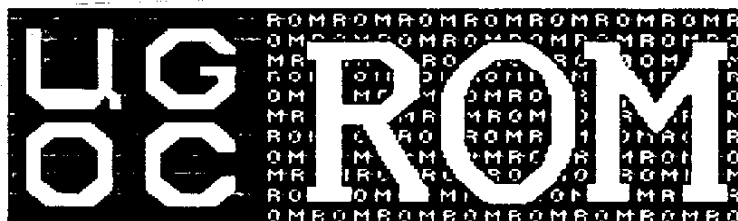


THE ROM NEWSLETTER  
 USERS GROUP OF ORANGE COUNTY  
 17161 EDWARDS STREET  
 HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647



04/90  
 Dallas TI Computer Group (DTIHCG)  
 PO Box 29863  
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 TX 75229



JUN 1990

SERVING THE TI 99/4A HOME COMPUTER COMMUNITY

## WE MEET AT MERCURY

### TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The FIRST Thursday of each month at  
 MERCURY SAVINGS and LOAN  
 7:30 PM

West of Beach at 7813 Edinger Ave.,  
 Huntington Beach, Cal. Use the WEST  
 entrance. Park on the west side of  
 the building. All are welcome.

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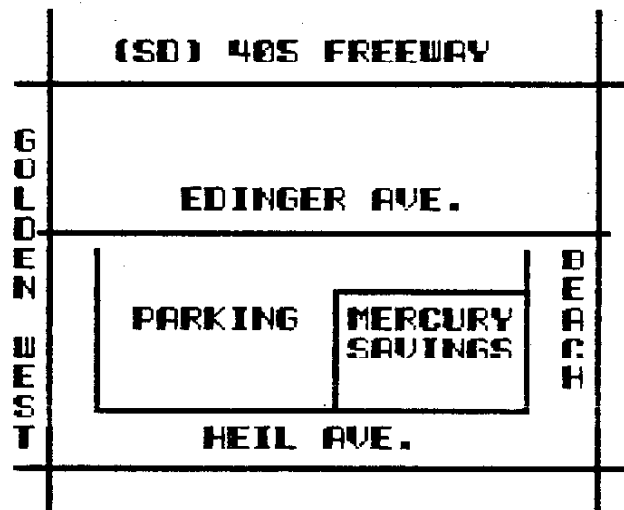
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We solicit letters and articles of interest to the TI-99/4A user community. Material accepted may be edited for fit and format. No payment is offered nor intended, (other than your byline).



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### TI CLUB ACTIVITIES

CLUB	ACTION	DATE	INFO
UGOC	LIBRARY, FTNVL	JUN 12	842-0859
UGOC	GRAPHICS SIG	JUN 14	750-6425
UGOC	LIBRARY, FTNVL	JUN 19	842-0859
UGOC	BOARD MEETING	JUN 21	662-2957
UGOC	NEWSLETTER LIBRARY	CALL	847-5875
BUG	GENERAL MEETING	JUL 02	
UGOC	GENERAL MEETING	JUL 05	662-2957

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Ben Hatheaway

It certainly is a privilege for me to assume the duties of President for the upcoming year. It will be hard to come close to filling the shoes left by my predecessors, but with a Fest coming up locally and with new hardware and software constantly coming out in addition to the (hopeful) maturation of the Geneve, there's no reason that the club cannot survive and maybe even increase in membership.

I would like to call your attention to Jim Swedlow's comments in the last ROM about those who have served as board members. I would like to echo those comments as well, but in addition I would like to add my thanks to Jim for the two terms he has served and the work he has done in keeping the club organized through several meeting places, financial situations and periods of low attendance.

Our "orphan" is still a viable force in the computer world, even more so since TI removed itself from the market because imaginative authors and hardware developers have shown us that the little TI can do far more than TI ever imagined.

Let's keep the interest alive and have a good year.

Ben

## APRIL BOARD MEETING

By Earl Raguse, Secretary

The meeting was held on Wed, April 18, 1990, at the home of Siles Bazerman, Editor. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 by President Jim Swedlow. Others present were Jim Jolly, Jerry Rash, Siles Bazerman, Stan Corbin, Ben Hatheaway and son Daniel, Earl Raguse, Bill Nelson and Adrian Robinson.

Secretary Earl did not read the March minutes, because no printed copy was available. The minutes were accepted anyway. The Secretary is admonished to henceforth bring his own printed copy to the meetings. The secretary had no further correspondence to report.

Jerry Rash, Treasurer, reported that we are still solvent, even though our costs are now higher. The balance will dwindle, however, unless a new source of revenue is forthcoming.

Jim Morris, Membership chair was not present.

