

DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 13, Number 11

November, 1993

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, November 20, 1993
at the Dallas INFOMART
I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS

PHONE THE 99ER CONNECTION BBS
24 Hours, 300/1200/2400 Baud
(214) 233-1750



DTIHCG'S NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 5 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
6 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
11 Veteran's Day
20 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
• Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
• Business Meeting @ 9:00 am
• Program: Garage Sale @ 11:00 am
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
1:00 pm
25 Thanksgiving Day
26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



DTIHCG'S DECEMBER EVENTS

- 3 NEXT-STEP
JOJO'S On Stemmons at
1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm
4 Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
11 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
• Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
• Time 9:00 am
• Elections
• Program: To be announced
• 1:00 pm MiniSiG
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Time and Date to be announced
CHRISTMAS PARTY
Time and Date to be announced
21 First Day of Winter
24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day

SHAKING THE BUSHES

On THANKSGIVING DAY, as our TI families gather round tables laden with food and give thanks for the blessings of the past year. In kitchens across the continent women bustle about, preparing turkey, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. This American holiday has been celebrated since the Pilgrims first set aside an occasion to thank God for a plentiful harvest.

But life of the TI-99/4A's has gotten better now. The programmers, authors have produced a harvest that has allowed an increase in their good abilities to further our 4A. Everyone has been enjoying the good wealth of the programs, the hardware and also those who have done such wonderful jobs. Work is still going ahead even though it's death years ago. Everyone is still building the TI community as they go peacefully and safely along, they have made many friends and signed long-lasting friendships across the world.

Because of their good fortune, the TI'ers have taken a holiday on which to be with family and friends "after a more special manner, as they rejoice together".

All TI'ers work together as a community striving to produce products so we will stay ALIVE in the future years to come.

They have wonderful festivals, held in different cities so that TI-99/4A users have a chance to see what has been done. There are games of skill and chance. The entertainment with some of the Fests are just wonderful. There are targets each year and goals made from these groups.

The festivals last 2 or 3 days and then they have a feast at the end gorging themselves on the knowledge and the New hardware and Software that has been shown at these festivals. They also have good food and talk with friends of other countries and cities. These are the NEW future plans being made.

After the first Thanksgiving the custom spread throughout the country, but each region has chosen its own date. In 1789 George Washington, the first President of the United States, proclaimed NOV. 26 a day of Thanksgiving. The proclamation still expresses the spirit of the feast:

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor,-- now therefore I do recommend that ALL TI-99/4A families unite together and devote time in striving for a better future to the service of the 4A Community. Who the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that

will be, that we may then all UNITE in rendering unto them our sincere and humble thanks for their kindness and sincerity of the people across this great country.

The theme of Thanksgiving has always been peace and plenty, health and happiness. To be truly observed, it involves not merely "thanks", but "giving", too. It is time for special generosity in remembering and helping the TI-99/4A Community.

This is my special wish to ALL FAMILIES of the TI-99/4A COMMUNITY that each and every one has a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING to ALL. To the friends across this beautiful land of ours, GOD BLESS ALL AT THIS THANKSGIVING SEASON.

KEEP ON COMPUTIN'!

PRESIDENT: Mattie Bush



UPDATING THE DATABASE ...

by Charlice Althar

RENEWALS have been received this month from JOHN BUIE and SHAWN HACKWORTH, EARL BULLOCK, DAVID MARTIN, VERNON MARSHBURN, and from out in California, GREG HUDSON, who we've learned is the proud new grandpa of triplet granddaughters! Congratulations, GREG, and thanks to all of you for renewing your DTIHCG membership for another year.

Several VISITORS attended our October meeting--KEN LOGONI of Dallas, and ALEX HINGSTRUM and STEVEN THOMASON of Haslet, TX. Former member TOM D'AMURA also stopped in with his son-in-law, on a brief visit from Lawton, OK. Hope you'll return soon!

