

DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 13, Number 3

March, 1993

This newsletter is the official publication of the DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP, a non-profit organization serving our members and other users of the Texas Instruments 99/4A HOME COMPUTER. For more information you are cordially invited to attend our next meeting or send a S.A.S.E. to:

DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP
P.O. BOX 29863
DALLAS, TX 75229

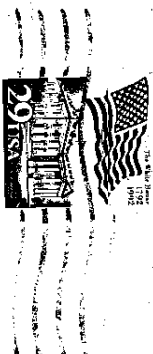
Reprints of our articles are allowed, but must give credit to DTIHCG and be complete.

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, March 20, 1993
at the Dallas INFOMART
I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit



DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP
P.O. BOX 29863
DALLAS, TX 75229

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS

PHONE THE 99ER CONNECTION BBS
24 Hours, 300/1200/2400 Baud
(214) 233-1750



Member of the
Computer Council of Dallas

CCD Information line (214) 234-2667

iii

Dallas, Texas, 75229

DTIHCG'S MARCH EVENTS

- 5 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
6 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
20 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: GENEALOGY with Chester Johnson
 - 1:00 pm MiniSiG
- 27 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
- Mr. Gatti's
 - Walnut Hill & Marsh Lane
 - Officers: 2:30 pm,
 - Chairpersons at 3:30 pm



DTIHCG'S APRIL EVENTS

- 1 April Fool's Day
2 NEXT-STEP
- JOJO'S On Stemmons at
 - 1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 3 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am 'till 11 am
9 Good Friday
9 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
24 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: Funnelweb SysCon
 - 1:00 pm MiniSiG
- 30 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
May 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
- Mr. Gatti's
 - Walnut Hill & Marsh Lane
 - Officers: 2:30 pm,
 - Chairpersons at 3:30 pm

Shaking the Bushes by Mattie Bush

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO ALL
Tiers!

Hello and Welcome to another month with Shaking the Bushes. I would like to say and Thank each and everyone for all of your cards, flowers and phone calls while I was in the hospital and especially Jackie Guion for answering the questions on the BBS for me.

Thanks to all of you DTIHCG people you're GREAT. I want you all to know that Jim Stewart is on his way to recovery after having many bypass surgeries GET WELL REAL SOON we miss you.

Now down to business? At our February meeting we had in attendance about 42. Thanks to all who came we really enjoyed having you and want you come back soon. Our March program will be on GENEALOGY with Chester Johnson on how to use BEYOND WORD WRITER MODULE to do his Genealogy on his 4A. Chester has written many books and documents on his 4A and continues to do so. Our meeting will start at 9:00 am in ROOM 1061 at Infomart at I-35 @ Oaklawn exit.

There will be a Mini-Sig in the afternoon on How to Trace Your Ancestors with yours truly. Want you stay and enjoy this.

Our April program will be on Funnelweb Syscon.

shaking the bushes.....

This is a "How to", for the user. Dave Axberg intends to take the mystery out of the menus. So mark those calendars for April 24. We want ALL to come on out for this program and bring a friend

This month's MicroPendium is starting it's 10th year. We in the TI WORLD are so very happy that we still have the support of this magazine. It is a very informative one. It keeps all up to date on all the Fest's throughout the countries and also all the NEW SOFTWARE and HARDWARE that is available to all. Also there are questions that are answered on what ever you want to know. This support is still for the TI99/4A and also the GENEVE 9640.

Gerald D. Turner has taken over distribution of THE PRINTERS APPRENTICE (TPA) by Mike McCann and will be doing updates from time to time. Address is: 450 Skylark Dr. San Bernardino, Cal 92405 PHONE: (909) 881-8879.

Asgard Software has out THE ANIMATOR. The effect of animation is created by drawing individual frames, then displaying them one after another. You can get this program at 1423 Flagship Dr. Woodbridge, VA 22192 \$14.95 plus \$3. S&H.

