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



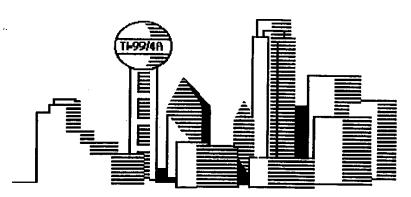
DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP P.O. BOX 29863 DALLAS, TX 75229

\*ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED\*\*\*



FIRST CLASS





# DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 13, Number 12

December, 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

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, December 11, 1993 at the Dallas INFOMART I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit

### 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
  - Raffle Drawing for <u>COMPLETE</u> TI-99/4A system

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Time and Date to be announced

- 21 First Day of Winter
  - No NEXT STEP in December
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day



# DTIHCG'S JANUARY EVENTS

### DTIHCG DINNER

Time and Date to be announced

- Sidewalk Sale, Ross at Central, 5 am
- 7 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 22 SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART
  - Oak Lawn @ Stemmons
  - Business Meeting @ 9:00 am
  - · Program: To be announced

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING** 

Time and Date to be announced



### DTIHCG'S FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 4 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 4 NEXT-STEP

19

JOJO'S On Sternmons at 1415 Motor Street, 5:15 pm

SUPER SATURDAY AT INFOMART

Oak Lawn @ Stemmons

### SHAKING THE BUSHES



#### MY FAREWELL AS PRESIDENT

The end of the year is arriving, and it will scon be time to welcome in 1994. It is a time for me to say good-bye to you and time for you to be welcoming in a New President of The Dallas TI Home Computer Group. It's really hard to believe that 3 years have gone by since 1 started my term as your President. The years have passed so very quickly and have been so very gratifying for me.

My predecessors before me left outstanding records as your Presidents and have come a long way from its humble beginnings. My job wasn't easy because I had to fill some BIG SHOES since all before me were men. Yes, that's right, MEN?? I have tried very hard to live up to the standards that had already been set in place in the years before me.

Judging from many of our members I had big shoes to fill and maintain and supply valuable information to the group in every possible way. I had tremendous amounts of help from all efficers and chairpersons past and present. I would like to thank all officers for the decisions that we have always been able to make together.

We have had a number of changes over the past three years of the terms of officers and chairpersons and every one of them deserves a round of applause for their cooperation, expertise, and work ethic. The word "NO" has never been in my vocabulary and I have never turned down requests to write articles or do for others in our group. I'm sure that the future will continue in fine tradition.

Finally, my sincere thanks for all of their outstanding work. For all the hours that we have spent working together on activities for our group. I also never said "NO". DTIHCG is a very unique team of persons and have been a vital part of the efforts put forth by all.

The person who takes my place will not be a stranger to our group but one who knows how to run the group with honor and sincere gratitude to the future of advancement of the TI-99/4A.

[ 3 ]

Please join me in welcoming all the new officers and chairpersons for 1994. Good Luck to ALL. I'll miss each and everyone as your President. I want to say to have a "VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR for 1994.

Signing off for good,

SHAKING THE BUSHES

PRESIDENT: MATTIE BUSH

### SHAKING THE BUSHES

HERE COMES THE HOLIDAYS, SO WATCH OUT FOR THOSE OLD TRADITIONS.

Our November meeting was a great success for the Garage Sale. All the TI goodies that were sold, traded, swapped. Those who collect had a great opportunity to get things very reasonably. A lot bought was for kids for Christmas, some others for the BIG KIDS. What a day of great Fellowship we had in our Old Room 1061.

For those of you who don't take MicroPendium I would like to take this time and let you know about a few New things that John Koloen and Laura Burns have published for all the TI-99/4A World to know about. This is the only magazine that is completely related to the TI-99/4A world of computing and one I thoroughly enjoy getting.

We have the NEW ASGARD MEMORY SYSTEM— it is a system that can make your TI into another world class all purpose computer machine. It's a half-height card that goes into the P-BOX that takes the place of the 32K CARD. The only problems is the compatibility is that it can't coexis with either the Cor-Comp or the MYARC RAMdisk systems because they both have 32K memory. In the Review that Bruce Harrison wrote, he rates its Performance-Easy to use Documentation-Final Grade with ALL A's except the value-COST. \$119.95 from ASGARD SOFTWARE, 1423 FLAGSHIP DR., WOODBRIDGE, VA 22192, (703) 491-1267.

