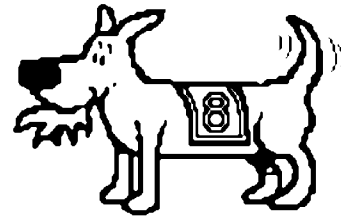


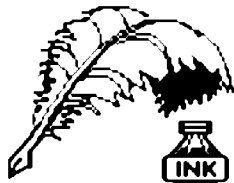
The Zero Page

*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 46, August 1997



Don's Digest

by Don McManamey

Greetings! Here I sit in what has for the last twelve years or more has been dubbed "the computer room." Perhaps homes of the future will routinely be

built with rooms designed specifically to be "computer rooms." So what is so different about today? Well, in the past we had the Vic-20 set up here and then when we went to the 128, it was the only computer here. On occasion we have had other computers set up here for brief periods of time. Among those other computers were the Commodore 8032, an SX64, an IBM 8088, a 286, and a Mac.

In the last seven years I have had at least one child in college each year. This summer we have a new problem. My eldest has graduated with degrees in computer science and advertisement design and moved home. It takes no imagination to think he might own a computer. My youngest is also at home and has a computer with a flat bed scanner he must have set up somewhere. I now have a second computer which is always set up and so here we sit not just elbow to elbow but more like elbow to elbow to elbow. That is not where the problems stop. With four computers and four printers (let's make that five), a flatbed scanner, three sets of amplified computer speakers, an old modular stereo with separate 8 track, cassette deck, turntable, and CD player, extra lighting, a calculator, a VCR, a TV set, and don't forget the Commodore has four external drives, this 40 year old house had just a bit of a wiring problem. Oh but did I mention that my oldest is designing web pages? That adds to the needs: internet access for not less than two of those computers and perhaps a second phone line. Did I ever tell you that my house was originally wired with four circuits supplying all lights and outlets? The breaker box was so outdated that more circuits could not be added because more breakers could not be bought. Fortunately, a few years ago the breaker box was replaced and additional circuits added. However many of the old

circuits remain mostly unchanged. Guess what is planned for the computer room? The computer room outlets are all on one circuit along with most of the lights in the house not to mention the ceiling fans. Ain't life grand?

I will be gone about the time Dale normally puts the Zero Page together so I'm a bit early this month. My travel will take me back home to Michigan for a family reunion. This is the first one in years which will include cousins, aunts and uncles and the like. My computer will go along to Michigan for the purpose of updating my database. I hope to get more information on

**Next CUW Meeting:
Saturday, August 9
1:00 - 5:00 pm
1411 South Oliver**

**You can switch computers and still run
some of your favorite Commodore
software. Find out how when
Matt McManamey introduces us to
a C-64 emulator for the Macintosh.**

marriages and births and also to try to get some history on the McManamey family. Recent research has shown there to be fewer than 100 people world-wide with my last name. I have an aunt and a cousin who have been working on a family tree for several years now and I hope to exchange information with them at that time. I don't even know what kind of machine they own.

This month my youngest son will be giving a demo on Commodore 64 emulators. He has downloaded some emulators and games from the internet. Many people have gotten rid of their Commodores in order to get one of those powerful machines only to find they miss their Commodore. Now you can have your cake and eat it too. Until next

time, may your computer keys be the only depressing things in your life.

August Meeting Agenda

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1:00 - 2:00 | Equipment setup, informal meeting |
| 2:00 - 2:45 | Business meeting |
| 2:45 - 3:00 | Break |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | Feature demo: Commodore emulators |
| 4:00 - 5:00 | Meeting over, informal gathering, equipment teardown |





Rear View Mirror

by Moe Shouse

At our last meeting, we all brought

some cartridges to show everyone. I really enjoyed it, I saw some cartridges I have never seen. I forgot to bring my Magic Voice cartridge. I think we can call it a cartridge because it plugs into the cartridge port. The neat thing is that Commodore has it set up to work with the Magic Desk series and a game called Wizard of Wor. These are both on cartridge and the Magic Voice has a port in the top that will take a cartridge. So you plug the Magic Voice into the cartridge port of the C=64 or C=128 and plug the Magic Desk or Wizard of Wor into it. And they will put out voices as you play the game or work with the Magic Desk. I have not had a chance to try this out, but it sounds like fun. Also the Magic Voice info says you can write your own programs and use the voice in the Magic Voice cartridge. It also says you can write code that will change the type of voice in the Magic Voice. But I have never seen any instructions on how to do that. This isn't the only voice system for Commodores. There are at least two or three others, but that is too much to get into here.

