We are the GEOS Connection

GEOS

*geo*METRIX

geoMETRIX LOGO by: Ken Nakatsu

In This Issue—

* Special Offer for MEMBERS Only
* The MAC-GEOS Connection
* GEO-Gif Finally Released
* Up Close & Personal
* Our "Exclusive" Rumor Column
       and much, much more...

see INSIDE FRONT cover for details on joining geoMETRIX

THE FINE PRINT

geoJOURNAL

The **geoJOURNAL** is the newsletter of the **geoMETRIX** GEOS Users Group. The **geoJOURNAL** is published as often as possible (approximately every 2-3 months) and sent to all current members, subscribers and to various user groups through the Newsletter Exchange Program.

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Articles and Ad copy must be submitted in **geoWrite** format with artwork in **geoPaint** format or a photo album on GEOS disks, and must be GEOS related.

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DEADLINES

Please send in your copy by the 1st of the month. We will place it in the next issue that we are working on at that time. For advertising, we will notify you which issues your ads will be run in.

ADVERTISING

Advertising in the **geoJOURNAL** is available at the following rates:

	1 ISSUE	3 ISSUES	6 ISSUES
Full-Page	$20.00	$50.00	$100.00
Half-Page	$15.00	$37.50	$75.00
Quarter-Page	$10.00	$25.00	$50.00

Advertising must be paid for at the time of submission.

You can contact the Editor, Grady Brown by writing **geoMETRIX** 20224 S. Sprague Road, Oregon City, Oregon 97045-9641; on the **BBS ENTERPRISE** by calling (503) 245-8735; or on Q-Link as GradyB3.

geoMETRIX is a Portland-based, GEOS specific user group.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in **geoMETRIX** is open to anyone that is interested in the use of GEOS. Dues are $10.00 per year, includes a 6 issue subscription to the **geoJOURNAL**, access to the **BBS ENTERPRISE**, full voting priveleges and access to the **geoMETRIX** library.

MEETINGS

geoMETRIX meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Meetings are held at *Pietros Pizza*, 12222 S.E. Stark, Portland, Oregon.

LIBRARY

The **geoMETRIX** library is available for all members at all meetings. For use outside of the meetings (by mail) we must ask for the following to help with the costs involved. $10.00 for the current **geoMETRIX** collection.

All programs in the library are carefully screened to make sure all programs released to our members are in the PUBLIC DOMAIN. If for some reason a program is found not to be in the PUBLIC DOMAIN, please let us know, we will remove it immediately and notify the membership.

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geoMETRIX GEOS Users Group
20224 S. Sprague Road
Oregon City, OR 97045-9641

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER . . .
by Peter Lerten

Hello all, and welcome to another issue of geoJOURNAL. It's been one "wild and crazy" couple of months. I'd like to start off by welcoming all our new friends to the group. We have been growing by leaps and bounds since the article appeared in the Aug. issue of RUN. I have to give a big THANKS! to the author of the GEOWATCH column, Don Eamon. He has been a friend of geoMETRIX since the very early days, and we do appreciate his passing the word about our group.

There are a lot of items to cover in this column, but I hope you'll hang in there with me, as they are all of interest to the membership. As you'll note elsewhere in this issue, we've finally included the information on how to order copies of the geoMETRIX software library. Also there is information on ordering back-issues of the geoJOURNAL. At this time, rather than take orders for specific disks from the library, we've decided to give you a great deal on ordering the whole library. I'll explain the reasoning behind only ordering the whole library. Breaking the library up into specific sections, and allowing you to order seperate disks, sounds good in theory, but is a real problem on our end. That's not to say, in the future, we won't add this possibility, but for now, we wanted to make the library available to anyone that was interested. From a time and labor standpoint, this system just makes more sense, for now. We've priced the entire library at a cost that just covers the disks and postage, so it really is a deal for members. As always, I'm open to ANY suggestions, or comments on how we might do this better.

There was a little confusion, all the way around, on our Font Library, so I'll explain a bit. The listing run last issue, was a complete list of all the fonts that I personally own. Now, some of these are NOT Public Domain fonts, and would have to be ordered from the author directly. We are currently, in the process of going through the list, and compiling one of ONLY P.D. fonts. Look for a list in a future issue of geoJOURNAL, along with a method of ordering them. If you are interested in a catalog of fonts for GEOS, I heartily recommend the Font Resource Catalog put out by Dick Estel. He has done a fantastic job on cataloging GEOS fonts, and there are updates

available on a regular basis. If you'd like to write him for more information his address is, Dick Estel 3487 E. TERRACE, FRESNO, CA 93703. If you'd include a self-addressed stamped envelope, I'm sure he would appreciate it.

You'll find an example of one of the benefits of belonging to geoMETRIX, included in this issue. I'm talking about the coupon to order GEOPRINT and GEOLABEL for only $20 ! These are two really fantastic GEOS programs, written by that master programmer, Roger Lawhorn. The regular price on GEOLABEL is $11.95 and the regular price on GEOPRINT is $19.95, so by ordering the pair you're saving over $10. We reviewed these two programs in geoJOURNAL #5, they both are very nice additions to your GEOS library. PLEASE NOTE: This offer is only available to MEMBERS of geoMETRIX, SUBSCRIBERS aren't allowed to use the coupon. Roger does have a list of current members. On the coupon, we refer to 'letter number', please use the code printed next to your name on the mailing label. If you'd like a re-print of the GEOLABEL/GEOPRINT review, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to geoJOURNAL. We'll get it off to you ASAP.

We are hoping to compile a list of members, to run in the geoJOURNAL, along with your name, it would include what city/state you're located in, and optionally we'd include your Q-Link name. To compile this list we need everyone's help. If you just recently joined the group, the application had a place to include this info, but if you've been a member for some time, could you mail us a short note, telling us if you'd like to be included in the list, and your Q-Link name, if applicable. Hopefully we can have this list ready before the next issue, we think it would be a useful and interesting addition.

Well I believe that is most of what I wanted to cover, I'm sure I left out a couple items. We do read every letter you send, so please feel free to write with comments or suggestions. Also if you'd consider writing an article for the geoJOURNAL, write and let us know. Now I'll let you get on with reading the newsletter, hope you enjoy it. Until next issue, take care.

