

C= Voyages

A Bi-monthly Publication of the Fresno Commodore User Group

April, 1999

ON THE ROAD AT THE LACC EXPO

PART 5

We arrived at Tim's building, and Tim and I said good-bye to Fred. After a brief break, Tim and I headed for dinner at a different restaurant, my treat. This time we were going to an Italian restaurant/karaoke bar...but I wasn't going to get behind a microphone and sing! No matter--Tim promised he would sing. We arrived at Carlucci's Restaurant as evening set outside. Instead of going to the ground level restaurant, we went downstairs to the basement bar. Here in the dark, smoke-filled bar we ordered our steaks and listened to the disc jockey as he called one after another to the stage for a song. Oh, yes, the people tried, and their vocal abilities ranged from poor to mediocre. After picking his songs from a list of hundreds of

well-known tunes, Tim stepped up to the mic, and he was in fine form. In his spare time Tim was a stage actor who had acted in several, local plays, and his stage voice came in handy this time. He sang Barry Manilow's "Mandy" superbly, hitting every note wonderfully, touching every emphasis correctly. Was I astonished! Well-deserved applause rang out from the audience. Later he sang Meatloaf's "I'd do Anything for Love (But I Won't Do That)"--not an easy song to sing with its rock-opera roots.

The smoke became more intense in the unventilated bar; obviously, Michigan

didn't have any smoking ordinances. My throat was hurting, and Tim decided to call it a night. He said good-bye to the appreciative crowd, and we left for his building. We arrived back at his place at 11. He was exhausted and promptly went to bed. I stayed up to read through some Commodore newsletters, and around midnight I went to sleep.

Sunday morning...we both slept late. I awoke first and went back to perusing through newsletters. Tim finally woke up, and we had some time before I had to go to church. He reconnected his C128D system, and then we tried to connect to



Where, Oh, Where?

Ahhh... Clearwater Beach, Florida... Blue skies, warm sands. But where was Commodore? Before I left on my Easter break, I checked the latest club listing in Loadstar. No club seemed to be in that area. When I arrived there, I checked in the phonebook for any C= businesses. Zero. Only when I returned from my trip did I find out that there was a Clearwater club listed at www.cucug.org Oh, well. The closest I came were the 20 Commodore Amigas monitoring satellite telemetry at the Kennedy Space Center. I wonder which building housed them.

LACC EXPO

continued

the local Genie phone number so that I could have sent an e-mail to Dick Estel. However, the local number was a Sprintnet number and only recognized an upper-case H when logging on. Tim had Desterm 2.0, which could not do an upper-case H from terminal mode (later versions of Desterm corrected that). We couldn't log on. Instead of sending e-mail, I showed Tim some demos from the ECUG disks-of-the-month which weren't sold. He in turn showed me a game demo, Shadow of the Beast, which he ran on his 1/2 meg. Amiga 1000. I in turn showed him a slideshow of IMAF (Interlaced Bit-Mapped Picture) graphics, courtesy of British programmer Paul Kubiszyn. IMAF's were Paul's invention--320x200 interlaced C64 screens with up to four colors. Tim was surprised at how detailed the pictures were. I gave Tim the disks-of-the-month and promised that I would look for some Amiga disks that would run on his A1000.

Time was passing, and after I washed and dressed, Tim led me to St. Mary Cathedral, an old, stone-faced church in the middle of

downtown. He left me there, and after services, I found my way back to Tim's place. I packed up my suitcase and camera case; space was tight; I had too many newsletters, and the Strike Force Cobra box was bulky. I finally had the suitcase in order--not bulging so that it could meet American Airline requirements for underseat stowage. My outgoing flight was to be at 4:44 p.m., and it was already 2. We left the apartment to go to the nearest bus station. It was a warm, breezy, sunny day as we walked one last time. At the bus station Tim found the correct bus, but I had trouble loading on my heavy suitcase. The bus driver obliged and lowered the ramp to his bus, and when I was on the bus, he discovered I was from California. For the entire trip to the airport, he engaged me in a spirited conversation on California politics. Tim and I smiled at each other, and after we got off the bus, we both agreed that the driver was quite a character.

