

DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 14, Number 7

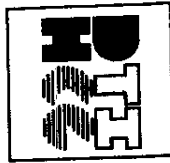
July, 1994

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

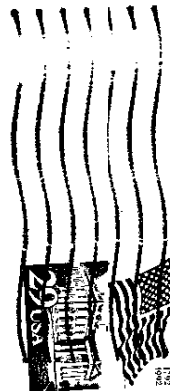
Reprints of our articles are allowed, but must give credit to DTIHCG and be complete.

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, July 16, 1994
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, E71
(214) 233-1750

DTIHCG'S JULY EVENTS

- 16 DFWXCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART
Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
Time: 9:00 AM
Program: Kid's Day '94
- 16 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Who: All Officers and Chairpersons
Time: Following XCHANGE SATURDAY meeting
- 29 NEXT STEP
JOJO's off Stemmons Fwy (I-35 E)
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 PM



DTIHCG'S AUGUST EVENTS

- 5 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE
- 6 1st Saturday Sidewalk Sale
Ross Ave. at Central Exp., 5:00 AM
- 20 DFWXCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART
Oak Lawn @ Stemmons Fwy. (I-35 E)
Time: 9:00 AM
Program: To Be Announced
- 20 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Who: All Officers and Chairpersons
Time: Following XCHANGE SATURDAY meeting

OLD DSK1.

By Dan Lowe



By the time you read this the 4th. of July will have come and gone. Better known as Independence Day (although my son always thought of it as "firecracker day") it marks that time in our history, July 4, 1776, of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. (Of course, you already knew that, didn't you?) Now we celebrate it with fireworks displays, picnics, cold drinks, hot dogs, and swimming in the nearest lake. At least, that's what we did, or should I say, I did. I tried to get my wife to take a dip with me, but she wouldn't. She even refused to put on her bathing suit; said it had a hole in the knee!

THESPIS STRIKES AGAIN

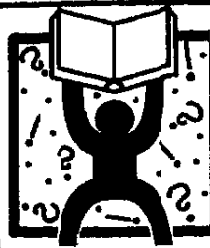
If you look in the dictionary you will find that Thespis was the originator of the actor's role. Well, I'm not sure if there's a connection, but one of our DTIHCG members is carrying on the tradition of acting. I'm referring to Hugh McKnight who again this year could be seen in the fifth annual production of the Platinum Follies. This year's show, subtitled "The Untold Story of Pinocchio," featured live music, lavish sets and costumes, professional lighting, and the talents of singers, comedians, and an old-fashioned dancing kick-line. Just shows to go you that we DTIHCG folks are a multi-talented bunch, what with coin collecting, genealogist activities, and now the theater. Maybe if we try hard enough and long enough we can persuade Hugh and his troop to put on a song and dance program at one of our future INFOMART meetings. (I'm just kidding, Hugh, unless of course you can teach the 99/4A a song and dance routine.) Congratulations Hugh!

KIDS 'R US

In the May 1994 issue of the DALLAS 99 INTERFACE I made reference to our planned program for July. Well, July is here and so is our program, Kids

TOM'S TRIVIA

by Tom Hall



We are a few months from the big DTIHCg REUNION. If this event is going to be a success, everyone must pitch in and contribute some of their time. So talk it up and definitely plan on attending THE REUNION in October.

If you were born in July, your birth stone is the ruby and your flower is the Larkspur.

You can use plastic jugs to protect the trunks of small trees. Cut a hole in the bottom of the jug and a slit down the side, then slip the jug around the trunk.

To store a small ladder in the least possible space, stand it straight against the wall between the studs in your garage. A long arm turn button mounted on a projecting block will keep it from falling.

The Postal Service, with Ben Franklin as the Postmaster, began on July 26, 1775.

A true friend is one who overlooks your failures and tolerates your successes.
- Doug Larson.

For information about political candidates at the National level, call 1-800-622-SMART. I called and actually got to talk to a person.

A novice parachutist couldn't open his chute on his very first jump. As he was falling toward the ground, he saw another individual flying upward past him. Calling out to the passerby, he said "Do you know anything about parachutes?" The woman going up replied, "No! Do you know anything about gas stoves?"

