CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP
NEWSLETTER

February 1985

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                NEWSLETTER TOPICS

        1.  Next Meeting Reminder
        2.  Minutes From February Meeting
        3.  Election of Officers
        4.  Service Information
        5.  CorComp 9900 Locally
            Available
        6.  Attention Adventurers
        7.  Software Available
        8.  More Free Software
        9.  WARNING! HIGH VOLTAGE
        10. Key Command Changes
        11. Programming Hints
        12. Special Offer
        13. Parts Available
        14. Books
        15. Bulletin Board Info
        16. Buy and Sell
        17. CV99'er UG Officers/Chairmen

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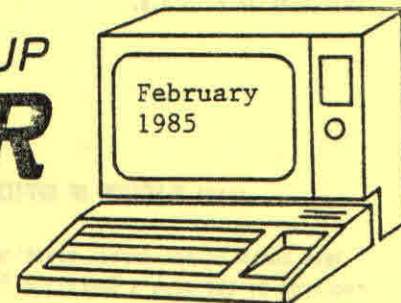
***** NEXT MEETING REMINDER *****

The March meeting will be held on the second Monday, March 11th, at 7:00 p.m. at the JA building, 330 Collins Rd. N.E. This month's program will be a demonstration of COMPUTE!'s TI-CALC program, just in time for your use in preparing tax forms.

***** MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING *****

The February meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Secretary Dean Helander. President Jim Green and Vice President Bryan Hawkins were unable to preside due to

other commitments. There were 37 members present. Minutes from the January meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. The Treasurer's report was also approved as printed in the newsletter.

Everyone was reminded to bring back any material that they borrowed from the back table so that everyone can have a chance to read it.

We **finally** received our door prizes!!! Bob Reinhart was asked to come forward and pick his door prize, with a little help from his brother. Ann Schmidt, who won the January door prize, was not present at the meeting. We appreciate everyone's patience during this waiting period for the door prizes, and hope this will not happen again.

Jim Trainor announced that the Extended Basic classes will begin on **March 4th**. The class will last for ten weeks and is scheduled to be every Monday night from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For those of you who have not signed up, call Jim at 365-2047 and register. The cost of this course is **$20.00**, and I think you will find it worth every cent!

New order of business covered the subject of volunteers for new officers. It was announced that **Dan Davis** is heading the nomination committee and will be contacting the membership to get candidates for each of the offices. This is your opportunity to get involved and help make the club a continuing success!!!!

Ed Hayek announced that the replacement parts are now in and are available for repairing any broken down TI computers. These include the keyboards and power supply parts. Ed also mentioned that there are 4 issues of Home Computer still available.

Our Publicity Chairman, **Paul Mortensen**, provided a sign-up sheet for anyone who still didn't have a name tag. Be sure to sign up if you don't have one.

We were given an excellent demonstration by **Gary Fish** on software for keeping track of tax deductions, and also by **Gary Bishop** on computing ammortization schedules.

The door prize was won by **Ken Huek**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

<div align="right">Dean Helander
Secretary</div>

***** ELECTION OF OFFICERS *****

Next month is our annual election of officers. As required by the club's Operating Procedures, the President appointed a committee chairman whose assigned task was to contact the membership and find anyone interested in running for an executive office. Dan Davis and his committee have come up with the following nominees:

President:	**Jim Green**
Vice Pres:	**Bruce Winter**
Secretary:	**Gary Bishop**
Treasurer:	**Ed Hayek**

Article 3.a. of the Operating Procedures states that names will still be accepted from the floor during the elections. Therefore, if someone was accidently missed, or if you changed your mind and would like to run for an office, enter your name into the ballots during next month's elections.

<div align="right">Editor</div>

***** SERVICE INFORMATION *****

For those of you who are having problems with your home computers, and don't know where to turn, call 1-800-842-2737. This number will give you information as to where the nearest service center for your machine is located.

For TI owners, the two nearest repair centers are located in Arlington Hts., Ill. or St. Louis, Mo. The St. Louis phone number is (314) 569-7620, and the address is: Texas Instruments, 11861 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, Mo. Call before sending anything to them.

If you need assistance for any reason, you can call the TI Response Center at 1-800-232-3200!!!

<div align="right">Anne Schmidt</div>

***** CORCOMP 9900 LOCALLY AVAILABLE *****

The CorComp's 9900 Expansion Box is locally available, or somewhat locally available, from Dhein's Hardware in Waterloo. This box contains the RS-232 only and can be purchased for **$119.95**. For an additional **$14.95**, a second serial port can be added.

<div align="right">Dave Dalton</div>

***** ATTENTION ADVENTURERS! *****

Tex-Comp is offering a package of all 12 Scott Adams Adventures for the TI-99/4A!! The newly packaged deal is a great deal for those who haven't yet purchased that second or third adventure. Now you can have all 12 for **$49.95**. They use to sell for $15 to $25 each! You will need the Adventure cartridge to use the game tapes or disks, and is available for **$6.95**. If interested, call Tex-Comp at 818-366-6631 (California), or write: Box 33084, Granada Hills, CA 91344.

