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Member of the

TX 75229

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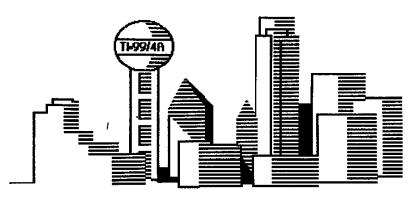
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AS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP







DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 12, Number 6

June. 1992

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, June 20th, 1992 at the Dallas INFOMART I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit

DTIHCG'S JUNE EVENTS

- 5 NEXT-STEP
 - JOJO'S On Stemmons at
 - 1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 5 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 6 Sidewalk Sale
- 20 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
 - Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
 - Time 9:00 am
 - Program: Video of 1991 Chicago TI-Faire
- 21 Father's Day
- 26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 25 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 - Mr. Gatti's
 - Walnut Hill & Marsh Lane
 - Officers: 2:30 pm,
 - Chairpersons at 3:30 pm

DTIHCG'S JULY EVENTS

- 3 NEXT-STEP
 - JOJO'S On Stemmons at
 - 1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
- 4 Sidewalk Sale/Independance Day
- 11 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
 - Program: To be announced...
- 13 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 - Mr. Gatti's
 - Walnut Hill & Marsh Lane
 - Officers: 2:30 pm,
 - Chairrersons at 3:30 pm
- 24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 24 NEXT-STEP
 - JOJO'S On Stemmons at
 - 1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm

Notice: There is only a three-week spread between the June 20th and the July 11th Super Saturday neetings!



Shaking the Bushes By Mattie Bush

This is Shaking The Bushes wishing all of TI FATHERS a very HAPPY FATHER's DAY.

This past month we had a very interesting and delightful program given to us by Dave Axberg. The program was First Base to TI Base. What a program it was and as usual Dave gave it in a way that it was not boring but fun for all. Thanks Dave for a very fun and interesting program and for your time out of your busy schedule to do this for us.

Again we had a very good attendance with about 50 present. Our June meeting will be held by our Vice- President Dan Lowe because I have to be out of town. Dan can't wait to do this, right? The program will be a video on the TI FEST FAIR of CHICAGO 1991. So come on out and see this program and see what our Tl'ers are making and why they are still doing the fairs for us as users. Their is still alot of NEW and interesting things going on out there. Some of the people that have attended the fair this year was Harrison Software with Smart Connect, and Jerry Coffey. Jerry distribtues JP Software and says that he will work with those buyers who have paid but rever received their products from JP Software; in cases like requests the purchaser must send as much information as possible and include photocopies of checks or statements to lerry. Asgard was another one at the fest this year. They have out the improved version of the Asgard Mouse V2.0 and the software as well. There aren't any compatibitilty problems with the program written for the old mouse. Current owners can get new software by returning the mouse disk with \$7.50(includes S & H). You can upgrade to the new mouse by



Shaking the Bushes, continued......

returning the old version, providing it is a serviceable piece, with the adaptor table plus \$15. & \$3. for S & H.

Asgard has released the Mouse Development Package which enables programmers to add support to the mouse programs. So check your Asgard catalog for prices. We do know that Tony McGovern has released V50 of Funnelweb. We are so very thankful that Tony is still doing updates for our TI World of Computering.

The new ALTMAN FAIRWARE LIST is out. The Southwest Ninety-Niners are the ones handling this. I could go on forever with the New things that is out so I'll let you find out for yourself what is New and interesting out there. I suggest that you read some of the other clubs newsletters and see all the wonderful information that they have in them.

Again THANKS to All who still exchange your Newlstters with us. We love reading and keeping in touch with the rest of the TI World of 4A'ers. Again I want to say THANKS to ALL who came out last month to see the program and to visit and talk over new and old things.

I'm sorry that I won't be at this months meeting, but Dan Lowe will handle it perfectly, and I'll miss all of you. So this is Shaking The Bushes signing off once again and I'll see all of you the following month, JULY 11. Keep those faces smiling and Happy Computering to all of you.

Beginner Printer By Jim Lesher



These programs are written on a Star Gemini printer and may or may not work on another brand. These are about the most basic programs for a printer. The printer must first be addressed with the OPEN #1 "PIO". You can use OPEN#2 OR 3 OR 99 as long as you use the same number in the PRINT # line. Notice the character to be printed is in quotes.

