# Vol. 7 No. 3 March 1989



#### NORTHWEST DHID COMPUTER CLUB FOR THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS 99/4A

AND THE MYARC CENEUF 964A PERSONAL AND HOME COMPUTER

This newsletter is published by New Horizons TI-9974A Home Computer User's Group. Material may be reproduced without permission provided that the Author and the source are Acknowledged. For more information consult one of the following officers: Yearly Dues \$15.00 per Family or Individual...... THIS MONTHS MEETING MAR. 11, 1989 SATURDAY AT UNITY CHURCH 12:30 PM. Behind Wendy's off Secor Road on Executive Dr.

> TI-COM BBS..... PRESIDENT....Nork Maisonneuve 1-419-893-9314 HODRESS 1046 WHLL.THUTEE BHID 43567 VICE-PRES... Jo Symington 1-419-474-4128 SECRETARY... MARXLYN SCHAFSTALL 1-419-882-6870 TREASURER .. EARL N. HOFFSIS SOFTHARE LIB. Janua Chris Deney 1-419-425-3871 MENSLETTER LIB. SURE HALLORY 1-419-882-6769 EDITOR....Roces Fernauer 1-517-263-6144 COMPILER Juny Feinauer





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# President's — Corner <u></u>

by Mark Maisonneuve

#### by Mark Masinneuve

Hello to all the members of our club and to those whom recieve our news letter. I think you will find that the March meeting will be somewhat informative. So make sure you attend! Hope to see you there.

Our club project seems to have slowed down, and with the added information that will be passed out at the meeting I hope we can get it started up again and maybe even see almost close to being completed.

This months club disk (s) will be: FUNNEL WEB v4.13 ,SPACEDEMO and a special for those of us that do not have a ramdisk. I would also like to mention that Bud Mills says he should have a few ramdisks for sale at this meeting at special prices.

Do not forget that one of the drawing prizes that will be given away will be a club disk for that month. But, please also do not forget that even though you win it you will still have to cover the authors price. MICROpendium as always is available at the disk sales for \$2.00

Hope to see everyone.
Remember that the value of your club depends on your INPUT and ATTENDANCE!!!

#### MEMBER OF THE MONTH by Jo Symington

#### Charles Strobell

Charles is responsible for our "club program". He wanted to share something with our members that they could get involved with and enjoy. I want to thank Charles for his insight that has helped me very much, I think I can say that for everyone.

Charles is just recently out the U.S. Air Force after 15 years of service. It was while he was in the service that he bought his T.I. Computer, that was in 1981. There were eight other people in his Unit that owned T.I.'s. Ninty percent of his Unit was involved in advanced electronics.

Charles works at Telpro Inc. He repairs and inspects telephones, and his hobbies are computer and auto mechanics.

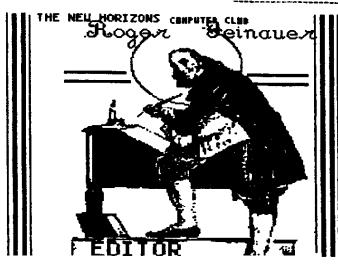
Charles is married, his wites name is Mildred and they have a 16 year old daughter, Peggy.

**Demo's** for this month

Ellen Thompson: Geneology Charles Strobell :1.LOAD 2.MUSIC



E



by Roger Feinauer

March is the third To all month of this year and really new programs are available. One of these is PC-Transfer by Mike Dodd and Distributed by Genial Computer for about \$25 the downloading of Macpaint pictures that set up to run on the PC type machines as a matter of fact the picture on the front of the newsletter was download from a disk, that had some Mac-Paint pics on it. program on the disk for the Pc that was loading it was called ALLMAC which is one of many of these type of programs that will allow the pc to load Mac Paint Graphics on the PC.

The program can use TI, MG GRAM Kracker, Mechatronics, or Triton Super Extended Just put PC-TRANSFER in drive one and the program will select version for your right machine. Remember you can't use a TI-controller as it doesn't DSDD From Edit/Assembler or any type E/A opt 5 loader(e.g. Funnelweb) inset the program disk in any drive and use any 0+ following .

There are three different files on the disk. For the Myard disk controller use, DSKn.PCT-MY-1. For the 99/4A with the CorComp verion, use DSKn.PCT-CC4A-1, and for the

9640 with a CorComp controller use DSKn.PCT-CC96-1. The n is the drive number you are using. Also if you have Macflix there is a file on that disk called PCT/MACFLIX. This will set PC-Transfer to transfer Macpaint pictures back and forth between PC and TI disks.

