



West Penn 99'ers



Supporting the TI-99/4A Home Computer

Established 1985

ISSUE #94
FOR THE RECORD
by Frank N. Zic

Mickey started the June meeting promptly & at 7:???. Yes, there was a late start. She started with accolades for Ralph Vasco for his fine editorial efforts and to all who have turned in articles for the newsletter. Lynn Gardner gave a favorable Treasurer's report. Bob Sa-dusky said that Ver.5.0 of FNLWEB, "Ultimate Accept At" and a complete 40 & 80 column set of Martin Smoley's TI-Base were available at the low, low price of just \$10.00. Under old business; Re-inking of printer ribbons is a slightly messy but profitable endeavor, thanks Art. Mickey's cassette booklet has gone international in requests. New business; Two Lima tapes have arrived. John Whelan will now handle the task of bringing in the back-up TI system and Richard Ohi will take care of dispensing the video tapes. Gateway Publishing has been placed on our mailing list. We all look forward to seeing how they incorporate our newsletter. Mickey went over the For Sale items in the front of the room and Art Gardner covered the items in the back of the room.

Norm Rokke next covered the May MICROpendium: P's 5 & 25 the RXB evolution, p8 Regena's

JULY 1003

"International Code Flags", p12
"Sorting Out Sorts" (Ex-tended Basic Update), p 23
Micro-Reviews, p24 Panda Box and p29 Media Ware Software. Something &very, &very unusual happened at the meeting, it was captured on film for posterity, I had a severe coughing spell over it, but I said I would not write about what it was in this report. Folks, ya just gotta come to the meetings to believe it all. Next the raffle was held. Prizes were: a silver marking pen, a neat &flat 10 disk Travel Mate and a copy of the Living Tomb. The game was first demoed by, guess who, Mickey. Norm mentioned that Ver. 8.14F of Ros for Horizon Ram Disks has been released. John Kline brought in some of his on-going work with Page Pro, a large note book with samples of many fonts. He also brought in a sample of the "National Association of Retired Federal Employees Newsletter" that he has been the Editor of for 9 years. Nice work, John. Paul, to bad you missed seeing these items. We hope Evlynn is feeling better. We next discussed what outside projects were being worked on by using our TI computers. Mickey asked that we each bring in samples of our work to the next meeting. That should cover it for now. May the good 4's be with you.

BEGINNER 'S CORNER

By Lore Arens

of the BC 99'ers Users Group

A little bit of history first:

My name is Lore Arens. I got my first TI-99/4A in October of 1983. It consisted of a keyboard, cassette player, B/W TV and Blasto. This was it until March of 1992, when I placed an ad in our local Buy 'N' Sell looking for a User Group for the TI. I met Frank Schmidt and joined the BC 99'ers Users Group, AND HAVE NEVER LOOKED BACK. I now own 3 complete systems in various stages of upgrade.

This column, each month, will have some information for the other beginners on how to upgrade or what to look for when upgrading.

THIS MONTH: THE COLOR MONITOR

There are a number of things to watch out for when purchasing a color monitor for your TI-99/4A.

If you want 40 columns: you need an ANALOG COMPOSITE COLOR MONITOR
If you want 80 columns: you need an ANALOG RGB MONITOR, not digital
If you want both 40/80: you need an ANALOG RGB/COMPOSITE COMBINATION MONITOR

PLEASE NOTE: Your best bet is to stick with a TI Color Monitor (like I have) or a Commodore 1702-1902 or the newer 1084.

See you next month.

Lore

Editor's Note: (from the BC 99'ers Users Group), A monitor with both Analog RGB and Composite Color input ports is, to the best of my knowledge, never actually required. It is true that some 80 column devices will support both however, and so allow one to purchase the monitor prior to the 80 column device, or vice-versa. In such an instance, a monitor with a combination of inputs can come in handy. Further; a combination of inputs would allow one to share a single monitor between several dis-similar TI systems, as well as VCR and camcorder equipment.

FREE SOFTWARE CATALOGS

Anyone interested in obtaining a free software catalog from MS Express Software should write to:

MS Express Software
P.O. Box 498
Richmond, Ohio 43944

FREE SOFTWARE CATALOGS

Anyone interested in obtaining a free software catalog from MS Express Software should write to:

Notung Software
7647 McGroarty Street
Tujunga, California 91042

HELP A FELLOW TI'ER OUT!

Stanculescu Marin is looking for educational software on cassette for his 8 year old boy. Anyone interested in helping this man out should write to:

Stanculescu Marin
Str. Ciuruleasa, Nr. 3
Cod 75445, Sect. 4, O.P. 7
Bucuresti -- Romania

Note: He DOES NOT have a disk system, nor 32K in any format.

NEW CLUB ADDRESS

Effective immediately - all club correspondence and newsletter exchange should be sent to the following address:

West Penn 99'ers

C/O Mickey Cendrowski
R.D. 1 Box 133
Russellton, Pa 15076

WEST PENN 99'ERS CLUB INFORMATION

NEXT MEETING DATE: JULY 20, 1993
MEETING LOCATION: PENNS WOODS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
JUST OFF ROUTE 30
N. HUNTINGDON, PA
TIME OF MEETING: 7:00 P.M.