INFOMART expects a big crowd for another group also meeting Nov. 20. Parking may be tight; we suggest you bring in items for sale early. A cart will make getting heavy loads up to Room 7001 easier. Room 7001 is straight ahead from the elevators.

DTIHCG ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

ANY COMPUTER-RELATED ITEMS
MAY BE BOUGHT OR SOLD!

EVERYONE WELCOME!

BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS WISH LIST
AND ANY ITEMS YOU WISH TO SELL

BRING MONEY FOR
MAKING CHANGE

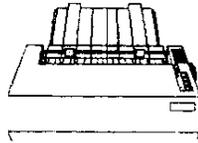
COME BUY, SELL,
BROWSE, AND DREAM!

ROOM 7001

NOVEMBER 20, 1993
10:00 A.M.

BEGINNER PRINTER

by Jim Leshner



CHRISTMAS LABELS

This program is just in time for Christmas. Make your own borders on your address labels. Using a redefined character capabilities of your printer, we can design our characters. We are limited however to a 7 by 9 matrix which is the maximum size of each character. In this case it is a tiny Christmas tree, or rather many trees which make a border around a 3.5 by 15/16 inch label, which most of us consider standard size. Now you will need to adjust the labels in your printer JUST right to make them look right. So put the labels in with the back side toward you, you can see the labels thru the backing. This way you can set up the spacing without ruining a lot of labels. Then when you get it just right, turn the labels back over and do as many as you want. They look a lot better with red, blue or green colors. This program is set to do 40 labels, you can change that number in line 120 by changing the 40 to any number of your choice. I made some last year and sold several dollars worth.

```

10 REM TREE4
20 CALL CLEAR
30 DATA 16,8,20,2,113,2,20,8,16,0
40 OPEN #1:"PIO"
50 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"@";
60 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"E";
70 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"*";CHR$(1)
;CHR$(126);
80 FOR I=1 TO 09
90 READ MI
100 PRINT #1:CHR$(MI);
110 NEXT I
120 FOR N=1 TO 40
130 PRINT N
140 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);"$";CHR$(1)
);
150 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(51);C
HR$(12);
160 C$=RPT$(CHR$(126),35)
170 PRINT #1:C$

```

```

180 B$=RPT$(CHR$(126),01)
190 FOR X=1 TO 09
200 PRINT #1:B$;
210 PRINT #1:TAB(35);B$
220 NEXT X
230 PRINT #1:C$
240 PRINT #1:CHR$(27);CHR$(51);C
HR$(12)
250 NEXT N

```

Here are some numbers to make other characters, just type them in to replace the numbers in line 30.

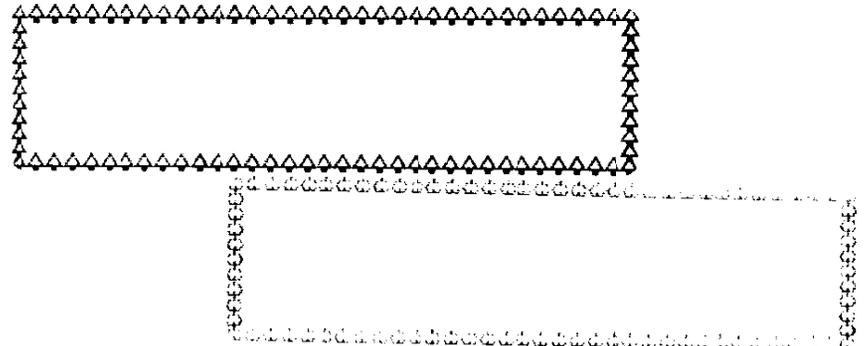
```

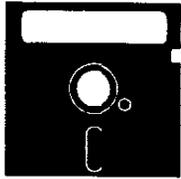
BELL
30 DATA 0,56,68,132,255,132,68,56,0,0
CANE1
30 DATA 4,2,1,0,1,0,1,2,124,0
CANE2
30 DATA 0,12,2,0,1,0,1,2,124,0
CANE3
30 DATA 0,12,2,0,1,0,1,2,124,0
CROSS
30 DATA 0,4,0,4,127,4,0,4,0,0
TREE2
30 DATA 16,8,4,2,113,2,4,8,16,0
TREE3
30 DATA 16,8,20,2,253,2,20,8,16,0

