1.50 SH and both by Norman Rokke, the same person who brought you the extraordinary Fairware graphic/text program "1000 WORDS", one of the very best of its kind ever.

In this case, Norman has transcended the "normal" sliding block puzzles with which we are so familiar. In the late 1800's Sam Loyd, America's most ingenious puzzle maker at the turn of the century, created the 14-15 sliding block puzzle. There are lots of these out for the TI. The best I've seen is Chris Bobbitt's Public Domain version of many years ago and in all group libraries.

These puzzles, however, are considerably more challenging than the originals. There are three on this disk and all can be saved in mid-game, so one doesn't have to begin all over again.

The first consists of nine different-colored tiles and supposedly can be solved in 59 moves. Puzzle #2 is made up of 10 blocks and could be completed in 81 moves. The hardest (#3, of course) has 11 tiles to shift and can be solved in 90 moves. A colored monitor or TV to go with your XB, 32K, and minimum disk drive system are required.

You need these puzzles before you get the solutions' disk, which provides the help you need for each puzzle in little pieces so as not to ruin the game for you. Very user-friendly, like all things Norman does. And, of course, ingenuity by him is taken for granted.

Now that we have a new company supporting TIers, let's hope the TI Community supports the new company. Your support will encourage even more authors to stay with and write for the 99.

I continue to get letters from cribbage buffs all over the TI World asking about a program I reviewed last year. The program is written by Gene Hitz. He even rewrote it after I gleefully stated how I found a way to cheat on "Go". He chastised me for cheating on little 99 computer. Now, the computer catches me each time I try. This program is called "Cutthroat Cribbage" and gives you a nuggies if you count incorrectly. It's fun to play and is fast and friendly. The game can be purchased for \$7 from ARCADE ACTION, Program Innovators, 412 Glenway, Nantosa, WI 53222. Actually, for \$10 you get a diskful of games, including a nice version of TETRIS and piles of others. If you are a cribbage player, I'd recommend this game highly. If you'd like to learn the game, ask for the longer version (though I think he sends both versions, anyway), because this will give you the option to have the computer count up any combinations to see how things are scored. Then get yourself a NOBLE's from the library and play your TI until you get the game down pat. Excellent midnight companion.

Besides TIGERCUB's \$1 catalog of Public Domain disks (truly the BEST BUY in the TI World), everyone should send off for Asgard's newest catalog. Asgard's latest, particularly for Page Pro owners, is a mouth-watering collection of delectable delights. For game players, William Weiss's TOURNAMENT SOLITAIRE (which includes - along with KLOWNIES - PYRAMID, GOLF, CONERS, PILE-UP, CANFIELD, and CALCULATION) is terrific.

But call or write for the free catalog and notice the high level of your droolability.

\*(If you use NIN-AGE/99 please put me on your exchange list.)

— USING A MODEM —

by Dick Berry

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Well, here we are with part three. The first two articles dealt with some advantages of modemming, approximate costs, interpersonal modem uses, calling computer bulletin boards (BBS's), accessing your bank account, determining whether some libraries have the books or other materials you want, and whether these are already on loan or available, different "band rates", ie speed of data transmission, and some other details.

As I reread the earlier articles prior to beginning this one, I noted that I may have confused some of you regarding the "AT" commands. If you are using the 300-band Volksmodem, TI acoustic modem, or one of Radio Shack's Signalman series --the Mark 3, for example, you will not need to use these AT commands. Placing your telephone handset securely in the cradle will make the connection for the TI acoustic model; the other modems mentioned have a "voice-data" position to make the connection. If the party you are communicating with has a modem with the AT-type connection routine, they proceed in that manner while you do what I outlined above. Sorry if I caused you any problems by not mentioning this before!

Several fears of modem usage that appear to be prevalent among some beginners are: he'll (the BBS system operator or the other person in an interpersonal transfer) think I'm really stupid because I'll make a lot of mistakes; I'll do something really dumb that will mess up the BBS and cause the operator a lot of money and frustration (I'll BREAK it!); I won't be able to read what is coming across fast enough; I won't remember what to do next and will get really confused and frustrated. There are probable others, but these appear to be the major ones. The following paragraphs will address each of these in turn.

