

TPUG Newsletter

Views and News of Toronto Pet Users Group, Inc.

5334 Yonge Street, Box #116

Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 6M2

(416) 253-9637

Volume 4, Number 1

Fall 1990

50 Cents

Comments from the President

Hi! I'm the new kid on the block.

The Board of Directors of TPUG Inc, in its wisdom, decided that I should be the one to take the heat from the membership for all the things your executive did or did not do. So here I am, the new President. After a strenuous life with lots of hard work, I'm now in my "golden years" and enjoying my new found freedom. No more deadlines, no more meetings, no more budget problems, no more staff problems. I'm free - with the exception of TPUG.

I joined TPUG a few years back and, like many members, often wondered why. In July 1988, when the club went crashing onto the financial rocks, a handful of very stubborn members decided to try to salvage the club. At the Annual Meeting in December 1988, I volunteered to join this group and was elected a Director.

Since then on numerous occasions, in the light of all the problems we've faced, I have asked myself, "Why am I involved with TPUG?" I guess it boils down to the simple fact that TPUG is one of the last resources for the thousands of owners of PET, VIC 20, C64, and C128 computers. We also have a growing array of public domain programs for the Amiga. It would be a real pity if TPUG were to go gurgling down the drain.

Our prime role is to support the owners of Commodore computers with our extensive and growing disk library, and with advice. Our newsletter will become a regular feature. Our local monthly meetings will be beefed up with demonstrations and hands-on instruction of old and new commercial software by dealers. We intend that these meetings will offer something of interest to beginners and those who are experienced. We will seek to get more local members actively involved in club activities. We will promote liaison with associate clubs.

This is a tall order because our club is operated by volunteers. We've made lots of mistakes but are learning from them. We will achieve success only through the full support of the directors and the active involvement of members. We welcome with open arms anyone who volunteers to promote the club activities.

Our data base which has troubled us for so many months is being rebuilt and is almost operational. If you have been "forgotten" by the earlier lumpy data base or have any problems please contact me with full details and I will do my best to put things right.

I have accepted the challenge to lead TPUG out of the swamp and back to being a healthy respectable club. Those who know me are aware that I'm a direct action man and I work hard to get a job done. Our top priority will be to restore the services that once were the strength of the club. My objective is to see TPUG restored to its former status as The Number One Commodore Users' Club.

Walther Melamet-Vetter

For users of all
Commodore Computers

★ **PET/CBM**

★ **SuperPET**

★ **B128**

★ **VIC 20**

★ **C64**

★ **Plus/4**

★ **C16**

★ **C128**

★ **Amiga**

★ **PC/MS-DOS**

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Machines International

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Member Information

Office
(416) 253-9637

Membership Rates

Canada \$25
USA US \$25
International (air mailed) . . . US \$45

To join send form on back page

Board of Directors

Wallther Melamel-Vetter . . . president
Michelle Hyland . . . vice president
John Easton secretary
Bill Cumberland treasurer
Al Farquharson past president
Ernie Chorny director
Dan Forget director
Paul Kreppenhofer director
Ian McIntosh director
Ken Poulton director

Librarians

Ken Poulton C64
Tim Hyland C64 GEOS
Bill Cumberland C64 Ed/Vic 20
John Milligan C128
John Easton PET/CBM
Dan Forget SuperPET/PET/CBM
Paul Kreppenhofer Amiga
George Skinner Asst Amiga
Ian McIntosh MS-DOS

Newsletter

John Easton - (416) 251-1511, editor
Ian McIntosh assistant editor

TPUG BBS

Toronto (416) 733-2933
Mississauga (416) 273-6300
Monday to Friday . . . 5 pm - noon
Weekends 24 hours
Sysop Sylvia Gallus
Password no longer needed!

Quantumlink

The TPUG SIG is located in the
Commodore Information Network
User Group Support Centre
TPUG Signons . . . TPUGOFFICE
. TPUGMAIL
. Tplug news

Meeting Schedule

C128: **First Tuesday** of the month
except July and August
Ray Whidden

Central Amiga: **Second Tuesday** of the month
except July and August
George Skinner - 225-8538 (evenings)

Central C64: **Fourth Tuesday** of the month
except July, August and December
Dr. Wilf Meissner - 789-4335

The above meetings are at **7:30 pm** in the **York Public Library Story Hour Room** (downstairs), 1745 Eglinton Ave W (one block east of Dufferin).

The C128 Chapter is considering moving to East York Collegiate (Coxwell & Cosburn). There may be a small admission fee. The room has 3 C128s. Your comments and opinions either way are welcome.

Westside C64 & Amiga: **Third Thursday** of the month
except July, August and December
Ernie Chorny - 279-2730
C64: Bill Cumberland - 278-7687

The Westside meeting is at **7:30 pm** in **Alderwood United Church, 44 Delma Drive, Etobicoke.**

Delma Drive is just west of and parallel to Browns Line - south of the Queen Elizabeth Highway, north of Horner Avenue. **From the west**, exit QEW at Evans Ave, east on Evans to second stoplight, south on Gair to Delma. **From the north or east**, exit QEW or Hwy 427 to Browns Line / Evans Ave ramp, exit right to Evans, west on Evans to first stoplight, south on Gair to Delma.