IN GEOS WE TRUST!!
Pete

GEO-idiot #1

□□□

------How many times have you considered yerself an *"overly"* competent *GEOS* user...at once able to out -'run' speeding logo-rhythems, loft over tall, (seemingly meaningless), books on operating instructions, or...even felt 'invinsible' ...when you encountered the 'dreaded SYSTEM ERROR' ? (If you feel you qualify in this catagory of software 'abuser', this column "may" be for you!)------

[Begining with this column, (*I hope*) to present readers with some of the most *irreverant*, sometimes *humorous*, accountings... all us (*or in the least, those who choose to be 'honest'*) users of *GEOS* have encountered...]

In short, this column *should* provide you with a *moment's* respite...as you *finally get a chance to laugh at the "misfortunes" of others*... (*namely the 'crew', and myself, here at GEO METRIX CENTRAL*)...

Sooooo... pull up *yer* computer chairs, dim the high-intensity reading lamps and prepare *yerselves* for some *"kind-hearted"* fun !!!

By way of introduction, my name is Terry Witter. (*Affectionately (?) known as 'Herr Witt' by my cohorts at GEO-METRIX*) ... My *GEOS* working environment includes: a *classic*, 'flat', C-128 (with 64 K video RAM upgrade installed), 1581, 1571 & 1541 disk drives, a 1351 mouse, 1750 RAM expander, and a Star NX 1000-C printer... I currently own *GEOS*- 128 v.2, which I use on a daily basis for writing, game playing and (*at those times when things don't 'work correctly'*) total mayhem... So, consider yerselves forewarned...! (*At times, I've 'actually' heard the ghost of Rod Serling intone these Immortal Words: "Welcome, to the GEOS-ZONE"...*)

It should be noted that, while I'm not a programmer, ml or otherwize, I find myself in awe at the beauty and utter simplicity of the *GEOS* program... Beyond a doubt, the heart of the *GEOS* operating system is a programing accomplishment rivalling *any* computer owner's dream come true! The very fact it can accomplish *so much*, within the memory contraints of a Commodore 64, or 128, simply borders on the incredible...

OK...enuf 'hype', already!!!
What I'd like, from those of you *GEO-frustrates* out there who read this, is a few of the *more embarrassing* moments *GEOS* has *conjured your way*... I'll be sure to include them in upcoming installments...(*along with your name(s), if you'd like!*)... So, come on *GEO-IDIOTS!* Let's hear from ya! (Kindly address the details of yer *GEOS-inspired* frustrations to :

geoJournal
Attn: GEO-idiot
20224 S. Sprague Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97205

Til next time...Witt!

The 'Power User'...
WRONG IS WRITE V8

This a a quick review of a program that will be VERY useful to those GEOS Power Users who have found themselves in those sticky situations, where you have a GEOS text file in the wrong format. I'll quote the description of the program by it's author, Joe Buckley.

Wrong is Write allows you to freely convert geoWRITE text files between any of three current file formats, convert both CBM PET ASCII, and True ASCII seq. text files into any of the three current geoWRITE format files, or you may convert any of the current geoWRITE format files into a CBM PET ASCII or True ASCII seq. text file. Another feature is that you may change just the font or just the style of an entire geoWRITE document in one operation. You may also replace any instances of of more than one carriage return with a single carriage return.

Now thats a real mouth-full, but it can just be said if you use GEOS a lot, eventually you're going to NEED this program. As usual with Joe Buckley's programs, it's pretty foolproof, and user-friendly too ! It's available on STORM SYSTEM DISK I, from Joe Buckley. See Disk Collection page in this issue for address information.

Well fellow geoMETRIX members, we KNOW one of the reasons you joined was to get your hands on our extensive PD Software Library. Well here's your chance to get a copy of EVERYTHING we currently have available at a reasonable cost.

Now what's reasonable you ask ? Well how does $10.00 for the whole library strike you? This just covers our costs for disks and postage, but we want to encourage members to take advantage of this offer.

These disks will be sent on double-sided 5.25 floppies We feel this is a universal format for everyone. Take advantage of this offer, today. You'll have hours of fun with these disks.

Now also available by request . . .

Yes, we've had several requests for back-issues of geoJOURNAL. And now here is a easy way to grab those missing issues. They are available from Issue 1 thru the current Issue for just $1.00 per copy.

Just fill in the order blank below, and we'll get them off ASAP !

Please note: OVERSEAS members -- Disk Library cost is $20.00, back-issues are $2.00 (U.S. funds)

CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE----CLIP HERE

YES...I'd like to take you up on that offer for the entire geoMETRIX software library for just ten bucks. I am a current member of geoMETRIX and I've enclosed my check/m.o. made payable to:

GEOMETRIX USERS GROUP

☐ ✓ mark this box to order the library.

I need to catch up on my reading, please send me the following back-issues. I am enclosing a check/m.o. payable to GEOMETRIX USERS GROUP, for $1 per issue ordered.

I need the following:

Issue Numbers- .... and .... and .... and .... and .... and .... and .... Total X $1 ....

Please ship everything to:

Name .... Address...
City .... State............... Zip ....

The MAC-GEOS Connection... by: SKIP PETERY

The Complete GeoMac Converter

GEOS is a full-featured system, there's no doubt about that. It includes word processing, database management, desktop publishing, spreadsheeting and scores of other applications. But the primary advantage of GEOS over any other system for Commodore is in its handling of graphics. GeoPaint is the most important program in my GEOS library. On its own, I might not think much of the program because I'm not an accomplished GeoPainter and I don't know of too many folks who are. GeoPaint is not a widely recognized graphics standard. The #1 standard for monochrome graphics undoubtedly belongs to Macintosh. It's viewable on almost all computers and can even be incorporated into desktop publishing and word processing programs. Thanks to folks like Joe Buckley, Jim Collette, Scott Resh and others, MacPaint is both usable in its original format and only a short conversion away from GeoPaint.

There are two primary reasons for converting Macs to GEOS. First, GEOS is the only system for Commodore that allows manipulation of the graphic. Parts can be cut, shaped, moved or changed altogether in GEOS. Add text in a variety of fonts if you wish. And what about that Madonna 2 MacPaint that went around last year? Identical to Madonna 1 except someone (I suspect a GEOS user) pixel-edited her fishnet shirt off and added his imagination... The second important reason for conversion is that GEOS gives much greater control over printing through exactly matched printer drivers and multipass printing options.

