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**THE HUGGERS
 HOOSIER USERS GROUP**

APRIL, 1984

THE HUGGERS NEWSLETTER

INDIANAPOLIS IN

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring is long overdue, but you can expect some fresh air to come along this month regardless of the weather. Our annual elections take place at the April 8th meeting. The following are candidates for Office in the Hoosier Users Group 1984 election:

- Steve Sims.....President.
- Bill Cagle.....Vice President.
- Barbara Uhrig.....Secretary.
- Bill Jones of Indy.....Treasurer.

Elections will be the first order of business, so be sure you are on time to cast your vote.

We have made a limited printing of the T1 FORTH manuals and are just about out of our first run of 20 (which sold for \$20.00 apiece). We would be willing to print more manuals, but need to get firm orders, since the price will undoubtedly be more. (The printing company who printed the initial order let us know in advance that his prices were going to rise soon.) If you are committed to T1 FORTH and would like a manual and/or diskette, please make a \$25 deposit with an Officer and we will try to get these materials to you. If our costs are less than the deposit, we will return the difference; if more, we hope you will understand and pay the balance. What could be more fair?

It has been a fast-paced presidency for me in the past year. Writing and submitting our constitution, becoming an official T1 Users Group, initiating regular Officers meetings and participating in the planning of various demonstrations, recoiling from the news of T1's departure from the home computer market, stimulating the growth of regional HUG centers, and investing/investigating in the prospect of our own T1 Bulletin Board System have all been an exciting part of life during my term of office. I want to recognize that most of the credit goes to others than myself who worked and volunteered courageously to further the development of the Hoosier Users Group. Nevertheless, I am most grateful and appreciative for their support and encouragement during the past year. It was most warmly received and a highly prized part of this presidency. I wish to further the development of the Hoosier Users Group through my contributions in the Newsletter, perhaps instructing an Extended Basic class, and by generally keeping in touch with the potentials and promise of the 99/4A as I am freed to spend more time with my system.

But please remember, "NONE OF US IS AS SMART AS ALL OF US;" your contributions to the Hoosier Users Group (both monetary and commentary) make it of value to everyone. Please support and encourage our new Officers with your involvement and eager participation in the Hoosier Users Group. You all have my thanks and continued support.

Don Donlan, President of the Hoosier Users Group 1983-1984.

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: APRIL 8, 1984 AT 2:00 P.M.
 AT MICROCOMPUTERS, WESTSIDE LOCATION!**

SCHEDULED DEMO: T1 LOGO II

REGIONAL MEETINGS

EAST: APRIL 19, at 7:00 P.M.

SOUTH: APRIL 19, at 7:30 P.M.

See details on Page 2 for meeting times and locations.

Those who ordered a **Graphics Code Generator** earlier this year, can pick it up at this meeting. Our shipment arrived too late for announcement in the March Newsletter. For those who still would like to buy a Graphics Code Generator, several Disk and Cassette versions are still available. The price of Disk is \$13.25, and Cassette is \$11.25.

HUGger Profiles -- Remember! Please return your profile to the Post Office Box by April 14, or bring to the April meeting. It is vital for you, the member, to return your profile. The new Officers will need this information to begin planning for Special Interest Groups, Classes, Meeting Demonstrations, etc. Our thanks to those members who have already returned their profile to the Officers, your comments and suggestions are appreciated.

BACK ISSUES -- Just in case you missed the last meeting, Back Issues of the HUGger Newsletter will, again, be available at the April 8th meeting. Cost of Back Issues purchased at the meeting is \$2.00 per issue. (Ordering Back Issues thru the P. O. Box will cost \$2.50 per issue, and up to a three week wait!)

HELP!!!! -- A message from Bill Jones of C'ville: Hello, at our March meeting a new member approached me and requested help for a program for farm income reporting and analysis. I have a program that may be just what you want, but have misplaced your name and address. Call me or see me at the April meeting! My phone is 362-4819.

REGIONAL NEWS

BEST OF THE NEWSLETTER!

EAST SIDE REGIONAL NEWS

The next East Side meeting will be held Thursday, April 19 at Little Peoples Prep School starting at 7:00 p.m. Little Peoples Prep is located at 6040 East Pleasant Run Parkway. (East Pleasant Run Parkway & Arlington). Please use the Pleasant Run Parkway entrance; there are several doors to the building, but this will be the only one open.

Although no specific demonstration is planned, a large assortment of Command Modules available for viewing at this meeting. A complete copy of the HUGger Library is now available at this, and future East Side meetings.

If you plan to attend the meeting, or if you need directions to Little Peoples, please call. My phone numbers are: Home: 353-1862, and Office: 357-9031.

Don Lang

SOUTH SIDE REGIONAL NEWS

The next South Side meeting will be held Thursday, April 19 at my home --- 4582 Moccasin Pl., Greenwood starting at 7:30 p.m. There will be two consoles available at the meeting, to give people more time in reviewing and copying library programs.

