

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

Phone: 513-248-0025 Email: thunderbird@iglou.com
c/o 31 Potowatomie Trail Milford, OH 45150

May, 2006 President's Page

Howdy Fellow Commodore Users!

During February's meeting, a discussion came up about the various Commodore expos happening this year. Everyone was sad that there will not be a Louisville LUCKI Expo this May. A few members brought up a suggestion that CCCC pick up the reigns and throw an expo either in May or June. If you have never been to an expo before, you probably aren't aware of the background tasks that are needed to successfully pull off a good expo. All these tasks require cooperation of volunteers and organizers willing to delegate the tasks to the best individuals. Did you notice that last sentence indicated more than one person (volunteers, individuals, organizers)?? That's right, it takes more than one or two people to pull this off, and in order to do it right, we need the backing of fellow members to do it right. It would be great to see the club as a whole put on a good show for the greater Commodore users of the world. If Louisville, Chicago, Las Vegas, Toronto, Okemos, and a host of other cities can do it, why shouldn't we give it a shot? We pinned the date down to June 3 and 4 at the Drawbridge Inn. Full details you should hopefully find here in the newsletter. Let me know if you can volunteer to help in some way, or would be willing to help support this venture.

CinciClassic 2006 is now in the history books. I would like to take a moment to thank those individuals that helped out at the CCCC tables. A number of folks in attendance stopped by the CCCC both to talk with us, play a few games, and browse thru our inventory we had available for sale at the show.

I managed to see a tv cameraman from WCPO TV channel 9 attempting to videotape a young boy playing a game of Cosmic Crunchers on the Vic-20. Unfortunately, the little boy saw the camera and got scared and ran away, probably before the cameraman had a chance to set up the shot completely. I took the chance to hand the operator a copy of our C=4 Expo flyer, and indicated he might want to check us out in June. He mentioned he would show the flyer to his group, and went on.

Roger was targeted for an interview by a group that broadcasts to the North Carolina/Virginia via cable's local access tv stations. I believe the show is called GamebotTV. They have a website where you can download episodes that have already aired, if you have a fast internet connection. The current video is 150mb download! For more information about that, go to:
<http://gamebotonline.com>

We opened up the nominations for elections at our March meeting. As you are probably aware, we have a few openings that have been vacated since the last election. If you want to give it a try, let us know you want to be nominated!

Until then, Keep on Commodoring!

David Witmer,
Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club President
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BASIC Tips & Tricks - Fun with LIST/REM

To stop the user from LISTing your BASIC program, insert a line with a REM statement and a shifted L, like this:

```
5 rem L
```

When the user lists your program, it will reach that line and stop, displaying ?SYNTAX ERROR to the user. This works because Commodore BASIC interprets shifted letters as basic commands. Try some of your own. This begs the question, "How do I put capital letters in a REM statement?" The answer is to use quotes. See below...

LINE	DISPLAYS WHEN LISTED
10 rem CCCC Rules!	10 rem lenlenlenlenlenclosedimules!
10 rem "CCCC Rules!"	10 rem "CCCC Rules!"

Finally, you may want to disable listing altogether. To do this, put the following lines at the beginning of your program:

```
1 rem L  
2 poke 774,255
```

Because locations 774 and 775 are the vector to the LIST routine in BASIC, changing that vector will disable the LIST routine, rendering your program unlistable. An experienced user will be able to circumvent these techniques, but they will stop the casual user from being able to tamper with your program.



ML Corner - Useful Code Snippets

Macros!

Most assemblers these days support macros. A macro is basically a code snippet that the assembler will substitute for the macro when it assembles. Below you will find some of the macros I use on a regular basis. I find them quite useful. Hopefully you will as well.

I spend a lot of time dealing with 16-bit numbers in ASM. This can be quite tedious to code by hand, constantly sta-ing and stx-ing, so I came up with these macros to save some typing:

```
MAC ldax ;load a 16-bit number into x:a  
    lda #{1}  
    ldx #>{1}  
ENDM
```

```
MAC stax ;store x:a in an address  
    sta {1}  
    stx {1}+1  
ENDM
```

DASM is my favorite cross-assembler, but it lacks bge and blt, two pseudo-ops that a lot of other assemblers already have. To give DASM these pseudo-ops, I use the following macros:

```
MAC bge ;branch if greather or equal  
    bcs {1}  
ENDM
```

```
MAC blt ;branch if less than  
    bcc {1}  
ENDM
```

Watch this space in coming months for more helpful ASM snippets!

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Upcoming C4 Expo Information

Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club Spring Expo 2006

June 3&4, 2006

Ft. Mitchell, KY

Across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, OH USA

C=4 is planning a super weekend for your expo activities!

Beginning Friday night, for those who arrive early enough, the hotel is providing a gathering room for us, so we may talk and relax before the busy weekend. Drinks will be served (pop \$1.50, beer \$3.25) by the hotel staff. No outside refreshments may be brought into this room.