It is said that it is a Very Good product. I haven't seen it to know. I was told that it would open a Whole New World to the TI-99/4A User.

This Memory System is far cheaper than your clone machines and when the software does become available it will probably be the most valuable piece of product to hit the big time for the TI-95/4A World. Keep up the great work.

In the MICRO-REVIEWS - CHARLES GOOD has written about 3 New things that are out. Please folks, let's keep the support of these people because without them we are not going anywhere.

JAN ALEXANDERSSON of Sweden has written another program called ALEX/FORMA. This program works with the New Funnelweb V5 editors which you have a bunch of technical questions. Also the differences between 7-bit and 8-bit ASCII characters, screen displays and also printer printouts. US Residents can get this by sending \$1.00. Residents of other countries should send money for disk and postage, directly to the author. JAN ALEXANDERSSON SPRINARVAGEN 5 3TR, S-142 61 TRANGSUND, SWEDEN.

VERN JENSEN has an XB program that displays two dimensional mazes on screen. You use joysticks or arrow keys to work the person through the maze. The price is \$1.00 but the author requests a \$3.00 FAIRWARE DONATION. If you send \$3.00, disk and a mailer paid return mailer directly to the author the Fairware obligation is done. MAZE MANIA: VERN JENSEN 817 KINGSWAY DR. W., GRETNA, LA 70056.

Another Fairware Utility in XB has been done by author LARRY TIPPETT-The 3.5" DISK LABEL PROGRAM. It prints out disk labels directories onto labels designed for 3.5 inch disks. The program comes on a SS/SD disk with information about where to purchase the needed tractor feed 3.5 labels for the disks. Larry will mail this to you for \$1.00 or it can be downloaded from GEnie or you can get it for "free" by direct mail from the author by sending a requested "up to \$10.00" for FAIRWARE DONATION. LARRY TIPPETT, 5826 BUFFALO ST., SANBORN, NY 14132.

Our very own member JIM LESHER's articles are in the MicroPendium called CIRCLES GALORE. Please contact JIM LESHER, 722 HUNT-LEY, DALLAS, TX 75214, (214) 821-9274. He will send you a copy for

your sending a disk and mailer postage. It does all kinds of shapes and patterns. Keep up the very good work, Jim.

The 1994 FAIRS are setup. FEST-WEST FEB. 19-20 Tucson, Arizona. In MAY, LIMA MULTI USER GROUP, MAY 14-15. You see folks, we are still having VENDORS, PROGRAMMERS, and AUTHORS "WHO CARE", in keeping the TI-99/4A WORLD very much ALIVE.

We need more believers in our USER GROUPS to support our TI-99/4A WORLD. I know that there are those who have had to go to other machines BUT WHY try to turn those away who use the 4A. It's a great little work horse. It's really very hard working. The software prices are right and the hardware too. Maybe I'm a little objective when it comes to this. But it is you in the USERS GROUPS and AUTHORS, VENDORS, PROGRAMMERS who keeps this WORLD ALIVE for the users.

My dream and I do hope that in the near future that this little work horse will make a GREAT come back to the world before it. If this does it will "BLOW YOUR SOCKS OFF".

I know that my group of users thinks I'm "NUTS", but what the heck, so I'm crazy, GREAT. I believe in what I have and so do you.

Again, THANK each and every one for all that has been done and for all the correspondence that I have had in the past 3 years. I will continue with this because I have many friends near and far. Thank you for keeping our TI-99/4A WORJ D very much ALIVE.

TO EACH AND EVERY ONE throughout the World a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR. A safe HOLIDAY in where ever you go or be. HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

PRESIDENT OF THE DALLAS TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP

MATTIE BUSH



### BEGINNER PRINTER

### DOT GRAPHICS 93LTRIANGL

Someone said, the dot-grafx programs are too complicated and could I simplify it, so it could be better understood. So here is the simplest version of a dot-grafx program I can think of. As mentioned before, the heart of the program is in line 120. the "K" is telling the printer we are going to do Dot graphics.

The CHR\$(007) tells it there are going to be 7 columns. The CHR\$(0) lets the printer know there will be no more than 256 columns of dots on this pass. If we were to put the character in the 257th or greater column, the CHR\$(0) would have to be changed to CHR\$(1).