This is a demo in "TABS". Notice the "TAB" command is on the same line as the 'PRINT #1:" line. Afteryou see what this program does, lets use our imagination and make other designs, maybe even some pictures. This was an attempt to make a circle but, as you will see it does not quite make it. And that is because the formula used here is for a sine wave and 2 sinewaves does not a circle make. I hope someone will be good enough to send us a program to make a GOOD circle. However if you are an experimenter like me, you will be able to make a lot of interesting designs just by changing any of the numbers in any of the lines will give some surprising results. Have fun! PS: I put the margin setting INPUT so you could use both right and left sides of the sheet. I use zero for the first print then roll the page back up to the top and use 40 for the next one.

10 REM CIRCLE TAB E
20 CALL CLEAR
30 IN PUT "MARGIN ZERO TO 50": M
40 C= 3.1416/180
50 OPEN #1:"PIO"
60 PRINT #1:CHR\$(27);"M";CHR\$(M);

Beginner Printer, continued...



70 FOR G=C1 TO 180 STEP 12 80 K=SIN(G*C)*12 90 PRINT #1:TAB(14-K);"*"; 100 PRINT #1:TAB(K);" *

Send your programs to: Jim Lesher 722 Huntley Dallas Tx 75214



Updating the Database

A big DTIHCG welcome to this month's guest, PHIL MYRO of The Colony. PHIL has been a user and programmer of the 99/4A for several years. We hope he'll become an active member of DTIHCG.

RENEWALS were received this month from several members:
Secretary CHARLICE ALTHAR, Adventure Librarian CHARLES
BROCK, TOM HALL, Diskette Sales Chairman GUY HUNTER,
and Newsletter Editor LISA MORGAN-SHAFFER. While
renewing, TOM and LISA also upgraded their memberships to
FAMILY status. Thanks, all!



The Newsletter Exchange by Mattie Bush

The newsletter exchange is a great way o'keeping in touch with the TI world. It never ceases to amaze me on how and what great wealth of information that is out there. All of the dedicated TI'ers who is so very beneficial to all of the TI world. We as a TI group has been exchanging newsletters actively with other clubs for about 10 years plus. We exchange with about 45 different ones threwout the US and Canada. It would be so very nice to to once again exchange with more of the groups but the costs is getting so very high. Some groups are a hit and a miss venture now. Sometimes we might not hear from a group for several months and then several newsletters will arrive and that is great news, that means that it is still being a group. Then comes the fatal words in the minutes of their meetings... "as a means of cutting expenses, the newsletter exchange will be under review. At our next month's meeting a decision will be made".

The next month comes and you don't get that groups newsletter. You keep sending them your newsletter, since you haven't been told any different. After month and month of not hearing it hits you. They could have at least sent a note telling you that they had made their decision and that would be polite to let you know.

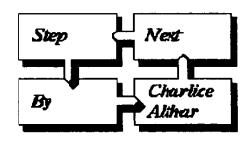
Another thing that I have noticed is the fact that each newsletter seems to have their on flavour. (This month, I will look at a few of the many newsletters we receive.)

If I don't mention the group's newsletter this month, don't be offended. I've got more newsletters in the future so I need to keep some of them for later. There isn't one that has not got

Newsletter exchange, continued

something good and interesting in it. (Well may be this one, or that one (:>) grin.

We keep in touch with the groups so they know that we are still running and up. We as the Dallas TI Home Computer Group would like to keep in touch with as many of our clubs as we can. We are ALIVE and STILL going. These newsletters are a way of showing that the TI world is not dead yet. We still have people working on NEW and interesting things. So lets all stay in touch and KEEP ON COMPUTIN TOGETHER AS A TI WORLD, right world!! Can't wait to get your newsletter. We love you all, so let us hear from YOU.



May's NEXT STEP didn't get reported in our last DALLAS 99 INTERFACE, so this month's report will cover both May and June.

May's meeting had a super turnout. Since the Officers and Chairpersons had not been able to have their usual Executive Committee Meeting that was held in a separate room during the first part of NEXT STEP.