On the following when FCTN key is called for on the 9640 use the ALT key.

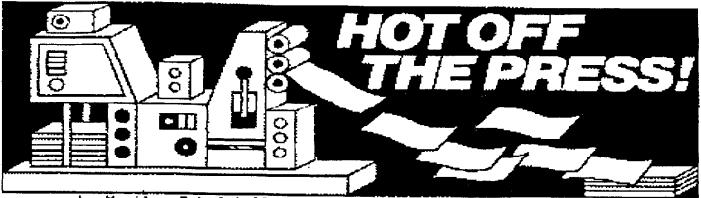
FCTN-E moves up a file moves down a file FCTN-X FCTN-4 moves down a page 18 files FCTN-6 move up a page (18 files) flag a file for conversion SPACE change directory for Ms-Dos disk FCTN-9 exit to the main menu execute conversion commands

I have found that on my Geneve I couldn't load the program using the 80 column menu program, but if I loaded the Edit/Assembler it would load from option number 5. Which was really no big deal as I have most of my carts are on my ramdisk (e.g. E/A,XB, and ect.) So it wasn't no big deal.

Also Earl Hoffsis is making the new member ship list with phone numbers and address so be sure to pick up yours at the next meeting. And if you haven't paid your dues as yet please do so.

I received a business card from Jeff Guide from TI-NET which is is part of Delphi:

TeleData P.O. Box 244 Lorton, VA. 22079 phone 703 339-7097. on the card it tells how to sign on and register \$29.95 includes, manual, membership, and one hour free.



by Marilyn Schafstall

The meeting of the New Horizon Computer Club was called to order at 1:55 p.m. on February 11, 1787, by our President, Mark Maisonneuve.

Since the minutes were printed in the newsletter, corrections or additions were called for from the floor. Correction was made that only the business meeting had adjourned at 1:10 p.m. Minutes accepted as corrected.

Earl Hoffsis gave the treasurer's report. At the January meeting we have a balance of \$931.50. After all expenses were paid, and income received, including 15 renewals, our balance January 15, 1989 was \$1133.11. Report accepted.

Earl Hoffsis noted that one of our members, Dale Stratton, had passed away this month and the club sent flowers to the funeral home. We read a thank you received from Dale's wife.

Mark encouraged us to contribute articles to the newsletter; anything that we have learned to do well, would be of interest of others.

Jo Symington asked for demos for the coming months. In March Charles Strobell will demonstrate two programs: a Load program and a Musical program.

We are asking the members how they feel about having a roster members included with a mailing of the newsletter. suggestion was made that the roster be sent only to members. We are also asking those of you out there who were nat attendance to respond to this idea. The list will available at the March meeting for any member; if you cannot attend and would like a list, please send self-addressed-stamped-envelope to Earl Hoffsis, and he will send you a copy of the list.

Next month the new club disk will be Funnelwweb 4.13. For those members enjoying the use of this Fair-Ware information, personal checks can be sent to Australia to compensate the originators of this great program.

Today there were 4 prizes for the attendance drawing: 100 sheets of computer paper, 2 packages of disk labels, and a new club disk. Richard Taylor won the computer paper, Paul Sneider and Marilyn Schafstall, the disk labels, and James Brett chose a club disk. Come next month and see what good awaits you.

Bill Tiep reported that the Science & Technolgy Department of the library will be happy to accept a gift subscription of Micropendium for its reading public. Dave Romer moved, and Steve Verock seconded the motion

#### THE EDITOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Dial:800-365-4636

or

617-576-2981

Press <u>RETURN</u> twice

At PASSWORD.

Type TINET and RETURN

In parting I hope to see each everyone of you at the next meeting. Roger



## Get The Most Out Of Your Ti System

HARDWARS MANUAL FOR TI 99/4A. Finally, a book detailing the operation of TI 99/4A hardware. Use your TI system to its full potential by learning the detailed functions of the console design, custom chip operation. TMS9900 HAV organization, TMS9900 instruction set, interface pitfalls, console schematics, PEB card description and much more. **68263** Book

## COMPUTERFACTS

from SAMS

Sams introduces COMPUTERFACTS<sup>TM</sup>. . . packets of information that reveal the inner workings of major brand micros, monitors, printers and disk drives. Includes schematic wiring diagrams, parts lists, disassembly instructions, troubleshooting techniques, and other repair data.