On to another subject: Interfacing projects for 8-bit Commodores. This would be the VIC-20, C=64, C=128, Plus/4, and C=16. There are not many books on the subject, but the ones we do have are very good. The last one I got is "Practical Interfacing Projects with the Commodore Computers" by Robert H. Luetzow (and I thought my last name was odd). This book has some complex projects, plus it has some info on Plus/4, and C=16. Here is a list of what it has:

CHAPTER

1. CONTROLLING HOBBY PROJECTS WITH COMMODORE COMPUTERS:
user port i/o operation, boards, example of i/o circuits using TTL & CMOS chips
 2. COMPUTER CONTROL WITH MACHINE LANGUAGE
 3. SPECIAL PROJECTS
timing programs, a/d converter, analog, waveform recorder
 4. VIC-20 INTERFACE CIRCUITS FOR I/O PROJECTS
 5. A DIGITAL-TO-ANALOG CONVERTER CIRCUIT FOR THE VIC-20 & C=64
 6. I/O CIRCUITS FOR THE C=64
the 6522 VIC circuit
 7. AN I/O SYSTEM FOR THE C-16 & PLUS/4
 8. GRAPH PLOTTING ROUTINES
 9. WAVEFORM RECORDING PROGRAM
 10. ELEMENTARY SIGNAL ANALYSIS
 11. POWER SUPPLIES
 12. COMPUTER-CONTROLLED ELECTRONIC MEASUREMENTS
 13. THE 6502 INSTRUCTION SET
 14. ANALOG CONTROL PROJECTS
motor speed controller
 15. USEFUL HOBBY AND CONTROL CIRCUITS
- APPENDIX - CIRCUIT BOARD LAYOUTS
for C=64 and C=128

This isn't the only book Mr. Luetzow has out on interfacing. "Interfacing Test Circuits with Single-Board Computers" published by Tab Books, is another one he has done.

One last note, did you know that the VIC-20, C=64, and Plus/4 use a different VIA chip. The VIC-20 uses a 6522, the C=64 uses a 6526, the Plus/4 uses a 6529. But the Plus/4 works differently than the others. But I don't really understand it real well, so I'll leave it alone for now. Remember, don't let the smoke out!

CUW Member Phone List



I neglected to publish the club phone list as I usually do in the June newsletter. Here it is at last. As always, this list is presented for the convenience of CUW members. It is not to be reprinted in any other publication and is not to be used for

commercial purposes. It is not a complete CUW membership list. Only those who have agreed to allow us to use their phone numbers are included. The numbers listed below are subject to change without notice.

529-2164	Angle	Teresa
831-0008	Bales	Robert
684-4418	Bedient	Howard
531-2560	Benoit	Virginia
262-2338	Both	Marie
722-4044	Earley	Fred
777-1567	Elliott	C. M.
943-6725	Frisbie	Bob
532-2515	Gould	Arlen
942-5809	Halstead	Shaun
788-4326	Howard	Dwayne
721-0835	Lutes	Dale
265-2560	McManamey	Don
777-4634	Phillips	Galen
777-1131	Pine	Mike
776-0735	Poston	Carl
838-6819	Salts	Charles
729-6645	Schoemaker	Doug
776-2683	Shook	Jerry
776-2683	Shook	Mike
522-8584	Shrank	John
684-7685	Wilson	Mary

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
Dwayne Howard	Public Domain Librarian
Don McManamey	Disk Editor
Morris Shouse	Member at-large



Random Access

by Dale Lutes

Ahhh! Baseball season has ended and my life has returned to "normal" for at least a little while. I finally have time to play with my computer again. Here's what I've been doing:

I keep learning new things about GEOS whether I intend to or not. My good friend, Dave Elliott has been working on a GEOS program of his own and asked me for some help. It involved some techniques that I haven't use before, so I had to crack open the Programmer's Reference and fire up the debugger. To me this kind of work is a challenge. Like a jigsaw puzzle, the pieces are there, and all that's required is to fit them together in the proper way to form the desired picture (in this case, a program).