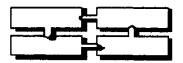
Next Step, continued

We copied some disks that MATTIE had brought along, and JIM LESHER and JIM STEWART showed DAN how to use TURBO-COPY, with an emphasis on the use of FUNCTION 5 in that program. We talked about our Newsletter, and Newsletters from other groups around the country. We looked at the recent Dallas Morning News article about the "QUIGMANS", which is co-authored by MIKE STANFILL. We purchased MICROPENDIUM's from JIM, and MATTIE showed us her postcard from STANCULESCU MARIN in Romania. We admired pictures of past DTIHCG meetings, discussed politics, cussed Molly Ivins, and exchanged thoughts on the D Magazine article on "The Billionaire Boy Scout" and the best ways of dealing with fire ants. We discussed how to catalog disks, and the recent Disk Swap attendance.

It was another great NEXT STEP; we just wish YOU had been with us to enjoy it!

Our June NEXT STEP was held June 6. We had a smaller than usual attendance, probably at least partly due to the fact that the monthly FIRST SATURDAY sidewalk sale was scheduled for the following morning. Since most of our members who attend that event usually are out and around before the sun comes up, it's understandable that they needed an early Friday night!

Since DTIHCG has always focused on quality rather than quantity, our group had a great time—it was about 8:30 when the last of our group bid a goodnight to the nice people at JoJo's. Here are some of the things we did: DAN owned up to MATTIE that



Next Step, continued

he had indeed received his DTIHCG membership card. DAN, CATHERINE, and CHARLICE discussed some of their fun days of camping at Windmill Campground with LYNN NIDIFFER and JOHN FORCE, who recently passed away. We'd not realized until now that we allhad mutual friends! ROBERT JONES traded disks with another member. SEPORIA BURNS and CHARLICE talked about ways of using the 4/A to aid in her summer job search. JIM LESHER set up his system, and along with WILLIE GUPTON, ROBERT JONES, and MATTIE BUSH, checked out some disks for JAMES HOYLE that he got at the Disk Swap. Some of us are (too much!), some didn't, and some table-hopped. JIM and MATTIE collected the money, in the absence of SHARON JOHN HAMJE was shown how to archive an archive programs, and was also helped with the loading/running of some DN80 files and disks he got at the Disk Swap. JIM gave several of us some recent back is sues of COM PUTER SHOPPER Thanks, Jim! TOM HALL brought a color printout from his Star 24-pin color printer, and ROBERT SMITH and CHARLICE exchanged some jokes.

NEXT STEP is still the best place going to get answers to your questions, and learn how to take YOUR "NEXT STEP" in using your TI-99/4A. We hope you'll join us for our next one on Friday, July 3, at JOJO's on Motor St., just east of I-35.



Open Letter by Jim Lesber......

TO THE GUIONS: Louis, Jackie, John and Louis IV

Something I have been wanting to say but, just never got around to it. I have always percieved you just a cut above everyone else in the club, including myself. For years you and family were the bulwark the backlone of the club. Unerringly carrying all that equipment to all the meetings, helping people, giving good advice, not to mention all the work and hours of time you have spent behind the scenes that most of us didn't know about nor appreciate. I am quite sure that many time you have just pushed back and said "is it really worth it?" It takes a special person to be criticized after spending many hours for the club and the members to swallow hard and go on doing favors for anyone who asked. And I know this has happened more than once. It takes a big Man and a big Heart to do that Jackie, I was so happy when I found out you were going to stay with us in the club and help Mattie, your knowledge and experience is sorely needed and appreciated, I want to thank you "The Guion Family" for the years oftoil, sweat and tears for the DTICHG. May the Good Lord bless you and give you the desires of your heart.

Jim

For those of you interested in learning more about Tiger Cub's Nuts & Bolts disks, the club library has a set available for checkout. Please see the software librarian, John Diprima.

John McKechnie

Email from GEnie.....

From BW.MILLER

Beery W. Miller

Sub: John McKechnie's Death

I am attaching a copy of a message sent to me from lim Attril to all TI'ers. Please forward this message to your local newsletter editors and other networks you participate in to spread this info.

Dear Berry,

Thank you for the kind word; in respect to our recent losses. I would not normally make such an announcement, which might otherwise seem so out of context, but I did believe it important for you to understand that I was not merely paying "lip service". A National TI-Echo is a very good idea, and might well determine both how, and who, one can turn to in the coming decade. Lets face it; if a loss of numbers doesn't negate the TI Community, then a lack of communication surely will. I truely wish I could do more.