We had arrived at the airport early. There was time for lunch in the Airport Cafe. We selected our food in the cafeteria-setting. I had corned beef and cabbage. As we ate, we talked about our respective clubs, our hopes and our plans for Commodore. LACC and ECUG were very similar--

almost sister clubs. Both had roughly the same budget; both had roughly the same number of members; both had the same problems of attracting active members.

After lunch we went through security and waited in the airline waiting lounge, and we talked of Commodore and of the weekend again. I had learned so much... I had discussed so much... I had met so many people... I had so much Commodore inside of me. I could have gone on and on with the Expo. It was amazing to see visitors come from all over Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Tennessee, Indiana, Alabama, and of course, California. The LACC Expo was truly a national event. Tim was pleased that my visit was productive. I promised to send him some disks and California souvenirs, and he promised that he would look into the newsletter exchange and keep me informed on his European fiancée.

Boarding began. We shook hands, and he invited me back to another Expo when I could make it. I thanked him for his hospitality, and he thanked me for coming. My seat number was called. As I entered the gate, I waved good-bye, and he waved back.

Internet information on sources mentioned:

LACC EXPO continued

Robert Bernardo
r.bernardo@genie.com
FCUG home page--
<http://videocam.net.au/fcug.html>
Tim Lewis
lewist@arq.net
Maurice Randall
arca93@delphi.com
Randall website--
<http://people.delphi.com/arca93>
Amiga Group Enthusiasts
AGE home page--
<http://www.earthcentral.com/age>
Commodore Scene
CS website--
<http://freespace.virgin.net/m.cain/c64.htm>
Commodore Zone
tmr@cosine.demon.co.uk
CZ website--
<http://www.cosine.demon.co.uk>
KE-PD Software
72700.3351@compuserve.com
Cincinnati Commodore Computer Club
c/o Dave Witmer
d.witmer2@genie.com
South West Regional Association of
Programmers
SWRAP home page--
<http://members.aol.com/rgharris/swrap.html>
Raymond Day
raymondday@hotmail.com
Creative Micro Designs
CMD website--
<http://www.cmdweb.com>
Loadstar
Loadstar website--
<http://www.loadstar.com>
Dick Estel
dickestel@worldnet.att.net
Tim Hewelt
geos-tim@genie.com
Dale Sidebottom
luckykds@iglou.com
Nate Dannenberg
natedac@southwind.net
Gaelyne Gasson
gaelyne@videocam.net.au
Gaelyne's website--
<http://videocam.net.au>
Randy Harris
rgharris@aol.com

Eric Kudzin
eric.kudzin@troubbs.org
Ron and Ruth Hackley
fgm@rosenet.net
Arndt Dettke
god.adettke@t-online.de
GoDot website--
members.aol.com/howtogodot/welcome.htm
Maurine Gutowski
m.gutowski@genie.com
Paul Kubiszyn
paulk@rangercom.com

This newsletter was published on a Commodore 128 and 1571, using the Zed 0.77 text editor for the C128, PaperClip Publisher for the C64, a SuperCPU 128 20-mhz, accelerator cartridge, a Cardco G-Wiz printer interface, and an Epson EX-1000 9-pin printer.

Disclaimer: The Fresno Commodore User Group, its officers, members, and authors are not responsible for the accuracy of the contents of C- Voyages or the results of actions based on its contents.

FRESH FROM THE NET

Late-Breaking News in the Commodore Universe

Re: cmds web site...

