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

\*\*\*ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED\*\*\*

FIRST CLASS



## ALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 14, Number 2

February, 1994

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, February 19, 1994 at the Dallas INFOMART I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit

#### **DTIHCG'S FEBRUARY EVENTS**

19 DFW XCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART

Oak Lawn @ Stemmons

Time: 9:00 AM

Program: Programming & TI Writer by Jim Lesher

19 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

For all Officers and Chairpersons

Time: 1:00 PM at INFOMART

27 SPECIAL DTIHCG FAMILY DINNER

RYAN'S RESTAURANT

Spring Valley at Marsh Lane

5:15 PM

Make your reservations by Feb. 23rd!



#### **DTIHCG'S MARCH EVENTS**

4 NEXT STEP

JOJO's off Stemmons Fwy (I-35 E)

1415 Motor Street, 5:15 PM

5 1st Saturday Sidewalk Sale

Ross Ave. at Central Exp., 5:00 AM

- 11 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 First Day of Spring -- Earth Day
- 26 DFW XCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART

Oak Lawn @ Stemmons Fwy. (I-35 E)

Time: 9:00 AM

Program: To be announced

27 Palm Sunday -- 1st Day of Passover

#### OLD DSK1.

by Dan Lowe

Welcome to DTIHCG's 99/4A version of the superhighway, USA. While the corporate bigwigs of the communications industries and our government plot and plan for our entertainment future (and \$\$\$\$) we will continue merrily along our way with our old faithful, reliable, and beloved 99/4A. Besides, where would we get the extra time to indulge ourselves in all this "more things to do and see and hear" environment. Why, they're even talking about 500 TV channels over and above what we already have. I can just see it now - hour after hour of reruns of Bevis and Butt-Head, Lucy, Dating Game, and on and on and on. Don't get me wrong; I do like TV and I certainly watch my share, but 500+ channels?

So now, on to the business at hand. I hope you were one of the fortunate DTIHCG'ers to attend our last Super Saturday meeting at Infomart. If not, you missed a good one; a great time was had by all. We did a lot of talking about DTIHCG - our past, where we are now, and where/what do we want to do in the future. We even had a special guest, Dan Johnsen, a former member. Dan was VERY active in DTIHCG and was one of those members strongly dedicated to the group. He served (during the mid-80's) as Vice-President, Program Director, and Chairman of SIG meetings (I'm sure there were others). It was good to have Dan, and his wife, and their kids (now teenagers) visit with us.

We were also glad to see Don Thurman and his wife Katie. Don has had some major medical problems of late and hasn't been getting around much. And driving from Quitman to attend our meetings proved to be a little difficult. BUT, according to his wife Katie, he was determined to make our last meeting, come low or high water, so Katie offered to drive him (and of course, he accepted). So Don, we all appreciate your determination to attend and were really glad to see you, AND your wife. But what we really want is for you to stay cool, take it easy, and get well so you can start attending meetings on a regular basis.

As I said, our program was about DTIHCG - its past, present, and future. I found it fascinating reviewing old newsletters to see who was in the group, the when and where of meetings, programs, etc. Here are some of the highlights of our trip down memory lane:

-The first meeting was held in the Spring of 1981 at the Gorman Lecture Center at the University of Dallas.

- -Standing room only at one of these early meetings.
- -The group participated in the Southwest Computer Show in April of 1982.
- -During the Summer of 1982, TI-99/4A classes were conducted at the University of Dallas.
- -Printing and distribution of club T-shirts (shades of the Dallas Cowboys.)
- -Speech by Dr. Leon Tietz of the TI Corporate Engineering Center re: FORTH Programming Language on the 99/4A.
- -Meetings held at Northlake College in Irving, Texas.
- -Meetings (first) held at Infomart (current location).
- -Guy Hunter won raffle and chose the Return to Pirates Island as his reward.
- -Awarding of Buffalochip User of the Year.
- -Proposal to merge FLUG, DTIHCG, and NET99ers.
- -Beginning of the Next-Step meetings.
- -Naming of our newsletter, DALLAS 99 INTERFACE, by Charlice Althar and Dan Johnsen.

