

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



**TI99ers
On-Line
User Group**

www.ti99ers.org

APRIL 1989

P.O. Box 17831 Tucson, AZ 85730

OFFICERS

BJ Mathis - President
David Ormand - Vice President
Ed McCullough - Secretary
Les Neff - Treasurer

NEWSLETTER

BJ Mathis - Editor

LIBRARY

BJ & Jack Mathis - Co-Chairmen
Ida McCargar - Fairware/Lending Librarian



ATTENTION MEMBERS!!!

Next meeting, Thursday, April 6th at Devon Gables Health Care Center in the Executive Dining Room at 6150 E Grant across from the Price Club at 7pm. Look for the BLUE AWNING!!! Ed McCullough will demonstrate TI-Base.

GENEVE USERS WORKSHOP

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (April 11th).
David Ormand's home - 2227 E Drachman - 795-2005

NEW GRAPHICS WORKSHOP!!!

Every other Friday at 7:30pm (April 14th & 28th). Mark O'Dwyer's home - 4014 S Desert Springs - 747-5744.

GENERAL USERS WORKSHOP

Third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (April 18th).
Mathis' home - 5941 E 26th - 747-5046.

ADVANCED LANGUAGES WORKSHOP

Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm (April 25th).
Rod Stallard's Home - 7575 E Logan - 745-6071

SWAN'S POND

by Ida McCargar

I received my second issue of the 9640 NEWS from Beery Miller. There was a Fairware program on the disk from Germany, a graphics program called Kugel. This program was demonstrated and given to those who were interested. A Public Domain disk of some MDOS routines was also demonstrated.

More programs are coming out for the 9640. Tom Wynne has written a Fairware program, RLE2GIF, which allows you to

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

QUADLISTER is a Fairware program from Greater Tampa Bay User's Group. It is the work of their librarian, Herman Nieuwendaal. You have a choice of 3 sizes of printing a disk catalog in regular or condensed print, in 3 sizes--standard, small, tiny, and 2 across with comments, or 4 across, a great paper saver if you have a lot of disks to catalog. See this month's DOM for a sample.

DIGIT-IT is a disk put together by Kawartha 99ers including a cataloger, file printer, MAX-RLE, and TASS, a fairware program which presents a slide show of RLE pictures.

SINGING SAMPLER from Ken Gilliland gives some examples of his singing music programs.

AUSSIE is a disk of games and educational programs from Australia.

convert RLE files to GIF format and add color with Myart. A Beta-test version of Advanced Basic is out and we have that. We also have a little program which turns the Swan upside down. The library also has several files of GIF pictures available. James Schroeder's Fairware disk, NOTMYCOPY, for Myarc Controllers is in the Library, versions for TI and Cor-Comp are available if you need them. The Myarc version works fine on the Geneve and is fast.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Mark O'Dwyer presented a new SouthWest Ninety-Niners logo for consideration at the March meeting. The logo appearing on this newsletter includes changes I suggested. Please give us some feedback on the adoption of this logo for our group.

There has been a request to have a Telecommunications workshop, either an on-going workshop or a one shot deal. If you are interested in attending or hosting this workshop please let me know.

The PLink/modem loaner program has been set up. Tom Mills volunteered to handle the billing. Please contact Tom Mills or me for further information and to reserve the package for your use (you will need an RS232). Members borrowing this package will be able to access PLink (a national BBS) using the SW99er membership on PLink, plus call any other bulletin board system they wish, including our own Cactus Patch. The idea is to allow SW99ers to

become familiar with modem usage, find out if they wish to purchase a modem and/or join a national BBS. Even if you already have a modem, you may want to borrow the package so you can try PLink.

Bill Gaskill has recently joined the SouthWest Ninety-Niners. He plans to write articles for our newsletter, the first of them is included this month. Bill has written extensive tutorials on Ti-Base and is a true TI enthusiast.

We are looking for a good place to have the Fest West in February 1990. We would prefer to hold it in a hotel with meeting rooms, however, other places will also be considered provided there are hotels close by. If you have any suggestions please contact me.

BJ Mathis - 747-5046

NEWS NOTES

compiled by BJ Mathis

Ed McCullough picks up the group mail. He reads all the newsletters we receive and marks the ones he thinks are suitable for republication in our newsletter. As I read the newsletters this month, I soon realized the possibility of including all Ed had marked would fill nearly two hundred pages. The best way for you to gain the advantage of our newsletter exchange is to check out newsletters from Ida. I have put together some of the highlights from the latest batch.