From: "CMD" <cmd@cmdweb.com>

Date: Mon, 5 Apr 1999 15:08:39

-0400

Our 'other' platform support began as a local business about two years ago with repairs and upgrades on Macintosh equipment. This was started to make up for the natural slow-down in Commodore sales. As sales of Commodore products continued to decline, we added system sales for Macintosh and Windows platforms and a number of other services related to these platforms to the local business. The changes on the Web site are not an indication of some major shift that has just occurred in our business philosophy, but are rather just now finally reflecting the changes that have come to our business over the past couple of years. The decision to change the site actually has more to do with recently produced advertising for that part of what we do than with anything else. There's been no change in the marketing status of our Commodore products over the past year or so... we'll continue to make the products as long as they sell in quantities sufficient to make this feasible. We have no preconceived notion of how long that will be, we'll simply analyze this as major expenditures for Commodore manufacturing arise. As for the development of new Commodore products, there's nothing major planned for the future (as I believe I have mentioned several times over the past few months). However, there may be one or two smaller projects that do get addressed in the next few months. While we'd like to do more than that, the size of the current (buying) market simply doesn't make this possible.

Doug Cotton
Creative Micro Designs

Creative Micro Designs is currently preparing production of new power supplies for the Commodore 64 and 128. The same supply will be used for both models, with the main difference being the power connector. The new supply is equivalent to the supply used in the (metal) Commodore 128D computer, which means it will serve as a 'heavy duty' supply when used on Commodore 64 computers. The new design, one of two Commodore projects currently underway at CMD, was undertaken due to a shortage of new 128 and heavy duty 64 power supplies. It is rumored that the new p.s. will be fan-cooled. Further details will be published when the new supplies are ready for shipment.

Meanwhile, CMD has discontinued production on the SID Symphony Stereo cartridges. After selling out of the last SID Symphony Stereo cartridges, and after considering the costs involved in producing another run, increasing prices for new SID chips, and the very low sales volume associated with the product, the company decided not to pursue further production at this time.

Now that SID Symphony Stereo cartridges are discontinued, Nate Dannenberg has his Dual SID, a plug-in internal stereo SID expander board for the C64 or C128. It requires two SID chips, which normally would consist of the stock SID chip plus one extra that a user must supply. The board includes a disable switch and output jack, which must be mounted to the back or side of the computer. Price--\$20 With one SID chip--\$35 Contact Nate at: natedac@southwind.net Web page--www2.southwind.net/~natedac

Daniel Hansson and associates have released SidStation, a standalone, MIDI-controlled, musical hardware synthesizer with realtime controllers. The heart of the synthesizer is based on the Commodore 6581 SID chip. Each SidStation is partially hand-built, and the first

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

run is a hundred of the machines. SidStation comes in a sturdy metal box with backlit liquid crystal display, MIDI interface, rotary control knobs, keypad, audio in/out, and v0.700 of the SidStation operating system (derived from 13,000 lines of assembly code). The cost is 4,000 SKR Swedish or about \$500 U.S.. European customers add 25% VAT. Credit cards or wire transfers are accepted. Mail to: Elektron ESI AB, Stena Center 1B, 412 92 Goteborg, Sweden. Visit: Heltermansgatan 1, Goteborg, Sweden. Phone: 46 0 31 7728110 FAX: 46 0 31 772 8111 Website: www.sidstation.com

Some pictures in the PC world have no known graphics conversion program in a Commodore. However, a new PC program has been developed that can save these graphics in Commodore-viewable formats (taking into account PC to Commodore file conversion by Little Red Reader or Big Blue Reader). Matthias Matting has released Congo v2.2 as freeware. ConGo is a PC program that is a C64/PC graphics converter and also includes a full-fledged paint program, Congo-Paint. ConGo can load and edit the following graphics files: GIF, BMP, PCX, PNG, JPG, TIF, Koala, Koala compressed, Runpaint, GeoPaint, Doodle, Amica Paint, IFLI, OCP Art Studio, GoDot-4Bit, Geos-Album, Geos-Photoscrap, pictures in GeoWrite files, Printshop, Printmaster, CDU-Paint, Vidcom 64, Artist 64, Image System, and others. It can convert and save the files as: GIF, BMP, PCX, PNG, JFG, TIF, Koala, Bitmap, and GoDot. Congo-Paint has such functions as: dot, line, rectangle, ellipse, spray, fill, copy and paste, text, and arc; and it has such effects as: bleed, blur, bright/dark, color, curl, edge detection, engrave, enhance, gray area, gamma, invert, jiggle, mirror, mosaic, motion, noisy, oil paint, pinch hole, pixel fix, polar, rotate,

sharp, spray, whirlpool, and wave image. ConGo's minimum requirements are: a Pentium 133 PC with Windows 95/98 and a display of 800x600 with 256 colors. To download ConGo v2.2, go to www.8bit.com/congo.html