Those who use the graphics regularly in GEOS will undoubtedly want to maintain their files as GeoPaints. For the casual users, however, it is probably cetter to maintain their files in the MacPaint format. Mac files are readily modem-transportable and they can be viewed more quickly than GEOS allows. Three viewers are quick and easy. They should be used to check MacPaint downloads before conversion to GeoPaint. The **Mac to 64 Utility** by Siamak Ansari for the C=64 is only 10 blocks long, and it will even print the MacPaint (single-pass only). It comes in two versions: one for 1525 printers and another for Epson. **80-Column Mac File Viewer** by Stephen Casey is 20 blocks long and displays the Mac on the 80-column RGB screen of the C=128. It gives a choice of 3 proportions. One quirk with the program is that it will only display PRG filetypes. **Flickermac v3.0** is for the C=128D (or the C=128C with the 64K video display chip upgrade). It displays MacPaints in interlaced RGB, proportionally correct, at 640x400 pixels resolution. The double scan takes twice as long to refresh the screen, so it really does flicker. The colors are fully adjustable, and some of them make the flicker less apparent. Unfortunately, I received a copy of this excellent viewer without knowing the author's name. Neither of the C=128 viewers allow printing and all 3 viewers address only device 8. My own preference is for the Flickermac. Because the program is so compact, it is

the first file on all of my MacPaint disks. A small tradeoff in storing the files as MacPaints is their size, which is about 5% larger than its GeoPaint equivalent.

The Conversion

In form and function, it rates as one of the most perfectly designed accessory programs for GEOS: **MacAttack,** by Joe Buckley. Its latest incarnation is II+ (The Wrath of Mac, v1.3) dated June, 1990. It's easy to use and so intuitive that the 2 pages of documentation aren't really necessary. It allows conversion between Mac and GEOS formats and includes some helpful options. Horizontal image placement can be controlled in either direction, which is useful because the MacPaint format is narrower than GeoPaint. The 128-byte MacBinary header (used only by Macintosh) can affect the image alignment (Check the MacPaint with a viewer before conversion). MacAttack's default skips the MacBinary header in the conversion. Another option permits choosing foreground and!background colors while converting to GeoPaint. Default is black on white. Up to 250 files can be selected for conversion in either direction and processed without interruption. The GeoPaint file list (for conversion to Mac) is filtered so that only VLIR Appl. Data files appear. When selecting MacPaints for conversion, however, all PRG and SEQ files appear on the list. Yes, even your GEOS Boot program. Don't convert it.

A really sweet touch is the way MacAttack handles the drives. If you have two drives and a RAM expander in place, it doesn't matter which two of them are active when you start converting. It will use any of the three as a source device and any as the destination, even the same device. Another option automatically deletes the source file after the conversion of that file is completed.

The only flaw I noticed in the program is a small one. All conversions to MacPaint are file-typed SEQ. Technically, the type is correct: MacPaints are sequential files, not unlike text files. The problem with that is in modem transmission. PRG files travel better by XModem. In my case, the quirk seemed more noticeable because I'd discovered Jim Collette's fabulous **MacView 1.0**.

MacView is the GEOS version of FlickerMac 3.0. It works only on the 128 with a 64K video display chi0. It does almost all the things FlickerMac does (640x400 resolution, F-key foreground/background color changes) and much more. Like MacAttack, it will work with any disk drive or the RAM expandes, regardless of whether the device is active at the time or not. When loading files from disk it is noticeably slower than FlickerMac, but when viewing files on the RAM expander, it screams! What it's really good for is checking MacPaints after their conversion from GeoPaint. You remember the MacAttack centering options? MacView lets you check the finished Mac while you're still inside GEOS. If you didn't get it right, it's no bother doing it again. Adjust the centering and make another conversion, then check the finished Mac again until you get it right. It is also useful to judge what options to use on a Mac while converting it to GEOS.

There's only one small flaw in the program that I noticed. The filter in MacView 1.0 only allows PRG files toappear on the menu. It doesn't see SEQ files. Which

means that it doesn't recognize the SEQ files produced by MacAttack.

Jim Collette said that he installed the filter because he didn't know SEQ MacPaints existed until he got a copy of MacAttack II. And, along with his note, he sent a copy of **MacPaint View 1.1** which has the filter reset to include both PRG and SEQ filetypes, dated December 1989. "I really should get off my behind and upload it to Q-Link," said Jim. "Yes!" say I. The program works like a dream (and yes you can even view the GEOS Boot program, though Madonna is prettier). Hopefully it will be up by the time you read this.

Configuration

Your system hardware and how you use it has a drastic effect on conversion speed, but not always in the way you think it might. The process always goes faster if you're using the RAM expander, yes? No, not always. Sometimes it's slower. A 1581 has a faster transfer rate, so it would be quicker than a 1571, yes? No, the 1571 can be quicker than a standard 1581 sometimes. Even the way you configure identical equipment can make a big difference. For example, if you're converting a MacPaint in the RAM expander to a GeoPaint on a disk drive, the process could take more than twice as long as it would if you were converting in the other direction!

Average times are listed in the accompanying table for a full-page 40K MacPaint conversion to GeoPaint using MacAttack's default settings. Four conversions were made at each setting: Two with disks/RAM expander empty except for the source file and two with only 50K free in the destination directory (which usually takes slightly longer). Where the source and destination drive types are the same, the conversion was made using the same drive, not two drives of the same type. The 1581 has Jumper J1 open (stock configuration). Closing the jumper would speed the process. The 1Mhz conversions were made on the same equipment as the 2Mhz conversions. The only difference was that the 40-column screen was used instead of the 80. The results should approximate what might be expected using a C=64 instead of a C=128. Conversions from GeoPaint to MacPaint are slightly faster than the times shown here (20% faster in the RAM expander).

Speed may not be the most important factor, of course. For mass conversion, it's actually less trouble to load up a 1581 with files, start the conversion process and take the family out to a movie. So what if it takes an hour and a half? I won't be home for two hours!

MACPAINT CONVERSION TIMES (in min./sec.)

