TI WORLD AND LOCAL NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

TI NEWS

SOMETHING IS BREWING IN ARIZONA!

As some of you may know, Tom Pfeffer and his partner,Jeff Adams have started their own business. **"BREWERS CONNECTION"** is the name and it is located east of the southeast corner of Baseline and McClintock in Tempe. A friend and myself stopped by there a couple of weeks ago, as I had a letter I needed to give to Tom.

I was amazed at the amount of equipment you can get to brew your own lager! Tommy tells me that they carry 25 different varietys of hops, 30 different grains and 20 different brewing yeasts.

I was also told that eight kinds of Irish malts are on the way. Tom stated that a person can brew their own lagers and ales and produce beer that has a flavor like Dutch, English, Australian & German brews, among others. A Brewing Starter Kit is sold for only $35.99 which includes:

    CARBOY (fermenter)
    Syphon System
    Bottle Capper
    Hydrometer
    Bottling bucket
    Fermentation Lock
    How-To Book

Tom also said that a Mail-Order catalog will be out soon. Call (602)-839-1171 or stop by or write to:

BREWERS CONNECTION
1847 E. Baseline Rd.
Tempe, AZ 85283

MICROpendium

In the August 1993 issue of MICROpendium John Koloen states that if you can't afford $35, pay $25. Think about this for a moment. Here is a magazine publisher allowing his subscribers to pay LESS if they can't pay the extra $10. How many other publishers would even think of such a thing? I've got your answer - NONE.

So if you're in the chips, return the favor by sending in 36 or 37 dollars instead of 35, just to show John and Laura that we appreciate them and MICROpendium.

We would NEVER had made it this far without them.

INSIDE INFORMATION	
ITEM	**PAGE**
Secretarys Slate	2
KIP (KeyIn Program)	3
arTIcle	3
Editors Desk	4
Want Ads	5
Member Profile	5

SECRETARYS SLATE

MINUTES

VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP

SEPTEMBER 11 1993

The September 11, 1993 meeting of the VAST User Group was called to order by president Ralph Rees at 10:02. As usual, the meeting was held in the Green Room. There were 13 people in attendence.

Ralph started up the meeting by displaying a rough draft of the VAST newsletter. Ed Morse did not make it to the meeting and so the newsletters had to be mailed this month. There was no formal treasurers report given either.

Ralph explained that there are a few things he's changing and that the newsletter format was one of them. He also stated that the minutes would again be published in the newsletter. Ralph mentioned that the minutes are a good way for VAST members that could not attend a meeting to keep up with what is going on.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM

Ralph then asked for a volunteer to chair the program committee. The club had gotten away from using chairmen and a planned demo and Ralph wants to return to past ways. Mike Scheller has stepped forward to volunteer. Future demos will include Mugboot, TI-Writer, Merge Format and a piece of peripheral hardware known as the Gramkracker.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter was the next topic discussed at length. Ralph is now the editor. He would really love to get some articles written by VAST members! You can submit them on the BBS. Please use a 28 character column format(Ralph does not want to have to retype every article).

LIBRARY

The library was the next item of conversation. Ralph asked for a volunteer to send a copy of the Page Pro artwork to Charles Good. Ralph is hopeful that Micropendium will then run a review of the artwork in an upcoming edition. Also of note for the library was the reduction in cost of a disk full of programs. The cost has been reduced to $1.00.

BBS

The BBS was the next topic. A lengthy discussion was held about the physical location of the BBS and who has control over it. It was suggested that a "backup" sysop be appointed in case Mike or Jim are unavailable. Ralph volunteered to learn how to run the BBS program. He said that he would speak to Mike about it.

Ralph also stated that the older files that Ray had wanted to remove from the BBS would stay unless there was a space problem on the BBS. With the amount of programs being uploaded, Ralph stated that this would be highly unlikely

KEY IN PROGRAM

Use the following program to print your own graph paper.

```
100 ! ×××××××××××××××××××××
    ×         GRAPH        ×
    × from ERIE 99'er      ×
    × Newsletter, May 93×
    ×××××××××××××××××××××
!138
110 E$=CHR$(27)!157
120 A$=RPT$(CHR$(128),228)!0
52
130 B$=RPT$(CHR$(255)&SEG$(A
$,1,6),8)!145
140 B$=RPT$(B$&CHR$(255),4)!
234
150 A$=E$&"K"&CHR$(228)&CHR$
(0)&A$ !202
160 B$=E$&"K"&CHR$(228)&CHR$
(0)&B$ !204
170 OPEN #1:"PIO.CR" !195
180 FOR I=1 TO 11 !106
190 PRINT #1:E$;"e";E$;"3";C
HR$(24)!096
200 FOR J=1 TO 8 !064
210 PRINT #1:B$;B$;CHR$(10)!
234
220 NEXT J !224
230 PRINT #1:A$;A$;E$;"3";CH
R$(2)!132
240 NEXT I !223
250 PRINT #1:RPT$(CHR$(13)&C
HR$(10),9)!226
260 PRINT #1:E$;"e" !109
```

SHAKESPEARE On the TI99-4A

Ed Machonis - QB-99'ers

UPON BLOWING HIS
LAST BACK-UP DISK:

*"If you have tears,
prepare to shed them now."*

Julius Caeser, III,2

ARTICLE

BY JIM ELY

Definitions of Electronic Data Processing (EDP) Terms:

Microprogramming – Programming that is done on extremely small computers.