NEWS NEXT E

Lots more news - it's Commodore's busy season!
Some good articles that wouldn't fit this time.
New C64 disks
New GEOS disks
New MS-DOS disks
New Amiga disks
New C128 disks
And lots more!

Assistant's Notes

Well its bin th' usual KAOS round heer. Like th' Mad Hatter says "I'm late! I'm late! Fer a verry emportent date!". So's this noozletter!
So John's lost his guvmint job and MOST EMPORTEMENTLY his lazer printer and Adventuras Publichin, an bin away lots, an Michelle's bin buzzer then you know what typin *in all the dirt she's got on evrybody out there* fer th' new daytime. So theys why its ME doin this heer noozletter. (That an the fact I got excess to a lazer an sun softwear heer, an don't know rief to back up an keep my head down when theyre esking fer fools I meen volenteers.)
Ian

TPUG Newsletter is published quarterly by the Toronto Pet Users Group (TPUG) Inc., a Commodore computer users club. TPUG is a volunteer non-profit corporation dedicated to the service and support of owners and users of Commodore computers.
All rights to material published in TPUG Newsletter are reserved by TPUG, Inc. and no material may be reprinted without written permission, except where specifically stated. When reprinting, please credit TPUG and the author.
Articles, letters, tips, questions, etc are welcome. Send disks or hardcopy "Attention: TPUG Newsletter", or use our BBS or QLink.
Advertisements are also welcome. Members' small want ads are free. Larger or commercial ads are \$200 per page with a \$25 minimum.

TPUG News

Office Address

TPUG will soon be moving to a new office to further reduce our expenses. This does **not** affect our mailing address, since that's a postal service.

The mailing address may change soon too. Check the next newsletter. Mail to the old address would, of course, be forwarded.

We have terminated our Buffalo address. Please use the main one.

New Order Form

The disk order and membership application forms have been combined and updated. See the back page. Non-member prices are now included. Feel free to copy it, and pass it on to other Commodore users.

Tapes & 8050 Disks

It isn't on the order form, but we still have Datasette tapes for C64s, VICs & PETs. Write or call us if you're interested.

8050 disks for PET / SuperPET / CBM no longer cost extra.

BBS Improvements

The PunterNet software used for TPUG's Bulletin Board System now supports ANSI escape sequences. This allows the use of colour, line-drawing, blinking, etc., for many users.

Commodore News

Amiga 3000

"Mainstream Amiga ... MAC II power ... at a Commodore price"

- BYTE May 1990

Seeing the 3000, you notice the size, or lack of size. The frontal area is only 3/5 that of the 2000, 3/4 as high and 3" narrower. The expansion slots - 4 Zorro 3, 2 AT, and video - are horizontal to lower the profile.

Seeing the screen, you notice how jagged the cursor arrow looks. The new Workbench uses 640x400 resolution, which is now *flicker-free* and steady.

The 2500's two 4 colour modes (640x480 and 1280x400) and a

Annual Meeting

Several new directors - Michelle Hyland, Ernie Chorney, and Dan Forget - were elected at the annual meeting on April 12. John Easton was reelected, and others continued their two year terms.

Walther Melamet-Vetter and Michelle Hyland were chosen by the board as president and vice president. John Easton and Bill Cumberland continued as secretary and treasurer.

Since April, Steve Punter and Richard Bradley have resigned.

Thanks Al et al

Al has retired as president. He and the other board members, meeting chairs, librarians, office and show booth staff, and all the other **volunteers** deserve a lot of thanks for keeping the club running. The last few years haven't been easy.

Al's determination preserved the club. Under Walther's leadership the rebuilding will continue.

At The Shows

After expenses, the TPUG booths at the spring Computer Fest and Computer Expo netted about \$1200. Lorraine Phillips of Trenton won a **free membership** at Computer Fest.

The two Ontario Computer Exhibitions (Burlington and

Kitchener) we attended this fall netted about \$300. New members received Commodore mugs.

We will also be at Computer Fest and WoCA.

Members Database

For several years we have had difficulties with our membership database. Little things, like only printing one third as many mailing labels as we had members. Like finding some of us by number but not by name.

Last winter a disk error corrupted the member file. Of course, we make weekly backups. Of course, by the time we knew we had a problem, they were all corrupted too!

We are now mostly converted to a newer, easier to use package. Al Farquharson set up the record and report formats, and Michelle Hyland reentered all the data for memberships expiring in 1990.

Unfortunately we could do nothing about last year's lost mail. If we've missed you or anyone you know, *please* tell us!

RENEWALS!

Because of the database and other problems, we haven't sent renewal notices for half a year. If you have lapsed and you don't hear from us within a month, please use a copy of the last page of this newsletter.

new 16 colour mode (1440x480) are only for 31.5 KHz monitors. (Amiga 2000 users can upgrade to the same video board.)

Using the 3000, you notice the speed. The older 7.14 MHz 68000 is replaced by a 25 MHz 68030 and 68882 numeric coprocessor. A CPU expansion slot allows a future 68040 upgrade.

Chip RAM is doubled to 1 MB. Fast RAM is also doubled to 1 MB, accessed via a 32 (not 16) bit bus. Up to 2 MB of chip and 16 MB of fast RAM can be installed on the motherboard.

A fast 19 millisecond seek time 50 MB hard disk is preformatted and preloaded with AmigaDOS.

There is room for a second 3.5" drive inside, and an external SCSI connector.