"He'll (she'll) think I'm really stupid...". Not so! Your chances of encountering such an insensitive individual are minimal. Most system operators (SysOps) don't sit and watch their monitors 24 hours a day, so the chance of your fumbling being noted are slim. If the SysOp does notice, he/she will probably break in on Chat mode and type helpful suggestions to get you going. You can type back your responses and questions (don't forget to go into HALF DUPLEX so that you can see what you are typing!). Following this interchange, the SysOp will put you back into terminal mode and you just continue from where you left off. If you are working across the line with just one other person, rather than a BBS, that person has probably encountered the same problems earlier that you are encountering now, and can thus be specifically helpful. Also, most modem users and SysOps WANT you to be successful at this activity that they themselves enjoy so much. I can't think of anyone I know who doesn't leap at the chance of "infecting" someone else with his/her own passionate love of modemming.

"I'll do something dumb...really mess up the BBS". Highly unlikely. Most BBS's have routines to take care of anything inappropriate that you might do. They are programmed to be "tough" since once in a while, rarely in my own experience as a SysOp and a Co-Sys-Op (thankfully!) an individual will attempt to sabotage a BBS. Don't fear that you will cause damage and be to blame. The chances are almost nonexistent.

"I won't be able to read...fast enough..." This is a real possibility. That

is why, in an earlier article, I suggested that, whatever the baud rate your modem is capable of, you "get on" the BBS at 300 baud the first few times until through practice your reading speed has increased and you are ready for higher baud rates. The fact is, however, that most BBS's will send you one or two screens of information at a time and will then sit there waiting for your input. If you learn to skim quickly what is coming across, this can be a tremendous help. Also, try jotting down (use a helper to write, if necessary) the key presses that you will use one after another to get where you want to go on a BBS, then on subsequent visits, you can have the paper beside you and just read them as you go. It is a good idea to call only one or two BBS's at first and get really familiar with how they operate. Then when you access a hitherto unfamiliar BBS you will already have some savvy that will make your contact much easier, even if the "new" board's system of commands is a bit different. The fact is that most BBS's use software chosen from among four or five leading software programs for that computer. That's why I can, and do, call BBS's all across the country and find many similarities to local boards. Don't forget, either, what I said in Part Two about sending the screen of a BBS to the printer on your first or second contact, so that all the commands needed are printed out and at your side. That helped me when I was beginning, and it probably will help you too.

"I won't remember...confused and frustrated." The solutions to this problem are already addressed by the suggestions I made in the preceding paragraph. Give them a try!

Avoiding some pitfalls: When downloading, I have run into some situations that were at first puzzling and frustrating. Here is how I handled these situations.

You have told both your computer and the other person or the BBS the filename of the program you want to receive. You begin the transfer and almost at once get the message "Bad device name". Solutions: first, check to see that the drive door is closed. Did you tell your computer to send the program to the right drive (the one with the disk in it)? Did you provide a disk with enough space to accommodate the program you are receiving? Is the disk positioned properly in the drive, meaning is the notch up if it is supposed to be, etc?

You are in the middle of a file transfer when your computer beeps or chimes and you get the message "File Transfer Complete". You know it's not. What to do?

There can be a variety of reasons why this happens. One is line noise. You can go through the steps to exit from that BBS, then call right back, hoping for a clearer line. Or you can stay on and attempt the same transfer again. Before you do this, CHANGE THE FILENAME for your computer. (You will have to use the same filename when requesting it from the BBS). If you don't change the filename at your end, in case the file that came over in an incomplete manner is protected, you will get an error message and have to start over.

One way that I change the filename is to put a "2" at the end of it, if there is room. If not, I just misspell it. I can correct the filename spelling at a later date while using a disk manager. If you haven't succeeded on the second download try, you probably ought to try downloading something else. You should also leave a message to the SysOp. He/She will want to know if there is a problem with that file, so that others will not be likewise inconvenienced.

If you happen to have the version of Fax: Term that used the filenames MD and ME (a version that I believe was modified by J Peter Bodie), you can probably avert the problem described above -- getting the message "File Transfer Complete" halfway through

the transfer -- by using the FCTW-B to reduce the buffer size from the default of 64 to 32. Do this BEFORE starting the transfer process. I do not know of any way of doing this while using Telco or other versions of Fast Term. Also, when using Fast Term (any version), you will not be prompted to enter the filename for your own computer to use in sending the appropriate drive number and filename for EACH file you are downloading.

The three problems just dealt with appear to be the most common ones. I may add others in article four if I feel that you might encounter them often.

I hope this series is helping you. Please send me a letter, in care of the newsletter, if there are concerns or questions that you would like me to address. That's all for now. See you next time!

### -----THE HOME COMPUTER-----

by Jim Peterson

Can you stand a few more words for the last surviving advocate of the HOME computer?

