CEDAR VALLEY 99'ER USER GROUP
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1985

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NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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

The April meeting will be held on the second Monday, April 9th, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the JA building, 330 Collins Rd. N.E. This month's program will be a further look at the Super Sketch graphics tablet. Dave Dalton has developed some additional features that make Super Sketch a useful tool. As usual, a door prize will be awarded; you must be present to be eleigible.

***** MINUTES FROM MARCH MEETING *****

The March meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice President **Bryan Hawkins**. President Jim Green was unable to preside due to prior business commitments. Fifty-one (51) members were present. Minutes from the February meeting were read and approved as printed in the February newsletter. The Treasurer's report was also read and approved.

Ann Schmidt, who won the door prize way back in January, was asked to come forward and claim her prize. Everyone was again reminded to review the back table for new literature.

The main event of the evening was the election of new officers. The meeting was turned over to **Dan Davis** who chaired the nominating committee. The floor was opened up for any nominations to be added. There were none at that time, so ballots were handed out and the vote was taken.

While the votes were being counted, **Gary Fish**, our Program Chairman, gave an excellent demonstration on TI CALC (spreadsheet). The program was very fast and easy to use.

The results of the voting were as follows:

For the office
of **President** ---------------- **Jim Green** --- 37 votes
Dave Dalton -- 1 vote

For the office
of **Vice President** -------- **Bruce Winters** --- 38 votes

For the office
of **Secretary** --------------- **Gary Bishop** --- 37 votes
Dave Dalton ---- 1 vote

For the office
of **Treasurer** ----------------- **Ed Hayek** --- 38 votes

I would like to take this time to thank Dan Davis for all his effort during the nomination and also for our new officers for coming forward and volunteering their time and effort for the next year.

It was also announced that we need more members to sign up for bringing in equipment. It was also mentioned that there will be openings for a Program Chairman, Newsletter Editor, and Software Librarian for the new year. If you have an interest and want to be involved, let us know about it!

The door prize was won by **Eren Gay**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Dean Helander
Secretary

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

FOR THE MONTH OF **FEBRUARY 1984**

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
INCOME		
Memberships	$ 40.00	$ 624.00
Cassette/Disk Sales	4.00	27.00
Software Sales	9.00	19.00
Magazine Sales	10.00	40.00
Programming Classes	0	0
Group Purchases	18.50	112.00
Dividend Income	0	7.77
TOTAL	$ 81.50	$829.77

DISPERSALS		
Meeting Rent	$ 0	$ 8.00
Postage	0	71.80
Bank/Check Charges	1.00	4.00
Cassette/Disk Purchase	24.50	24.50
Software Purchase	0	0
Subscriptions	15.00	15.00
Class Teacher Salary	0	0
Advertising	0	37.08
Group Purchases	68.15	282.55
Supplies	0	0
TOTAL	$ 108.65	$ 443.93

ASSETS	CHANGE	BALANCE
Savings Account	$ 0	$ 157.79
Cash On Hand	0.00	20.50
Checking Account	(27.15)	476.98
TOTAL	$(27.15)	$ 655.27

Ed Hayek
Treasurer

***** MEETING DATES *****

It has been suggested that we print the meeting dates up to and including June, so here goes:

April 8th,   May 13th   June 10th

***** NEW MEMBERS *****

We would like to welcome the following new members to our group:

Tom Linder - Richard C. Scheit - Harvey J. Waskow

Jeff Ogle - Jerry Cerny

***** HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE *****

As a reminder to the membership, our club has arranged to receive copies of the HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE direct from the publisher. We have sold all copies of the magazine. The club has established the rules where the members on the sign-up list have first choice, but any remaining copies may be purchased by other members!!!

The HOME COMPUTER MAGAZINE publisher has been gracious enough to provide us with a copy of the anticipated shipping schedule for the remainder of the year:

ISSUE	SCHEDULED SHIP DATE
Vol. 5, No. 3	March 29, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 4	May 6, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 5	June 17, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 6	July 22, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 7	August 28, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 8	October 1, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 9	November 8, 1985
Vol. 5, No. 10	December 12, 1985

***** FREE ACCESS LIBRARY *****

AMNION HELPLINE is providing a Free Access Library that has a large collection of software for many subjects and interest areas. All programs are in the public domain, and the Library will always be maintained as a non-profit entity.

