

**Southwest
Ninety-Niners
Newsletter
contributed by
- Tom Wills -
SW99ers User Group President of Record
compliments of**



**TI99ers
On-Line
User Group**

www.ti99ers.org

SEPTEMBER 1986

P.O. Box 17831 Tucson, AZ 85730

Officers

John McCleary - President
Ed Hallett - Vice President
Wesley Eng - Secretary
BJ Mathis - Treasurer

Newsletter

John McCleary - Editor
BJ Mathis - Assoc. Editor

Southwest

Ninety-Niners

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ATTENTION MEMBERS

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NEXT MEETING: September 2, 1986 at 7:30pm. Location-Tucson Fire Department Training Center on Ajo Way just west of Park.

SPECIAL PROGRAM
SEPTEMBER 2, 1986
SPEAKER
LES MERRYMAN
WEST COAST DISTRIBUTOR FOR MYARC

WORKSHOPS: Basic - 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm (September 9th). Ex-Basic - 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm (September 16th). Both at the Mathis Home - 5941 E. 26th - 747-5046

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS: Writer & Multiplan - 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm (September 18th). Mathis Home - 5941 E. 26th - 747-5046
Assembly Language & FORTH - 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm (September 23rd). Joe Lenox Home - 8252 E. Zensky - 722-2464

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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You may have noticed we mail our newsletter in an envelope and wondered why? If you could only see the condition of some of the material we get in the mail you'd understand. At times we've had little more than an address label and stamp delivered. Often the post office puts the remains in a body bag. Well you get the idea! Unfortunately we don't get the idea from such newsletters. Additionally, it's much less expensive. Look at the costs of printing a page with return address and some cutie logo on it and you'll begin to understand. Envelopes can be purchased for about a half cent each. With a rubber stamp for the return address and the trusty mailing labels you're all set. Also they can be prepared and stuffed with other notices while the newsletter is at the printer's. Just a hint for other publishers and some information for our members.

"HO! HO! HO!", says Santa as he and his elves gear up for the holiday season. If you're planning on some elfing yourself this is a reminder that now is the time to

get those orders into the club for group purchases. Delivery can take many weeks on some items and you wouldn't want to be disappointed by late gift arrivals. So see Jack or BJ and get your orders in no later than the middle of October. Orders for programs from the library should be made no later than mid November. Remember, when you order through the group you're assured of the lowest prices currently available on most items from major suppliers and you aid the club.

On a serious note...copyright infringement is of great concern to me as an individual who writes and produces material for a living. Most of the members in our group take it seriously as well and that's great but not all people are as conscientious. There is a reprint of a worthwhile editorial from LA Topics included this month and I strongly support efforts to curb piracy of copyrighted material. Let's all work to eliminate FreeLoaders. However, one thought for authors of freeware is that not all of their programs are useful to every person who tries them. The concept is to pay for what you use not something you try and discard. So authors shouldn't condemn everyone who orders and then doesn't pay.

John McCleary * 296-8198

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Bytes & Jots

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Our summer hiatus from Special Interest groups and Workshops is at an end. These groups will begin meeting again this month. If you have not signed up please do at the meeting or call me. We will be asking one person from each group or workshop to remind everyone the day before the meeting. When John did that last year the turn out was better. He stopped due to lack of time. It was a big job for one person to do anyway. If you do not get your name on the new list you will not be reminded of the meetings. If you would be willing to make the calls for your group let me know. Even Jack, Joe and I have to be reminded sometimes.

New membership lists will be available at the meeting. I included zip codes to help you find the members in your part of town. Don't hesitate to call group members whenever you need them. Most of them will help you in any way they can.

Wesley has had the newsletters from other groups available at several of the meetings this summer. I didn't know they were there so many of you may not have known either. They can be checked out the same as the library books, etc. Please remember that unlike the library books, etc. they cannot be replaced! We do include some information from these newsletters in our newsletter, but obviously we cannot include it all. There are approximately 25 newsletters coming in every month. The articles cover all aspects of the TI-99/4A, including tutorials on the many different languages available for our computer, however there are very few articles using LOGO.

If you would like the group to send your contribution to the author of the FREEWARE/FAIRWARE you use, please let me know. So far we have received nearly \$200 to send to the authors of these fine programs. The concept behind FREEWARE/FAIRWARE is to pay for what you use, if you use it, please send a donation to the authors. This newsletter includes a letter written by an author. It is too bad that they have been so disappointed by the reception of their offerings.

