VAST NEWS

for the VAST Computer User Group

TI World and Local News

Compiled from various sources by Jim Ely

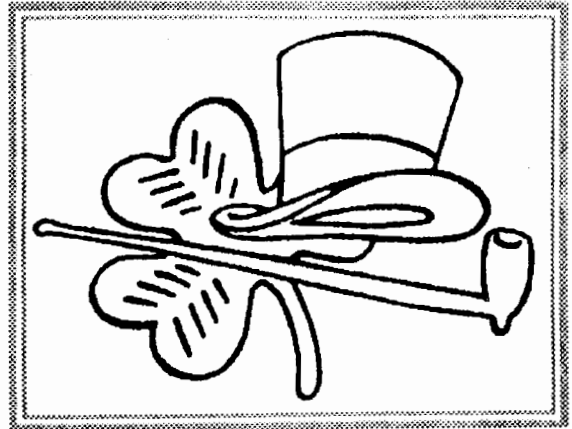● A FEST in Phoenix in '92?
YOU make the decision...

by Mike Grogan, President *VAST*

At our next meeting we will talk about the FEST. No, I don't mean FEST WEST '91, but FEST WEST '92! SOUTHWEST 99'ers of TUCSON might be here to ask if we would be interested in hosting the '92 FEST. We will need to decide at the MARCH meeting to get things started. It is no easy task, and I'm not sure that we have the people who can pull it off. This is something to think about. Are WE willing to undertake such a task?

One reason for having the FEST in Phoenix is that out-of-towners would have an easier time with transportation connections. You would not have to drive out of town to get to your first FEST WEST either!

Another good reason for having the FEST in Phoenix is that we could increase our membership as a result of the publicity generated by such an event. There are a lot of people in Phoenix that still have TI's but don't know we are here.

I want you to think about this and COME

St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1991

to the meeting on MARCH 9th. Let us hear your voice **for** or **against** a FEST WEST in Phoenix. It's your club and YOU need to make the choice. Do we want a FEST in Phoenix, or do we pass and have to drive again to some other location (California, Nevada, Utah, etc.) for the FEST WEST in 1992?   m.g.

JOHN BIRDWELL, Gone, But Not Forgotten

As you all know, JOHN BIRDWELL died of liver cancer on December 27, 1990. John was known as "one of the best programmers" of the TI world. He leaves us with many super programs that are of the FAIRWARE type. FAIRWARE is a concept by which a programmer writes a program and wishes to share it with others the world over. Anyone can get a copy for free, and if you like it and use it, you send a fee to that programmer with a note of thanks for their support. Usually a fee of $15-$20 is asked for, which in most cases is really a "BEST BUY" program. It is up to you to send in your money to keep programmers putting out the fine programs that we TIers enjoy at a cost hundreds of times less than any other computer. If you have and use any FAIRWARE programs that you have not paid for, I urge you to pay for them NOW.

As far as programs by John Birdwell, you can still help your TI community by sending your payments to the Trustees of the **JOHN BIRDWELL MEMORIAL FUND**. This fund will form the JOHN BIRDWELL PRIZE. This prize will be given annually to the individual, organization, or firm, who, in the opinion of the Trustees, has made the most significant contribution to the TI-99/4A and GENEVE 9640 community.

This award is being funded through the generosity of KATHY BIRDWELL, John's widow, who has donated all further proceeds from software registration fees and the sale of John's computer equipment.

The JOHN BIRDWELL PRIZE will be awarded at the annual banquet following the CHICAGO TI INTERNATIONAL WORLD FAIRE.

Please send your payments and nominations for the JOHN BRIDWELL PRIZE to:

THE JOHN BIRDWELL
MEMORIAL FUND
c/o CHICAGO TI USERS GROUP
P.O. BOX 578341
CHICAGO, IL 60657

FEST WEST '91
A report by Mike Grogan

Well, I'm back from the FEST, and did I ever have a good time! I wish more of our members could have made it. I drove over Friday night, February 15, and was at the door at 8:00 a.m. Saturday. At first glance, you would think that UGOC & POMONA VALLEY 99ERS, co-sponsors of this years FEST, were not very excited about it all. But that all changed when the doors opened to all the TIers from all around the U.S. The job they undertook was a big one, indeed.

