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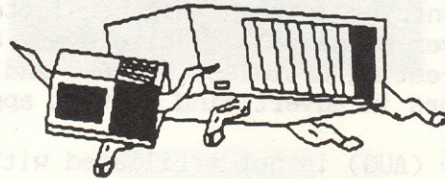
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JUNE							JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

This newsletter is the official publication of the Amarillo 99/4A USERS GROUP, a non-profit organization serving member/user of the Texas Instruments 99/4A HOME COMPUTER and compatibles.

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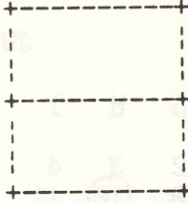
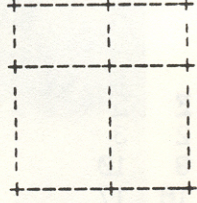

The Amarillo 99/4A Users Group (AUG) releases its newsletter 12 times annually in Amarillo, Texas. Material contained within this newsletter has been freely compiled from various sources (cited when ever possible). While every attempt has been made to provide high quality factual and interesting articles, the AUG and its editorial staff cannot accept responsibility for errors in advertising or text appearing in this newsletter.

The Amarillo 99/4A Users Group (AUG) is not affiliated with Texas Instruments and has no type of relationship with them, either implied or otherwise. We are an independant nonprofit organization. Views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the AUG.

All correspondence should be mailed to:

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Full Page \$10.00	Half Page \$5.00	Quarter Page \$3.00	Business Card \$2.00

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Keep other TI-99ers in touch with your work by contributing articles, programs, tips and helpful hints. If you want the TI community to grow and prosper, your help is needed. The staff and officers of the AUG appreciate all the help you have given in the past. We welcome articles, tutorials and application stories. Length should be 400-500 words. We prefer delivery by mail or on a 5 1/4 inch disk in TI-WRITER format. Original computer artwork (TI-Artist, MacFlix, or RLE files) are welcome! Please include a short biography and authors telephone number.

MINUTES: by Ron Sanders

The May meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Joe Slutz. Discussed were interest in flea market type set up at the Civic Center and the HAMFEST in the second weekend in August. Possibilities in a set up table with hard and software, literature, and people to man the tables. Fred Dennis, Joe Slutz, Frank Aleman, Sam Burton, and Steve Eggers were interested in short term table setting. The fee per table is set at \$10.00. The group showed interest in 2 tables with a 99/4A, 99/8, and a Geneve set up running demos. Demos at this months meeting included a demo disk sent to Sam Burton from Turkey, Steve Eggers showed Animatem, TI's unreleased Disk Manager 3 on cartridge and TI's unreleased Disk Duplicator on cartridge, and Joe Slutz showed SYSTEX, Drawpoker, Calligraphy, Tocatto. The meeting broke into a copy session and was adjourned at 8:45.

Attending the meeting were: Joe Slutz, Samuel Burton, Steve Eggers, Frank Aleman, Ronnie Sanders, Jere Lawrence, Fred Dennis, and Jake Fortenberry

TREASURER'S REPORT: NO TREASURERS REPORT THIS MONTH!!!

Notes from the Editor.....

I decided this month to take over the newsletter job and try to get it back on track starting with the June newsletter. This issue will be late but at least you can say you got one. I am going to try to put some more technical related articles in the newsletter for you hardware hackers out there. In this issue you will see a short article over the IEEE-488 interface as well as schematics and component layout if somebody wants to built one of these peripheral cards using the protoboard.

If anyone in the group would like to submit articles or just want to help, let me know. If there is an article you would like to see in the newsletter, type out or let me have the article so I can type it, so it can be put into the newsletter.

Carl Bourn has notified me about the TI section on PC-Datalink. If this section of the board is not going to get anymore activity that it has been getting then it is not going to exists much longer. J.D. Stephens was nice enough to give this section of his BBS to us and this is how we are paying him back. So, pull those modems out of the closet and get on the board. If you don't like PC-Datalink anyway, then call the Burg Board and go to the TI Town section of his board and leave some messages. Our own Fred Dennis is the junior sysop of that section, but doesn't have a great deal of downloads. So, take your pick between one or the other and support it!