LIST OF WEST PENN OFFICERS FOR 1993

PRESIDENT: MICKEY 412-265-5201
VICE PRESIDENT: NORM 614-264-6442
TREASURER: LYNN 412-835-4304
RECORDING SEC: FRANK 412-751-6065
CORRESPONDING SEC: PAUL 412-478-2754
LIBRARIAN: BOB 412-863-5672
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: RALPH 412-379-8762

GENERAL ITINERARY OF THE CLUB'S MEETING

6:45 P.M. DOORS OPEN
7:00 P.M. GENERAL MEETING
7:45 P.M. DEMOS AND NEW INFO
9:45 P.M. ONE ON ONE HELP
9:45 P.M. SOCIALIZING
11:00 P.M. DOORS CLOSE

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS MONTH

LATEST T.I. NEWS AND SOFTWARE DISCOUNTS
"NEW SOFTWARE" FROM MS EXPRESS SOFTWARE
"FORM SHOP" - DEMO BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI
"G. A. P." - DEMO BY MICKEY CENDROWSKI
USING YOUR TI - DEMO BY VARIOUS MEMBERS
FATHER AND SON PROJECTS - JOE & ROB EKL

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

\$15.00 PER YEAR FOR INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY
\$10.00 PER YEAR FOR ONLY OUR NEWSLETTER

PRINTER HEAD CLEANING

By Chuck Reinhard

of the Long Island 99'ers Users Group

It takes only three things to get good, dark print from your printer:

1. A properly adjusted printer
2. A good ribbon
3. A clean print head

The guide for the fine printer wires gradually gets clogged with a mixture of lint, ink, and oils from the ribbon. As this dirt builds up and dries out, the pin wires drag in the guide. The result is that you get light, low contrast print even from a new ribbon. The following is a procedure for cleaning the print head that is quick, simple, and does not require removal of the head.

Obtain an aerosol can of COLOR TV CLEANER (RADIO SHACK 164-2320) or equivalent. Make sure that the label states that it contains silicone, that it will not harm plastic and that it has a plastic tube to plug into the spray nozzle.

Power off the printer. Leave the paper in the printer, but remove the ribbon. Gently move the print head to the middle of the carriage.

Cut a two-inch square from a lint-free cotton handkerchief. Fold the cut cloth over on top of itself a couple of times until it is about the width of your printer ribbon and about 4 layers.

Insert the cloth into the print head exactly where the ribbon was, between the pin guide and the ribbon shield. The cloth should not fit too tight.

Insert the tube into the aerosol spray cap. Put the end of the tube in contact with the cloth next to the pin guide of the print head and give a short quick press to wet the cloth.

Turn on the printer and send a page of print to the printer (selftest can be used). Now move the cloth a little to one side so that you have a clean spot. It maybe necessary, to give the cloth another shot of fluid and print out another page.

Remove the cloth from the print head and print a page (without the ribbon). If you see any printing on the paper, put the cloth back into the print head and repeat the whole process until the page prints clean.

Finally, install the ribbon and enjoy the improved print.

FUNNELWEB "BUG" - VERSION 5.0

By Harry Hoffman

of the Cleveland Area TI-99/4A Users Group

I bought FunnelWeb some time ago and was not very impressed until updating to 2 DSDD disk drives. Then along came the Horizon Ram Disk, which made using FunnelWeb a joy to behold! At Lima, the version 5.0 of the editor portion became available. Several of our club members picked one up and installed it in place of the old version. It has a very serious quirk, in that it locks up the computer when exiting the editor. If anyone knows a way around this, please let us in on it!

FIRST DRAFT "BUG" - VERSION 2.0

By Harry Hoffman

of the Cleveland Area TI-99/4A Users Group

First Draft Version 2.0 also came out in Lima and we found a bug in this also. Someone said that it may need the operator to install his own printer driver, but this has proved difficult to do on our own. So, again we ask for help in accomplishing this task! The program works fine on text files, it is just the graphics that do not print out properly. The only reason that I am including this in the newsletter is to get the word out faster while waiting for answers to this problem from the programmers in the mail.

Thank you for your help if it is forthcoming!!!

Harry Hoffman
Cleveland Area Users Group
3925 Trowbridge Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44109-1349

The President's Two Cents

This month I decided to take a little time off from my "organizing" and concentrate a bit on writing a new piece of software for my software company (MS Express Software).

NOTE: When "INSPIRATION" comes knocking at your door...you take the time to answer!

Catch ya'll next month!

BE HAPPY

Everybody, everywhere
 seeks happiness, it's true
 But finding it and keeping it
 seems difficult to do.
 Difficult because we think
 that happiness is found
 Only in the places where
 wealth and fame abounds
 Unaware that happiness
 is just a state of mind
 Within the reach of everyone
 who takes time to be kind.
 For in making others happy
 we will be happy too.
 For the happiness you give
 away returns to shine on you.
 Pocket Cards, Inc.