I was a little disappointed at the vendor turnout. I was looking forward to seeing the new HFDC card from ESDI and talking to the people that took over TRITON (now TM Direct Product Marketing) or even MYARC, but they could not make the FEST for what ever reason. I personally think they screwed up!! There was nothing new in hardware except from RAVE 99. RAVE showed the new

SECRETARY'S SLATE

MINUTES

VAST COMPUTER USER GROUP

FEBRUARY 9, 1991

The regular monthly meeting of the *VAST* **COMPUTER USER GROUP** was held on Saturday February 9th at the Pyle Adult Recreation Center in Tempe. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Mike Grogan. All officers were present. We had 13 members and 1 guest in attendance.

President Mike Grogan started things off by getting a count of those planning to attend Fest West next weekend. He then welcomed our newest member Jim Wayne.

Next Mike Grogan turned the program over to Mike Marfisi for the minutes and treasurer report. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the January meeting as published in the VAST Newsletter. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. Mike reported that we had placed a second order for blank disks from Texcomp and that we have several hundred available at $2.00 per box of 10. Mike thanked Jan Klabunde for his donation of postage stamps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM

Dan Shell said that our program for the month is supposed to be a BBS demo. However because of problems with the phone lines at the Pyle center we were unable to present the demo at this time. Instead, Jim Ely volunteered to show us how to use TELCO.

Dan pointed out again that he is looking for more ideas and suggestions for future programs. If anyone would like to see a subject covered, please let Dan know.

LIBRARY

No new activity to report.

BBS

Jim reminded the BBS users that the board would be out of service for a few hours today while the equipment is being moved from Leo Baker's home to Mike Grogan's.

PUBLICITY

Tom Pfeffer informed us that the ad in the Pennysaver had been corrected. This month he is going to contact the East Valley Tribune about running a notice in the Community News.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business this month.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made, seconded and approved to pay Mike Grogan a total of $90 for the club use of his phone line from now through the month of June. The check was issued.

It was suggested by some folks that maybe it

MINUTES, *from page 3*

would be possible to get the use of an additional room for use by the group to give demos away from the main meeting activity. Mike M will check with Pyle.

Several ideas for future demos were brought up and the idea of forming SIGS to meet at members homes was discussed. We will take the suggestions under advisement and see what can be done.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:35AM.

Respectfully,
Mike Marfisi,
Secretary,
VAST COMPUTER USER GROUP

NEWS, *from page 2*

P-BOX it has marketed, and boy is it something to see. You can have EVERYTHING in one neat box (keyboard interface, cpu, all your P-BOX cards, and a few disk drives (hard and floppy)). If we ask MIKE MARFISI real nice, maybe he will show us his!!

Some of the new software shown, was from COMPRODINE. Now I do not play many games, but this one is going to be a hit for sure. The name is "BACKSTEINE" (bok'stin-y). BACKSTEINE is GERMAN for the word "BRICKS". It's a heavy duty update to SUPER BREAK OUT. You have a paddle to hit a ball that hits those "bricks", but with some new surprises. You have over 50 screens to deal with. Also you can... well I promised RODGER MERRITT of COMPRODINE, I would not tell. You also get

with the game for the first time (I think) a game editor so you can change the game boards. Kinda neat idea. The game is the work of QUINTON TORMANEN. Again, that's from COMPRODINE for $10.00. If you like fast and ever changing games then this is for you.

BILL GASKILL had to leave early, so I did not get to pick his brain about the update of his PERSONAL AUDITOR program. I have a copy of an early release that is great for checking and budgeting as well as almost total record keeping.

Another program I have been watching is from BILL CHAVANNE. You might have seen his ad in MICROpendium for TI-TAX. If any of you do your own taxes, this is for you!! This set of programs will do all your taxes and print out approved IRS forms with your data already in place and ready to mail. It uses MULTIPLAN. By the way, if you need help with MULTIPLAN for using this, BILL will help it work "FOR YOU". ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK!! I don't know of anyone that knows more about MULTIPLAN than Bill (sorry BUD). To see how much it cost, look in MICROpendium.

There was lots of used hardware and software for sale. I got my share of "stuff", including a color monitor! (at last!).

There were also lots of prize drawings, of which yours truly won 3 times. The biggest thing I won was a HORIZON 3000 RAM-DISK construction kit, a build your own ramdisk with a bare board, guide and parts list. This was put up by BUD MILLS. If you have

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W-AGE/99 * NEW-AGE/
99 * NEW-AGE/99 * N
EW-AGE/99 * NEW-AGE
/99 * NEW-AGE/99 *
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by JACK SUGHRUE,
Box 459, East Douglas, MA 01516

#8

Declining membership in the TI world is definitely a real problem which has some interesting and real solutions.

The old guard is getting tired and its members no longer want to (or are too tired to) be presidents and newsletter editors and workshop demonstrators and librarians and bulletin board downloaders and whatever. They can't be blamed for this. Nobody can continue to operate well forever, particularly in what seems an unappreciative atmosphere.

