

DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 13, Number 10

October 9, 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.

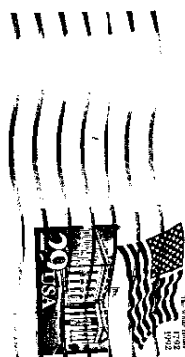
NEXT MEETING

Saturday, September 18, 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

DTIHCG'S OCTOBER EVENTS

- 1 NEXT-STEP
JOJO'S On Stemmons at
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 2 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
- 9 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: To be announced
 - 1:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 22 NEXT-STEP
JOJO'S On Stemmons at
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 31 Halloween

**DTIHCG'S NOVEMBER EVENTS**

- 5 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 6 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
- 11 VETERANS DAY
- 20 SUPER SATURDAY INFOMART
- Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time: 9:00 AM
 - Program: Garage Sale
 - 1:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 25 THANKSGIVING DAY
- 26 Newsletter Deadline

SHAKING THE BUSHES*by Mattie Bush*

Welcome to October, the month of ghostly happenings. Yes, here it is October and we have only 2 more months of 1993. Where did it go?



This past month we ran ads in the newspapers to try and get more members and had only 2 to join us. Also I would like to remind ALL that the drawing for the SYSTEM is still going and it is such a good deal. You can get a lot of things with it if you should win the RAFFLE. Won't that be a wonderful Christmas gift for that special person and not that expensive to invest in.

I want to thank John Creviston and Jim Leshner on the wonderful job they did for the program on Funnelweb V5 editor. Thank you, and a job well done. Also our sympathy to John Creviston in the loss of his mother.

User groups are formed when two or more computer owners meet on a regular basis and talk computers. One single group may support one or more types of computers and then there are groups that support only one kind. As groups form around TI-99/4A's or DOS or Apples.

Most groups meet once or even twice a month. Meetings are held in public buildings or auditoriums, computer stores, or even in private homes. Members range from senior citizens to children, and their levels of computer experience are equally diverse.

You don't have to be a wizard to join a user group. People New to computing have the most to gain. You have the advanced users, the immediate users groups usually offer a member informative and educational programs. Experienced computer users enjoy sharing their expertise and special interest to groups with SIG's.

"When you need help, when you get stuck in front of a computer, dumbly looking at the thing and you simply don't know what next- that's where a user

group comes in". When I found out that there was a local user group that could offer help, it was a manna from heaven.

User group assistance is also free from commercial pressures. We offer an opportunity to mix and meet with other people who are knowledgeable and to provide a help line for members to call with questions about specific hardware and software. We are a resource.

"This is probably the greatest benefit anyone can gain from joining a user group. My argument is that if you own a computer and you don't belong to a user group, you are being foolish and wasteful of your time. You can spend hours trying to research a problem when one phone call to a local member could help solve it in ten seconds".

The tougher problem for user groups is how to attract and keep veteran users. Special interest groups often help. SIG's usually meet at times other than regular meetings and are devoted to one computer topic. The SIG's are of various types such as programming, telecommunications, word processing, databases and even spreadsheets are also popular.

Veteran members lead these groups and many attend SIG meetings to further increase their computer knowledge. User groups frequently follow traditional meetings. Group business, announcements usually come first, often followed by question and answer sessions. Anyone can stand up and ask a question, or offer something to sell or how to hook up some sort of device. The groups takes 15 minute breaks, during which members may visit vendor's tables, where other members may have items to swap, or even explore the group's disk library. Practically every group has a library of public domain software. Diskettes are available in 5 1/4 format and are sold for \$4.00 a package of 10.

"We have a number of people in our group who are interested in Genealogy, and it also attracted the interest of people from a local genealogy club". Many groups are open to all the public, although some may charge a small fee for non-members to attend. Nearly all groups charge small yearly dues. Anyone may attend meetings for 3 months and receive copies of the monthly newsletter before paying dues.

After the group business is finished and all questions have been answered, most meetings have a featured speaker. Software or hardware demonstrations by members, vendors, or software representatives are popular attractions with the user groups.

Newsletters, newspapers announce user groups meetings and locations. BBS's contain the calendars for the month with the activities. In any group there are bound to be disagreements and some controversies, but, by far, user groups are friendly organizations with much to offer their members. Not all are computer related. Any given monthly meeting we might have teenagers and as they say "OLD FOGIES", and everybody in between.