Drives	Clock-Speed	
Source-Dest	1Mhz	2Mhz
1571 - 1571	3:50	3:16
1581 - 1581	5:00	4
RAM - 1571	4:34	4:01
RAM - 1581	4:53	4:2
1571 - RAM	2:34	1:58
1581 - RAM	2:16	1:41
RAM - RAM	1:14	:42

The Rumour Column . . .

Here's this issues 'crop' of hot new rumors, don't forget our standard disclaimer, these MAY or MAY NOT come true.

* William Coleman may finally be back at work on GeoTerm III, rumors include support for 2400, and color graphics.

* SuperSnaphot V6 may include a mini word processor resident in the cartridge.

* A new version of Maverick V5.0 for the 1581 drive may be in the works.

* The MUCH awaited RAMLINK from CMD looks like it may be on hold until sometime in 1991.

* The latest version of SuperSnapshot from S.S.I. includes some nice additions to the SNAPTERM including the ability to view directories inside the terminal.

* Recent sneak-previews of the new product from GEOWORKS have many nice things to say, several laptop IBM makers are considering making the program resident in their computers.

* New program from MASTER Geos programmer, Jim Collette, called WIZARD. Word is, it has GEOS doing many MAC-like tricks.

* Never-say-die Commodore hardware/ software developers, are about to release a HAND SCANNER for the Commodore 64/128. Price will be around $300, and will be shipping very soon.

* geoMETRIX has passed the 200 member mark, and is quickly approaching 300 members worldwide! New members have been added in Sweden, New Zealand, and England.

* Berkeley may be running a Holiday Special on GEOS products. Possibly some 2 for price of 1 promotion. Watch for ads in the mail soon.
Thats it for this crop, please write us if you hear any good, juicy rumors. We promise not to reveal any 'sources'!

GEOS quick-tip ...

Remember... if you need a new data disk in a hurry, don't waste time formatting a brand new disk. Just grab a used disk, and choose ERASE from the DISK menu. You'll have a disk ready to go in a flash!

Metrix Minutes
by
Grady Brown

June 24, 1990 We held an informal meeting at **Pietros Pizza** with 8 members and 2 visitors. The discussions were centered around the re-organizing of *geo* METRIX and taking over the production of the *geo* JOURNAL.

The officers are as follows: **Peter Lerten** – President/Temporary Newsletter Editor, **Ken Nakatsu** – Librarian, **Grady Brown** – Membership/Secretary.

It has been decided that we will re-write our Membership Application & Information Form. We're going to keep the applications in a notebook and the information in **GeoFile**, to keep better track of those that join and inquire. Membership Cards will be made up and given to all members.

Some data was lost in the transfer from past officers to the current officers, so a bit of time and work will be needed to rebuild the files.

Our library files must be added to and updated. We must decide on appropriate methods to order programs and what the cost will be.

The price for a *geo* METRIX membership will stay at $10.00 per year, but must raise the cost of *geo* JOURNAL subscriptions to $5.00 per year/6 issue. The increase will be decided upon in the next few months.

July 22, 1990 The officers met an hour early to further discuss the business of re-organizing. We now have some set plans and will be refining them in the next couple months. Decisions on the newsletter were made and projects, articles and columns were delegated.

Roger Lawhorn, author of **GeoLabel** and **GeoPrint** has extended and upgraded his offer to *geo* METRIX members for a GeoLabel/GeoPrint package deal. Just $20.00 for the set. (See the ad and order form elsewhere in this issue and a review of each, in the *geo* JOURNAL January/February issue #5).

The main meeting started at 4:30pm with nine members and one visitor present.

Those present gathered around the computer for a few demos of various PD & non-PD programs: **Superbox v2.0** by **Roger Lawhorn, Auto 80** by **Robert Phoenix**, and **MacAttack II+** by **Joe Buckley**.

Ken Nakatsu showed off some of his hardware hacking projects with a gleaming face. A **SmartWatch** mounted internally in his **C-128**, a fan mounted internally in his **1541**, and device number switch & on/off switches mounted on the front of his drives. They were very impressive.

AUGUST 19, 1990– Our regular monthly meeting was held. For a summer day, we had a fairly good turnout. A BIG thank-you to Skip Petery for graciously bringing his C128-D to this months meeting. (Although he could have probably done without the extra trip home to retrieve his 1581 power supply that missed the 1st trip!) 8 members showed up for this months meeting. Pete Lerten began the meeting by showing off some of this last month's "finds" from Q-Link. Many programs were demoed, I'll just mention a few here– GeoGIF, MacView 1.1, MacAttack II +, and several others. A more in-depth demo of GeoGif ensued, Pete converted several GIF files over to GeoPaints, seemed very easy to do, and FAST too! The usual GEOS related question and answer session continued until the end of the meeting. It was adjourned at 8PM.

Up Close and Personal...

By: Peter Lerten

I was just wondering, a bit ago, that most of you folks have never even met me. Maybe its an ego thing, but I thought that maybe you'd all like to know a little bit more about me, so here goes.

First a bit of the personal stuff. I am married, 36 years old (young?) with 3 kids, 7, 13 and 15 years old. I work for the regional Bell telephone company, U.S. West Communications. I've been there 11 years, and my job is Central Office Programmer (I turn the dialtone and features on and off). My wife thinks it's just a little bit "nuts" to sit at work 8 hours at a VDT screen, and then come home and RUN to turn my computer on. You just have to be a computer nut to understand, I guess.

We live on a 3 acre farm, just outside Oregon City, in a nice rural area 30 mins. from downtown Portland, Oregon. My wifes "hobby" is animals and boy do we have a BUNCH! We actually show Pygmy Goats through 4-H, at the local and state fair. We have a herd of about 20 goats, and even occasionally sell one or two. Along with the goats, there are 3 horses, 3 cats, 3 dogs, and a hamster to round things out. Needless to say, it's kind of

crazy around here about feeding time! My wife and kids took quite a few 1st place awards this year at the Oregon State Fair, so I guess it's all worth it.