And what is a HOME computer? It is a computer designed to be used in the home, to do whatever someone might do in the home that can be done better with the aid of a computer.

AND---the HOME computer is designed to be used by a person who has no particular interest in computers, who regards them as just another electronic tool to be used to make life easier or more enjoyable. Also, that person is probably just a bit intimidated by computers.

A person who is not interested in computers? Well, that eliminates everyone who is reading this, but read on anyway.

Now, what percentage of VCR owners have ever learned to program their VCR? How many don't know what some of the buttons on their cable TV remote unit do? How many housewives are failing to take advantage of half the pushbuttons on their microwave, or their washing machine? I don't think anyone has the answer to those questions, but I am very sure that the percentages are very large!

Many people who buy a new appliance NEVER read the manual. They learn some of its features by experimenting, and never use the rest. Most other people read the manual one time, file it away with the warranty or lose it, and operate the appliance based on what they remember from that one reading. Of course, there are an increasing number of people who are incapable of reading the manual at all, and very few people who are capable of writing a manual that anyone can understand!

The average home computer buyer, knowing nothing about computers, can easily be convinced that he needs 640K of RAM, a hard drive, a mouse, and who knows what else. He needs all those things like he needs a hole in the head and he is completely baffled by the technical jargon in the manuals that come with the machine.

His computer probably comes bundled with an assortment of "free" software that is alleged to be worth more than the machine itself. It is probably excellent software -- but each program comes with a thick manual, hopefully written in intelligible English, which must be studied before the program can be used.

Big programs like that are fine for workplace, where a worker becomes familiar with a program and remembers how to use it because he uses it every day. For the typical home computer user, they are totally impractical.

So, what is a HOME computer? It is a computer with no core memory than is needed to do the job, practically automatic in operation (ie, with built-in disk

operating system!), with one disk drive, and with an adequate supply of short, simple programs to do what needs to be done at the moment and no more, so simple that they can be operated by reading on-screen instructions and prompts.

I happen to own such a computer. It is called the Texas Instruments TI-99/4A HOME Computer.

### -----A DIVISION PROGRAM-----

by Jim Lesher

Here is a program originally written for the sight impaired. In place of the open PIO line was open speech. The program is to drill a student in long division. With this version a printer can be used, the program will not advance to the next problem until the present one is answered correctly. The problems are all whole numbers and so are the answers. If you wish to change the range of numbers in the problems, change the number of zeros in the 1000 in line 50 to any number of zeros and the same with the 10 in the next line. but then you must change the +11 to 110 if you add a zero to 1000 if you change 10 in the succeeding line 60 to 100, otherwise you may get a problem with a larger divisor than the dividend.

```
10 REM A/B=P
20 CALL CLEAR
30 GOSUB 170
40 RANDOMIZE
50 A=INT(1000*RND)+11
60 B=INT(10*RND+RND)+2
70 C=A/B
80 IF (O=INT(C))THEN 40
90 PRINT #1:A;"/";B;"=";
100 PRINT A;"/";B;"=";
110 CLOSE #1
120 GOSUB 170
130 INPUT C
140 IF C<=A/B THEN 90
150 PRINT #1:C
160 GOTO 40
170 OPEN #1:"PIO"
180 RETURN
```

This is the same program as above but for screen only.

```
5 REM I/B
10 CALL CLEAR
20 RANDOMIZE
30 A=INT(1000*RND)+11
40 B=INT(10*RND+RND)+2
50 C=A/B
60 IF (O=INT(C))THEN 20
70 PRINT A;"/";B;"=";
80 INPUT C
90 IF (C<=A/B THEN 70
100 GOTO 20
```

Declining membership in the TI world is definitely a real problem which has some interesting and real solutions.

The old guard us getting tired and its members no longer want to (or are too tired to) be presidents and newsletter editors and workshop demonstrators and librarians and bulletin board downloaders and whatever. They can't be blamed for this. Nobody can continue to operate will forever, particularly in what seems an unappreciative atmosphere.

Almost every newsletter I read has the same common problems: basically, too few doing too much for too long. This is true in LA and in Boston and in Canada and in England and in Australia. Large changes are taking place within groups, in many cases with very bad vibes coming across strongly in newsletter pleadings. Over and over we see such things as "This club is dying." and "If the members who never contribute don't start doing something soon..." followed by serious threats.

Idealistically, a group without a newsletter is a corpse that hasn't yet been identified as such. There are exceptions, of course, but a club without a newsletter is a body without a brain. So, first things first, keep the newsletter going. This is also the biggest (or only) contact with the outside world through exchanges.