Chicago Times, Jan'89 - Mike Maksimik, Tech Talk - writes about little known TI peripherals. He also writes about a DOS for TI that he is/has done as a project for undergraduate study in computer science.

Western New York, Feb'89 - Harry Brashear explains how to convert an entire PRBase record to Ti-Base, not just 132 characters of it.

QB Monitor, Feb'89 - John Guion offers console debugging help. This article is over eight pages in two columns.

Cin-Day, Feb'89 - Marty Smoley explains how to fix a "dead" Extended Basic module.

Cin-Day, Dec'88-Feb'89 - Bob Seddon writes an excellent TI-Writer tutorial series.

APRIL - DISK OF THE MONTH

The Disk-of-the-Month for April 1989 contains a new version of BOOT. Read the Docs to see what changes have been made.

A Fairware Game by Steven De Geare of the Kansas City 99ers occupies most of the disk. There are several files containing the data for the questions. I would be interested to know if anyone can find out how to add new files to this program. If you enjoy the program, let Steven know and send a small donation.

If you load MAX-RLE from a previous disk, you can load and view SWLOGO. If you don't have E/A to load MAX-RLE, just add the picture to the slide program from last month's disk (change data statements accordingly) and it will be shown in the slideshow.

The FIDDLE TUNES would have been nice for St. Patrick's Day, but I didn't have the program then. Better late than never, they say!

Another hyen programmed by the late Bill Knecht--WHY ME?

Catalogs for this month's disks have been printed with the program QUADLISTER, Fairware by Herman Nieuwendaal of Greater Tampa Bay U.S. It is in our library.

Ida McCargar - 294-3024

THE GRAPHICS WORKSHOP

A sign of things to come

by Mark O'Dwyer

Until the advent of graphic-intensive computer arcade games, the average computer program was a very boring item to behold. Sure, maybe the program worked wonders, but if it could be replaced by a similar program which was exciting to view on the monitor or that produced exciting hardcopy, it would be replaced by the average user and fast!

The tremendous popularity of "Canned Graphics" like C.S.G.D., TI Artist Instances and the like is a clear example of the fact that the average TI user wants to dress-up their hardcopy. Add to this the tidal wave of fonts being introduced for new "Desktop Publishing" applications and it becomes readily apparent that this trend is gaining momentum.

So, will the workshop simply become a grown-up play period for members who like to "jazz up" their printer output? No, that opportunity will exist, but the focus I have in mind for the workshop is to produce and direct projects that will have an impact on the entire TI Community. Bringing these projects from the idea level to the point of sale level, and to do this by Fest West '90.

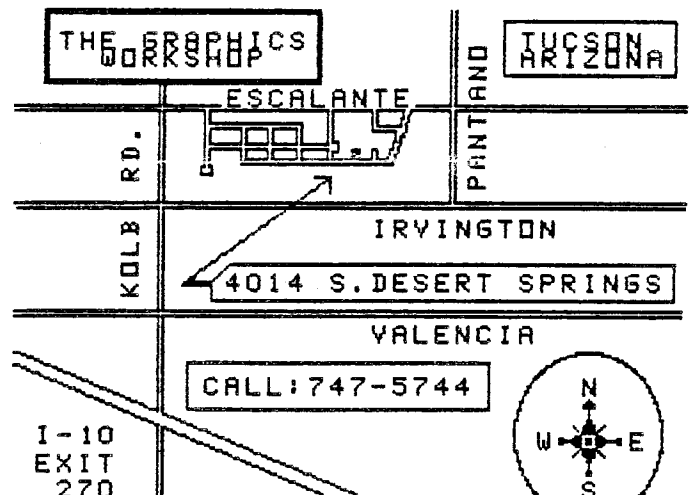
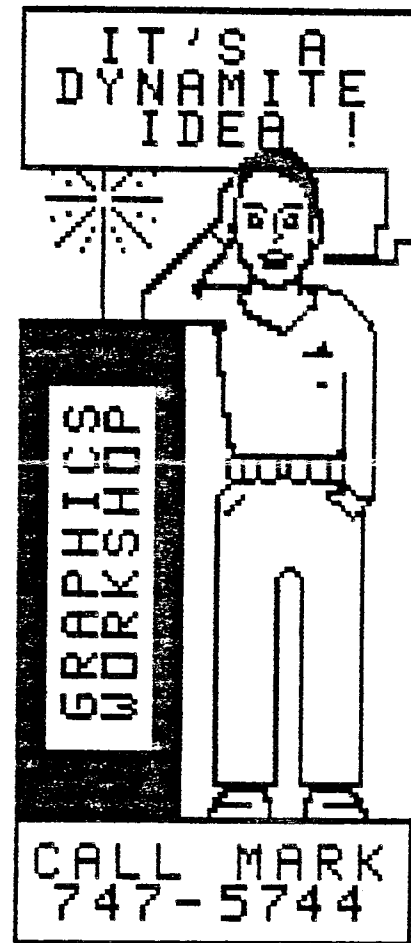
For instance, just one of the ideas I intend to cultivate involves the creation of an Assembly Language Graphics Operating System! Wouldn't it be nice to re-design the boring screen displays (and printer output) in your most commonly used programs? That's one idea... I think up new ones every day.