Unfortunately, I have yet more bad news. Please note that I have not had the opportunity to log onto GEnie for a couple of weeks now though and; as a result; someone may have already passed the following along. If not; I humbly ask that you do whatever may be possible to do so and have tried to organize and word this so as to facilitate your doing this with a minimum of fuss. I further understand you are active on Delphi and so may also have the opportunity to relay this information to that destination. In this regard; perhaps a short note to Jeff Guide would suffice and he could carry the ball from there. I do understand that you are very

John McKechnie	continued
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busy with your own ventures and would not think of imposing upon your time if I had an alternative visable. Regrettably, I am not a member of Delphi and can only guess what the policy on GEnie might be when dealing with such a sensitive subject. One thing I am certain of however; this will cut close to the bone of many users on both services. Whatever you can do.

Sincerly,

Jim

Shortly before midnight, on Tuesday, May 19th, Taxi driver John McKechnie was found dead in his cab on a quiet street in East Vancouver. He had been shot in the head and twice more in the upper torso. As there was no sign of a struggle and all shots came from behind, it is theorized that this may have been nothing more than a "thrill kill". Further, John was found slumped forward over the wheel, with the engine running and his foot still on the gas pedal. He had not been robbed.

Locally; John was best known as a man who would go to great lengths to help anyone with any sort of problem. He was both devoted to family and dedicated to friends. He was very active within his church as well, to the point of organizing functions, handling administrative duties and was a member of the choir. He also had recently modified the church lighting and revired the entire building (to reduce power consumption) and denated the equipment and time to computerize the administration

John McKechnie, continued.....

of same. Further, John volunteered his time to maintain and repair equipment for the Co-op radio station here in Vancouver, as electronics had always been his firstlove.

To the TI Community; John will probably be best remembered for his assistance in solving hardware problems and limitations. He was solely responsible for unearthing the changes required to; use the Super Extended Basic Cartridge in a Widget, and; to allow full use of the editing features of the SEB or the now late John Guion's Multi-Mod Module with the Rave keyboard. He designed a number of circuits for use with the Foundation Memory card, which first brought memory capacity up to 1 Meg, then battery backed the card, then allowed same to function as a Horizon compatable ramdisk with memory backup via a Super Capacitor. Many of John's hardware articles were published in various publications, such as MICROpendium.

To the "man with a modem"; John was known locally for establishing and running the West End Bulletin Board Service (WEBBS) for a number of years. This not only established a dedicated TIBBS in our area; when one did not exist; but really brought the concept of a TI-99 based BBS out of the dark ages. In this regard (as I understand it); John's efforts where instumental in a number of changes being made to the Tex-Link BBS program; to improve Hard Drive support.

On a larger scale, many here on GEnie will have known John as both an inquisitive individual and one who would FIND the answers to their questions, if he did not himself posses them He Jahn McKechnie, continued.....

was named the North West Representative for the TI section on Delphi only a few short years ago and so; many on that service may recognize him as a conference host moderator.

A "small" service was held for John on Thursday, May 31st at Central Presbytenan Church, here in Vancouver, where he had himself attended. I enclose the word "small" in quotes above due to the fact that while this had been the intent, it was not the reality. It has been estimated that as many as 1200 cab drivers were in attendance and the resulting procession of Taxi's would support that figure. Much of the service was devoted to outlining just some of the many people and organizations which John has assisted over the years.

It goes without saying that this was a mindless act of violence, but much harder to understand is; why John McKechnie! We have no answers here. Surely a poorer choice of victim could not be made. We will miss him very much.

PS: As is often the case in the real world, life must go on for those who have been left behind. Such is the case for Patti McKechnie; John's wife of less than two years. While it would be inappropriate for me to provide much detail; suffice it to say that Patti is not

known for her emotional strength and this has had much to do with why John's voice has not been heard much in the TI community over the past year or so. Obviously then; this will be a particularily difficult time for her. In addition; financial burdens were severe before these events occurred and were in fact

John McKechnie, continued.....

responsible for John's decision to return to driving cab. Now the load would seem in surmountable.

