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THE HUGgers HOOSIER USERS GROUP

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SEPTEMBER, 1984

THE HUGgers NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 6

THE OFFICER'S CORNER____

Well, summer is almost over, and the Christmas season will be upon us soon! Look for more third party products to be released by companies who have continued to support the 99/4A user after the pull out of the home computer market by TI.

After reviewing the Commodore & Atari market, I believe that if TI had hung in there. & did'nt reduce the price of the console, that the 99/4A would have come I base my judgements on out on top. these factors: "user-friendliness" (ease of use), in & out of warranty support for the computer & accessories, availability of computer hardware & software, & last: the technical aspects of 99/4A. the The TI disk drive operates in parallel, the same as the more expensive "big boys" operate in. The Commodore & Atari disk drives both operate in serial, which is operates 8 times slower than the TI.

I am pleased to report that the miniworkshops at the August Meeting was a huge success. In fact, I was rather suprised by interest shown in these workshops. Look for more workshops in the months to come. If you have any suggestions, or would like to volunteer to do a workshop, please contact one of the Officers at the next meeting, or thru the P.O. Box.

Just a reminder: a Program contest was announced in the August Newsletter, & at the August Meeting. Rules are simple: Whoever contributes the most programs to our Library (judged on content & total sectors used) will win: TI-99/4A BASIC Programs & the second place finisher will win: Sams TI-99/4A BASIC Programs. To participate, add your name in REM statements at the beginning of the programs you donate & save them on the NEW-PROGRAMS disk in the library. Deadline is November 30. The winners will be announced in the December Newsletter & can pick up their prize at the December Meeting.

Hope to see you at the September 9th meeting! JSS

NEXT MEETING WILL BE SEPTEMBER 9, AT 2:00 PM AT CREATIVE LOGIC. SEE YOU THERE!

WORKSHOPS: ADVANCED PRK

FORTH STACK OPERATIONS & VARIABLES

Regional Meetings

East: No September meeting

South: September 22, 1:30 pm

-->>>00PS<<<---

There was a typo in the TI Exchange Center article which appeared in last month's Newsletter. The phone number is 317-244-6836. Please make this correction in your August Newsletter, Sorry for the inconvenience,

PRIVATE MESSAGE OPTION NOW ON THE HUGbbs

There is a new private message system now in operation on the HUGbbs! All active members will be able to use this new feature.

To use the private message system, you will first need your HUGbbs Access Code (printed on your address Label). Then you will need to log onto the bbs with your access code and go to the Message Module.

You will notice that the Message Module menu has a new addition called "B> MailBox List". In this option you can list, add or remove a box.

L>ist is a list of all subscribers, who have requested a mail box. To use or even read this list you must log on with a access To request a box, select A>dd. Give the info requested by the prompts and your "application" will be processed by the MailBox Maintenance overnite. Your name and access code will be assigned to a box number.

To leave private messages to others on the MailBox List, specify PVT when it asks to whom the message is for. Then it will ask for the Box number (check the Box List for the Box Number). Then continue on with the message as you would if you were entering a public message. Once saved, a private message can only be read by the person receiving that message.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A Happy September Birthday to these September 1983 members: Edwin Board, Warren Thorne, Dorothea Siff, Jim Waggoner, Albert Highsaw, Don Baker, John Schuckman, William Rogers, Kirk Mangold, John Shaw, Earl Brandhoefer, Phil Dubbs, Howard Miller, Helen Chastain, Tom Allington, Tod Taylor, Phil Caldwell, David Maksymczak, Randy Tompson, Bob Thompson, William Bensch, Bob Wetzel, and Joseph Fischer.

WELCOME!

Welcome to these new Hoosier Users Group members from August: Randy Blackwood, Greg Goodwin, and Anthony Black.

WELCOME BACK!

This month I would like give a special thanks to our renewing members. Thanks for you support over the past year! Richard Johnson, Richard Griffith, Ted Allen, John Ashton, Joe & Charlotte Godsey, Bob Manville and Marge Rickman.

And last, but certainly not least, I would also like to give a very special thanks to these "charter members" who have helped guide the group over the years: Sheila Smith, Don Donlan, and Rich Sceniak.

REGIONAL NEWS

EAST SIDE REGIONAL NEWS

Editors Note: East Side Regional News was not available at press time.

SOUTH SIDE REGIONAL NEWS

The South Side meeting will be Saturday, September 22, beginning at 1:30.

The Library will be open beginning at 1:00 for interested members. The Library has been updated so you may copy the new Texas diskettes which were described in the August Newsletter.