How about your ideas, maybe you know nothing about graphics but have an idea that could benefit from the input of exciting graphics. Every idea will be heard and voted on, those that show particular promise will become projects.

I expect that the workshop will become an "Idea Generator" and as they say, "there's nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come."

Those of you who feel that there's no contribution you could possibly make couldn't be more mistaken. If you can't think of one, come to the meetings, you'll soon be flooded with ideas.

When Fest West '90 arrives, I want to see a dozen spellbound monitor-watchers at our booth every time I walk by. Together you and I can make that happen, but don't hesitate to get involved... these projects will take lots of time and energy to bring to completion and YOUR input is needed. See you there!



MARCH SW99ERS' MINUTES

Thursday March 2, 1989

1. Pres. BJ Mathis called on members who attended FestWest in San Diego to tell the group what impressed them the most at the TI Fair. Ida McCarger was impressed by the number of people who had come such great distances, the east coast and Canada. Wesley Eng was fascinated by the abundance of software available and the presence of several of the authors. Jack Mathis was interested in the hardware that was on sale at very reasonable prices and very pleased at the opportunity to talk with the programmers of many of the outstanding programs we have been using. Al Armstrong felt the most interesting hardware was the 80 column Advanced Video Processor Card from DIJIT Systems of San Diego, the general camaraderie and the opportunity to see and talk to a lot of the people we have read and heard a lot about in the TI Community. Ed McCullough liked having the chance to talk with and exchange ideas with those people we know only by their names as authors of great programs, to listen to their lectures or demos of current and brand new software, and hear them discuss things in the seminars one wouldn't ordinarily get to hear. For example, a man was in the Video Game room, playing the Valentine game on an expanded 4A system. The kids were prompting him and offering suggestions on how he should play the game. He completed the game successfully, without ever telling them who he was. Later in the day, Ray Kazmer gave a demonstration on how to play the game, to the adults. At the conclusion, he related the incident of the kids room and admitted that some of the kids had some very good suggestions. He never did tell the kids he was the author!

2. We now have a loaner Modem available to use on PeopleLink. Before we can begin the program, however, we need a volunteer person to take over the billing responsibility for the first month. Those who are

interested in participating should contact Tom Wills or BJ to get their names on the waiting list.

3. The SW99ers were asked to host the 1990 FestWest. We couldn't give a definite answer until we could get the go-ahead from the group membership. After comments of a favorable nature by several members, it was put to a vote. It was apparent group members wished to do it, so the motion carried.

4. Mark O'Dwyer reported on a case pending in Texas in which the telephone company is trying to get the authority to apply a surcharge on the use of Modems. This could put a heavy damper on the use of Bulletin Boards.

Mark showed us his proposal for a new SW99ers logo.

He wishes to establish a brainstorming or interactive forum within the club, for developing ideas that can be planned and conducted through the production stage.

Mark, also, will host a graphics workshop a couple times a month at his home. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

5. Harry Brashear gave SW99ers some ink by mentioning our overlay strips in the MICROpendium Feb '89. BJ said we need some volunteers to help in cutting and marking more overlays.

6. Tom D'Angelo gave a talk on printers in general and how they work in conjunction with the computer. He discussed the Star NX-1000 in particular and then gave a brief overview of the Rainbow.