33532 TI 99/4A Computerfacts

117.95



#### Extended Basic Reference

EXTENDED BASIC MANUAL. This is the same manual included with the MicroPal Extended BASIC cartridge. Explains all Extended BASIC functions and commands. Softbound, 240 pages. 33177 Book 12.75

## **Know Your Computer**

USER'S REFERENCE GUIDE by TI Staff. One is packaged with the 99/4A console. Care and use of the Home Computer with explicit summaries of TI BASIC commands, 208 pages, loose bound. 19572 BOOK

HEATHCLIFF



"SPLENDID SERMON! . . SORRY ABOUT THE SNORES."

#### MARMADUKE



Somehow word got out we were having his favorite dish - tacos and enchiladas!

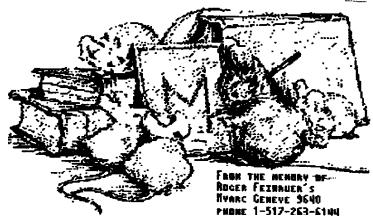
HOT PRESS! continued from page 4

gift that our club Бцу subscription, and that Bill Tiep and if will see it each month, possible, attach a label showing that it is a gift from our club.

Demonstrations today included TI Base 2.0 by Paul Sneider, Texas Taxes by David Dybala, and the P-Gram by Mark Maissoneuve.

business meeting The adjourned at 1:17 p.m., and was followed by the demonstrations.

Marilyn Schafstall, Secretary



by Roger Feinauer

Hello everyone, I hope this month has been as good for you as it has for me. Starting off, have tried Mdos 1.14 found it works fine, except after a while seemed to do funny things to my ramdisk. So I decided to go back to Mdos 1.11 for a while. But, at this time I have the same problem. My ramdisk is a 554k. Phoenix, and when the disk gets above 1550 sectors, I start loosing parts of the directors for my file. The next time I do the directory this same file changes it. It might have some control characters in the file name and at other times some blanks. This only happens files above 1550 sectors which leads me to belive that it may be just a bad chip, on the ramdisk I hope. As this happens with both Mdos 1.11 and Mdos 1.14. I find that everything works ok on files below this sector count, and I will relay more on this in the future.

You are probably wondering why I bother with this system when I seem to have so many problems with it. I don't have that many, other than a few inconveniences such as not all TI programs will run on the Geneve. Well, some of pluses are a 80 column screen, built in Gram emulator(e.g. run XB, E/A, and other carts) and being able to run programs at 2 to 3 times the speed of the 99/4A, and (also don't forget) IBM style Keyboard to boot.

Sure you can get most of these: feature on addons for the 99/4A but, when you start adding up the totals see if they don't exceed the \$495.00 asking price for the Geneve. Just something to think about. after you add features to your these 99/4A, do you get a built in ramdisk, and Mdos to run more advanced programs? Sure, at this time there aren't many, but this! could all change shortly. the Mac had 2 to 3 years before it had a software base compete with the PC type

machines.

Now, lets look at drives. For alot of people they won't be necessary but, for a few people they may. What you have to look at is the value. If you need disk storage of lets say a couple of disks you can get by with just a ramdisk. But, if you are going to be doing anything that requires very large stores of data and you need to look at this data in many different ways then you may need a hardrive. Let's say you need to look at 2meg of data. you need to project different out looks of this data. You would need at lease 2 1.5meg ramdisks, the price of approximately \$500 dollars a piece which adds up to \$1000.00. To set up a hard drive you need a hard drive controller and at this time there is only the Myarc hard disk controller at \$299.95. You will also need a harddrive for \$359.95 holds about 20meg of disk storeage. Also, a hard disk box: and power supply for about \$149.95 and lastly external cables for hard disk \$24.95 and the grand total for 20meg hard disk storage is \$834.80. When you look at it this way the hard disk is cheaper in the long run. But, how many of us really need this kind of storage. Most of us can get by with just a ramdisk or two . For me, right now I just can't justify a hard drive. Perhaps in the future I may. All this is just to say. you have to plan more and more these days, choose your hardware wisely.

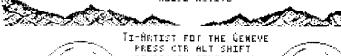
# TI-Artist

Version 2.01

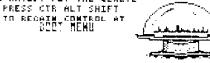
# FROM INSCEBOT, INC.

Copynight 1985 Chris Fahenty

Mouse Active







1 ! THIS IS A BOOT PROGRAM TO LOAD TI-ARTIST WITHOUT LOOKING THRU ALL THE DRIVES FOR EACH FILE.

