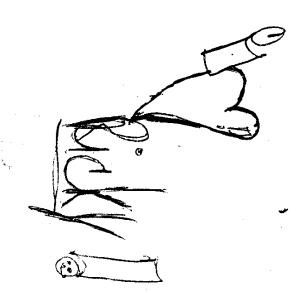
PHONE THE 99'ER CONNECTION BBS 24 Hours, 300/1200/2400 Baud, E71 (214) 233-1750



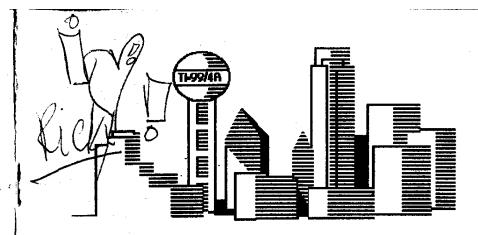
FIRST CLASS

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED*







DALLAS 99 INTERFACE

Volume 15, Number 4

April 1995

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, April 15, 1995 at the Dallas INFOMART I-35 E at the Oak Lawn Exit

DTIHCG'S APRIL EVENTS

15 DFW XCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART Oak Lawn @ Stemmons Fwy. (I-35 E)

Time: 9:00 AM

Program: COULD YOU, WOULD YOU, DO YOU?

by JACKIE GUION

15 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Who: All Officers and Chairpersons

Time: Following XCHANGE SATURDAY meeting

16 Easter

28 **NEXT BTEP**

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

1415 Motor Street, 5:15 PM

28 **NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE**



DTIHCG'S MAY EVENTS

1st Saturday Sidewalk Sale

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

DFW XCHANGE SATURDAY at INFOMART 13

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

Time: 9:00 AM

Program: PR BASE by ROBERT WATTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Who: All Officers and Chairpersons

Time: Following XCHANGE SATURDAY meeting

14 Mother's Day

26 **NEXT STEP**

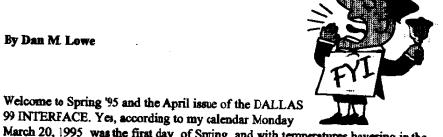
JOJO's of Stemmons Fwy (I-35 E)

1415 Motor Street, 5:15 PM

29 Memorial Day

FYI

By Dan M. Lowe



March 20, 1995 was the first day of Spring, and with temperatures hovering in the upper 80's and around the 90 degree mark, I started to wonder if my calendar was maybe two or three months behind schedule. And, pray tell, whatever happened to the winter months. Seems to me we had only a few cold (nay, cool) days and wham, it turns warm. Frankly, I still prefer the colder weather - coats, jackets, gloves, knit caps, hot chocolate (or cozy cola if you prefer) to the world of sunburn, het sun, air conditioning, shorts (well, O.K., short shorts) etc. But then that's just me, or as they say "different strokes for different folks." And oh yes, lest I forget, that great semi-annual event . . . "Spring forward, Fall back." Just when my old bod had finally gotten accustomed to hitting the sack and getting up at a certain time, and now, it's time to change again. What'll they think of next?

Aw, don't take me too seriously. After all, I had to start off the month's column with something and what better way than to fuss about the weather. As my dad used to say . . . "Whether it's COLD, or whether it's HOT, we've not to have WEATHER, whether or not."

MEDI'WHO? PAYMENT DUE?

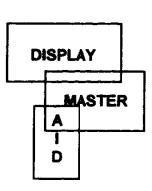
How many times have you gone to the doctor or hospital for tests, checkups, lab work, etc, and then, weeks or even months later, start receiving bills for services you didn't receive (or didn't think you received)? This can happen because your doctor may have other medical specialists review or evaluate your diagnosis without your knowledge. As a result, you may receive a bill from a Dr. Ima Pain that says you owe \$75.00. Of course, you feel it's a mistake until you do some checking and discover it is a valid charge that your doctor incurred on your behalf. Also, the homital may have some of the lab test results reviewed by other medical facility's specialists. Also, you might receive bills that are "out of sequence" to the times when you received the service(s). And there's always the possibility of an error in billing.