Almost every newsletter I read has the same common problems: basically, too few doing too much for too long. This is true in LA and in Boston and in Canada and England and Australia. Large changes are taking place within groups, in many cases with very bad vibes coming across strongly in the newsletter pleadings. Over and over we see such things as "This club is dying." and "If the members who never contribute don't start doing something soon... " followed by serious threats.

Realistically, a group without a newsletter is a corpse that hasn't yet been identified as such. There are exceptions, of course, but a club without a newsletter is a body without a brain. So, first things first, keep a newsletter going. This is also the biggest (or only) contact with the outside world through exchanges.

Next, a regular monthly meeting YEAR ROUND is essential. Without a place to gather (even if it comes to homes, as a last resort) there can be no club. A club implies a community, a spirit of friendship and commonaity, a gathering. Business and pleasure must be mingled here and can only be done by meeting.

Those are the two big things. Even if your group has only three members, but you put out a newsletter and you meet regularly, you can still have a viable, worthwhile user group. Nutmeg 99ers of Connecticut and the Lima User Group of Ohio are two fine examples of Terrific TInies. But, believe me, there are many, many more, and they are more common than the large, flourishing groups.

There are some other things to consider, too, of course.

Is it worth complaining constantly in print and at meetings that too many are not doing their fair share. Most of the people who sit on their hands and don't take leadership roles are not capable and know it. Not everybody is a leader. Not everybody is outgoing and comfortable performing in public. There are lots of insecure (though maybe talented) people who just cannot put themselves on the line. It has nothing to do with laziness or meanness or unwillingness or lack of responsibility. Some of these people come to every meeting; all continue to pay their dues.

NEW-AGE, *from page 5*

And, in truth, everybody in the group has, when allowed and encouraged by the leadership, probably contributed in some continuous, if not significant ways.

My own group - M.U.N.C.H. of Worcester, Mass. - is typical, I think, of most. We went from over 200 members to about 15 (5 or 6 of whom were active) to about 40 (a dozen of whom are active in one way or another). There are officers, of course. Our Treasurer (Jim Cox) was one of the founders and has continued to man that post and perform lots of others (including membership and newsletter editor at the present). Without him there'd be no club. Every club has a Jim Cox, someone with incredible dedication and common sense. All the rest of us have done different things: officers, editors, workshop demonstrators. Some have brought in friends; some have written programs; some have catalogued our libraries; some have repaired equipment; some have lugged in equipment or materials; some have helped with sales and fundraising and faires. All have paid their dues; most come to meetings, take part in raffles, appear interested in demos and workshops. All enjoy the company of fellow TIers, which has to be the most important aspect of a group.

A lot of us lead some incredibly busy lives. One member flies all over the country and never knows when he'll be able to make a meeting. When he comes, though, he brings enthusiasm and knowledge which he so generously shares. Our chief BBSer who provides the club with many of the library and Disk of the Month goodies misses most meetings because of courses he's taking toward a degree. His sharing doesn't stop, though, as the boards, phones, and mail demonstrate. Then there are illnesses or family matters or all the other obstructions of life in this complex age. But we're still linked by newsletter, library, and common desire to keep a good thing going and growing.

So our M.U.N.C.H. group is a success, as are lots of other groups who don't realize they are.

If you still have an operating group; if you still put out a newsletter, share materials, meet regularly, enjoy some of the friends you've made through TI - then you have a successful group. The workload may not be equitable, but no situation in life ever is.

For what it's worth, here are a few suggestions to get members reinvolved, revitalized: At the next club meeting find out the following:

1) What kind of newsletter does the club want (type-in programs, latest hard/software, reviews, club news, graphics, whatever)

2) If everyone would be willing to contribute something to a raffle (blank disks, tapes, cables, non TI stuff even)

3) If all members would dig through old disks and tapes and locate at least THREE programs they like (or liked back in the old days) to add to a giant club D.O.M. (games, utilities, kids' programs, LOGO stuff, tutorial text files, whatever)

NEW-AGE, *from page 6*

4) And maybe demo at least ONE????

5) Hold a NOVICE NIGHT! This would be to introduce beginners, older kids, and definitely long-time TIers to the fun of writing in BASIC (or XB). I know there are thousands of TI users who became comfortable with their machines and have used them successfully for years and are now ready to learn to program or would take a refresher. All the old newsletters contain GREAT little tutorials, type-in programs, etc. Just what the doctor orders for a new boost in attitude. Maybe this would be a continuing thing with EVERYBODY who wants to getting involved in research, xeroxing, demoing, tutoring, whatever. But mostly sharing and helping. There are more of us amateurs out there (probably 1000 to 1) than wizards.