After much talk on the Commodore-Only PostScript (COPS) mail-list, a bug has been discovered with Geowrite and Geopublish. When a Geowrite file runs through Geopublish, the Geowrite file becomes corrupted and no longer in the same form to be used by Geowrite again. However, the program, Unpublish, will transform the Geowrite file back to its original state and keep it that way, even if put back into Geopublish. Unpublish is available at Irv Cobb's website:

www.radiks.net/~irv_cobb/geos/unpublish.cvt Use the programs, Convert or GeoConvert '98, to get change the file into a Geos file.

In another letter to the COPS mail-list, Bruce Thomas reminds users of the differences between the one-disk version and the two-disk versions of Geopublish. The one-disk, 1987 version would not let a user access Desk Accessories after printing a document. One would have to exit and restart GP to gain access again. There was also a nasty bug of corrupting text files if the document came close to the 16-page limit (text files wouldn't remain where you put them). The two-disk, 1988 version does not have these bugs; the version of GP on Disk 1 has the improvements. Dale Sidebottom states that Creative Micro Designs has an upgrade policy to the two-disk set if the original disk and \$20 is sent in.

Henry Sopko is working on upgrading the venerable TurboMaster 4 mhz. accelerator cartridge for the C64. CPU memory can be expanded to 1 meg. of SRAM, which would allow simple multi-tasking or ramdisk capabilities. Henry is still developing the firmware, which must be programmed onto a 64K eeprom with

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

16K going to the enhanced operating system. Also the hardware hack documentation has not been finished yet. This will be a free hardware upgrade hack, though the parts themselves would cost around \$50. For more information, contact Henry at: al575@hwcn.org or henry.sopko@hwcn.org

Cameron Kaiser has released Tutti 0.2a, the latest version of the Tomy Tutor emulator for the C64. The Tomy Tutor was a simple children's computer, marketed by stores like Toys 'R Us. Tutti in its newest form includes: limited graphics mode, sprite support, MON support, more keywords for BASIC mode, and the rudiments of the GBASIC infrastructure for later expansion. Tutti is freeware and can be downloaded from: <http://calvin.ptloma.edu/~spectre/tomy/>

NESSIDPlay has been updated to v3.1. NESSIDPlay is a program for the C64 which plays music from Nintendo NES, Gameboy, and Sega Master System games. This latest version of the program has a frequency analyzer that displays the pitch of each sound channel onscreen. The program can be found at Chris Covell's homepage: www.sfu.ca/~ccovell/nessidplay/

Todd Elliott, Commodore programmer, is working on a patch to upgrade Geowrite 128 to v2.2. His long-term plans are to make GW 128 memory-resident, add a more flexible way of selecting more than 7 fonts, and allow the user to choose a desk accessory anywhere in the system. So far, he has removed the kernal ID number check, unserialized the program, rewritten certain dialog/disk icons, their boxes, and their uses; and added 4-drive support. He reports that his beta

version of the patched Geowrite works fine with Geos 2.0 or with Wheels 128. Todd Elliott can be reached at: eyethian@juno.com

Meanwhile, Werner Weicht in Germany is working on his own v2.2 patch for Geowrite, though there is no information on whether it will be for Geowrite 64 or for Geowrite 128. This patch will allow Geowrite to access drives C and D. Currently, the patch will only be available for the German version of Geowrite. For more information, contact Werner Weicht at:

werner_weicht@geobox3.fido.de or markus64@t-online.de

Todd Elliott has set up emailing list for Geos programmers, and it is open to any Geos programming topics, including Wheels and MegaPatch 3. It's called geoProgramming: The Millennium (GTM). To subscribe, write to: gtm-request@videocam.net.au and in the subject and body, write the word, subscribe