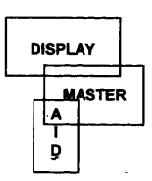
DM AID

by Mary Leard

This program was presented at our February INFOMART meeting and will create a command file for DISPLAY MASTER to view 25 sector program files that have the _P ending to the filename. It will work on TI-ARTIST and MAX-RLE picture files. DM_AID was written by Richard M. Mitchell, and appeared in THE SMART PROGRAMMER, August 1986.

100 DISPLAY AT(1.1) ERASE ALL :"DM AID":"THE SMART PROGRAM MER" 110 OPTION BASE 1 120 DIM N\$(127) 130 DISPLAY AT(10,1): "NAME F OR DISPLAY WASTER COMMAN D FILE: ": "DSK1.CFILE" 140 ACCEPT AT(12.1)BEEP VALI DATE(UALPHA, DIGIT. ". * ") SIZE(·15):F\$:: DISPLAY AT(5.1):* 150 OPEN #1:SEG\$(F\$,1,5),INP UT.RELATIVE.INTERNAL 160 I-1 170 INPUT #1:A\$.U.U.U 180 INPUT #1:N\$(I).U.U.U 190 IF N\$(I)-SEG\$(F\$,6,10)TH EN DISPLAY AT(5.10: "DUPLICAT E FILENAME.": "TRY AGAIN" :: CLOSE #1 :: GOTO 130 200 IF N\$(I)<>"" THEN I=I+1 :: IF I<128 THEN 180 210 CLOSE #1 220 OPEN #2:F\$, DISPLAY, VARIA BLE 80.OUTPUT 230 FOR J-1 TO I 240 IF POS(N\$(J),"_P",2)<>0 THEN PRINT #2: ".LOADPIC "&CH R\$(34)&SEG\$(F\$.1.5)&SEG\$(N\$(





J),1,LEN(N\$(J))-2)&CHR\$(34)&
";":".DELAY 5;"
250 NEXT J
260 CLOSE #2 :: END

MORE MEDITRAX

Our program presentation in March was well received, with considerable interest shown in the MULTIPLAN templates developed as an aid to tracking medical expenses and medications. Our Disk of the Month (DOM) included the 2 files shown, titled BILLS and MEDS. Also on the disk are the updated MULTIPLAN files released to the public domain by TI back in 1984. All you need to run the program is the MULTIPLAN cartridge. When it is in the GROM port, and the DOM in Drive 1, simply choose "MULTIPLAN" from the option screen and it will load, along with the empty file named "TEMP", ready to use. Use the TRANSFER LOAD command to load either "BILLS" or "MEDS", then enter your own information in place of what we demonstrated.

Also included on the disk is (1) the program SIDEPRINT from our public domain software library, when enables you to print spreadsheets "sideways" on your printer; (2) another program from our library which allows entering printer commands directly into the spreadsheet; (3) a very small (2 sector) file named "COMP/DS", an extended basic program to put your printer into compressed print/double strike mode, useful for printing spreadsheets. Simply run this little program BEFORE loading MULTIPLAN, and your printer will stay in this mode until it is turned off. If you were not at our meeting, but want the DOM, they'll be available again at the April meeting, or order by mail (\$3.00) from our P.O. Box. And if you don't have MULTIPLAN, contact Mary. She has a few copies available for a VERY reasonable price, including the manual, cartridge, original disk, and overlay strip.

SIGNIFICANT SAYINGS?

(Jim Stewart speaking:)

"I don't work with my computer, I generate synthetic excitement!"