The 3000 runs AmigaDOS 2.0. Since many applications need minor upgrades for 2.0, initial shipments also run a modified 1.3.

One US college chose the 3000 as the machine all their students must buy (running Commodore's new Unix System V Release 4) because nothing else in its price range was nearly as powerful.

List price is \$5949/US\$3999.

A 100 MB hard drive is available for \$950 more.

A slower 16 MHz model with a slower 68881 math chip lists for \$4900/US\$3299.

AmigaDOS 2.0

The new system doesn't look like the AmigaDOS we're used to. Start with different colours (shades of gray instead of blue and orange) and patterned window and Workbench backgrounds. Add "3D embossed" icons. Improve the title bars. Expand the menus. Replace "Preferences" with a dozen specialized programs, adding control over overscan, menu fonts, and more.

It doesn't work quite like the old either. Awkward aspects like multiple selection or creating new drawers have been streamlined. Formerly invisible "CLI only" files can be viewed from Workbench by name or with default icons. CLI commands can be started via a Workbench menu. Function keys can be automatically defined.

Major internal rewrites improved the speed and added support for the AREXX command language. AREXX also lets one program control another by sending it commands.

Over two dozen new printer drivers are included. A new utility backs up hard disks to tape or diskettes. Menus and requestors can be French or German instead of English.

Problems? Some programs need changes to work with 2.0, so for a while 1.3 (or 1.2) is still needed. Changes to Kickstart expanded it to take a 512 KB ROM. Current A3000s use a small Kickstart to load the rest from disk, allowing either 2.0 or 1.3 (or Unix V.4) to be used. The A2000 needs a minor hardware upgrade, not available yet. A500 upgrades won't be ready for quite a while.

Eventually all new systems will come with 2.0. It appears to be a considerable improvement.

Commodore Express

In the US, Amiga 500 (& CDTV) users can now call a 24 hour toll-free 800 number for help with any problems. Federal Express will even pick up the system and deliver it back after repairs.

CDTV

Commodore Dynamic Total Vision is the new CD format used by the Commodore Interactive Graphics Player.

Yes you can play your New Kids, Beatles, Mozart or whatever. But you can also scan an encyclopedia, the Bible, a dictionary, and other references. And you can run educational programs, or games. By Christmas there should be close to 200 CDTV titles.

Inside is a 550 megabyte CD/CD-ROM player, a 1 megabyte Amiga, and a new CD-ROM AmigaDOS file system. The main user interface is an infrared remote control! It has full CD controls plus "joystick" buttons and ten function keys.

List price is US\$899. For under US\$50 each you can add a mouse, joystick, trackball, keyboard, or an infrared interface for them. A 3.5" disk drive to run standard Amiga programs is under US\$200.

Other options like a hard disk interface, MIDI port, modem, genlock, and two-player infrared interface will be available. Plug in cartridges called Personal RAM (or ROM) Cards hold up to 64 KB.

Commodore's target markets include education, business presentation and information systems, and home information and entertainment. The Canadian introduction will be at WoCA.

Amiga In Networks

Many business computers are interconnected, or networked. The Amiga can finally join in, using Ethernet, TCP/IP, NFS, and Novell NetWare. ARCnet, Flash-Talk, and more are in the works.

GfxBase is converting MIT's X.11 standard system. X.11 will let programs on other computers interact with Amiga windows and the keyboard and mouse.

Interworks' new ENLAN Network System connects Amigas to DEC VAXes using DECnet, either via Ethernet (A2000 and up) or the serial port.

The lack of network support has been a serious impediment to business sales of the Amiga.

C64 Upgrade Promo

Commodore tested an offer this summer and may extend it across Canada.

Selected C64 owners upgrading to an Amiga or PC 10/20/40 received, FREE, one of:

- The Newsletter Package
- The Home Education Package
- The Home Entertainment Package
- The Test Drive Software Pack and 10 disks.

AmigaVision

AmigaVision lets you create an interactive multi-media program, *without programming!* Many applications can be developed without learning a programming language like C, or even BASIC.

Text, graphics, animation, video, voice, music, and digitized audio can be included. Multiple dBase III format databases can be manipulated. Other programs can be run and controlled using AREXX. Advanced peripherals like touch screens, videodisk players, and genlocks are supported.

To create a program, an author uses icons, menus, and fill-in-the-blanks requestors to build a visual flowchart describing its operation.

UNIXWORLD magazine says "multimedia will irrevocably change how we use our computers and share information ... Multimedia will allow us to absorb greater quantities of information because we can use more than one sense to process images, sound, and text."

They expect this to occur "in four or five years". Commodore makes it possible *today*.

AmigaVision is now included with new 2000s and 3000s.

TPUG members can order it for only \$69.95 (prepaid), about half the store price, until November 1. You can order it using our order form (back cover) or at a meeting.

What's Coming?

The Professional 500 will come with 1 MB RAM installed. Both it and the Game model will be bundled with software.

Amid speculation CBM will stop making 64s, we hear reports from Europe of a "65GS"???

Other News

Fall Computer Fest '90

The fall show will be at the CNE Arts, Crafts & Hobbies Building October 12 - 14. Hours are Friday 12 to 9, Saturday and Sunday 10 to 6. Admission is \$6, but \$2 discount coupons are available.

TPUG should be in booth 2, near the front left.

