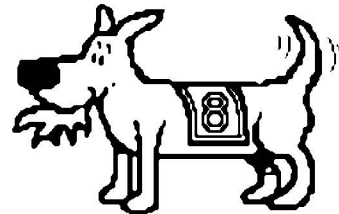


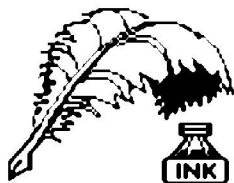
The Zero Page

*The newsletter of the Commodore Users of Wichita
For the sharing, learning, and love of Commodore computers"*



Eight-bit keeps takin' a byte
out of Commodore computing

Number 50, December 1997



Don's Digest

by Don McManamey

I sit here thinking about all the things going on right now I and look at where we have come from. Everything is a progression which hopefully never ends,

or at least until we die at which point we no longer care. Fact is the progression goes on even after we are gone and hopefully we have made an impression which will last. I recently heard via Dale Lutes that our friend from the UK, Dave Elliott, made a comment about liking the Disk O'Quarter, its content and appearance. Thank you Dave. It too has changed and grown over the years. As issue number 19 will be available in just a few days, one can plainly see the change, both in outward appearance and content, from issue number 1.

Issue number 1 was black and bore the CAUGW acronym at the top. The disk proclaimed "Disk O'Quarter" but the jacket said "Disk O'Month." At that time it was just an idea of something for the 8 biters to do. Dale has credited it with being the glue which has kept the CUW together. That may be giving it too much credit but most members have looked forward to it. Issue number 2 was orange and sported a "guy with disk" icon. This is when Dale first showed his talent by submitting the popular Koala viewer and some of his original Koala art. Issue 3 Gave the suggestion that someone other than me should come up with a permanent logo. This was also the first issue to announce the new club, the CUW. Issue number 4, March 1994 Dale introduced out now famous mascot "Eight Bit" who kept taking a bite out of Commodore computing. By December of that same year, side two became a permanent feature though it took another year before it officially became "The geoSide" (first The Geos Side and then the geoSide). Dale added many programs to our disks running both under Geos and outside the Geos operating system. Dale started providing laser printed labels for issue number 12 and in the last year we have included programs provided by our friends across the pond. Disk

number 18 had a new sleeve which was printed on an ink jet printer and now what's new for number 19? Come to the December meeting and see.

Along with everything else, we have some exciting times in our home these days. On Saturday, 20 December 1997, at 3 O'clock in the afternoon, my youngest son Matthew will be united with Maria Otte in holy matrimony. I invite each one of you to come to the Central Church of Christ in Wichita and share in my joy. Our own Howard Bedient will be providing music on the keyboard with the aid of his computer. This will be the first year that one of our

children has not been with us for Christmas. We Pray that they will have a long a happy life together.

Until next time, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I also hope God blesses each one of you with good health and happiness for many years to come.

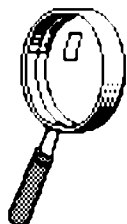
**Next CUW Meeting:
Saturday, December 13
1:00 - 5:00 pm
1411 South Oliver**

**Celebrate the holiday season and
our club's 4th anniversary
with your friends at the CUW!**



Your CUW Steering Committee members are:

Dale Lutes	Chair, Newsletter Editor
Jerry Shook	Vice-Chair
Marie Both	Financial Officer
Robert Bales	BBS Representative
Arlen Gould	Member at-large
Don McManamey	Disk Editor
Morris Shouse	Member at-large



Looking at GEOS

by Mark McGuinnis

[Editor's note: This article was first published in January 1993.

It comes to us courtesy of Peter Hunt, geoClub OZ]

Hopefully by now all of us have working copies of

GEOS 2.0. The next step in the process is to make back-up copies of your GEOS Master disks. Step 1 is to format a disk. This procedure varies little depending on your drive configuration. First open the system disk to its desk top, then click on the disk menu and then select the format menu item. From this point it should be a matter of following the screen prompts. On a 3-1/2 inch disk, open the system disk to its desk top, click on the disk drives icon. You should have an error message stating the disk is not formatted. Click "OK" and follow the prompts.

Step 2: Make the Back-up.

Copy your GEOS master disks onto the disks you formatted. As usual your disk drive set up will determine the method of copying. A notation in the manual states that you cannot copy the System or Back-up System disk. This is true in the world of GEOS however your system or back-up system disk can be copied with Maverick 5.0. Get a copy of Maverick 5.0 that includes the parameter disks or see someone in your local user group if you are having a problem with your system disk or the installation process. Files that can be copied from your system include: Desk Top 2.0, Configure 2.0, Disk copy, Paint Drivers Q-Boot, the desk accessories and the printer drivers.

Double click on the Disk Copy program file icon and follow the directions that are presented on the screen. A double click is two strikes of the fire button in rapid succession. Two slow clicks on an icon will get you a "ghost icon" that can be moved around the desk top screen. One click on an icon will select that file for viewing, copying, deleting etc. If you are using multiple drives the "all pages" command from the select menu is useful for transferring multiple files. The "Reset" command from the options menu will enable GEOS to recognize the disk in the other drive.