DTIHCG ACTIVITIES



April 9 - May 20, 1995

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 9 Palm Sunday	Apr 10	Apr l1	A 12	Apr 13	Apr 14 Good Friday	Apr 15 XCHANGE SATURDAY 9:30a Program 12:00p D.O.M. 1:00p E.C. Meeing
	BRING A YOUNG FRIEND TO A MEETING					וישון
Apr 16 Easter	Apr 17	Apr 18	Арт 19	Арт 20	Apr 21 O 1Q Reservations for NEXT- STEP	Apr 22 EARTH DAY
T		OR DFW XCHANGI	MEETING DATE	S CALL 214-746-336	5	
Apr 23 Jim Lesher is our resident TI99/4a Dealer • 214-821-9274	Арт 24	Арт 25	Aµr 26 ×	Apr 27	Apr 28 NEXT-STEP Jo Jo's on Motor Street 5:15p Come early, stay late	Apr 29 NM Get new programs from the DTIHCG library
 .	if you move, let us know your new address, we care					
Apr 30	May 1 APPLE III FLOPS! - 1980	May 2 XEROX STARR - 1981 - FORERUNNER OF MAC, AMIGA, ETC	May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6 1st SATURDAY SIDEWALK SALE Ross at Central Expressway
		CALL THE BBS	, FIND OUT WHA	T'S GOING ON		
May 7 D FQ ill Clayberg is 51	May 8	May 9 Billy Joet's birthday	May 10	May 11 Salvador Dali - 1904	May 12 Burt Eachrach is 66	May 13 EXCHANGE SATURDAY 9:30a Program 12:00p D.O.M. 1:00b EC Meeting
	NEW DISK OF THE MONTH, AT MEETING OR BY MAIL					M
May 14 FM Mother's Day	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18 Pope John Paul is 75 today	May 19	May 20 Anned Forces Day Go for a march.
	IF YOU NEED DIRECTIONS TO A MEETING CALL 337-4840					

SAVING

While brushing your teeth if you let the water run only when you need water, you can save 40 gallons of water a year.

While shaving, if you let the hot water non <u>only</u> when you need hot water, you can save 180 galleons of water a year plus the cost of heating the water.

MORE LAWS

- LOWES LAW: Repetition does not establish validity.
- CHAPMAN'S CONUNDRUM: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.
- MONROE'S DICTUM OF DIRECTION GIVING: The possibility of getting lost is directly proportional to the number of times the direction giver says "You can't miss it".
- THIERRY'S THEORY: The person with the least expertise has most opinions.
- JONES COMMENTARY: The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits.

WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?

SX, SX2, 386, 486, PENTIUM, DX2, DX4, iCOMP and MHz all are expressions of CPU speed. The first 7 are CPU chips of varying speeds, more about these later. iCOMP is an index rating of CPU speeds, a 486SX = 100. MHz is a statement of CPU speeds - such as, a 486SX25 operates at 25MHz. An Intel 486SX2 50 MHz is about 75% faster than the 486SX25. A 486 DX2 50MHz is about 28% faster than a 486SX2 50 MHz. A 486 DX4 100MHz is about 88% faster than a DX2 50MHz. A 486 DX4 100 MHz is about half the speed of a Pentium 100MHz CPU. A Pentium 100MHz is 8 times faster than a 486SX 25.

A warning about this speed race - old programs may not operate in the desired manner to which you are accustomed. Old drives, modems or other accessories may not work at all.

The plus side is bigger and better programs are being written for these faster processors and these programs can do some fantastic things.

CHANGE

The Meeting Information phone number for the DFW Xchange Corporation has changed - it is now 214-746-3365.

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXPRESSED

to our President, MATTIE BUSH, on the death of her mother, Mrs. Gladys Ansley McCrary on March 29, 1995 following a stroke suffered on March 27. Funeral services were held on Friday, March 31 at Shannon North Funeral Home in Ft. Worth, with burial following in Aurora, TX.

Mrs. McCrary was retired following 21 years of service as a custodian and cook at the Northwest School District and was 84 at the time of her death.