BJ * 747-5046

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DISK DRIVE SPECIFICATIONS

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MANUFACTURER	MODEL #	SIDE	HIGH	DENS	TPI	BYTES	PWR	12V	ACCES	MOTOR	DRIVE	COMMENT
AlpsElectric	FDD2225	1/2										
Canon	MDD211	1/2	DSDD	48	360K							
C.D.C.	9409	Full	DSDD	48	360K							
C.D.C.	9428	1/2	DSDD	48	360K						Direct	
Epson	SD521	1/2	DSDD	48	360K	.4A	.4A	6MSEC			Direct	2 OK in PBox
Hitachi	HFD505B	1/2										
Matsushita	JA551	1/2										
Matsushita	JA551-2N	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC				Full Pwr Req
Micropolis	115V	Full	DSDD									
Mitsubishi	M4851	1/2	DSDD	48	360K							
Mitsubishi	M4853	1/2	DSDD	96	720K	.5A	.7A					
MPI	B51	Full	SSSD	48	90K						Belt	Sold in PBox
MPI	B52	Full	DSDD									Full Pwr Req
MPI	501C-200	1/2										
MPI	502B-100	1/2	DSDD									
National	JA551-2N	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC				
Panasonic	JA551-2N	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC				Full Pwr Req
Qumetrack	142	1/2	DSDD	48	360K						Belt	Full Pwr Req
Qumetrack	142LX	1/2	DSDD	48	360K							
Qumetrack	542	Full		48								
Remex	RFD480	2/3	DSDD	48	360K						Direct	
Sanyo	FDA5200B/PC	1/2	DSDD	48	360K							
Sanyo	SM548D	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC			Direct	
Shugart	SA-400L	Full	SSSD	48	90K						Belt	Sold In PBox
Shugart	SA-405L	Full	DS									Full Pwr Req
Shugart	SA455-2	1/2	DSDD	48	360K	.6A	.6A	6MSEC				2 OK in PBox
Shugart	SA465	1/2	DSDD	96	720K							
Shugart	SA475	1/2		96	1.6M							For the "AT"
Siemens	FDD100-5	Full	SSSD	48	90K						Belt	Sold in PBox
Tandon	TM50-1	1/2	SSSD									
Tandon	TM55-1	1/2	SSSD									Full Pwr Req
Tandon	TM55-2	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC				Full Pwr Req
Tandon	TM55-4	1/2	DSDD	96	720K							Full Pwr Req
Tandon	TM65-2L	1/2										
Tandon	TM100-1	Full	SSSD	48	180K						Belt	Full Pwr Req
Tandon	TM100-2	Full	DSDD	48	360K						Belt	Full Pwr Req
Tandon	TM100-4		DSDD									Full Pwr Req
TEAC	FD-55A	1/2	SSSD		180K			6MSEC				2 OK in PBox
TEAC	FD-55B	1/2	DSDD	48	360K	.4A	.3A	6MSEC			Direct	2 OK in PBox
TEAC	FD-55BV-06	1/2	DSDD	48	360K			6MSEC			Direct	No Hd Ld Sol
TEAC	FD-55E	1/2	SSSD	96	500K			3MSEC			Direct	
TEAC	FD-55F	1/2	DSDD	96	1M			3MSEC			Direct	
TEAC	FD-55GFV-AT	1/2	DSDD	96	1.2M							For the "AT"
TEC	FB503	1/2	SSSD	48	90K						Direct	2 OK in PBox
Toshiba	5401		DSDD									
Toshiba	ND-04D	1/2	DSDD	48	360K	.6A	.7A	5MSEC				2 OK in PBox
Toshiba	ND-040T	1/2	DSDD									
Y.E.Data	YD580	1/2										

This information is intended to help TI-99/4A users in identifying disk drives that may be compatible with their Peripheral Expansion Boxes and with their present disk systems. Since all information has been garnered from vendor advertisements, it is assumed to be correct, but must, none-the-less be used with caution due to transcription and other typographical errors.

Information in this table was compiled with Jack's help from BAYOU BYTE, A9CUG CALL, and WPUG newsletters. - BJ

HOW MUCH DID YOU GET GYPPE?

Did you have a subscription to Home Computer Magazine?
When did you subscribe, for how many issues and/or when was your subscription to Home Computer Magazine or 99'er Magazine supposed to run out?

The answers to these questions are needed in order to write a letter to Lane County District Attorney in Oregon for a possible suit against the publishers. We will as a group send in a letter for all those who give us the information.