The Massachusetts User's of the Ninety-nine and Computers Hobbyists group has a fund raiser with the M.U.N.C.H. Video, "HOW TO CLEAN YOUR COMPUTER". You can get your copy by sending to

shaking the bushes.....

MUN.C.H. c/o James W. Cox 905 Edgebrook Dr.
Boylston, MA 01505.

Harrison Software released a NEW PRODUCT which was developed in response to a challenge from Jim Peterson of Tigercub Software. FONT DUMPER, works with the STAR NX1000/1020 printers. It comes on 2 ss/sd disks, one with the program & one with 32 fonts from Peterson's Collection of 127 screen fonts. Those who want the full set of 127 fonts can get them from TIGERCUB SOFTWARE 156 Collingwood Ave, Whitehall Ohio 43213.

The FONT DUMPER package includes programs to modify the existing screen fonts and ways to perform the download to the printer. The package is in either version (specify printer) sells \$10.00 which includes S&H. HARRISON SOFTWARE 5705 40th Place, Hyattsville, MD 20781 Phone: (301) 277-3467.

Tony McGovern has released the 80 column editor of Funnelweb completely rewritten the source code according to Charles Good of the Lima Ohio Users Group. Funnelweb V5.0 80 column in editor NO MONEY is required but a FAIRWARE donation directly to the author. The editors are designed to be ran from the Funnelweb V4.4 environment. Send 2 disks & a self-addressed return mailer to GOOD Lima Ohio User Group, P.O. Box 647 Yenedocia, Ohio 45894.

shaking the bushes.....

Well again I have told you of just some of the many NEW SOFTWARE programs that are available to you. So want you try some of these NEW programs and let the authors know how much you like them.

Please folks let's continue to support these people so that our TI99/4A WORLD will LIVE FOREVER. These people wants to keep this world of ours ALIVE! ALIVE! As the bunny rabbit says WE ARE STILL GOING -- GOING -- GOING. So lets prove to everyone just how long we can stay ALIVE and WELL. Yes we are very much ALIVE!

This is ShakingThe Bushes signing off until next month. Just Keep on COMPUTIN'. See all at the Infomart Meeting March 20 at 9:00am.

President
Mattie Bush



TI Writer Demos by Jim Lesher

In future TI Writer demos at Infomart we will be exploring some exotic and exciting new and little known tricks. You will learn how to copy lines and blocks of lines, move lines and delete lines etc. How to merge files, save parts of files, print parts of files. How to replace letters and words with other letters or words automatically, be it by row

ti writer demos.....

or column. You will be amazed at what you can do in the editor mode. These are some of the more exotic things we will be looking at. Would you believe a comment line in Editor mode, for those who are not familiar with the comment line, it is a line that the printer skips over that line, so you can insert a comment to yourself for one reason or another. Also ring the bell on your printer when your printing is done, how to use those 94 characters in the back of your printer manual like, the degrees F or the Degrees C sign or the divide sign, pi, omega etc. Would you believe underlining without formatter if your printer has that capability.

Next Step by Charlice Althar

February 26 was our NEXT STEP at JOJO's, and in addition to our other activities, we helped JAMES & VIRGINIA HOYLE celebrate their 39th wedding anniversary! We wish them happiness for 39 more!

JIM LESHER brought his system as usual, and spent the major part of the evening helping MICHAEL NEU run his DESKTOP PUBLISHER. He also loaded the latest version of DM 1000 (V 6.1) to his RamDisk, and tried to playd BILLIARDS from the latest Micropendium disk of the month.

DAN LOWE brought a foreign coin for identification as to what it is and where it came from. BERTA

next step.....

says it came from Panama, JOHN CREVISTON says from Mexico! ALL claimed it was worth the price of the metal (in other words, not much!).

We read and discussed copies of the article NOT A VIRUS, talked about sending and receiving mail on STARTEXT, discussed TI-WRITER transliterates, and talked about printing greeting cards on 8.5 x 11" paper, and sources for envelopes for the folded cards. TOM HALL's least inexpensive source is K-Mart.

