

CAROLINA 99/4A USER'S GROUP
NEWSLETTER

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FREE

Time flies when you're having a good time!
Here it is, time for our November meeting already: next Tuesday,
November 15. At our October meeting, the program committee
arranged for several computers to be set up for a general
workshop. I hope everybody learned something from the
different programs being run or demonstrated.

The same format is planned for this meeting, so if you did not
get to see them all, this will give you a chance to catch up.
Also, if you didn't make it last month, make plans now to
come. You'll be in for a treat!

*****GOOD NEWS FOR TI-99/4A OWNERS*****

TI has slashed prices on their peripherals and now has the
longest warranty of any home computer. The warranty on the
console was increased from 90 days to one year from date of
purchase. TI also has a new toll-free number:

1-800-TI CARES.

The individual suggested retail prices for the Expansion Box,
TI writer, 32K RAM, memory card, disk controller card, and
disk was about \$1300. I talked with Dalton Wood at Gate
City TV, and with the additional 20% discount he is offering

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our members, the total cost is only \$520.00 plus tax!!!
Other peripherals such as the P-Code Card, RS232, modem,
printer, etc. have also been reduced. It looks very good
for anyone who wants to get down to serious business with
their computer.

***** CASSETTE TIPS *****

SAVING AND LOADING PROGRAMS

- * If you are trying to save a program now in memory, type in SAVE CS1, press the ENTER key and follow the instructions the computer gives you.
- * If you are trying to load a program from a cassette into computer memory, then type in OLD CS1, press the ENTER key and follow computer instructions.
- * If you encounter an error that says *ERROR - NO DATA FOUND, this means that the volume setting on your cassette recorder is not loud enough.
- * If you find an error that says *ERROR DETECTED IN DATA, this means that the volume setting on the recorder is too loud. In this and the above case, adjust volume to find the correct setting. This setting may vary slightly for individual cassettes, even when played on identical recorders.
- * If your cassette recorder does not respond to your computer's "start" and "stop" commands, the reason may be that the polarity of the recorder's motor is reversed. I purchased a "Texsette Adaptor" and found that the only thing it does is reverse the leads to the remote jack. Get a subminiature male plug and a female jack. Solder the tip of the jack to the sleeve of the plug and solder the sleeve of jack to the

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tip of the plug. You have now reversed the polarity of the cassette recorder motor to make it compatible with your 99/4A without going into the recorder.

This space was reserved for a program contributed by James Roundtree. But, when I listed it, I found it was written in X Basic. I had loaned my X Basic cartridge & could not get a good listing. However, all is not lost. We already have something to look forward to in next month's newsletter. Sorry about this month, James.

TI REPAIR POLICY

For those of you who are curious about TI's repair policy, this short summary should help.

TI operates 46 exchange centers around the country and a repair center in Lubbock, Texas. When your TI unit needs repair, you have three options. You can take it to an exchange center in your area or you can send it to Lubbock for repair. In addition, if the unit has been bought within 30 days of the unit failure, then 99% of the retail outlets will exchange it for you if the following conditions exist:

- You purchased it at that store.
- You have the sales receipt.
- It does not appear to be damaged or abused.

Exchange Centers

You may exchange any faulty unit at an exchange center for a reconditioned unit. You immediately have a unit that works; however, it is not your original unit. Here's what it will cost you:

- 0-30 day warranty period; no charge
- 30-90 day warranty period; \$7 exchange fee
~~plus \$2.50 handling charge~~

You can locate your nearest exchange center by calling the toll free assistance line at 1-800-TI CARES.

Lubbock Repair Center

You may elect to send your defective unit to the Repair Center in Lubbock. You must then mail your unit prepaid to Lubbock at a cost of \$5 to \$8. It will take an average of three weeks from the time you ship your unit to the time it is returned to you. Here's what it will cost you:

- 90 day warranty period; no charge
- Minor charge: \$25 plus \$2.50 postage and handling
- Major charge: \$45 plus \$3 postage and handling

The address of the Lubbock Repair Center is:

Texas Instruments Repair Center
2305 North University
Lubbock, TX 79408

As you can see, it is possible to spend less if you return your unit to Lubbock. However, it is also possible to spend more and be without your unit for an additional three weeks by sending it to Lubbock.

There is no current update program for the 99/4 to 99/4A.