Fall Ontario Computer Exhibitions

These shows are smaller but more accessible for many. TPUG missed London but was at the Burlington and Kitchener shows.

OCE also also has a **Durham Region (Bowmanville)** show, on Sunday November 4 from 11 to 4. The admission is \$3, but you can clip out or photocopy the \$1 discount coupon on page 7.

Expansion to other Ontario cities is planned next year.

World of Commodore/Amiga

The 1990 WOCA will be Friday to Sunday, November 30 to December 2. Friday hours are 10 - 9, Saturday and Sunday are 10 - 6.

As usual, it will be at the Toronto International Centre (Hall One) at the corner of Airport and Derry Roads.

Admission is \$7 (\$5 seniors and students). TPUG will have \$1 discount coupons. Watch for our booth.

CRS

Canada Remote Systems shut down briefly in August.

The BBS itself was always profitable since it was founded by

There's talk again of a laptop Amiga, modified from the 500 by a German company. Motorola has just announced the MC6811C001 low power 68000-compatible CPU, ideal for battery operation. CBM has demoed an MS-DOS laptop.

The A3000's CPU expansion slot is designed for 32 bit 68040

boards. Motorola has advertised Commodore as a 68040 customer. The A3500 (A3000 upgrade) and A4000 (a "tower of power") aren't far off. It should be fast - the 68040 CPU is 25% faster for US\$150 less than Intel's 486, and 10% faster for US\$1000 less than Sun's SparcStation 1+ CPU.

Jud Newell in 1981 as Remote CP/M. Expansion into hardware, software and networks, the slow economy and other problems led to a \$750,000 debt plus \$400,000 in unexpired subscriptions.

With new funding, the new BBS is back in operation. All memberships are being honoured.

Canada's largest BBS, with about 8000 members and almost 100 phone lines, is dominated by MS-DOS and Macintosh, but also supports CP/M, C64, Amiga, and Atari. For many clubs and stores, it has been a major and in some cases their only public domain software and shareware source.

Telecomputing For Everyone

Roman Kowalczyk is the operator of TNSS, Node 9 on the PunterNet network that TPUG's bulletin board system is part of.

His new book **Telecomputing For Everyone** covers all aspects of PC-PunterNet and BBS64 for end users. It combines a good introduction for beginners with reference data for seasoned BBSers. Numerous appendices and a complete index are included.

"Beta Test" copies are available for \$20 plus shipping (\$5 to \$10):

TNSS

Box 6238, Postal Station A

Toronto, Ont, Canada M5W 1P6

Compute!

The Compute! family, including Compute!, Compute's Gazette, Compute's Amiga Resource, and Compute's PC Magazine, have been sold and are being combined into a single magazine, Compute!

New Progeni Stores

Since our last issue, Progeni has expanded from Montreal and Toronto to Ottawa. They will soon be opening in Boston under the name **Progenius**.

Progeni sells new and used hardware and software, including many hard to find Commodore items.

Home Computer Sales

According to Evans Research Corp., home computer sales are soaring in Canada.

The home and office market has expanded from 390,000 in 1986 to an estimated 909,000 this year (\$1.6 billion).

Last year, business bought 54%, homes 20%, and schools & government 26%. The top five suppliers were IBM with 17.6%, Apple with 9.6%, Commodore with 8.3%, Radio Shack with 5.6%, and Epson with 5.3%.

What's An Apple Good For?

Toronto Computes! September issue lists "Apple IIC", "Apple II", "Apple disk drive", "Apple II+ clone", "Apple IIE", and "Real Apple II+" for sale in the want ads FURNITURE section. So *that's* what people use them for!

The same issue mentions another use for Apples - Apple raised the ground level in Utah by using 2700 Lisas (Mac ancestors) as landfill.

The largest independent Apple dealer in Canada died in August. Apple blames over rapid expansion, not poor sales.

TPUG is one of the few remaining sources of disks from the world famous Commodore Ontario Educational Software project of 1983. There are 58 disks containing 797 educational programs. These programs are designed to work with the PET 2001, Pet 4000s, CBM 8000s, and the C64. A catalogue of these programs is available for \$1.00.

Several of our members, who work with C64s in the primary school field, have been updating many of the Project '83 programs for exclusive use on the C64 by sharpening the timing, introduc-

ing some colour, and inserting sound cues to improve student interaction. These updated programs have been tested on sample students and seem to work well.

The new updated C64 ED disks are organized differently from the earlier Project '83 disks in that we are clustering math and language programs appropriate to specific grade levels. The earlier disks grouped programs alphabetically according to subject matter but any disk could contain programs ranging from kindergarten to senior secondary level.

Since computers more powerful than the C64 are now dominant in secondary schools, we are not attempting to update Project '83 programs above primary school level. We will continue to update more Project '83 programs and to introduce new programs to service the vast number of C64 computers in primary schools and homes throughout the world.

We welcome any comments, advice and criticism that will enable us to provide you with useful programs.