Once you have made your back-ups, place write protect tabs on your masters and store them in a safe place. Keep in mind that we are covering a lot of ground in a limited space and some of those odd problems or questions that arise need personal responses. Feel free to contact one of the club members and I feel that we can talk the problem out.

On to printers. In 1988 when my GEOS 2.0 manual was copyrighted over 70 printers were supported. A few more are probably supported by now. Personally speaking I feel that your computer system is not complete without a printer. For a printer to work in GEOS there must be a "printer driver" file on your active disk. "Printer drivers" are found on the System disk. In order to transfer a printer driver to your work disk you need to do a slow double click on the driver of your choice and move the resulting printer ghost icon to the screen boarder off the desktop. Close the system disk and open your work disk. The ghost icon for the printer should be on the boarder of your screen. At this

point transfer the driver file back onto the desktop and you should be good to go.

GEOS can be a funny animal. Have you ever wondered why a file on the desktop cannot be accessed? GEOS accesses the first so many files on the desktop and the files further back on the desktop are like excess baggage. They can be used but they must moved to the front of the desktop to be used. Remember to keep the files you are going to use the most at front end of the desktop.

Rear View Mirror

by Morris Shouse



About two weeks ago, I was at

Z-Software and Dave said he needed the space that all those Commodore magazines were taking up. He said that if someone did not find a place for them he would put them in the trash Friday night. Soooooo, I called my mom and I talked her into letting me store them at her house. I stopped at Z-Software two nights later and took them straight to my mom's house. "How many magazines are there?" you ask. Well I haven't counted them, but they took up all of my back seat in my full size sedan, floor and all!!!

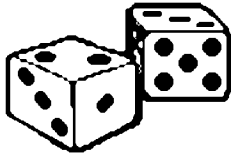
Now what's really bad is at the last club meeting Bob Frisbie had a bunch of magazines for me but I could not get them in my car, for all the computer stuff. So Don McManamey took most of them for me, until I could get them from him. I did get them from Don over Thanksgiving. So as Don stored one batch of magazines I picked up another and stored it at my mom's.

"So what?" You ask. Well, that's just two batches and I have at least two others. The thing is the batch from Z-Software is the largest and most complete. The magazines were given to the shop when it was called The Software Exchange. They were given on the condition that the magazines could be used by anyone, but they were to stay at the shop. I know I will have to try to get rid of some of them, but I need to sort and catalog them. Does any one have some free time over Christmas?

One thing that I have thinking about lately is the low turnout of people at the club meetings. The last two we have only had eight to ten people turn out. It is hard to justify spending \$15 of the club's money each month on rent with that kind of a turnout. I think a lot of club members have forgotten that we have a meeting each month. So if you haven't been coming to meetings please start. And bring a friend or a family member. I was planning on doing a demo in January on the 1541 disk drive, but with the low member turnout and the large amount of work needed, I think I will not do that. Instead, Dale has agreed to provide the January demo.

Happy Holidays

*from your friends at the
Commodore Users of Wichita*



Random Access

by Dale Lutes

Do you pay attention to the issue number on newsletters or magazines? Normally, I don't. But keeping the

number current on *The Zero Page* is part of my job and I'd like to call it to your attention. Welcome to issue number 50! It is significant for two reasons. First, we are half way to 100. But more important, it means that our little club has been around in its present form for just over four years.

WOW! It seems almost like yesterday that we were the 8-bit special interest group of a predominantly Amiga club. Those who were around at the time will recall that participation by the 8-biters was declining fast. Our separation from the C&AUGW gave us some much-needed momentum and the rest is history. Or is it?

Our membership is down somewhat from our all-time high of 48 members in November 1994. Some (including myself) have expressed some concern over this trend. But looking at other clubs with fewer members (Salt City and WCCUG in particular) convinces me that we can continue to be an active user group for many more years. We may find that we have to make adjustments in our meeting location or services offered. Be assured that decisions of this kind will always be made with the full club's participation. You can also be assured that for as long as I am able, I will work to make the CUW an organization we can all be proud of.

I could say more, but I think it can wait.
Maybe for issue number 100...

The Zero Page is a monthly publication of the Commodore Users of Wichita. The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the CUW. Unless otherwise stated, articles in this newsletter may be reprinted by other Commodore user groups without permission provided that the author and the CUW are given proper credit.

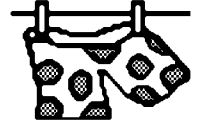
Meetings of the CUW are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month. The deadline for articles is 14 days prior to the meeting day. Submissions are accepted on 1541, 1571, or 1581 formatted floppy disks. geoWrite, ASCII, or PETASCII files are preferred. In a pinch, paper hard copy will work. Call Dale at 721-0835 or mail your articles to:

Commodore Users of Wichita
c/o Dale Lutes
11102 W. 17th Street
Wichita, KS 67212-1187

In case you are interested, *The Zero Page* is produced using a Commodore 128 and geoPublish. geoPubLaser is used to print the final copy on a PostScript laser printer.