<div align="right">Jim Green</div>

***** SOFTWARE AVAILABLE *****

From the January, 1985 issue of MICROPENDIUM comes news of almost (?) free software from the Amion Helpline. Dr. Guy-Stefan Romano has available 37 single-sided diskettes of entertainment, 16 music-oriented, 14 with learning materials, 8 financial/business, and the list continues. Each disk of programs is **$5.00**, including the disk and postage. For more information, contact Free Access Library at (415) 753-5581, or write: 116 Carl St., San Fransico, CA 94117.

<div align="right">Jim Green</div>

***** MORE FREE SOFTWARE *****

Computer Craps, originally selling for **$14.95**, is available FREE from Ramsoft Enterprises, 1501 E. Chapman Ave., Suite 338, Fullerton, CA 92631. The program requires memory expansion, disk system, and extended basic. The program includes several betting options. Send an initialized disk and **$2.00** to cover return postage, etc.

***** WARNING! HIGH VOLTAGE *****

This reminder may be a little late, but beware of
<u>static electricity</u> this winter! Dry, heated air allows
extra static to be stored on your body, which will jump
to your computer or command cartridge at the first
opportunity. Try to ground yourself to a cold water pipe
or another piece of metal before you reach for the power
switch!!!

Jim Green

***** KEY COMMAND CHANGES *****

From the January 1985 issue of the Atlanta 99/4A
Computer Users Group newsletter CALL NEWSLETTER is an
interesting article for those of you who are lucky enough
to have word processing. This article applies to systems
using the TI-WRITER and a Gemini 10X printer. (This
article was originally copied from the 'Suncoast Beeper'
newsletter of the Suncoast 99'er Users Group.)

"The program below shows you how to print from the EDIT
mode of TI-WRITER. By pressing 'CTRL' and 'U' your
cursor changes into an underline character, denoting that
you are writing control characters to the document that
the 99/4A will obey. At the end of the article the
author states that these controls also work in Basic and
Extended Basic. These keys can be used to control the
printer out of a Basic or Extended Basic program, or
direct from the command mode of the computer. *****
WARNING ***** I do not recommend using these in multiplan
or any other program which is using CTRL or FCTN keys to
control editing. Have fun with these and experiment."

SINGLE KEYS	FUNCTIONS PERFORMED
CTRL N	Double-width mode
CTRL T	Cancels double-width
CTRL Q	Printer on-line
CTRL S	Printer off-line
CTRL O	Compressed (Pica) mode
CTRL R	Cancel compressed mode
CTRL G	Bell
CTRL H	Backspace
CTRL I	Horizontal tab
CTRL J	Line feed
CTRL K	Vertical tab
CTRL L	Form feed
CTRL M	Carriage return
CTRL 8	Ends macro instruction
CTRL .	Escape (ESC)
FCTN V	Delete

COMMON	MULTI.	FUNCTION
ESC 4		Italic mode
ESC 5		Cancel Italic
ESC 8		Cancels paperout
ESC 9		Paperout on
ESC !		Select macro
ESC E		Emphasized mode
ESC F		Cancels emphasized mode
ESC G		Double-strike
ESC H		Cancels double-strike
ESC		Resets printer
ESC S	0	Superscript
ESC S	1	Subscript
ESC 0		Line feed to 1/8"
ESC 1		Line feed to 7/72"
ESC 2		Line feed to 1/16"

***** PROGRAMMING HINTS *****

From the Atlanta 99/4A Computer Users Group newsletter
CALL NEWSLETTER comes a few programming hints that may be
of interest:

1. You probably already know this, but did you know that
you don't have to type in the blank spaces before the
"::" in multiple statements while programming in Extended
Basic? Just type everything together (100 CALL
CLEAR::RANDOMIZE::FOR D=1 TO 100::NEXT D) and the
computer will separate it for you when you press ENTER.

2. Have you ever had difficulty finding which joystick is
to be used in a program? If the program was written for
joystick #1 then joystick #2 won't work, and vice versa.
Add the following lines at the beginning of the program
and let the computer do the work:

```
100  PRINT "PRESS FIRE BUTTON TO CONTINUE"
110  CALL KEY(1,K1,S)
120  CALL KEY(2,K2,S)
130  IF K1+K2<>17 THEN 110
140  JS=INT(K1/18+K2/9+1)
```

Now replace the CALL JOYST statement in the program
with: XXX CALL JOYST(JS,X,Y). The program will respond
to whichever of the two joysticks you were holding when
you pressed the fire button.