A listing of the first 6 updated C64 ED disks follows:

ED-1

Basic number/letter skills Kindergarten / Grade 1

- Missing number
- Count to ten
- Count ten
- Begin counting
- Match up numbers
- Numbers
- Missing letters
- Match up letters
- Alphabet worm
- Alphabet
- Time of day
- Letter/number recognition
- Teacher information

ED-2

Basic alphabet skills Kindergarten / Grade 1

- Alphabetizing
- Alphabetter
- Alphashift
- Alphabet quiz
- Alpha 1 A
- Alpha 2 A
- Alpha 3 A
- Swap animals
- Swap - vegetable
- Swap - Mineral
- Swap - mineral
- Word machine
- Teacher information

ED-3

Basic math drill Grades 1 to 3

- Big addition
- Big subtraction
- Integer addition
- Addition teacher
- Addition game
- Laser addition
- Quiz addition
- Big arithmetic
- Integer arithmetic
- Math tutor
- Math swim
- Math drills
- Big math drill
- Teacher information

ED-4

Math exercises Grades 3 to 5

- Number sequence
- Quiz multiply
- Math facts drill
- Munchkin multiply
- Tic tac arithmetic
- Cash register
- Zone X
- Treasure add
- BTC multiply
- BTC subtraction
- Brain crane X
- Agent Blotto
- Monster multiply
- Coordinates
- Teacher information

ED-5

Grammar exercises Grades 3 to 5

- Parts of speech
- Nouns
- Pronouns
- Plurals
- Hyphens
- Contractions
- Punctuation
- Grammar 1
- Insert
- Problem pronouns
- Alphabet quiz
- Homonyms
- There/their
- Affect/effect
- Teacher information

ED-6

Spelling exercises Grades 2 to 8

- Speed spell 2
- Speed spell 3
- Speed spell 4
- Speed spell 5
- Speed spell 6
- Speed spell 7
- Speed spell 8
- Spelling error 5
- Spelling error 6
- Spelling game
- Word drill
- Word power 2
- Word search
- Word shoot
- Teacher information

The 1541 disk drive is not one of Commodore's notable achievements. We 64-types are well aware of the alignment problems giving "ERROR: FILE NOT FOUND". This happened the other day to Ken Rolison in the midst of preparations for his fall course in Amateur Radio. When he called me in a purple fit, all I could

suggest was to trot over to the boys at the nearby Computers And You shop for a repair job.

An hour later, Ken was back on the blower with good news which I wish to share with all C64 TPUGers. Here it is - thanks to the friendly service people who demonstrated it to Ken at no charge.

If the 1541 disk drive gives the above error message, try this:

OPEN 1,8,15,"I0":CLOSE 1

If you're lucky and the alignment is no more than 5% off, the 1541 will work again.

Another hint that may keep your 1541 out of the shop is to give it a regular shot of the program entitled "DISK CHECK V1.0".

MS-DOS ?

Ian McIntosh

Don't we have enough to do keeping up with all Commodore's products? Do we really expect to compete with specialized MS-DOS clubs?

Since its introduction, the C64 has been TPUG's bread and butter. Amigas are Commodore's, and TPUG's, future. We'd be

crazy to reduce our commitment to either, or any of CBM's other offspring.

At the same time, many of us who use 64s, 128s, Amigas, etc. for fun must use MS-DOS at work. Joining one club that answers both needs make sense. Also, those with Bridgeboards and Sidecars

find they have special needs and questions that just don't come up with plain PC clones.

The MS-DOS library is being renovated and expanded. If you have particular needs or interests, whether specific programs or vague categories, please send them in.

Words From The Office

Michelle Hyland

Have you ever wanted to be "a fly on the wall"? Come on now be honest ... we understand that the urge to "eavesdrop" is quite normal in homo sapiens. So read on and indulge the urge to listen in on conversations at the TPUG Office.

"What do you mean, the database isn't working?" "It shouldn't take 45 minutes to look up a member's name. Are you sure he's a member?" "Oh, it's a board member's record you're looking for!" "I still say it shouldn't take 45 minutes to find a file!" "Oh,

it's been searching for 45 minutes and still hasn't found it?" "Hey, did anybody know that the drive controller board was loose?" "It's still not sorting!" "OH NO!!!" "Don't worry there ARE backups." "Backups? WHAT BACKUPS?" "Whew, you found them." "Oh no, there's something wrong with them." "Were these backups done before, or after, the data-base failed?" "After." "All six sets?" "We are in BIG trouble!!!!"

As you will have noticed, we have suffered a failure of our database we used to keep track of our

membership. It also generated our mailing lists for renewals and newsletters. We have since corrected the problem. Since you have received your newsletter, you must be listed on our newer system. TPUG would like to apologize for any inconvenience or frustration this may have caused our members. Members who have not received renewals should receive them soon. Please remember:

To err is human. To really mess up you need a data-base!!!

Ahead of Our Time?

"... the PC vendor community has finally discovered that user groups are important. ... Vendors have lost their "Users? We don't need no stinking users!" attitude and have adopted the user group fad ... In recent months, a number of companies ... have suddenly taken a shine to user groups: Lotus, IBM, Ashton-Tate and Software Publishing ..."