3 CALL WORK

5 ON ERROR 12

11 CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD("D SK5.ARTIST"):: CALL LINK("ST ART")

12 CALL RET

13 SUB WORK

14 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT ( 10,2): "This will take 10 sec ." :: SUBEND

15 SUB RET

16 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT(
10,2): "SORRY GUESS YOU DIDN'
T": " LOAD ARTIST TO DRIVE #5
": " LETS GO BACK TO MENU": "
\* I WILL DO IT FOR YOU \*"

17 FOR I=300 TO 0 STEP -1 :: DISPLAY AT(14,4): "time TO M ENU:>";I :: NEXT I

18 CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD (-3 1962,100,130):: SUBEND



#### ARTLD

by Roger Feinauer

Many times I need to use TI-Artist and a lot of times while using software to do the newsletter i'm in Extended Basic. For convenience I have a special disk with a formatted version of Artist to run on drive number 5. On the Geneve drive number 5 is built in the system, but you could do the same thing with any ramdisk on the 99/4A as well. I also have on my disk a batch file that does a diskcopy of of this disk from drive one to five. I do this from Mdos, then run the batch file on my system that runs GPL and XB .

On my menu program I have two programs one is call ARTLD and the other is a file that loads a disk called FONT. To load the disk called GRAPHICS LOADER and loades with DSK.FONT.LOAD, which has FONT WRITER II, MACFLIX, EXPANDER, GRAPHICS ENLARGER. TI-ARTIST AT DRIVE 5. PICASSO . The file at the right is the file I have in drive number 6 ARTLD which is setup to load TI-ARTIST at drive #5. using EXTENDED BASIC.

The program looks at drive #5 to see if it can find a program named ARTIST if it can't find it. Then it goes to to line #12 and loads the sub routine called RET which tells you that it couldn't find TI-ARTIST then it returns you back to the starting menu. If it finds the file named ARTIST then it loads TI-ARTIST. I believe you could also use this on a 99/4A roger.

@ 11 February 1989

Temporary docs for MENU follow:

Ok, I know you folks are getting tired of waiting for 7.4, so I thought I'd upload this updated MENU. It's still a 7.3 MENU, but the "#" items below indicate improvements or additions.

#### Active keys on main screen:

	Key	Action
	•	Turns the screen off,
	1	Does a disk directory.
	SHIFT 1	Does a disk directory and sends it to your printer.
	2	Views any file.
	SHIFT 2	Views any file and sends it to your printer.
	2	Runs a program.
	4-9	User configurable options.
	C	Runs the gram/grow module shown next to C.
	D	Deletes a file from disk.
ŧ	6	Cycles through all GROM's, puts name next to C.
ŧ	I	Toggles the XB color interupt routine on or off.
ŧ	K	Calls a routine - does a CALL
	P	Change the print device name.
ŧ	Q	Cancels powerup routine and exits to title screen
	S	Gets and displays a RDM cartridge header at >6800.
	¥	Displays the version number and authors initials.
£	X	Same as 3, but runs an xb program only.
	SPACE	Toggles between the three screens of options.
	FCTN 5	Configure user options 4-9.
	FCTN 9	-

#### Active keys in file viewing routines

Space Continue viewing, go to next screen.
FCTN 8 Continue viewing file till end, or space is pressed.
FCTN 9 Abort file viewing.

#### Active keys while viewing disk directory:

Arrows Use arrows to move around the directory.

1-9 Does a disk directory of drive selected.

ENTER Select marked file to run or view, return to main screen.

FCTN 8 Select another disk to catalog (easier to just press 1-9).

FCTN 9 Return to main screen.

If 'D' is pressed, you'll be prompted for a filename, and then you can press enter to delete the file, or Function 9 to about the delete.

I put in a routine that can be accessed by pressing X from the main screen. This will allow you to run any extended basic program or 254 file. So if you'd like to run one of those big xb files, just hit X, type the filename, and away you go.

Ok, and this is a biggie, you can now edit your user options' filenames like this:

#### X DSK+, FILENAME

and when you press that option, it will automatically go into the XB load routine just like the X option above. Yes, you can now use those big I/V 254 xb files as menu items.

DF...

#### C CALLNAME

You'll notice that the third screen is now available as user options instead of the ROS's CALLMAMES. Most will welcome the extra nine options but some will miss having their calls available. Well, you can now put a CALLMAME in a user option as in the above example. Also, the CALL MGR and CALL TD routines are no longer used, but you can use this feature (example: C MGR) or use the 'K' option to run your call.

You can still press and hold the SHIFT key down when going into extended basic to carry your colors with you, but now, the default action can be tailored to your preference by pressing the 'I' key. Be sure and save MENU (with F5/F9) to make your preference permanent.

