



SUPPLIERS OF  
TI-99/4A PRODUCTS

(419)385-5946.

Listings compiled by Gary W. Cox  
(Last modified June 1997)

I copied this article from the MID-SOUTH 99 U.G. Newsletter Aug. 1997.

The following is a listing of vendors of various TI99/4A products, This is by no means a complete listings but it is as complete as I can determine...I would like to thank Tim Tesch for the information that he provided for this list!

If you have any additions or corrections you can contact me at the following EMAIL addresses: Compuserve - 72060,1277, Internet - garycox@netten.net or VIA the TI-ECHO or write to me at Mid-South TI99/4A Users Group, P.O. 38522, Germantown, TN. 38183-0522

Arcade Action Software. Gene Hitz, 4122 N. Glenway Wauwatosa, WI 53222

Bill Gaskill. 2310 Cypress Court, Grand Junction, CO 81506. (970)242-8842

Braatza Computer Services. 719 E Byrd St. Appleton, WI 54911: (414)731-3478.

Bud Mills Services. 166 Dartmouth Dr. Toledo OH. 43614:

CaDD Electronics. 45 Centerville Drive. Salem NH 03079-2674: (603)893-1450 or (603)895-0119: EMAIL: mjm@xyvision.com. (developers of PC99, The Gramulator etc.....)

Secure Electronics Inc. C/O Don Walden. P.O. Box 132 Muskego, WI 53150: for orders/sales write to P.O. Box 2 Muskego, WI 53150-0002: 1-800-959-9640 (Orders only 9am-5pm: (414)422-1010: BBS (414)422-9669: TECH line (414)422-994A: FAX (414)422-9889: (Texas Instruments TI99, CC40 and Myarc Authorized Repair Centers, Sales of MBP, MBPII clock and ADC cards as well as SNUG products from Germany including HSGPL, HSGPLII, EVPC 80 column card and SGCPU cards...)

Competition Computer products. 350 Marcella Way, Millbrae, CA 94030: 1-800-471-1600. (415)697-1108. FAX (415)697-7406.

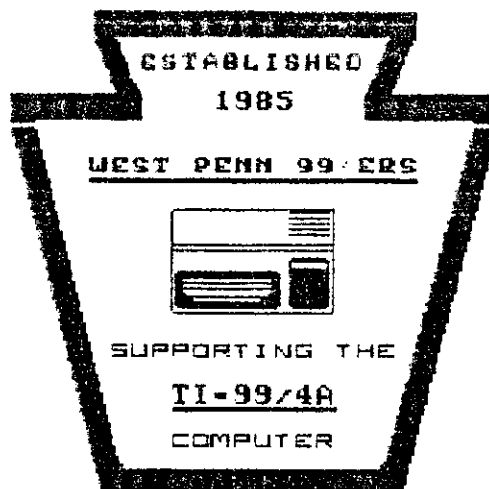
Comprodinne Software. 1949 Evergreen Ave. Fullerton, CA. 92635: (714)990-4577 (variety of software)

Dee Turner. 6441 S. Laaughlin Lane, Merced, CA. 95340: (209)722-7352 (Home) or (209)722-2053 (Work) (Distributor of the Printers Apprentice by McCann Software).

CONTINUED PAGE 4.

# WEST PENN 99'ERS CLUB INFO

Next Meeting Date: September 16, 1997  
 Meeting Location: Penns Woods Civic Association  
 Just off Route 30  
 N. Huntingdon, Pa  
 Time of Meeting: 7: P.M.



## GENERAL ITINERARY OF OUR CLUB'S MEETING

6:45 P.M. Doors Open  
 7:00 P.M. General Meeting  
 7:45 P.M. Demos and New Info  
 8:45 P.M. Questions and Answers  
 9:30 P.M. One on One Help  
 10:00 P.M. Socializing  
 10:00 P.M. Doors Close

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS MONTH

CARTRIDGE DEMO'S.....Demo by Paul Brock  
 PARSEC.....Demo by Paul Brock  
 BEYOND PARSEC.....Demo by Paul Brock  
 Help with C 99.....Demo Norm Rokke  
 Open Intrest.....Demo by Anyone

## LIST OF WEST PENN OFFICERS FOR 1997

President:	Paul Brock	412-478-2754
Vice-President:	Norm Rokke	614-264-6442
Treasurer:	Ed Mandich	412-824-5566
Recording Secretary:	Paul Brock	412-478-2754
Corresponding Secretary:	Paul Brock	412-478-2754
Librarian:	Mickey Cendroski	412-265-5201
Newsletter Editor:	Paul Brock	412-478-2754
Assistant Editor:	Paul Brock	412-478-2754

The West Penn 99'ers Users Group is a Non-Profit organization, dedicated to encouraging the continued use of the TI-99/4A home computer.