I recently went down to Lubbock to pick up some TI stuff and saw a lot of neat things when I was there. I saw a Video Controller Card that would allow you use video tape as a means of storage; a Timer Card that I am not really sure what it does. I saw a TI Eprommer card and a lot of HEX-Bus peripherals. I even saw a working TI-99/8 with DS/DD HEX-Bus drives. It was pretty neat.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

TI-99/4A is one of the few computers that can be used as a tool to teach. Using the often hard to find PLATO cartridge, my 9-year old practices multiplication. Using it everyday, she has really mastered them quite well. Every time she get good with a special set of numbers, she can go to the next level just be replacing disks. She is now into real simple algebra which I'm not real sure how old one begins such material, but I really had a hard time with it when I was small. PLATO is just the ticket to learning subjects from grade 1 through 12. I even used some of the chemistry disks for college because I hadn't taken chemistry in high school. It really helped.

If anyone has a subject they just want to brush up on, remember PLATO and the 99/4A.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting in June.

The Prez.

From the hand of the Vice President.....by Samuel Burton

This has been a very eventful year for the Amarillo 99/4A Users Group. The group has built up a solid membership and set up an impressive public domain library. But we can't stop there. If more members don't call PC-Datalink, the TI area will be removed from the BBS! Support is a two way street!!! We are fortunate to have interested officers, and dedicated appointees to the library committee. As Vice President, I have enjoyed working with all of you.

Another observation is the strong feeling that most members are only interested in the available software. These members don't seem to realize the tremendous support a Users Group can provide. At the last meeting for example, those who attended were shown step by step through a TI-ARTIST animation demonstration (Thanks Steve!). This enjoyable demo could save you a lot of programming. We are more than public domain software!

I closing, remember to come to the June meeting...your attendance and support count!

Bits and Bytes by Steve Eggers

ATTENTION!!!!

Steve Eggers will demonstrate his just acquired Texas Instruments TI-99/8 computer with double sided/double density HEX-Bus drive. This is the one that got away. You don't want to miss this meeting. You will want to see this machine in action.

PC-Datalink has a lot of TI software available for download...sign on and get the latest software for the TI-99/4A and the Geneve 9640. Call PC-Datalink at 806-655-7918.

Have you ever wanted to install 32K, XBasic, Speech, clock, and a parallel port in the console itself. Then the "Zeno Board" is for you. This board comes unpopulated and is expected to be \$15.00. If you want more details, then write to: Eric Zeno, 414 Highland Road, Pittsburg, PA 15235.

Did you know that TI still supports the TI community. I recently sent back a broken 32K card and received a new one in return. It only cost \$44.00. Charges on other item are as follows:

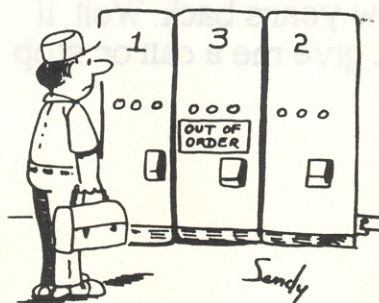
TI-99/4A consoles -----	\$45.00 + \$6.00 (S/H)
P E Boxes -----	\$55.00
Disk Cont. -----	\$44.00
F-Code -----	\$33.00
Speech Synth. -----	\$30.00
Flex Cable Card -----	\$25.75

For information, call Texas Instruments at 1-800-TICARES or (806) 747-1882.

NOTICE!!!!

DM1000 versions 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, and 4.0 are not authorized releases. The Ottawa Users Group has mentioned that these versions should have never gotten out to the TI public. These versions have bugs in them and may cause you to lose your data. The last authorized release is version 3.5!

Radio Shack sells TI equipment for the 4A. They have RF Modulators, power supplies and keyboards. If any of the should ever go out or you just want a spare, this is the place to get them.



The Amarillo Armadillo

This is getting in just before deadline, but I feel our readers would like to hear about this. I went down to Lubbock, Texas and went to my friends house to buy an original, one of 250 built TI-99/8 computers with a DS/DD HEX-Bus drive. It is so neat! From what I understand, this is one of the latter 99/8's and was going to be a production version. For those of you who don't know what a 99/8 is, well, the TI-99/8 computer has 64K of CPU RAM and 16K of VDP RAM. Built in Extended BASIC II with commands such as CALL DRAW, CALL DRAWTO, CALL FILL and others to numerous to mention. Built in U.C.S.D. p-SYSTEM, speech synthesizer and HEX-Bus port.