Next, a regular monthly meeting **YEAR ROUND** is essential. Without a place to gather (even if it comes to homes, as a last resort) there can be no club. A club implies a community, a spirit of friendship and commonality, a gathering. Business and pleasure must be mingled here and can only be done by meeting.

Those are the two big things. Even if your group has only three members, but you put out a newsletter and you meet regularly, you can still have a viable, worthwhile user group. Nutmeg 99ers of Connecticut and the Lima User Group of Ohio are two fine examples of terrific Tlans. But, believe me, there are many, many more, and they are more common than the large flourishing groups.

There are some other things to consider, too, of course.

Is it worth complaining constantly in print at the meetings that too many are not doing their fair share? Most of the people who sit on their hands and don't take leadership roles are not capable and know it. Not everyone is a leader. Not everybody is outgoing and comfortable performing in public. There are lots of insecure (though maybe talented) people who just cannot put themselves on the line. It has nothing to do with laziness or meanness or unwillingness or lack of responsibility. Some of these people come to every meeting; all continue to pay their dues.

And, in truth, everybody in the group has, when allowed and encouraged by the leadership, probably contributed in some continuous, if not significant ways.

My own group - N U M C H of Worcester, Mass - is typical, I think, of most. We went from over 200 members to about 15 (5 or 6 of whom were active) to about 40 (a dozen are active in one way or another). There are officers, of course. Our Treasurer (Jim Cox) was one of the founders and has continued to run that post and perform lots of others (including membership and newsletter editor at the present). Without him there'd be no club. Every club has a Jim Cox, someone with incredible dedication and common sense. All the rest of us have done different things: officers, editors, workshop

demonstrators. Some have brought in friends; some have written programs; some have catalogued our libraries; some have repaired equipment; some have lugged in equipment or materials; some have helped with sales and fundraising and faires. All have paid their dues: most come to meetings, take part in raffles, appear interested in demos and workshops. All enjoy the company of fellow Tlers, which has to be the most important aspect of a group.

A lot of us lead some incredibly busy lives. One member flies all over the country and never knows when he'll be able to make a meeting. When he comes, though, he brings enthusiasm and knowledge which he so generously shares. Our chief BBSer who provides the club with many of the library and Disk of the Month goodies misses most meetings because of courses he's taking toward a degree. His sharing doesn't stop, though, as the boards, phones, and mail demonstrate. Then there are illnesses and family matters or all the other obstructions of life in this complex age. But we're still linked by newsletter, library, and common desire to keep a good thing going and growing.

So our N U M C H group is a success, as are lots of other groups who don't realize they are.

If you still have an operating group; or you still put out a newsletter, share materials, meet regularly, enjoy some of the friends you've made through TI - then you have a successful group. The workload may not be equitable, but no solution in life ever is.

For what it's worth, here are a few suggestions to get members reinvolved, revitalized: At the next club meeting find out the following:

- 1) What kind of newsletter does the club want (type-in programs, latest hard/software, reviews, club news, graphics, whatever)
- 2) If everyone would be willing to contribute something to a raffle (blank disks, tapes, cables, non TI stuff even)
- 3) If all members would dig through old disks and tapes and locate at least **THREE** programs they like (or liked back in the old days) to add to a giant club **BOX** (games, utilities, kids' programs, LOGO stuff, tutorial text files, whatever)
- 4) And maybe demo at least **ONE**???
- 5) Hold a **NOVICE NIGHT!** This would be to introduce beginners, older kids, and definitely long-time Tlers to the fun of writing in BASIC (or XB). I know there are thousands of TI users who became comfortable with their machines and have used them successfully for years and are now ready to learn to program or would like a refresher. All the old newsletters contain **GREAT** little tutorials, type-in programs, etc. Just what the doctor orders for a new boost in attitude. Maybe this would be a continuing thing with **EVERYBODY** who wants to getting involved in research, xeroxing, demoing, tutoring, whatever. But mostly sharing and helping. There are more of us amateurs out there (probably 1000 to 1) than wizards.

In order to get reformed we need to remember the three Rs: Review, Retlink, Rekindle!

\*(If you use NEW/AGE99 please put me on your exchange list.)

----- 4 SALE -----

For Sale - One TI-99/4 B&S console with 32K on the 16 bit buss, with 8 bit switch, reset, load interrupt, and pause buttons. \$75 Contact Tom Collins 738-2428