At these user group meetings, they help each other, they relate to each other as users. It is a very beautiful thing to watch. Here is a place where oldsters relate to kids and vice versa, without a lot of nonsense that separates the generations. I think that we have a very unique group and they stand by each other in times good and bad. So to all, give some thought to the New Officers for the coming year and WHO you want in that office. I will see all at the NEXT-STEP on OCT. 1, at 5:00 p.m. and at the next INFOMART SUPER SATURDAY, OCT. 9.

TIME: 9:00 am, make it a date on your calendar to come on out.








This is SHAKING THE BUSHES signing off and "KEEP ON COMPUTIN".



DTIHCG ACTIVITIES

October 3 - November 13, 1993



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 3 Immigration Quota atolished - 1965	Oct 4 GREGORIAN Calendar - 1582	Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7	Oct 8 ● LQ PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE	Oct 9 SUPER SATURDAY 9:00a Meeting - Nominations 1:00p MiniSig
OUR STATE FAIR IS THE BEST STATE FAIR. OCT 1 - 23						
Oct 10 1:09a Moon rise 7:05a Sunrise 6:39p Sunset	Oct 11  Colum- us Day	Oct 12	Oct 13 	Oct 14	Oct 15 ● NM Bosses Day	Oct 16 Sweetest Day EC MEETING
DON T FORGET YOUR DRAWING TICKETS						
Oct 17 This will be a cool day.	Oct 18 Alaska Day	Oct 19 Black Monday - 1987	Oct 20	Oct 21 The BLUEBONNET is the TEXAS State flower.	Oct 22 NEXT-STEP 5:15p JoJo's on Motor Street 8:00p Come early stay late	Oct 23 1st WORLD SERIES -1884
GET READY FOR THE ANNUAL GARAGE SALE-NOVEMBER 20th						
Oct 24 United Nations Day	Oct 25 Mther-In-Law's Day	Oct 26	Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30 ○ FM Hurter's Moon
WILL YOU SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN 1994?						
Oct 31  Daylight Savings Halloween	Nov 1 All Saints Day	Nov 2 Election Day	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5 NEWSLETT- ER DEAD LINE	Nov 6 1st SATURDAY Sidewalk Sale
BUY YOUR DISKS & TAPES FROM DTIHCG						
Nov 7 ● LQ	Nov 8 PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE	Nov 9	Nov 10 Guy Hunter is a Key member	Nov 11  Veterans Day	Nov 12	Nov 13 ● NM  JIM LESHER is our resident TI-99/4A Dealer

HAVE YOU CALLED THE 99'er TODAY? (214) 233-1750 - 24 HOURS

OLD DSK1.*By Dan Lowe*

"Trick or Treat,
Smell My Feet,
Give Me Something,
Good To Eat."



Sound familiar? Does it make you want to go from door-to-door carrying a paper bag? Not hardly, unless of course you are going door-to-door with your children or perhaps your grandchildren. The point is Halloween is close upon us, and then Thanksgiving, and then Christmas. Fall, pumpkins, turkey and pies, and then "the tree," be it real or artificial. And not a minute too soon (as I sit here with TIW and the 95-degree heat outside). I guess what I'm really trying to do is come up with something clever to say, like... "Don't be a spook, a goblin, or a turkey, but rather an angel by volunteering SOME of your time and energies in DTIHCG during 1994.

Did you know:

- Louis Guion was the group secretary in 1985,
- Louis Guion was the President in 1986 and 1987,
- L.M. Kennedy was Treasurer in 1987,
- Rip Dowling was Vice-President in 1990 and 1991
- Charlice Althar was Secretary in 1990 (and still is),
- John Buie was Member-At-Large in 1990 and 1991,
- Charlice Althar was Recruitment in 1985,
- Greg Jusice was Education Chairman in 1985