After sitting down with it and learning the operating system, I felt very comfortable with it. I had to give up my 99/4A system to get the 99/8, but I haven't lost anything, as a matter of fact, I gained. I used to own a 9640 and when I think about all the problems I had with the Geneve, I am glad bought the 99/8. The BASIC on the 99/8 works, the p-System on the 99/8 works, the whole computer works. I feel that I own the official TI upgrade. I know that it is 64K instead of 640K, but after you load MDOS (190K) and BASIC (256K) into the Geneve, you only have 194K to work with and the way MYARC is developing the software, you will have to buy a 1.5 meg or 512K expansion card for it to use those great programs that they TALK about. I think MYARC is all talk and that's it, nothin' else. I read in Micropendium and ASGARD NEWS that support is dropping for the Geneve. MYARC should have waited till the software was complete and released it, or just abandon it. I personally don't like the idea of a computer on a card. I would have liked to have seen them build the NOAH that they showed at the Chicago Faire a few years back. Well, if anyone in the group wants to see the 99/8, just give me a call or stop by.

Steve

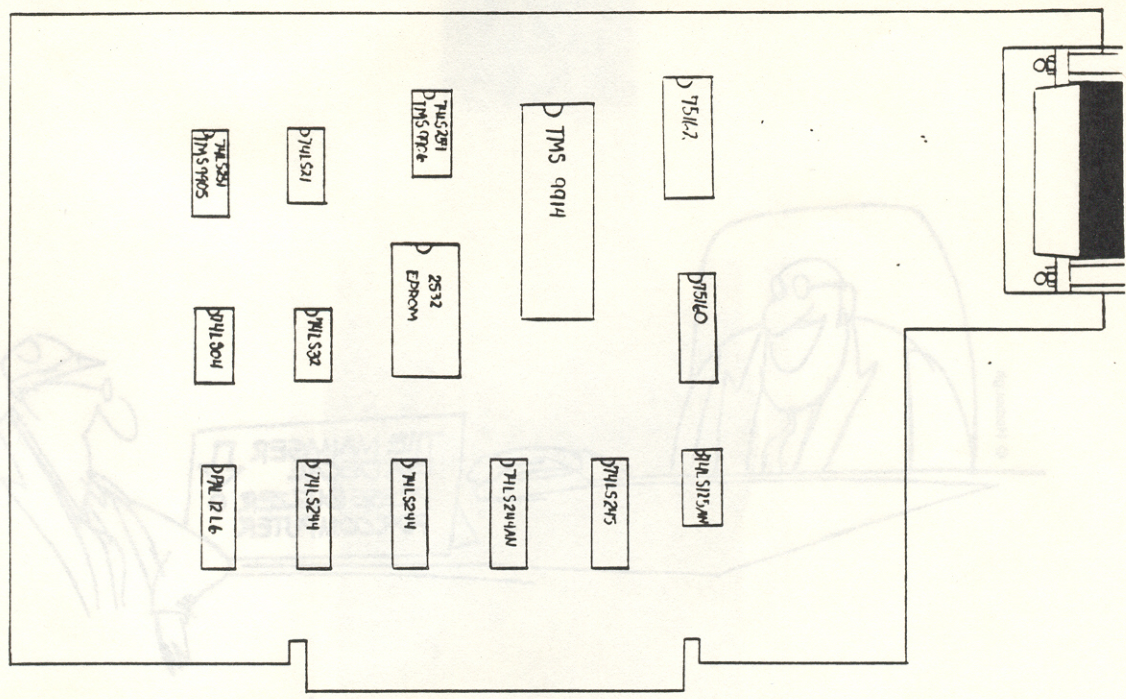
The IEEE-488 Connection

The IEEE-488 or GPIB Adapter Card enables the Texas Instruments home computer to function as part of any General Purpose Interface Bus (GPIB) system structured according to IEEE standard 488-1978, an industry standard widely followed by makers of programmable instrumentation and other computer peripherals.