Stephen Judd has released El Cheapo Assembler v1.1. for the C64 and the SuperCPU 20 mhz. accelerator cartridge from Creative Micro Designs. The program sports an integrated editor/assembler/machine language monitor, 65816 opcodes, and pseudo-opcodes. It can be downloaded from: www.ffd2.com/fridge/

Wheels 64 and Wheels 128, the replacement operating systems for Geos 64 and 128 respectively, have been upgraded. Wheels 64 has been upgraded to v4.2 from its previous v4.0. Wheels 128 has been upgraded to v4.2 from its previous v4.1. Both versions now can use Geos 1.3-2.0 as key disks, correct bugs found in the previous versions, and have PAL video compatibility. Wheels 64 v4.2 also has a new, simplified installation process, new window close buttons, a printer icon on the Dashboard, and the DetailShop (the replacement for Preferences). Maurice Randall advises to discard older versions of

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

Wheels when the upgrades are received; the files of the upgrades are incompatible with the old. The upgrades are free for current owners of Wheels. Extra owners' manuals are \$10 postpaid. For those without Wheels, Wheels 64 is \$36, and Wheels 128 is \$40. Add \$4 for North American shipping, or \$6 for overseas shipping. Maurice Randall, Click Here Software Co., P.O. Box 606, Charlotte, MI 48813. E-mail: arca93@delphi.com BBS: (517) 322-2386 Phone: (517) 543-5202 Website-- <http://people.delphi.com/arca93/>

For Geos and Wheels programmers, Maurice Randall has released Concept, an assembler and linker integrated into one program which completely loads into memory. It won't run under Geos. It requires Wheels 64 or Wheels 128 and can run in either 40 or 80 column mode. It is available for downloading from his website at: <http://people.delphi.com/arca93/files/concept.wr3> It is also on Loadstar 64 #177. It is a .wr3 file; Wraptor V3 must be used to dearchive it. Since this is the first release, there's no real documentation yet, other than a ReadMe file in geoWrite format. But if the user has geoProgrammer or understands how to write source code for geoProgrammer, then it should be easy to adapt to it. Maurice says that the bugs of the old geoProgrammer are gone, and he hopes to see new Geos and Wheels software created.

Maurice Randall has been busy on other projects. He has added a Flight Simulator II page to his website, and has created an installer program that lets a user install the original Flight Simulator II disk to a CMD FD-2000 or 4000, CMD hard drive, or RamLink on a native mode partition. Using an HD with parallel cable and SuperCPU, FSII is up and

running in 8 seconds, including pressing the "A" and "B" keys to select the operating modes. With a RamLink, the time is mainly involved just pressing A and B-- 2 seconds! The file is in Wraptor V3 format, and so, Wraptor V3 is needed to dissolve the archive. Wraptor V3 downloaded from the Loadstar website (www.loadstar.com), from the Delphi Commodore library, and from Maurice's website in the "Concept" section. The wrapped file will dissolve to the main installer program and a documentation file in PETASCII format. Maurice's FSII webpage-- <http://people.delphi.com/arca93/fs2/> For direct downloading of the program-- <http://people.delphi.com/arca93/files/fs2.wr3>

Amid high-powered PC activity, a Commodore program makes news. At a website catering primarily to Microsoft's Flight Simulator, the FSII version for the Commodore gets a front page spot, due to Maurice's recent release of the installer for the CMD hard drives and other devices. The news can be seen at: www.simflight.com

Next on Maurice Randall's list of things to do...Pocket Writer 2. He has now successfully booted up Pocket Writer 64 from a 1581 and all the CMD devices. He has written an installer program that takes the original PW2 disk and copies the program data to the necessary files on the target destination, such as the 1581. All the fast load code from PW2 has been removed, and so JiffyDOS is necessary. He's adding the ability to install side 2 of the PW disk for the 128/80 column users. If desired, all 3 word processors and the spell checker will be able to reside in the same directory when they are installed. As soon as the installer program is completely finished and the testing is all done, he'll make the installer available on his website, on his BBS, and at Delphi Commodore library.