I guess I should go into a little of my "computer history", I started as many of you did with a VIC-20. Next I bought a disk drive, and then there was no stopping me. Went on to a C64, bought a 2nd drive and a 1702 monitor. Lastly, I added my current "love", my C128. I started with GEOS back in the dark days of version 1.0, boy it was LONELY back then! I kept preaching GEOS to the other members of my users group, but they already knew I was "weird" back then. There was a core group of folks who saw the potential in GEOS, and they were rewarded when V2.0 showed up. Out of this core group geoMETRIX was formed. I also need to mention my "other" computer, an IBM-AT clone. I use this mainly for graphics and with my Scanman hand-scanner. I bought the IBM, so I could learn about them for use at work, but my heart still belongs to my Commodore. My hardware collection at present consists of: Commodore C128, 1581, 1541, 1750 RAM, 1351 mouse, Star SG10 printer, Supergraphics GOLD interface. And on the IBM side a 286-12mhz AT-clone, 20 meg hard drive, 5.25 and 3.5 in floppy drives, a Logitech Scanman Plus, and a Supra 2400 baud modem that both computers share. Oh and one other computer "toy" a TANDY 200 laptop, an orphan my brother gave me to take care of. I hope you found this interesting, I'll try and talk our Editor, Grady Brown, into something similar next month.

Pete

GEOS Disk Collections

BERKELEY SOFTWORKS

Desk Pack Plus
- Blackjack
- Calendar
- GeoDex
- GeoMerge
- Graphics Grabber
- Icon Editor

COMM-PLEX SOFTWARE

GEOS Font Collection 2
- Font Changer
- Font Editor 2.5
- 20 Fonts

COMPUTE'S GAZETTE

GEOS Collection
- Directory Printer
- File Retriever
- File Saver
- Font Grabber
- GeoPuzzle
- Help Pad
- Quick Clock
- Screen Dumper
- Skeet
- Slide Show
- Super Printer Driver
- Word Count

LOADSTAR

GeoPower Tools
- AutoBoot Creator
- Basic82GeoPaint
- Calendar Printer
- DirAid
- Fast AMI!
- FFTB
- Font Converter
- GeoLibrarian
- Geo Replicator
- Geofile Info
- Inspector Diskette
- Programmers Calc
- Sector Editor
- GeoSid
- GeoFetch
- GeoPaint Viewer
- GeoC02
- GeoPixelPuzzler
- Phoenix
- Screen Dump
- Shape That Baby

ONLY THE BEST

GeoPrint
- Fontviewer
- GeoPrint
- GeoSidPlayer
- GEOS-PM/PS
- Epson Printer
- Drivers-
- 60,72,80,90,129
- 240 single and
- double pass

RUN

GEOS Power Pak I
- Autoview
- CardFile
- Convert 2.2
- GeoBreak
- GeoOrganizer
- GeoTerm I
- Paintview II
- Pattern Editor
- Thumbnail
- Write Hand Man

RUN

GEOS Power Pak II
- DocWright II
- Egyptian Siege
- FontView
- GeoTerm 2.0 64
- GeoTerm 2.0 128
- GeoTILE
- Import Runner
- Shoot Out
- Q+D Edit

STORM SYSTEMS

Storm Disk 1
- Alarm Flash II
- Album Reverter
- Any Boot
- B1 Bootmaker
- CIRCE V2.0
- CIRCE V1.3
- Convert 2.5
- Convert 2.5 (DA)
- Drive Off
- Enter Return
- Font Monster
- Font Thief II
- Graphic Storm II
- IRQ Viewer
- RePrint
- REU ZAP II
- Q.B.B. Boot
- Wrong is Write V8

RUN

GEOS Companion
- 1581 Boot Maker
- 3-D GeoBreak
- AutoLoader
- Batch File Copier
- Decode!
- GeoAnimator
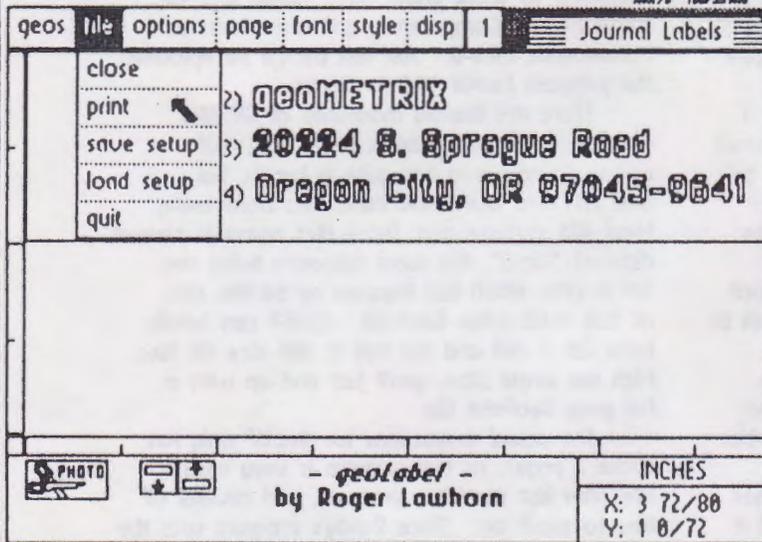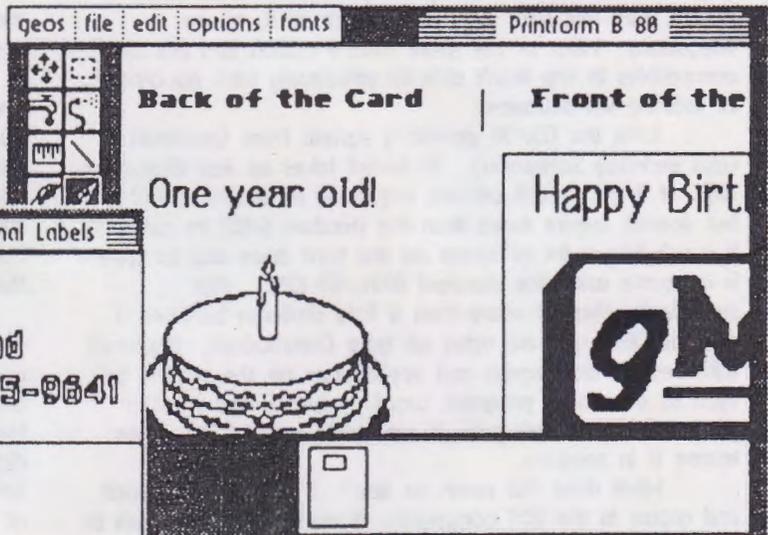- GeoMusic Player
- GeoWrite Merger
- G.O. Bach
- Pattern Editor