THANKS, JIM!



Sometimes we get so accustomed to doing things that we forget how difficult it was to learn them when we were starting out. Case in point, setting your terminal emulator program (most TI-99/4A's use either FAST-TERM or TELCO) to correctly access the Bulletin Board you are trying to call. Our 99'ER CONNECTION BBS requires settings of EVEN parity, 7 data bits, and 1 stop bit, or E71.

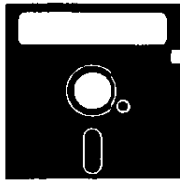
JIM STEWART recently brought to our attention that most other public BBS's, including STARTEXT, use NQ parity, 8 data bits, and 1 stop bit, or N81.

JIM suggested we add these settings to the cover of our DALLAS 99 INTERFACE, where we suggest calling our BBS, giving our hours of operation and the baud rates supported. We did, beginning with last month's Newsletter, but space did not permit us to give him credit for the suggestion. So Thanks, Jim, for this and all the other help you so frequently give DTIHCg and its members.

WANTED!

Needed! Articles for our Newsletter! Have you ever had a secret desire to be a writer? Had a hankering to see your work in print, distributed across the nation? Have you a favorite tip that helps you be more productive with your TI-99/4A? Or have you been on a vacation this year that others would enjoy hearing about?

We'd like to have filled this space this month with something by one of our members. Please help us keep our newsletter interesting and informative by sending us an article for next month, via upload to the 99'er CONNECTION, or STARTEXT, or via snail mail to our P.O. Box. Thanks!



DTIHCG ACTIVITIES

July 10 - August 20, 1994

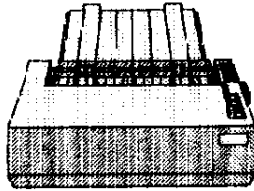


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 10	July 11	July 12	July 13	July 14 GERALD FORD - 1913	July 15 ● FQ	July 16 XCHANGE SATURDAY 9:00a 'til 2PM 1:00p EC Meeting
THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO RE-NEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP						
July 17 CHARLES BROCK is a KEY MEMBER	July 18	July 19	July 20 1st MAN ON MOON 1969	July 21 Ernest Hemmingway 1899	July 22 ○ FM	July 23 ✓ Get your software from THE DTIHCG LIBRARY
If you move let us know your new address, we care.						
July 24	July 25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM LESHER	July 26	July 27 ×	July 28	July 29 NEXT-STEP 5:15p to Jo's on Motor St	July 30 ● LQ
July 31	Aug 1	Aug 2 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JACKIE GUION	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5 5:00p Room reservation 10:00p NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	Aug 6 HAPPY BIRTHDAY - AUG 5 ANN GRESHAM 1ST SATURDAY
Aug 7 5:27a ● NM 6:04a Sunrise 	Aug 8 Don't drink and drive.	Aug 9	Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13 ● FQ
FOR INFORMAR? SCHEDULE CALL 214-919-4980						
Aug 14	Aug 15	Aug 16	Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20 XCHANGE SATURDAY 9:00a 'til 2PM 1:00p EC MEETING
DTIHCG REUNION OCTOBER 29th - SPREAD THE WORD						

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

TI-WRITER AND YOUR PRINTER - PART 1

by Jim Lesher



This and future articles will be written with Funnelweb 5.0, and all references to TI-WRITER will be synonymous with Funnelweb 5.0, also all printer commands will be for the Gemini 10X. (Note: Some of these codes will be the same for other printers, such as Epsoms, but just look in your own printer manual for the correct code. -Ed.)

All printer commands will be for the Gemini 10X most other models will work the same except for line spacing on the NX-10 and later models, in which case we need only multiply the numbers by 1.5. At first this will seem complicated, but after you practice it a few times it will seem very quick and easy. In your printer manual on page 125 at the top of the page, CHR\$(15) is for condensed print. In TI-Writer we can ignore the CHR\$() and just use the 15.