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NEW FREeware/FAIRWARE IN GROUP LIBRARY

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[1] PRINTOUT-STEVE MEHR....633 Hollyburne Lane, Thousand Oaks, CA 01360. An XB utility allowing a wide variety of options for outputting a DIS/VAR 80 FILE to either an Epson or Gemini printer. \$5.00

[2] SM/LABELS-Steve Mehr....see item 87 above for address. This is a unique three-across label printer, allowing a wide variety of options for designing and printing.

[3] JP-Graphics in TI-Forth by Jean Pierre Morin Ottawa U.G., 25 Arnprior, Ontario, Canada K7S 1W7. A very powerful Graphics program with many pre-defined functions and a full implementation of TI-Logo built in. Send a DSSD or 2 SSSD disks for this one. HECK, the almost seven min. demo is worth a few bucks just to find out what your 99/4A can do!

[4] TI-WRITER MANUAL REWRITE-Dick Altman1053 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117. This cuts the manual down to five pages, plus it contains all the 'control' commands I have been able to find. If you are EVER charged for this, please let me know.

[5] CHECKBOOK & BUDGET MANAGER-John Taylor....2170 Estaline Drive, Florence, AL 35630. An extremely efficient program for both checkbook and budget maintenance. Send two disks in a reuseable mailer with postage.

[6] RESIDENT DISK MANAGER-Mike Dodd....116 Richards Drive, Oliver Springs TN 37840. Version 1.1 dated 3/28/86, also known as DISK MANAGER 99, will run with XB, TI Basic, E/A, or Minimemory.

[7] SIDEPRINT-Jim Swedlow....7301 Kirby Way, Stanton CA 90680. Prints a MULTIPLAN file sideways for easier reading and larger spreadsheets. It works with any Epson type printer and the Axiom TI550GP. Write, with SASE, if you have a different printer. \$5, disk, and mailer with postage.

TI-WRITER PRINTER CODES by Alice Cassidy, SFV 99ers

One evening as I was bragging that I had complete control of my printer by using the transliterate command, Ken Johnson (our fine editor), asked me why I went to all that trouble? He told me about page 146.

Have you read and understood page 146 of the TI WRITER manual? If you answered **Y E S** then skip this article. If you answered **yes I think so** or **no I don't**, then read on. If the only reason that you use the Formatter is for printer codes then read on. Look at page 146 to get an idea what it looks like. Go to page 98 and read that. If you still don't understand what it says don't worry. Below and on the next page are charts that show what keys to push for different printer commands. If you would like to print your letter in Continuous Expanded (Double-width mode) but don't want to leave TI WRITER to change the printer, just do the following on the top line of your letter.

PRESS: CTRL U, FCTN R, CTRL U, W, CTRL U, SHIFT A, CTRL U.
Both the Epson and the Gemini would use the above. The codes are CHR\$(27);"W1" or CHR\$(27)&CHR\$(87)&CHR\$(1). At the end of the letter you would turn the Double-width mode (Continuous Expanded) off.

PRESS: CTRL U, FCTN R, CTRL U, W, CTRL U, SHIFT 2, CTRL U.
All codes can be embedded in the body of your letter but be sure that you take into account the space(s) used by the codes.

RX 80 EPSON PRINTER CODES FOR TI-WRITER

SCREEN

DISPLAY	DISCRIPTION	CTRL	FCTN	CTRL	KEY	CTRL	SHIFT	CTRL
	Condensed On					U	O	U
	Condensed Off					U	R	U
'G	Double Strike On	U	R	U	G			
'H	Double Strike Off	U	R	U	H			
'M	Elite On	U	R	U	M			
'P	Elite Off	U	R	U	P			
'E	Emphasized On	U	R	U	E			
'F	Emphasized Off	U	R	U	F			
'	Expanded One Line					U	N	U
'W-	Expanded On	U	R	U	W	U	A	U
'W-	Expanded Off	U	R	U	W	U	2	U
's-	Half Speed Mode	U	R	U	s	U	A	U
'4	Italics On	U	R	U	4			
'5	Italics Off	U	R	U	5			
'@	Master Reset	U	R	U	@			
's-	Normal Speed Mode	U	R	U	s	U	2	U
'T	Script Mode Off	U	R	U	T			
'S-	Subscript On	U	R	U	S	U	A	U
'S-	Superscript On	U	R	U	S	U	2	U
'-'	Underline On	U	R	U	-	U	A	U
'-'	Underline Off	U	R	U	-	U	2	U
'2	1/6" Line Spacing	U	R	U	2			
'0	1/8" Line Spacing	U	R	U	0			
'3	7/72" Line Spacing	U	R	U	3			
'A-	5/72" Line Spacing	U	R	U	A	U	E	U