Dennis Sherfy

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

At the last Officers meeting, the question came up as to how long of a grace period a member has to pay his dues. We could find no mention of this in any of the articles or bylaws.

much discussion we After Officers resolved that the " grace " period would be ninety days expiration date on the member's card. Until everyone gets this message, the club will take a lenient approach to this problem, so lets everyone dig out the old card and check the expiration date. If you see your name listed in the "Happy Birthday" column of the Newsletter, (which appears each month). you're renewal is due in that month.

The next item that came to our attention, was the amount of time required to due the maintenance on the club library . Effective September the library will accessible, at Micro Computers, for five days after any meeting. This will eliminate the necessity of Steve and Pam working all night to complete this job and I know that all of you will want I also realize that this is bound that. someone some inconvenience, but I am certain that in time everything will work out everyone's best interest. We are also trying to set up a library committee to undertake the monstrous job of going through our library.

Wm. H. Cagle, vp

FOR SALE

ONE NEW TI DISK MEMORY DRIVE (PHP 1250) WITH POSITION CHIP. THIS IS THE DRIVE WHICH COMES THE MEMORY EXPANSION SYSTEM. IT CAN ALSO GO INTO A FREE STANDING DRIVE BOX. ONLY \$130.00 872-0636

HALF-HEIGHT TEAC SINGLE SIDED DRIVES FOR SALE (NEW) \$90. EACH. (2 WILL FIT IN THE EXPANSION BOX. CONTACT BILL JONES (OF INDY) AT THE MONTHLY MEETING, OR THRU THE HUGBBS OR POST OFFICE BOX.

LIBRARY BITS

By Dennis Sherfy

Since it's back-to-school time, this month's column looks at three of our library's educational programs. three programs are in BASIC. The first two can help the language student in your family. They are named GERMAN and SPANISH. Both programs are identical, but the words in the data statements are in different languages. The program prints a foreign word, then prompts you to enter the english equivalent. If you answer incorrectly, you are given another opportunity. After the second incorrect answer, you are given the correct enalish word. You must have the alpha luck down. The program expects you to spell the words with capital letters.

Because the foreign/english words are contained in data statements, the program can be easily modified to include any words, such as those in your student's own language book so he/she can practice on vocabulary required in school.

By reversing the sequence of words in the data statements, these programs will print the english word and prompt you to enter the foreign language equivalent.

The programs can be altered to provide a study tool for any language. Just enter the proper word pairs in the data statements. Now you can study French, Italian, or any other language which uses our alphabet while in the comfort of your computer chair.

The third program is called ALGEBRA. This program allows you to add, subtract, multiply, or factor single variable polynomials. Factoring polynomials is the neatest thing this program does. If someone in your family comes to you for assistance in algebra, and you can't recall what a polynomial is, you better get this program.

MICRO'S IN ACTION

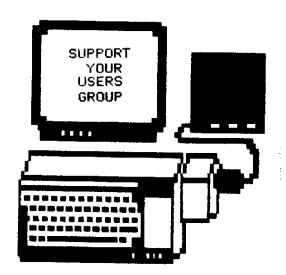
by Bill Cagle

As some of you may know, I travel a lot in my work and last Tuesday when returning from Chicago, something caught my eye as I was on my way out of the terminal. One of the auto rental companies was useing two micro computers on their business counter. They appeared to be units by DEC and the software was a lot like our TE II with the actual data coming from a large "main frame" somewhere.

The system was very fast and the micro would write a full screen in about 2 seconds. This would lead me to believe that the operating software was in machine or Forth language, plus they used inverted video and selective screen writing to enhance the screen. I also saw some high-lighted prompts that flashed. This is an example of some very sophiscated programing that is necessary when you don't have a color-screen to make the screen more dramatic.

The "access" time for data retrieval was very fast. I watched several transactions and from the time the "Enter" button was pushed, the data was being written in about three seconds. I was very much impressed as U.S. Air has "wait times" on the order of ten to thirty seconds, at times. Running data at these speeds means that special telephone lines and modems are in use.

Should anyone want to see this application, it is on display at the Budget Auto Rental Co. and they are located on the ground floor under Delta Airlines.