There were many other events (or "happenings") as we traveled down this memory lane, but I'm sure you get the picture. We all had lots of fun with this part of the program (especially the old timers).

At this point in the program (and because time was running short because yours truly has a tendency to talk too much) we lumped DTIHCG Present/DTIHCG Future into one ball of wax by asking the question. "What would you like to see DTIHCG do in the future and what kind of programs would you like to see in the future? Well, once we got the ball of wax rolling, several suggestions for programs were made: Genealogy Plus; Contests; TIPS; TIW; Page Pro. Communications, with special emphasis on the use of modems, on-line services, Fast-Term and Telco; Programming; Assembly Language; Multiplan; Super Extended Basic; and Videos. I think this is a good start and as we progress through the year we can probably come up with some more ideas.

O.K., now what? What happens next? How do we get this show on the road? Reminds me of an automobile - all lubricated, full of gas and oil, and ready to go. All that's needed is . . . a DRIVER. That's right, a driver, someone to take the wheel and drive DTIHCG through 1994 by arranging for the presentation of programs during 1994. Notice I said "arrange" NOT GIVE. In other words, we still need a Program Coordinator, someone to coordinate with various members of DTIHCG in the development and presentation of programs. Now, if this person WANTS to give a program, that's great. What I'm trying to make perfectly clear is that you don't have to present the program, just arrange for someone else to do so. Fair enough? Its really not a difficult job but it is a critical one. All the other officers/chairpersons already have all they can handle now, so someone else needs to volunteer for this position. Any takers??

And, before I leave, let me leave you with this all important reminder - DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL DTIHCG DINNER THE LAST SUNDAY OF FEBRUARY. That's right, our dinner will be held Sunday evening, February 27th, at 5:30 PM at Ryan's. Ryan's is located at 14450 Marsh Lane @ Spring Valley. This is an ALL YOU CAN EAT dinner so come hungry and ready to chow down. Time your arriva a little before 5:36 PM so that we can all go through the line together, as one group. Also, and this is very important, send your RSVP and \$5.00 per family deposit (refundable) to the Dallas TI HOME COMPUTER GROUP, P. O. Box 29863, Dallas, Texas 75229, to the attention of Mattie Bush. Mattie MUST have your RSVP on or before the 23rd of February. I say again, ON OR BEFORE THE 23rd OF FEBRUARY.

Did you hear the one about the little girl who was tired of hearing her new baby brother scream? "Mother, didn't you say that he just came from heaven?", she asked. "Why yes," replied her mother. "Well," said the little girl, "it's no wonder they threw him out."

## THE SUNDAY IBERIAN, NEW IBERIA, LA. Sunday, January 23, 1994

#### **NEW IBERIAN ON DEAN'S LIST**

JONATHAN DAVID GUIDRY, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Guidry of New Iberia recently was named to the Dean's List at St. Meinard University in St. Meinard, Ind. Guidry, a freshman at St. Meinard and a 1993 gradutee of New Iberia Senior High, maintained a 3.79 grade-point average for the fall semister.

All from the DTIHCG say congratulations and keep up the very good work, JONATHAN!



### **DTIHCG ACTIVITIES**

February 13 - March 26, 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 13 WOWNO MORE FOOTBALL	Feb 14 Valentine's Day OLYMPIC WI	Feb 15  NTER GAMES FE	Feb 16 Ash Wednesday  BRUAR 12 - 27,	Feb 17	Feb 18 € FQ	Feb 19 SUPER SATURDAY 9:00a Meeting
Feb 20 This is the best time to trim and feed your roses.	Feb 21 Presidents' Day	Feb 22 Washington's Birthday	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25 O Full Moon	Feb 26  EC  MEETING
FA	MILY DINNER F	ESERVATIONS	WITH NATTIE	3Y FEB. 23		
Feb 27 FAMILY DINNER 5:15p RYAN'S Spring Valley at Marsh	Feb 28	Mar 1	Mái 2	Mar 3 O LQ	Mar 4 NEXT-STEP 5:15p JO-Jo's on Motor Street	Mar 5 Ist SATURDAY SIDE WALK SALE
Mar 6 JIM LESHER IS OUR RESIDENT T199/4a DEALER Phone 821-9274	Mar 7	Mar 8 Arrive Alive Don't Drink and Drive!	Mar 9	Mar 10	Mar 11 10:00p NEWSLEIT- ER Dead Line	Mar 12 ● NM
Mar 13 ROBERT WATTS IS A KEY MEMBER	Mar 14	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day	Mar 18	Mar 19 Are your 1994 Dues Paid Yet?????
Mar 20 © FQ 1st Day of Spring.	Mar 21	Mar 22	M <b>i</b> r:23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26 SUPER SATURDAY
	TRY A NEV	V TI99/4a PROG	RAM THIS MON	ITH		וישו