(more)

GEMINI-10X PRINTER CODES FOR TI-WRITER

SCREEN

DISPLAY	DISCRIPTION	CTRL	FCTN	CTRL	KEY	CTRL	SHIFT	CTRL
'bB-3	Condensed On	U	R	U	B	U	C	U
'bB-1	Condensed Off	U	R	U	B	U	A	U
'bG	Double Strike On	U	R	U	G			
'bH	Double Strike Off	U	R	U	H			
'bB-2	Elite On	U	R	U	B	U	B	U
'bB-1	Elite Off	U	R	U	B	U	A	U
'bE	Emphasized On	U	R	U	E			
'bF	Emphasized Off	U	R	U	F			
'b-	Expanded One Line					U	N	U
'bW-1	Expanded On	U	R	U	W	U	A	U
'bW-0	Expanded Off	U	R	U	W	U	2	U
'b4	Italics On	U	R	U	4			
'b5	Italics Off	U	R	U	5			
'b@	Master Reset	U	R	U	@			
'bT	Script Mode Off	U	R	U	T			
'bS-1	Subscript On	U	R	U	S	U	A	U
'bS-0	Superscript On	U	R	U	S	U	2	U
'b--1	Underline On	U	R	U	-	U	A	U
'b--0	Underline Off	U	R	U	-	U	2	U
'b2	1/6" Line Spacing	U	R	U	2			
'b0	1/8" Line Spacing	U	R	U	0			
'b3	7/72" Line Spacing	U	R	U	1			
'bA-5	5/72" Line Spacing	U	R	U	A	U	E	U

EXAMPLE CODE:

In order to find the code for 5/72" Line Spacing look in your printer manual for the Line Feed Controls. The RX 80 Epson and the Gemini-10X show this code as ESC "A" n or CHR\$(27);"A";CHR\$(n) or CHR\$(27)&CHR\$(65)&CHR\$(n), where n is as n/72 for the CHR\$(n). On page 98 we are told to press CTRL U to enter the Special Character Mode. Now go to page 146 and look for the ascii code for escape which is ascii code 27. In looking across the page it shows that the key press of FCTN R is the same as CHR\$(27). So we now know that we need to press CTRL U FCTN R CTRL U, to send CHR\$(27) to our printer. Next we need to tell the printer what to do. We do this by pressing the key A, which is the paper feed command for n/72 inch spacing. Next we have to tell the printer what the value of n is. So back to page 146. We know that we want to move the paper 5/72 inch so we go down the ascii code column untill we come to the 5. In the press key column we are told to press SHIFT E. We now have the entire code necessary to tell the printer to set the line feed at 5/72" line spacing. Be sure to remember that you must press CTRL U before and after each key press from the Special Character Mode (page 146).

If you have trouble understanding any of the above feel free to call me and/or come to the August meeting of the TI Writer SIG. Call me to find out where and when. We do not meet on any set date, just when ever we can all get together. All members are welcome to attend. Come share your knowledge with us and we will share our knowledge with you.

P.S. This entire article was printed using the TEXT EDITOR and in some places I used 17 printer codes to print the Screen Display Column.

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How to kill the TI-99/4A in one easy lesson

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An editorial by Tom Freeman - Topics - LA 99ers - August 1986

Those of you who read this newsletter regularly will know that we have long taken a public stand against software piracy. Up to this time Terrie (Masters - Pres of LA 99ers) has been the most vocal or most read but she has had full support. It is time now for me to publicly state my position, borne of bitter personal experience.

I had never touched a computer before I got my TI. It was originally a toy for me as it was for many of you, but such a toy! It quickly became a learning tool, and was not only a means to other ends, but an end in itself, as I learned the joy of programming. I am largely self-taught, through a lot of HARD work, and the help of many friends, I have achieved a position I never thought possible a few years ago.

My first "extensive" venture, a few years ago, was a combination XBasic and Assembly graphics utility called EASYSprite. I vainly tried to market it, without any real financial backing and therefore limited success. When I first heard about FREEWARE (which I now think of as "STEALWARE") I decided to go that route. For your information, I have received payment for LESS THAN one out of TWENTY copies I have sent out.