UNIX Today! 90/07/09

\$1 OFF REGULAR ADMISSION

(not valid with any other coupon)

From TPUG For

ONTARIO COMPUTER EXHIBITION

Sunday, November 4 - 11 am to 4 pm
Bowmanville Recreation Complex

Hwy 401 to Waverley Rd. North
then left on Martin Rd (Hwy 57)
to Hwy 2 & 57

Progeni Inc. Computers



Buy - Sell - Trade

AMIGA - APPLE - ATARI
COMMODORE - IBM
MACINTOSH - PET

New and Used
Computers, Peripherals
and Parts

Montreal:

★ 995 Decarie
St. Laurent, P.Q. H4L 3M7
(Cote Vertu Metro Stn)
phone (514) 745-3123

Toronto:

★ 3270 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M4N 2L8
(North of Lawrence)
phone (416) 322-6512

Ottawa:

★ NEW ★
★ 346 Richmond Road
Suite 21
Ottawa, Ontario K2A 0E8
phone (613) 728-5911

Boston:

★ SOON ★
★ Progenius
Boston, Massachusetts

Quantity discounts

On orders of 20 or more disks, TPUG offers a 20% discount to members. That works out to \$5.60 per Amiga disk or \$4.00 per 5 1/4" disk (postage extra) and applies to all disks in our library (all TPUG, plus FISH and AMICUS series).

At The Meetings

In the C128 chapter, Ray Whidden has replaced George Skinner as chair, and John Milligan replaces Ray as librarian.

The C128 chapter is also considering moving to East York Collegiate. The school has three C128s in the meeting room. TPUG's rent would be higher, so there might be a token admission fee. Any comments or opinions either way?

If you would like meetings closer to home, or focusing on your interests and are willing to help organize and run them, let us know. The club is here for you.

At the September Westside meeting, Ernie Chorny showed some of his new programs, and how much will fit on a 1581 3 1/2" disk.

Bill Cumberland has been updating and improving C64 educational programs. Ernie demoed a further improvement to one, using a custom font to display arithmetic problems with smooth edged digits 8 times normal size.

Commodore's video tapes on the Amiga 3000 and AmigaVision will be shown at the October Amiga and Westside meetings. Westside will also have an XCAD demo. We hope to have a live AV demo soon.

Recent C64 meeting topics include Superbase and other databases, the CalcResult spreadsheet, Paperclip and other word processors, GEOS and RAM expanders. Experienced members like Vince Halifchuk answered questions and helped the less expert. A number of new C64 disks will be reviewed at upcoming meetings.

Come out to the meetings. Learn how to use your computer better, make new friends, find out what's new, and most importantly: Have Fun!

AmigaVision

Commodore's AmigaVision (see page 4) is available from TPUG for only \$69.95. That includes tax and mailing. We MUST have your prepaid order by the first week of November for this deal! You can order at a meeting, or with the back cover or a copy.

Butterfield Bit

If commercial C64 software won't run on your C128 in C64 mode, try pushing the CAPS LOCK key before LOADING.

Unless CAPS LOCK is pressed, memory location 1 holds a different value than on a real C64.

[Explanation: Memory location 1 is part of an input/output port built into the CPU. It is used to control the Datasette and memory bank switching. On the C64 it is only 6 bits wide (the upper two bits are zero), and the normal value is 55. On the C128 bits 7 and 8 are used. Bit 7 reads the CAPS LOCK key. If the key is up, the value in location 1 is 64 higher than if down, or normally 119 in C64 mode.]

Want Ads

Desperately need C64 "Mario Brothers"! Craig (416) 757-8399.

Wanted - COMAL cartridge. Call Ian at (416) 757-4628.

TPUG needs volunteers for computer show booths. Fun and free admission. Call 757-8399.

Datasette for sale. Call Tim at (416) 253-9637.

Wanted - Responsible volunteer (ie, free) bookkeeper. Call TPUG.

BBS Help

If you need instruction on how to use TPUG's BBS or other Punter BBSs, TNSS offers inexpensive hands-on training near Yonge and Bloor. For an appointment, call (416) 462-3168.

TPUG Discounts

Several stores give discounts on some items (usually software, books, magazines, disks, etc) to TPUG members:

Electronics 2001
Comspec
Progeni

Ask them for details, and save!

(A)TBD - Sept 90 #1

Drip commercial-quality Pac-like game (needs 1 MB)
Tiles remove matching tiles from the pile game
3DRaider space shootup game (needs 1 MB, joystick, 3D X-SPECS optional)
CrayonPaint draws colour crayon pictures (shareware, with save & print disabled)
VirusX 4.01 virus checker, works with AmigaDOS 2.0, A3000s & A2091s (CLI)
Nib multiple destination 2 drive disk copier (shareware)
Clockdj5.0 menu bar clock with screen blanking, automatic window selection, mouse speed control, click to front or back, choice of 2 icons, etc
SysInfo reports ADOS version, hardware configuration etc
Sweep recovers most fragmented

memory (CLI)
DM shows Disk usage Map (CLI)
DiskChecker checks disk for possible errors (CLI)
RunBack runs multiple programs in a window (CLI)

(A)TBE - Sept 90 #2

Plans interlace mode 2D CAD/drafting
CPU>ShowDown Amiga destroys Macs animation
Amortize calculates both USA & Canadian loans, by **Butterfield** (with AmigaBASIC source)
WhatIs 2.0 identifies 67 file types like text/source/program/music/archive/graphics/animation (CLI)
ls 4.0k unix-like list directory with autopause (CLI) (w source)
DiskSalv 1.40 salvages many damaged disk files (CLI)
ARP.library WorkBench library needed for Plans and WhatIs

(A)TBF - Oct 90

DrawerIcons 25 drawer icons
DEKSID ASCII/hex file/sector editor (docs en Francais aussi)
FastBlit speeds up scrolling 60%
Juggler Demo 2 humorous animation (needs 1 MB)
Nemesis partial animation from Badge Killer Contest (CLI)
ShowCards 1.4 identifies your Amiga's cards, chips, etc (CLI)
ViewDir 90/4 lists directory, nice options, by **Butterfield** (CLI) (with assembler source)
FontPrinter 1.3 prints fonts (with AmigaBASIC source)
SB Super Brickout game
Humour 10 reasons for Space Shuttle to use Amigas (text)

TPUG always has the complete **Fred Fish AmigaLibDisk** and **Amicus** Disk collections.