The numbers in line 170 determine the shape of the character, which in this case is a triangle. If we were to change line 170 to DATA 128,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 there would be a single dot on your paper. You may find it interesting to try some different numbers to see what strange characters will be generated. Have fur!

```
100 REM TRIANGLE
110 OPEN #1:"PIO"
120 PRINT #1:CHR$(27); "K"; CHR$(0
07); CHR$(0);
130 FOR COL=1 TO O7
140 READ C
150 PRINT #1:CHR$(C);
160 NEXT COL
170 DATA 128,192,160,144,136,132,254
```

Should you need any help call or write to:

Jim Lesher / 722 Huntley / Dallas Tx 75214 / or call 214-821-9274

Labels for this month's newsletters were provided by JIM LESHER, using his program from last month's article. Thanks, JIM, all DTIHCG'ers appreciate your efforts!



# **DTIHCG ACTIVITIES**



December 5, 1993 - January 15, 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 5 JIM LESHER is our resident TI-99/4A Dealer	Dec 6 ● LQ	Dec 7 REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR - 1941	Dec 8 PLEAS): DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE	Dec 9	Dec 10 Get a ticket for the Raffle	Dec 11 SUPER SATURDAY Installation of new Officers BIG RAFFLE
Dec 12	Dec 13 ● NM	Dec 14	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17 EC Meeting	Dec 18
	[W	ILL YOU SERVE	ON A COMMITTE	?	ıİ .	
Dec 19	Dec 20 € FQ	Dec 21 Winter begins	Dec 22	Эес <b>23</b>	Dec 24 No NEXT-STEP Meeting	Dec 25 Christmas Day
		SEE GUY H	UNTER FOR NEW DISK	S & TAPES		¥
Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28 ○ FM	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31 New Year's Eve	Jan 1 New Year's Day Est black eye peas, today
Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7 10:00p Newsletter Deadline	Jan 8 JIM STEWART IS A KEY MEMBER
LEARN	ONE NEW COM	IPUTER PROGRAM	MEACH MONTH	l father a tree		
Jan 9	Jan 10	Jan 11 ● NM	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15
		atit i geografia de la J	  APPY HOLIDAYS			

### OLD DSK1.

By Dan Lowe



Each time that I sit down to write my article for this newsletter I'm faced with the same question - what shall I write about this time. I try to make my articles timely and interesting; I hope they come across that way. This month's article (for December) has many possibilities because of the season. As for the interesting aspect, youll just have to read and see for yourself. And oh yes, I failed to mention the frustration aspect, i.e., spend all morning composing and typing, saving it as I go along. Then, coming up to the end and typing the last line, and saving it, only to find that everything that's gone before has disappeared, gone, vamooos, take'n a walk, over the hill, gone, gone, gone. So, here I go again, three hours later, trying to remember what I typed the first time around so I can do it all over again. But, I take solace in the fact that I'll bet everyone reading this has had the same thing happen to them! I think it's called "learning by doing". So, here we go AGAIN!!!

First, the garage sale we had at INFOMART 20 November 1993. If you missed it, you lost - lost out on some great buys and bargains. There were computers (some other than 4A's), modems, P-Boxes, cables, modules, disks, manuals and books, joy sticks, cards, disk controllers, power supplies, and on and on and on. I'm sure you get the picture. Suffice to say there were more goodies there than I had money here, although I did manage to buy a few items at rock-bottom prices. (Truth be known I probably bought more than I really need because I just can't seem to pass up a bargain - just ask my wife.) Attendance-wise I'd estimate we probably had anywhere from 40 to 50 folks buying, browsing, milling around, talking, and generally having a good time. We even had folks coming in from the outside wondering what all the activity was. When I told one person that we were a TI-99/4A Users Group and were conducting our annual garage sale of computer-related equipment, he was really surprised - surprised at not only what we were doing but that the 99/4A was still alive, up and running. I told him . . . "Just look around you and you'll see that the 4A is alive and well."

