

MAD HUG

MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA
HOME USER GROUP

GRAND FORKS, ND

MEETINGS
AT THE G.F.
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER 1988

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Minnesota And Dakota Home Users Group meets every second Tuesday in the upstairs meeting rooms and every fourth Tuesday in the Electronic Room of the Grand Forks Public Library. Yearly dues are \$12.00. Members can use the group's hardware and software by presenting the library reference librarian with your membership card and asking for the keys to the MADHUG files. Anyone interested in the TI-99/4A is welcome to attend.

MINUTES, AUGUST 9, 1988

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Alston at 7:25 pm. Attendance: 8 members. Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed, discussed, and approved as printed in the Newsletter. Rich Jurgens volunteered to insure the mailing of a catalog of the disks and programs in our library to the Chicago Users Group--to aid in the development of an expanded library of fairware, shareware, etc., for all TI-99/4A users.

Newsletters from other Users Groups were circulated and discussed. More members are actively reading these newsletters between meetings and directing attention to interesting, enlightening, and useful articles. Dan Boyce discussed and displayed products of the label maker program that he had purchased from Tenex.

Ken Johnson had just received TI BASE from Insebot, Inc. He will review and demonstrate this program at the next SIG meeting.

Rich Jurgens reported a treasury balance of \$167.57 as of 8/1/88. Loren Quern won the raffle; he selected a Futaba keyboard as his prize.

It was duly noted that ELECTION OF OFFICERS will be held at the September meeting. All members are urged to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm to the Electronic Room for demonstrations and small group discussions--until 9pm. HWE

SIG MEETING, AUGUST 23, 1988

Ken Johnson demonstrated a few of the possibilities for the practical uses of TI BASE. Five members attended and were actively involved. HWE

WELCOME BACK TO FALL

After a long hot dry summer, I'm surely looking forward to seeing all our members at the library on Tuesday night.

Steve Little's Computer Desk

The following is the working drawings that Steve Little and his dad used to make a computer desk. It can obviously be modified to suit your space needs. It appears to be well thought out.

Chicago exchange

Steve Little and Rich Jurgens went through our library of disks and sent a listing to the Chicagoan Users Group to work out an exchange plan of disks and programs. No additional information is available yet.

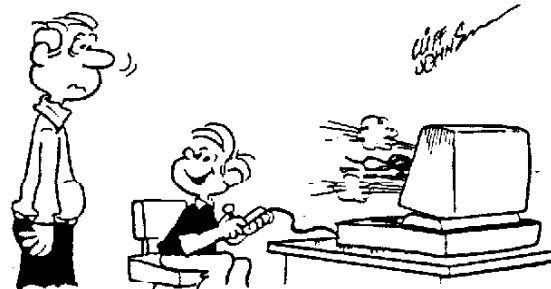
Traveling Library

Rich Jurgens has developed a traveling library of MADHUG disks for mailing to members to peruse at their leisure. It contains about twenty disks now. For members out of town the main cost is for postage. Call Rich for more information.

Wanted:

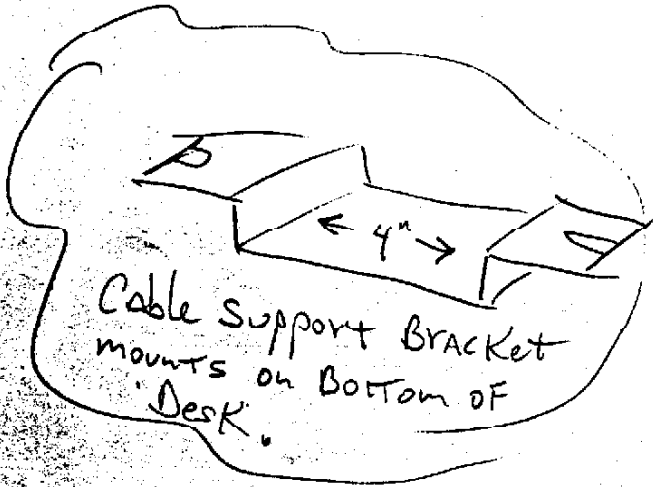
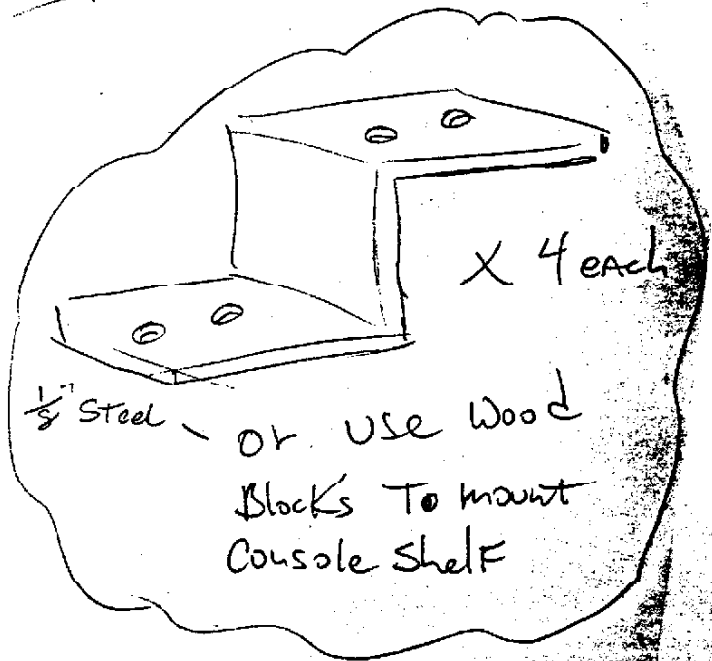
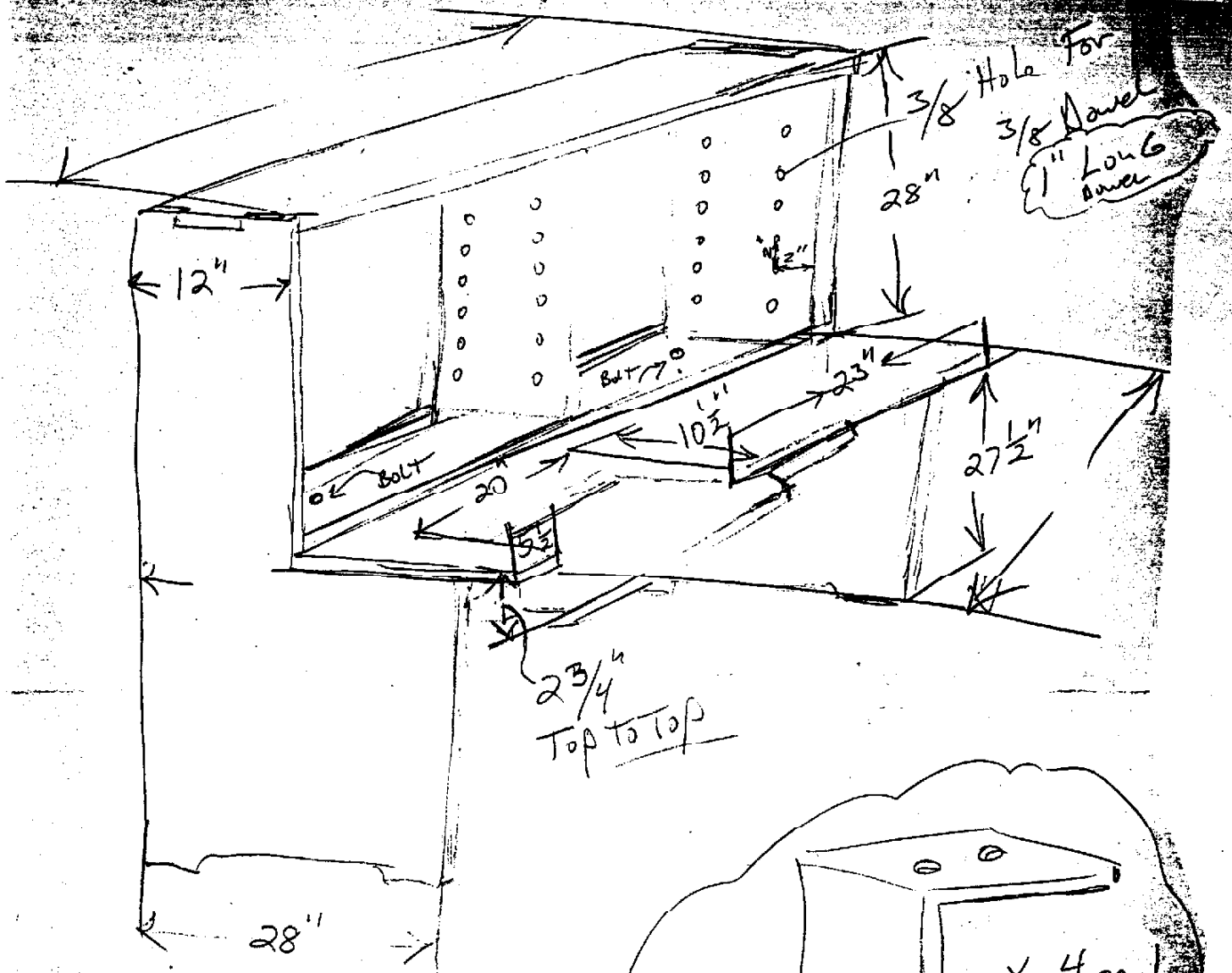
Dwayne Wangen, New Town ND. would like a second disk drive set-up.

