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99'er on line... is the newsletter of the Edmonton 99'er Computer User's Society published ten times a year. Unless otherwise stated, all articles may be republished in other Newsletters provided that source and author are identified. We will in turn credit authors quoted in 99'er ON LINE.

NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENCE: Editor: John Harbour, 13857-114st. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. T5X 4A1 (403) 456-0862.

OFFICERS: President Yves Chevalier; Vice President Ken Godbeer; Treasurer Dennis Miller; Secretary Roxanne Appelt.

OFFICERS AT LARGE: Paul Helwig Newsletter Library; Gordon Bradlee Book Library; Win Appelt Disk Library; Ron Hohmann Module & Cassette Library; Jim Mulligan Sycop, T.I. Bulletin Board 464-4167, 300/1200Baud.

DISCLAIMER: Information published in this Newsletter is created by and for amateurs, therefore, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or use of presented information.

REGULAR MEETINGS: of the Edmonton 99'er Computer User's Society are held on the second Tuesday of each month in room 849 of the General Service Building of the University of Alberta from 7:00 till 10:00PM, and are open to all members in good standing. Non-members may attend their first meeting free of charge.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Commercial space is available in this Newsletter at the following rates: Full page \$20.00, Half page \$15.00, 1/4 page \$10.00. Discuss your needs with John, at (403) 456-0862, or the next meeting, alternatively send "photo ready" copies to him. Members may advertise their personal computer related items for free but are asked to limit their ads to about 50 words. Mail your ads., to the Editors address or hand it to him at the General Meeting; Newsletter deadline 3rd Monday of the month.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Family; 12 months \$20.00, 6 months \$15.00. Students; 12 months \$15.00, 6 months \$10.00. New member initiation; \$20.00.

------(News Letter)-----

NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be
October 11th. At 7:15 PM.
General Service Building U of A
Campus room 849.

------(News Letter)-----

JUST A WORD.

by: Yves Chevalier.

As voted at the May meeting, the election process for Executive positions is taking place at this time. Jim Mulligan has been appointed Nominating Committee Chairman. All positions, President, V-President, Treasurer and Secretary on the Executive are opened to challenge. The Vice-President and Secretary positions are opened at this time. Though the President and Treasurer positions are filled all positions can be challenged. YOUR support is essential in making YOUR club work for YOU. YOU are the club for without YOU there is no club. The total success of YOUR club is directly proportional to YOUR contribution in time, thoughts and actions toward it. Please send your nominations to Jim or present them at the beginning of the October meeting. Only YOU can decide.

The Executive meeting was held at my place on Sep the 21st and was well attended. Discussions ranged from the New BBS, Sig Groups, Elections, to the Newsletter and more... Find out more about it in Win's report.

As previously stated in these pages I was wishing for an all TI-BBS, both in software and hardware. Well it has finally materialized. Please welcome Jim Mulligan with his new ALL TI-BBS (464-4167). He is working a fairly expanded system with RAM card, four floppy drives, GRAM cracker and time clock etc., etc., etc. For now, UP and DOWN loads are exclusively for "ENNERCUS" (Edmonton 99'ER Computer User Society) members but is subject to revision at a later date. On the subject of BBS, I want to add my note of Thanks to Tom Hall for all the effort and time he put into the previous board. It has help us through a growing period where we learned to communicate ON-LINE with computers. But my heart is with TI.

GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 13/88.

by: Win Appelt.

11 Members and 2 guests present

7:45pm MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Yves stated that in the event of the group losing the privileges of the room at the U of A, we should be checking out possibilities of getting a room at some local school.
- Paul suggested that we might be able to get use of a room at the Space Science Centre or possibly the museum.
- Yves stated that our group membership stands at 32 members.
- Yves pointed out some of the memory and program storage capabilities of the TL. eg. Ramdisk - Hard Drives.
- Having a quorum present, a decision was made to vote on the BBS issue. Duwayne Haugen moved that the group pick up the telephone line costs for Jim Mulligan's board (monthly bills and installation) and also stop financial support to Tom Halls board, effective today.
- A show of hands passed the motion.
- Stewart Loomis motioned that we thank Tom for all the years of support.
- Gordon Bradley seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Yves informed group that we are in need of nominations for the EXECUTIVE positions. As of yet there were none.