Newsletter Briefs

by Dale Lutes



Infinite Loop

Western Colorado Commodore Users

Group, Mack, CO

Both the November and December issues have arrived since I put the November *Zero Page* together. This newsletter features monthly columns by Jake Smith and Earl Williams, the club's president and vice-president. Earl made a few interesting observations about Windows in November. That issue also features an article by Maurice Randall on loading your RAM disk from GEOS. The December issue includes a series of e-mail messages to and from Gaelyne Gasson regarding internet usage.

geoNEWS

geoClub, United Kingdom/Australia

Thanks again to Dave Elliott (geoNut) for providing this newsletter. This month features an article from Maurice Randall's web site on Project G, the successor to GEOS. Other articles cover Compuserve access, the geoClub web site, and the Commodore Expo 97 held in Lansing, Michigan.

GEOS Publication

Rev. Willis Patten, Louisville, KY

As always, GEOS Publication is a forum for letters from GEOS users around the country and around the world. The November issue includes a reprint from geoNEWS of an article on the CMD RAMLink. The December issue has a number of items by Maurice Randall and others concerning Maurice's decision to scale back his Commodore programming efforts. December also includes a list of bugs and work-arounds for users of geoBASIC.

Disklosure

Salt City Commodore Club, Hutchinson, KS

This month, our neighbors in Hutch share with us a number of tips from the Commodore Hawaii Users Group. There is also an interesting article from a frustrated PC/Windows 95 user (reprint from the CUCUG newsletter).

GOCUG Newsletter

Greater Omaha Commodore Users Group, Omaha, NE

The November issue includes a portion of Jim Brain's "Canonical List of Commodore Equipment." On the lighter side are instructions for Microsoft's TV Dinner product. Courtesy of the Genie roundtable, Doug Cotton reveals some of the specifications for a new computer that is on the drawing board at Creative Micro Designs.

I hope that this column has aroused your interest in what other Commodore clubs are doing. These newsletters, and many more, will be available for you read at our next regular meeting.

Quiz

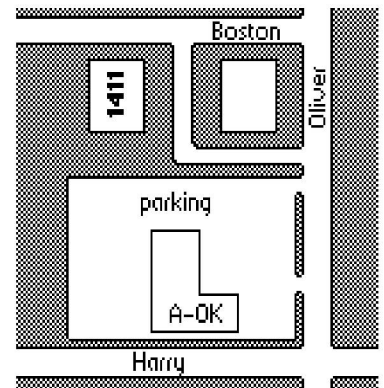
Author unknown

So, you work in data processing? Think you know a lot about computers, right? Take this short quiz to find out how much you *really* know.

- Who invented the computer?
 - Mr. Chips
 - E.T.
 - The Marquis de Sade
- What are microchips?
 - What a herd of micros leave on the prairie
 - What you eat with microdip
 - The reason you had to take all those computer literacy courses
- What is a floppy disk?
 - A painful lower-back condition
 - An album that didn't sell
 - A great frisbee
- What is the first thing you associate with computers?
 - Eyestrain and headaches
 - Annoying beeps
 - Three tons of printout, where once there was a three page report
- What is FORTRAN?
 - Between three and five tran
 - How two computers get excited before interface
 - Ridiculous
- What is Pascal?
 - A leafy vegetable
 - A foot fungus
 - A city in southern France
- When you need consulting help with your computer, what organization do you think of?
 - IBM
 - FBI
 - PLO
- What is the most important computer peripheral?
 - Aspirin
 - Aspirin
 - Aspirin

The Commodore Users of Wichita is a club dedicated to "the sharing, learning, and love of Commodore computers." Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from 1-5pm at 1411 S. Oliver, one block north of the corner of Harry & Oliver. Anyone who owns or uses a Commodore computer system is welcome to attend.

Family memberships cost \$15 per year. Members receive a monthly newsletter, a quarterly disk publication, access to an extensive library of public-domain software, and the right to vote on matters of club policy. Other membership options are also available. Contact any of the officers (listed elsewhere in this newsletter) for more information. We are looking forward to seeing **you** at our next meeting!



You may join or renew your membership by mail.
Complete this form and mail with a check payable to:

Commodore Users of Wichita
c/o Marie Both
351 E Marion CT, #2
Wichita, KS 67216

Type of membership:

- Family - includes Newsletter & Disk O'Quarter (\$15 per year)
- Newsletter-only (\$5 for 12 issues)
- Disk O'Quarter by mail (\$12 for 4 issues)
- Disk O'Quarter by mail plus Newsletter (\$15)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

List additional family members who are interested in participating:

What Commodore systems do you use? (please check all that apply)

- C-128 C-64 SX-64 VIC-20 C-16 Plus/4
- Other (specify) _____