In order to get reformed we need to remember the three Rs: Review, Rethink, Rekindle!

j.s.

Happy Easter

March 31, 1991

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by JACK SUGHRUE,
Box 459, East Douglas, MA 01516

#9

COMPRODINE, Part One

Okay, I've been hearing about JIFFY CARD and ARTIST PRINT SHOP and JIFFY FLYER and GIANT ARTIST POSTERS for some time now, but I just never got around to demoing the materials for NEW-AGE/99 reviews. Not because I'm unfamiliar with the work of COMPRODINE owner Rodger Merritt. On the contrary, I own and use and thoroughly enjoy PICTURE IT and PRINT IT. They are two superb graphics/text packages that most TIers would not want to be without once they got using them regularly (particularly the handy and very professional disk catalog printer program).

Sister Pat Taylor of Dubuque, Iowa, has been the leading fan of COMPRODINE materials in the world the past few years. When I was in for repair last year following an accident, Sr. Pat and her contingent of TIing nuns at the hospital where she lives inundated me with unique and colorful "get well" cards and banners and signs. They also sent me a nice gift of a package of delightful greeting cards for all occasions. Everything was made on the TI with COMPRODINE software.

Now when Sr. Pat finds something useful,

user friendly, and fun, it gets used and used and used. Her use of COMPRODINE goodies is the best review there is. But I've been lax in <u>my</u> reviewer duties.

So it was with great pleasure when Rodger Merritt called me from his home in California to see if I'd be interested in demoing some COMPRODINE software at the Boston Fayuh.

"YES! YES! YES!" I screamed before he changed his mind.

I had never met Rodger, so he didn't know what kind of TI maniac he entrusted his masterpieces with. Phil Townsend of the Kawartha group in Canada knew I'd be at the Boston shindig and recommended me. (It's obvious that Phil, a fellow elementary teacher, had never met me, either.) Anyway, Rodger ran up a two-hour phone bill explaining each of the pieces of software.

I could hardly contain myself waiting for the mail the next few days.

Then... THE DAY! When I came home from work, my wife informed me that <u>the</u> package had arrived from COMPRODINE. She did require my attendance at the dinner table under penalties of Doom, Death, and Destruction (though not necessarily in that order). So I complied with She Who Must Be Obeyed and waited impatiently to open the treasures until after cleanup.

I'm not sure my little fifth-graders didn't suffer much the next day because of that Merritt fiend.

I took my package to my Computer Room, opened it, and played with the new toys - er, tools, I mean - until almost 4 AM. As I have to get up at 5 to go to work, I didn't get much of a beauty rest. (I was a real <u>beauty</u> at work next day, I can tell you.), but did not learn a lesson. I was at it again when I got home; once again to the wee hours (this time 2 AM). But what fun!

Fortunately, I already owned PRINT IT and PICTURE IT and all of the Great Lakes Software in the package also distributed by COMPRODINE: JOYPAINT 99, JOYPAINT PAL, CLIP ART, EXTENDED BUSINESS GRAPHS, BANNERS 99, and the superb CERTIFICATE 99 with its companions). Otherwise, I'd still be at it.

Because I'd like to spend next month's "Part Two" article entirely on the graphics' programs for which COMPRODINE is justifiably famous (ARTIST PRINT SHOP, JIFFY CARD and FLYER [including color versions], FORM SHOP, GIANT ARTIST POSTERS, and all the various companions), I'm going to use the rest of this article to examine a couple of COMPRODINE's other programs: LIVING TOMB and WAR ZONE.

These are games by a decidedly fiendish 14-year-old lad, Quinton Tormanen. Because both have permanent scoring systems built in (which I ❤), I'd suggest making backup copies and store the originals. Actually, I'd suggest you do that with all COMPRODINE materials, as they are unprotected.

These fast auto-load assembly games are so

NEW-AGE 2, *from page 8*

good, so professional, that I have a hard time picturing anyone so young devising them.

WAR ZONE ($10), a futuristic arcade game, is almost as fascinating for the instantaneous status and scoring boxes along the right side of the screen as the game itself. Not quite. But they are well designed and ingenious, if you have time to view them. ("P" gives you pause when you need it.) Mostly, your time will be taken up trying to get your M15 through 6 levels (each a 2500-mile flight over rough terrain - rough, because you are being attacked in 5 different ways by 5 different enemy vehicles) to the enemy bases which must be destroyed. This is no easy task. However, you will be rewarded with an extra craft added to your one-at-a-time fleet for every 1000 miles you survive (2 levels). There are color and attack pattern changes as you move over new terrain. The enemy gets more vicious the better (farther) you get.