The Expo will be held on Saturday, June 3, from 9:00 am until we decide to call it quits on Sunday afternoon! We understand some of you are early birds, some of you are night owls. We will let the demo folks tell us when they want to present their demo! Over 30 hours of official Commodore activity the entire weekend! With a room the size of 3648 square feet, we are able to have demos and shops in the same room, nobody will miss a thing.

Even though the C=4 Expo is in Kentucky, it is just across the river from Cincinnati, Ohio. The C=4 expo will be held at the Drawbridge Inn located at 2477 Royal Drive in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky. The Greater Cincinnati Airport is a short distance from the hotel. Airport shuttle service is available courtesy of the hotel.

Demonstrations and Speakers

Commitments from guests will be posted when they are confirmed:

Local tourist sites are also nearby:

<http://drawbridgeinn.com/recreation.htm>

It is hoped that every Commodore Club can send a representative to experience the fun that expos create on a regular basis. The community welcomes like-minded hobbyists, and it is your best opportunity to meet folks you have yet to meet in person, or meet again friends you have met in the past.

We hope you decide to spend the entire weekend with us and make it a great weekend starting on Friday night with your Commodore friends who decide to show up early.

Hotel Information

The Drawbridge Inn is located off I-75 and I-71 in Ft Mitchell Kentucky. The cost of the rooms is only \$69 plus taxes. To make reservations for the C=4 Expo:

Name of the Event: Cincinnati Commodore EXPO

Toll Free: (800) 354-9793

In Kentucky: (800) 352-9866

(859) 341-2800

There is an International Airport located nearby, with shuttle service provided by the hotel.

(continued on next page)

Y NIGHT. FOR THOSE WHO ARRIVE



CINCINNATI COMMODORE
COMPUTER CLUB
JUNE 3-4
FORT MITCHELL, KY

Screenshot from the C4 Invitro

Available at:

<http://thedarkside.ath.cx/c4invite.prg>

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Upcoming C4 Expo Information, Continued

Door Charge: \$10.00/person or \$15.00/family

Selling Tables: \$15/ table or \$35/ 3 tables (if power is needed \$10 additional per table) Tables for selling items are 6' in length.

Demos and Exhibits: If you want to demo or exhibit, your table will be free, unless if you require power for your table. The hotel charges \$10 per table for power usage. You must make arrangements in advance before May 15th. After this date, demo/exhibit tables become \$15 per table, in addition to the power you may require. You will need to contact Roger Hoyer by phone, email, or in writing. (Contact information below)

All sellers and demonstrators need to set up before 9:00 on Saturday morning, the doors (for these only) will open at 7:00am.

C4 Expo Contact Information

Phone: 513-248-0025
Email: thunderbird@iglou.com
Snail-Mail: C=4 Expo
c/o 31 Potowatomie Trail
Milford, OH 45150



Commodore on the Internet

Site: <http://drivenonline.org>

Description: Driven Online is the WWW version of the popular NTSC demo scene magazine "Driven". Covering the US C64 demo scene, Driven Online is a popular hangout, and great place to get tips on demo coding, or coding in general.

Site: <http://style64.org>

Description: This is the home page of the NTSC C64 demo group "Style"

Site: <http://c64.sk>

Description: C64.sk is the hub of all things C64 that are happening now and today. Looking forward, focusing on new productions, C64.SK is proof that the C64 scene is still quite alive. This is one of those sites that you can check every day and see new content

Site: <http://noname.c64.org/csdb>

Description: Commodore Scene Data Base. This site strives to archive and catalog everything that has ever occurred in the C64 scene. You can find quite a bit of obscure stuff here, including every demo or tool you ever would want.

Site: <http://dtvhacking.info>

Description: This site has a forum dedicated to hacking the new C64 toy, the "DTU". If you have a DTU and want to add a keyboard and drive to it, or find games fixed for playing on it, this is the place to look.

Site: <http://www.jschoenfeld.com/indexe.htm>

Description: This company sells a number of products for the C64 and Amiga, including the Catweasel drive controller (read C64 floppies on the PC), and the Retro-Replay/RR-Net (Add on for the C64/128 to allow it to access the internet among other things)