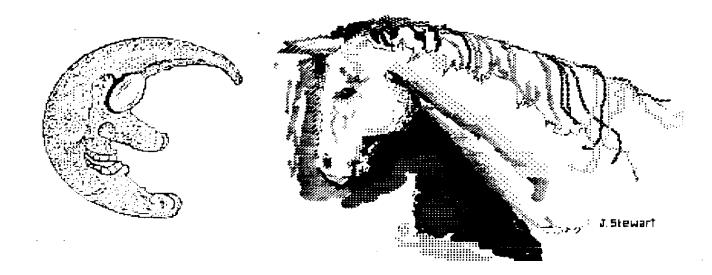
I've recently recieved a PSRAM card from Bud Mills Services, and I was so impressed by the quality of the card and it's usefulness, that alot of the changes made to MENU were done to take advantage of the PSRAM.

The 'C' option looks through all possible grom address's and will cycle through them as you press '6'. I have the XB and EA carts in the PGRAM, and to toggle between them I just press 6. Also, you'll notice that on carts with multiple title names, you will cycle through them also instead of just catching the first one. Even if you don't have a PGRAM, this option allows you to run any of the 7 headers in TI Writer, for example.

I don't want to sound like a commercial for Bud, but I've been really impressed by only two products in the last 6 years. I wrote about the first one when I recieved Horizon Ramdisk serial number 18, and I plan on uploading impressions of this PGRAM soon.

More to came from the MUG...

IJ



- ------
- 5 ! \*\*\* COLISTER\*\*\*
  A TINYGRAM BY ED MACHONIC
  QB-99ER'S, BAYSSIDE NY.
- 6 ! HELP AND MENU ADDED BY ROGER FEINAUER 1989
- 7 CALL E
- 10 CALL CLEAR :: PRINT : "1st LIST YOUR PROGRM to disk th en Run COLISTER"
- 15 PRINT :;:"INPUT FILENAME? ex:DSKn.LIST" :: INPUT F\$ : : INPUT "OUTPUT FILENAME? ex : PIO or DSKn.LIST28 :":P\$
- 20 OPEN #1:F\$, INPUT :: OPEN #3:P\$, OUTPUT :: ON ERROR 50
- 25 C=28 :: LINPUT #1:A\$ :: I F LEN(A\$)<80 THEN 40
- 30 LINPUT #1:B\$ :: IF VAL(SE G\$ (A\$,1,POS(A\$," ",2))) < VAL( SEG\$ (B\$,1,POS(B\$," ",2))) THE N F=1 :: GOTO 40
- 35 A = A \$ & B \$ :: IF LEN(B \$) >= 8 0 THEN 30
- 40 A=LEN(A\*):: L=A/C+.99 :: FOR I=0 TO L :: PRINT #3:TAB (6);SEG\$(A\$,1+I\*C,C):: NEXT I :: IF EOF(1)AND F=0 THEN C LOSE #1 :: CLOSE #3 :: CALL E
- 45 IF F=1 THEN F=0 :: A\$="" :: GOTO 35 ELSE 25
- 50 ON ERROR 50 :: RETURN 55
- 55 SUB E
- 60 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT(
  10,5):"1> RUN COLISTER": :"
  2> END PROGRAM": :"
  3>
  GO TO TI-MENU": :"
  4> HE
  LP SCREEN"
- 62 DISPLAY AT (23,4): "SELECT A NUMBER"
- 65 CALL KEY(5,N,S):: N=N-48 :: IF N<1 OR N>4 THEN 65 :: ON N GOTO 70,75,80,85

- 70 IF N=1 THEN SUBEXIT
- 75 IF N=2 THEN CALL CLEAR ::
- 80 CALL INIT :: CALL LOAD (~3 1962, 100, 130) :: END
- 85 CALL CLEAR :: DISPLAY AT( 2,5): "MINI HELP SCREEN"
- 87 DISPLAY AT(4,1):"This pro gram saves to disk":"Dis/Var 80 format listings":"simula r to the XB EDITOR."
- 89 DISPLAY AT(8,1):" 1> SAV E your program to":"disk wit h the LIST command.":" LIST" "DSKn.filename"""
- 91 DISPLAY AT(12,1):" 2> Ru n this program and":"follow the PROMPTS USE the":"listin g you just saved from the XB editor."
- 93 DISPLAY AT(17,1):" 3> No w load Ti-Writer to":"view a nd print your listings": :"

  Roger Feinauer."
- 123 DISPLAY AT(24,1): "PRESS M AND ENTER TO EXIT" :: ACCE PT AT(24,27) VALIDATE("M"): M\$ :: IF M\$=CHR\$(77) THEN M=ASC ("M"):: IF M=77 THEN RUN ELS E 123

#### 125 SUBEND