Though you have unlimited firepower (including bombs for the land vehicles), your greatest asset is maneuverability. It's one of those frantic type games that raise havoc with your blood pressure.
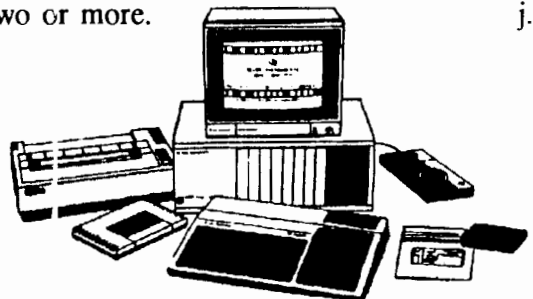
LIVING TOMBS ($15), a graphic adventure, is quite different. It's a "Tunnels of Doom" type of game with lots of excellent differences. (If you don't like TOD, just wait a second. LIVING TOMB has some interesting features, including an ability to view all kinds of stats and make all kinds of smart decisions BEFORE you make a fool of yourself by getting killed.) The multi-level tomb you travel through is a series of very complex 3-dimensional mazes. This 3D aspect is neat. Unless you make a map, you will get lost. I even had to drop some items along the way (like Hansel) to make sure I could find my way back to the trap doors to get to different levels. LT is rich with menued features, windows, and treasures, weapons, and monsters galore. You start with nothing but can gather up the right equipment left by previous brave but dead adventurers. And then only if you slay some demonic monsters to get them.

What are you doing in this tomb? Well, an evil Alchemist from days of yore was buried here. It is his tomb. A gem of suspected power was buried here, too. A curse was put upon this land of Ryder, and, though many have tried to enter the tomb and remove the evil gem to stop the curse, all have failed. Your mission, succeed.

The windowing menus, alone, are worth the price of this user-friendly, addictive, satisfying adventure. LIVING TOMBS: an excellent investment in intellectual and visceral fun. I hope Quinton continues to program for the TI.

COMPRODINE (which, by the way, stands for COMputer PROgrammers' DIsktribution NEtwork) is at 1949 Evergreen Ave., Fullerton, CA 32635. Ask for a catalog. Shipping and handling is $1.50 for one item, $3.00 for two or more.   j.s.

Member Profile

This month our profile is of the editor of this newsletter, Jim Ely.

I was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. I graduated from Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron in 1965. After graduation I moved to Arizona where I have lived since. I was very interested in electronics so tried to get a job in that field here in Arizona. I succeeded in securing a job with Motorola's Government Electronics Division in Scottsdale as an Electronics Assembler. I worked for Motorola for about 12 years moving up through the ranks while going to what is now Gateway Community College and taking Electronics Technician training. left Motorola as an Electronics Technician.

Jim Ely

While working for Motorola I was also pursuing another interest in radio. I was working part-time for for 2 local radio stations, KOY-AM and, what was then KRFM-FM later KQYT-FM and now known as Y-95 (KOY-FM). The interest, I think, was more in the music than in the radio part of the job. This lead to a full time position as Technical Director for a NEW Easy-Listening music syndicator, Churchill Productions. I worked for Churchill also for about 12 years, at which time it was sold and the job disappeared.

In 1989 I tried to start my own business as a Quick Printing Company only to have that die after about 6 months. I am currently working as a Production Leader for Burger King in Tempe. That is a pretty far departure from electronics, but under the current electronics slump in the Phoenix area, that was about all that I could find to do.

In about 1983 I got my first computer, the TI-99/4A. Paid full price for the console, too! After about a year I expanded my system with a PE-Box and 2 disk drives. I also became pretty good at BASIC and Extended BASIC programming.

I joined VAST around 1984 and shortly thereafter, after a rough start by another newsletter editor, I VOLUNTEERED to do the newsletter for the group. I have been doing it ever since. I currently also hold the position of Vice-President with the group. I was also recently honored by the group with the presentation of the first annual President's Award, for which I am deeply greatful.

I attend almost every meeting and I will see you at the next meeting on March 9th.

Jim Ely

4/A Foray

by Ralph Rees

Well, Here we go into March with only a few days to go until INCOME TAX DEADLINE! (groan). Oh well, If we didn't give all our money to the government, we'd just spend it on our computers, right?