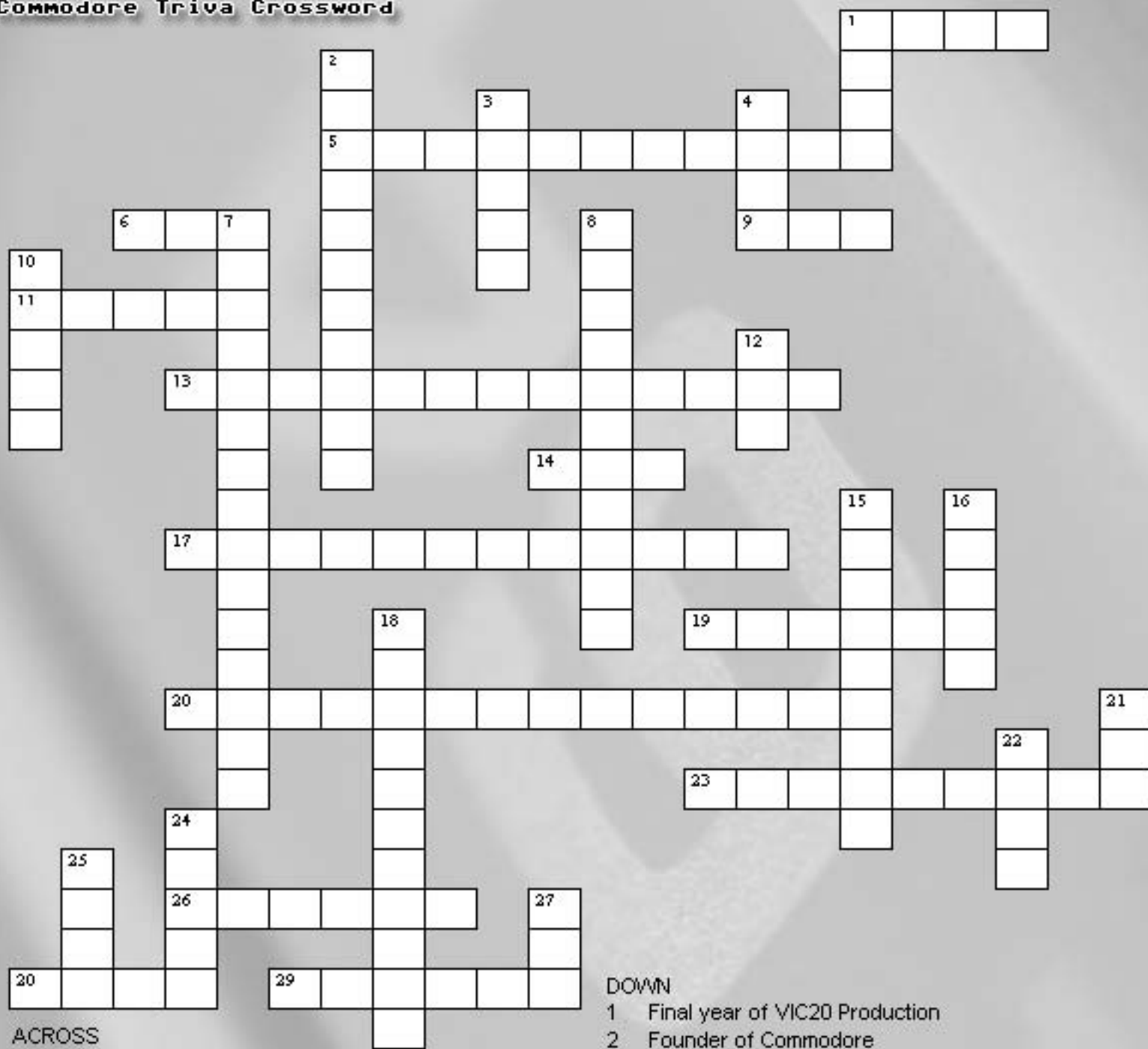
Channel: #c64friends on Newnet ([irc.eskimo.com](irc://irc.eskimo.com))

Description: Come here for Saturday night C64 chat!

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Commodore Trivia Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Year the Amiga 500 is announced
- 5 The best selling computer model of all time
- 6 Official initials of Commodore
- 9 Nickname for the sound chip in the C64/128
- 11 Nickname for the video chip in the Amiga
- 13 Recent Commodore innovator
- 14 Nickname for the video chip in the C64/128
- 17 The successor to the C64, very compatible
- 19 Radio Shack game based on the updated C64 core
- 20 Early Commodore machine-language guru
- 23 Produced the BASIC found in the C64
- 26 The country in which Commodore was founded
- 28 The CPU in the C64
- 29 Land of (2 DOWN)'s birth

DOWN

- 1 Final year of VIC20 Production
- 2 Founder of Commodore
- 3 Later computer model produced by Commodore
- 4 A graphic environment for the C64 and 128
- 7 Produced chips for Commodore
- 8 What Commodore made before the KIM-1
- 10 Nickname for the sound chip in the Amiga
- 12 Toy based on emulated C64 hardware
- 15 Company we all know and love
- 16 Company that Commodore's founder left for
- 18 Famous engineer at Commodore and MOS
- 21 An early model of computer produced by CBM
- 22 Name of Commodore's IBM-PC compatible line
- 24 Predecessor to the C64
- 25 The year Commodore was founded
- 27 The nickname for the chip in the Plus/4



Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club

Current Officers

President	David Mitmer	513-868-1344
Vice President	Steve Winkle	937-783-5559
Secretary	Millie Cox	513-625-1355
Treasurer		
Publicity	Roger Hoyer	513-625-1355
Membership	Don Parrish	513-281-3079
Editor Pro Tem		
Librarian	Edward Gase	513-829-0942



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Next Meeting
Sunday
May 21, 2006

From 2PM to
4PM at

Norwood Retirement Community