BEYOND PERSONAL RECORD KEEPING

by Don Donlan

Thanks to an inquiry on the bulletin board, I thought I would share with you the following program which sorts PRK records according to the first five fields in the order of determined by the 'key', which in this case is the first five character fields. I think the annotation should help explain what is going on in the program. I might caution you that since this is a BASIC program you won't see any increase in speed over the painfully slow sort that is already available'in PRK. This simply lets you sort PRK records using any number of fields. It would be wise to have a printed or hand copied file structure available if you plan to modify this program to sort one of your files. In our example here, we use a file with 15 fields (5 character and 10 numeric), but you could modify that to suit your needs. Have fun!

```
1000 REM The following BASIC program BUILDS A PRK DATA FILE SORTS
1010 REM the file SORTWK. Then it restores the data to the PRK file.
1020 REM Requires use of Disk drive and diskette with enough room to
1030 REM build a relative record work file with which to do the sort.
1040 REM
1050 KEM Before running the program, enter 11 BASIC with the PRK module
1060 REM inserted in the console. Then execute these BASIC commands:
1070 REM > CALL FILES(1)
1080 REM > CALL P(18000)
1090 REM > NEW
1100 REM
1110 REM Load this program into memory (OLD DSK1.222222222) and RUN.
1130 OPTION BASE 1 REM Set array index to begin at 1.
1140 DIM A$(15) REM Build and array to store default values.
1150 A$(1)="000000" REM Default values will be used to replace where
1160 A$(2)="00" REM no data has been entered into the PRK file.
1170 A$(3)="0000" REM There should be as many array/default values as
1180 A$(4)="0000" REM there are fields in the PRK record.
1190 A$(5)="0080"
1200 A$(6)="00000"
1210 A$(7)="0000.00"
1220 A$(8)="0000.00"
1230 A$(9)="00000"
1240 A$(10)="00000"
1250 A$(11)="00000"
1260 A$(12)="00000"
1270 A$(13)="000000.80"
1280 A$(14)="000000.00"
1290 A$(15)="0000"
1300 CALL CLEAR
1310 INPUT "ENTER NAME OF THE PRK FILE TO SORT >":FILE$
1320 CALL L(FILE*,C)
1330 IF C=0 THEN 1660
1340 CALL H(1,1,0,F$)
1350 CALL H(1,5,0,F)
1360 CALL H(1,6,0,R)
1370 S=0
1380 FOR I=1 TO F
1390 CALL H(1,9,1,F$)
1400 CALL H(1,10,1,T)
1410 CALL H(1,11,1,W)
1420 IF T(>1 THEN 1450
1430 S=S+W+1
1440 GOTO 1460
1450 S=S+9
1460 CALL H(1,12,1,D)
```

BEYOND PRK, cont'd

```
1470 NEXT I
1480 OPEN #1:"DSK1.SORTWK".RELATIVE R.INTERNAL.UPDATE.FIXED S+1
1490 FOR I=1 TO R
1500 RESTORE #1,REC I
1510 FOR J=1 TO F
1520 CALL H(1,18,J,T)
1530 IF T=1 THEN 1590
1540 CALL G(1,I,J,C,D)
1550 IF C=0 THEN 1570
1560 D=VAL(A$(J))
1570 PRINT #1:D;
1580 6010 1630
1590 CALL G(1,I,J,C,F$)
1600 IF C=0 THEN 1620
1610 F4-A4(J)
1620 PRINT #1:F$:
1630 NEXT J
1640 NEXT 1
1650 GOTO 1680
1660 PRINT "ERROR IN LOADING PRK FILE."
1670 STOP
1680 GAP=2^INT(LOG(R)/LOG(2))-1
1690 PRINT "Beginning sort of "&STR$(R)&"records."
1700 FOR I=1 TO R-GAP
1710 FOR J=1 TO 1 STEP -GAP
1720 REM According to PRK file structure, we INPUT 5 char. 10 numeric
1730 REM fields when we read the record. Your situation may differ.
1740 INPUT #1,REC J:$1$,$2$,$3$,$4$,$5$,$6,$7,$8,$9,$0,$A,$8,$C,$D,$E
1750 INPUT #1,REC J+GAP:Z$,B$,C$,D$,E$,FX,GX,HX,IX,JX,KX,LX,MX,NX,0X
1760 REM For this file we build a 'key' made up of the 2nd-5th and 1st
1770 REM fields of the record. You may build your sort 'Key' differently.
1780 X$=$2$&$3$&$4$&$5$&$1$
1790 Y$=B$&C$&D$&E$&Z$
1800 IF X$<=Y$ THEN 1840
1810 PRINT #1,REC J+GAP:S1$,S2$,S3$,S4$,S5$,S6,S7,S8,S9,S0,SA,S8,SC,SD,SE
1820 PRINT #1,REC J:Z$,B$,C$,D$,E$,FX,GX,HX,IX,JX,KX,LX,MX,NX,OX
1830 NEXT J
1840 NEXT I
1850 PRINT GAP
1860 GAP=INT(GAP/2)
1970 IF GAP>0 THEN 1700
1880 PRINT "Restoring sorted data and saving as PRK file with name of ":&FlLE$
1890 FOR I=1 TO R
1900 RESTORE #1,REC 1
1910 FOR J=1 TO F
1920 CALL H(1,10,J,T)
1930 IF T=1 THEN 1970
1940 INPUT #1:D,
1950 CALL G(0,I,J,D)
1960 GOTO 1990
1970 INPUT #1:F#,
1980 CALL G(0,I,J,F$)
1990 NEXT J
2000 NEXT 1
2010 CLOSE #1:DELETE
2020 CALL S(FILE$,C)
2030 IF C THEN 2050
2040 PRINT "Error in Saving PRK file."
2058 STOP
```