THEY MADE THAT MANY? DEPARTMENT

➜ I thought it might be interesting for some of you to see how many software command modules TI manufactured. As far as I know this list is complete. Please note that only modules released by TI are on this list, and not those published by other companys.

PHM-3000 DIAGNOSTICS
PHM-3001 DEMONSTRATION
PHM-3002 EARLY LEARNING FUN
PHM-3003 BEGINNING GRAMMER
PHM-3004 NUMBER MAGIC
PHM-3005 VIDEO GRAPHS
PHM-3006 HOME FINANCIAL DECISIONS
PHM-3007 HOUSEHOLD BUDGET
        MANAGEMENT
PHM-3008 VIDEO CHESS
PHM-3009 FOOTBALL
PHM-3010 PHYSICAL FITNESS
PHM-3011 SPEECH EDITOR
PHM-3012 SECURITIES ANALYSIS
PHM-3013 PERSONAL RECORD KEEPING
PHM-3014 STATISTICS
PHM-3015 EARLY READING
PHM-3016 TAX/INVEST. RECORD KEEPING
PHM-3017 TERMINAL EMULATOR
PHM-3018 VIDEO GAMES 1
PHM-3019 DISK MANAGER
PHM-3020 MUSIC MAKER
PHM-3021 WEIGHT CONTROL & NUTRITION
PHM-3022 PERSONAL REAL ESTATE

PHM-3023 HUNT THE WUMPUS
PHM-3024 INDOOR SOCCER
PHM-3025 MIND CHALLENGERS
PHM-3026 TI EXTENDED BASIC
PHM-3027 ADDITION & SUBTRACTION 1
PHM-3028 ADDITION & SUBTRACTION 2
PHM-3029 MULTIPLICATION 1
PHM-3030 A-MAZE-ING
PHM-3031 THE ATTACK
PHM-3032 BLASTO
PHM-3033 BLACKJACK & POKER
PHM-3034 HUSTLE
PHM-3035 TERMINAL EMULATOR II
PHM-3036 ZERO ZAP
PHM-3037 HANG MAN
PHM-3038 CONNECT FOUR
PHM-3039 YAHTZEE
PHM-3040 TI LOGO
PHM-3041 ADVENTURE
PHM-3042 TUNNELS OF DOOM
PHM-3043 READING FUN
PHM-3044 PERSONAL REPORT
        GENERATOR
PHM-3045 SMU ELECTRICAL
        ENGINEERING
PHM-3046 READING ON
PHM-3047 READING ROUNDUP
PHM-3048 READING RALLY
PHM-3049 DIVISION I
PHM-3050 NUMERATION 1
PHM-3051 NUMERATION 2
PHM-3052 TOMBSTONE CITY
PHM-3053 TI INVADERS
PHM-3054 CAR WARS
PHM-3055 EDITOR/ASSEMBLER
PHM-3056 ALPINER
PHM-3057 MUNCH MAN
PHM-3058 MINI MEMORY
PHM-3059 SCHOLASTIC SPELLING LEVEL 3
PHM-3060 SCHOLASTIC SPELLING LEVEL 4
PHM-3061 SCHOLASTIC SPELLING LEVEL 5
PHM-3062 SCHOLASTIC SPELLING LEVEL 6
PHM-3064 TOUCH TYPING TUTOR

4/A FORAY, *from page 11*

PHM-3067	OTHELLO
PHM-3082	READING FLIGHT
PHM-3083	COMPUTER MATH GAMES II
PHM-3084	COMPUTER MATH GAMES I
PHM-3085	COMPUTER MATH GAMES III
PHM-3086	COMPUTER MATH GAMES IV
PHM-3087	COMPUTER MATH GAMES V
PHM-3088	COMPUTER MATH GAMES VI
PHM-3089	DISK MANAGER II
PHM-3090	ADDITION
PHM-3091	SUBTRACTION
PHM-3092	MULTIPLICATION
PHM-3093	DIVISION
PHM-3094	INTEGERS
PHM-3095	FRACTIONS
PHM-3096	DECIMALS
PHM-3097	PERCENTS
PHM-3098	NUMERATION
PHM-3099	LAWS OF ARITHMETIC
PHM-3100	EQUATIONS
PHM-3100	MEASUREMENT FORMULAS
PHM-3109	TI LOGO II
PHM-3110	CHISOLM TRAIL
PHM-3111	TI-WRITER/WORD PROCESSOR
PHM-3112	PARSEC
PHM-3113	MICROSOFT MULTIPLAN
PHM-3114	ALLIGATOR MIX
PHM-3115	ALIEN ADDITION
PHM-3116	DEMOLITION DIVISION
PHM-3117	DRAGON MIX
PHM-3118	MINUS MISSION
PHM-3119	METEOR MULTIPLICATION
PHM-3122	PLATO INTERPRETER
PHM-3131	MOONMINE
PHM-3144	EARLY LOGO LEARNING FUN
PHM-3145	SNEGGIT
PHM-3146	MUNCH MOBILE
PHM-3148	CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL
PHM-3149	SPACE BANDIT
PHM-3150	SEWERMANIA
PHM-3151	BIGFOOT
PHM-3152	METEOR BELT
PHM-3153	SUPER FLY

