

**President**  
Jo Lambert

**Vice-President**  
James Crosson

**Secretary**  
Charles Clines

**Treasurer**  
Charles Bathman



**Editor**

Gary Fuquay

**Reproduction Staff**

Sam Weller

Marilee Catalano

---

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 1985

---

Next meeting January 11<sup>th</sup>  
At the Hurst Public Library  
9 am till 11 am

The reviews, evaluations and opinions contained in  
articles in this newsletter are the authors' own  
and do not reflect the views of the NET 99er KCUG.

**Northeast  
Tarrant  
Home Computer  
Users' Group**

Devoted to the

**TI-99/4A**

President's Page

I would like to wish each and everyone a Happy New Year and good things for all. It has been a good year for me and my family. A very happy Jim Leshar came to our house on Sunday to pick up the computer system he had won. The first meeting that he had missed turned out to be his lucky day. Also given as a second prize was a TI Writer going to Gary Fuquay.

I have GRAPHX on hand for Fredrick and Ludwick.

In the CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GOODFELLOW FUND on Thursday evening, Dec. 12 we are named as thanking STARTEXT with a \$50.00 donation.

I would like to add W. Lee Boddie to the list of people willing to help new people learn more about their system. He is located in West Fort Worth.

We will accept nominations from the floor at the next meeting. We need for these people to be present and willing to serve. A slate of nominees will be presented by the nominating committee.

As the new officers take their places, please remember we are all volunteers and need all the support we can get. I would especially like to thank Gerry Myers for the extra help he gave me during this past year. He and many others contributed to my being a better worker for the group.

A nice surprise at the end of the Christmas meeting was the SLEIGH RIDE program displayed by Jeff Gatlin. He did a beautiful piece of work with the music and graphics. Also thanks to James Crosson for his help with the NEW YEAR.

For those that are new to the club:

TI EXCHANGE CENTER  
CAMPBELL RD.  
RICHARDSON, TX  
(214) 680-5032

NORTH ON HIGHWAY 75 OR CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY until you reach Campbell Rd., East on Campbell Rd. about one-half mile. North side of Campbell Rd.

Next meeting will be Jan. 11, 1986

Jo Lambert Pres.

-----  
Minutes  
Net 99er HCUG Meeting  
December 7, 1985

The meeting was called to order by President Jo Lambert at 9:00 A.M.. A motion was made and approved to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published in the newsletter.

A treasurers report was given by Charles Bathman indicating a balance of 653.23. The report was approved as given. Envelopes for the system drawing were collected for the final time. a suggestion was made by president Lambert to contribute to the Star Telegram Goodfellow Fund. A motion was made and approved to contribute \$50.00 to the Goodfellow Fund.

The latest GRAPH X order was distributed to the members who had placed their orders at the last meeting.

A buy, sell, swap time was held and many members had various pieces of equipment to dispose of.

Leroy Thompson gave a report on the "TI COMPUTER FAIRE", held in Chicago, as he saw it on the tape of the Faire. Thompson discussed the new MYARC machine, Craig Miller's GRAMKRACKER and other software and hardware shown at the Faire.

A request for names of repair centers to be placed in the newsletter was made. Charles Bathman stated there were already repair centers listed in the newsletter under TI GOODSTUFF.

Gerry Barker of STARTEXT was our program guest. Barker presented a demonstration of the new GROLIER'S ACADEMIC AMERICAN ENCYCLOPEDIA that is now available on Startext. Barker stated there are 31,000 topics available(10X more data than was on Startext)taking up 82 megabytes of storage and updated every 90 days. Barker stated the charge for the Encyclopedia was \$19.95 for each 3 hour block of time and there is no charge for search time only reading time. Barker also discussed the possibility of electronic banking on Startext in the near future. The electronic banking is now undergoing a trial period with some of the Startext staff members.

Gerry Barker drew the winning name for the TI System. The winner was Jim Leshar. A secondary drawing for a TI Writer was held and the winner was Gary Fuquay.

Our closing presentation was a music and graphics program by Jeff Gatlin entitled "SLEIGH RIDE".

Our next meeting will be January 11, 1986 at the Hurst Public Library at 9:00A.M.

The meeting was adjourned by President Jo Lambert.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lexie Glenn

-----

RANDOM ACCESS  
formerly TIMELESS TECHNICAL TIPS  
by LeRoy Thompson

The new year brings a new title and who knows what else. As this is written, there are still several shopping days left until Christmas. Who knows what Santa may or may not have decided to deliver. I hope all of us are happy with what we receive. Actually the new title should allow for broader subject matter without my having to make apologies. Now on with the show.

I made one significant discovery this past month. I tried to run a Plato package after not touching any for several months. My faithful 4A seemed to ignore the fact that there was a Plato Interpreter module out there and would not even look at the disk. Well I suspected the CorComp disk controller. I tried both the Myarc and TI controllers. I had different, but still unsuccessful results. Based on a tip that I received from Richard Gardner, I changed out my Myarc 128K card for a CorComp 32K. Everything worked fine then. The little bit of research that I have been able to do indicates that there is some conflict between the Plato I/O routines and the Ramdisk firmware in the Myarc 128K card. I have heard that there is conflict between the name of the Ramdisk and what Plato is looking for. My testing shows that giving the Ramdisk a name will not make any difference. This is mystifying at the moment. If anyone knows the solution, please share it with us.