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

Gaelyne Gasson, famed Commodore writer, is beta testing Nick Rossi's Novaterm v10 terminal program. It works in either C128-80 column mode all the way through or in C64 mode. Other features are being kept secret for the time being.

VideoCam Services announces a new telnet service designed specifically for Commodore users. In many areas in the US and around the world, Commodore users are able to access the Internet locally but have found a lack of support from their Internet providers. By telnetting to use a Commodore-friendly service, members can enjoy learning about the Internet with friendly support and guidance. Members are able to send and receive Email, access the World Wide Web with Lynx (optimized for color), use the Videocam CBM FTP site, read Commodore-related newsgroups (including local groups for members only), and have access to IRC (Internet Relay Chat). Other utilities to enhance Commodore computing and Internet use are also available. To cover expenses in providing this service, a yearly membership fee of \$30.00 Australian, (or \$19.95 US if paying by US check) will be required.

Also, VideoCam Services has announced that "The Internet for Commodore C64/128 Users" 3rd Edition manual is now available at a lower price. The new single price is \$29.95 Australian, or \$19.95 US if paying by US check, not including shipping. Bulk order prices have also been reduced. For more information, contact Gaelyne or Rod Gasson: VideoCam Services, 90 Hilliers Rd., Reynella, SA 5161, Australia. Phone: 61 8 8322-2716 FAX: 61 8 8387-5810 Email: admin@videocam.net.au Website: <http://videocam.net.au>

Adam "Ant" Fanello of Bugsoft has

announced that Centipede BBS, as well as its predecessor V128, are now a part of the the public domain. A hard drive failure caused a lost of Bugsoft's distribution method. A lack of sales and shortage of interest has made reworking and rebuilding unworthy of the time commitment. Parts of Centipede can be found at-- <http://www.bugsoftware.com/centipede/free.html>

Loadstar continues distributing new programs, the latest being the Loadstar Music System, Dave II, John's War Nags, Barb's Puzzles, and the Best of Ian Adam. The Loadstar Music System actually has two parts-- Presto for 6-voice songmaking and Quicksmith for 3-voice songmaking. John's War Nags is a disk(s) of 6-voice SID music of major musical works while Dave II is a disk(s) of 3-voice SID music of major works. Barb's Puzzles is a collection of sixty-four puzzles. Finally, the Best of Ian Adam is comprised of five 128 programs and five 64 programs, all demonstrating the "scientific" power of computing. Some are named: 128 Fractals, Stereograms (128), Affine Transforms (64), and Julia Sets (64). Loadstar, P.O. Box 30008, Shreveport, Louisiana 71130-0008. Phone: 800 594-3370 (orders), 318 221-8718 (info). FAX: 318 221-8870 Website: www.loadstar.com

Commodore hits the radio waves! Justin Beck, Commodore enthusiast and disc jockey for University of California at Davis radio station, KDVS-FM, has a new show called "6581 SID". It is a weekly hour-long program devoted to SID music - from the old to the new. Video game music plus more, from the greats like Rob Hubbard and Jason Brooke to the lesser-known composers as well. The SID music comes from the High Voltage SID Collection on the Internet and from SID music compilations on compact disc. Justin reports that the show has been very successful, with support coming in from all over the U.S. and Europe. Because KDVS runs as a non-profit organization,

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

\$740 was pledged as the show made its first run. The 6581 SID Show airs Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Pacific Time on KDVS 90.3 FM if you're in the Davis/Sacramento, California area, and at www.kdvs.org Call 530-752-2777 to request songs for the next week's show, or call to talk about all your C64 memories. Justin Beck-- jrbeck@ucdavis.edu or ez072955@mailbox.ucdavis.edu To make a donation, send check, money order, or credit card number to: KDVS-FM, Attn: Fundraiser, 14 Lower Freeborn Hall, University of California, Davis, California 95616.