IBM Geoworks ENSEMBLE
by: Skip Petery

The big big buzzword in IBM circles is GUI, or Graphical User Interface. It's working with icons and symbols instead of text commands, using a mouse in place of much of the keyboard work. (Yes, it's working in a GEOS environment.) OS/2 is touted as being the major operating system of the 90's, having superior capabilities in multitasking and memory management. The new system isn't compatible with the older MS-DOS machines. Alternatively, there is Windows 3.0, offering many of the benefits of OS/2, but doesn't require the new hardware to run it. Both systems have capable graphics interfaces in their system programs. They also require RAM and hard disk space, **lots** of it, to run adequately. Most of the more than 9 million IBM PCs and compatibles in use aren't able to effectively take advantage of existing GUI advances.

Enter the OS/90 operating system from GeoWorks (aka Berkeley Softworks). Its kernal takes up less than than 100K of RAM. It will address expanded or extended RAM, but doesn't require more than the standard 640K to run well. It won't hog a lot of space on the hard drive and its speed is adequate using the standard 8086/88 CPU. Not surprisingly, there is more than a little similarity between it and the GEOS you are using on your Commodore. It comes with several accessories and applications on the system disk, such as a terminal program, word processor and graphics program. The sticker price is reportedly under $200. Beta testing is in progress.

What does this mean to you? If OS/90 takes root and grows in the IBM community, it means that there will be a pretty good leap in the number of GEOS users and programmers. While the main focus of creativity will be directly applicable to the 16-bit machines, there is a good chance that some of that creativity will trickle to the 8-bits. Data files should be easily converted between formats.

If OS/90 gives IBM half of the boost that GEOS has given Commodore, GeoWorks is bound to succeed. And if you know of an IBM user who is having problems with it, be sure to give him a helping hand. (On his mouse, of course!)
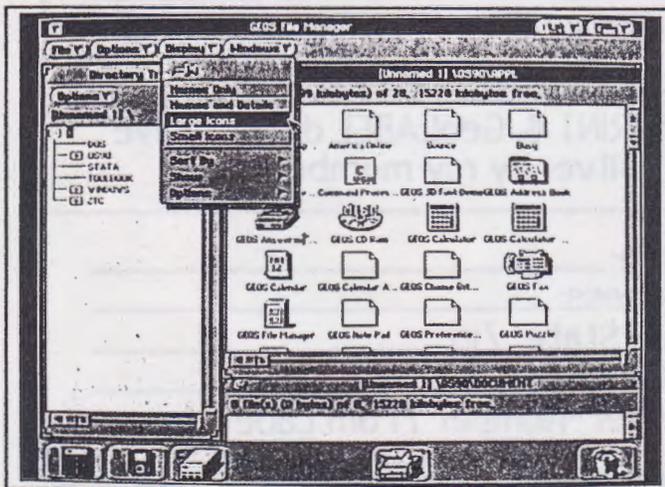
IBM GeoWorks in action.

GEO-Gif, a WORLD of graphics !
by: Peter Lerten

We have to start off this review with a BIG thank-you to RANDY WEEMS, the programmer of GeoGif V1.1, he has truly opened up a WORLD of new graphics to Commodore owners.

I'd better start off by telling you WHAT THE HECK a GIF file is. Back in the dark days before GIF files, computers couldn't share graphics between different computers. Compuserve, in one of their most far-reaching moves, decided a format for the exchange of graphics was about due. And so it was that GIF or Graphics Interchange Format was born. A GIF file must conform to a set of standards that Compuserve has set up. As long as those "ground-rules" are adhered to, any computer can access GIF files.

There has always been a way to use GIF files on most computers, except 8-bit Commodores. About a year and a half ago, Randy and I got in touch, and he told me he was working on a GIF converter to work under GEOS. Randy is a GIF developer on Compuserve, and also owns a Commodore C128-D. Just last month he uploaded the program GeoGif V1.0 to Q-Link.

There are literally thousands of GIF files available, on every subject imaginable. Of course Compuserve has quite a bunch, but you can also download these files from many local BBS systems too. These files come in several different "sizes", the most common being the 320 X 200, which just happens to be the size of half a full-page GeoPaint. GeoGif can handle both 320 X 200 and the 640 X 400 size GIF files. With the larger size, you'll just end up with a full page GeoPaint file.
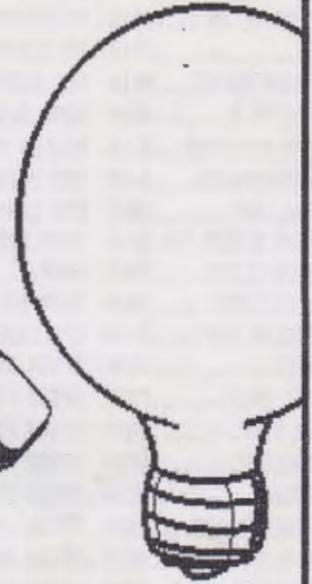
The actual instructions for GeoGIF only run about 2 pages, as the program is very easy to use. You just need the program, and several GIF files to work on. Since Randy's program uses the new "improved" file chooser box, you are presented with the first 160 GIF files on the disk. A file can be selected by clicking on it's name, clicking on the icons at the bottom of the dialog box, or using the up/down cursor. A selected file can be opened by clicking on the OPEN icon, by double-clicking on the file, or by hitting the return key. IIf all is OK, then GeoGIF will prompt you for a GeoPaint file name, the default is the name minus the .GIF extension. Next the user will be provided with information on the GIF file in a "Screen Descriptor" box and decoding will begin. A "progress indicator" similar to MACAttack shows how far the program has progressed. When the conversion is complete, the user is returned to the files dialog box. The process is almost fool-proof. The only GIF files this version cannot handle are interlaced type files, a later version may allow you to convert these.

※ A REMINDER— This is a shareware program and Randy requests $10 fee if you like this. If you use the program, PLEASE send him the requested fee.