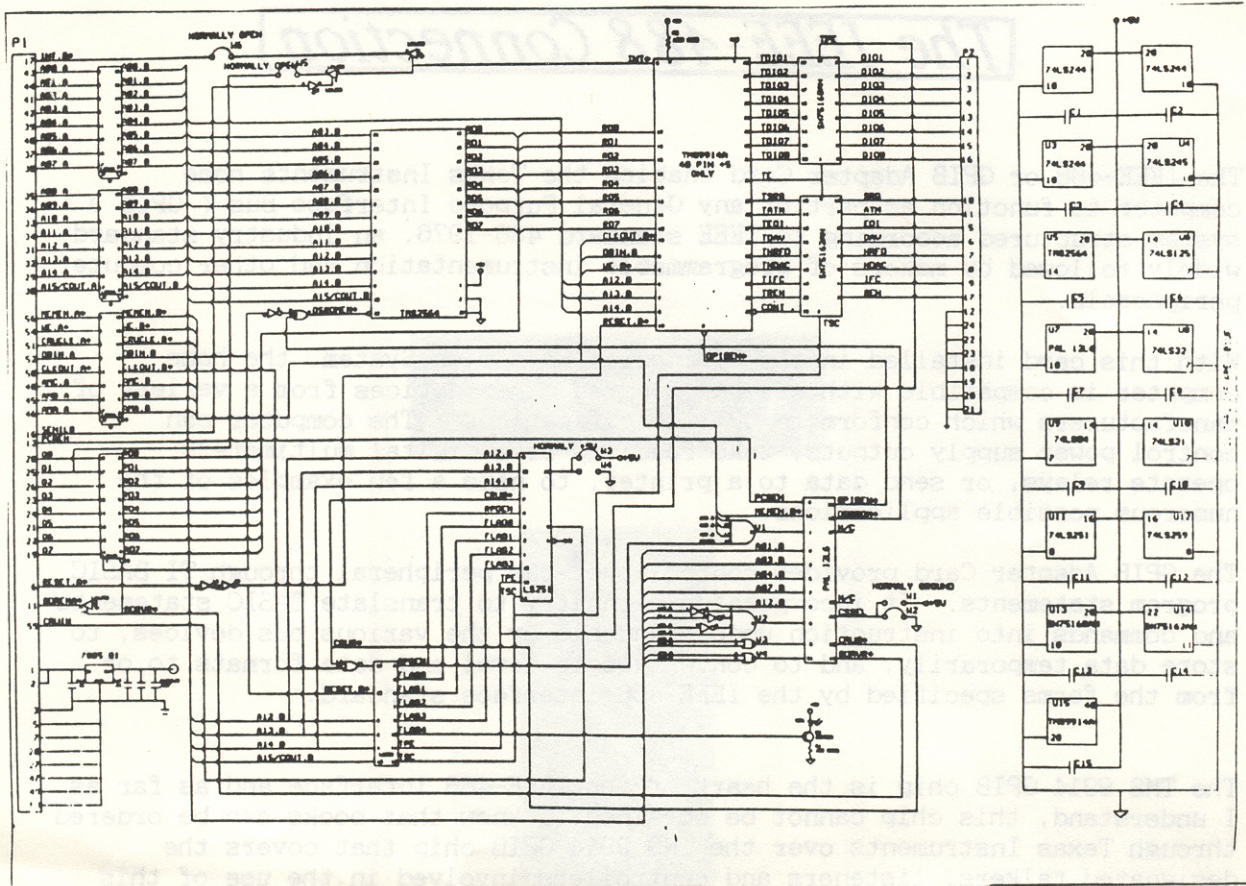
With this card installed in the Peripheral Expansion System, the home computer is compatible with several hundred other devices from a variety of manufacturers which conform to GPIB specifications. The computer can control power supply outputs, take readings from digital multimeters, operate relays, or send data to a printer, to name a few examples of the numerous possible applications.

The GPIB Adapter Card provides control over bus peripheral through TI BASIC program statements. It incorporates circuitry to translate BASIC statements and commands into instruction understandable by the various bus devices, to store data temporarily, and to convert logic level and data formats to or from the forms specified by the IEEE-488 interface standard.