Charlice Althar was Software Librarian in 1986,

Greg Justice was Program Director in 1986,

Jackie Guion was Mini-Sig/Volunteer in 1986,

John Creviston was DOM Chairman in 1986,

Jim Stewart was Charge of Mini-Sig Meetings,

Robert Jones was Member-At-Large in 1987,

Amogene Osborn was Volunteer Organizer in 1987,

Tom Hall was Mini-Sig Meetings Chairman in 1987,

Butch Spill was Merchandise Chairman in 1990 and 1991,

Dave Axberg was Program Chairman in 1990,

Jim Stewart was Membership Chairman in 1990,

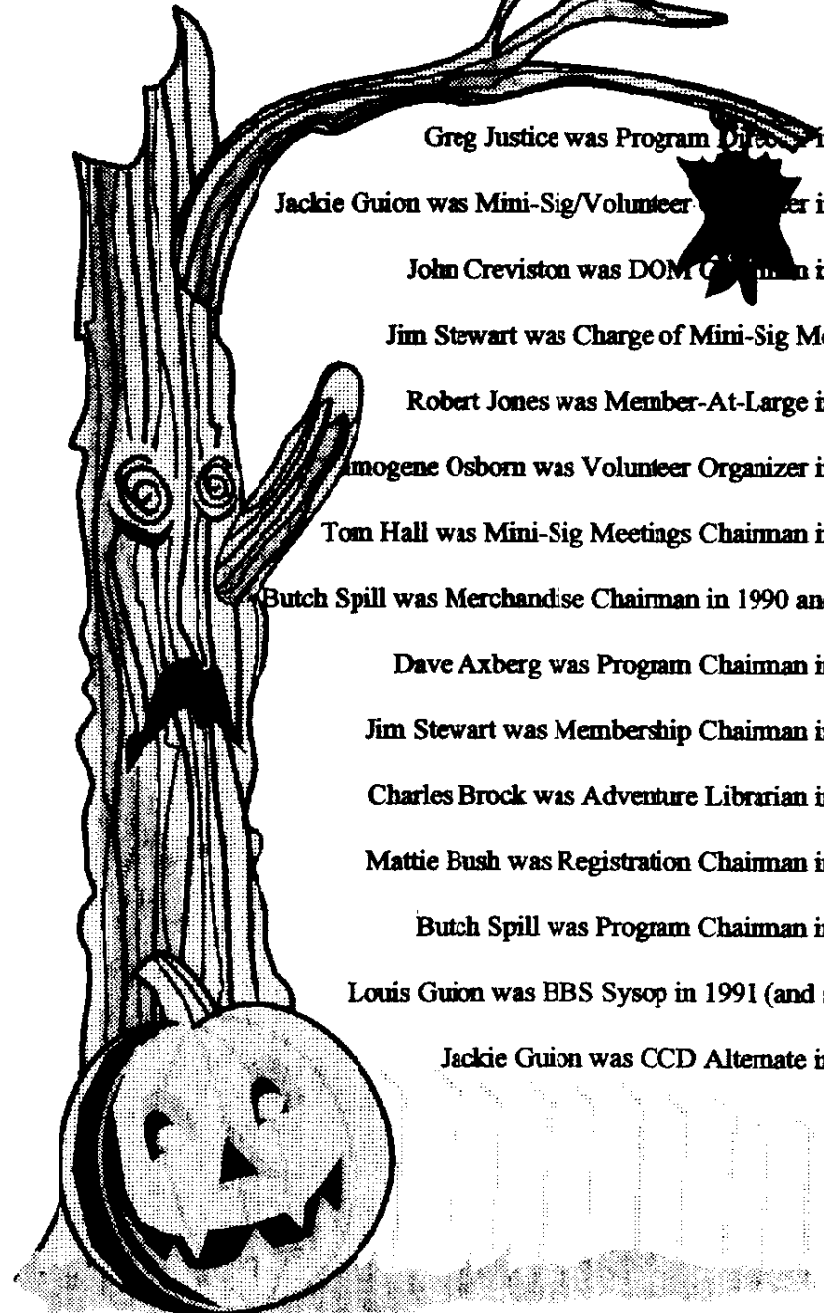
Charles Brock was Adventure Librarian in 1990,

Mattie Bush was Registration Chairman in 1990.

Butch Spill was Program Chairman in 1991,

Louis Guion was BBS Sysop in 1991 (and still is),

Jackie Guion was CCD Alternate in 1991,



Mary Leard was Membership Chairman in 1991,

Earl Bullock was Diskette Sales in 1991,

Mary Leard was Registration Chairman in 1991,

Nicholle Dowling was Social Chairman in 1991,

Billy Monroe was Software Chairman in 1991,

Shawn Hackworth was Adventure Librarian in 1991,

Ron Ferguson was Newsletter Editor in 1991.