Our Membership Fee is:

- \* \$15.00 per year for an INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY membership.
- \* \$10.00 per year for a NEWSLETTER ONLY membership

Those having Full memberships are entitled to the many extra benefits our club has to offer.

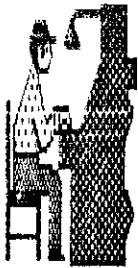
Some of those benefits are:

- \* Getting to meet some of the nicest people.
- \* Demos of the latest TI-99/4A software.
- \* Free copying of our West Penn 99'ers Disk Library.
- \* Up date of T.I. news, Local, National, International.
- \* One on one help / Problem solving.
- \* Participation in our Module Lending Library.
- \* Participation in our Video Lending Library.
- \* Ribbon re-inking- for just \$1.00 per ribbon.
- \* Various Computer supplies - at a substantial savings.
- \* Ability to trade or sell computer equipment, or electronics.
- \* Help on getting equipment fixed.

We meet the third Tuesday of each month at the PENNS WOODS CIVIC ASSOCIATION in North Huntingdon, PA. at 7:00 P.M.

If you can't make it to our meetings...at least become a Newsletter member - and enjoy our NEWSLETTER FORMAT - done Mostly on a TI-99/4A computer.

SEE PAGE 10 FOR OUR WEST PENN MEMBURSHIP APPLICATION.



## FOR THE RECORD BY PAUL BROCK AUGUST MINUTES



## UP DATE ON THE CLUBS

## EQUIPMENT

I called the meeting to order at 7:25. We were late getting started because of the I was expecting more members to show up for the meeting. Mickey called me to say that Mike had hurt his back and was unable to make the meeting. We all wish Mike well!!

I didn't have too much info on the July meeting. The members got there monitor, and had a little trouble getting it to work. We want to Thank Ed Mandich for all the trouble he had in getting our equipment. Reports were in good favor for July meeting.

As I returned for the Aug. meeting, Ed was numbling but there was a good report from the treasurer. Ed also mentioned he was sending for the Lima tapes.

Norm will be getting Tee shirts to be for raffel prizes. They will have three different Logos on them. Art Gardner did not attend the meeting but I am sure that Inking ribbons will resume soon if there is a back up I will get in contact with Art.

We had the coffee pot on for thoes coffee drinkers. We had a sale on the 5.1/4 in. disks. These were the DSDO disks that we purched from Ralph Vasko.

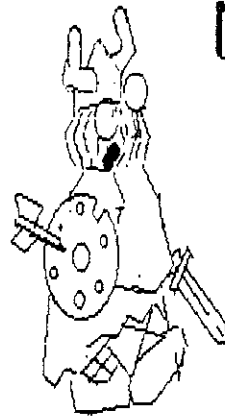
There was only one TI system and there was some demo by Jim Peters going on. I don't know if the trouble was the program or the computer!

There wasn't much information to be exchanged. I adjorn the meeting and we had the raffel early. There was eleven members present. John Cline had brought his wife, she was looking foward to talking to other woman members.

I hope for a big turn out on the 16th, and remember keep dry if it is raining!



Untill then my  
QUILL has run out  
of ink!



## MESSAGE FROM THE

## PRESIDENT

## EDITOR

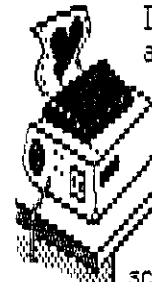
I was tring to find something for articals and I went to the Post Office to find a envelope in my box. Lew King from Industry PA. sent me an artical on WHT SCSI CONTROLLER. Thanks Lew!

It was brought to my attention that I should make a correction about the statement on page two. I had written that this news letter was written entirely on the TI-99/4A computer. I didn't relize that some of the articals were written by other computers. Being that the TI was just as good, I was thinking that no one would notice. I now have retraced my statement on page two.

**NEED AN EXTRA  
DRIVE** (or two)? by  
Jim Wiegand

This artical was handed to me by Jim at the August meeting. I put it on page nine. Thanks Jim!!

I put a lot of time into this newsletter, I enjoy working with my TI. I have put time into it to make it interesting. I can remember when I could not wait to get my news - letter. Now that I write the newsletter I have nothing to look forward to.



I have recived a few printers some are in ragged condition. I am slowly getting them to work. I use all the scrap papper I can find. Its just finding where to put everything!

I was cleaning my TI when I was called away. My wife saw it and asked me what that was on the desk. I said "My 4A" She told her sister that my computer was 40 somthing- its beginning to fall apart.