Terminal – The effects of infinite recursion, on a finite machine.

Core Memory – A perishable storage medium made from apple sauce by-products.

Data Bus – Another name for a Fudge-factor bookmobile.

Magnetic Tape – Mylar strips useful for bonding ferrous metals.

Modem – Complement of Mode W.

Printer – A person hired to transfer worthless documents onto semi-precious paper, which in turn, effectively transforms the semi-precious paper's value below that of scratch paper.

Card Reader – A Middle-aged Gypsy usually found just across state lines.

Card Punch – A Bland liquid refreshment often served after floods in large EDP centers.

Disk Pack – Type of mustard plaster helpful in cases of back injury resulting from falling over backward in a chair after realizing that you have just accidentally erased G months of work from your system...... without a backup in sight.

"MINUTES" continues

Older programs and files are great for new VAST members and so they will remain.

PUBLICITY

VAST publicity was the next topic. Mike Scheller and Gene Gipson volunteered to become co-chairmen of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Under the heading of new business, Ralph asked the members about buying an assortment of programs from Asgard to help assist him putting the VAST newsletter together. The vote was taken thereafter & was unanimously accepted.

Mike Scheller asked if anyone in the group has any old exchange newsletters that they would be willing to part with. He wants to catalog them and reprint some of the older, more interesting articles.

Also coming under new business, Tom reminded the membership that October is the nomination month for our November VAST club election. Candidates are needed for all positions.

RAFFLE

Next up was the raffle. Gene Gipson agreed to remain chairman of the VAST raffle committee. Members present unanimously agreed to allow Gene to purchase some new software from Asgard to use as prizes. It was also stipulated that the winner would have to do a demo of the big prize at the next meeting.

After a brief Q & A period, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02. After a short break, Ralph demonstrated the use of Menubuilder and Archiver.

Respectfully Submitted.
Tom Pfeffer
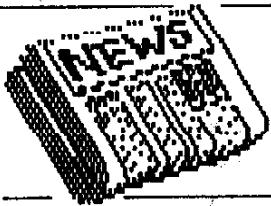Secretary/Treasurer

VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP

from the EDITOR'S DESK

Please note that attached to this issue is a questionaire that I would like members to fill out and hand back in at the meeting OR fold, staple and then mail back to the group PO box. The back cover is pre-addressed, so just apply postage and mail.

Inside this issue you will find the Secretarys Slate on page 2, which are the groups minutes from September. On page 3 there is a short Key-In Program(KIP) that enables you to print your own graph paper. It is supposed to be Epson compatible. Page three also has an arTIcle submitt-ed by Jim Ely on EDP terms. Read it and get some laughs. Page 5 contains the Editor's Desk, Want Ads and a Member Profile. Mike Scheller sub-mitted it & another article, which I will run next month. Jim Ely submitted a VAST BBS tutorial which I will also start next month. THANKS TO BOTH OF YOU! Maybe a trend?

Don't forget that at this meeting we take nominations for all elected positions. I'm going to need a member to act as nomination chair. THAT'S ALL FOLKS!   r.r.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE:
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS PERIPHERAL EXPANSION BOXES These PE boxes have been COMPLETELY disassembled by and throughly cleaned and tested.

Each box contains:
T.I. Interface card/cable.
T.I. Disk Controller Card.
T.I. 32K Memory Card.
SS/SD Disk Drive.

In addition to the above, I have reversed the cooling fan to help quiet the noise generated by it and added a shroud around the fan guard to increase cooling.

PRICE: $125.00 per box

TRADE:
I am collecting TI and 3rd party command modules. Ask for my list and maybe we can trade duplicates and make each other happy.

Ralph E. Rees
18815 North 13th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ. 85027
602-869-8145

NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 13TH

MEMBER PROFILE

Hello, my name is Michael Scheller and I have been a member of VAST for 4 years. I'm married; wife's name is Gerri. We've been married for 15 years & have the normal American dream,ie,house, children(2 boys,14 & 12), 3 dogs, 2 cats, fish aquarium, 2 lovebirds and ocassionally a critter typical to the southwest.