PHM-3154	TERRY TURTLES ADVENTURE
PHM-3155	I'M HIDING
PHM-3156	HONEY HUNT
PHM-3157	SOUND TRACK TROLLEY
PHM-3158	M*A*S*H
PHM-3168	TREASURE ISLAND
PHM-3169	WORD INVASION
PHM-3177	FACE MAKER
PHM-3178	STORY MACHINE
PHM-3185	WORD RADAR
PHM-3189	PIRATE ISLAND
PHM-3194	JAWBREAKER II
PHM-3197	SLYMOIDS
PHM-3219	SUPER DEMON ATTACK
PHM-3220	MICROSUREGEON
PHM-3222	FATHOM
PHM-3224	MOONSWEEPER
PHM-3225	STAR TREK SIMULATOR
PHM-3226	BUCK ROGERS
PHM-3227	CONGO BONGO
PHM-3229	HOPPER
PHM-3233	BURGER TIME
PHM-????	STARGAZER 1
PHM-????	STARGAZER 2
PHM-????	STARGAZER 3

If you have any changes or updates, please leave me mail on the BBS. Thanks.
–Ralph ...
(source - K.C. 99er Connection)

THIS WON'T HURT A BIT DEPARTMENT

→ I have recently acquired a mouse and have been having trouble getting it to work properly with our little computer classic. Then one day, I came across the following article, and all the trouble I was having became clear as a crystal "BALL"... read on...

XYZ Hardware Company Announces Extended Mouse Support!

4/A FORAY, *from page 12*

Mouse balls are now available as a FRU (Field Replacement Unit). If your mouse fails to operate properly, or should perform erratically, it may be time for a ball replacement. Because of the delicate nature of this procedure, replacement of mouse balls should be attempted only by trained personnel.

Before ordering, you must determine the type and size of your mouse's balls. This is done by careful examination of the underside of each mouse. Domestic balls will be larger and harder than foreign balls.

Ball removal, as you might well imagine, is a very delicate matter and will differ depending on the type of mouse. Foreign balls can be replaced by using the "pop-off" method and domestic balls replaced using the "twist-off" method. As you can well understand, use of the wrong method can be very detrimental to your mouse. Although mouse balls are not usually static sensitive, excess handling can result in a sudden discharge.

Replacement balls may be ordered by using the following part numbers: P/N N33F8462-domestic mouse ball or P/N N32F8411-Foreign mouse ball.

(From the Northern Nevada Ninety Niner newsletter. They say that it came to them via the North-East Tarrant County TI-99/4A User Group.)

GUESTS DEPARTMENT

➔ It has come to my attention that there is a possibility that members of the Southwest 99'ers might come to this months meeting. Wouldn't it be great if ALL members could show to say HELLO to a fellow TI club. Think about it, huh? If you don't show it just wouldn't be FAIR...

BET YOU THOUGHT I FORGOT DEPARTMENT

✍ I'm gonna sit right down and write myself an article, and make believe it came from YOU! This could be it, I've hit upon a threat that may work. How bout' if I write an article but use YOUR name! Oh jeepers, This could be embarrassing for you, because if my name isn't on it, I could say whatever I like and you'd be in the barrel! WOW! I kinda like this idea. Seriously, write something or you never know what you MIGHT read that was written by you that you never knew you wrote. (whew)   – Ralph

NEWS, *from page 4*

never met this man at a FEST, you are missing out. Neat guy!!

TEX-COMP was there, but didn't really have any real TI stuff. They mostly just had "computer' stuff, all of it at bargain prices. I got some extra stuff that you can buy from me at bargin prices of $1.50 to $2.00 each. What all do I have to sell? Well you will have to come to the meeting to find out. But I will tell you that I have seen them around town for as much as $20.00 each.

That's about it. I can tell you that I'm glad I went!!   m.g.

Our BBS and You

Submitted by Tom Pfeffer

You asked for it — OK, so you didn't ask for it, but here are the **TOP 25** reasons for using the ***VAST* BBS**: (DRUM ROLL PLEASE!)