Ed McCullough, Secretary

ASGARD NEWS

by Ida McCarger

I just received my 4th issue of Vol.1 of Asgard News. So far, each issue has contained more information and more articles than the last and this one is no exception. The article "The NEW 99/4A" tells all the ways you can expand and upgrade your computer and enumerates the many new programs available, so that you can make your 99/4A compete with whatever any other computer has to offer. There is an announcement of a contest for hardware design, results of a User Group survey, an article on the 9900 microprocessor, and another TI-Base tutorial by Jack Sughrue. Harry Brashear writes about User Groups that succeed and those that fail. Geneva Corner lists a couple dozen more software programs (PD or Fairware) now available for the 9640. Beginner's Corner begins a Tutorial on the

Data Base concept, and there are 3 pages of the latest News and Rumors about what's happening in the TI/9640 world. Another plus--the publication has been appearing on time, and it is still arriving by First Class mail.

There are other features, such as Programs obtainable for \$1 plus a blank disk, New product announcements, letters, and a report on PRESS.

This is an excellent publication and it along with Micropendium should be considered a must for TI/9640 users. It is still available at the special rate of \$9 for 4 issues--subscription forms are in the library.

FOUR-A/TALK

RANDOM RAMBLINGS ABOUT THINGS TI.

by Bill Gaskill - March 1989

DISCOVERIES:

I received a call from Ed Edwards of the Cedar Valley 99ers in Cedar Rapids, Iowa the other night. Ed was calling on behalf of Jim Reiss, author of the excellent software program TYPEWRITER that is distributed by Asgard Software. The gist of the conversation involved Jim's concern over my comment in the January '89 Four-A/Talk article about TYPEWRITER not being compatible with any of the loaders I had except the E/A module. After some investigation and experimentation Ed and I discovered that the incompatibility occurred only when running Menu V6.4 on my Horizon Ram Disk. After installing JJ's V7.3 ROS, which I had simply been too lazy to do in the past, I discovered that TYPEWRITER worked flawlessly. So the message I would like to convey to all who read Four-A/Talk is that TYPEWRITER DOES work properly with all loaders available, including the John Johnson loader from the Horizon Ram Disk, FunnelWeb, E/A, Barry Boone's XB/EA loader etc. It does not work with the ROS that comes with Menu V6.4 for the Horizon Ram disk. Sorry Jim!

Along the same lines, I also received a letter from Chris Bobbitt of Asgard Software suggesting that the ROS may be the problem. But the real meat of the letter contained some interesting information about Jim Reiss and the future of his contributions to the 4A community. According to Chris, he met Jim on CompuServe some months ago and discovered that Jim, who is an under-graduate at Cornell University, was looking for a short project involving the TI-99. Since Chris had a few in mind the relationship was off and running. TYPEWRITER apparently is only the first (but hopefully not the last) Jim Reiss product that we will see. I also discovered from Chris' letter that TYPEWRITER will be available in module form shortly and will be introduced in the March 1989 Triton catalog. I hope that we provide the support needed to keep Jim and others with his kind of talent interested in writing for our community.

OTHER DISCOVERIES:

Jeff Bunting of the Roanoke Valley 99ers Box 12522 Roanoke, Va. 24012 has written an assembly language cryptogram solver that you may purchase for a \$5 ShareWare fee. Jeff gives credit to Leonard Morgan Jr., Barry Traver and Wayne Stith for help with the project. I am not familiar with Leonard Morgan, but everyone knows who Barry Traver is of course and Wayne Stith is fast becoming another of the movers and shakers in the community. His KwikFont tutorial stands out as the best novice's introduction to assembly language programming I have ever

seen, and now he has introduced TRIAD, the disk manager, text editor and telecommunications package rolled into one. The end result of the collaboration for the Cryptogram solver is a neat looking program. If you are a cryptogram buff, you need Jeff's offering.

Mike Wright, 45 Centerville Drive, Salem, New Hampshire 03079 has produced a booklet that is a must for every 99er. It is over 40 laser printed pages listing 99/4A books and their descriptions, disk, tape and module software produced by TI, the 1983 price list for 99/4A products before the bailout, information on the Valu-Paks TI offered and more. I picked up my copy at the East-West for \$5.00. I would guess that you can order yours from Mike for \$5.00 plus around \$2.00 more to cover the cost of packaging and mailing. It is a superb \$7.00 investment.