All programs are available to anyone, so long as they are not copied for sale or for profit. If you are interested in obtaining a special program for a special purpose, send AMNION HELPLINE a note telling them what you want. They in turn will send you all the programs in their library that seem to fit your request. They do request that you provide an **initialized disk** in the appropriate kind of safe mailer and **sufficient return postage**. Send your requests to:

FREE ACCESS LIBRARY
116 CARL STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117

In addition, full volumes (one full disk) of software can also be ordered. However, a fee will be charged for this effort. (Get order forms from table.)

And, if you would be interested in sending them a program, put it on a disk along with a note stating that you are the **author** and that you are placing it in **public domain**. The disk will be returned to you along with an acknowledgement and a thank you.

***** SPARE PARTS AVAILABLE *****

For those of you who may need repairs on your TI, I would like to remind you that the club has a limited supply of spare keyboards, video modulators, and power supplies. Contact any officer if you need one of these items.

Keyboards and power supplies have periodically been appearing at Radio Shack. The price is right - cheap insurance.

***** BBS NUMBERS *****

Thanks to Jonathan Green, the following Cedar Rapids and Network BBS phone numbers are available:

Cedar Rapids

Name	Number	Comments
Castle	395-7200	D&D Board
CVCA	377-0004	Messages/Files
EICO	364-0811	Messages Only
IBM Hawkeye-PC	363-3314	Always Busy-Good Board
IUA/ABBS	366-5165	Most Popular-Misc
Towne Crier	395-9894	New Board-Files Messages
TRS-BBS	362-2547	Messages-7:00 pm to 7:00 am

Network Services

Name	Number	Comments
TELENET (*)	364-0911	
TYMNET (*)	363-7514	
UNINET (*)	363-0196	

(*) All Network Services require some form of subscription.

COMPUCENTER (*)	1-338-2750	Misc.
ICA (*)	1-353-6528	IBM Board-Like Hawkeye

(*) Compucenter and ICA are in Iowa City requiring a long distance call.

Jonathan Green

***** FILE TRANSFER TO BBS's *****

Have you ever tried to upload to an IBM BBS like Hawkeye-PC, ICA, or ATCS? Well I have and I get soooo- frustrated!!! But, here are a couple of ways to do it:

When the BBS asks you for the file name, make sure there are no spaces. When it asks you for the form type an "A" for ASCII. The BBS should then say "READY TO RECEIVE". At this point, you must change the duplex to half. You can do this two ways. If you have a Volksmodem like I do, just flip the duplex switch from FULL to HALF. Or, you can press QUIT, get back into TE II, and set the parameters at HALF duplex. Once this is done, you have to type in the program, line by line. Everything you type is recorded---so type carefully!!! When you are done typing, press CTRL-K. This lets the BBS know you are done typing. This first method can be used to transfer anything, not just programs.

The second way, and the one I like the best, is having the computer do all the typing. First, do the above steps until it says "READY TO RECEIVE". Then, press QUIT. Get into BASIC or EXTENDED BASIC and load your program. When it is loaded, type "LIST RS232 " or "LIST PIO " (this is for parallel port). Now settle back and your program will be transferred. When you see the cursor again, press QUIT. Get back into TE II by pressing any key. Press the number "3", then type CTRL-K to end. (You may want to download the program to see if it transferred correctly.)

Jonathan Green

***** SENDING FILES *****

In last month's newsletter there was an article pertaining to sending files or games over the telephone lines via modem. The article stated that you have to type "SAVE RS232". Well, you do, but the other person (the receiver) has to type "OLD RS232"! Ed Hayek and I took some time and figured it out.

Sooo-, here is how you and a friend can call each other and send data via modem:

1. Call up your friend and decide which one of you are going to be the sender, and which one is going to be the receiver.