Donne Schafer Port of Morgan Mont. would like a dot matrix printer capable of doing TI graphics and descending characters...



"They sure make these computer games realistic, Dad! That's the Evil Dragon."

"Of course, Julian, playing 'Hangman' isn't the only thing you can do with this baby!"



over

NEW EXPANSION SYSTEMS

*From Charlotte TI User Group
April 88*

Owners of the bare TI-99/4A console who have wondered how they might expand their computer, or have had trouble finding a used expansion system, or simply don't trust used equipment, need no longer worry. There have long been small expansion systems marketed by CorComp, which allow the basic 32K, RS232, and disk control, but no additional cards. But recently two other companies have launched well designed expansion systems which seem intended not only to provide an alternative to expanding the 99, but to house the new Myarc 9640 as well.

Ryte Data company is making what they call the 99AT Expansion System, which looks for all the world like a typical IBM or clone box, has a power supply from 135 to 200 watts (your choice) space for up to four floppy drives, or two floppies and a hard drive, five expansion card slots (with none take for the interface), and a smaller cable. The price for the basic 135 watt system with built-in interface is only \$155.00. For more

MAKE YOUR OWN DATA DISK FOR CERTIFICATE99
MATT ANDEL - TI-CHIPS - CLEVELAND, OHIO

You need Certificate99 and Ti-Artist to do this.

- 1) Copy the back side of Certificate99.
- 2) Use a disk manager program (DM1000) and rename the file name CDATE21 to CDATE21_P and CDATE22 to CDATE22_P.
- 3) Then load TI-Artist and choose 1) TI-Artist from the main menu. Then press S for store. Then press L to Load Picture. Now the filename is CDATE21.
- 4) Now you should see 12 little graphics. Now you will have to draw 3 lines going down between the pictures and 2 lines going across between the pictures.
- 5) Now you can erase the little graphics but not the lines you drew.
- 6) Then press FCTN Quit to return to the main menu. Then press 2) Enhancement. Then press S for slides. Press 6) to load instances. Now you can load your own instances and put them in the boxes you drew before.
- 7) When you have put your 12 instances in the boxes, press FCTN Quit to return to the main menu. Then press 1) TI-Artist. When TI-Artist comes up, get the eraser and erase the lines you drew before.
- 8) Now you can press S for store and S for save. The filename you will save it as is CDATE21, and you are finished with that file.

- 9) Now you will repeat steps 3-8, but the filename is CDATE22 and not CDATE21.
- 10) When you are done with CDATE22, you can exit TI-Artist and go back to your disk manager program and rename the file CDATE21_P to CDATE21 and the file CDATE22_P to CDATE22.
- 11) Now you can load Certificate99 and when it tells you to flip the disk around, put in the disk you just made. Your border and font choices will be the same, but the graphics will be the ones you just made.
- 12) And that's all there is to it!

*From Jimmie
Houston User Group*

FUNNELWEB 4.0

If you have Funnelweb 4.0, you know it has a few capabilities beyond TI-Writer; here are some of them:

=> In Editor, to change text from lower case to upper case, place the cursor at the start of the text and hold down CTL and ; together. Magic! To change from upper to lower case, use CTL and . together. Great time saver if you want to change a group of words for headings, etc!

=> In SD (Show Directory), the asterisk between the SIZE and the TYPE columns indicates a FRACTURED FILE; one which is stored "split-up" on the disk.