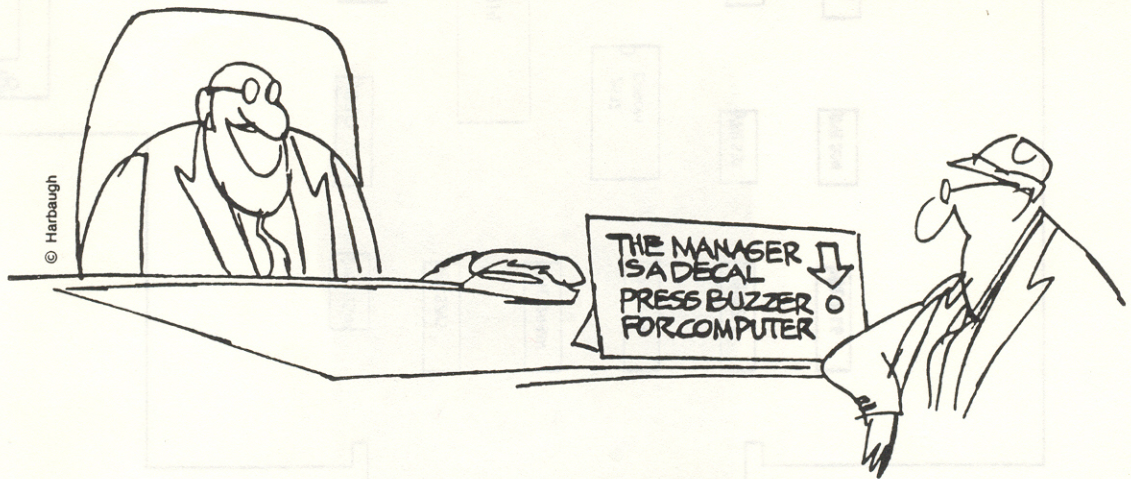
The TMS 9914 GPIB chip is the heart of the IEEE-488 interface and as far as I understand, this chip cannot be obtained. I know that books can be ordered through Texas Instruments over the TMS 9914 GPIB chip that covers the designated talkers, listeners and controllers involved in the use of this chip.



IEEE-488 Interface



Schematic for the IEEE-488 Interface Card.



MX01 Memory Enhancement System

RAVE 99's NEW Memory Enhancement Card allows memory expansion for the TI-99/4A up to 544K BYTES of BACKED-UP Memory. Up to FOUR(4) memory cards may be installed in the PE Box which allows access to over 2 MEGABYTES of Memory.

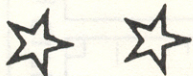
COULD YOU BENEFIT FROM THE FOLLOWING FEATURES?

NEW!

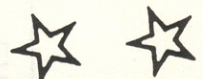
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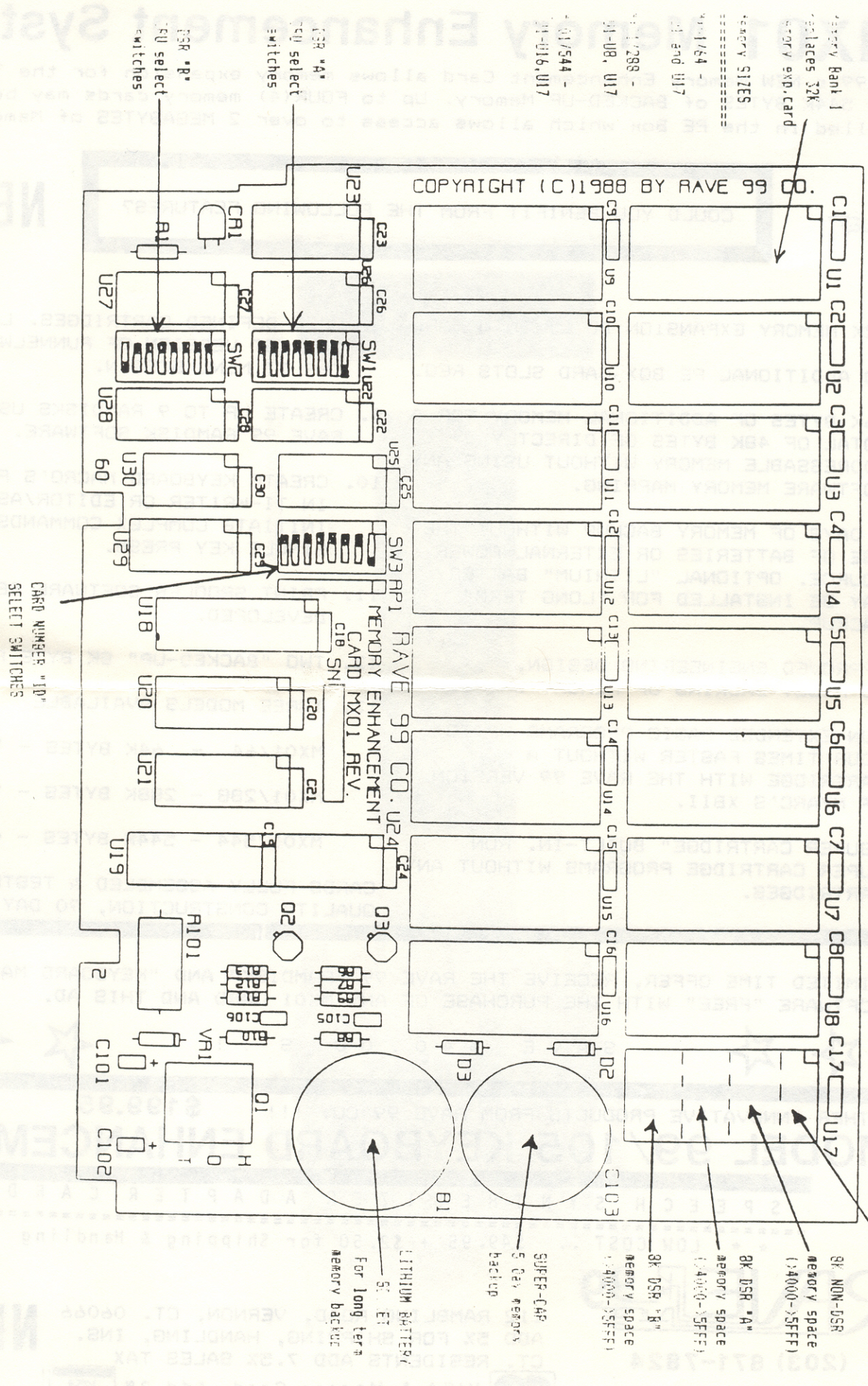
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LITHIUM BATTERY
For long term
memory backup