The Lansing Area Commodore Club is hosting its annual EXPO once again on Saturday, May 1st from 10 AM - 4 PM. The EXPO will be held at the same location as in previous years at the Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord Smith Court, in Okemos, Michigan. New and interesting projects will be demonstrated, such as a new GeoShell by Maurice Randall. There will be door prizes throughout the day, and there will be a big swap-and-shop area. A 10 percent commission of all sales will go to the club. Admission is \$3 for everyone. For more information, contact Tim Lewis, president of LACC, at: lewist@arq.net

The Chicago Commodore Expo '99 is set for September 25 at the Holiday Inn, I-80/94 and Torrence Avenue North, in Lansing, Illinois. The SouthWest Regional Association of Programmers (SWRAP) will be hosting. Set-up will be from 9-10 a.m., demos and sales will be from 10-4, and clean-up will be from 4-5. The cost to attend will be \$5 per household, and \$5 addition for a sales/demo table. For more information, contact Randy Harris, president of SWRAP, at: rgarris@aol.com

Radwar Party 2000 is coming in the

spring of 2000. Markus Wiederstein has announced plans for this big European demo event for Amiga and C64 "freaks." The previous party had about 600 people in attendance, and it was covered on German television and the print press. According to Markus, the meeting site has not been chosen yet--"We are in good contact with some big discotheques and party areas in Germany and so it's in your hands how big this event may become." Some ideas for this party would be: software companies/luminaries from the past and present, competitions (not necessarily having to do with computers) with prizes, strip shows (!), go-go dancing (!!), kick-boxing (!!!), live cams, music, DJ's, computer terminals, and other live acts "that had their roots on the C64 and Amiga." Sponsors are still needed, not to mention HTML wizards, musicians, coders, graphics magicians, and coding groups to participate in the demo competitions. For more information, contact Markus Wiederstein at: mws@radwar.com or Arnd Von Hofe at: radwar@radwar.com or visit their website at: www.radwar.com

Allan Bairstow, editor of Commodore Scene magazine, reports that the entire disk library of geoClub UK is going to be distributed through the magazine. geoClub UK disbanded at the end of 1999 and had approximately 600 disks with applications, fonts, photo albums, paint/clip art, and others. Allan Bairstow, 14 Glamis Close, Garforth, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS25 2NQ, United Kingdom. Phone or FAX-- 0113 286-1573 (if calling from the U.S., delete the leading zero). E-mail-- allanbairstow@compuserve.com or allan@lentil.org

Maurice Connolly reports that the following items are for sale from his Commodore business. The DCT-II Challenger CD-ROM interface is available from the C64 shop at www.icatmall.com/cse for just 39.99 pounds (about \$64 U.S.) His magazine, Commodore Faction, has a

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

review of the interface, the magazine costing 2.95 pounds including a Survivor coverdisk. The Web.it 64 (emulated C64 on a 486 PC) is there for 299.99 pounds including VAT, delivery and some bonus items. His latest product guide is being compiled at the moment and is available by e-mail. Commodore Faction, 7 Glyme Close, Woodstock, Oxon, OX20 1LB, United Kingdom. E-mail: Maurice.Connolly@tesco.net

The Web.it computer is also available at the various branches of PC World, the United Kingdom's largest computer superstore.

TopDesk v3.4, the latest version of the desktop enhancement for Geos 64 and Geos 128, has been released. It is compatible with the Creative Micro Designs SuperCPU and RamLink. The complete program is 45 deutschmarks; an update from previous TopDesk versions is 15 deutschmarks.

Mastercard accepted. MegaCom Software, Brita Grimm, Legenfelder Hof 1, D-78652 Deiblingen. Phone: 07420-1324. FAX: 07420-2608. Home page-- <http://home.t-online.de/home/megacomsoft>

Ronny Bachmann has developed a public domain, Geos 128 80-column application to use with a flatbed scanner connected to a C128 via a CMD hard drive. Ronny and brother Roy demonstrated the scanning program at last autumn's Hobby & Elektronik Fair in Germany. The program allows two choices-- importing the graphics as a GeoPaint document or forwarding the scanned image at 300x300 dpi directly to an Epson ESC/P2 printer (like an Epson Stylus 850) for optimum quality. The program only works with a special scanner, the PRIMAX JEWEL 4800, which is available in Europe. (<http://www.primax.nl/>) Other scanners don't use the normal SCSI scan commands in the right way, and

the program would have to be modified in order to use those.