10/X BITSHIFT....PD1A	CONVERT 3.0......A-1A	GEOGRAPH DOX.....DX1B	L.MATRIX EDIT 5..DX1B	PATTERN EDIT.....AD1B	SEQ2TEXTSCRAP1.3.BP1A
10/X DUALSHIFT...PD1A	COPY EDITOR......A-1A	GEOGRAPH SAMPLE1.AD1A	L.MATRIXEDIT 1...DX1B	PATTERN EDIT 2.0.DA1A	SET PATT.DOC.....DX1A
128 DA AUTO-BOOT.B01A	CUSTOM PRINT.....A-1A	GEOGRAPH SAMPLE2.AD1A	LABELER..........A-1B	PENJOY..........ID1A	SET PATTERN......DA1A
128 MOUSE JH 1...B01A	DATEPRINT........A-1A	GEOGRAPH SAMPLE3.AD1A	LABELER.DOC+.....DX1B	PETER.8X10......AD1A	SG 00...........PD1A
1526............PD1A	DBLSTRIKE10/X....PD1A	GEOHACKER 1.6....A-1A	LASERJET PAR.....PD1A	PHOTO MOV.DOC....DX1A	SG 01...........PD1A
40 SCRN PRINT....DA1A	DEC.GOODIES......DX1A	GEOHEXCALC.......DA1A	LASERJET SER.....PD1A	PHOTO MOVER......A-2A	SG 10...........PD1A
8/PRETTY.8.......AD1B	DESK ORGANIZER...A-1A	GEOKEYBOARD......A-1B	LASERMATRIX ED...A-1B	PHOTO PRINT......A-2A	SG 11...........PD1A
ALBUM REVERTER...A-1A	DIALOG BOX EDIT..A-1A	GEOLABEL.........A-1B	LASERMATRIX ED2..A-1B	PHOTO PRINT 2.1..A-2A	SOLO DOCS+......DX1A
ALBUMANIMATOR....A-1A	DIR DOCS.....'....DX1A	GEOLIST2.0.......A-1B	LASERMATRIX SG10.PD1A	PICONVERT........BP1A	SPRINGBOARD.....A-2A
AMIGA.LADY.......AD1B	DIR MANAGER......A-1A	GEOLIST2.1.ARC...PA1A	LASERWRITER 2.1..PD1A	PICSHOW..........A-2A	SPRINGBOARD DOC..DX1A
ANALOG CLOCK.DOX.DX1B	DISK PROTECT 2...A-1A	GEOMATH..........A-1B	LASMATRIX 2-SG10.PD1A	PR6TOGEOS2......BP1A	STAMP TEMPLATE...AD2B
ANALOG-CLOCK.....DA1A	DUMP............DA1A	GEOPASSWORD......AE1A	LASMATRIX TABLE..DX2A	PRINTDRVRPATCHER.A-2A	STAR LM-1000.....PD1A
ANALOGCLOCK.....DA1A	DUMP DOUBLE.....DA1A	GEOPOINTER.......BP1A	LEISURE..........AD2A	PRINTERDRIVERS+..DX1A	STAR NB-15......PD1A
ANTIGRAV INFO....A-1A	EPS.LABEL.DRIVER.PD1A	GEOPRINTDEMO.SDA.PA1B	LIGHTPEN.........ID1A	PRINTIT.........DA1A	STAR NB-15 (GC)..PD1A
ANYPEN..........ID1A	EPSON DBL.PRT....PD1A	GEOSIDPLAYER.....A-1B	MAC - 64/EPS.DOC.DX2A	PRODUCTIVITY.DOX.DX1B	STAR NL-10(COM)..PD1A
ASCII ONLY.......PD1A	EPSON FX-80......PD1A	GEOSLIDERS.DOX...DX1B	MACATTACK........A-1B	PS/PM/NR........BP1A	STAR NX-10......PD1A
AUTO PREF........ID1A	EPSON FX-80 (GC).PD1A	GEOVERT..........BP1A	MACATTACK II.....A-1B	PSHOP/DOODLE.....BP1A	STAR NX-10 (GC)..PD1A
AUTOCLOCK........AE1A	EPSON FX-80 DS...PD1A	GEOVIEW..........A-1B	MACATTACK II.DOC.DX1A	PSHOPX2.........BP1A	STAR NX-10 DS....PD1A
AUTORAW.........AE1A	EPSON FX-80 QS...PD1A	GETDIRECTORY.....DA1A	MACGEOPAINT......BP1A	PUBLIC..........AD1A	STAR NX-10 QS....PD1A
BESTOFTOS.ARC....PA1A	EPSON JX-80......PD1A	GETDIRECTORY!....DX1A	MOUSE 1351.......ID1A	QUAD DBL.PRTV2...PD1A	STAR NX-10C.....PD1A
BIG CLIPPER.DOC..DX1B	EPSON JX-80 (GC).PD1A	GETGRAPHIC.......A-1B	MOUSE2..........ID1A	QUAD SGL.PRTV2...PD1A	STAR SG-10 (GC)..PD1A
BIG CLIPPER.DOC+.DX1B	EPSON LQ-1500....PD1A	GLSLEEVE.........AD2B	MOUSEUP3.0.ARC...PA1A	QUICK CLIPS 1....AD2B	STAR SG-10/15...PD1A
BIGCLIPPER 2.1...A-1A	EPSON LX-80......PD1A	GRAPHIC LABELS...AD1A	MOVE80COL........B01A	QUICK DATER......AE1A	STARNX1000C......PD1A
BIGCLIPPER3.....A-1A	EPSON MX-80......PD1A	GRAPHIC STORM....A-1B	MPS 1200........PD1A	QUICKSILVER 16...PA2A	STATES N CAP.DOX.DX1A
BLACKOUT.........A-1A	EPSON MX-80 (GC).PD1A	HACKSFEB90.ARC...PA1A	MPS 1200 QS.....PD1A	QUICKSILVER 19...PA2A	STORM DEMO.......A-2A
BLACKOUT 1.2.....A-1A	EPSON RED.......PD1A	HP LASERJET......PD1A	MPS-1000........PD1A	QUICKSILVER 20...PA2B	SUPERSKETCH......ID1A
BLACKOUT 2.......AD1B	EPSONLASER2......PD1A	HULMEVIEW........A-1B	MPS-1200 DS.....PD1A	QUICKSILVER 21...PA2B	TEXT PRINT......DA1A