Now to actually make these commands work we must use the printer manual with the TI-Writer manual, so let's go to page 146 of the TI-Writer manual and see what it says to use for the number 15 so that the printer can understand. Looking down the left column under ASCII CODES, we find 15. Run your finger over to the column PRESS KEY and it says to press SHIFT O, but first we must enter a SPECIAL CHARACTER MODE which is explained on page 98 where it says, to enter the SPECIAL CHARACTER MODE press CTRL U. With the cursor in the upper lefthand corner of the screen press CTRL U now. Notice that the familiar box-shaped cursor has been changed to an underline cursor shape. Next press SHIFT O then press CTRL U again to exit the SPECIAL CHARACTER MODE, which also changes the shape of your cursor back to the familiar box shape.

Now type in something (anything!) on the screen and print it out, WOW, condensed print! Don't do this just one time and walk away, do it enough times where you don't have to look at these instructions to do it.

At the top of page 124 in your printer manual it gives the printer code for *Italics* which is the number 4, so again in the upper lefthand corner press

CTRL U then SHIFT D which represents a 4, be sure to delete the character for condensed print and then press CTRL U to exit the SPECIAL then CTRL U then SHIFT D which represents a 4, be sure to delete the character for condensed print and then press CTRL U to exit the SPECIAL CHARACTER MODE again, reset your printer, then print something, e.g. *part of this article*.

Let's do one more of the easy ones, then next time we will get into the good stuff. Back on page 125 in your printer manual half way down the page we see the number 14 will instruct the printer to print one line of wide print then it returns to normal print. This time with no further explanation you will accomplish this with a list of key presses only.

Press CTRL U
Press SHIFT N
Press CTRL U

Now print something with a minimum of 2 lines so you can see the full effects of this command.

Condensed print Condensed print CONDENSED PRINT CONDENSED PRINT
Condensed print Condensed print CONDENSED PRINT CONDENSED PRINT

Italics *Italics* *Italics* *Italics* **ITALICS** **ITALICS** **ITALICS**
Italics *Italics* *Italics* *Italics* **ITALICS** **ITALICS** **ITALICS**

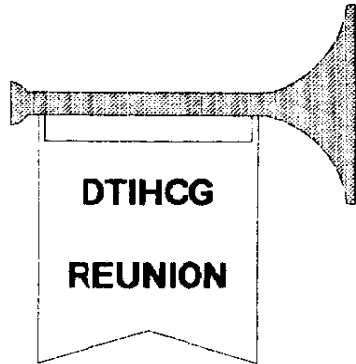
Expanded print **EXPANDED PRINT**

After one line, returns to normal print.

As always, if you need any help call or write to:

Jim Lesher / 722 Huntley / Dallas TX / 75214 / or call 214-821-9274

by Dan Lowe



You've been to your high school reunion, your college reunion, and your family reunion . . . but now comes the reunion to end all reunions, the DTIHCG REUNION. Yes, our USER group, DTIHCG, is planning a reunion for October of this year. While the actual date is not yet firm it will take place at the INFOMART October meeting; the EXACT date will be announced later.

A Reunion Steering Committee has been formed and is working on the details of putting this event together, to "make it happen!" This Steering Committee is composed of chairpersons heading the Advertising Committee, the Notification Committee, the Refreshments Committee, the Program and Display Committee, and the Souvenirs Committee. The combined efforts of these various committees will result in notification of former and current members by telephone, messages, post cards and any other method of communication. Publicity will include announcements in newspapers, TV, BBS's, MICROpendium, StarText, and the Dallasite (the TI company newspaper). Working with membership rosters and a library of older DALLAS 99 INTERFACE newsletters the committee(s) will reach back to the earliest records of DTIHCG, 1982. While some of the folks have gone on to other pursuits or even moved away, others are still in the area and remain active members of DTIHCG. As you can see, this is quite an undertaking.

If you would like to help with this effort, please contact Tom Hall or other DTIHCG officers. Even though a lot of work has already gone into this effort there is still a lot more work to be done and we can use all the help we can get. I mention Tom Hall because he has been the key organizer and ramrod in getting this show on the road. And I'm sure if you'll volunteer your help and assistance to Tom, he will find something for you to do.

So here's your chance to rub elbows with folks who were instrumental in the creation of DTIHCG, you might even say the "founding fathers and mothers." It should be a lot of fun to meet, visit, and chit-chat with former

DTIHCG members. AND we will have a program, refreshments, display of 4A memorabilia, and just a general great time.