```

Should you need any help call or write to:

Jim Leshner / 722 Huntley / Dallas TX / 75214 / or call 214-821-9274





DTIHCG ACTIVITIES

November 14 - December 25, 1993



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 14 APOLLO 12 launched 1969	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18 Standard Time introduced-1883	Nov 19	Nov 20 SUPER SATURDAY ANNUAL GARAGE SALE EC Meeting 1PM
REMEMBER THE BIG RAFFLE ON DECEMBER THE 11 th						
Nov 21 PROHIBITION - 1918	Nov 22	Nov 23	Nov 24	Nov 25  Thanksgiving	Nov 26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - 10PM	Nov 27  L M KENNEDY is a Key Member
JOHN DiPRIMA is Chairman of Library Services						
Nov 28 1st Day of Advent	Nov 29 ○ FM	Nov 30	Dec 1 La Guardia Airport opened - 1939	Dec 2  Model A Ford - 1927	Dec 3 Jo - Jo's 1415 Motor Street 5:15p NEXT-STEP	Dec 4  1st SATURDAY SIDEWALK SALE
Dec 5  JIM LESHER is our resident TI-99/4A Dealer	Dec 6 ● LG	Dec 7 REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR - 1941	Dec 8 PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11 SUPER SATURDAY Installaton of new Officers  BIG RAFFLE
Dec 12	Dec 13 ● NM	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18
WILL YOU SERVE ON A COMMITTEE ?						
Dec 19	Dec 20 ● FQ	Dec 21 <i>Winter begins</i>	Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24 No NEXT-STEP Meeting	Dec 25 Christmas Day 
SEE GUY HUNTER FOR NEW DISKS & TAPES						

HAVE YOU CALLED THE 99'er TODAY? (214) 233-1750 - 24 HOURS

OLD DSK1.**BY DAN LOWE**

"You may experience some slight discomfort."



For years, this was a most dreaded sentence! These words used to strike fear in my heart as I sat in the dentist's chair or bending over in the doctor's office. But now, I think I've found something almost as bad and it happens twice a year . . . "Spring forward, Fall back."

Maybe it's old age or my inherent resistance to change but my bod still wants to get up earlier than it's supposed to. It's as if my mind keeps telling my body "hey dummy, you can stay in the sack one hour longer" but my old bod just doesn't seem to listen. And of course by the time I do get adjusted to this time change thing, it'll be time to do it all over again, EXCEPT IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. What's a fella to do?

Tell you what THIS fella's gonna do - attend the DTIHCG Garage Sale this coming 20th of November. And I'm really looking forward to it (and so is my wife; she sees a really big opportunity for me to dispose of some of my 4A treasures).

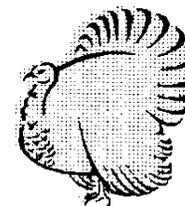
This will be my third garage sale and I think it's one of the highlights of the year. Hope everyone will be able to attend; there'll be lots of goodies for everyone. Here's your chance to pick up that modem, card, disks, synthesizer, and many other items you've been wanting. And best of all, the prices will be rock-bottom. Why, for the price of a \$10.00 raffle ticket, you just might be the lucky winner of a complete 99/4A system - TI Color Monitor, RAVE keyboard with RAVE 99 Interface Card in a TI-99/4A Keyboard, Speech Synthesizer, and P-Box containing a P-Gram Card, Two Half-Height Drives, 32K Memory Card, RS232 Card, Controller Card, and a 250K RAM Disk. Also included are various manuals, books, and modules. Now I ask you, where else can you get all this good stuff for the price of a raffle ticket? (Although the raffle tickets will be on sale during the garage sale, the actual raffle of the system will take place at the meeting in December.) Such a deal!!!