10:00pm MEETING CALLED TO CLOSE.

------(News Letter)-----

EXECUTIVE MEETING.

by: Win Appelt.

September 21/88..Via IIBDS.

Points discussed are as follows:

- Concern was shown in trying to find replacements for the Vice-president, Secretary positions and also someone to look after the Coffee fund & duties. As of yet there have been no nominations for these positions, but the exec. hopes that this situation will be rectified at the October meeting.
- John Harbour suggested that we start an incentive program in the way of annual fee cuts, to members that bring in new members to club, or for people who volunteer their services to the executive positions. More discussions in this matter to follow.
- Jim Mulligan suggested that we elect people to write specific columns for the newsletter in order to improve the content in our newsletter.
- Yves Chevalier suggested that we do more advertising this year.
- Jim is to look at Video tape of the Ottawa Groups BBS to see if it would be worthwhile purchasing this software for the use of the club's board. - Also noted was that all files for downloading on the club's BBS will now have a 'Kill Date'. This will make matters much easier for Jim to keep track of file rotation for the board.

THINGS TO PONDER.

by: Newsletter reprint.

I'm trying to include things of interest to a wide variety of users. Believe me, this is getting more difficult, and it's NOT because of the LACK of things to include in the newsletter, but because of the ABUNDANCE of information for the TI-99/4A. The only reason for the failure of some User Groups out there, is because one or two are trying to do it ALL, while the rest of us "USERS", just sit and complain. If User Groups of any machine fail to keep the "USERS" informed, the interest will disappear and so will that group. I hope that this amazing machine will survive another 9 years! Yes, 1979 was when the TI-99/4A came out. Old technology you say, well try to do it better, cheaper, you can't. Don't look to BIG BLUE to solve all your problems and fill all your needs.

J.F.W. WEST PENN 99'ER

------(News Letter)-----

1200 BAUD MODEM CARD.

by: Yves Chevalier.

This is an update on the progress, or lack of, on this 1200 BAUD MODEM CARD. I have run into some difficulties (technical) which requires more testing. There seems to be some instability in the crystal speed (4.9152Mhz) which can be corrected with the addition of some capacitors, the values of which I will determine on acquiring a Frequency Counter, enabling me to resume my testing.

Stay in tune....Yves.

------(News Letter)-----

MYARC RS232 DEFECT.

by: Yves Chevalier.

Model no RSIC-1
PCB markings NCC-1 94V-0

I was requested to check out the working, or rather non-working condition of the number two serial interface port on the above mentioned PCB.

This particular version was found to have a design defect on DTR/2. An attempt had been made to correct this fault with wirewrap wires. This had in effect connected RS232 pin 19 directly to the TMS9902, bypassing the line receiver 1489 IC, applying RS232 levels to a TTL IC. The runs on the card were designed with RS232 pin 19 connected to the output of the receiver (1489 pin 6) with pull up resistor to +5V. The input of the receiver pin 4 was connected to the TMS9902.

The correct diagram should have been from RS232 pin 19 to the receiver (1489 IC) at pin 4, with pull up resistor to +5V. Then the output of the receiver pin 6 connected to TMS9902 pin 6 and 7.....Yves.

------(News Letter)-----

TELCO TERMINAL.

by: John.

Now we have a New TIBBS Board, how do we access it, most of us have Telco, some using the Hayes Compatible Modems, while other are using the acoustic type. Whatever you choose to use is entirely up to you, they should all work. Another thing, don't be shy, if you make a mistake, nobody will jump on you, remember it is your board, we all have to learn, an understood point, once you have gained access, you will feel more confident next time round, we were all at that stage once, some of us have not passed it yet.