TI-BASE:

Alan Coleman of Cincinnati, Ohio, who does his computing on the 9640, wrote me a few weeks back asking for some help on a student grading program he was trying to write in TI-Base. The task that he wanted to accomplish was two-phased. First it involved entering five different grades in a record then summing them, dividing the results to get an average and then storing the average in a separate field in the same record as the original five grades. The second part involved entering five quiz scores into a record along with two test scores. Alan then wanted the quiz scores summed and averaged and the results placed in a separate field within the same record just as he did on the first part of the task. But then, the average of the five quizzes and the two test scores also had to be summed and averaged and the results of that computation written to a separate field in the same record. It was a fun challenge that turned out quite nice. About a dozen TI-Base command files were used to create a menu-driven system to get the job done. Alan was quite pleased and was gracious enough to send me a few dollars for my time and effort, which I REALLY appreciated. Thanks Alan!

Anyway, out of the entire effort came a command file for TI-Base that builds a MENU that I thought I would share with you, since menus are always a useful tool in any computing environment. The file that follows is actually an abbreviated version done so to save space. But the concept and technique used are what's important. The menu can be expanded to include many more options.

In the MENU the CHOIRENT, CHOIRUPD, GMUSENT and GMUSUPD names listed after the DO statements are other TI-Base

command files that are "RUN" by the menu. Each of those command files end with a RETURN that causes the MENU file to be re-RUN upon exiting any of the menu options. Any number keyed in that is outside of the valid options listed causes the MENU file to be executed again, so you can't make a mistake that will crash the file.

```

: menu
SET TALK OFF
SET RECNUM OFF
SET HEADING OFF
CLEAR
LOCAL A C 2
WHILE A <> "0"
  CLEAR
  WRITE 2,8 "  MAIN SYSTEM MENU"
  WRITE 3,8 "  -----"
  WRITE 5,8 "1 - Enter Choir data"
  WRITE 6,8 "2 - Update Choir data"
  WRITE 7,8 "3 - Enter Gmusic data"
  WRITE 8,8 "4 - Update Gmusic data"
  WRITE 9,8 "0 - Exit"
  WRITE 19,6 "Selection Number:"
  READSTRING 19,18 A
  IF A = "0"
    CLEAR
    RETURN
  ELSE
    DO CASE
      CASE A="1"
        DO CHOIRENT
        BREAK
      CASE A="2"
        DO CHOIRUPD
        BREAK
      CASE A="3"
        DO GMUSENT
        BREAK
      CASE A="4"
        DO GMUSUPD
        BREAK
      CASE 1=1
        REPLACE A WITH "X"
        BREAK
    ENDCASE
    IF A<>"X"
      CLEAR
      ENDIF
    ENDIF
  ENDWHILE
RETURN

```

FEST-WEST '89:

I spent a weekend in San Diego February 18-19 at the beautiful Clarion Hotel, meeting scads of neat people at the 1989 version of Fest-West. What a great time! If you have never been to any of the major TI faires like the TICOFF in New Jersey, the Chicago Faire in Illinois or the Fest-West which is always somewhere in the western states each year, you really should go to one. Aside from the fabulous products and seminars available, you will usually rub shoulders with most of the movers and shakers in the TI community. Many of them were in attendance at Fest-West '89. Regena, Barry Traver from Genial Computerware, Steve Mehr and Roger Merritt from Comprodine, Terrie Masters and Fred Moore from the LA Users Group, Jerry Price from Tex Comp, Tom Freeman and Jim Lohmeyer from T and J Software, Rich Carroll from DIII, Mike Wright representing Boston Computer Society, John McDermott from Rave99, Ray Kazmer of WoodStock fame, T.A.P.E. with their innovative mouse system and other goodies for the 99 was there as were BJ and Jack Mathis from the Southwest 99ers in Tucson. The Mathis family members were featured in the December 1988 edition of PC Computing magazine in a marvelous article about orphaned computers entitled "Gone But Not Forgotten".

As an information item for you PR BASE V2.1 users, Jack Mathis has re-written the PR BASE utilities programs by John Johnson to work with the Mike Dodd V2.1 version of PR BASE. If you are interested in procuring a copy write to Jack care of the Southwest 99ers, Box 17831 Tucson, Az. 85730. Jack is an up and coming assembly language programmer who I hope to hear more from in the future.