CONSOLE COMMENTS.....

.....AND HARDWARE HINTS

By Bill Jones (of Indy)

Corcomp introduced their version of a 32K memory for T1 recently. Unlike their disk controller, memory doesn't have much of a personality. It just stays in the background doing what it's supposed to do. That makes it a little more difficult to do a product review and make it interesting.

Before the cards were distributed, there were rumors that Corcomp was a supplier to TI. The memory card shows no resemblance to the one made by TI. Although it is functionally identical, its outer cover it made of sheet metal instead of cast aluminum like the TI version, and is painted with crinkle gray paint.

Of course, the next step was to find a screwdriver. Inside I found that Corcomp used about half the real estate bad, did. That's not overengineered everything to do with the 99/4 system. (Hopefully this Corcomp some room to lower the price when their products catch on. The card doesn't contain anything that would make it incompatable with the rest of your system. I'm running FORTH with no problems.

So far as can be seen, it's a perfect substitute for the one made by the company that "closed a door we thought was open". The TI's not dead, Corcomp realizes this and stepped in to fill a need for several million people who thought the TI computer was the right choice.

--We think so too!

BEST OF THE NEWSLETTER

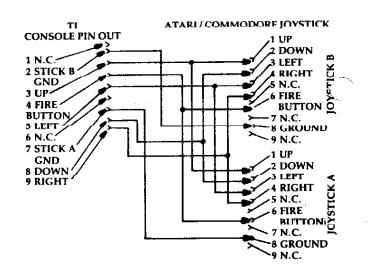
HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN......
TI-99/4A JOYSTICK ADAPTER

by Gary Cook

From Compute!, August 1983

The following article was included in the September, 1983 HUGger Newsletter.

As an owner of a TI-99/4A, I decided I wanted a joystick to go with it. To save time and money, I got the Atari pin configuration from a friend and TI's configuration from the TI toll-free information line. After that it was a simple matter of buying three nine-pin "D" connectors (two male and one female), a small box, and some wire. Following this wiring diagram, you can make this adapter in about an hour and be able to select any joystick from the wide variety Atari-compatible joysticks sold.



THE FORTH PAGE

By Grea Goodwin

Here is a small routine that will allow the user to input numbers in a Forth word! This word will require the Floating Point Routines to be loaded (-FLOAT).

forth.....write.....greg

HEX for the state of the state

: GET-INTEGER (SAME AS REAL BUT FORCE INTEGER AND PUT ON STACK)
GET-REAL F->s :

: EXAMPLE CR CR ." Enter Number->" GET-REAL CR ." YOUR NUMBER WAS=" FDUP F. CR ." 5*" F. ."=" >F 5 F* F. ;

HOOSIER USERS 3ROUP DIRECTORY

HOOSIER USERS GROUP OFFICERS

President.....Steve Sims 631-7255 Uice-President....Bill Cagle

tretary.....Barb Uhrig 357-8268

reasurer......Bill Jones

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Sou	th	.Dennis	Sherfy	881-5918

Documents......Don Donlan 882-4544
Membership......Pam Sims 631-7255
Newsletter.....Pam Sims 631-7255

MEETING LOCATION

Creative Logic 8240 Indy Lane Indianapolis, IN 46224

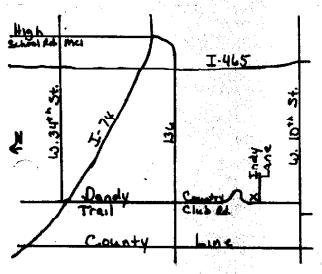
(About 1800 North Country Club Road)

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

The Hoosier Users is participating in a Newsletter Exchange program with other recognized TI Users Groups. This offer is made with the understanding that, with proper edit, your Users Group can reprint articles from the Hoosier Users Group Newsletter, and with proper credit, we can reprint articles from other TI Users Groups Newsletters.