Load your Terminal Program, if you have set up Telco, you can access immediately use <<ADM3A>>, either 1200/300 Baud. Members with the Hayes, can then use the Auto-Dialer Fctn.1. for direct connect, others dial manually

444-4167, on receiving a tone from the TIBBS, place the hand-set on the acoustic cups, and press <ENTER>, in my case I have to press Enter several times, on connection, the TI-NET Logo is displayed on your monitor screen, the first question is for your TI-Net membership number, if this is your first access enter NEW, you will then be asked several questions, for the log, on completion you will be allowed entrance onto the board. At this time your entrance will be limited to 15mins, until you have been accepted as a member user, your next visit on the board continues, The Main Screen will be displayed, some of which I explained earlier, you can now move around the board at will, and use up your 45mins. Some of you, who are using, 4-ATalk, Fastterm and telco, would possibly like to try the Download section, TE.II. doesn't have the download possibilities (check with Sysop). In that case select (D)ownload, (from now on, I will be explaining what to do using TELCO as I am not sure about the others, you will have to read your documentation, or wait for some kind person to write the information for printing at a later date) on your screen will appear:

◆DOWNLOAD LIBRARIES◆,

- 1). Recent Uploads & Games.
- 2). Utilities & Demo's.
- 3). Graphic Pictures.
- 4). Special Files.

Area <1-4> or (Q)uit.....

On selecting the required number, a list of the available files will be displayed. After the last entry, you get this query:

Filename (q=quit ?=list):.....

At this point, which is most crucial, you must get the correct filename, sometime, the screen scrolls up so fast that you have missed the name, in that case, punch in '?', this will re-display the files and give you another chance, on the other hand if there is nothing there you desire, punching 'q' quit, takes you out of the section. After you have given the desired Filename, the screen scrolls up, waits, then displays, "Modem Download Ready", -I should mention, that before you enter the board, it is always prudent to have at hand an initialized disc, with plenty of sectors available, you never know what you may find, best to be prepared.- This is the time when you punch in Fctn 4, immediately on the screen in a frame is displayed the download format, (download meaning the file you are about to receive from the BBS) you can now call the program you are about to download whatever you want, ie., DSKn. Filename then press <Enter>. Now you will have to sit and twiddle your thumbs until you have made a successful transfer, you can if you wish watch the current block number as it increases on the screen, you may notice several errors appearing but this is normal, CRC and Checksum usually sort out the problems, when the numbers co-inside the file transfer is complete, that is what will be displayed now on the your monitor screen, -IN THE EVENT, THAT YOU OR THE PROGRAM LOCKS-UP AND YOU CRASH THE BOARD, SOMETIMES THIS IS INEVITABLE, PLEASE PHONE THE SYSOP AND NOTIFY HIM OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED, IN THIS CASE THE BOARD CAN BE RE-SET AND NO HARM WILL BE DONE. ACCEPTABLE METHODS OF EXIT ARE: (B)OODBYE, OFF, OR BYE, AT THE END OF A COMMAND LINE.-

Anyone wishing further information on Telco please write in, or leave your questions on the bulletin board.

!------(News Letter)-----!

TI.BBS IS HERE.

by: JOHN.

This is to announce our New TI-NET, an all TI, both in Software and Hardware applications, your New Sysop is Jim Mulligan, please support him, by phoning the board, the phone number is now on the front page of this Newsletter. The most common access to this Utility has been with Telco, or Fast-term although the board is fit up to accept other Terminal access programs ie., 4-ATALK, TE.II. etc. This board has been loaded with many Programs, Utilities and popular games, etc., all for the taking, at present it is only for our club members in good standing, this board will accept both 300/1200 Baud, using either your direct phone connect modem, Hayes compatible, or any acoustic type modem. There is a section which can be used for hobbies, book etc., another section, which I strongly recommend is the Electronic mail section, where mail can be sent to any other member, this is convenient when some member is not available on the phone etc., but is a known bulletin member (confirmed through a check of the User List), can always be contacted using this media, on connection with the board, you are informed of any mail awaiting you. NB. this does not always apply to all sections of the board, but always the (E)Mail. Mail left in the Bulletin areas of the board are not private but public to all. Messages left as E-MAIL is infact private only to the addressee, and is sent to the members personal number (check User List if you do not remember the user number of the person to whom you want to leave a message.

If you want to send directly to the Sysop, use (F)eedback, here you can vent your frustrations directly to the Sysop (Systems Operator) you may be able to suggest better methods of operation, or programs you would like have put in the (D)ownload, section, or even just a chat, or even to speak to the S.O.B. who cuts you off at the most