And speaking of the December meeting, don't forget this is when the election of officers and chairpersons will take place. Have you been thinking about who you'd like to have as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 1994? Maybe you would like to throw your hat in the ring this time around and run for an office or chairperson. We need volunteers to help run DTIHCG next year; all are welcome.

In closing, I'll leave you with this bit of verse:

What did the woodsman's wife say to him?

"Not many chopping days left til Christmas"

**NEXT STEP REPORT**

by **Charlie Althar**

We were very glad to have JAMES HOYLE, accompanied by wife VIRGINIA and son PAUL back with us this month, we'd been missing them from NEXT STEP as well as our INFOMART meetings. JAMES has been his usual very busy self, installing electrical power in churches throughout Missouri and Tennessee, if I remember correctly this time. He was leaving on another trip on Monday following NEXT STEP, so we're glad they were able to take time out to be with us for the evening.

JIM LESHNER did an extremely unusual thing for NEXT STEP--he didn't come! We really missed him, along with his 4/A system he so faithfully brings every month. Glad to find out later he wasn't really "sick", just kind of "down", and he promises to be in his accustomed place next month.

DAN LOWE showed off his latest "state of the art" equipment--a puncher that makes rectangular holes in the side of disks, thereby creating "flippies" from "floppies". This prompted quite a discussion, with a walk down memory lane, from the old-timers in the group, as we explained the difference between "flippies" and double-sided diskettes. We reminisced about the long-ago days when our P-Boxes had nothing but one single-sided disk drive (because that was the only type drive that existed back then!), boxes of 10 disks sold for around \$42.00, and a hi-tech breakthrough like Dan's recent purchase meant being able to use both sides of a disk, thereby cutting the cost of same, as well as required storage space, by 50%! This was definitely NOT a time to wish for a return to "the good old days"!

BBS's were also quite a topic of discussion. JACKIE and LOUIS GUION showed us some examples of hard-copy information obtained through the COMARD NETWORK, which is a real estate BBS with a Metro number for Fort Worth and Dallas, as well as a listing for Austin, and possibly other Texas cities. We're not sure what the results would be using a 4/A, due to the 40-column limitation, but it would certainly be worth a try if you're interested in looking at real estate! Using one of the "other" machines, listings are available by county, and pictures of many houses can even be downloaded. If you've got the time and inclination, the Metro number

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for this area is 817-268-2258. Software settings need to be N-8-1. (Our 99er CONNECTION is E-7-1; STARTEXT and most others are N-8-1).

JOHN and SHARON CREVISTON told us about a new restaurant chain in our area that they've been very favorably impressed with—RYAN's. Their recommendation is good food and reasonable prices! Other table talk revolved around the demise of the SCC. And we discussed rum—brands, countries of origin, and some previously little-known details of the processing of them.

The only thing we missed was you—we'll save you a place Dec. 3, at JOJO's, just east of I-35E at the Motor St. exit, about 5:00!



ASGARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Send all inquiries to:

Asgard
1423 Flagship Dr.
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Effective Nov. 1, 1993, ownership of Asgard Software is being transferred to Harry Brashear.

Nothing worthwhile comes easy, and Lord knows running a TI software business has never been easy. When I founded Asgard in 1983 (in fact, almost 10 years ago exactly), my software company was one of perhaps over 100 TI software providers. Over the years, I've seen all of my original competitors, almost all of the ones that came after them, and most of the ones in the "generation" after that, disappear by the wayside.

I stuck with it despite many opportunities to move on, and despite setbacks similar to those that wiped out many of my peers. I don't regret it - I learned a lot. I learned a lot about computers, business and loyalty. I learned how to tell who was honest and who was a charlatan.

When I started this business I was a teenager in high school. Ten years later, I run the Computer Department for a major non-profit organization here in Washington, D.C. The TI-99/4A introduced me to computers in general, and opened many opportunities to me. In many ways, it made me what I am today.

