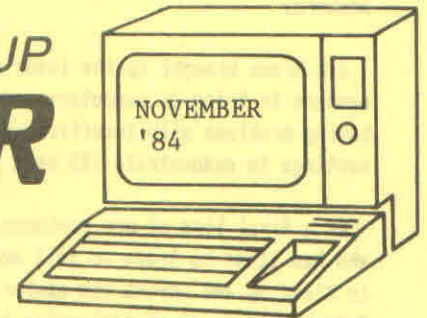


CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP **NEWSLETTER**



* MERRY CHRISTMAS *

NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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**** NEXT MEETING REMINDER ****

The December meeting will be held on Monday, December 10th, at 7:00 p.m. at the JA building, 330 Collins Rd. N.E. This month's program, if all goes well, will demonstrate how two computer units can be connected together (interfaced) and information exchanged between them.

**** MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER MEETING ****

The November meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Jim Green. There were 65 members present for the meeting. Minutes from the October meeting were found to be in error. (This could possibly be due to the

learning curve of your new secretary.) The error concerned Jim Trainor keeping track of all material that members were loaning to each other. The correction is that Jim Trainor will only keep track of the list in the newsletter.

General topics of discussion included a show of hands of how many people were present because of our advertisement. It was found that four people had responded. Jim Green informed everyone that the drawing of the door prize would be held at 8:30, or after renewal of membership was completed.

Discussion of old business included a reminder that the material on the tables are available for members to take home for 1 month. The honor system will be used to make sure everyone brings the material back. Additionally, this material will be kept at the JA building between meetings. Also covered was the subject of extended basic and basic classes which will be started after the holidays. The last item of old business covered an inventory of the TI hardware that Dhein's in Waterloo has. A list of hardware/software and prices will be printed in the newsletter to inform members of what is available.

Discussion of new business covered information of hardware and software that is available. Gary Bishop informed the members that Radio Shack had the rf modulators in stock for \$5.00. Jim Trainor commented that PASCAL software for the TI computer was available for \$32.00 (used to be \$600.00!) To run this software you also need the Peripheral Expansion Box with the P-code card.

Jim Trainor had found a catalog which had reasonable prices on RF modulators, power supplies, and keyboards for the TI. It was asked if the members would want the club to purchase these items so that they would be available to members if the needs arise. Dan Davis made a motion that the club should buy three each of the above mentioned items. The motion was seconded by Jim Trainor

and carried by the membership. Additionally, Gary Bishop made the motion that members would pay only the cost of the item needed to repair the computer. The motion was seconded by Jim Trainor and unanimously carried by the members.

Jim Green brought up the issue of more participation by members to bring in computers and TV's. We are still having problems with insufficient equipment at the meetings to demonstrate its uses and capabilities.

As a final item of new business, each of the members who had items to trade or sell were given the opportunity to stand up and inform the members what they had. At 7:52 p.m. renewal of membership began, and at the same time members got together to swap or buy items of interest.

The door prize, which was a cartridge expander, was won by Scott Gary. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Dean Helander
Secretary

***** THE TREASURY *****

	THRU SEP 1984	OCT 1984	TOTAL
INCOME			
Memberships	\$1687.00	\$ 8.00	\$1695.00
Sales of software	698.95	0	698.95
Sales of cassettes	590.95	1.00	591.95
Programming classes	195.00	0	195.00
Dividend	12.24	0	12.24
Group S/W purchases	1062.25	132.00	1194.25
TOTAL	\$4246.39	\$141.00	\$4387.39

DISPERSALS

Receipt book	\$ 6.00	\$ 0	\$ 6.00
Meeting rent	179.00	4.00	183.00
Postage	346.68	25.00	371.68
Bank/Check charges	11.92	1.00	12.92
Cassettes purchase	661.94	0	661.94
Software purchase	74.00	33.94	108.29
Subscriptions	34.50	0	34.50
Class teacher salary	370.00	0	370.00
Class tuition refund	5.00	0	5.00
Address labels	24.18	0	24.18
Recorder purchase	109.19	0	109.19
System purchase	953.16	0	953.16
Advertising	71.80	14.40	86.20
Group s/w buy	1083.45	108.45	1191.90
TOTAL	\$3931.17	\$ 186.79	\$4117.96

ASSETS

Savings account	\$ 155.54	\$ 0	\$ 155.54
Cash on hand	27.00	(6.50)	20.50
Checking account	132.68	(39.29)	93.39
TOTAL	\$ 315.22	\$ (45.79)	\$ 269.43
PROOF	\$ 315.22	(\$ 45.79)	\$ 269.43
	\$ 315.22		\$ 269.43

Ed Hayek
Treasurer

***** THE GROUP IS ALIVE FOR '85! *****

We were all happy to see the large turnout for the membership renewal and swap meet held at last month's meeting. Over 65 people attended, and most went home with at least one new software package to try out.