PET / SuperPET / CBM Catalog Update**librarian - Dan Forget**

The new **PET Library** and **SuperPET Library Catalog Disks** include many previously undocumented disks.

C128 Library Update**librarian - James Kokkinen****(Y)SAC - 1988 WofC**

World of Commodore 1988 Show Disk

CAT.128 good disk cataloguer, with TPUG's C128 catalogue
CHES 128 great chess player
PRO128.TERM highly featured terminal program

DISKMAGIC II several disk utilities bundled together
SIDPLAYER 128 music player with 5 songs

CP/M Library Update**librarian - Ray Whidden****(Z)ABM - Jan 89****(Z)ABN - Feb 89**

Previously listed as (Z)ABM/N/M, containing only WADE and Z8E.
WADE - CP/M 2.2 & 3.0 debugger (with assembler source)
BUI3 - incrementally BackUp hard disk on floppies, like PIP archive (with C source)
DA - displays Directory Attributes RW, RO, archive, etc

DLZ - DeLete Z-crunched file
DUMP - Dump file (replaces DUMP)
FMT84 - Format disk (replaces FORMAT - Kaypro only)
LIST - List file (replaces TYPE)
LS - List directory (replaces DIR)
PR - PPrint file
RN - ReName file (replaces REN)

BYE510B - BYE part 2 of 2 - needs (Z)ABS (with assembler source and documentation)
DIF22 - compares two text files, like Unix diff - see SSED (with C source, including QSORT)

(Z)ABU - June 89 #3

PBBS-45A - excellent Public BBS part 1 of 2, see also (Z)ABW, (Z)ABY to (Z)ACC (with M80 source)

(Z)ABO - Mar 89

Z8E - debugger (Z eighty)
TOOLS - various utilities (some with assembler or C source)
CP - CoPy file (replaces PIP)
DL - DeLete file (replaces ERA)
DLQ - DeLete sQueezed file

(Z)ABS - June 89 #1

BYE510A - BYE RCP/M monitor part 1 of 2 - needs (Z)ABT
CHAT45 - RCP/M 'talk' program (assembler source only)
RCPM-GUIDE - RCP/M quick guide (text)
REALSYSP - notes on being a sysop (text)

(Z)ABV - June 89 #4

PBBS-45B - PBBS part 2 of 2
CCF - copy, combine, expand & reverse files
PDSTD02 - public domain software standards proposal (text)

(Z)ABT - June 89 #2

(Z)ABW - June 89 #5

LH-CPM11 - lists and/or extracts files from .LZH LHARC archives

PBBS41-1 - PBBS fix

PBBS41-2 - PBBS fix

PBBSUP45 - PBBS .PBS files,

.SUB files, 78 pages of

documentation

(Z)ABX - June 89 #6

LUX101 - Library Utility

eXtension, RCP/M utility for

.LBR/ARC/ARK files, RSX for

Z80 computers

UNSTCPM - UNStuffIT converts

Macintosh archive files (with C

source)

(Z)ABY - July 89 #1

PBBSFIX - PBBS fixes, PBBS45 updates

PREG451 - PBBS registration

program (assembler source)

PSTAT453 - option/menu mode

PBBS control program

VANDAL - RCP/M ERA, REN,

SAVE and WHEEL command

aliases call VANDAL.COM to

save login ID

WHEEL31 - sets/clears RCP/M

WHEEL security byte

(Z)ABZ - July 89 #2

PMSG45 - enables PBBS file message entry (assembler source)

PUSER45 - lists or prints PBBS user list (with assembler source)

(Z)ACA - July 89 #3

(Z)ACB - July 89 #4

BYE5INS1 - BYE5 RS-232 inserts for 15+ computers (see BYE5-INS.LST) - part 1 of 2 - also needs (Z)ABS

BYE5INS2 - part 2 of 2

(Z)ACC - July 89 #5

B5-CLOCK - BYE5 overlays for 20+ real time clocks (see B5-CLOCK.LST) - needs (Z)ABS

(Z)ACD - July 89 #6

CHAT46 - allows remote user to chat with RCP/M sysop - needs BYE or Mbye (assembler source)

COMMANDS - lists command names for Remote CP/M user (with assembler source)

LUX541 - TYPE, SEND, DIR, etc for LBR/ARC/ARK archives (with assembler source)

(Z)ACE - Aug 89 #1

(Z)ACF - Aug 89 #2

(Z)ACG - Aug 89 #3

MBBS45A - Micro BBS - latest version from Kim Levitt's Los Angeles RCPM - just print documentation, configure & run using either C128 BYE or Mbye - part 1 of 3 - also see (Z)ACJ, (Z)ACL

MBBS45B - part 2 of 3

MBBS45C - part 3 of 3

The following are all on (Z)ACG:

MBBSMEX - MBBS MEX script to log on and retrieve mail

MBBSUDEL - MBBS deletes user (with BASIC source)