I realize that there are many, many more names that could have been included in the above list and I do apologize for the omission(s). However, I chose these names because most are still quite active in DTIHCG and therefore, you probably know most of them. You see, by showing you who in the group has served in what capacity and when helps me to illustrate a point; and that is, sooner or later **WE ALL SERVE**.

When I was still a newcomer to the group, I used to ask myself "Why don't some of these older, more experienced members volunteer for positions in the group. They've been in the group longer, know more about the operation of the group, etc." Of course, what I didn't realize was that they already **HAD VOLUNTEERED** in years past, many times, over and over again and for many different positions. To put it another way, **THEY'VE ALL PAID THEIR DUES**, and now it's our turn, **YOURS AND MINE**, to pay up!

So I ask you, wouldn't you rather be a helpful goblin, a happy pilgrim, a bright holiday star, or a you-know-what come April 1st 1994???



A GRAPHIC NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

DTIHCG'ers who have been around for a while generally know at least three things about me--1) I'm no "techie"; 2) I don't really learn a program until I have a need for it; and 3) graphics has NEVER been "my thing"!



Working with our Newsletter has given me the need to learn something about graphics. This issue has more than any previous one, and it's been fun to experiment with. Yes, these pages are done on my "other machine", but most of these graphics are readily available, converted for use with the TI-99/4A in programs such as PAGE PRO, TI-ARTIST, TIPS, and PRINTERS APPRENTICE. Literally hundreds of graphics for these and other programs are available in our DTIHCG Software Library. If you've never played around with graphics, you're missing out on a lot of fun! Start now--it's not too soon to begin working with creations for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Try it--you'll probably like it!

ANNUAL DTIHCG GARAGE SALE

Our annual Garage Sale will take place on November 20, 1993. Start now to make your "wish list" of computer-related goodies you want to buy, or want to ask your personal Santa to get for your Christmas stocking. It's also the time to dig around in your closets and shelves, looking for the items you no longer want or need, that you can sell to others.



We have very few rules for our Garage Sale--items must be computer-related, but do not have to be specifically for the TI-99/4A. There is no cost for tables for selling, DTIHCG makes no money from this, it's all to benefit our members. Anyone is welcome to buy, sell, or trade, the event is not limited to DTIHCG members. Fix your own prices, negotiate from the position of buyer or seller. It's YOUR sale, so enjoy it!

DTIHCG RAFFLE IS COMING!

Here's your opportunity to own a superbly configured system! A more-than-complete TI-99/4A system will be raffled off at our regular December INFOMART meeting on December 11, 1993, just in time for Christmas! Here's what our lucky winner will receive:

1. TI Color Monitor
2. RAVE Keyboard with RAVE 99 Interface card in TI-99/4A keyboard
3. Speech Synthesizer
4. P-Box with 2 Half-height Drives with Floppy Interface Card, 32K Memory Card, RS232 Card, TI Disk Controller Card, 250K Horizon RAM Disk

NOW INCLUDES A P-GRAM CARD!

NOW INCLUDES A P-GRAM CARD!

SOFTWARE INCLUDED:

BOOKS and MODULES: TI-WRITER, MULTIMEDIA, EDITOR/ASSEMBLER, EXTENDED BASIC, MINI MEMORY, TE-II, and TAX INVESTMENT RECORD KEEPING

ADDITIONAL MODULES: ADVENTURE, PARSEC, DISK MANAGER II

NOW INCLUDES A P-GRAM CARD!

RAFFLE RULES

Tickets will be sold August 21, 1993, as part of Raffle.
 Tickets will be sold ONLY to currently paid members of DTIHCG.
 Anyone is welcome to join DTIHCG; annual dues is still only \$15.00.
 Cost of each ticket will be \$10.00.
 A member may purchase as many tickets as desired.
 Winner must make arrangements to pick up the system.
 Out-of-area winner must pay shipping charges.

**BUY OUR TICKETS AT OUR NEXT MEETING
 FROM MARY LEARD OR MATTIE BUSH**

YES—the system to be raffled now includes a P-GRAM CARD! This makes the system worth much more to the lucky winner. Don't forget to buy your tickets!

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	JIM LESHER	214-821-9274
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
MERCHANDISE/HARDWARE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
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	903-693-5558
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.

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 more rewarding.