I was born in New Jersey, the "Garden State", but we from NJ remember the swamps and chemical factories. I've had many jobs which include, police officer, probation officer, sales, insurance, teacher, secretary, truck driver, welder, landscaper, DIVER, demolitions and when in the Army worked the NO BODY CARES field(NBC-Nuclear Biological and Chemical). I have been in and out of the Army since 1965 and have dealt with the active. guard , reserve and inactive components. My current occupation is nursing. I work for the State of Symington,State prison at Florence.

I got involved with the TI as a cheap means for having our kids beat/break it and then get a better machine.So with dumb luck, I stumbled into this kicking, screaming , beratting and yes cursing at this orphan. After contacting VAST Through TI,here I've been learning and using this "toy".
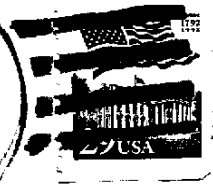
My system consists of the standard TI components, but I recently acquired a Geneve and I'm playing with it more and more. The only full priced item that I own is a printer. It's an Epson 5000 and it will do everything, even windows!

Here is my contribution to keeping VAST alive and kicking.....NEXT!!!

Mike Scheller
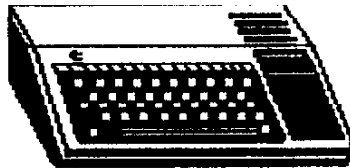1379 W. Iris Place
Casa Grande, AZ. 85222
1-602-421-0282

VAST NEWS
c/o VAST USERS GROUP
P.O. Box 25576
Tempe,AZ. 85252-5576

PHOENIX, AZ
OCT 18 PM 1993
85

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
Please be sure our
correct address is
in your files!

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

VAST USERS GROUP INFORMATION

The
VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP
is a support group for the
Texas Instruments TI-99/4A
Home Computer and Geneve.

CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Ralph Rees........869-8145
VICE PRESIDENT
VACANT...........000-0000
SECRETARY/TREASURER
Tom Pfeffer.......940-1629
LIBRARIANS
The Knights.......938-5446
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Ralph Rees........869-8145
BBS SYSOP
Mike Grogan.......233-4315

Send any correspondence
to the address above.

The
VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP
operates a BBS 24 hours a
day, 7 days a week. the
phone number is:

(602) 233-0790

ADVERTISING: There is no
charge to paid members for
PERSONAL advertising. Non-
members will be charged at a
cost of $1.50 per ad.

NEWLETTER EXCHANGE:
We exchange newsletters
with many TI Users Groups.
Contact Our secretary.

Opinions expressed herein
are those of the writer and
not necessarily those of the
VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP

VAST USERS GROUP QUESTIONAIRE

Please fill out the follow-ing questionaire and either bring to the next meeting or mail to our post office box.
Add additional comments or suggestions on a seperate piece of paper as you see fit.
The questionaire is a way for the group to serve YOU better and possibly a way for YOU to serve the group also. Please be prompt on returning them.

Thanks!

Ralph...

1. No. of home computers:

OWN   USE

a. TI99/4A consoles ____   ____

b. Version 2.2   ____   ____

c. Non-TI (Identify)_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Use a computer at work?___

If so, identify _____

_____

_____

_____

3. Use the following at home

a. Bare console & modules ___

b. Above & tape drive   ___

c. TI PE box   ___

d. NON-TI Expansion(specify)

_____

_____

_____

4. Use the following for your TI:

a. 32K memory expansion   ___

b. 104 - 128K memory   ___

c. 192 - 256K memory   ___

d. 512K or more memory   ___

Identify manufacturer_____

_____

5. How many floppy drives?:

a. None   ___

b. One   ___

c. Two   ___

d. Three or more   ___

5A. How many hard drives and/or RAMdisks:

a. None   ___

b. Hard drives   ___

c. RAMdisks   ___

6. Disk drive configuration:

a. None ___

b. SS/SD ___

c. DS/SD ___

d. DS/DD ___

e. DS/QD ___

Identify Disk controller
manufacturer

_____

7. Use a modem?:

a. None ___

b. 300 baud ___

c. 1200 baud ___

d. 2400 baud ___

Identify manufacturer: ___

_____

8. Why not use the VAST BBS
8. more?:

a. No modem ___

b. Problem with my modem ___

c. Problem with program ___

d. Undetermined cause ___

e. Not interested ___

f. Lack of time ___

g. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____

_____

9. Terminal Emulator Used:

a. TELCO ___

b. Mass Transfer ___

c. FastTerm ___

d. TE-II ___

e. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____

_____

10. Type of printer owned:

a. None ___

b. Epson/TI Impact ___

c. Gemini ___

d. Star Micronics ___

e. Panasonic ___

f. OKidata ___

g. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____

11. Primary use of printer:

a. None ___

b. Program aid (listings, catalogs,etc.) ___

c. Print-outs (file records) ___

d. Word Processing ___

e. Graphics ___

f. Printer software used most (e.g. TI-Writer, TI-Artist,Multiplan,etc:

_____

_____

_____

12. Priorities you expect from VAST:

a. Information about new software/hardware. ___

b. Seeing program demos & tutorials. ___

c. Obtaining software ___

d. Exchanging ideas for problems. ___

e. Enjoy companionship at VAST. ___

f. Other (specify): ___

_____

_____

_____

A
JURASSIC PARK
ESCAPEE

13. Which aspects of meetings should be improved most?

a. Current schedule is inconvenient. ___

b. Insufficent advance notice. ___

c. Too much business vs. program. ___

d. Demos are too basic for me. ___

e. Demos are over my head. ___

f. Not enough help for what I need. ___

g. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____

_____

14. I am able to contribute myself by:

a. Giving/writing a program demo. ___

b. Helping bring and/or set up equipment. ___

c. Help in newsletter production. ___

d. Help with our raffle. ___
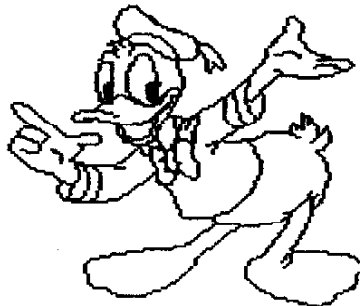
e. Other (specify): ___

_____

_____

GET ACTIVE!

15. I use the VAST NEWS Newsletter:

a. To read and discard each issue. ___

b. To Keep and use as needed. ___

c. To type in programs that appear. ___

d. To try hardware modifications ___

e. To see who has what what for sale. ___

f. To learn from tutorials. ___

g. VAST NEWS best feature is:

_____

_____

_____

h. VAST NEWS biggest problem is:

_____

_____

_____

don't DUCK your duty!

mail your questionaire TODAY!

16. The VAST Software Library is:

G
R   G
E   O
A   O   O
T   K   S

a. Program Quality ___ ___ ___

b. Program Quantity ___ ___ ___

c. Availibility ___ ___ ___

d. Info. about it ___ ___ ___

e. Current ___ ___ ___

f. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____

_____

17. Where do you think that VAST'S spending priorities should be placed?:

a. Bulletin Board System ___

b. Newsletter ___

c. Software Library ___

d. Equipment upgrades ___

e. Extra meetings ___

f. Publicity for recruitment ___

g. Other (specify) ___

_____

_____
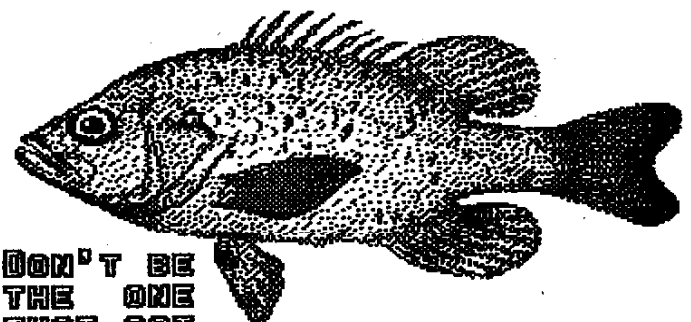
_____

18. I run/use these program
    languages:

a. TI console basic   ___

b. TI Extended basic   ___

c. Editor/Assembler   ___

d. Upgraded Xbasic   ___

e. Other (specify)   ___

_____

_____

_____

19. The program areas I use
    most are:

a. Word Processing   ___

b. Spreadsheets   ___

c. Games   ___

d. Education   ___

e. Programming techniques   ___

f. Graphic Arts   ___

g. Home Record Keeping   ___

h. Genealogy   ___

i. Music & Sound Demos   ___

j. Data Base Management   ___

K. Other (specify)   ___

_____

_____

_____

Use the area provided below
for comments or suggestions.

_____

_____

_____

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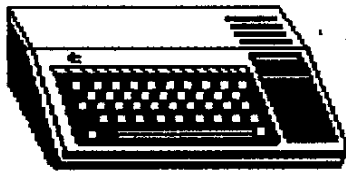_____

_____

_____

_____

ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?

DON'T BE THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY........MAIL TODAY!

FROM:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

VAST NEWS QUESTIONAIRE
P.O. BOX 25576
Tempe, AZ. 85252-5576

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Home Computer and Geneve.

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PRESIDENT
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VICE PRESIDENT
VACANT............000-0000
SECRETARY/TREASURER
Tom Pfeffer.......940-1629
LIBRARIANS
The Knights.......938-5446
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Ralph Rees........869-8145
BBS SysOp
Mike Grogan.......233-4315

Send any correspondence
to the address above.

The
VAST COMPUTER USERS GROUP
operates a BBS 24 hours a
day, 7 days a week. the
phone number is:

(602) 233-0790

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PERSONAL advertising. Non-
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