However, my professional and family obligations over the last 2 years have forced me to change my priorities. I haven't been able to spend much time on Asgard, and

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it hasn't been fair to the community, so I decided to give the company to the one person in the community I felt whose experiences and beliefs matched my own.

The 70 or so people who paid for Press in Chicago, 1987: I wanted it so much I sold myself, and then sold it to you. It was a beautiful idea - I just wish it had been a beautiful reality. My apologies for raising expectations, and holding onto your money for 18 months before realization struck, and I returned it.

I'd also like to thank the many people at the TI shows around the country - especially those in Seattle, Tucson and Ottawa - that hosted, shuttled, fed and sheltered me at the 30-40 or so TI conventions I've attended over the years.

Additionally, I'd like to thank the many authors that entrusted me with their programs.

Finally, I'd like to thank the 12,000 or so people that have bought software from me over the last 10 years - my customers. THESE are the people that I worked for for 10 years, and in the bottom line, whose opinion mattered most.

As of Nov. 1, 1993, the new address for Asgard Software will be:

Asgard Software
2753 Main Str.
Newfare, NY 14108
716-778-9104

All hardware products, including the Asgard Mouse, AMS memory cards, the Extended BASIC 3 and other cartridges will be available from:

Asgard Peripherals
1423 Flagship Dr.
Woodbridge, VA 22192

My involvement in the TI community will be limited solely to the hardware products sold by Asgard Peripherals. No phone calls will be accepted - all orders or inquiries should be placed by mail.

Thank you.

Chris Bobbitt
October 11, 1993

The above article by Chris Bobbitt was downloaded from DELPHI by John Creviston/Jim Leshar. It has been edited in length in order to get the essential information to our readers. - Editor

DTIHCG RAFFLE IS COMING!

Here's your opportunity to own a superbly configured system! A more-than-complete TI-99/4A system will be raffled off at our regular December INFOMART meeting on December 11, 1993, just in time for Christmas! Here's what our lucky winner will receive:

1. TI Color Monitor
2. RAVE Keyboard with RAVE 99 Interface card in TI-99/4A keyboard
3. Speech Synthesizer
4. P-Box with 2 Half-height Drives with Flex Interface Card, 32K Memory Card, RS232 Card, TI Disk Controller Card, 250K Horizon RAM Disk, and a P-GRAM card
5. MYARCHFDC & a Hard Drive

SOFTWARE INCLUDED:

BOOKS and MODULES: TI-WRITER, MULTIPLAN, EDITOR/ASSEMBLER, EXTENDED BASIC, MINI MEMORY, TE-II, and TAX INVESTMENT RECORD KEEPING.

ADDITIONAL MODULES: ADVENTURE, PARSEC, DISK MANAGER II.

RAFFLE RULES

Tickets will be sold August 21, 1993, to date of Raffle.

Tickets will be sold ONLY to currently paid members of DTIHCG.

Anyone is welcome to join DTIHCG; annual dues is still only \$15.00.

Cost of each ticket will be \$10.00.

A member may purchase as many tickets as desired.

Winner must make arrangements to pick up the system.

Out-of-area winner must pay shipping charges.

BUY YOUR TICKETS AT OUR NEXT MEETING FROM MARY LEARD OR MATTIE BUSH

YES—the system to be raffled now includes a P-GRAM card, and a Hard Disk Controller & Drive! This makes the system worth so much more to the lucky winner. Don't forget to buy your tickets!



OFFICERS FOR 1993

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

CHAIRPERSONS FOR 1993

NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	JIM LESHER	214-821-9274
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
MERCHANDISE/HARDWARE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEXT STEP CHAIRMAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240

LIBRARIANS

CART/TAPE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	JOHN DIPRIMA (after 5 pm)	214-293-1410
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568
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.

If you'd like to become more involved in helping the group, please let our DTIHCG President, Mattie Bush, know what you'd like to do.

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