Second, how about a short trip down memory lane. While looking through some old DTIHCG newsletters I ran across the following in the December 1986 issue:

"Our most successful venture of the year has to be the creation of the DOM program, so well conceived and run by John Creviston, Chairman and sole member of the DOM Committee." (By Louis Guion)

"The biggest facelift of the year has to go to the DALLAS 99 INTER-FACE, our newsletter. Richard Roberts really gave us 1 public face that does us proud." (By Louis Guion)

Lynn Nidiffer and Louis Guion represented DTIHCG on the CCD.

DTIHCG membership stood at 93.

And now, here we are, staring the month of December squarely in the face. Ah, December, probably the happiest month of the year - Christmas shopring, crowded malls, bumper-to-bumper traffic, greeting cards, charge cards, smiling faces and frowning feet, shopping lists, what to give, when to mail, buy the tree, deck the halls, etc. Seriously, Christmas is a beautiful time of the year, especially for the kids (even us BIG kids). And speaking of Christmas trees did you know that the Christmas tree came to us from many people in other lands? Well, it did, and because it stayed green during the winter months, many folks thought it was magic and would not touch it. In the early 1600's, the German people of that time connected this tree with the tree that was in the Garden of Eden. So, they called it the Tree of Paradise. Fruit was hung from its branches depicting the apple that Adam had eaten. Today. we hang glass and other decorations, although most every ornament was symbolic of something or someone, such as a Saint or a good King. So this year, while you're hanging your ornaments on your tree, see if you can guess what your ornaments mean.

Merry Christmas!!

And oh yes, don't forget the December 11th meeting at Infomart. We will have our election of officers for 1994 and we need your input regarding who you'd like to see guiding the group during 1994. Please make every effort to attend. Hope to see you there.

We've just learned that **DON THURMAN** has been hospitalized several weeks. We're sure he'd appreciate hearing from DTIHCG'ers at:

Rt. 1 Box 1853, Quitman, TX. 75783

### [10]

# THE MAKING OF FRIENDS

(UNKNOWN)

If nobocy smiled and nobody cheered
And nobody helped us along,
If each person only looked after himself,
And all good things went to the strong

If nobody cared just a little for you,
And nobody thought of men,
And We all stood alone in the battle of life,
What a dreary old world this would be!

Life is sweet-the friends we have made.

And the things in common we share;

We want to live on, not because of ourselves.

But because of the people who care.

It's giving and doing for somebody else-On that all life's splendor depends; And the joy of this world, all added up, Is found in the making of FRIENDS.

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

Thank you, Mattie, jor sharing with us this reminder of the important things in life. - Ed.

### UPDATING THE DATABASE...

### by Charlice Althar

A big DTIHCG welcome to our two NEW MEMBERS. From Florida we have MARTIN MARCINKO, who has been a customer of JIM LESHER for a while, and has talked with several DTIHCG'ers by phone. We also have STEVEN THOMASON, who has visited us several times lately from Haslet, IX. We're very glad to have you both, MARTIN and STEVEN

GUESTS at our November INFOMART meeting included bundle-of-energy ROZZALYNN BUSH, MATTIE's granddaughter, and LENDELL JONES visited with us again. Come back soon, both of you!

Our mailbox was stuffed with renewals this month! We appreciate receiving these from BILL ADAMS, RIP DOWLING, KEN HANSEN, KENNETH HULL, BILLY MONROE, DON STEVENSON, and JIM & SANDY OLDENKAMP. We're glad to know these familiar faces will be around for another year!

Please remember to let us know if you have a change in your address or phone number, so we can keep our Roster Database updated. That's the only way to get your newsletter to you in a timely manner, too.

Our Database Roster is also the source of our name tags and sign-in sheet each month at INFOMART. Please sign in each month, as our attendance continues to be extremely important in determining the room assigned for our meetings. Thanks to all the efforts of our volunteers each month, we've been very fortunate in retaining Room 1061, and we hope to continue to meet there. Thanks for helping!





### \$10.00 PER TICKET

BUY AS MANY AS YOU WISH, AS LONG AS YOU ARE A CURRENTLY PAID MEMBER OF DTIHCG

SYSTEM ALSO INCLUDES SOFTWARE, BOOKS, AND MODULES

WINNER MUST ARRANGE TO PICK UP SYSTEM OR PAY SHIPPING IF OUT-OF-AREA

LAST CHANCE!

# **OFFICERS FOR 1993**

PRESIDENT	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	
TREASURER		214-276-0240
	Vacant	
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMEER-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 HUNIER	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.