Our official membership roster dropped from 150 families to 50 families, as expected. Many of the drop-outs were inactive anyway, so our decrease is not really so dramatic. We now have a strong core of 99/4A users to learn from and share with, as evidenced by the questionnaire answers.

Forty-three (43) answer sheets were filled out last month. The resulting profile of our group looks like this:

1. 27 plan to upgrade their system in some fashion. Only 2 plan to keep their machine in the closet.
2. Only 12 families own the complete expansion system, and only 5 have modems.
3. 32 own extended basic, and 21 have the TE II cartridge. Only 6 are into assembly language.
4. 18 want to take an extended basic class, even though almost everyone feels capable of writing his/her own programs.
5. Most of our members are looking for new ways to put their 99/4A to use, so we will try to structure our future programs accordingly.

We look forward to another year of education and entertainment with our fellow 99'ers!!

***** EXTENDED BASIC AT A LOWER PRICE *****

The User's Group was notified recently that Sunware Ltd. has obtained manufacturing rights to TI's Extended Basic! Unisource, Inc. of Lubbock, TX, now has this product available at only \$69.95 plus shipping. Credit card orders may be made by calling 1-800-858-4580. Our group was promised a \$2.00 discount each on a group order of five or more cartridges. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, contact Ed Hayek at the Dec. 10th meeting.

***** SWAPPED SOFTWARE DUE DEC. 10 *****

Don't forget to return the software you swapped at the last meeting to its rightful owner! This should be done at the up and coming meeting -- Dec. 10th. Your cooperation will ensure another swap meet in the near future.

***** PROGRAMMING CLASS STARTS IN JANUARY *****

Those who are ready to begin the Extended Basic class should contact Jim Trainor (365-2047) immediately. Class space is limited. The tuition for this class will be different as compared to the other classes. Tuition for this class will be \$20.00 per student for 20-hrs of classroom lecture. The club will retain 25% of the tuition fee. Classes start in January.

***** THE 9900 DISK CONTROLLER CARD *****

We received a very interesting article from the Puget Sound 99ers pertaining to the new 9900 disk controller card produced by CorComp, Inc. With their permission, I am going to provide you with the entire article.

"About two weeks ago, Barbara Wiederhold from Security Business Machines allowed me to use CorComp's new disk controller card. Well, at that time, I didn't think I needed to have such a thing for my own-- because single density is enough. What a surprise! The card is great. Just one of the new features is double density. The rest of the features make the TI perform even greater. Here is what I mean.

Ok, so you can have double density, but what about the friend who hands you a single density disk? Don't worry, just load it as normal, the controller looks at it and reads it as if single. Now mind you, your friend can't read your double density disks, but that can also be an advantage. You can always give him a copy on his disk by simply inserting one that is formatted single density and copying onto it. No special commands necessary. By just inserting the disks, your manager will copy from single to double, or double to single density.

The disk manager II module will still work for you, but the disk manager that comes with the card (on disk, no module) is much better. You don't have to change modules to get to it, leave your Extended Basic or TI Writer in the slot. Not only that, with double density you can put your TI Writer, Assembler and personal loader programs right on the same disk as the manager, and have all of them at your finger tips.

The manager has these great features:

1. You can format in single or double density, single or double sided.
2. When transferring files, it pulls the whole menu on screen, then you can mark which ones you wish to copy, delete, protect or leave the same. You also have the added feature of a transient protect. This is where you can take a file or program off of the disk, modify it and save it back once. The saving of it automatically reprotects it.
3. You can load and run assembler programs, games and Forth right from the card -- no module. This allows you to peek, poke, and move memory on the TI without any special module in the game port slot.
4. The card also has dip switches to increase your disk head step time. This technically will allow your drive to run smoother and more efficient on a setting that's right for it.
5. This card is capable of using 4 disk drives. If you're going to use it for business, that's a lot of on-line storage (1440k or 1.44 megabytes).
6. There is no end to the possibilities for the Tool Shed utilities. The CALL MPEEK, MPOKE, VPEEK, VPOKE, WRTG (write video registers), MOVEM (move blocks of memory), EXEC (executive by address) will allow you in basic or Extended Basic to do almost anything. Future programs with these commands could be fantastic.

Perhaps I didn't cover everything, but you can see how much this card will improve your system. Even with one disk drive, you will be further ahead with this one. The enhancements are worth the price. I cannot give you the price, as you will have to find that out for yourself. (\$159.00 from Unisource Electronics -- -Ed.)

I know one thing, though, you can't have my card. I wouldn't part with it." - Chuck Wynne, Vice President - Puget Sound 99ers

***** 1985 MEETING CALENDAR *****

The 1985 Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group meeting schedule has been established. Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

January 10 -	Second Thursday
February 4 -	First Monday (Election Night)
March 11 -	Second Monday
April 8 -	Second Monday
May 13 -	Second Monday (New Officers Installed)
June 10	Second Monday

If, for any reason, any of the above dates are changed, members will be notified via the club's newsletter.