25: It's easier than yelling, if not quieter.

24: The Suns are on the road.

23: It's cheaper than calling.

22: Insomnia.

21: Leaves no terrible aftertaste.

20: Endless reruns of the Brady Bunch and Gilligan's Island are on cable.

19: No unnecessary bending or stretching.

18: Let your finger(s) do the talking.

17: Ideas, Ideas, Ideas...

16: Can always clean the garage tomorrow.

15: The NFL season is over.

14: Interesting conversation may break out a any moment.

13: Why not?

12: Not fattening.

11: Good place to play in dirt without getting dirty.

10: The dish water is too hot.

9: Boredom.

8: Dan Quayle is giving a speech on tv.

7: Messages are not pre-read by Pentagon or Iraqi censors.

6: ***VAST*** won't be meeting 'til next month.

5: It's a tough job, but someone has to do it.

4: Even I can outsmart a piece of software.

3: It's more fun than fixing the washing machine.

2: Where else can you get useful tips, info, lies and programs for a great price and not have to leave the comfort of your very own computer desk chair.

And the number **ONE** reason to use the ***VAST*** BBS (FANFARE PLEASE!): It's a great place to practice your typing and spelling.   t.p.

Just a reminder...

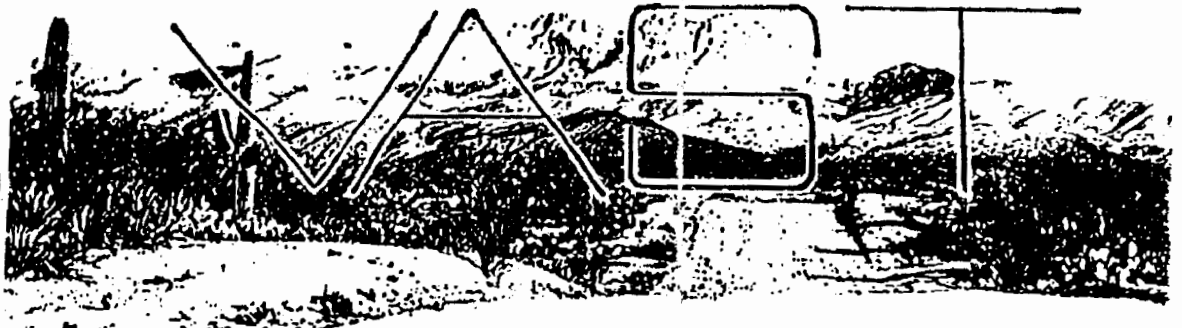The **VAST BBS** has changed its telephone number. You can now reach it 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at **(602) 233-0790**. This is a local call for most area residents. Give it a call for the latest information about the VAST Computer User Group!

THE

DIFFERENCE

IS

VAlley of the Sun TI-99/4A

USER GROUP

INVITES

YOU

and all Personal Computer owners and users to Join them the 2nd Saturday Morning of each month between 9:00am and 1::00pm (noon) at the PYLE ADULT RECREATION CENTER in Tempe.

VAST OFFERS:

. 24 hour a day BBS

. Monthly Newsletter

. Download from BBS for members

. Computer "Hands On" demonstrations

. Loan of a MODEM System for members

. A library of programs for disc and cassette

. A friendly forum for discussion of your PC problems

For more Information on VAST, contact either:

Mike Grogan (Pres)...272-4315   or   Mike Marfisi (Sec/Treas)...491-1552

VAST User Group Information

The **VAST Computer User Group** is a support group for the TI-99/4A Home Computer and compatables.

CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Mike Grogan 272-431:

VICE PRESIDENT
Jim Ely . . . . 275-801!

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Mike Marfisi. 491-155::

LIBRARIANS
Hazel & Wallace Knight . . : 938-544(;

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Jim Ely 275-801::

BBS SYSOP
Leo Baker . . . . 931-901()

Send any correspondence to the address be ow.

The **VAST Computer User Group** operates a BBS 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The **NEW** phone number is (602) 233-0790.

ADVERTISING RATES

There is **NO CHARGE** to **MEMBERS** for **PERSONAL** advertising. Non-members will be charged $1.50 per ad.

Please contact the Secretary/Treasurer for **COMMERCIAL** advertising rates.

DISCLAIMER: The **VAST Computer User Group** can assume **NO** responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this newsletter or for programs or construction projects tried by its members or others. **YOU** try them at your **OWN RISK!** Any material herein may be republished by other user groups so long as credit is given to the **ORIGINAL** sources.

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