At the office: She use to be a gossip. Now she's an information specialist.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

TI'er where ever you  
are!

CONTINUE from Page 1

DDI Software. Jim Uzzell, 518  
D. Truman Annex. Key  
West, FL. 33040-5760 \* Not sure of  
this address, may now be at: Jim  
Uzzell, HQ Airsouth, PCS 813, Box  
105, FPO, AE 09620

D&L Software. 89 Little Neck  
Avenue, Swansea. Ma 02777

Genial Computerware, 835 Green  
Valley Drive. Philadelphia, PA 19128  
(215)483-1379.

Harrison Software, 5705 40th  
Place, Hattsville, MD 20718-1727  
(301)277-3467.

Jim Leshar, 722 Huntley, Dallas  
TX 75214 (214)821-9274..

Joy Electronics. P.O. Box  
542526, Dallas TX 75354-2526  
(214)243-5371 or (800)442-3892  
(Texas only) or (800)527-7438  
(Outside Texas).

KBCC, 653 Fair Avenue NW, New  
Philadelphia. OH 44663.

L.L. Conner Enterprise, 1521  
Ferry St., Lafayette, IN 47901  
(317)742-8146 (A variety of  
hardware and Software)

LGMA Prouducts, Al Beard, 5618  
Applebutter Hill  
Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Micropendium, P.O. Box  
1343, Round Rock, TX 78680  
(512)225-1512 (The monthly  
magazine devoted to TI994A and  
Geneve owners!). \$35 yr. Internet  
Email: jkolen@io.com or Genie:  
J.Koloen.

Notung Software, 7647 McGroarty  
St. Tujungca Ca 91042 (818)951-2718  
(now carrying MS software). EMAIL:  
102277.3452@compuserve.com

Rag Software. 1032 Chantenay  
Drive, Gloucester Ont K1C 2K9

Canada.

Ramcharged Computers, P.O. Box  
81532, Cleveland, OH  
44181(216)243-1244

Red Baron Software, 8427  
E. Cambria, Tucson, AZ 85738  
(520)858-4812 (new vendor as of  
1996 with new programs.\* May no  
longer be in business).

RDB Enterprises, C/O Ricky  
Bottoms, 643 Fair  
avenue, Shelbyville. IN 46176  
(317)392-0293

S&T Software Tim Tesch. 1856  
Dixie Road, Port Washington, WI  
53074. BBS Software, Port  
CYA, ANSI, MDOS, ect. BBS iis  
temporarily offline.

Sam Carey, 5820 SE Westfork  
St., Portland, OR 97206-0742  
(503)771-4431 (Constitution reader  
and other programs).

T&J Ssoftware, 515 lma Real  
Drive, Pacific pallsades, CA 90272.

Texcomp ltd., 425 East Arrow  
Highway, Suite 732, Glendora, CA  
91740-5684 (800)846-3474.  
(818)339-8924 or FAX(818)858-2785  
EMAIL: texcomp9@idt.liberty.com.

TR Software C/O Gerald  
D. Turner, 4009 Twilight Ave. Enid, OK  
73703

Western Horizon  
Technologies, C/O Don O'Neil, 3297  
Woody Lane, San Jose, CA 95132  
(408)934-0352, FAX(408)934-9682.  
WEB address:  
http://www.sonyx.com/wht or EMAIL  
don@sonyx.com

99 Computer Repair, C/O David  
Lynch, 2101 W. Crescent Ave., Unit A,  
Anaheim, CA 92801: (714)539-6834  
(Repair of Corcomp products).

# USING the WHT SCSI CONTROLLER on the TI 99/4A

by Lew King

Although the WHT SCSI controller has been around for over two years now, only more recently has it been available for the TI 99/4A. Previous versions were limited to the Geneve.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the team members who developed and produced this fine product. Some of those involved in this project are; Don O'Neil, Bud Mills, Will McGovern, David Nieters, Brad Snyder, Jeff White, and Dan Eicher. There may be others that I am not aware of, so my apologies to anyone else not on this list.

What is SCSI? The acronym stands for "Small Computer System Interface". This is a design standard that allows for an interface between the computer and peripheral devices such as a Hard Drive, CD Rom, Tape Backup, etc. At the present only a SCSI hard drive can be used on the TI. A DSR to support a CD and possibly other devices is promised for the future. SCSI (pronounced scuzzy) hard drives have long been a standard for business use because of their quick access time and large storage capacity. The price was just too high for most home users. However prices have dropped considerably in the past few years. Also many PC and MAC users are forced to upgrade their SCSI drives to a larger capacity due to the outrageous bloated programs they use. This puts many good used drives on the market at a reasonable price, well suited to the TI.