Editor, Siles reported that the ROM was not quite ready to go, but will be delivered shortly to Earl for printing. We will continue to bring the ROMs to the meeting for distribution. Those not collected at the meeting will be mailed. If we can't increase revenues, we can at least reduce expenses.

Newsletter Librarian, Earl reported that we have a new exchange club, the Nutmeg 99ers from Mass. The membership should be taking more advantage of this excellent resource.

Bill Nelson reported the status of the Name of Fame program. He needs more help in digging up addresses and facts about nominees. John Koloen and Laura Burns, Micropendium founders, were moved to the voting list as a unit.

The Nomination Committee reported the following slate of officers to stand for election.

President	Ben Hatheaway
Vice President	Jim Morris
Secretary	Gene Smith
Treasurer	Earl Raguse

The chair persons will continue to serve in their present capacities, except Membership, which will be taken over by Bill Nelson.

At the May meeting, after the annual election of officers, we will have a hard disk demo by Ben Hatheaway, and a graphics demonstration by Roger Merritt.

The board considered and passed a motion to "Empower the Fest Vest Committee to sign an agreement with any hotel if the costs were within a reasonable percentage of an approved budget set up by the FW Committee."

This was based on the premise, that a reasonable percentage was about 15%, and that there was the possibility that insurance costs would be so high as to preclude our buying it.

It was subsequently determined that the insurance question was a major concern which had to be resolved. It was then moved and passed that the FW Committee attempt to refine the total costs, even though such delay may well cause cancelation of current offers from Disneyland, our preferred site.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45, and the garage SIG went into immediate session. Siles had plenty of coffee and goodies for those taking time from the SIG.

## UGOC HALL OF FAME

By Bill Nelson

This month's Hall of fame selection is Mr. J. Peter Hoddie. To name a few of his works (because I don't know of any more), they are, Pre-Scan It, Mac Flix, Graphics Expander, Gram Packer, Font Writer II, Font Packs I and II, Browse, XB Bug, and Macflx Professional. Most of the above I have and they are excellent programs. Font Writer II being on of the most versatile graphic page making programs available plus Font designing tool and converting utility money can buy for our 99/AA. Macflx is a great converter program for converting macpaintings to TI Artist format. (I wish I could find Macflx Professional, I heard it was out and good but haven't seen it.) The Font Packs are a great collection to be used with any number of programs.

Genial Computervare is also a mainstay headed up by Mr. Hoddie. Sorry don't have a catalog from them personally so we can't say what type of products they offer.

Thank you again Mr. Hoddie for all of your support. People like you make having our orphan so much more fun.

## UGOC HALL OF FAME REPLIES

Sorry, during the last month we didn't receive any a responses from Hall of Fame inductees watch for replies next month.

## GRAPHIC SIG

By Bill Nelson

Last month the demonstration was on Certificate 99 by Great Lakes Software. Fun was had by all. We also had a surprise demonstration of Artist Print Shop by non-other than Rodger Merritt. The program does signs/fliers, stationary, and banners with Artist format fonts and instances. There was lots of discussion, most graphic oriented during the sig. This month Form Shop will be demonstrated.

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**MODEM USE TUTORIAL**  
**TRANSFERRING FILES BETWEEN FRIENDS**  
by Kathryn Coonley and Erwin Metz

To do this exercise requires 2 people with their own TI computers, phone lines, and modems. Both people do all the steps given, unless indicated otherwise.

In the directions below, if 2 keys should be pressed at the same time they are shown in parenthesis like this: (FCTN 7) means to press the function key and the 7 key at the same time. The enter key will be indicated in parenthesis: (enter).

**STEP 1: LOADING MODEM PROGRAM**

Insert TI Extended BASIC cartridge. Put MASS TRANSFER Disk in Drive 1. Turn on your modem.

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
(FCTN =) Restart System  
(enter) Go to BASIC menu  
2 Extended BASIC  
(enter) Continue (title screen)  
N No phone book

You should see the main menu for the modem program:

MASS TRANSFER MAIN MENU

: Options Buffer space:  
: [R] Reconfigure modem port  
: [C] Clear down load buffer, etc.

**PROBLEM:** You do not have a menu you have a blank screen.

**SOLUTION:** Type (FCTN 7) to return to the Mass Transfer main menu.

**STEP 2: DAILING YOUR FRIEND**

Be sure your modem is on and then type the following entries:

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
L Line Feed (ON)  
(enter) Blank screen for  
typing modem commands  
and conversations.

The calling person ONLY types:  
ATDT 3334444 (enter)

ATDT must be in caps. Substitute the phone number of your friend for the 3s and 4s above. You may hear the modem dialing the number and the phone ringing. When the other modem answers there is often a short exchange of static. If the connection is successful, you and your friend can now exchange messages.