#### **BEGINNER PRINTER**

#### Return Address Labels



A reader called a couple of months ago and said he couldn't get the program to work on his STAR NX1000, and I related to him that that particular program was written for the Gemini 10X only. I think that was the first month I started omitting that disclaimer. This month's program will work with most Star-Gemini printers from the 10X and later models, including the SR10/15 and SG10/15, but I can't promise it will work for any others.

One practical thing we can do with a printer program is to make our own return address labels. Some months ago we published a program very similar to this, but this one will be just a little bit different. In the previous one we had printed 4 addresses on each 3 1/2' label. Now we will put one address on each label.

Using the Wide print and the Condensed print commands at the same time will provide us with a unique result. Notice that the print or font is a little larger than normal, and of course darker to make your name stand out better. Use a red, blue, green, or any colored ribbon to make them look professional.

Going into the program, we can see that line 140 gives the printer the command to print one line of Expanded print, CHR\$(14), also CHR\$(15) enables the Condensed mode, and line 150 returns the Emphasized mode to make our name stand out more. Then in line 170, the CHR\$(18) cancels the Expanded print and the Condensed print. Also, if you want all the lines to be Emphasized, delete the REM from line 180.

```
100 OPEN #1:"PIO"
110 INPUT "HOW MANY?":X
120 FOR N-1 TO X
130 REM PRINT #1:CHR$(27); "B"; CH
R$(4);
140 PRINT #1:CHR$(27); CHR$(14); C
HR$(15);
150 PRINT #1:CHR$(27); "E";
160 PRINT #1:"JIM LESHER"
170 PRINT #1:CHR$(18); CHR$(20);
180 REM PRINT #1:CHR$(27); "E"
190 PRINT #1:"722 HUNTLEY"
```

```
230 PRINT #1: "DALLAS, TK 75214"
210 PRINT #1: : : :
220 PRINT N
230 NEXT N
```

Should you need any help call or write to

Jim Lesher / 722 Hundey / Dallas TX 75214 / or call 214-821-9274

JIM LESHER 722 HUNTLEY DALLAS, TX 75214

#### **UPDATING THE DATABASE...**

by Charlice Althar



A big THANK YOU to TOM ADAMS, JOHN and SHARON CREVISTON, ED HARP, JAMES and VIRGINIA HOYLE, and ROBERT JONES for renewing their DTIHCG memberships this month. And we also want to mention that DAN LOWE and L.M. & JIMMIE KENNEDY renewed theirs a couple of months ago, but we neglected to mention them here. Our apologies, folks, and cur thanks, we couldn't do it without each and every one of you!

We were delighted to meet KATIE THURMAN at our January INFOMART meeting. As we reported a few months ago, DON recently had surgery at M. D. Anderson Hospital. Since he's not yet able to drive, but didn't want to miss another meeting, wife KATIE drove him in from their home in Quitman. We're glad you're better, DON, and hope KATIE will come back to visit again, even when you are are driving again!