With our upcoming elections, I feel that I must share what I heard was happening with another user group. Their meeting two months ago had a very low attendance. Last month their attendance was even lower. This month they are sending out their "last" newsletter. In it there is a message from the board. If no one will volunteer to support the group as officers, then the board will disband the user group. We certainly aren't plagued with low attendance at our meetings, but then the nominating committee has not been overwhelmed with volunteers either. Please consider that the present officers have given of their time to keep things moving along. Please don't be one who only sits there and takes--be a contributor. Most of all: support the new officers who are elected for the 1986 year.

I feel that I must also share a word of warning with you. I personally placed an order for six Shugart SA-455 disk drives with Arlington Computer Products of Elk Grove Village, Illinois the week before Thanksgiving. These drives were for the club and several other members. I was told when ordering that they were out of stock, but shipment from the west coast would occur within 2 business days. Some three weeks later when I called their 800 number to inquire as to why I hadn't received the order, the lady wanted to know what I had ordered. When I told her that I had ordered six SA-455 disk drives, she replied that they hadn't had ANY Shugarts in a LONG time. I cancelled the order. This method of doing business will gain an establishment infamy that is hard to live down.

On the brighter side of things, I just received an advertising flyer from Pilgrim's Pride in Katboro, PA. For those of you who don't know, this is another good source of TI Good Stuff. It is where I purchased my Myarc 128K card. He is announcing a NEW product

at an interesting price. It is as yet unnamed. It will be a module and a disk. It requires 32K and disk drive. It will sell between \$60 and \$70. It will allow you to load almost any cartridge that was made for the 4A onto a disk and run it through the module (that means that you can run them all through the one module). It expands your system by 8K and it provides you with E/A options 3,4, and 5. If you have the Myarc 128K or 512K card it will also allow the AL programs to use all the 128K or 512K for program space. It will, with a single keystroke, allow you to run any program file from any drive and page through all files on all disks. You may load up to 7 programs in memory at one time and execute any of them with a single keystroke. Upon completion (or pushing the reset button) of a program you will be returned to the main menu and will be immediately ready to run any other resident program.

This sounds like an awful lot of versatility for a small outlay. Best guess is that it will hit the market about March 1986. In January, Pilgrim's Pride will move to a new store in the same area and install an 800 number for orders. He already accepts plastic money and this will make them much more accessible to us. I will keep you posted on any further developments.

-----  
USER GROUP NEWSLETTER ARTICLE  
UPDATED 12/16/85

TI-RUG Newsletter of the Texas Instruments Riverside users Group  
3089 Arlington Ave, Riverside, Ca. 92506

DATE/VOL # ARTICLES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

VOL I #9 Pres. Release  
Disktalk  
File Description Block(recap)  
Hacker's Corner Other Stuff

VOL I #10 Pres. Release  
This-'n-That  
Hacker's Corner  
Pascal Program

VOL I #11 Pres. Release  
For Newsletter Editors Only  
An Ounce of Prevention  
Hacker's Corner  
Fortran Listing

VOL I #12 Pres. Release  
Formatter Tricks  
Sound Program  
Voyage To The Planets: Program  
Overlay Strip Tips  
Tips from The Tigercub

VOL II #1 Pres. Release

Program: Printer setup  
this-'n-That  
The Variable Array  
Banner Program: BIG PRINT-1  
Free Program Challenge

VOL II #2 Pres. Release  
Those Confusing Variable Names  
Hacker's Corner  
Two(2) Astronomy Programs  
Tips from The Tigercub

VOL II #3 Pres. Release  
Hacker's Corner  
Word Processing with Multi-Plan  
II-Writer: Using Special Character Mode  
Tips from The Tigercub

PRINTOUT Newsletter of The San Gabriel Valley  
99/4a User's Group  
West Covina, Ca. 91792

VOL 1 #6 The Library  
Z-Burt: Game Review  
Helpful Hints

VOL 1 #8 Editors Two Bits  
Tom's Desk  
The Library  
Program: Jingle Bells  
Helpful Hints

VOL 1 #9 Editors Two Bits  
Tips from The Tigercub

VOL 2 #2 The Library  
Helpful Hints  
U.P. Bytes  
Editors Two Bits

VOL 2 #3 Editors Two Bits  
The Library  
From The Members  
99/4A Memory Architecture  
For The Programmer  
U.P. Bytes

VOL 2 #4 Editors Two Bits  
Review: Assembly Language Books  
Helpful Hints  
Pulling up The Slack  
Getting to Know Your Computer  
Programming Tips

VOL 2 #5 Editors Two Bits  
The Library  
Helpful Hints  
How Fast is Forth

VOL 2 #6 The Library: Screen Dump Program  
Editors Two Bits  
Maintain Your Disk

VOL 2 #7 Maintaining Your Disk Drive  
Computerese  
Using TI-Writer with a Gemini 10x  
The Library  
Relational Operators

VOL 2 #8 The Library  
Tips from The Tigercub  
Editors Two Bits  
Helpful Hints  
Instructions and Program to Transfer Data  
from or to TI 99/4A via IBM PC

99'er ONLINE Newsletter of the Edmonton 99'er Computer  
Users' society. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J3L1

SEPTEMBER 85 A TI Forth Disk Directory  
Time Line  
Program: Greg's Spread Sheet

JUG Newsletter of the Johnson Space Center 99/4A Users Group  
League City, Tx 77573

VOL 85.9 Super Space: Instructions for building E/A Board  
TI Forth Part 1  
Call Peek  
Superbug II  
Review: Millers Graphics Explorer

-----

FOR SALE

Gemini 10 Dot Matrix printer  
with 4K buffer, plus 2K serial card.

\$150

Fulton Cook  
284-9680 home  
877-2286 work