**PROBLEM:** Your cursor does not move as you type ATDT.

**SOLUTION:** Be sure your modem is on and connected to computer.

**STEP 3: ECHO SETTINGS**

One person ONLY, turns echo monitor ON and echo remote ON.

If you are on the blank conversing screen, press (FCTN 7) to return to the modem main menu, then:

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
E Echo submenu  
1 Echo Remote (ON)  
3 Echo Monitor (ON)  
(enter) Back to main menu  
(enter) Blank screen for  
typing modem commands

**STEP 4: CONVERSING**

Now is the time to experiment with real time conversations in print.

This modem connection is not easily disconnected. Going back to the main menu (FCTN 7) to check or change settings has no effect. Picking up the phone puts random letters on the screen but does not disconnect. I have even turned off my TI computer (NOT the modem) and found the connection still good after restarting mass transfer.

**PROBLEM:** Each new line types over the old line.

**SOLUTION:** Set LINE FEED to ON. Press (FCTN 7) to return to the main menu. (L) for Line feed ON. (enter) to return to conversing.

**PROBLEM:** Double letters are typing on the screen.

**SOLUTION:** Be sure that only ONE person has Echo Remote ON and Echo Monitor ON.

**PROBLEM:** One person cannot type, or one person can see incoming message but not the letters they are typing.

**SOLUTION:** Be sure that Echo remote is ON AND Echo Monitor is ON also. (for ONE person only)

**STEP 5: TRANSFERRING FILES**

Now the fun begins. You can send letters to each other, or files you need corrected. Here's how.

FILE TRANSFER SET-UP

Separate directions are given below for the sending person and the receiving person. Both people have to complete their setup before the file will transfer.

**SUGGESTION ...** Send ONE FILE at a time until you have the settings correct. The program makes multiple attempts to send each file which can lead to long wait times if the settings are wrong.

**SUGGESTION ...** It can take a minute for the sending person to select the file to transfer. So the receiving person can expect a short wait before a file arrives.

**THE SENDING PERSON ONLY:**

The sending person, put the floppy with the files to be transferred into drive 2 and then type the following commands:

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
(FCTN 7) Return to main menu  
M Multiple Xmodem Trnsf  
S Send  
1 Xmodem  
2 (enter) Drive number with  
files to transfer.  
Arrow Move up or down  
(Enter) Mark file to transfer  
(FCTN 6) Page through files  
(FCTN 6) Proceed (Once at  
bottom of file list)  
Wait and watch file go over.

After files transfer is complete, press (Enter) to return to conversation mode.

**THE RECEIVING PERSON ONLY:**

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
(FCTN 7) Return to main menu  
M Multiple Xmodem Trsf  
R Receive  
2 (enter) Drive number with  
formatted floppy disk  
Wait and watch file come over.

After files transfer is complete, press (enter) to return to conversation mode.

To see if the files are on your floppy disk:

TYPE TO SELECT

-----  
(FCTN 7) Return to main menu  
F Files (catalog disk)  
2 Drive with the files  
(enter) Return to main menu  
(enter) Go to conversing mode

**PROBLEM:** You are stuck or want to go back to the conversation screen.

**SOLUTION:** Press (FCTN 4) then (enter) to cancel the send or receive process and return to blank conversation screen.

**PROBLEM:** File does not transfer.

**SOLUTION:** Go back to conversing mode to verify a good connection. Then start over. Be sure one person has echo remote ON. Also selecting Xmodem is important.

Once you have a single file transferred, multiple files are easy. Mark each file to be sent and the program will sent the files over one right after the other.

**STEP 6: QUITTING**

On the blank command/conversation screen, one person types AT H to break the phone connection.

Press (FCTN 7) to return to the main menu. Press (FCTN =) to quit. Type Y for yes when asked if you are sure you want to quit.

We hope you enjoy using your modem. Give us a call from your modem at (714) 898-2894.

## AND SO FORTH #48

By Earl Raguse

### STRING HANDLING WORDS

WARNING! WARNING! This article is not complete, and will be continued next month. The string words presented here are somewhat different from some of the string words I have written about in the past. As a result of letters from Lutz Winkler (see ASF#45 Feb 90 ROM) and some of the Zen Forth (Forth 83) words (see ASF#46 Mar 90 ROM) plus some recent letters from Val Mehling of the Long Island Tiers, I have come up with a compendium of what I consider to be an adequate number of words to handle any string requirement, that I can think of. Lutz had two sets of words, one for counted strings and one without. Lutz stored the count in another variable. Zen Forth uses counted and packed strings. A packed string, if you recall has the character count packed in the first byte.