My last venture was DISKASSEMBLER. Since I thought my main problem was public awareness of my efforts (i.e. advertising) I felt going with Millers Graphics would be more successful. Let me tell you that I worked long and hard on that program (11 months, the gestation of an elephant), trying to make it perfect ON THE FIRST VERSION to be released. I have a wife and two children who wish they never heard of it, and wondered if they would ever really have me back again.

Now I know what the TI community thinks of efforts such as mine. It wasn't long before DISKASSEMBLER was in the trading routes and even on BBS's. What do those of you using pirated versions really think you are accomplishing?

And I am by no means the only victim of this vicious practice! The TI-99/4A, being an "orphan", is in a peculiar position. Currently manufactured computers have an ever-expanding market, as new users come on-line. Therefore software authors can count at least on sales to those who do not yet have access to pirated versions. The TI, on the other hand, since the big rush of new users who bought at the "close-out" sales, has a relatively stable market. It has been said that there are several million 99/4A's out there, but I recently heard an estimate that there are probably only 250,000 or so actually in use, rather than in the closet. Many already know where the good sources of software are. I strongly believe that those who are trying to make even a little money on this computer, and the VERY few who are trying to MAKE A LIVING with it, will shortly be getting out of the market, unless the piracy stops.

You may have noticed there really isn't that much software being produced anymore. There are a lot of good programs that are consistently being revised, as the bugs are noticed and worked out by the users. You need umpteen disks and a lot patience to get a properly working version. Software of serious commercial quality takes TIME, and the motivation to make the time comes from rewards, both monetary and personal. It really galls me to see the pirates not only steal the programs, but even take the authors' names off them, so the unwitting recipient doesn't even know whom to thank! And here's another amazing idea to consider. Even when you BUY the programs being marketed for the TI, you are paying 1/4 to 1/10 the cost of similar programs for other computers! In other words, you are already getting a bargain - why destroy it???

Recently a major software producer announced he would stop producing for the 99/4A because of piracy, in particular because he had found his programs on bulletin boards. A great hue and cry went up and he did rescind his decision. But I have still seen his programs on BBS's for free downloading. You sysops MUST police your boards better!

Now let me sum this up. As implied by the title, the continued well-being of the 99/4A is UP TO YOU. Unless you are willing to support the continued production of quality software by paying the very reasonable amounts the authors and software companies charge for their programs, you will soon see the market disappear. PLEASE DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!!

Happy computing anyway.

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BUYER'S GUIDE

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The following information is provided as a service to our members. The items listed are for sale by the individuals indicated and are subject to prior sale. The group assumes no responsibility for items listed and makes no claims as to their condition or interface capability with the TI-99/4A computer. Only computer related items will be accepted for publication in this newsletter.

Prices listed in this ad are negotiable. Zenith high resolution RGB color monitor with switchable green screen \$400; 1 complete expanded system including tan Console, PE Box, 32k, TI disk controller and drive, and RS232 all new TI equipment in original shipping boxes \$500; 1 TI-99/4A Console \$50; PE Box (empty) \$150; Extended Basic \$50; TI LOGO \$25; (plus the following cartridges) Tax/Investment Record Keeping; Attack; Number Magic; Car Wars; Tombstone City; and TI Invaders. Documentation and cables included. Call and make an offer John 296-8198.

Hunt the Wumpus command module \$3. TI Program Cassette Recorder w/cable \$25. Call Mike 722-8620 evenings and weekends.

TI 99/4A Console, PE Box, RS232, 32K, Disk Drive and Controller, Disk Manager 2, Extended Basic, TI-Writer, Multiplan, Personal Record Keeping, Data Base Manager Module, Personal Report Generator, Mini-Memory, Personal Real Estate, Securities Analysis Module, Beginning Grammar, Video Chess, Typing Tutor, Household Budget Management, Tax/Investment Record Keeping Module, TI Logo Users Manual, Name & Address program and several other programs on disk, many instructional manuals too numerous to mention. Selling as a unit all for only \$450. Call Dave Blevins 747-8620 after 6:00 PM.

Signalman Mark III 300 Baud (connects between phone company and your phone) with 9 volt power supply \$50. Sakata SG1000 high resolution green monitor composite video w/video cable \$60. Call George 742-3091.

Parsec \$3, Terminal Emulator II \$6. All documentation included. Call BJ 747-5046.

From the SOUTHWEST NINETY-NINERS - Personal Real Estate \$3, Household Budget Management \$2, Home Financial Decisions \$3. Call BJ 747-5046.