Dave presented me with another challenge earlier this year which I would like to tell you about. The globe-and-flags graphic on this page is the geoClub logo. It appears on the front of *geoNews*, which Dave has been kind enough to mail to us. Dave wanted the logo in geoPaint format and asked if I could help. I don't have a scanner, but I had heard that FAXing to a Commodore running geoFAX was a good substitute. This also had the advantage of working completely within the GEOS environment -- good P.R. for a GEOS-oriented club. I called on Robert Bales who owns a copy of geoFAX, but alas, the software is not compatible with his FAX modem. Luckily, I had a backup plan:

I took a copy of *geoNews* to work where my boss scanned it using his PC and an HP scanner. I transferred the resulting TIFF file to our VAX using the company network and ftp. I then used a shareware program called xv to crop out the portion of the page I wanted and to convert the result to GIF format. That night, I dialed up my system at work from home using DESterm on my Commodore and downloaded the GIF file using Xmodem. geoGIF was used for the final conversion to geoPaint format. From there, the file went onto a disk, into an envelope, and across the Atlantic to Dave. There is a fellow I know at Cessna who asserts that data becomes more "macho" as it passes through and is converted by more programs and processes. This logo certainly fits the bill and that doesn't even take into account what it took to include it in *The Zero Page*!

When I dropped off the newsletters at Z-Software last month, I found a copy of *EMPIRE: The Wargame of the Century* on the shelf. Now, this may not thrill you, but I was very excited! You see, I have had a game called EMPIRE on my VAX at work for many years (I know what you're thinking, but I only play *after* working hours) and have toyed with the idea of porting it to the Commodore. Could the game at Z-Software be one and the same? I took a chance, bought the game, and was rewarded by an excellent adaptation of the original. You never know what surprises await you and your Commodore.

Speaking of surprises: Nate Dannenberg has returned from Dallas and is now living in Mulvane. He is eager to renew his acquaintances at the CUW once again. Nate, we're glad to have you back.

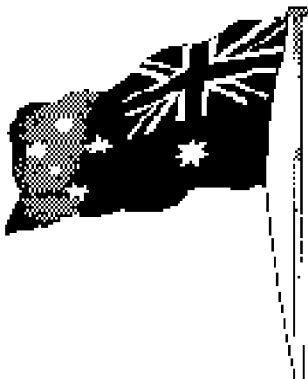
I had a lot of fun at our "Cartridgefest" last month. It was interesting to see the wide range of software available for our machines in cartridge format. Thanks to Moe Shouse for the "Cartridgefest" idea and for his excellent demo of Partner 128. Come join us at our next meeting as we take a look at Commodore emulators. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

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:

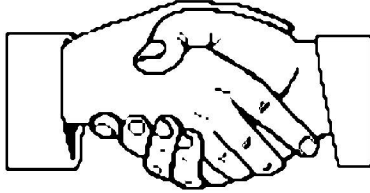
Commodore Users of Wichita
c/o Dale Lutes
11102 W. 17th Street
Wichita, KS 67212-1187

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.



The Helping Hand

This column lists those users willing to share their experiences and knowledge with other club members.



Astrology, Biorhythm

Marie Both

Cards, Posters & Signs

Fred Earley

Family Roots

Maxine Ulrich

GEOS

Fred Earley

Dale Lutes

Internet Access

Shaun Halstead

Labels

Jerry Shook

Telecommunications

Robert Bales

Printing in Color

Don McManamey

Jerry Shook

Programming

Dale Lutes

Word Processing & Desktop Publishing

Fred Earley

Don McManamey

Jerry Shook

Dale Lutes

Helping Hand Volunteers

Robert Bales

831-0008

Marie Both

262-2338

Fred Earley

722-4044

Shaun Halstead

942-5809

Dale Lutes

721-0835

Don McManamey

265-2560

Jerry Shook

776-2683

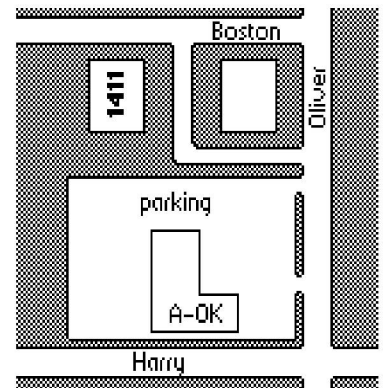
Maxine Ulrich

838-8606

Let us know if we may include your name in future Helping Hand listings. If we don't have a category for you already, we'll add one!

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) _____