MBNOTE01 - MBBS adds note to MESSAGES.BBS

MBXMK484 - to use Kaypro 84 with Mbye3x or XMODEM (assembler source)

MFMSG20 - enters MBBS messages from local/remote files

MSGT02 - creates MFMSG message file (needs 63K TPA) (with Pascal source)

MTIME10 - MBBS shows date/time/time remaining

MBNOTE01 - MBBS adds note to MESSAGES.BBS

MBXMK484 - to use Kaypro 84 with Mbye3x or XMODEM (assembler source)

MFMSG20 - enters MBBS messages from local/remote files

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RCPMs - BYE, CAT, CHAT, DIR, FILES, HELP, LUX, SEND, SENDK & TYPE with KMD or XMODEM

(Z)ACK - Aug 89 #7

XMDM125 - XMODEM (needs overlay) (assembler source)

(Z)ACL - Aug 89 #8

MBYE45 - Modular BYE remote console program for MBBS (assembler source)

XMSTAT13 - reads RCPM XMODEM.LOG and reports utilization statistics

(Z)ACM - Aug 89 #9

(Z)ACN - Aug 89 #10

MBYEOV2A - Mbye overlays (none here for C128 - any volunteers?) part 1 of 2 (assembler source)

MBYEOV2B - part 2 of 2

The following is on (Z)ACN:

XM97OVRL - XMODEM overlays (assembler source)

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Run has a long history of providing quality Geos application disks. Their **Power Pak I** set the Geos world on its ear by introducing **GeoTerm**, a terminal program for use with Geos. Before this, it was thought impossible to access a modem while in Geos. In a recent issue, they shattered the 80-column color barrier with a Geos 128 version of the arcade classic **Space Invaders**. 80-column color was also considered impossible before this program.

While the newest member of Run's Geos family does not redefine impossible, it does stretch the limits of what you can do with Geos. Using Geos without Run's disks is much like running Geos without a mouse. It is possible, just not as much fun.

The newest disk, the **Geos Companion**, contains ten new programs, over a half-dozen new fonts and over three dozen new clip art images.

The clip art is geared towards holiday and special occasion themes and should be useful for greeting cards and the like.

The fonts, by Susan Lamb, are very nice. You can expect to see some of them in upcoming issues of the DIGEST.

Many exciting new programs are on this latest offering. With **1581 Bootmaker**, 1581 owners can make a boot disk for their new drives. I currently use a 1581 boot disk, and rarely turn on my 1571 when I am using Geos.

The **Batch Copier** allows you to quickly copy files from one disk to another. This is especially handy for REU [RAM Expansion Unit] users.

AutoLoader enables you to place a program on your boot disk that will automatically run during the booting process. For example, you can create a

program to copy the DeskTop to your REU with **Batch Copier** and then use **AutoLoader** to automatically run it when you boot. This way the DeskTop is always on your RAM disk.

GeoWrite File Merger lets you combine two GeoWrite files into one document. This can be handy for small documents that you want to keep, but do not want all the extra directory entries.

Using Geos without Run's disks is much like running Geos without a mouse. It is possible, just not as much fun.

Pattern Editor 2.0 is an upgrade version of a program that originally appeared on **Power Pak I**. This program permits you to change any or all of the 32 patterns in any Geos application. This is most useful in **GeoPaint** for creating new fill patterns.

3-D GeoBreak is a breakout-style game done in 3-D format. It is very challenging and addicting. You are given 5 balls, and each block is worth 100 points.

Decode! is one of my favorite Geos games. It is a mastermind type game in Geos format. The computer will generate a sequence of colors that you must deduce in twelve or fewer tries. You can select from three to six rows in the sequence and three to six colors. The more rows and colors, the harder the game. This program even runs in 80-column mode! With color! In the background a nifty little tune plays while you think your way through the puzzle.

As exciting as all of the above is, the disk really shines with the last three applications.

The first, and probably the centerpiece of the disk, is **GeoAnimator**. Versions for both 40 columns and 80 columns are included. These programs enable you to create

stand-alone Geos demonstrations. Two examples are included. You can use any graphic, or even use the program to draw your own. The program uses **GeoWrite** documents as scripts, much as **GeoProgrammer** uses them to assemble programs. You can even include music with your creations.

How do you create that music? That is one of the jobs of the last programs, **G.O.Bach**, and **GeoMusic Player**.

GeoMusic Player is a player program for music files you create with **G.O.Bach**. **G.O.Bach** includes versions for both 40 columns and 80 columns.

G.O.Bach is a full-featured music editor for use with Geos. It basically transforms your computer into a three-voice electronic synthesizer. You have full control over how each voice sounds. You do this by creating patches. This will be familiar to people who use real synthesizers. You create a patch by selecting the amount of sustain, decay, release, and attack of the envelope. You can also select any of the four waveforms, or any combination of pulse (with full control over pulse-width), triangle, sawtooth, or noise. You can also select a filter for each voice, modulation, sync, and a host of other goodies.

The only drawback to all this flexibility is that it also creates a lot of complexity. Unless you have a degree in musical theory, this program will take a while to learn. I have been playing with it for some time, and still have not found how to select the duration of each note!

The **Geos Companion** disk is a real bargain. Enough programs are included to appeal to just about everyone. I heartily recommend it to any **GeoUser**.