Our discussion this month will be on the specific applications of programming language. This will not a short course of computer programming, but an in depth look at specific programming statements.

Due to seating limitations, those members who have folding chairs (and plan to attend), are requested to call me. Also, if you plan to attend the South Side meeting, or need directions to my home, please call me at 881-5918.

Dennis Sherfy

THINGS TI NEVER TOLD US

Editor's Note: When creating this column I did not expect to see it included in the HUGger Newsletter often, but, little did I realize how much can be learned by experimenting.

This month's TINT's come from sources outside the Hoosier Users Group. They are handy when you are involved in a midnight debugging session and say OH-OH!

The first TINT comes from Jim Peterson of Tigercub Software; 156 Collingwood Ave., Columbus, Ohio. Jim has this to include from Tips from the Tigercub # 3:

Here's a lifesaver that was passed on to me verbally, so I don't know who to credit for discovering it....It's 2 A.M., you just got the last bug out of your new program, you sleepily put a new cassette in the recorder, type OLD CS1, hit enter and...ooooh!, you meant to type SAVE CS1!! But all is not lost -- just type SHIFT E, hit ENTER, get an I/O error message and start over! (Editor's Note: If you have the Alpha Lock DOWN and type E, and hit ENTER, you will get the same results. The lower case "e" is not accepted when using this procedure.)

And the second comes from the Pittsburgh Users Group newsletter "Peripheral": Let's say you're editing a program and instead of pushing Function 2 (Insert), you inadvertently miss 2 and hit Function 3 (Erase)! DO NOT HIT ENTER! Instead, push Function P (the quotation marks) and then press ENTER. LIST the program, and guess what -- you didn't lose the line after all! (Editor's note: When typing in the Function P and ENTER, the computer will come back stating "INCORRECT STATEMENT". Since this is not a valid entry, your original data was not lost, it just became "temporarily invisible".)

The preceding Best Of The Newsletter is a reprint from the September, 1983 issue of the HUGger Newsletter.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Spring is a time for new beginnings. A Happy Birthday to these members who had their HUGger beginnings in April, 1983! These members are: Michael O'Keefe, Gregory Martin, Les & Cassandra Cavanaugh, Jim Harris, Larry Compton, Ron Wharry, Robert May, Ruth Slabach, Ron Hamm, Don Lang, Jeff Rouse and Ed Gercas.

WELCOME!

The Hoosier Users Group welcomes these HUGgers who had their "HUGger beginnings" in the past month! These members are: John & Jeff White, David Eicher, Linda Reynolds, David Switzer, Asael Contreras, George Luttes, Hershel Woolman, Charles Elson, Matthew Kipper, Darwin Garrison, Chip Wilson, John & Gail Juerling, John Teipen, Ralph Johnston, Jr., Jane Farber, Larry Rockafellow, Charles Trotter, and St. Ann School.

LIBRARY BITS

By Dennis Sherfy

READFAST is an Extended Basic program which provides drill to read numbers or words more quickly.

Your first option is numbers. You may select from 2 to 8 digits to be displayed on the screen. Your next option is the time that the numbers are displayed. You may select introductory, beginner, intermediate, or advanced. Let me assure you that advanced is really brief! A help is available. If you enter #1, the number is repeated. The program presents 16 randomly selected numbers, then tells you how many you missed. You then have the option of going through the exercise again.

The second option is words and phrases. You are given five options, one word (2-6 letters), 1-2 words (6-14 letters), 1-4 words (8-18 letters), 2-5 words (14-24 letters), or 3-6 words (20-26 letters). As in numbers, you may select different display times. At this point, you must make a correction to the program. The program displays your options, then immediately clears the screen. Line 1580 is the culprit. Change it to:

```
1580 IF 49<K<52 THEN 1590 ELSE 1570
```

This correction will leave your options on the screen for you to enter your choice. As in numbers, you will be given 16 words or phrases, then you will be told how many you missed.

The words are contained in DATA statements, so you can change them when they become familiar.

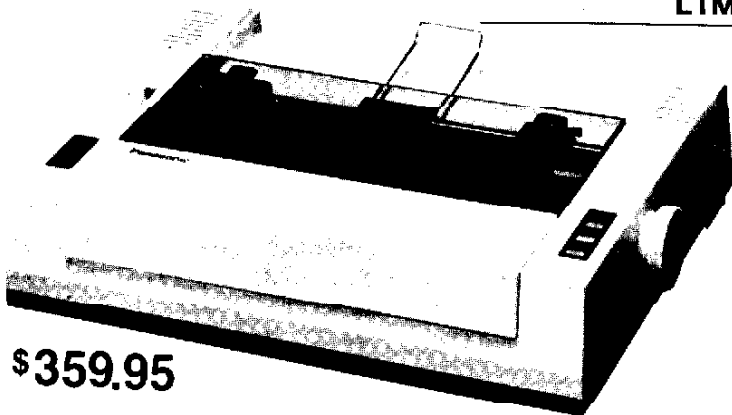
This is a very good program. I have listened to a presentation by IVY Tech people who tried to sell us a program to improve our employee's reading accuracy. This program is almost as good...and it's yours for the asking.