Several members who use the STAR NX-2420 Rainbow printer participated in a "group buy" of both black and colored printer ribbons. Thanks, JAMES HOYLE! Another neat benefit of belonging to a group like DTIHCG!

We'll be meeting again on Friday evening, April 2, at JOJO's, just east of I-35E (Stemmons Fwy) at the Motor St. exit. We start around 5 PM, and quit whenever we feel that we're finished. Most of us have dinner, some do not. It's an informal meeting, a good place to learn and exchange information while making good friends. We'll be looking for you, hope you'll join us!

Updating the Database by Charlice Athar

WELCOME to our newest member, TOMMY GRIFFIN of

updating the database.....

Rowlett. We hope to see you at all our DTIHCG functions, TOMMY!

RENEWALS were received this month from BLESSINGS OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRY, MATTIE BUSH, JOHN & SHARON CREVISTON, SIMONE FIORAMONTI, JAMES HOYLE, and BILL PRY. We certainly appreciate your continued support for another great year!

GUESTS attending our February SUPER SATURDAY meeting at INFOMART included TISHA MANNINO, Mattie's granddaughter, ROBERT WATTS JR., Robert's son, JOE CUNHAM of Ft. Worth, LENDILL JONES of Lancaster, ROLL N SIEFKEN of Lago Vista, and STEVE BOONE of Carthage. We're glad you came, and we hope you'll come back soon and seriously consider becoming members of DTIHCG.

Programing Potpourri by Dave Axberg

This month I am just putting together a kind of potpourri of thoughts and ideas I have had over the last few weeks and sharing them with you for your review, reflection and evaluation.

For those members who have not checked in lately on the club's Bulletin Board System (BBS) the "99er Connection"; the comments referencing, "What's new for the TI 99/4A in '92?" have generated much

programming potpourri.....

thought and study by yours truly.

ASGARD, TEXAMENTS, HORIZON, OPA, RAVE99 and others are the major providers of the hardware/software for our machine. If we are to be involved in what is going to be produced for our machine ... we need to contact them and let them know what we want and ... let them know that we are willing to buy what we ask for to increase the capabilities of our machine.

Are you looking for a used RAMdisk? Or maybe a previously owned double sided-double density (DS/DD) disk controller? How about a second hand console with a TIM 80 column display modification installed? All these items are available ... we just need to find them. It is not unusual to see messages stating total systems are up for sale on our BBS; however, the majority are consoles, color monitors, and PEBox's with traditional cards. We need to be on the look out for a supply of previously owned more advanced components at reasonable prices.

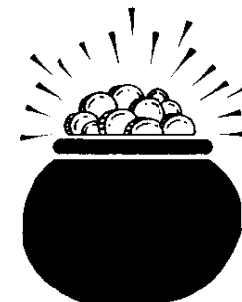
What do you think of having someone taking it upon themselves to scan the newsletters we receive from the other user groups and identify any potential equipment that may be of benefit to our users. It is a great chance for someone to get the inside information on what is going on with the other clubs and benefit the DTIHUG at the same

programming potpourri.....

time ... contact Mattie Bush and let her know that you are willing to be an active member of this user group!

If you would to know more about the FUNNELWEB's SYSCON program and would be will to share what you have learned with the group in the form of an informational program ... let me know. I would be glad to provide some group one-on-one tutorials for anyone interested. The program is currently scheduled for MAY 93. The same offer exists for the following program cShell99, this is the only "windows" application for the TI 99/4A. It is written in c99. It is currently operational with a joy-stick, but if I remember correctly a new DSR has been written for the use of a serial mouse (ASGARD). Now is the time to start checking for the alternative available and set it up for operation in the JUNE '93 program presentation.

I have just been promised a copy of FUNNELWEB version 5.0! I am hopeful that it will continue to expand the use of the 80 column capabilities of the 9938/58 video chips. I'll let you know what I am able to uncover after I have had a ram presentation.