***** MAJOR SOURCES FOR TI 99/4A PRODUCTS *****

The following businesses are recommended sources for any TI related products. Catalogs are available for viewing at each monthly meeting - see Jim Green.

TENEX COMPUTER EXPRESS	TEX-COMP USERS SUPPLY
P.O. Box 6578	P.O. Box 33084
South Bend, IN 46660	Granada Hills, CA 91344
1-800-348-2778	1-818-366-6631

UNISOURCE ELECTRONICS, INC.	TRITON PRODUCTS CO.
P.O. Box 64240	P.O. Box 8123
Lubbock, TX 79464	San Francisco, CA 94128
1-800-858-4580	1-800-227-6900

DHEIN'S WHOLESALE
7 West Airline Hwy.
Waterloo, IA 50703
1-319-236-3861

***** BELL MUSIC - A PROGRAM *****

The following program was noticed in the November 1984 Pittsburgh Users Group newsletter PERIPHERAL:

100 !BELL MUSIC programmed by Jim Peterson
101 !Reprinted from Tips
102 !From the TIGERCUB
103 !by TIGERCUB SOFTWARE
104 ! 156 Collingwood Ave
105 ! Columbus, OH 43213
106 !SEND \$1.00 FOR CATALOG
107 !OF OVER 130 PROGRAMS

110 CALL CLEAR :: CALL SCREEN(5) :: RANDOMIZE
120 FOR CH=96 TO 136 STEP 4 :: FOR L=1 TO 4 ::
X\$=SEG\$(*0018243C425A667E8199A5BDC3DBE7FF",INT(16*R
ND+1)*2-1,2) :: B\$=B\$&X\$:: C\$=X\$&C\$:: NEXT L

130 D\$=B\$&C\$:: Z\$=RPT\$(D\$,4)
140 CALL CHAR(CH,Z\$) :: B\$,C\$,Z\$=NUL\$:: CALL
MAGNIFY(4) :: CALL
SPRITE(#CH/4-23,CH,INT(15*RND+2),255,255) :: NEXT
CH
142 FOR J=1 TO 10 STEP 2 :: X=9*RND-9*RND ::
Y=9*RND-9*RND :: CALL MOTION(#J,X,Y,#J+1,
X,Y) :: NEXT J
150 FOR J=1 TO 20
155 CALL COLOR(#INT(10*RND+1),INT(15*RND+2))
160 FOR V=0 TO 16 STEP 4
170 ON J GOSUB 250,270,290,310,330,350,370,
390,410,430,410,390,370,350,330,310,290,
270,250,270,290,310,330,350
180 NEXT V
190 READ X
200 FOR D=1 TO X*5
210 NEXT D
220 NEXT J
230 RESTORE
240 GOTO 150
250 CALL SOUND(-999,131,V,523,V,-4,V)
260 RETURN
270 CALL SOUND(-999,165,V,167,V)
280 RETURN
290 CALL SOUND(-999,196,V,199,V)
300 RETURN
310 CALL SOUND(-999,262,V,265,V)
320 RETURN
330 CALL SOUND(-999,330,V,333,V)
340 RETURN
350 CALL SOUND(-999,392,V,394,V)
360 RETURN
370 CALL SOUND(-999,523,V,392,V,330,V)
380 RETURN
390 CALL SOUND(-999,659,V,666,V)
400 RETURN
410 CALL SOUND(-999,784,V,792,V)
420 RETURN
430 CALL SOUND(-999,1047,V,1057,V)
440 RETURN
450 DATA 16,16,2,16,8,16,4,4,16,2,16,
4,16,8,8,16,2,2,16,4,2,8,16

***** BUY AND SELL *****

For sale: Household Budget Management cartridge (no book)
-- contact Craig Starr, Masonville, IA at
319-927-4290.

For sale: Assembly language instruction book from Steve
Davis Publishing -- \$8.50. Contact Bryan Hawkins
at the next meeting.

***** REM *****

The CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP NEWSLETTER is published by the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group in the Cedar Rapids/Marion, Iowa area. Members are encouraged to contribute articles. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Cedar Valley 99'er User's Group, its Officers, editor, or members. Other user groups may copy or use any article published in this newsletter without the written consent of the CEDAR VALLEY 99'er USER'S GROUP as long as credit is given to our group.

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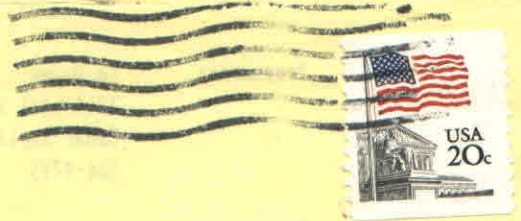
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