SUPER-CAP
5 Day memory
backup



Found after

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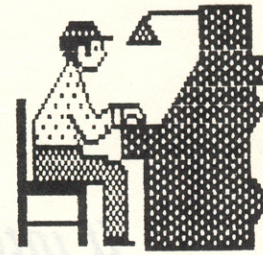
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NEWSLETTER

EDITOR



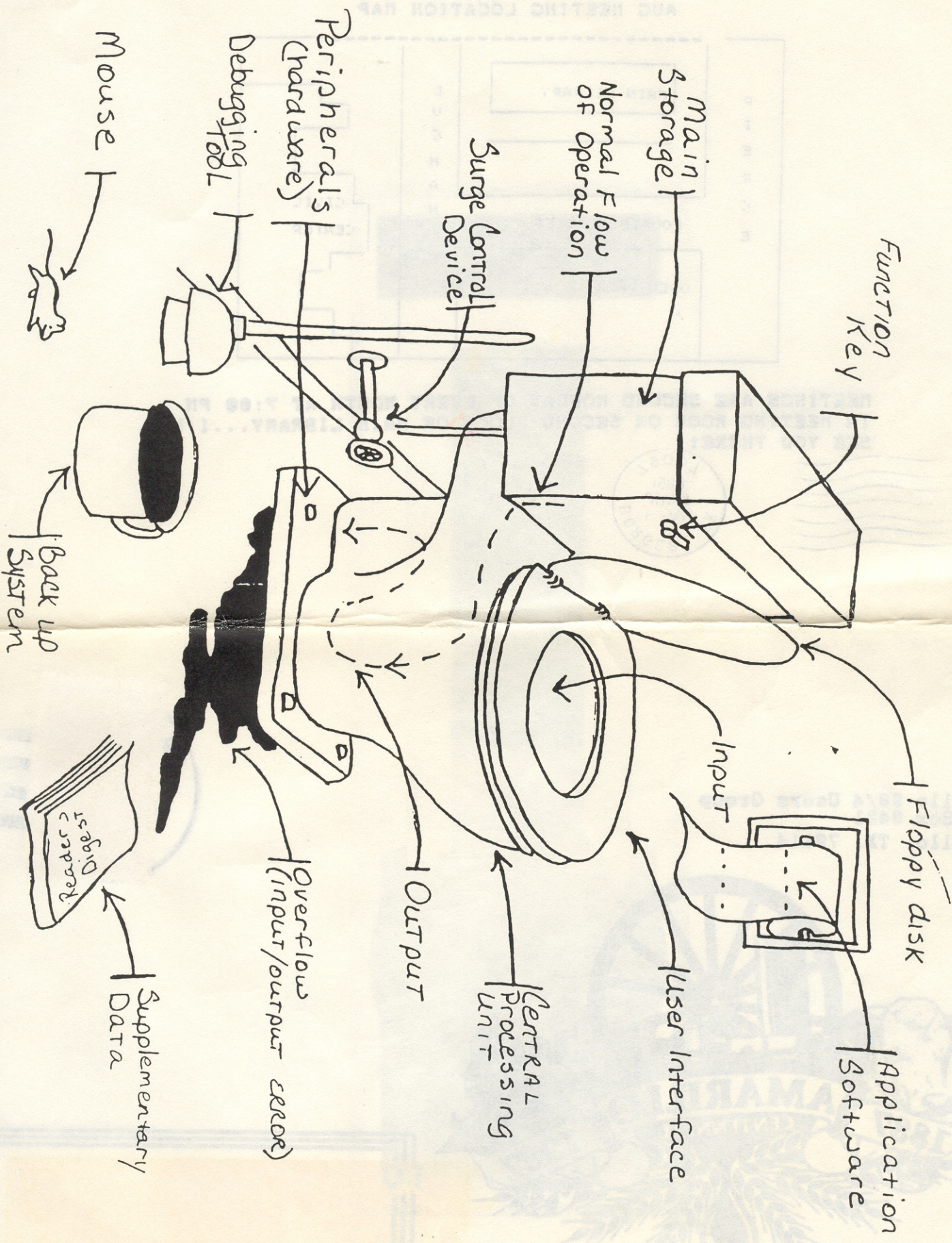
Swap and Sell

TI-99/4A INVENTORY
4-4-89

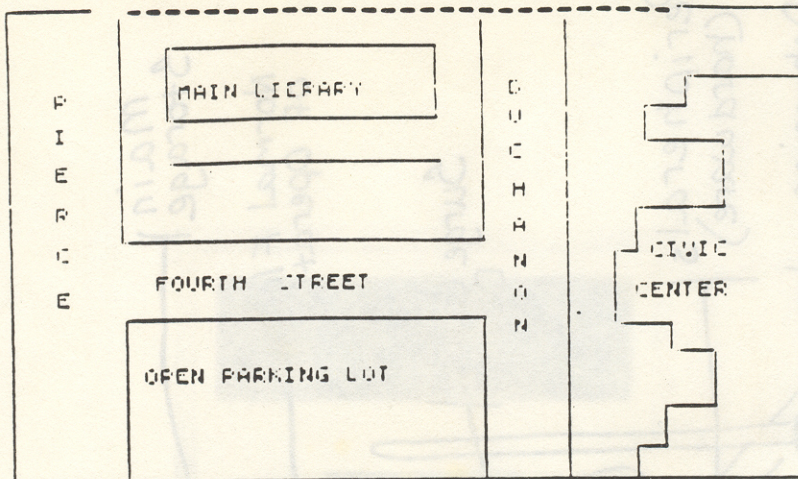
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		CASSETTE - DUAL	1	\$ 5	\$ 5		
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		RS-232 Y-ADAPTER	1	\$15	\$ 15		
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				CARTRIDGE PORT	3	\$ 3	\$ 9
TI ACOUSTIC MODEM	2			\$10	\$ 20		
REGULATOR	6			\$ 5	\$ 30		
IN-LINE	6			\$ 2	\$ 12		
MITSUMI	3			\$10	\$ 30		
SE-JIN	10			\$ 5	\$ 50		
STACKPOLE	5			\$ 5	\$ 25		
75-OHM OUTPUT	4			\$10	\$ 40		
NO CPU BOARD	3			\$10	\$ 30		
SOFTWARE	MODULATOR TI-99/4A CONSOLE ADVENTURE BUCK ROGERS DISK MANAGER II EDITOR/ASSEMBLER HOME FINANCIAL DECISIONS MINI MEMORY PERSONAL REAL ESTATE PERSONAL RECORD KEEPING RETURN TO PIRATE'S ISLE SECURITIES ANALYSIS SLYMOIDS STAR TREK TERMINAL EMULATOR II TI EXTENDED BASIC TI LOGO TI LOGO II TI-WRITER TOUCH TYPING TUTOR			CARTRIDGE	3	\$10	\$ 30
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		CARTRIDGE	2	\$30	\$ 60		
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Understanding the Technology!



AUG MEETING LOCATION MAP



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IN MEETING ROOM ON SECOND FLOOR OF MAIN LIBRARY...I'LL
SEE YOU THERE!



Amarillo 98/4 Users Group
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