This is not to say that Patti will have to go it alone and the hundreds of people who have come forward; to provide various means of assistance; are indicative of the type of man John was. Such friends are never forgotten. Also; a memorial trust fund has been set up by Advance cabs owner Jan Prins, to the benefit of Patti. The B.C. 99'er Users' Group was contemplating a separate collection or fund, but has since elected to contribute to and accept donations on behalf of the existing fund. The reason for this decision is due to a pledge on behalf of the Vancouver Taxi Owners Association, to match whatever amount the existing fund generates.

To those who knew John; and especially to those who may have wordered how they might repay him for all his help. I trust you will not pass up this last opportunity to return the favor. For those who might fall into this catagory, but are unable to contribute for whatever reason; a card, note or letter could mean so much. In the latter case; please direct your mail in care of the B.C. 99'er. Users' Group, so we may monitor Patti's emotional status at the time of delivery. Thank you very much for you time and patience.

The John McKechnie Memorial Fund

C/O

2 West Hastings

OR

C/D

The Bank of Montreal

B. C. 99er Users' Group 216 10th Avenue

Vancouver, B.C.

New Westminister, B.C.

Jahn McKechnie, continued.....

The John McKechnie Memorial Fund

CO

OR

CO

The Bank of Montreal

B.C 99er Users' Group

2West Hastings

21610th Avenue

Vancouver, B.C.

New Westminister B.C.

V3L 2B2

Phone # (604)665-7200

Phone # (604)522-2598

or

o the B.C. 99'er Users' Group
Suite K, 237 West 2nd Street
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7M 1C9
Phone # (604)988-0515

Clecks or money orders should be made payable to the John McKechnie Memorial Fund in all cases. Cards and letters for Patti may be directed to either of the address at the right above, but should clearly indicate the intended recipient so as to avoid unintentional opening.





Edicors Pase

Calling all articles! There are a variety of different ways to get articles for the newletter to me. Here in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex area, you can use Startext -- My mail code is 31257. On GEnie, the mail address is L.M Morgan and on Compuserve it's 73007, 163. Another way is to send a typed article to the club address or to upload it to the club's bulletin board(note: you must be a member to upload private files!), the SPer Connection.

Please send-upload all files in ASCII format. This format does not have any special control codes, it's the easiest file for me to handle. If possible, please allow word wrap to occur rather then pressing enter at the end of each line (the exception being at the end of a paragraph). Also preferred is allowing an extra line between paragraphs and no indentation of paragraphs. These are my preferences but are not absolutes — the bottom line is to write articles, the mechanics of getting the articles into the new sletter can be worked out as needed. Handwritten articles, assuming legible handwriting, are also acceptable. Publication of articles will be dependent on the discretion of the club president (Mattie) and myself. Editing of articles may be done as needed, any need for extensive re-writes will be reviewed with the author. It's difficult to predict when an article will appear in the new sletter, but submitted articles will be published as soon as possible.

One last item, I'm not trying to confuse anyone, but I have kept my maiden name, Lisa Morgan, for professional reasons. On Startext, Compuserve, GEnie and the 99er Connection, the name is Lisa Morgan instead of Lisa Shaffer.

OFFICERS FOR 1992

PRESIDENT	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
TREASURER	SHARON CREVISTON	214-594-0721
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	WILLIE GUPTON	214-375-9575

CHAIRPERSONS FOR 1992

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN	BUTCH SPILL	817-461-6217
MINI-SIG CHAIRMAN	Vacant	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	LISA SHAFFER	817-265-2032
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
CCD REPRESENTATIVES	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
MERCHANDISE/HARDWARE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
D-O-M CHAIRMAN	Vacant	
TELEPHONE COMMITTEE	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	TIM ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEXT STEP CHARMAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
SOCIAL CHAIRMAN	SHARON CREVISTON	214-594-0721

LIBRARIANS

CART/TAPE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
NEWSLETTER LIBRARIAN	DOUGLAS BEIGHTOL	903-989-2673
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-849-6868
ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822

These people are DTIHCG officers and chairpersons. They help themselves and you, by giving much of their time in working to make this a better club for all of us. Most attend the Executive Committee Meeting the Saturday afternoon following the INFOMART meeting. Any interested member is invited to join us for the next Chairperson's portion of the meeting.

Please take the time to thank these people individually for their efforts. It makes their job easier.