Lifted from B.P.O.E.
 newsletter

Ed note; We are double blessed
 as we have the kind of members
 who give demos, give advice
 when you need help, serve on
 elected positions, do reviews
 and newsletter articles, bring
 in the systems, disk and car-
 tridge libraries, refresh-
 ments, do the ribbon reinking
 and bring in the club store.
 The second blessing is we have
 the "MICKEY", "JOHN WILLFORTH"
 and "PEPSI/COKE WAR" fame.

FOR SALE

TI WITH EXPANDED MEMORY AND
 VOICE SYNTHESIZER B/W MAGNAVOX
 MONITOR SANYO PRINTER
 JOHN MCCLAIN 929-7222

PERSONAL PROFILE

RALPH J VASKO

WEST PENN 99ER'S Editor.
 President MID MON COMPUTER
 CLUB. Sec. WACO. VP GPEUG.
 Sec. CHUG. Plain Ordinary
 Member (POM) TROG, BOOTHILL
 USERS GROUP, CATS, PAGE and SW
 PA COMPUTER GROUP. Age 56.
 Wife Charlene died 1972.
 Housemate Judy Muir (raffle
 ticket girl) died 9/92.
 Employed by USX Irvin Works as
 System Repair-man 26 years.
 How I use my computers (Judy
 estimated we had over 100 in
 our collection)? My TI99/4As
 are not set up at this time as
 all of my work is done on the
 MS-DOS systems. ARCHIVE is a
 database program I use for
 the WEST PENN membership,
 Judy's orchid collection and
 VCR tapes. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
 SYSTEM for mailing out our
 church newsletter and member
 listings. QUATTRO for the
 radio pager listing for name,
 phone, department and pager
 number at work. WORD PERFECT
 correspondance and newsletter.
 FAMILY TREE. PROCOMM PLUS for
 telecommunications. LAP-LINK
 PRO for transferring files to
 disks or between computers.
 DAYTIMER for my phone and
 address book and Christmas
 address labels. Also print
 out a year's supply of labels
 for utilities that do not
 supply envelopes to send in
 payments.



WEST PENN 99'ERS

HELP - WANTED!

When I browse through the stacks of News Letters I occasionally come across some one that needs something for their TI. I may not have the answer, but I will try to help as much as I can. I remember the time I knew nothing and the best source was the club. (A big red thing that fits on the stirring wheel)- Users Group is what I am talking about. I can't imagine where I would be today if it were not for West Penn. Anyways this is what I came up with.

In the Feb. 1993 issue of TIC TOC, comes a letter from Bill Gaskill requesting HELP! Send all replays to Bill.

Dear fellow TI owners,

I am trying to verify the existence of the following cartridge titles and would like to hear from anyone who actually owns one in the flesh. If you do, please write to me describing the shape, color, label color, and color of the print on the label and the product number of the cartridge. Any help may be addressed to:

Bill Gaskill
2310 Cypress Court
Grand Junction, Co 81506

01. TI INVESTMENT ANALYSIS module supposedly released in 1979?
02. Imagic DEMON ATTACK (not SUPER DEMON ATTACK) module.
03. Imagic FLAP module announced in Sep. 83 issue of Enthusiast.99
04. Atarisoft JOUST, STAR GATE and SUPER STORM modules.
05. Sierra On-line JAWBREAKER (not Jawbreaker II) module.
06. TI ASC PROTECTION PHM 3063.
07. TI COMPUTER TUTOR PHM 3170.
08. ROMOX CHARACTER CRAYONS.
09. TI NUTRITION ANALYSIS.
10. TI DIAGNOSTIC MODULE PHM 3000 Released in 1979
11. The location of any published announcement detailing the release of the NUMBER READINESS module by Milliken Publishing. I'd like to know what magazine, flyer or official or commercial publication contains this information, and I'd like to know the month and year of the publication.

Thanks,
Bill Gaskill

I wish to give special thanks to Bob Sedusky our librarian, for getting my disk drives running, helping me with my disks. Special thanks to Norm Rokke. The list is endless. I could write and fill the news letter with my appreciation. **Thanks from Paul!!!**

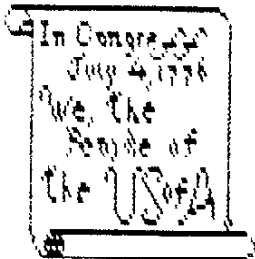
PAUL 'S PAGE

In the Micropendium (READER TO READER) Kin Gladyszewsky.
Address- 6440 ST. Rte. 86
Concord, Ohio 44077

Needs help on how to address the extra input and output bits on the parallel port pins 13 and 14, respectively? I have seen some of his projects, and think that I would like to try them some day. They are FREE! I think that everyone gets the Micro. I was told once that some people don't read there news Letters. I call Mickey when mine is late.

The MUG Newsletter from Penn State, is primarily a PC NL. The only mention of the TI is the Club Information on Page 2. I am not sure if somebody has to send them an artical in order to get some recongnition. Maybe someone could tell me more about their NL.

HAPPY 4th of JULY



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WEST PENN 99'ERS

JULY 1993

WEST PENN 99'ERS

C/O MICKEY CENDROWSKI
R. D. 1 BOX 133
RUSSELLTON, PA 15076

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NEXT MEETING

JULY 20, 1993

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