Better mark your calendars NOW so you won't forget to attend this significant event, the first DTIHCG reunion ever. And while October may seem far away, it is not; it's only 3 months away. In other words, don't let it slip up on you; instead, make your plans NOW to attend. As I said, mark your calendar. And if you have any questions or want to volunteer your help, please let us know.

NEXT STEP REPORT

NEXT STEP was held as usual at JOJO's on July 1, with a spirited bunch of DTIHCG'ers present.

JAMES and VIRGINIA HOYLE arrived a bit earlier than most, and were already dining while others arrived, showing the "come when you can" informal aspect of NEXT STEP meetings. But as soon as JAMES stopped eating, he started showing off his latest high-tech goodie, which really had JIM STEWART spellbound. I'm not sure what you call his gizmo, but it's shirt-pocket-sized, and has everything from a database to a calendar to a calculator in it. Asked where the cable was to connect it to his computer, and am still not sure I heard the answer correctly! What's next, JAMES? And what's this about having a photographic memory?

We were so pleased to have L.M. and JIMMIE KENNEDY back with us again, they always add some sparkle to our group. L.M. reports that on this occasion, he learned four new ways to spell Bill Clinton! Of course, one might expect that many of the discussions on this night were centered around topics of current events--the O.J. Simpson situation, and the Hillary and Billary ongoing circus. TOM HALL offered us encouragement as we debated the wisdom of contributing to their legal defense fund; final decision appeared to be in favor of supporting a similar fund for the prosecution!

GREG JUSTICE showed up for the first time in a year, welcome back GREG! We wish JOYCE had been able to accompany you.

ROBERT JONES was fielding questions regarding the eventual use of the big hole in the ground down his way, originally intended to be the location of the Super Conducting Super Collider, and the effects on the local economy. JIM LESHAR brought his system, as always, and was telling us more about the demise of TM DIRECT. We all were expressing concern about other TI suppliers, and realize how fortunate we are to have JIM right here with us, with a more than adequate inventory of hardware and software for our 4/A's.

Our primary topic of discussion this month concerned the past, the present, and the future as it relates to DTIHCG--more specifically, to our planned DTIHCG REUNION to be held in October. We're working hard trying to locate members from our past, searching through our old newsletters to recall some of our more notable happening, and who was doing what at a certain point in time in our history. We have several committees working on various aspects of the REUNION, but we could certainly use more help from our members. If you know where any of our former members are, or have ideas about the REUNION, please get in touch with TOM HALL!

SHARON CREVISTON and JACKIE GUION were talking about various ways to keep things cool in our summer heat, tips like keeping cameras in insulated bags in the car, and double-bagging insulated bags to keep foods cool while being transported. JACKIE came up with some of these during her recent trip to South Carolina, and she also had some pictures to share with us. We discussed the absent MATTIE, still vacationing. Postcards received from her have mentioned being in Yellowstone National Park in SNOW! We're glad you missed our triple digit days, MATTIE!

LOUIS, GREG, ROBERT, and TOM were planning a trip the following morning to the First Saturday Sidewalk Sale; hope they found lots of bargains.

Naturally, we wish more DTIHCG'ers would participate in NEXT STEP meetings; it's the best place to get one-on-one help for your computer problems. If you'd like to come next time, make it on July 29, anytime from 5:00 PM on, at JOJO's, just east of I-35 at the Motor St. exit.

1994 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
VICE-PRESIDENT	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
TREASURER	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	IMOGENE OSBORN	214-252-5985

1994 CHAIRPERSONS

BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
DOM CHAIRMAN	JIM LESHAR	214-821-9274
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KOSK	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	JIM LESHAR	214-821-9274

1994 LIBRARIANS

ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	ROBERT WATTS	214-353-9824
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568

These are your DTIHCG Officers and Chairpersons. They help themselves and you by giving their time and efforts to make this a better club for all of us. If you'd like to become more involved, please let our President, Dan Lowe, know what you'd like to do.

Please take the time to thank these people individually for their efforts. It makes their jobs more rewarding.