I never asked about the actual attendance figures, but I can reasonably say that attendance was well into the hundreds. It was so neat to be apart of it all. Fest coordinator Woody Wilson even let me give a seminar on TI-Base on Saturday afternoon. Other seminars were given by Regena, Barry Traver and Woody himself. The Fest was sponsored this year by the Southern California Computer Group, Box 21181 El Cajon, Ca. 92021. Thanks to the ladies and gentlemen of the SCCG for their hard work and excellent organization. It was a GREAT event! There is talk already of Fest-West '90 taking place in Tucson. I hope so. I've never been to Tucson and I can't think of a better excuse to go than a TI Faire.

COMPRODINE:

Comprodine is an acronym for COMputer PROgrammers Distribution NETWORK. The firm is owned by Rodger Merritt and Steve Mehr. Thanks to the programming wizardry of Rodger and the marketing where-with-all of Steve, the company offers some of the neatest graphics oriented software ever produced for the 99/4A. Besides the

PRINT-IT program I already own from them, I was able to pick up Form Shop, Jiffy Card and Jiffy Flyer. If you ever need to produce professional printed material for any purpose, Comprodine is the company to contact. If you are a Computer Shopper subscriber you can read all about Form Shop in the February 1989 edition in the TI Forum column authored by Barry Traver. Comprodine's address is 1949 Evergreen Ave., Fullerton, Cal. 92635.

TRIVIA:

Talk about off-the-wall trivia! Did you know that California Dreamers Inc., Chicago, Illinois 60610, produced a beautiful greeting card that features the beige version of the 99/4A console on the front of the card, with a message inside the card that reads, "I'd love to program your software"? Unreal! The layout was designed by Jis Lischert, who may be a 99er, but it is not a name that I have ever seen anywhere. The card is copyrighted 1984, which means it was done after the "bailout" by TI. Wonder why he chose our machine? Glad he did at any rate.

MICROdex for TI-Base:

In the January '89 Four-A/TALK I introduced the MICROdex program and data base for publications referencing. This time I am going to tell you about MICROdex for TI-Base.

Because I find TI-Base to be the most powerful and flexible data base management system available for the TI, and because there are over 1000 copies of it out there in the community already, I have written the MICROdex library files in TI-Base format. This means that TI-Base owners can now have access to the thousands of indexed items that are found in the MICROdex libraries. The MICROdex for TI-Base system contains TI-99/4A indexes for 99er/Home Computer Magazine, Compute! magazine, MICROpendium and miscellaneous files for Enthusiast 99, Super 99 Monthly, The Smart Programmer and others.

MICROdex for TI-Base is entirely menu driven with no command file programming required. It performs some of the fastest searches available in any 99/4A data base and supports both displayed and printed output. If you have ever read something on the 99/4A or Geneve and wanted to find it again, this is the tool for you. Aside from being an excellent reference library, it also gives you a host of TI-Base command file examples that you can modify for other uses. MICROdex for TI-Base will be available through Texaments in the next couple of weeks. Look for it.

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED!

by Tom Wills

This month's guest personality is one of our user groups more active members. This very busy lady is none other than our own Ida McCargar.

Ida, who has been a SW99UG member since November of 1985, refers to herself as a "septuagenarian" (and a very young one in my opinion). Ida and her husband, Harold, have lived at 5428 Madison Stravenue since 1960, when all there was in that area was desert. Ida's telephone number is (602) 294-3024.

Ida was born, raised, educated, and raised her own family in Western New York state, near what she calls the Niagara Frontier. Ida studied at Syracuse University in their School of Library Science. Ida had moved to Tucson in 1960, and returned to New York to go to school in 1968!! Two of her Daughters are also Librarians, one of which is helping introduce computers into libraries.

Ida and Harold have one son and three daughters, plus eight grandsons and two granddaughters. Ida retired in 1963 from the Tucson Unified School District. She started the Centralized Library Services and was responsible for cataloging books and Audio-Visual materials for the entire school district while employed there.