Beginner Printer by Jim Lesher

Redefine character

Yet another way to get the code numbers into the program. As many of you have already thought of, we can combine some of the commands into one line. The reason we have done it this way is to make it simpler to understand. Remember this is for beginners. But let's go through some of the familiar and some of the newer things in this program. Line 40 deletes all previous commands given to the printer like double strike, emphasized, etc. Line 50 (the *1) prepares the printer to accept the re-defined characters. Again, line 60 and 100 are the counting loops which tell the program to read 9 numbers. Line 70 prints to the screen the number of each of the 9 cycles for inputting the code, then line 90 actually loads each number into the ram of the printer. And of course line 80 is where you INPUT your numbers. Now on line 110 we have combined two lines from the last program. The command to print the downloaded character and the character being re-defined.

```
10 REM INPUT 10X (93DINPUT)
20 CALL CLEAR
30 OPEN #1:"PIO"
40 PRINT #1:CHR$(27),"@";
50 PRINT #1:CHR$(27),"*";CHR$(1),CHR$(12);
  CHR$(6);
60 FOR I = 1 TO 09
70 PRINT I;
```

beginner printer.....

```
80 INPUT M1
90 PRINT #1:CHR$(M1);
100 NEXT I
110 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"$";CHR$(1);
  "vvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv".
```

Should you need any help, call or write to:
Jim Lesher, 722 Huntley, Dallas TX 75217 Phone
number is 214-821-9274

Editor's Corner

STARTEXT

Startext recently released a terminal communications program (pc only) custom designed for use with their online service. I have downloaded this program and went exploring. When the Other option is checked for computer related columns is selected, I found that TIMEX was listed but not DAL99ER. Every month the newsletter text is re-formatted to Startext specs so that users of ANY computer can read it and I feel users of the program STARCOMM should find DAL99ER listed. I sent a message to Startext and received answers back from both Christy and Mike Holland. They said essentially that leaving DAL99ER out of STARCOMM was an oversight and would be corrected "soon". I suggest that all DTICHUG users of Startext send a message about having DAL99ER added to STARCOMM

editor's corner

so that the powers that be hear more than one voice.

On February 22nd, I attended a party given by Startext at their downtown Fort Worth office for the columnists, Startext buddies, and those who in some way participated in providing the online info. For each attendee, the column they wrote/uploaded was posted on the wall -- everyone was encouraged to walk around and read the columns. Dal99ER was posted with the rest and I saw several people reading it. Startext introduced all of their staff and talked about the future plans. In addition to the online demo, intro packs are going to be available at several locations (Taylor was the only one I heard announced at the time). Additional information about future Startext plans will be announced online and in Christy's Monday newsletter.

Lisa Morgan



OFFICERS FOR 1993

PRESIDENT	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
TREASURER	Vacant	
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	WILLIE GUPTON	214-375-9575

CHAIRPERSONS FOR 1993

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN	DAVID AXBERG	214-416-3769
MINI-SIG CHAIRMAN	Vacant	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	LISA SHAFFER	817-265-2032
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
CCD REPRESENTATIVES	JACKIE & LOUIS GUION	214-239-6829
MERCHANDISE/HARDWARE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
D-O-M CHAIRMAN	RIP & NICOLE DOWLING	817-467-0369
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEXT STEP CHAIRMAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240

LIBRARIANS

CART/TAPE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568
ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822

These people are DTIHCG officers and chairpersons. They help themselves and you, by giving much of their time in working to make this a better club for all of us. They attend the Executive Committee Meeting held the Saturday afternoon following the INFOMART meeting. Any interested member is invited to join us for the next Chairperson's portion of the meeting.

If you'd like to become more involved in helping the group, please let our DTIHCG President, Mattie Bush, know what you'd like to do.

Please take the time to thank these people individually for their efforts. It makes their job easier.