BLACKOUT 2.......DX1A	FAST FORMAT......A-1A	IBM 5152+........PD1A	MPS-801.........PD1A	QUICKSILVER 23...PA2B	TEXTGRAB 1.1.....BP1A
BLUECHIP (GC)....PD1A	FEMALE..........AD1B	IBM 5152+ (GC)...PD1A	MPS-803.........PD1A	QUICKSILVER 28...PA3A	TOOLKIT.........A-2A
BLUECHIP M120....PD1A	FLAG............AD1B	IBM 5152+ DS.....PD1A	MULTI PRINT DOC+.DX1A	QUICKSILVER 29...PA3A	TOSHIBA P321.....PD1A
BLUEPENCIL.......A-1A	FONT EDIT 2.2....A-1A	IBM 5152+ QS.....PD1A	MULTIPRINT.......A-1B	QUICKSTART......AE1A	TRANSTEXT........A-2A
BSA CLIP ART 2...AD2A	FONT EDITOR DOCS.DX1B	ICON EDIT........A-1B	MUSICBOX.........A-1B	QUICKVIEW.......A-2A	TURBOFILE.......DX1A
BUSINESS 1+......AD2A	FONT VIEW........A-1A	ICON EDIT 2......A-1B	MUSICBOX DOX.....DX1B	QWIKTOP 2.4......A-2A	ULT.STAGE DOX....DX1B
C.ITOH 8510.....PD1A	FONTSWAP........DA1A	ICON EDIT 2.1....A-1B	NEW SYSTEM ERROR.AE1A	RAILROAD1........AD1A	ULTIMATE STAGE...A-2A
C.ITOH 8510 (GC).PD1A	FORM: FS2........AD1A	ICON GRABBER 1.5.DA1A	NEWSYSMOD........A-1B	RAILROAD2........AD1B	UNGEOS..........A-2A
C.ITOH 8510 D.S..PD1A	FORM: PETASCII...AD1A	IDENTIFONTV3.2...A-1B	NOTE PRINTER.....BP1A	RAQUEL..........AD2A	UNLOCK..........A-2A
C.ITOH 8510 Q.S..PD1A	FX80 4/1........PD1A	IGVBULL.........DA1A	NOTEPRINT........A-1B	RAW.............A-2A	UNLOCK 1.1......A-2A
C.ITOH 8510A....PD1A	FX80 4/2........PD1A	IHSINFO.........DX1B	NOTES->ALBUM.....A-1B	RAWPLAYER.......DX1B	UNTRASH.........A-2A
C.ITOH RED......PD1A	FX80 DOUBLE.....PD1A	IMAGECON........BP1A	NX-1000 RAINBOW..PD1A	RBOOT...........BP1A	US SCRAP.........SF1A
CENTER 80.......B01A	FX80 PAINTPAGES..PD1A	IMAGEWRITER......PD1A	OKI 120.........PD1A	READ ABT DRIVERS.DX2A	WEBSTERS........AD1B
CHANGE INPUT....DA1A	GEMINI 10X......PD1A	IMAGEWRITER II...PD1A	OKI 120 NLQ.....PD1A	READ ME.........PA1B	WORMDESK........AE1A
CHANGE PRINTER...DA1A	GEMINI 10X (GC).PD1A	IMAGEWRITERDS....PD1A	OKI ML-92/93....PD1A	README1ST.......DX1B	WRITER'S CRAMP...A-2A
CITY GIRL.......AD1B	GEMINI DS.......PD1A	IMAGEWRITEROS....PD1A	OKI ML-92/93 (GC.PD1A	RETRIVER 2.0.....A-2A	WRONG IS WRITE...A-2A
CLICKMEFIRST!...DX1A	GEMINI II.......PD1A	IMWRTR II DS.....PD1A	OKIMATE 10......PD1A	RITEMAN C+......PD1A	XMAS GIRL.......AD1A
COLORSMASHER.....A-1A	GEMINI QS.......PD1A	IMWRTR II QS.....PD1A	OKIMATE 20......PD1A	RULER...........DA1A	
COMBINER........A-1A	GEOCALPRINT.....AD2A	INKWELL.........ID1A	OLIVETTI PR2300..PD1A	SANTA BY JEFF....AD1B	
COMM 1351.......ID1A	GEODEX UPGRADE...A-1A	JOYSTICK 1.1.....ID1A	PAINT DRIVERS....A-2A	SCANTASIMODIFIER.A-2A	
COMM 1351(A)....ID1A	GEODEX.FIX......DX1A	JOYSTICK 1.2.....ID1A	PAINT-SCRAP......A-2A	SCANTASTIC......A-2A	
COMM COMPAT 1.2..PD1A	GEODIRPRINT......A-1A	KOALA PAD.......ID1A	PAINT-SCRAP DOC+.DX1B	SCRAP IT........A-2A	
COMM COMPAT 2.0..PD1A	GEODIRPRINT2.....A-1A	KOALA PAD 1......ID1A	PAINTSCRAP2 DOC..DX1A	SCRAPEEK 2.2.....AE1A	
COMM. 1526.....PD1A	GEODISKED128....B01A	KOALA PAD II....ID1A	PAINTVIEW1.2.....A-2A	SCRAPEEK 3.2.....A-2A	
COMPUTEREYES.....A-1A	GEODISKED128....A-1B	KOALA PAD III....ID1A	PAN DBL.........PD1A	SCRAPEEK 3.4.....A-2A	
CONVERT 1.4......A-1A	GEODISKEDIT.....A-1B	KOALA PAD2......ID1A	PAN DBL QUAD....PD1A	SCREENPHOTO......A-2A	
CONVERT 2.1......A-1A	GEODUMP.........DA1A	L.MATRIX EDIT 2..DX1B	PAN DRAFT.......PD1A	SCREENPHOTO......DA1A	
CONVERT 2.2......A-1A	GEOFONT.........A-1A	L.MATRIX EDIT 3..DX1B	PAN QUAD........PD1A	SCRIBE..........PD1A	
CONVERT 2.4......A-1A	GEOGRAPH........A-1A	L.MATRIX EDIT 4..DX1B	PANIC BUTTON.....A-2A	SDUMP PIC.......AD1A	