From the January 1985 issue of the Pittsburgh Users
Group newsletter PERIPHERAL is an interesting article on
using nested loops while programming. For a lot of you
this may be old information, but for some - -:

"A loop is performed on the computer using the
'FOR-NEXT' statement. The format is as follows: **FOR**
(variable) = (starting value) **TO** (ending value) **STEP**
(increment) **NEXT** (variable). If you are not already
familiar with this concept, I suggest that you refer to
the users Reference Guide.

By 'nesting' one loop within another we are able to
manipulate numbers with incredible simplicity. Here are
examples:

LEGAL	ILLEGAL
▶100 FOR X=1 TO 10	▶100 FOR X=1 TO 10
▶110 FOR Y=1 TO 20	▶110 FOR Y=1 TO 20
▶120 FOR Z=50 TO 1 STEP -1	▶120 FOR Z=50 TO 1 STEP -1
130 PRINT X,Y,Z,X*Y*Z	130 PRINT X,Y,Z,X*Y*Z
140 NEXT Z	140 NEXT X
150 NEXT Y	150 NEXT Z
160 NEXT X	160 NEXT Y

The program on the left prints out a multiplication
table. The program on the right **WILL NOT WORK!** The
paths of the loops cannot intersect, otherwise you have
illegal nesting. Notice that line 120 is acceptable.

Nested loops work wonders with multi-dimensional
arrays, sorting, and tables. You may incorporate as many
loops into your program as you like, just remember to
'trace' their path to be certain that they do not
interfer with each other. Also, you could alter the
output to be any form you like, such as the following
line, which is perfectly valid:

130 PRINT X^.5,LOG(Y)*ABS(Z),SIN(X),SGN(Y)

This concept is one of the major advantages of a
computer over a calculator."

***** SPECIAL OFFER FROM FOUNDATION *****

We have received a special order form for Foundation's
128K memory card and disk emulator software. The
package, normally selling for **$260.00**, is available
through February for **$180.00**. Since many of you won't
read this until early March, I'm sure we can get an
extension to their offer. If you want 128K of memory for
your peripheral expansion box, see or call **Jim Green** for
an order form.

Jim Green

***** PARTS AVAILABLE *****

After Gary Bishop's presentation (disassembling the TI
computer) at January's meeting, I want other club members
to know that Iowa Radio has the following items in stock:

1. White heatsink compound; such as found on one of
the integrated circuits in your computer (#10-3108).
2. Compressed air; to clean dirt from your keyboard
or other places (CM15).
3. Computer facts by SAMS; gives you the internal
schematics (CC2).
4. Static Free or Staticide spray; neutralizes or
eliminates build-up of static electricity.
5. Wrist straps; to help discharge static
electricity from the human body (WRS-1).

LeRoy Bopp

***** BOOKS *****

COMPUTE! magazine is now providing a new book entitled
"Beginners Guide To Assembly Language On The TI-99/4A".
The book is written by Peter M. L. Lottrub and requires
Mini Memory or Editor Assembler. It can be purchased at
B Daltons, Lindale Male, for **$12.95**.

Jim Trainor

***** BULLETIN BOARD INFO *****

There is a bulletin board in Michigan that provides
over thirty-two phone numbers for product information.
For example, by calling 313-751-1119 one can attain
information on products from Sunware. If one were to
call 313-826-3529, you could receive information
pertaining to Extended Basic. There is also information
available on the inner most secrets of the TI. More
information can be attained by calling 313-288-2002.
And, if you are interested in unique printing ability for
your Gemini or Epson printers, you can write P.O. Box 91,
Pokeville, MI 48066. Enclose $8.95 for a single sided
disk, or $12.95 for a double sided disk, and receive the
program entitled "Ultra-Print".

Jim Trainor

***** EXTENDED BASIC CLASS *****

I have been requested by Jim Trainor to remind those
who signed up for the Extended Basic class that it is
scheduled to start Monday, March 4th, at the REC building
in Marion. Hmmm, you forgot to tell me the time,
Jim!!) Anyway, we seem to have a little miscue. Jim

Green had to leave town on business and forgot to give
Jim Trainor the list of names. Please, to prevent any
major problems, those of you who signed up please attend
the class!!!

Ed.

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

For Sale: A cartridge called "Turtle Tracks" issued by
the Scholastic people. Requires Extended Basic
and 32k memory expansion. Price is $25.00.
Contact LeRoy Bopp at 393-4510 during the day,
or 396-6326 after 6:00 p.m.

For Sale: TI Home Budget Management .... Best Offer
TI Music Maker .... Best Offer

Contact Sue Breiner at (319) 667-5230.

For Sale: Extended Basic cartridge. Contact Lou Louwerse
at 377-5396 after 5:00 p.m.

For Sale: Burgertime $8.00
Super Demon Attack $7.00
Car Wars $4.00
Phone Extension Cable $1.00
25-Pin Serial Cable for Printer $9.00

Contact Dave Dalton at 377-1715, or at the meeting.

***** CV99'erUG OFFICERS/CHAIRMEN *****

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***** REM *****

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