Gladys lived with Mattie during the first years of her DTIHCG Presidency, 1991 - 1993. She frequently attended our INFOMART meetings, NEXT STEP at JOJO's, and our Executive Committee meetings which were then held at Mr. Gatti's Pizza, and was well known to all our DTIHCG "family".

We love you, Mattie, and share your sorrow at this time.



CPU RESCUE UNDER WATER



by Jim Stewart

Ya shudda been there. Ya really shudda been there. I never saw anything like it. I brought to the last NEXT STEP, an ancient Commodore BC10-III (which was their first DOS 3088 PC) with a totally dead Hard Drive. My daughter felt there were important amortization and depreciation schedules on this machine that knew it had an A: drive and a B: drive, but refused to acknowledge it had even known a hard disk samed C:. I laid a trup near the front door...the Monitor turned on...but without any image of any kind. As each of our Technical Experts passed by, they could not tesist....What have we here? And would casually begin probing a few keys. Feeling it was under attack the CBM stood silent. No C lives here! As each valiant knight left the field battered but undefeated, a new challenger would enter the arena and do his very best to unlock the secret. Until finally....there was a late arrival. Quietly, GREG JUSTICE approached the shumbering foe. Without any tools, or diagnostics, or drawings, or specs....armed only with a 1" pocket knife...he feaced with the CBM, defly tossing it about like a leaf in a gale. Then he hurled it to the ground. Not once. Not twice. But the beast failed to reveal it's hard disk. GREG then caused the entire assembly to gasp in astonishment. Throwing off the outer armour, he exposed the beating heart, at which he pointed a finger of accusation at the twin power controllers, pulsating with burning heat. He thrashed and turned, and gnashed his teeth. Why oh why had he left his DEBUG? He cried out to the crowd. "Is there not one of you willing to share your DEBUG with me this night?" But only silence returned. GREG knew what he had to do. He found a plastic bag from the crowd, which he filled with ice and water. (He would have used iced tea, but someone had used up all of the lemon slices.) To the awed astonishment of those watching, he placed this ICE BAG directly of the burning hot controller screen. And then it was gone in a twinking of the eye. But GREG would not give up. Again and again, he would laboriously boot up the system, while carefully nurturing those overheated chips with their ice bag treatment, and in time ran a Directory of C. Sure enough there were files there but all quite old. Gone again. A few small files were ultimately copied by means of this strange electronic surgery under a plastic ice bag environment.

EPITAPH: GREG finally had to end the sufferings of this critically ill hard drive. All who were there will recall the brave and exciting attempt to resurrect this totally dead hard drive. The following tombstone inscription might say it best......RIP U HOT SOB.

We have many Heroes in the Dallas TI Home Computer Group, as this tale has tried to tell.

1995 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	MATTIE BUSH	214-837-4937
VICE-PRESIDENT	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
TREASURER	MATTIE BUSH	214-537-4937
SECRETARY -	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	JIM LESHER	214-821-9274

1995 CHAIRPERSONS

BBS SYSOPS	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-6829
DISKETTE SALES	GUY HUNTER	214-375-5424
DOM and DISKETTE SALES	JIM LESHER	214-521-9274
HISTORIAN	DAN LOWE	214-276-0240
LOBBY KIOSK	JIM STEWART	214-825-0922
MEMBERSHIP/ MERCHANDISE	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHARLICE ALTHAR	214-337-4840
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	LOUIS & JACKIE GUION	214-239-8829
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	TOM HALL	817-267-5967
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	JIM LESHER	214-521-9274
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	IMOGENE/CARL OSBORNE	214-252-5985

1995 LIBRARIANS

ADVENTURE LIBRARIAN	CHARLES BROCK	214-276-3822
SOFTWARE LIBRARIAN	MARY LEARD	214-524-8057
VIĎEO LIBRARIAN	ROBERT SMITH	903-593-5568

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, Maltie Bush, 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.