#### **NEW SOFTWARE FOR TI-99/4A**

by Mattie Bush

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#### ADVENTURE REFERENCE DATA BASE

Adventure Reference Data Base is a data base that works with TI-Base, with I believe in excess of 200 adventure games that are in existence for the TI. There is a rating system and a section that tells you what software you need to run these adventures. It also contains a section for your comments and data as to whether you have the adventure and have solved it. This Program requires a TI-99/4A console, monitor or TV, minimum 2 ss/sd disk drives, 32k memory expansion, compatible printer, Extended BASIC module, and TI-Base VER. 2.0 or higher.

Adventure Reference Data Base is \$19.95 + \$1. shipping and handling

MS EXPRESS SOFTWARE / P.O. BOX 498 / RICHMOND, OHIO 43944

#### **GENEALOGY PLUS!**

Genealogy Plus is as the name states a Genealogy program. This program is very flexible, in that you can use any or all of the three formats included. The three formats are a TI-Base version, a Personal Record Keeping version, and a TI-Writer (or its equivalent) version. The Plus in "Genealogy Plus!" is that unlike most Genealogy programs or forms you can find, with Genealogy Plus you can also include siblings as well as their children. This program requires a TI-99/4A console, monitor or TV, minimum 2 SS/SD disk drives, 32k memory expansion, compatible printer, and one of the following, Extended BASIC module and TI-Base VER. 2.0 or higher, TI-Writer module, or Personal Record Keeping module.

GENEALOGY PLUS! is \$19.95 + \$1. shipping and handling.

MS EXPRESS SOFTWARE / P.O. BOX 498 / RICHMOND, OHIO 43944

#### RATTLESNAKE BEND

Rattlesnace Bend is a text adventure game. The object in Rattlesnake Bend is to catch Santiago Escondido, the most deceitful (and unpredictable) bandit in all of

San Diablo. The question is can you, Kidd Ponche Dias, capture Santiago Escondido? This requires TI-99/4A console, monitor or TV, 1 SS/SD disk drive, and the Scott Adams Adventure module. This game can be put on cassette by special

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request.

RATTLESNAKE BEND is \$9.95 + \$1. shipping and handling.

MS EXPRESS SOFTWARE / P.O.BOX 498 / RICHMOND OHIO 43944

For those of you who play games and like Genealogy these are really nice programs. Why don't you try one and show support for the authors. If it weren't for these people we wouldn't have any NEW things for the TI-99/4A and we do want to keep our TI-99/4A WORLD ALIVE! RIGHT ON!!

#### Dear DTIHCG Members,

Thank you very much for the lovely floral arrangement you sent when Louis' father passed away. We appreciate knowing we were in your thoughts at this difficult time. Knowing that people are thinking about you and your loss really does make it easier to cope at such times.

Part of what has always made DTIHCG such a special group to us is the way it has been like an extended family to so many of its members. The floral arrangement you sent was just another example of this type caring. Again, thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

Louis and Jackie Guion



#### Dallas TI Home Computer Group

Cordially Invites Its Members and Their Families

to be Their Guests for

DTIHCG Annual Family Dinner

Ryan's Restaurant 14450 Marsh Lane at Spring Valley

> Sunday, February 27, 1994 5:15 PM

Reservations and a Deposit of \$5.00 per Family Required by February 23, 1994 (deposit refunded on arrival at dinner)

Send Reservations & Deposit to:
Dallas TI Home Computer Group
P.O. Box 29863
Dallas TX 75229
and to the attention of
Mattie Bush

Ryan's Offers an All-You-Can-Eat Buffet which includes Salads, Hot Entrees, Vegetables, and Desserts

JoinUs for an Evening of Food and Fund

#### 1994 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
VICE-PRESIDENT	TOM HALL	817-267-5987
TREASURER	MATTIE BUSH	214-637-4937
SECRETARY	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	IMOGENE OSBCRN	214-252-5985

#### 1994 CHAIRPERSONS

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

#### 1994 LIBRARIANS

ADVENTURE LIBRAR AN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822
SCFTWARELIBRARIAN	ROBERT WATTS	214-353-9824
VIDEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-693-5568

These are your DTIHCG Officers and Chairpersons. They help themselves and you by giving their time and efforts to make this a better club for all of us. If you'd like to become more involved, please let our President, Dan Lowe, know what you'd like to do.

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