BETTHERODDS is a Basic program which simulates a card game. It's rather simple. You are shown two cards on the screen. How much will you bet that the third card will fall between the first two cards?

Place your bet and take your chances. The program keeps track of the amount of your bankroll as you win or lose.

Programmers may be interested in how this program generates the cards. Enterprising programmers may be able to make this into a two-player game to see which person can win the most money in a certain number of turns.

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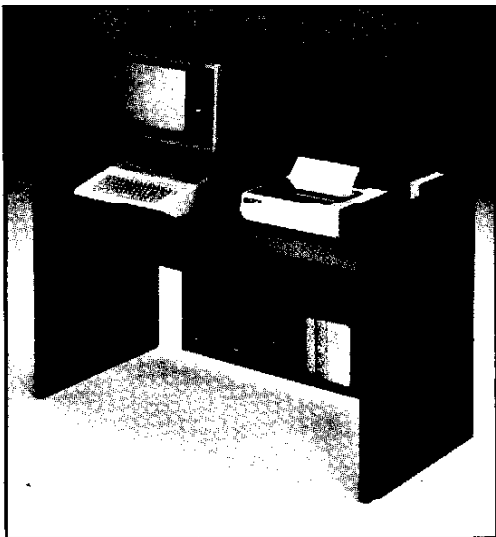
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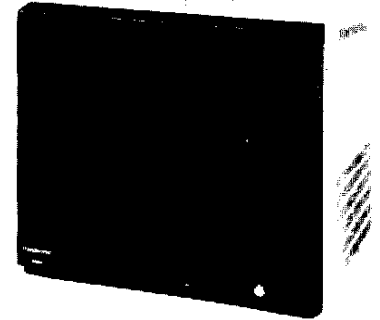


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FUNCTION 7 * USERS AID KEY

Does your TV Set/Monitor have a terminal case of wavy lines moving across the screen? Quite by accident, the Set Up Committee of the Hoosier Users Group has found a cure!

Due to large meeting and class attendance, we have to set up several monitors so everybody could see what was being displayed on the screen. A Radio Shack 4-Way Distribution Amplifier was the answer. This Amplifier allowed us to set up four TV's to the group's TI system, fine. But what we didn't realize, it also eliminated the wavy lines on ALL monitors that happened to be set up!

For those who want to hook this type of Amplifier to your TI, you would need the following parts:

Distribution Amplifier (Cat. # 15-1119).....\$12.95

VCR/TV Matching Transformer (Cat. # 15-1253)..... 2.99

75 Ohm Coaxial Cable with Male "F"

Connectors at each end. Priced from \$2.49 to 5.99

TV-Matching Transformer (a Non-Radio Shack part)

And you said you can't get rid of your wavy lines? Now, for under \$25.00 and less than 5 minutes set up time, you can too!!!!

A SPECIAL APPLICATION FOR THE TI

By Dana Walker

Editor's Note: The following article was taken, in full, from "Bug News", the Newsletter of TIBUG, Montgomery, Alabama.

Dr. David Walker is a part time TI rep in Montgomery, Alabama. He teaches at Auburn University in Montgomery. His wife, Dana, teaches at the same University. Dana contributed the following article to our newsletter. She is blind.

Having a talking computer used to be only a pipe dream for blind programmers, except rich ones. Now, with the TI 99/4A, the Terminal Emulator module and the speech synthesizer, you can have a talking computer for a few hundred dollars instead of a few thousand. As a result, there is now a loose network of blind TI users all over the country who swap programs and other information.

The first thing I did, after setting up the computer, was to label a few keys in braille, to help me get oriented to the keyboard. A friend had already had the reference manual and the TI BASIC book read onto tape, so I got a copy and began studying.

The first big problem was that the computer is rather uncommunicative about errors. It would just beep and sit silent and uncooperative until my husband came in to read the error message to me. The solution was an error-read program. I just load it before I start my own programming. Then when the computer beeps, I enter "RUN 30000". The computer then will tell me just what I've been doing wrong.

I've gotten several good programs that are "speched up". One keeps track of my talking-book request list; another is a Morse code practice program; another is an address file with an alphabetic sort routine. I am looking for word games like Hangman that can be speched. I also want to work on a word-processing program to use in writing at the computer; I think best at a keyboard, and the TI 99/4A could tell me what I've written. A friend is working on a program to make an impact printer produce braille hard copy, which will be a big advance.

The only drawback to the 99/4A is that with the Terminal Emulator in use, you can't use any of the other program modules. This means that you can't use the memory expansion card. Being able to run two modules at the same time would expand the possible uses of the TI 99/4A for the blind programmer. TI says, by the way, that in about a year they're coming out with the speech on a disc. This will be a great advantage. Meantime, I keep thinking of more things to do with the computer - like the poetry-writing program. I wonder if it could be modified so that the computer writes limericks.