Ida is in charge of our Hard Copy Library, has been cataloging newsletter articles (no small task!), and is now also working with our Fairware Library. Ida also attends the Geneve SIG, the General Users SIG, and whatever else she can, and usually ends up being a good contributing member. Ida has also attended the 1988 and 1989 Fest Wests. Among some of her other activities on behalf of our U.G. is her contributions to the newsletter (Ida, where do you find both the time and the energy???)

Ida's computer setup consists of the following: Setup #1 consists of a Geneve 9640, a P.E. Box, a Horizon ramdisk, 2 disk drives, a MYARC disk controller, a N2-10 printer, an Avatex 1200 modem, and a RS232 card. Setup #2 consists of a TI-99/4A console, a TI disk controller, a 32k memory card, one disk drive, and a program recorder. Plus much software and other firmware. Ida says she would also like to get the new Myarc Hard Disk and Floppy Disk Controller.

Ida uses her computer for a variety of purposes, including some church work, word processing, games (for entertaining her grandchildren, so she says...), telecommunications, recipes, financial recording, and much user group work, including the Disk Of the Month, cataloging newsletters, copying Fairware, and some U.G. correspondence.

TI-CARE FORUM

from News of the Hurst (TX) Computer UG via Houston UG

As part of a continuing effort to enhance support services, TI-CARE has introduced an on-line bulletin board that gives customers technical assistance and the latest news about TI-CARE and TI.

The board called the "TI-CARE Forum", is a multi-line system which permits simultaneous access by multiple users. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be accessed using almost any Bell 212a compatible modem at baud rates of 300, 1200, and 2400.

Any user who dials up the Forum can peruse general information about TI, its products and services; view product demonstrations; and read important announcements.

Users who have purchased TI-CARE Support Services for specific software and hardware products may access technical information for those products. The technical material includes direct responses to technical questions asked by others. It also allows the user to download files from the Forum to a remote system. The Forum has been designed for ease of use with on-line help and menu

driven functions. Special features help maximize the user's time. For example, there are separate file areas for each product. Also, a key search can be run in background mode while the user performs another task.

TI-CARE expects users to enjoy the Forum's advantages of immediate access to information, instead of waiting for assistance over the phone. In addition, the Forum allows customers to obtain selected TI owned software product updates electronically, saving the mail-time of conventional distribution.

There is no connection charge or user fees for access to general information on the Forum; the only cost is the phone call. The technical assistance is available through subscription to TI-CARE Support Services.

For more information, you may dial directly into general information section of the Forum at: (512)250-6112 - modem. Or, if you would like to discuss the Forum, please call (800)847-5757 - voice.

BUYER'S GUIDE

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.

TI Extended Basic \$25, Editor Assembler (new) \$10, Logo II \$10, Home Budget Management \$3, Terminal Emulator II \$7, Personal Record Keeping \$4, Personal Real Estate \$4, Early Reading \$7, Alligator Mix \$3, Hunt the Wumpus \$3, TI Invaders \$3, Munchman \$3, Parsec \$4. Books: Programs for the TI Home Computer \$3, Introduction to Assembly Language for the TI Home Computer, Games TIs Play \$3, Computer Playground \$3, The Best Texas Instruments Software \$2, The Best of TI 99/4A Cartridges \$2. Call Jack or BJ 747-5046.

TI-99/4A Console, Expansion Box w/CorComp RS232, TI 32K, TI Disk Controller, SSDD Disk Drive, TI Extended Basic, Editor Assembler, Multiplan, Writer, Personal Real Estate, \$380. Optionally 2 DSDD half height drives. Call Dick Paschal 790-4779.

Parsec \$4, Donkey Kong \$8, Big Foot \$8. Call Dick Paschal 790-4779.

TI-99/4A Console, Speech Synthesizer, TI Joysticks, 7 modules, 24 basic programs on cassette, make offer. Call Sue McLaughlin 297-9804.

FROM SOUTHWEST NINETY-NINERS: Printer Ribbons for Star Micronics NX-10 \$4.50ea. & NX-1000 \$3ea., Tractor feed one-across mailing labels 500/\$1, Cassette Cables \$3, Personal Record Keeping \$4, Tax Investment/Record Keeping \$3, Home Budget Management \$3, Books: The Writers by Harry Brashear \$3ea., Home Publishing by Harry Brashear w/disk \$15ea., "Best" Newsletter \$5ea., Using & Programming the TI-99/4A \$6. Call Jack or BJ 747-5046.