Also, you may select a File from SD by pressing that NUMBER from the list, and it will become the Default File name for Load File and Save File, or for Delete File or View File, EXCEPT that it will not accept the number for a PROGRAM format file. Keeps you from trying to Load an X-Basic program into the text editor!

=> SD now Prints the directory if you press " P ". => On the SD directory in Funnelweb, PROGRAM mode files can be flagged by pressing " = " and will display (in the REC column) either a BX (for a BASIC/X-Basic RUNable program), or by EA (for a Memory Image (E/A 5 type)) program to be run from Funnelweb loader #3, or remain a blank if it is a Data file in "Program" format: "CHARA1", for instance.

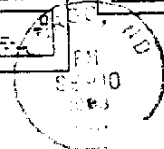
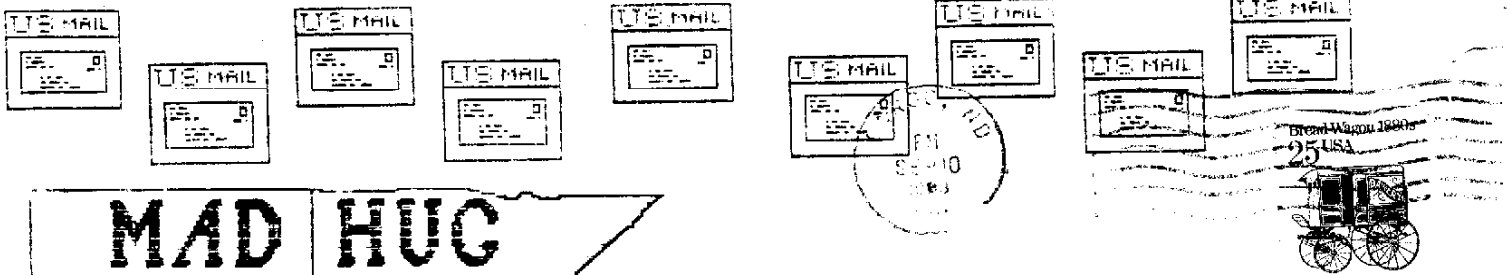
=> The Editor/Assembler Loaders in FW 4.0 are accessed from the Ed/Asabl option of the 1st Menu if XBasic is being used.

=> If you use the Funnelweb Loader #4 on a DF/BO file, it will automatically reveal the REF/DEF table names, one of which will be the "Program Name" to "Start" the program, if the program does not auto-start. It will then allow you to select which one you want to try to use. Usually only one or a few will show up, but this can be a real ice-breaker with that game your buddy gave you last year but forgot to give you the "Program Name" for (and the Name was "NEVER").

=> CONFIG program on FW 4.0 will load and run ONLY via the Menu selection CONFIGURE on the first menu, and only if you have loaded FW via X-Basic. You can configure the Editor and Formatter print devices, plus some other choices, plus putting your own programs on the menus, IF you know which of the loader type numbers matches each of your programs.

=> You may change the Print Device name AND set printer codes for condensed, etc, for DM-1000, by using FCTN - 3 at the first screen in DM1000, and then answering Y for the "Save to disk?" question. All the CONFIGurations require the write tab to be off the FW disk, of course, so do it on the BACKUP or WORK copy, not on the original.

As a result of our newsletter exchange, I read about 50 newsletters a month from around the country. One common concern that continues to be echoed is a dwindling membership and our group is, to be honest, no exception. Former members aren't abandoning computers. They're becoming involved in other machines: particularly MS-DOS (IBM) compatibles. Observing this trend, several groups have expanded their focus to include these machines as well as continue to support the TI-99. Other groups are talking about it. Such talk, of course, precipitates some pretty intense opposition and implications of "traitors", etc. The fact of the matter is we, as TI devotees, are approaching our 5th year of "independence" and the things that have taken place through that time is phenomenal. But to believe that we can continue as a club with a continuing drop in membership is, I think, more optimistic than realistic. I hope I'm proved wrong but this may be something to think about and I look forward to your feedback. Perhaps we should discuss our options at the August meeting.



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MEETINGS
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509 REEVES DRIVE
 GRAND FORKS ND
 58201

DALLAS TI 2 USERS GROUP
 P.O. BOX 29863
 DALLAS TX 75229