PRINTOUTS

Printouts of library listings can be ordered for \$.25 & a self addressed envelope with \$.37 postage. Printouts of the HUGbbs can be ordered for \$.50 and a self addressed envelope with \$.20 postage. Please send orders to our P.O. Box. SORRY, PRINTOUTS WILL BE SENT TO ACTIVE MEMBERS ONLY!



HU6bbs INFORMATION

317-631-994A

The HUGbbs operates on a 24 hour basis.

SPONSOR THE HUGbbs: Any member or retail business can sponsor the HUGbbs. For a \$5.00 donation, you get 5 (40 column) lines on the Log-On Title Screen for a week (or for a \$10.00 donation, you get 10 (40 column) lines) plus a 24 line by 40 character ad in the Sales option of the File Module. To sponsor the HUGbbs, send a check or money order to our P.O. Box (or turn in at our Monthly Meeting) specifying how many weeks (and how many lines)

money order to our P.O. Box (or turn in at our Monthly Meeting) specifying how many weeks (and how many lines) you want to sponsor, your name (or company name), address, phone, what you want to say, and the week (and an alternate week) you want the ad to appear.*

NEWSLETTER "REGULAR FEATURES"

The following is a list of regular features which are a part of the HUGger Newsletter each month. The appearance of regular features in the Newsletter is dependent upon the response of the membership.

Things TI Never Told Us: A feature which is based on quirks of the TI home computer and related software and hardware.

Function 7 * Users Aid Key: Function 7 is a question and answer feature for your TI home computing problems and suggestions.

Go Forth!: A technical Q & A column designed for users of the programming language, TI Forth.

BACK ISSUES

Back Issues purchased at the monthly meeting is \$2.00 each. Mail order price is \$2.50 per Newsletter (postage included). Orders will be filled within 3 weeks of receipt by the Documents Committee.

ADVERTIZING POLICIES

There will be no charge for advertisements submitted to the HUGger Newsletter by members (for private sale only). Format for the advertizements is 45 characters wide by 10 lines long. The Ad should be typed or hand printed exactly how it is to appear in the Newsletter. Deadline for an ad to appear in next month's Newsletter is the 2nd Saturday of the month.*

For companies who wish to advertize in the HUGger Newsletter, our rates are as follows:

Pre-Printed Inserts (one page) \$20.00

One Full Page (one sided) Ad: \$25.00

One Half Page Ad: \$13.00

One Quarter Page Ad: \$7.00

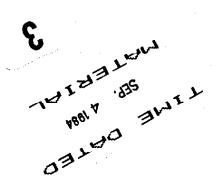
All ads must be in a ready to print condition. Advertisements must be in our P.O. Box before the 2nd Saturday of the month to appear in the following month's Newsletter.*

#NOTE: The Officers of the Hoosier Users Group reserve final approval on all advertizements submitted for the HUGger Newsletter and the HUGbbs. The Officers and the Newsletter committee are not responsible for typographical errors due to illegible advertizements. All proceeds are accepted as donations to the Hoosier Users Group.

SEP. 4 1984

BEECH GROVE, IN 46107 105 N. 4th

3517E



Bulk Rate U. S. Postage PAID Indianapolis, IN Permit No. 6440

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

INDIGNAPPOLIS, IN 46206-2222 POOSIER USERS GROUP



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Below you will find an application for membership to the Hoosier Users Group. Active membership entitles you to the Newsletter, up and download on the HUGbbs, attendance and voting rights at regular club meetings, access to the HUGger Library of Programs, special club activities and special guest speakers for one year. Subscribing members will receive the NEWSLETTER only.

Make check or money order payable to HOOSIER USERS GROUP. Send completed application to:

HOOSIER USERS GROUP P. O. Box 2222

Indianapolis, IN 46206-2222

		ncintcut_on_dotted	_line	
Check One:		1	TODAY'S	
Active Member		NAME	DATE	
New:	\$20	<u> </u>		
Renewal:	\$15	i ADDRESS	APT #	
Subscribing Member		} 		
New:	\$10	CITY	STATEZIP	
	\$7.5			
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