Counted strings are nice some times, but a pain at other times. For instance if you wish to concatenate two or more strings, you must pay special attention to the first bytes. Actually what you need to do is sum up all the first bytes, and put the sum in the first byte of the new string. However, you must also get rid of the first bytes of all but the resulting string. In the following, I provide for inputting strings as uncounted strings, and use a word LEN# when we need the character count. I also have provided a word PACK# which will PACK the string length count in the first byte to make a PACKed string if you wish. Packed and counted strings are the same, I use either term depending on which aspect I am discussing, the packing or the count.

There is a string concatenation word &, but it does not work on PACKed strings. I also didn't get around to writing an UNPACK word, because its so easy, one would just use COUNT, store the length in a variable say LEN, then use CMOVE to copy the string to the original address overwriting the length byte.

There is a string comparison word COMP#, also a string segment word SEG#, string centering words CENT# and .CENT, and GET# and GET# for getting strings and numbers from the keyboard. MOV# will move a string from one address to another. POS# will find the position of one string in another, using COMP#. There are several string typing words, TT, TT#, TTC, and TT& which execute -TRAILING TYPE along with words to get the number of characters to type. TT expects it on the stack, TT# uses LEN# to get it, and TTC uses COUNT to get the packed count, and TT will print two strings concatenated.

In addition, there are the words (see ASF#42 Sep 89 ROM) CLRPAD to clear the PAD to receive a string, ACCEPT\_AT (AA) to read a line from the CRT, and WL which will write a line to the CRT and TYPSCR to put text from a screen on the CRT. There is also PUT, I previously wrote about PUT, (in ASF#43, Oct 89 ROM) which which can PUT the text of a complete (or partial) screen on the CRT in a wink. Its much faster than TYPSCR, but not as easy to use. The latter two are good for putting instructions and/or menus on the CRT.

It is not my intention to try to cover all these words in this article, to do that would require a very cursory description. I will give you only Screens #40 and #48 this time, Screens #49 thru #51 will be next time. That

way I can describe them in more detail.

Screen #48, CLRPAD, just writes 90 BLANKS to the PAD, so you can temporarily hold a string there, say from ACCEPT\_AT (or AA) or GET#.

AA expects a character count, a CRT row and a column all on the stack, after CLRPAD, SWAP exchanges row and column, so that row can be multiplied by 40 and added to column to get the location in the SIT (Screen Image Table) as previously discussed. PAD ROT puts the data in the right order for VM8R (Video Multi Byte Read), which is an assembly language word for reading data from the SIT. (see ASF#42, Sep 1989 ROM and Robbie's Screen Dump program, Sept 88 ROM).

WL is very similar, but uses VMBW (Video Multi Byte Write) to write the data to the SIT, (ie a CRT line number).

TYPSCR uses the Forth word .LINE in a DO LOOP. The word .LINE expects a line number and a screen number on the stack. See TIFM Appendix D p7. The words between DO and .LINE just use the loop index I to place the correct line numbers for .LINE on the stack and for AT to put the cursor in the right place for .LINE.

Screen #48 is just the advertisement for Screens #49-51. Screens #40 and #48 are normally loaded by Screen #49. If you load Screen #48, you will get a quick demo of PUT. Notice the :S on line 1. this is to stop the compiler from reading the rest of the screen.

C U next time. May the Forth be with U.

```
SCR #40
# ( VMBR/VMBW STUFF #1 EGR 8/30/89) FC IT : ## ;
1 : CLRPAD PAD 8# BLANKS ;
2 \ Get u length string at r c, store @ PAD
3 : ACCEPT_AT ( u r c -) CLRPAD SWAP
4 \ 40 * - PAD ROT VMBR ;
5 : AA ACCEPT_AT ;
6 \ This writes the PAD on lined
7 : WL ( lined -)
8 \ PAD SWAP 40 * 40 VMBW QUIT ;
9 \ This types # screen to CRT
10 : TYPSCR ( #) CR CLS 16 # DO I \ types screen
11 \ SWAP DUP ROT SWAP 3 \ of # found
12 \ 1 3 : AT .LINE LOOP CR ; \ on the stack
13 : .M1 CLS
14 11 10 AT ." THIS IS ACCEPT AT"
15 11 12 AT ." READ SCREEN #40-41" ;
```

```
SCR #48
# \ STRING WORDS ## EGR 3/20/90
1 48 2 15 PUT ;S \ print lines 6-15 of #48
2 The following string words are now
3
4 being loaded for your use.
5
6 GET# GET# COMP# LEN# CENT#
7
8 SEG# PACK# MOV# POS# .CENT
9
10 PUT TT TT# TTC TT& AA WL
11
12 CLRPAD and TYPSCR
13
14 See screens #40 and #48 - #52
15
```