The following are other Bachmann programs: CD ROM 64/128-- a diskdriver for the GateWay-system. A SCSI CD-ROM drive can be used as a normal GEOS drive. InstallGW Driver 64/128-- a GEOS-program which can install GateWay-diskdrivers without using the GateWay-system. PrintText 64/128-- a GEOS-program similar to the other German program TextPrint but specially made for Epson ESC/P2-printers. A user can print in all included fonts of the printer, and proportional fonts can be used in all styles. The text can be printed in different colors. DoubleDesk 128-- a new desktop similar to the Dualtop. A user must have GateWay when he

wants to use the DoubleDesk. This desktop supports 4 drives. It's specially made for the CD ROM-driver, and the user can copy normal PC files from CD to Commodore-disks. HD ZIP 64/128-- a small tool with which a user can start in the normal Basic-Mode of the C64/128. It changes the number of the current SCSI-drive in the RAM of the CMD-HD. After starting, the current hard drive won't be used any longer, because the SCSI-drive with the inputted SCSI-number will be used. A user can format for example a ZIP-disk or SyQuest-disk. ESC/P2 GC 64/128-- a printer driver for Epson ESC/P2-printers and needs 64kB of the REU. It can print in text and in graphic mode. When printing graphics, a user can choose between 180, 360 and 720 dpi. The print can also be scaled down. When a colored graphic is sent to the driver it will also be print in color (only 8 colors, not 16). geoMark can save a teacher's grades for different subjects (for the German grades 1 - 6).

DoubleDesk 128: DM 35.00 = EURO 17.90 -> US-\$ 20.11
PrintText 64+128: DM 25.00 = EURO 12.78 -> US-\$ 14.36
CD ROM 64+128: DM 10.00 = EURO

FRESH FROM THE NET

continued

-> US-\$ 5.74

geoMark 64+128: DM 15.00 = EURO

7.67 -> US-\$ 8.62

Postage is approximately 8.00

Deutschmarks.

Ronny and Roy Bachmann, Ruhlaer Str.

83, D-99848 Wutha-Farnroda, Germany

Phone: 036921/93956 E-mail:

bachmann@wartburg.de Webpage:

[http://www.wartburg.de/homepages/](http://www.wartburg.de/homepages/r.bachmann/)

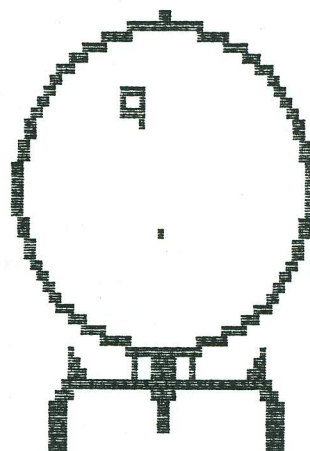
r.bachmann/

Oops, my description for GeoDos in the last Fresh from the Net was way off-base. Look below for the correct description of the program. My thanks to Guenther Bauer of G064! magazine for straightening me out on this.

Available at <http://home.t-online.de/home/markus64/> is the English version of GeoDos, a tool to read and write MS-DOS formatted disk and to convert directly from ASCII to GeoWrite and vice versa. Accompanying text instructions are still in German, though Marcus Kanet says that the use of GeoDos can be determined by looking at the desktop.

Until we meet again, happy
Commodore computing!

Robert Bernardo
R.BERNARDO@
GENIE.COM



*What does the
crystal ball fortell?*

*That there will be
another On the
Road article in a
different part of
the world... That
there will be more
news in
from the Net...
That the next C=
Voyages will return
to its normal size...*