2. The sender loads a program into memory and types "SAVE RS232". (The sender does not press <ENTER> yet.) When the sender tells the receiver that he has typed in the save command, they both should then switch over to "DATA" on the modem. The sender should wait for about 2-seconds and then press <ENTER>. The receiver should then type in "OLD RS232" and press <ENTER>. You will then see the number 255 at the top of the screen. The number will quickly change to the size of your programs! If the number does not change within a 10-second period, press FCTN-4 and reenter the OLD statement. It takes approximately 9-seconds for the number to change numbers. So, if you have a program that starts at number 006, it will take approximately 54-seconds for it to be transferred.

Dave Dalton

***** $1000 PRIZE FOR ADVENTURING! *****

Do you have what it takes to survive a great adventure and escape from the world of SAXSAAN? D & D Publishing has sent the group a promotional package describing their new adventure game, which offers $1000 to the first person who successfully meets the challenge and solves the game. Order blanks and descriptive material will be available at the April meeting. The game requires a system with 32K memory expansion, Extended Basic, and a disk system. User group price is $39.95, which includes a copy of "Beginning Assembly Language for the TI Home Computer."

D & D Publishing has also sent the group a demonstration disk with portions of SAXSAAN to be explored and demonstrated. We need a volunteer from the group who will try the game and then show it to the group at the April or May meeting. So be the first on your block to try SAXSAAN! Contact Jim Green or Gary Fish for the disk. Go for the $1000!

Jim Green

***** TESTING MEMORY *****

From the Southern Nevada Users' Group February 1985 newsletter SNUGLET comes an interesting article pertaining to testing memory. This test pertains to checking how much memory you have used in a program, and how much memory you have left, all without having the Extended Basic module.

"All that you need to do is insert the following two lines as the very first two lines of your program:

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32300    1  A=A+B     10  A=A+B     100 A=A+B
32301    2  GOSUB 1   11  GOSUB 10  101 GOSUB 100
8           8            8            8
14536    14536        14536        14536
```

When you have finished typing in these two lines, type RUN. After a few seconds the program will break and the following ERROR message will appear on the screen: MEMORY FULL IN 1. This means that the process is half completed. Now type in: PRINT 14544-A:A. The computer will return two values. The top number represents the amount of memory used, and the bottom number the amount of memory remaining. Remember, these lines should only be added whenever you wish to test the memory, and should not be saved with the program."

Ed.

***** TI TRIVIA *****

The February issue of the Pittsburgh Users Group newsletter PERIPHERAL provided the following interesting article.

See how many of the following questions you can answer:

1. What do the letters "CPU" designate?
2. The TI-99/4A is a _ _ _ bit computer?
3. Where did the word "BIT" come from?
4. Where did the word "MODEM" come from?
5. What does "BASIC" stand for?
6. Who invented FORTH?
7. Why is FORTH not spelled FOURTH?
8. Exactly how many byte are in a kilobyte?
9. What is the CPU in the TI-99/4A?
10. What is faster: serial or parallel transmission?

11. What does **VDT** do?
12. What came first -- FORTRAN or BASIC?
13. What was the first computer called?
14. Who invented the first microprocessor?
15. Name the THREE components of a CPU?
16. TI Basic is a compiled language. True or false?
17. How much data can be saved on a SSSD disk in TI-99/4A format?
18. Where did the word "**FORTRAN**" come from?
19. What is easier to learn -- Quantum Physics or Graphic Programming Language?
20. Name the TWO unconditional line transfers in basic.

Answers elsewhere in this newsletter!!!

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

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***** REM *****

Answers to TI Trivia:

1. Central Processing Unit
2. 16-bit
3. Binary digIT
4. MOdulator DEModulator
5. Beginners All-purpose Symbollic Instructional Code.
6. Charles Moore
7. Because the IBM that Moore was creating FORTH on would only accept 5-letter file names.
8. 2^10 or 1024
9. TMS9900
10. Parallel, by a landslide!
11. It functions as a monitor. Video Display Terminal.
12. FORTRAN
13. UNIVAC
14. Texas Instruments Laboratories
15. Memory, Control and Arthimatic/Logic
16. False. It is a translated language.
17. 90 kilobytes or 92160 bytes
18. FORmula TRANslation
19. Quantum Physics
20. **GOTO** and **GOSUB**

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