The WHT SCSI controller card is a high quality MADE IN USA card that slips right into any empty slot in the TI PE Box. Complete instructions and a cable for connecting two drives are included with the controller. Like the Super AMS card, this is one of those no hassle installations. Just

plug it in, and it works. Please follow the instructions in the manual, particularly concerning power supplies, if you plan on putting a SCSI drive inside the PE Box. The cost of the WHT SCSI controller is not much more than a mass produced Taiwan SCSI controller. When you consider the software that comes bundled with it, then the controller is a real bargain.

Now for the sticky part— up to this point, everything has been super great. But, there is absolutely no documentation for the software. No readme files, not one word at all about using the programs for the TI.

That is what prompted this little article— to spare future users of the trail and error process that I had to go through. Now is a good time to remind you to BACK UP YOUR WORK. Over 170 lines of this article were lost when I tried to put more than 127 files in a sub directory. The header information on the drive was hopelessly jumbled up at this point, and the only recourse was to re-format the drive.

The three disks included with the controller are mostly used for the Geneve. However; there are three programs for the TI that are most essential. These are;

1. Scuzzy, a E/A 5 sector editor by Brad Snyder. In addition to the normal sector editing functions, it will also format the SCSI drive. This must be done before the drive can be initialized. Format requires a password which of all things is .... FORMAT. Don't laugh, but I had to call Don O'Neil in California to get the password. Select a sector size of 512, and the process will take about 5 minutes or so.

2. **SDM**, small disk manager by David Nieters. This is a E/A 3 program. The loading is a little slow because each line has to be interpreted as it is put into memory. But once loaded, the operation is the same as a E/A 5 file. This will be the most used program in setting up the hard drive with all your favorite programs. In the first menu, you have two choices.

1. Disk functions
2. File functions

Under disk functions are five choices:

1. Select drive number (see note on this later)
2. Format SCSI drive (doesn't work, which is why you must use SCUZZY to format the drive)
3. Initialize SCSI drive (must do)
4. Change SCSI drive label
5. Display drive info

Under file functions are seven choices:

1. Copy file (this will copy a single file from a floppy to the SCSI drive, or from the SCSI to a floppy or between directories on the SCSI, and files can be renamed during the copy)
2. Rename file
3. Delete file
4. Modify file protection
5. Create directory (you must exit the program and restart it before a new directory will be recognized and can be used)
6. Delete directory (must be empty)
7. Copy floppy to SCSI

This last item deserves some special consideration and **CAUTION!** When #7 is selected, you are asked "directory to copy files to" ENTER for root. It does not matter what you select here. The files are going in the root directory.....PERIOD. Unless one file is copied to whatever named directory you want using menu item #1. Then using #7, the entire floppy will follow that one file to the selected directory. Multiple disks can be

copied to that one directory, such as several data disks to one data directory. But, be very careful doing this. Keep track of the number of files copied, so the 127 file limit is not exceeded in either the root or a sub directory.

3. **CAT**, a SCSI cataloguer by Dr. Wallid Maalouli. This is an Extended Basic program that catalogues the SCSI drive with a listing to the screen and printer if desired. The top of the screen shows the drive label, total sectors and available sectors. The center has room for a list of ten files and/or directories.

The bottom is a command list, with single key commands for moving around through the listing and deleting files. The program is very easy to use.

One note about copying files to the SCSI drive; since there is not at this time any way to defrag the drive, any fractured files should be corrected before copying them. Fractured files show up in DR with an asterisk \* next to the name. Files that occupy contiguous sectors not only load faster, but are less likely to be corrupted.

If the 127 file limit is exceeded in either the root or a subdirectory, the 128th file will be shown as the subdirectory name as a D/F zero length file. Subsequent files copied to the same subdirectory will also be D/F zero length files with the volume label as the name. At this point, things will start to act weird. And, the drive may have to be reformatted and initialized to recover normal operation. If you had previously used SCUZZY and printed out a hard copy of sectors 0,1, and A, all offsets, then this data can be manually entered. The drive should then be back to where it was. I highly recommend this method as an alternative to re-formatting.

Now that we have the SCSI drive set up with all our files and programs in nice neat directories, can we run all our favorite programs right from the drive? Unfortunately, NO. There are some programs that absolutely



	I N T R F A C E		S A M S	P I O 2	P I O 1	S C S I C T R L		D I S K C T R L	S C S I D R I V E	DISK 1
	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	.	.

	I N T R F A C E		S A M S	P I O 2	P I O 1	S C S I C T R L		D I S K C T R L	S C S I D R I V E	DISK 1
	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	.	.



With a little help I found some handy tips for the beginner (good for the experienced programmer, too from old newsletters.

If you have a speech synthesizer and the TEII cartridge here is a trick for debugging programs, all you have to do is enter your program, type LIST "SPEECH" and hit ENTER. the computer will read your listing back to you.



## NEED AN EXTRA DRIVE (OR TWO) ?

By Jim Wiegand

Connecting a third disk drive to your TI99/4A is relatively simple. A power "Y" connector and the proper DATA ribbon cable will put you into operation. I used a Radio Shack "Tandy Color Computer" drive. It has a power supply and a single sided disk drive. I replaced it with a double sided, half height drive. These are plentiful and inexpensive.

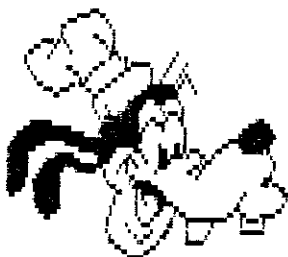
Most disk drive DATA cables will have a guide inserted into the controller connector between pins 3/4 and 5/6 (pin 1 always has a colored wire on the ribbon cable). The TI Disk Controller card has an external connector for a spare drive. This connector has a guide slot between pins 9/10 and 11/12. If this SPECIAL cable cannot be found, you can cut the guide out of the ribbon connector. Be careful to not damage the contacts. If you make this modification, you must remember to have the colored wire at the bottom when hooking it up. If you are technically inclined you can remove the disk controller card and cut a slot at the proper location. DONT cut too deeply as you do this. Watch for printed circuits in the line of cut.

If you prefer to use a 3.5 inch disk drive, these are also available and inexpensive. Adaptors to allow mounting these in the 5.25 inch drive bay are not as plentiful. I located some in a catalog from MCM ELECTRONICS CENTERVILLE, OH (1-800-543-4330). A call will probably get you a catalog. These kits contain the power adaptor and a DATA connector adaptor.

A little info on disk drives may be helpful at this point. The TI disk controller uses connector pins 10,12, and 14 as the Drive Select (DS) lines to select disk drives 1,2 and 3 respectively. Most 3.5 inch drives are setup as drive B (2). Some of these drives will have DS jumper blocks allowing you to select its drive number. This block usually consists of a row or maybe two rows of five or six pins with a jumper across two of them. Look around the sides near the connector end. If no such selector can be found then the unit is probably hard wired as a drive B (2). A data cable modification will be required as follows:

From the colored wire on the ribbon cable (pin 1) count wires to 12 and 14. Cut these wires about an inch from the disk drive connector. Solder a wire between pin 14 from the disk controller and pin 12 from the disk drive. These connections should be insulated (tape, tubing). If you dont feel comfortable with this then ask for help. Most clubs have a "techy" who will be glad to assist you. the odd numbered pins are common (grounded) and are all on one side of the connector.

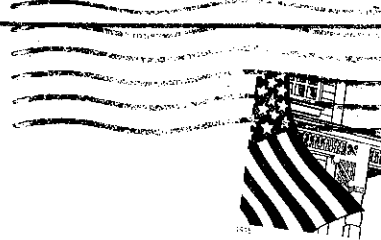
Maybe next time we will add a fourth drive. I use one and find it very usefull. \*\*\* HAVE FUN. TI99/4A LIVES ON. \*\*\*



## HUMOR\*

With the IBM you clean it, cover it and give it plenty of affection and touch the keys very gingerly, and it thinks "Wow, this guy must be a god." With the TI however, you clean it, you love it, you care for it, and it thinks, "Wow, I must be a god."

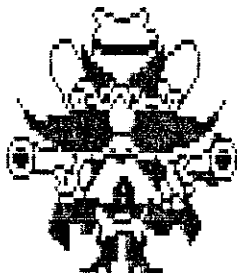
WEST PENN 99'ERS  
C/O Paul A. Brock  
P.O. Box 222  
North Apollo PA 15673-0222



# Newsletter Editors

Please note new address  
and up date your mailing list

FIRST CLASS MAIL



MICKEY CENDROWSKI  
100 PINE STREET  
RUSSELLTON, PA 15076  
USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL

15076-1322

This newsletter was composed (this issue) in it's  
intrety using a TEXAS INSTRUMENTS TI-99/4A computer

NEXT

MEETING SEPT 16 1h . 7:00 PM

## WP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please check

Newsletter membership  
No library privilages  
\$10.00 Per year

Full membership  
Library privilages  
\$15.00 Per year

Complete and return to

Ed Mandich, 304 Chicora St. East McKeesport, PA. 15053